

Three miles up the Trout Creek valley from Summerland a promising coal seam has been uncovered. If the vein proves at depth to be as good as the surface showing would indicate, coal mining will soon be one of the most important sources of wealth for the district.

There are still to be taken up large stretches of good land, which are but lightly timbered and easily brought under cultivation. Water is abundant in many sections, whilst in some it is scarce, rendering irrigation by artesian wells a necessity.

South of Penticton, extending to the southern boundary of the province, are many thousands of acres of the finest fruit lands in British Columbia, indeed of the Pacific slope; these lie along both sides of the Okanagan River and its connecting chain of lakes, Dog Lake, Swan Lake and Osoyoos, forming a series of charming landscape pictures backed by mountains. So far, these lands have been used only for pastoral purposes, forming one large estate, but will soon be provided with a system of irrigation from the river, which furnishes an unfailing supply of water, and be subdivided into small holdings and placed upon the market. The development of the Okanagan Valley generally on fruit-growing and intensive farming lines, for which it is especially well adapted by nature, has been hindered on account of the difficulty experienced in acquiring land by intending settlers. The finest portions of the valley have been owned in large holdings, extending to many thousands of acres, and used partly for pastoral and partly for wheat-growing purposes.

The successful enterprises of Lord Aberdeen and others have demonstrated that large areas of these lands are worth far more for fruit and hop-raising and intensive farming generally, than for wheat or cattle-raising, and in consequence some of these holdings have been acquired by syndicates, subdivided, irrigation provided, and placed upon the market in lots of five to forty acres; other properties are in process of being dealt with in a similar manner, and it is only a question of a short time when, wherever water can be made available, flourishing orchards and gardens will diversify the entire face of the valley. The enterprises referred to furnish opportunities for new settlers to establish charming homes, and build up profitable industries in this favored section.

Okanagan is also a very rich mineral district, and in different parts valuable gold, silver, copper and iron deposits have been discovered, and are being developed.

The Shuswap & Okanagan Railway to Vernon, the chief town of the district, from Sicamous, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific, a distance of forty-six miles, has proved an immense impetus to this splendid section of the country. There are magnificent grazing lands, and the valleys that intersect them are of the most fertile character. The Coldstream or White Valley is one of these, the Similkameen is another, and the country round about Kelowna is a rich and valuable section. Crops grow luxuriantly, but the dry climate necessitates irrigation. From Okanagan Landing, near Vernon, the steamer Aberdeen, owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, plies to Kelowna