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VENPORT, London & Co., Ltd., Toronto.

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SHOOTING SEASON OPEN Great Crowd of Sportsmen Leave For the Woods

The hunting season opens today and the woods are literally full of the numerous parties who for days past have been making preparations for excursions to their favorite districts. Many have come from across the Sound and the Mainland, realizing that the best, from a sportsman's point of view, on the whole coast. The season opens today at 10 o'clock.

Game of all kinds, including prairie chicken and ptarmigan, from September 1 to February 28.

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Opening of the Hunting Season—This City Is the Headquarters For the Sportsmen of the Continent—How to Hunt Deer

whether with hounds or unassisted, rather would I give them the credit and esteem they deserve, although I cannot refrain from "calling down" very many men who are sportsmen in their own estimation, but who in reality are simply butchers and money grabbers and who hunt because they have a couple of weeks' outing, with possibly enough deer to sell to the butchers on their return, to enable them to pay all expenses of the trip. "Such proceedings are in my estimation anything but sportsmanlike, and yet every season I have seen such occurrences, and have met gangs of hunters who had as little true sportsmanship about them as an old woman. It's just such people to whom the hunting of deer appeal most strongly. All they have to do is to hire a man to put out their dogs, while they sit on their runways and wait for a shot, without even exerting themselves in the least.

"I know more than one gang who annually hunt a certain district, the members of which for the most part, know absolutely nothing about still hunting or the habits of deer, and are useless as woodsmen, who yet

est village hotel, than they do of true sport, and for such reasons I say that the hunting of deer, were it prohibited by law, would allow the deer to increase, would stop the killing of them in water, which is yet done every season, and I would keep the woods quiet and undisturbed, instead of being filled with dozens of hounds, half of which are useless and get lost or shot.

"I do not think I am the only one who is in favor of the abolition of hounds for running deer, as I am sure there are many other sportsmen in the Province, who desire to see our game increase, and also to see it killed in a fair and sportsmanlike manner. There is plenty of room for the hound men to indulge in a hunt, without disturbing the deer, and if they will go after Reynard, they will be keeping down a "varmint" instead of spoiling sport for others, who desire to stalk deer in a legitimate manner, without rousing every animal within ten miles of their position.

"While on this subject, I would like to mention the fact, that great numbers of young men and boys, during the spring and summer months, go out

Victoria is Headquarters This City Mecca for Hunters Who Wish to Outfit

Victoria is the headquarters and outfitting point for the sportsmen of the continent, who wish to try their skill in the greatest game centre in America. In a recent statement, A. Bryap Williams, provincial game warden, points out what an asset British Columbia possesses in what it has to offer in this kind of sport. He says:

"British Columbia is destined to become the greatest game centre on the continent, and the province is receiving so much valuable advertising from year to year that I look forward with a few years to the visit here of some of the world's most noted hunters. British Columbia is better to head of horses, and they would slaughter everything in sight and scare the game to the four corners of the district. All that is now changed.

Reports received by Mr. Williams state that pheasants are plentiful more



Sport at Shawnigan Lake

—Photo by Fleming Bros.

nevertheless manage to slaughter their share of the game, as well as unduly disturbing a pretty good hunting district. These men sell nearly all the deer they get, and are not averse to shooting them in water or out, and yet if they were told they were not sportsmen, they would at once raise an almighty row, and proceed to distribute language of a pretty forcible character to anyone who might have the temerity to confront them.

"Such gangs, running half a dozen hounds, are the ruination of our northern woods. They disturb far more country than they actually shoot, for good luck, a pretty big buck. We persuaded him, as it was his first, to ship it back to town, and use it for home consumption, which he did. Previous to that, others of us had killed deer, and had cut most of them up for camp meat, yet when we returned to town, rather expecting a little taste of the buck that the ton-deerfoot had shot, we were greeted with the statement that the deer was sold, and the proceeds had covered the hunter's expense and also bought his winter underwear. I thought that youth was going to blossom into a fairly decent sportsman at one time, but I was woefully deceived, and have ever since been extremely careful to know with what sort of a person or persons I have joined for a hunt.

