

Victorian homes looking seaward, then poets have not written it in imperishable numbers, nor minstrels celebrated it in well-remembered song. If there be a city of dreams, even the fabled Atlantis of antiquity, or vision of Babylonian towers set in hanging gardens, and redolent of strange odors of musk and myrrh, or fairy casements opening out to perilous seas forlorn, then never one of them approached in splendour this jewel of all time, ringed by the azure seas and sentinelled by everlasting hills.

The climate of Victoria is best expressed in figures. The average highest temperature in the Capital City for twenty years has been 84.2; the lowest temperature for twenty years has been 17.3. There are no extremes of either heat or cold. The rainfall averages 25.7 in a year. There is more sunshine in Victoria than in any North American city. Zero weather, sunstrokes and prostrations from the heat are afflictions only known to Victorians through newspaper reports from other parts of the world.

The moderate temperature of the summer season makes Victoria the ideal place for holiday-seekers. Her proximity to the Pacific Ocean, and the Japan current flowing past her shores, keep the temperature of the winter usually mild. During the summer months the prevailing winds are from the south-west, which, passing over the snow-capped Olympian Mountains and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, are comfortably tempered before reaching the City of Victoria.

The winter climate is the most moderate in Canada, the average winter temperature being 38 degrees (above).

No day is so hot as to be uncomfortable, and no night so warm as to warrant discarding the blanket.

The ideal summer temperature is one where the mean maximum for the month of July during a long period of years is not in excess of 65 degrees Fahr.

The ideal winter temperature is one where the mean maximum for the month of January over a long period of years is as high as 35 degrees Fahr.

The ideal all-the-year climate is the one where both of these conditions obtain.

There is only one such spot in the world, and that is at Victoria, British Columbia. The reason for this is, that the isothermal lines, marking the highest temperature in the winter and the lowest temperature in the summer, intersect at Victoria, thus making ideal climatic conditions permanent.

Surrounding Victoria is a country estimated at some 50,000 acres, unsurpassed for fruit-growing, vegetable and berry-growing, poultry-raising and flower-culture. All this will soon be pierced in every direction by electric tramways. Here is Victoria's base of living supplies; here is the market-gardener's and fruit-grower's and poultry-raiser's Mecca.

The very large average of sunshine daily, the small yearly average rainfall, and the almost total absence of frost have made Victoria an ideal location for the cultivation of bulbs and flowers. During the past few years this business has grown very rapidly, although it is undoubtedly true that even these successes can only be looked upon as preliminary experiments, so large and important will the future achievements be in this delightful industry.

The same success has been met with in the cultivation and sale of cut flowers under glass. Last year almost all florists in the city, notwithstanding that they have been steadily enlarging their premises in every way, were sold out entirely, and found it impossible to keep up with their orders that poured in from all parts of the Pacific Coast and Western Canada. Tomatoes