

The ascent of Goat Mountain is easily made by a fairly good foot path, and from here is opened out a glorious view of the tributary country and extends well into the State of Idaho, and well repays the exertion of the climb.

One thing which immediately arrests the attention of the tourist when he reaches Creston, is the wooden tablet in the centre of the town which at present pays tribute to the men of Creston Valley who made the great sacrifice in the world's war. This shrine, as it is familiarly called, has the distinction of being the first war memorial to be erected in British Columbia.

Long distance telephone connections are to be had here to all points and the three garages furnish a guide service to the fishing grounds and other points of interest, as well as providing correct information as to camping sites.

TRANS-CONTINENTAL HIGHWAY—Continued

Referring back to the road to the International Boundary at Kingsgate, B.C., and Eastport, Idaho, which branches off two miles past Yahk, the tourist can, if he prefers, take this road to Bonner's Ferry at which point connections are made with the Yellowstone, Glacier Park, Portland and Spokane trails.

All of the foregoing particulars are descriptive of the Highway through South-Eastern British Columbia. The Windermere, Columbia Valley and Golden Roads branch North from Cranbrook, the distance from Cranbrook to Golden being about 180 miles, it is a perfect gravelled road for 95 per cent. of the way and passes through incomparable scenery. A brief description of its most interesting features follows:

WINDERMERE AND COLUMBIA VALLEY ROAD

FROM CRANBROOK TO GOLDEN

Leaving Cranbrook by Cranbrook Street it follows the main highway East through a short distance of prairie and soon enters the foothills, it swings to the left at the six mile point and passing several small lakes it ascends Brewery Hill and reaches Fort Steele.

This small town is located on the East bank of the Kootenay River at the confluence of the St. Mary's River and Wild Horse Creek, amidst splendid mountain scenery.

It was named after Major General Sir Samuel Steele who commanded the North West Mounted Police in Western Canada for many years. A detachment of the police was stationed here in the early days and their barracks and fort still remain.

The old town of Fort Steele was located five miles from the present one, up Wild Horse Creek in 1864, it was the scene of one of the most phenomenal gold rushes in history and in the two years that it lasted many millions in gold was taken out. Wild Horse was a roaring camp in those days, everything was paid for in gold dust and the price of a drink of red rum was as much as the bartender could pinch between his thumb and first two fingers. At that time there were around 5000 men scattered over the hills, then came the rumour of a great new strike in Montana, to which the men drifted like snow before a chinook. There is an excellent road up to the Old Town and as there is still quite a lot of gold mining being carried on there, it is well worth a visit.

For many years Fort Steele was the head of navigation on the Kootenay River, steam boats were operated between here and Jennings, Montana, taking out ore and bringing in supplies.

From the wild times of early years this has become the placid centre of a good farming and cattle raising section and is also an outfitting point for many big game hunters.

Leaving here the road continues North up the Kootenay River and eight miles out drops to the river level and skirts large meadows which are known as Bummer's Flats, where wild duck are very plentiful in season. Four miles past here it reaches Wasa, one mile East of the Kootenay River, at the junction of the Banff-Cranbrook and Cherry Creek-Cranbrook roads. This place was part of the estate owned by N. Hanson, generally known as Governor Hanson—an old-timer who used to run an excellent tourist hotel there in the early days.

Wasa Lake here is a very popular resort and splendid bathing is to be had, its shores are sandy and during the warm months many parties camp around the lake.

Varying and beautiful scenery for the next 16 miles to Premier Lake is driven through. This lake is well stocked with salmon which run from 7 to 30 lbs. in weight. Experienced anglers say that these fish are unusually gamey, and the experiences related by some of them are hard to credit.