

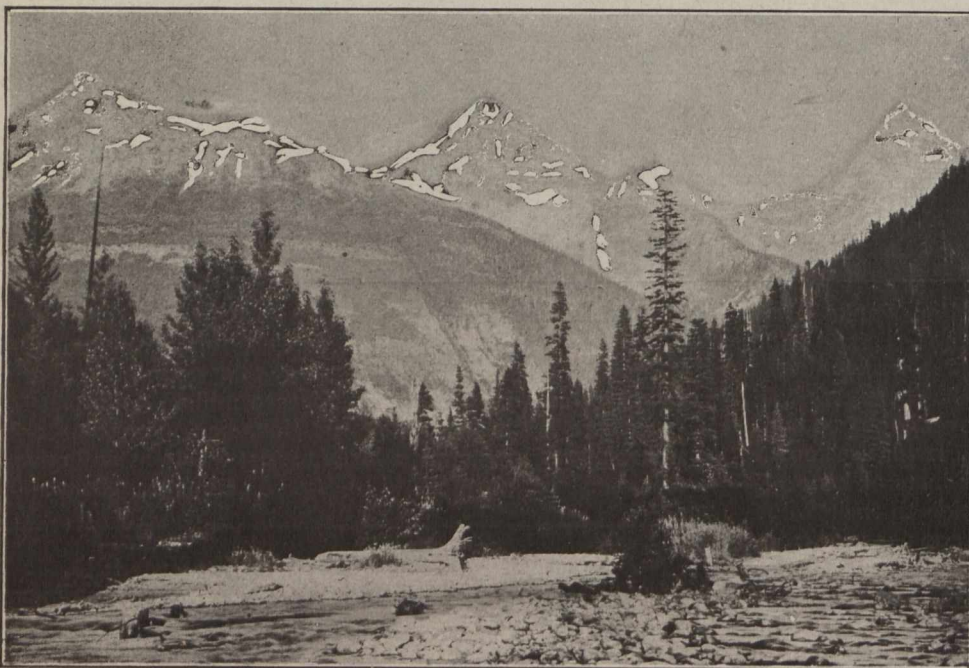
mountain climbers unite in agreeing that there is no mountainous region, not even excluding the Alps, which offers so many attractions to nature-lovers as do the Canadian Rockies. Dr. Langstaff, the celebrated Alpinist, writing in the London "Field" after his visit to Canada, said:—

"In the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks there is a country waiting for recognition which, I believe, is destined to become the playground of the world. In no other region on the globe do peak and cliff, lake, cataract and stream, form such a perfect combination as is to be found, not in one but in hundreds of places, in these glorious ranges. The fascination of the Canadian mountains is such that merely to travel through them and camp amongst them is sufficient reward for anyone who is not blind."

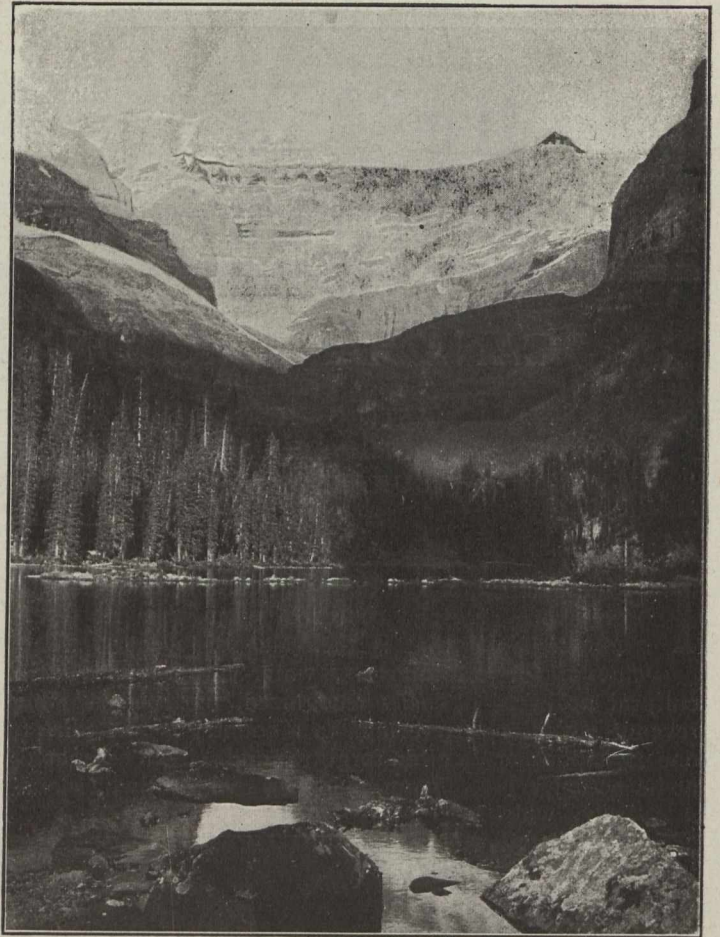
Canada, Queen of the Broad Spaces, as she has been picturesquely called, has been setting aside large areas of her most beautiful and wonderful natural scenery which, fortunately, were still part of the national domain, as Dominion Parks. There are now about 8,000 square miles or over five million acres set aside in these great reservations "for the benefit, advantage and enjoyment of the people of Canada," as the Act creating them says, for all time. All the natural beauty which they contain is forever safe from spoliation at the hands of private or selfish interests. Although this area is about half the total area of Switzerland it is none too generous for what the needs will undoubtedly be in years to come.

Lord Bryce, then Ambassador to the United States, in a speech to the Ottawa Canadian Club, just before his departure for England, commended the Canadian Government for its foresight in this regard, and said:—

"I hope you will set apart more and more of those magnificent areas of scenery which you possess in the Rocky Mountains for the enjoyment of the people, looking forward to a day when the population of Canada will be tenfold what it is now, and when the value of places where pleasures of nature can be cultivated and where the wild animals can be preserved and where the charm of solitude can be enjoyed—when the value of these things will be even greater than it is at this moment."



Route to Nakimu Caves, Glacier Park.



Lake O'Hara, Yoho Park.

In order that these areas might receive the attention which they appear to deserve, the Dominion Government about four years ago created a special branch to take charge of the Dominion Parks. This branch has control of all matters within the parks. In addition to the building and maintenance of roads and other matters concerned with development, it has charge of the forest and game protection and the entire administration of all townsites. In Banff, the principal townsite, with a population of about 1,500, the government owns all the land, which is leased at a nominal rental for business and residential purposes. It also supplies and maintains all the services demanded by an up-to-date town—water and sewer systems, telephone, street sprinkling, garbage collection, fire protection, etc. The town itself is being laid out and developed in accordance with the advice of eminent town planners, and there seems no reason to doubt that in future years it will become one of the most beautiful mountain resorts in the world. Among its attractions are the hot sulphur springs, well-known for their curative powers, which rank with the famous springs at the United States government reservation in