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tions are still in progress the owners of the Uplands ated near Cadboro Bay, and gement of the B. C. Electric Company for the extension of 's system from the Willows to that property, a distance a mile.

derstood that no decision has reached. R. H. Sperling, general ger of the tramway company, ted to visit Victoria in the a few days. During his stay matter will be discussed, and bable that on that occasion is of a mutually satisfactory ent will be agreed upon. If tiations do not result favorably is hardly likely that the extension of the system in that direction onsidered at the present time. is still in progress in the subdivision of the Uplands farm. It is ed, however, that the firm is y to place the land on the It is understood that this is be deferred, at least, for one months, as there are necessary nents planned, which will take e to complete.

PRAISES AMERICA.

-Bannerman Refers to Peace n Canada and United States.

, May 15.—Sir Henry Campherman speaking at Manchester y should be thankful that Balat last been brought into line uestion of colonial preference, ight have refrained from coln such a penitent form until ts of the nation had returned His move to create discussions the government and the col- d been defeated. To quote that Europe was living in an amp, he described the 3,000 frontier between the United and Canada, and continued, could be finer than this high God—(cheers)—under which these two free sister nations urity of that defenceless barbanish these symbols of strife, e and suspicion on their high- frontier. (Cheers.) The relaso established was not less no- those which published between ons of the old world, nations till hug an ancient blasphemy ned force is the only title to the only guarantee of security. new world has shown us a more way. Heaven help these great rations of free people to conprosper and to go on in all that eal strength to a state, to maintall its radiance their bright ex- (Cheers.)

TO WORK IN BANK

to, May 13.—A number of Scotchmen arrived in Toronto or the Canadian Bank of Com- They will report to the head

VICTORIA THE BEAUTIFUL

Some Reasons Why Here Are Found Beautiful Children—Athletics for the Young—Esquimalt's Awakening Near—Stream and Wood Now Beckoning Man

CHILD'S PARADISE

Every Facility Here for Developing Vigor of Youth

Ian St. Clair, physical instructor in the public schools of the city, interviewed by a Colonist reporter respecting the advantages possessed by Victoria as a playground for children, said:

"I quite agree that the best place to live in is the best place for children. Their health and education is the first thing to be considered. Victoria is well to the front in that line. You know, of course, that it was stated in a British admiralty report that this is the healthiest naval station in the British Empire. No one could expect a higher tribute than that; and I can assure you there is much to back it up.

"There are the health statistics, for instance. There is no place to my knowledge that can make so good a showing. But instead of rhapsodizing over official reports and figures to prove that this is the place for children, you can come with me and I will introduce you to the gentlemen of "my guard" and "daddy's girls," and I will leave it to them to convince you.

"Yes, I have been here a number of years. I am almost an old timer. I like Victoria very much and have made a close study of child life here. The majority of our children are British Columbians born and bred. We have a fair sprinkling of children from other provinces, but of late years there has been a great influx from Great Britain, Australia and other countries. I will point out pretty good physical specimens of these children to you and you can draw your own conclusions.

"The public men of this city are just as keen to get the proper value of one of Victoria's assets as another. You know what I mean. For instance, its geographical position is one asset; its attractions for tourists is another, and its superiority as a place for children is not lost sight of, I can tell you. They are so much alive to the importance of maintaining Victoria's position as a gymnasium and swimming school, that there is always a controversy of some sort going on about water supply, sanitation and things of that sort.

"The most remarkable thing I have noticed here is the almost total absence of weaklings. One would think that those unfortunates were kept at home and that only the strapping boys and girls who take good care of themselves were allowed to go to school. I can assure you that is not the case. They are not kept at home in other cities and neither are they here—they are so few in number that it would take a head master to find the decimal percentage.

"A great deal that I am told by visitors at school parade grounds is simply 'the correct thing' to say to a major instructor; but I am thoroughly convinced that most of what I am told is anything but a formality and is prompted by the excellent work of the assistant instructors and the children themselves. The most common remark is 'What a number of English faces,' and again, 'You have a higher type of children generally than I have ever known.'