"The man who goes hunting with the idea in his mind that if he can only kill enough game to pay his expenses, he will be all right, should go and hunt rats with a terrier, and leave true sportsmanship to those who understand the real meaning of it.

"The big gangs think more of the jollification in camp or at the near-

into the country round the vicinity of our towns, and the insectivorous birds suffer accordingly, from the fusillade kept up by twenty-two rifles and other weapons in the hands of these rascally people.

"The offenders are people who never by any chance venture afield when the weather is cool, and autumn or winter are with us; instead, they go out when the birds are nesting and the sun is warm, and amuse themselves by shooting birds, quite unmindful that they are thus destroying far more than they actually shoot, for the simple reason that the young broods, when their parents are destroyed, die of starvation.

"Many of these people do not take the time to stop and think of the destruction which they cause, and if one or two competent and efficient wardens were to descend upon them once or twice, they would begin to realize that killing birds promiscuously during the breeding season, is quite contrary to law and against the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship."

Parliament Buildings—This magnificent pile of buildings is acknowledged to be one of the most handsome structures on the continent. It overlooks Victoria and is within five minutes' walk of the Tourist Rooms. These buildings cost in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000, furnished, and besides the museums, which have been previously mentioned, there is an excellent library and reading room. From one of the finest views on the Pacific Coast, the car to the ocean docks, and to Beacon Hill Park, pass the buildings every ten minutes.

naturalist, is sojourning there now. All that is needed to preserve British Columbia game and give this province that to which it is entitled in that respect is the co-operation of the public in general in seeing that the game laws are observed."

With the opening of the hunting season, it will be most interesting to sportsmen to learn that at no time in the past ten years has game been so plentiful in British Columbia, and that intending sportsmen have great treats in store for them. All of the favorite districts are well stocked, due in a large measure to the untiring efforts of Provincial Game Warden A. Bryap Williams and his fine corps of assistants. The appropriation given the game warden for the employment of salaried patrols has resulted in the routing of unscrupulous game seekers who have been wont to slaughter the game right and left, not through a spirit of sport, but merely to satisfy that brutal instinct to kill.

Before the installation of active salaried patrol, the Lillooet district, one of the biggest and finest game districts in the province, was infested by Chilcotin Indians, who were in the habit of breaking the game laws and would go in there and dry their meat. They would slaughter mountain sheep, fawns, and all they could lay their hands on, and in many ways made matters disagreeable for tourists. All this has changed since Joe Russell was installed there as patrol, and the Indians have been made to observe the game laws.

An idea as to the abundance of game can be gained from the report of Mr.

especially on this island. Up the line grouse are plentiful, more so than last year, and there are more ducks at this time than in years past, the recent big storms having brought them down. Vancouver Island is good right now for elk and black bear, and the other districts are said to be equally well stocked.

When the party of twenty-three sportsmen and sportswomen, including Lord and Lady Hindlip, left several days ago for a six weeks' hunting trip to the Telegraph Creek district, in a classier, they helped along the protection fund by \$1150, each of them paying in the regulation \$50 for a license. Lady Hindlip has been a member of many great hunting expeditions and she took part in hunts in Africa. She took out a personal license in this province.

It is estimated by Mr. Williams that every tourist coming to British Columbia to hunt leaves on an average of \$1000 in the province. Provisions are high in the different districts, and then there are the salaries of Indian guides at from \$4 to \$8 a day, the rental of horses and the purchase of necessities for the trip.

"The great reason attained by British Columbia as a haven for huntersmen has been the means of bringing considerable capital to Victoria," declares Mr. Williams.

An excellent train service will be provided on the E. & N. and Sidney railways today and tomorrow for the accommodation of sportsmen wishing to go to their favorite haunts.

THE NEW FOLDER Tourist Association Compiles Some Information for Tourists

In the new folder just issued by the Tourist and Development association the following is set forth:

Victoria is altogether unlike the usual tourist resort. Strictly speaking, it is not a tourist city, for this term implies that it is dependent upon the tourist business, or that it caters to it in a "professional" way and to the exclusion of ordinary commerce.

