

also receives a considerable amount of lumber, timber and furs. Valuable shipments of fish oil, principally obtained from the dog fish at the Queen Charlotte Islands, are consigned to the States annually, and also to the Sandwich Islands. These industries, though already of considerable importance, are destined to become very large as well as very profitable enterprises in the near future. With the shipping facilities offered by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the new steamship lines to Japan and China, backed by her natural advantages of climate and geographical position, and immense resources in timber and minerals, British Columbia is gradually obtaining her proper share of the commerce of the world. There is no other country on the globe more richly endowed with varied resources of wealth, as fisheries, timber, minerals, pasture and arable land, etc., and all are open to those who choose to avail themselves of these new and attractive fields for enterprise.

THE CLIMATE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The climate is one of the greatest attractions of the province. On Vancouver Island and the coast line of the mainland it is serene and mild, resembling the climate of Devonshire and Cornwall, and from Queen Charlotte Islands to Alaska the climate of Scotland is closely matched. On April 13th strawberries have been seen in bloom, and by May 1st strawberries are ripening, spring wheat, potatoes and peas showing well above ground; the plains covered with wild flowers and native roses in bloom.

It is on Vancouver Island and in the extensive districts west of the coast range as well as in those in the southern strip of the province between the parallels of 49° and 50° that the great fruit-raising farms of Canada will be located. Apples, pears, plums, peaches, apricots, nectarines, the finer class of grapes, berries of every description, fruits not common to the eastern coast, a profusion of flowers, and all the more delicate vegetables will grow luxuriantly, as do all kinds of grasses and flowers of the temperate zone.

No general description will serve the purpose in speaking of the climate of the mainland of British Columbia. On the coast it varies considerably, while in the interior the differences are yet more plainly marked. It may be divided into the southern, middle and northern zones.

THE SOUTHERN ZONE.

It is in this division that so much bunch-grass country exists, which offers so many advantages for cattle and sheep raising. The winter is shorter and milder than the district further north, and though snow falls, the wind-swept slopes are usually very thinly covered. Cattle as well as horses winter out.

THE MIDDLE ZONE.

This comprises the region between 51° and 53° north latitude and contains much of the mountainous parts of the province, including the Cariboo Mountains the locality of the most celebrated gold fields yet discovered in British Columbia. The rainfall is heavier there than in the southern zone and the forest growth therefore becomes more dense. The climate, if less attractive than that of the two great divisions east and west of the coast range, is particularly healthy.