

27112
16p edus.

jute sacks, lumbering wagons with broad tires carrying tons of concentrates, automobiles with pleasure parties, and prospectors and miners going into the hills and coming out into civilization.

From Kaslo, north and south, the road system is gradually extending, hugging the Kootenay Lake shore closely. Northward, for several miles, one may travel through the beautiful Shutty Bench region, with its fruit farms and ranches set in a magnificent panorama of the Purcells extending up and down on the opposite side of the lake. Or, going south, one may motor or drive for several miles through deep forest glades, extending clearings or ranches, by Mirror Lake, Twin Bay and other settlements, in the direction of Ainsworth.

Ainsworth is a mining camp, the oldest in West Kootenay. There are numerous hot springs here, possessing great curative properties for such afflictions as rheumatism. One Ainsworth hotel has a big plunge bath. An attractive feature of the town is a series of natural caves extending for unknown distances into the heart of the mountains. In these caves are subterranean streams, stalactites, vaulted chambers and mysterious dark passages, everything, in fact, that such noted caves as the Mammoth in Kentucky have to show.

Across the lake from Ainsworth lies the famous Blue Bell mine, the oldest lead mine in the Dominion. At this point, according to legend, the Hudson Bay trappers and voyageurs, more than half a century ago, came to get lead for bullets, reducing the ores by a crude open hearth furnace. Here the visitor may see yawning "glory holes," from which the ore was quarried out from along the surface in years long gone by, or can descend two or three hundred feet below the lake level to watch powerful machine drills boring into the mineral bearing rocks.

Northerly from Kaslo the visitor may go in the direction of Lardeau, where the combined waters of the Lardeau and Duncan Rivers flow into Kootenay Lake. Between Kaslo and Lardeau are two canyons of particular interest—the Fry Creek canyon and the Hammill Creek canyon—narrow slits with precipitous sides two thousand or more feet in height. Through the Hammill Creek canyon lies the route to Earl Grey Pass and the Columbia Valley.

To those who enjoy boating in any form, Kaslo offers many opportunities. The whole Kootenay Lake, with an average width of two miles, is there for rowing, sailing or motor-launching. Through bright summer days, amidst cooling breezes, the visitor may thus explore at random. During the summer months and in the fall, fishing is a magnet that draws many visitors. Trolling from a row-boat is a favorite form of this recreation. It is decidedly fine sport to hook a twenty-pound salmon with a light rod and battle it out. Fly-fishing for trout at the mouths of the numerous streams is also attractive.

To those who enjoy the strenuous exercise involved in mountaineering, Kaslo is the centre of a field capable of unlimited exploration. Many of the peaks of the Purcells and Selkirks in this vicinity are close to ten thousand feet in

height. There are many glaciers, large and small. The country west of Kaslo, around Ainsworth, Sandon and the Slocan Lake, offers splendid opportunities to those who would climb mountains without too much hard work, for mining operations in these parts have involved much road and trail breaking, so that it is possible to see many of the glories of the high hills by riding to some of the lower summits, seven or eight thousand feet in height, on horseback. For the harder-bitten devotees of the alpenstock who would break through untrodden regions and gain the summit of virgin peaks, there is always scope in the unknown territory embraced by the Purcell Range on the east side of Kootenay Lake.

Not everyone, however, is always so serious-minded as to want, passionately, to climb mountains on a holiday. Many prefer just to "loaf." To such—and their name is legion—Kaslo is an earthly paradise. Situated, as it is, between magnificent mountain ranges, on the shore of a calm, quiet lake, with overhead skies of Italian blue, it is about as far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife as the most poetical could wish to be. The fruit-growing industry, one of the staple businesses of the district, is in itself suggestive of an Arcadian peace that envelops the mind with bliss. Neither boating nor fishing are pursuits that tend towards undue excitement; and when these are combined with loafing, the ideal is almost reached. Add to this a camp up the lake, or a picnic on some near-by creek, and to the visitor it would seem that he had reached that state where he wanted but little here below and wanted that little long.

Kaslo has excellent hotel accommodation, moderate in price. Those making longer stays can rent furnished houses and cottages for the summer. Surrounding the town are numerous picturesque camping sites for those who enjoy summer tent life. Amongst these are Kaslo Beach—which is in the town limits—Beauty Beach, Powder Creek, Deer Creek, Mirror Lake, Twin Bay and Campbell Bay. At all of these there is every opportunity to "rough it" a little, within easy reach of stores and a daily mail service.

Around the shores of Lake Kootenay are a number of small points, such as Boswell, Procter, Pilot Bay, Davie, etc. At most of these there are settlements of varying size, the staple industry being fruit-growing. At Balfour, on the entrance to the West Arm, the Canadian Government has established a convalescent hospital for returned soldiers, converting for that purpose a large tourist hotel. At various points on Kootenay Lake there are splendid sites for camping. The Canadian Pacific Railway operates a large houseboat, with accommodation for fourteen people. This can be chartered, furnished complete except commissariat, for \$5.00 a day, with a charge of fifty cents per mile for towing to desired location. Arrangements for charter can be made through Mr. J. S. Carter, District Passenger Agent, C.P.R., Nelson, B.C.