"Now we are at my first school for the day. The head master's class and the first assistant's will be the first to claim my attention. The next company will consist of three junior divisions; the next two of four intermediate classes. I give each of these companies drill for half an hour twice a week and see to it that the assistant instructors carry out the orders for the day. There is some very fine work done by the senior classes. Their aptitude for picking up the most advanced exercises speaks wonders for the work done by the teachers of the other parts of their education. I may tell you that the boys of this school won the provincial football championship and, better still, almost every lad in the head master's room will pass for the physical certificate before he goes up to the high school entrance examination.

"That little girl over there is a remarkably fine swimmer. Among the prizes she has won are no fewer than three Governor's medals. Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, when governor of British Columbia, encouraged the children to learn swimming, by presenting medals for competition in the art, and our present governor has very kindly continued the custom. There is keen competition for these medals at the close of the annual summer course of instruction in swimming; and it shows the sort of girl she is to have won so many. Almost as many of those girls as of the boys have first-class swimming certificates. To obtain one of these certificates, pupils have to swim at least a quarter of a mile, not only in a bathing suit, but completely dressed in their ordinary clothing. Yes, it is hard, still the girls pass the same requirements as the boys. Besides the distance swimming there is the life-saving practice, and the course of instruction in resuscitating the apparently drowned to be passed before the certificate is issued. The Royal Humane Society, at their annual meeting held last March, highly commended the work done by our boys and girls, and authorized the establishment of competitions here for the society's bronze medal and certificate on vellum for proficiency in the theory and practice of life saving at sea. You will admit this is something to be proud of, for the only places that have received this mark of distinction are the great public schools of the United Kingdom, and specially selected training ships. You will understand the importance of teaching swimming properly here as Victoria is the most important seabathing place on the Pacific coast.

"I am sure that I could not tell even in miles the extent of the beaches within easy walk of the residential portions of the city, we are not confined to one place for sea-bathing, and consequently we happily avoid the garishness that generally prevails in a sea-bathing resort. I have seen the world famed bays of the Mediterranean and other parts of Europe, as well as over here, and I believe there is nothing to compare with Cordova Bay, Cadboro Bay, Fowl Bay, Oak Bay, Esquimalt and the pellucid waters of Victoria Arm. One can get sea-water here at practically any temperature one has a right to expect in Father Neptune's domains. These beaches are the Victoria children's main play grounds.

"The bracing climate is a strong incentive to the practice of athletics and all kinds of games common in the United Kingdom and the older parts of Canada are enjoyed here.

"The public parks at Beacon Hill and other parts of the city give ample scope for their practice.

"I am glad to tell you that the school authorities keep a close watch on our school matches. We organized the athletic association to carry out the games in a rational way. It has succeeded admirably, and you will not find so much bitterness in connection with sport here as you will in other parts of the New World.

"I often think that the reason Victoria is called the most English city out of England, is on account of the love of sport of all descriptions possessed by the people here. At our schools we carry out our games quite on the same principle as in Great Britain. We have Rugby and Association football and a lacrosse league in which the crack players of each school meet each other, but more attention is given to the general practice of the game in schools than to the exhibitions of the school's best representatives.

"The great charm of Victoria is that its surroundings afford a scope for enjoyment of a varied description. There is dear old Mt. Tolmie, Mt. Douglas, and Cedar hill for the little mountaineers to scale, lanes as lovely to wander through as those in Devonshire, and facilities for the study of natural history—the child's most fascinating employment.

"Although the city has become the fashionable and popular summer resort of the Dominion, nothing approaching to crowdedness exists. Our playgrounds are ideal, as extensive as they are enchanting; and most surely constitute the foundation of the higher physical type of children that you will observe on every hand."

ATHLETIC SPORTS

By Herbert Cuthbert, Secretary of Victoria Tourist Association

Wherever there is found an abundance of outdoor sport and recreation for young men and women, there you will find a city of homes and contented people.

In my experience on two continents I have never found a city even twice the size of beautiful Victoria, "The Ever Green City of Canada," where there was more outdoor recreation than in this, the most western city of this Dominion and in the British Empire. I have described it, and I believe aptly, "The City of the Young." In my wanderings to and fro I have occasionally met young men in other cities once residents of Victoria, who have been transferred through promotion, and if ever one were called upon "to listen to a tale of woe," it was from these gentlemen on their bad luck in being called upon to enjoy a better salary, but to lose those pleasures, and environments which had been so much to them in Victoria.

