

# Victoria Excels in Hotel Accommodation for All

**F**EW cities in the world, at the commencement of their careers as tourist resorts and residential places, have been more fortunately situated than Victoria in respect to hotel accommodation. The first essential to a city aiming to attract and win the approbation of the traveling public is an ability to afford adequate entertainment to all classes of transient visitors. This Victoria possesses to a superlative degree.

In the magnificent Empress Hotel, erected at huge expense by that prince of caterers, the C. P. R., the city has a magnet which is proving irresistible to the pleasure seekers of the continent, as well as the distinguished travelers who are able to indulge in the luxury of a world-girdling jaunt; but the class who are able to afford the pleasure of a period of residence at the Empress are but a small percentage of the mass of people who each season visit the beautiful city of Victoria. And it is in respect of its ability to meet the wishes of the majority in hotel accommodation that it is exceptionally well situated.

Many there are who prefer a hotel sufficiently far removed from the centre of the city to permit of a period of rest, free from any reminder that the busy marts of men are closely adjacent. To this class, the Oak Bay hotel will appeal with a special force. At this famous hostelry may be found all the comforts and conveniences, and the same high class service as at the Empress, with the added attraction of a scenic environment absolutely unrivalled in America.

For the business man who is intent on business more than pleasure, there are, in the Driard and Dominion hotels, just that sort of accommodation which will especially appeal to him. Both situated very convenient to the business section, both offer the very best accommodation to be found in any hotel of the same class in the world at a moderate figure.

In the accompanying photographs the four hotels there represented were chosen as being typical of what Victoria has to offer the traveling public in the matter of accommodation; and, save in respect to the Empress—which, of course, stands in a class by itself—there are many other local hosteries which, to judge from their popularity and extensive list of patrons, rank high in the public favor.

Mr. John Willy, proprietor and publisher of the Hotel Monthly, a journal devoted to the technical side of hotel keeping, which prides itself on always chronicling the most up-to-date improvements in hotel management and construction, was a recent visitor to Victoria. Mr. Willy is one of the greatest authorities in the world on hotels, and is known to at least ninety per cent of the hotelmen of the continent. He had never before been able to visit Victoria, although he has been in every other portion of America, and has probably lived in more hotels than any other man alive. In an interview he said:

"The people in the East have no idea that there is such high class accommodation here awaiting them. If it were more generally known that your hotel accommodation is so good your tourist trade would increase greatly, and before long would be doubled. I try to see all the hotels on the continent. This is my first trip here and I am just up from San Diego. I find that the hotels here are finer and have more modern improvements, and that the accommodation is sold at a lower price than I expected, and it is done without any detriment to the comfort of the guests. In this city I find cleanliness is noticeable. The approach to the Empress, and the hotel itself are fine advertisements to this city, and its fame will bring the money spenders here, which is what you people want. You want the good opinion of the globe trotter, which you will get from the hotels you have, once you have had a visit from the outside public.

"As a trotter myself, I am surprised to find the accommodation you have. The best service here is equal to that of the Plaza at New York, which is the top notch there, and your lesser hotels have no need to apologize to anybody. They are on a plane with the best in America. I find here in the Dominion a thing that surprised me. From my room I can talk with Seattle. There are very few hotels in Canada where the long distance system is installed in the bedrooms in addition to the local system. In the United States this, however, has become more general. In my work I deal with the technical side of the hotels. Twenty-seven years ago I was accident-

tally an employee of the National Hotel Reporter, Chicago, and after two years I became assistant editor, and was for twelve years business manager. Fifteen years ago I commenced the Monthly, and have ever since devoted my time to planning systems for use in hotels, and have dealt with it from the scientific standpoint.

"I was amazed to find such an hotel as the

hold a very large proportion of the wealthy American traveling public. They should come here in increasing numbers, not merely to pass a day or so, but to spend a summer holiday. The Gorge is a place of surpassing beauty.

## Information For Visitors

Victoria is altogether unlike the usual tourist resort. Strictly speaking, it is not a tour-

ders, that this tourist business is increasing year by year by leaps and bounds, and has reached such proportions that the citizens maintain an institution known as the Development and Tourist Association, for the purpose of helping visitors to see Victoria, and to bring before them the many attractions and advantages the city offers to permanent residents. Victoria is unlike the usual tourist city

vacation will cost you less in Victoria than it spent in any other holiday resort.

All places have something that is worth seeing more than anything else. So has Victoria. It is not an old historic relic, it is not a famous church, it is not the home of a bard, nor the birthplace of a famous statesman, neither is it an ordinary everyday cave, or well, that has been made famous by some old legend. It is none of these; it is far more interesting, far more exhilarating, more bewitching and more wonderful. Victoria's greatest attraction, that all visitors should take every opportunity of seeing, is the revelation of the Almighty's conception of the beautiful as exemplified in His perfect work in the wonderfully enchanting natural scenery which entirely surrounds the city. No attempt has been made by man to improve or adorn this perfect work. It is as it came from its maker, centuries ago; centuries upon centuries before it stirred the heart and admiration of the early explorers and navigators, and enthralled Capt. Vancouver when he first gazed upon its sublimity. This is no ordinary attraction. It cannot be purchased for the purpose by a City or Chamber of Commerce, neither can it be appreciated in a single day, or from a single point of view.

