

one to three miles wide, and, in places, at least 1800 feet deep. It covers an area of 56,240 acres and extends from near Vernon to Penticton, or about half the length of the Okanagan Valley. At the time we first mentioned, this vast territory was peopled almost entirely by Indians, the only white people being the pioneer clergy of the Roman Catholic religion, who about the year 1863 established their headquarters at what is known as the Mission, a point some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south by east of Kelowna. Shortly afterwards a few of the earliest settlers came in from the south and acquired large tracts of land which they used for cattle raising. In course of time people in search of agricultural land followed. At present the population of the Okanagan would be about 13,000, not including Indians, whose numbers are rapidly decreasing.

The various classes of industry before named have all, with the sole exception of salmon-fishing, played greater or lesser parts in the upbuilding of the district, but today the resources of the Okanagan Valley, if we except lumbering and dairying and mixed-farming, may be summed up in the one word "Fruit." It is to this that we turn for assurance when we speak of the future. This it is which has attracted such a large number of settlers, especially within the last two years, and which will continue so to do until the limit of accommodation has been reached.

Topographically the Okanagan Valley is some 150 miles in length and from two to six miles in width, and may be roughly described as lying at the 50th parallel, between the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Washington, U. S. A., boundary line. It is about 300 miles from the Pacific Coast.

Sheltered by the mountains from the cold winds of winter and tempered by cool lake breezes in summer, this garden spot of Western Canada rests secure in its climatic advantages, in the fertility of soil, in its immunity from drought and flood, in its widespread popularity, its general prosperity, in its great past and in the still greater future now irresistibly drawing nearer. Traverse its great lakes, drive over its mountain roads, visit its picturesque nooks, wander through its orchards and meadows, fish in its streams, bask in its sunshine, go where you will you shall not find in Western Canada a fairer spot, nor one which combines so well a means of making a good livelihood with the comforts which make life worth living.

The Valley may be approached on the south, via the Great Northern, from Spokane (Wash.) and other points, and so by stage to Penticton; but the majority prefer to come via the C. P. Ry., since travellers from Eastern points are enabled by means of the Soo Line to connect at Moose Jaw. From Sicamous Junction the Shuswap and Okanagan branch line will take us through Mara, Enderby, Armstrong and Vernon to Okanagan Landing, and a fine C. P. R. boat will still further convey us to Kelowna, Peachland, Summerland, Naramata, and Penticton. Thus we may for simplicity divide the Valley into two parts—the Upper and the Lower districts. The former comprising the portion watered by the Spallumcheen River and its tributaries, and the latter the area tributary to Okanagan Lake.

Midway between these two lies Vernon, the central and largest of the Valley cities (see Vernon). From here, as elsewhere, good roads lead to all outlying towns, notably the Kamloops and Grand Prairie road, and the Vernon and Salmon Arm road via Armstrong and Enderby, and the Kelowna and the White Valley stage roads. This last passes through the Coldstream