Victoria is acknowledged to be the most English city on the continent and in nothing is it more so than in its appetite for all kinds of outdoor recreations, athletics and sport. There is a reason for this. The city possesses exceptional facilities, unequalled I think, in any other city, either in the old or new world, for the encouragement of everything of this nature.

In Beacon Hill park, over three hundred acres in extent, the people have not only a beautiful park, but a perfect recreation ground that is the delight of every youngster in the city. Situated on the sea coast within fifteen minutes walk of every part of the city, containing an aviary, swings for children, menagerie, bear pits, deer runs, pleasure gardens, artificial lakes—the home of graceful swans—beautiful drives and walks beneath fine old oaks and splendid maples, and above all, that magnificent hill from which it takes its name, and from the summit of which there is a view of sea, mountain and sky unsurpassed in the whole world, no wonder this splendid public park is appreciated. It is on the sloping sides and at the base of this hill that successive generations of Victorians have learned to become proficient in lacrosse, baseball, rugby and association football, and the time honored English game of cricket. There are naturally, clubs and associations representing each of these branches of sport, and it is only a few years since the Victoria lacrosse team toured Eastern Canada, playing every team of note and returning with an unbroken record. The clubs of the military at Work Point barracks always provided excellent competition for the Victoria elevens.

Victoria, being almost entirely surrounded with the calm waters of the Straits of Juan de Fuca, and having an inlet of the sea running almost through the centre of the city, it can readily be imagined that there are few places, if any, that can afford the same facilities for aquatic sports. Only last year in the month of October, a young business man who felt a day's outing would do him good, hired a row boat, and in company with his wife, spent the afternoon leisurely trolling off the cliffs along the Dallas road, returning about five with four large salmon. This is not by any means an isolated case. It is a sport and recreation that is obtainable almost at any time during certain months. Of course these waters afford the very best opportunity for sailing, and we have a flourishing yacht club with a considerable membership. There is no finer sight than to see the beautiful waters of the Straits dotted with the graceful yachts of the people of Victoria and neighboring cities on the occasion of their annual races, which can be followed with interest by spectators from the cliffs. A recent visitor who enjoyed this form of outdoor life in Victoria in describing her experience, said: "One Saturday, an ideal day, we cruised the livelong day on the placid waters of the Straits of Georgia in and out among the many islands, until, when the night came, we had covered over a hundred miles. Night! What a charming night and what scenery!

"As the sun was going to rest behind the mighty Olympics, the moon made its appearance from behind the rugged Cascades, as if these two great orbs were playing hide and seek with each other. While we were still gazing from the deck of the boat, the beauty of the scene was greatly enhanced by the lordly Mount Baker appearing in full view, covered with its snowy mantle. This picture, painted so vividly upon the soul's canvas will never be effaced!"

The inlet of the sea already mentioned, and which is known as Victoria Arm, is a beautiful, riverlike stretch of salt water extending through almost the centre of the city for four miles. Along its lovely banks are many of Victoria's best homes. It is a perfectly safe and ideal place for boating for the young people, and in the summer months there is a constant procession up and down all day, and especially in the delightful evenings. Nothing can be imagined that is more charming than the evenings spent on the Arm, in listening to the snatches of music and song from these boats as they flit hither and thither, or from some camp, the glow of whose fire adds the finishing touch to this glimpse of fairy land.

The pioneer athletic association in Victoria to which is due a great deal of the credit for the high position Victoria holds in the athletic world, is the James Bay Athletic Association. This is particularly so with reference to sculling. They have utilized the "Arm" for training our young men in this grand old pastime with the result that the Victoria four have invariably been able to beat all comers. At present our "Big Four" holds the championship of the Pacific Coast, and has done so for four consecutive seasons. Two years ago they toured the East and beat everything in sight on a straightaway course, and while the Argonauts of Toronto beat them in a "turn" race, yet at the regatta at Nelson of the same year, they rowed a mile and a half "straightaway" in 7.49, which is as fast as the time of the crack Winnipeg four of last year. In the opinion of Victorians, our championship four could have turned the tables on our friends from Winnipeg in a contest for the championship of the world.

Victoria is also fortunate enough to possess what has been described as the most picturesquely situated golf links in America. Naturally these afford very great pleasure to the young people of our city and to our visitors, as they are open all the year around, except the month of August, and the only reason for them being closed is, that being some distance from the regular water supply of the city, it is rather expensive to keep them in good condition in this month.

