

the ground. Spring consists of two months, April and May, and then comes summer from June to the middle of September. Autumn follows and extends to the beginning of November, when the winter sets in. The time for putting seeds into the ground is either just before the beginning of the winter frosts or at the first break up of the frozen ground. The winter sowing is the best.

From the foothills at Calgary, 839 miles west of Winnipeg, the Canadian Pacific Railway rapidly winds its way up the pine-covered Kicking Horse Pass, over the "divide" at 5,300 feet above the sea (see map and Figs. 1 and 2), into British Columbia, a land covered with dense forests and abounding in minerals. Huge conifers, sometimes ten feet in diameter, are by no means uncommon.

In the western part, then, of the country there is a tract of forest (see Figs. 1 and 2, and map); in the eastern portion, from the Atlantic as far as Winnipeg, there is also a great tract of forest, and in both these forest regions are valuable minerals. Between them is a land which ought to be that of the farmer and of the herdsman. It is perfectly clear that it is destined to become a most valuable heritage to the English race. As far as area goes, the Canadian Dominion constitutes something like 40 per cent of the whole British Empire, which will give you an idea as to its territorial importance. If we look at its past condition we see that it was a country given up to the Indian hunter, who led the life, practically, of a beast of prey. It is a land which is capable of producing an enormous quantity of food and an enormous amount of wealth. At the present time, the middle and western regions especially are as yet scarcely under the dominion of man. It is perfectly true that miners have been at work in British Columbia; and it is true that farmers are represented by sparse communities here and there. It seems to me that in the future the great home of agriculture will be found in the middle of the great prairie land of the Dominion, and breadstuffs and other produce raised here will be distributed to the mining communities on either side, east and west. The reason why this region has not been before freely open to emigration is due to the existence of the great barrier of forest and morass on the eastern side. That barrier may be said to exist no longer. I look forward to the great prosperity of this region, and to the time when the pine-clad, glacier-crowned Rocky Mountains, which bounded my westward travels in the Dominion, will look down on plains studded with villages and homesteads and yellow with the gold of harvest; to the time when the domestic cattle will be as numerous as the now vanished buffalo have been, and when fields of waving corn will replace the glowing colours of the Gaillardia, the Aster, the Helianthus, and the other wild flowers of the prairie.