As a matter of fact Victoria is the oldest and one of the most important commercial cities on the Pacific coast, its tourist business being supplementary. But so great are its attractions, so delightful its summer climate, so beautiful are its environments, so restful is a vacation spent within its delightful borders, that this tourist business is increasing year by year by leaps and bounds and has reached such proportions that the citizens maintain an institution known as the Development and Tourist association, for the purpose of helping visitors to see Victoria and to bring before them the many attractions and advantages the city offers to permanent residents.

Victoria is unlike the usual tourist city in many ways. There are no tourist prices. You pay the same hotel bill and the same price for merchandise or curios as the residents of the city themselves pay for the whole year. There are no tourist grafters at every corner waiting to hold you up, and no double hack charges because you are a stranger.

The tourist is treated, exactly as a visitor to the city on ordinary commercial business or as an old time resident. Your vacation will cost you less in Victoria than if spent in any other resort.

All places have something that is worth seeing more than anything else. So has Victoria. It is not an old historic relic, it is not a famous church, it is not the home of a bard nor the birthplace of a famous statesman, neither is it an ordinary everyday cave, or well, that has been made famous by some old legend. It is none of these it is far more interesting, far more exhilarating, more bewitching and more wonderful.

Victoria's greatest attraction, that all visitors should take every opportunity of seeing, is the revelation of the Almighty's conception of the beautiful as exemplified in His perfect work in the wonderfully enchanting natural scenery which entirely surrounds the city. No attempt has been made by man to improve or adorn this perfect work. It is as it came from its maker, centuries ago; centuries upon centuries before it stirred the heart and admiration of the early explorers and navigators, and enthralled Capt. Vancouver when he first gazed upon it.

The various points of interest and its "many beauty spots" can be seen by walking, wheeling, riding, motor-ing, driving and many of them by the electric street railway. Victoria is noted for its magnificent drives, and cannot be appreciated from one or two points alone, a list of a few drives from which its charm of situation can be appreciated will be inserted in "Seeing Victoria." This list of drives is intended to apply to motorists also. There is no country in America where motor-ing can be enjoyed more than in the vicinity of Victoria. A few of the side trips by rail and sea, for which Victoria is famous, have also been grouped together for the convenience of strangers.

Museum—The museum is contained in the Parliament Buildings and is one of the most complete and interesting of its kind on the continent, and contains a large assortment of specimens of natural history, native woods, Indian curios and pre-historic instruments. There are three other museums, namely, of agriculture, horticulture and mining, in the buildings. The museums are open to visitors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, and on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Public Library and Reading Room—One of the places that most strangers wish to visit is the Public Library. The Victoria Library building is on the corner of Blanchard and Yates streets, and like many other such buildings throughout the country, was the gift of Andrew Carnegie. It is conveniently arranged and is a decided addition to the assets of the city. It is open during the following hours: 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 to 5 and 7 to 9.

A majority of the islands adjacent to Victoria are within easy reaching distance of the city and visitors will find a trip amongst them enjoyable and profitable.

Among the other Western Islands, Graham Island, one of the Queen Charlotte group, holds the second place in point of size. It is separated from the islands of Alaska by Dixon's Entrance, its western shore fronting upon the ocean. The Queen Charlotte group consists of two principal islands, a considerable number of smaller ones. They extend in a northwesterly direction from 51 degrees, 50 minutes to 54 degrees, 15 minutes. The length of the group is 205 miles. Graham Island is triangular in shape. It is 75 miles long, and at its broadest point, which is on the 54th parallel, it is 65 miles wide. Masset Inlet and its several arms take up a considerable part of the interior. The rago Sound and Rennels Sound are the other chief arms of the sea breaking the contour of the coast. The land surface of the island is about 2,500 square miles. It is generally speaking much broken and there are some mountains of notable elevations. It contains considerable arable land, but is chiefly valuable on account of its timber and mining resources, the principal mineral known to exist in principal being coal, both anthracite and bituminous. The island has been at all thoroughly prospected, and the same observation applies to the other members of the Queen Charlotte group. Writing in 1877, Admiral Bekeian said: "The climate of Queen Charlotte Islands, thus tempered by ocean currents is mild, and their resources from agriculture, mining and fisheries will, at no distant date be an element of wealth to the Canadian Government." As yet very little has been done towards the utilization of any of the resources of these islands, and the number of settlers upon them is very small.