There are several tennis clubs in the city and again we are fortunate in having in this form of recreation, residents of Victoria, as champions of the Pacific Northwest.

A Typical Beauty Spot—Birds-eye View of Fowl and Ross Bays From Shotbolt's Hill.

The Call of The Outdoors

How Nature Is Beckoning Man to Partake of Its Offerings, by H. F. Pullen

"The water is still rather high in the Cowichan," said G. T. Fox when referring to a trip made by him on Friday and Saturday of last week. "The water is high but not high enough to interfere with the sport. I had a splendid time. On this trip I did what I never was lucky enough to do before. I hooked on three fish at one cast in a pool in the upper reach near Green's. It is not often the fish are as easy as that. I used chiefy Jock Scott, March Brown, Orange Tip, a specialty of my own, Black Ant, and Old Ginger.

"My plan is to try a pool first with a small spoon about the size of a tenpenny piece. They take this quicker and in that way I find out whether there are plenty of fish there. As soon as I have tested this I use nothing but fly.

"Bait? Oh, no. Bait fishing is something like shooting a bird standing. One fish caught with a fly is worth twenty caught with a worm. As a rule sportsmen do not use bait. If they can't use a fly they wait until they can.

"The best fish I caught was a three-pounder from the Siwash Rips, about four miles down from Lakeside Hotel. There were plenty of fish too in Gillespie's pool, although they were not quite so eager here on this occasion as in some of the other spots. I did not try the lake and heard of no one else doing so. It is too early for lake fishing.

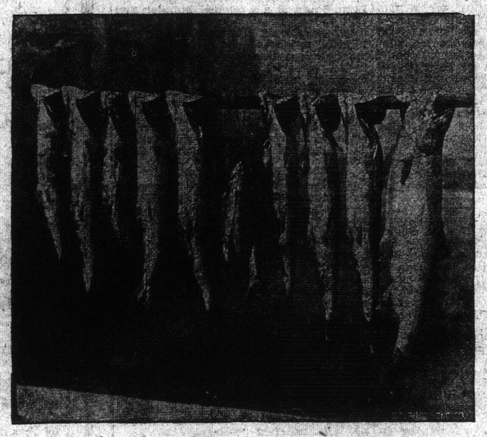
"There were a number of people from the city and from Duncans up there. The roads are good for biking and the country is delightful just now. A little snow still remains on the tops of the hills, but it was very hot in the valley. I put up at the Lakeside where they treated me splendidly. There is nothing like a trip to Cowichan Lake at this season of the year. J. Collison was with me and he also enjoyed the trip thoroughly."

Mr. Fox is not alone in his praise of the Cowichan sport. Mr. Hume of Vancouver and Ex-Governor Mackintosh were up a few days ago and had some good fishing. Mr. Monteith, Sr., also paid the river a visit during the week and landed some two-pounders. Hamilton Smith and Harry Moss are up there now and something worth mentioning is expected from them.

Of those who went to Sooke this week Messrs. Behnsen, Robson, McKeown and another, got one hundred and fifty good fish among them. Others were not quite as successful. On the way up those in the stage wagon passed quite close to a couple of deer. While the fish at Sooke do not rise to the fly as well as they take bait, yet fly fishers managed to get a dozen fish each, an adequate reward for a good sport. There are a great many grouse of both varieties in that district.

Messrs. Anderson, Peters and Stapledon caught about thirty nice trout in Prospect Lake a few days ago. Speaking of this lake reminds one that the Cement company have built a dam across the stream and have not yet constructed any fish ladders. The same state of affairs obtains, I am told, at the Colquitz stream at the head of the Arm. A concrete dam has been built which effectually prevents the fish ascending the stream. Since netting has been stopped in the Arm fishing there has improved and this year some splendid sport has been obtained. Some boys living up there have been in the habit of catching enough fish for breakfast almost every morning before going to school.