The city itself is very English, much more so than any other city on this continent. It is laid out in an irregular way that is rather puzzling to strangers, but does not trouble you after you have been here a few hours. The principal street is Government street, and most of the hotels, retail and wholesale stores are within a few blocks of it. This street runs north and south, or very nearly so, the Government buildings being at the south end. The street car system centres in it, and cars for all parts of the city can be boarded at the corner of Yates and Government streets. The various points of interest and its many "beauty spots" can be reached by walking, wheeling, riding, motoring, driving, and many of them by the electric street railway. Victoria is noted for its magnificent drives, and, as already pointed out, its beauties cannot be appreciated from one or two points alone.

## THE HUMAN BRAIN

Briefly, the two brain hemispheres in our head are analogous to two phonographs, because phonographs can no more themselves cover their wax leaves with words expressing ideas than they can make wax think. The phonographs are wonderful instruments, but they are never anything but instruments; and so the brain hemispheres are the instruments of the thinker, and nothing more, for if they could themselves think, then both hemispheres would think as a matter of course, when, as a matter of fact, only one of them has a single imprint of the human mind in it.

What is it, therefore, that thinks? Unquestionably the human personality, which is itself independent of the brain that it uses. So far as the brain is concerned, it is simply physical in its structure and chemical in its composition. But in one of its halves we are face to face with the tremendous exception to everything earthly. The evolutionist can make a good showing that in structure man's brain differs but little from the chimpanzee's, just as it ought to in the ascending series of animals. But when it comes to the human mind, the evolutionist has to quit. What but a mind worked by a man could both weigh and accurately locate in the heavens a great planet, which neither he nor anyone else had yet seen? And so the human world abounds with innumerable utter impossibilities for mere animals to achieve. Every article in an ordinary city house, be it a thermometer or a book, or anything else in it, is equally an impossibility for animals, by any process of evolution, to attain the power of producing.

Mentally, therefore, man is as much out of keeping with the entire succession and developments of evolution as any being from another world would be. Meanwhile, for this human thinker one instrument for thinking is enough, and he does not need two hemispheres any more than a violinist needs two violins. The second hemisphere is then only to provide against accidental damage to the first.—Dr. William Hanna Thomson in May Everybody's.



Empress in a city of 35,000 people. I never saw anything finer anywhere than the lobby and office, while the dining room is superb. When eating my breakfast there this morning I could not take my eyes off the Australian rosewood panelling and the woodwork generally. The charges, too, are moderate. When traveling I always eat the same breakfast for purposes of comparison, and my meal was from ten to thirty-five cents cheaper than at any of the first-class hotels in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland or Seattle. The attendance was as good as the meal and the surroundings. There was just that assiduous, unobtrusive service which one finds in first-class hotels in Europe, but which is so hard to get in the States.

"I was shown through the culinary, laundry and other departments of the hotel. Everything is absolutely up-to-date, and the management have every facility for handling the larger hotel which I understand is to be built later on when the trade warrants. I noticed the foundations of the new wing already prepared.

"I drove round the city this morning, and it was just like a trip home. The English style of architecture, the trees, the hedges, the fruit trees in blossom all remind one of the Old Country. I felt as if I were making a trip home. I am so sorry that I have to leave tomorrow, but I shall certainly return in the near future. Apart from the beauty of the place, I have been much struck by the invigorating climate. It is a delight just to breathe the air. Surely people live for ever in Victoria! With your beautiful city, delightful climate and superb hotels, you ought to attract and

ist city, for this term implies that it is dependent upon the tourist business, or that it caters to it in a "professional" way and to the exclusion of ordinary commerce.

As a matter of fact Victoria is the oldest and one of the most important commercial cities on the Pacific Coast, its tourist business being supplementary. But so great are its attractions, so delightful is its summer climate, so beautiful are its environments, so restful is a vacation spent within its delightful bor-

in many ways. There are no tourist prices. You pay the same hotel bill and the same price for merchandise or curios as the residents of the city themselves do during the whole year. There are no tourist grafters, no so-called places of interest with loafers and grafters at every corner waiting to hold you up, and no double hack charges because you are a stranger. The tourist is treated exactly as a visitor to the city on ordinary commercial business or as an old time resident. Your



at Cheltenham, Oxford, who was called the 'old man' and was elected member for 1895, when he was 89 years of age. In 1895 he was reappointed member for 1896. He has been the official of the Order of the Museum, and Edinburgh, versities.

Mr. John Montrose Bage, address Francis W.

My dear have to ask the circumstances to do justice sent office elementary say, that I almost bound that kind is ally wrong, make a cho withdrawal the Indian House of C case. The in the cabin should retain them. You desire which some sacrifi By favor of seat in the

So with to resign in the honoral years ago, ment of sh friendship ly consider unswerving and it will hour of sev recall how Montrose B from the sp readers lon has vanishe

Be this to your bur their fidelit serve them Believe yours most

The Lon The offi lish this m been create

Au



hall mine in deed, unconm their signific that both are making the arbitration a Mr. Wise's a to an end e Wade, the p passing legis Meanwhile, some dissat of the act of lays of the a stated to hav for two yea prevent whic ed, had agai infrequent, e claim to hav Wade's nev new finaly p tive method questions, w toria, and So up wage b ent, it will of good augu measure that has just been cessions from so that the human thinker one instrument for thinking is enough, and he does not need two hemispheres any more than a violinist needs two violins. The second hemisphere is then only to provide against accidental damage to the first.—Dr. William Hanna Thomson in May Everybody's.