COMOX VALLEY

ROADS

The roads of Vancouver Island are becoming famous for their excellence and for the beautiful scenery through which they pass. The tourist traffic is increasing in volume every year; and the settlers find opportunities to combine pleasure with business by making long trips by automobile. A local automobile association was formed recently and quickly secured forty-four members. In 1913 the Government will spend \$155,000 in building and repairing roads in this district. In the two previous years \$215,000 was used in this work. The Island Highway from Victoria runs through the valley.

CLASS OF SETTLERS

Most of the large farms in the valley are still owned by the old settlers or their families. Small blocks of land have been bought by Englishmen as sites for country homes, and high prices have been paid for pieces that have sea or river frontage, or that are otherwise desirable from the point of view of the man who does not expect to gain a living from the soil. Retired officers of the army and navy, and the class of business men who enjoy life on small country places, will probably come to this district in increasing numbers. Men with small capital have begun to buy small blocks of land with the intention of engaging in some form of intensive farming. Some of these have gone in for poultry keeping and have been very successful. We believe that when a sufficient number co-operate in growing small fruits and vegetables there will be a great advance in the prosperity of the district.

Wages for all classes of skilled labor are high. Ranch hands receive from \$30 to \$50 a month with board.

COST OF BUILDING MATERIALS

Dimension lumber	\$12.00
Flooring and ceiling	35.00
Shiplap	14.00
Lath	3.00
Shingles (per thousand)	3.00
Bricks (per thousand)	25.00

PAGE TWENTY-ONE