In the Colonist last week a letter signed by W. A. Rountree was published in which the writer accuses local sportsmen of favoring a long open season. If I remember rightly, the Victoria Fish and Game Club some time ago passed a resolution asking that the open season be reduced. There is a quite general opinion among local men that the season is too long. It is generally urged too that all the shooting should begin at the same time. When a person is out after grouse it is a very common thing for him to bring down a pheasant in mistake. If he does so he must either throw the dead bird away or run the risk of being heavily fined and receiving at the same time odium that is the natural heritage of the lawbreaker. While there would be some hardship incurred in the shooting of the blue grouse, which take to the hills in October, yet it would give the chicks of the other variety a chance to grow up, so that they may be able to take care of themselves. Shooting half grown chicks is not much fun.



A Day's Catch Near Victoria

Bird hunters will be glad to know that the capercailzie have been seen this spring so it is likely that the efforts of the local club in importing them has been successful. I have heard a number of enquiries as to what to call the female of the black cock. She is called the grey hen on account of her color.

Speaking of importing birds brings to mind enquiries I heard respecting the date when the California quail were imported into British Columbia. It is quite clear that they have been here over twenty years, some say thirty, and others again forty. Mr. Chaldicott when writing on the subject of importations omitted to tell this and no one that I have met seems to know anything about it. If anyone has this information they would be conferring a favor by notifying either the Colonist or the writer of this article. As every one knows, the quail are very plentiful here. They seem to thrive equally as well in the land of their adoption as in their native country. They nest right within the city limits and are very common visitors in the gardens. Several people who have pairs of these birds in captivity receive almost daily visits from those that are at liberty. A tale is told of a pair that escaped from captivity and that returned on a number of occasions, once even entering again the open cage from which they had fled.

This is indeed the season when the Call of the Outdoors is most insistent.

THE ROD AND GUN

Splendid Opportunities for Fishing and Shooting

In addition to all the features of outdoor life that I have mentioned so far, must be added the splendid opportunities for fishing and shooting which are available. In this connection a young sportsman who appreciates conditions in Victoria, says: "The district around Victoria is a veritable sportsman's paradise, game of all kinds abound and is procurable within easy distance of the city. Grouse shooting comes in September when some five hundred sportsmen, mostly from Victoria, turn out and make an average bag of ten per man, some of the most expert hunters will secure as many as forty to fifty in two days. The grouse hunting country is open to all comers, and on account of its large area plenty of room is available for everyone. During September the weather in which Victoria and district is at its best, a large number of sportsmen camp out and by that means are enabled to be on their hunting grounds early in the morning.

Pheasants were introduced into the country about eighteen years ago; since that time they have multiplied so quickly owing to the mild climate afforded them that today they have spread over the entire country to a distance of at least sixty miles and afford the very best sport. Quail as well as pheasant shooting comes in on October 1st, and also affords excellent sport. A little English snipe arrive in great quantities, and those who like that kind of sport and know where to find them get large bags. Ducks of all kinds and Brant abound in the bays and inlets around the islands, and any sportsman who tires of hunting grouse, pheasant and quail can make up parties for a duck shooting expedition which affords the very best kind of a day's outing. Several parties are made up annually and hire a launch and row boats and visit many of the various bays within easy distance of Victoria, and often return with from three to four hundred ducks. There are no poisonous snakes on the island and no drawbacks of any kind whatever to interfere with the pleasures of the sportsman, even malaria being entirely unknown in the province of British Columbia.

At many points along the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway there is excellent small game shooting, particularly black tail deer, pheasant, grouse and quail. For big game, it is necessary to go farther into the interior of the island, but not very far, and the places are easy of access, where bear, panther and elk are plentiful.

Trolling for salmon has already been mentioned, but nothing has been said so far of the excellent fly fishing for salmon trout that is to be had in the rivers, streams and lakes that are within easy distance of the city of Victoria. A description of this form of sport would require an article in itself. It is sufficient to say that there is no city in the West where fishing resorts can be reached easier than from Victoria, some of them by walking, cycling or driving, and even many of those for which it is necessary to take the train, are within a very reasonable distance of the city.

In summing up this article, in order to impress upon the young people who may read it the advantages there are

(Continued on Page Twenty-five.)

ESQUIMALT NEXT

Clearly Destined to Share With This City's Great Future

Letter III.

Dear——: The all-absorbing topic of conversation amongst those who hope to profit by the development of Vancouver Island, which, it is plainly apparent, is now to be undertaken on a vast scale, is What are the plans of the C. P. R. respecting railway extension? It is of course known that the company will tap Alberni and Comox, thus opening up an immense area of country rich in natural resources; but the chief point of conjecture and speculation lies outside anything suggested by the building of such lines of railway—viz., at what place will the great railway corporation create a new terminal on the Pacific coast for its immense transcontinental system? That it must take a step of this sort in the very near future is the firm conviction of the best-informed students of the situation.

There are special reasons why it is necessary for the C. P. R. to seek a port on the Pacific seaboard closer to the ocean than Vancouver. There are a number of schemes afoot in transportation circles, all aiming at reducing the time in the transportation of mails and passengers. Only the other day we were told that the Imperial government has now before it a project of the greatest magnitude, which aims at new and vastly superior services on both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. And the moment any one of these plans are successfully consummated, not to speak of the completion by the Grand Trunk Pacific of its line to the coast, the C. P. R. would find itself hopelessly handicapped as a competitor for ocean-borne traffic requiring the most expeditious transit between the Old World and the Orient, and to Australia.

This much being admitted, there can no longer be any doubt as to the intention of the C. P. R. to choose some point on Vancouver Island as its final and ultimate ocean terminus on the Pacific seaboard. If the question of selecting the shortest possible route from that point on Vancouver Island at which the Empress steamers are within touching distance, to the main line of the C. P. R., be the determining factor in the decision to be reached by the big railway corporation, there can be no doubt but that a port on the upper west coast of the Island would be chosen; but there are other factors of the highest importance to be considered, which would indicate that Victoria's position is not in the slightest imperilled by the possibility of any rival city being reared in the contest for commercial supremacy. In this connection the harbor of Esquimalt, erstwhile the home of His Britannic Majesty's North Pacific squadron, looms large in the public eye as a likely point for utilization by the C. P. R. In all the stretch of coastline from San Diego to Skagway there is no harbor which can compare for a moment with Esquimalt in all that makes for excellence in facilities, whether it be anchorage, security to shipping, commodiousness, or strategic location in respect to immediate accessibility to the shipping following the great trade routes across the Pacific. When the original surveys were made across the continent for the C. P. R., Esquimalt was chosen for the Pacific coast terminus, and a shipment of rails was actually delivered there from the Old Country. As to why the plans were changed it is not necessary to enter into at this time; suffice it to say the decision was reached despite the advice of some of the best railway engineers on the continent. But Esquimalt's chief prestige is no doubt due to the circumstance that it stands at the gateway of the only great waterway piercing the continent of North America on the Pacific seaboard—Puget Sound. It requires no prophetic eye to see that within a comparatively very brief period the volume of traffic on the bosom of this waterway will have assumed vast dimensions; and when this day arrives, is it conceivable that the magnificent harbor of Esquimalt will long remain unutilized as a great shipping port by one or more of the great transcontinental railway systems which will seek to tap at its most advantageous point the stream of ocean-borne traffic pouring into Puget Sound?

If nothing beyond the traffic to the Orient were to be considered, in the ambitions of the transcontinental systems interested, there would be no disputing that the most northerly port on the coast would be the most advantageously situated; but, while it is true that the volume of business to be handled to and from the Orient is already large, and constantly increasing, it is idle to suppose that it would ever be a business proposition to expend but a single effort for the control of this traffic. A transcontinental railway will be out for all the business offering; and it is probably correct to say that the bulk of the passenger traffic carried across America for many years to come will be destined to points south of any such northerly terminus—as Prince Rupert, for instance—in other words, most of the travelers handled by the railway lines will be destined to Puget Sound, California, Mexico, and Australia. In this connection it is well to mention that the Canadian-Mexican steamship line has just been inaugurated, and that an ambitious project is on foot looking to the improvement of the service to Australia.

With a knowledge of these facts, therefore, it is glaringly obvious that Esquimalt and Victoria occupy a position pre-eminently superior to any other on the British Columbia seaboard; and I personally am of the opinion that events may be expected to move with astounding rapidity towards the elevation of this city and its suburban harbor into the front rank of the great ports of the continent.

As Esquimalt is but four miles distant from Victoria, it is in reality a part of the city, only necessitating the extension of the boundaries of the city in order to make the two one and indivisable.

SEEAYEGEE.

There seems every reason for supposing that the influx of tourist visitors to Victoria this year will break all records. Already the volume of passenger business on the Mainland and Sound steamers has assumed huge dimensions