

A British Columbia Health Resort.

Kamloops, B.C., has gained quite a provincial reputation as a health resort, and no doubt justly so. Its dry, bracing, equitable climate should be very beneficial, especially as a change for persons residing in a damp coast climate. On this point the *Kamloops Sentinel* says:—

A fair idea of salubrity of a place may be formed from its death rate and, no doubt, principally from that of children, for they are particularly susceptible to the influence of severity of climate or of bad sanitary conditions. The statistics for Kamloops for the past three years, according to our Government record are: 41 births, 5 deaths of children from all causes, including, at least, one accident. This is certainly a low death rate when compared with that of other places. And equally remarkable is the fact, that during the same period of time there was no case here of any infectious disease, except two cases of scarlet fever, both imported, and, according to the hospital report, only one case of typhoid fever, also imported. These facts, picked up at random, speak volumes for the salubrity of our fair town. But apart from these general considerations, Kamloops enjoys many climatic advantages which make it a desirable resort for sufferers from various diseases. And here we cite the statement of a medical man, Dr. McLean, of Riverside, Cal., who was unfortunately forced to seek the advantage of a change of climate for himself. He says: "I consider the climate of Kamloops and vicinity unsurpassed for healthfulness. It is free from all the miasmatic disorders which we so often encounter in the southern health resorts. Situated between mountain ranges which condense most of the moisture from the air, we have a dry, bracing atmosphere, free from the depressing influences found in the semi-tropics. I can especially recommend it for throat and bronchial affections, as we have the air of the desert and the invigorating influence of a northern latitude. In my own case, I have received more benefit from my few weeks residence in Kamloops and Nicola, than from any of the places I have visited between here and the Mexican frontier."

There are many others who can testify to these facts from personal experience. Nor is this to be wondered at, for the air is remarkably pure—indeed it has often been remarked, not by us who take such things as matters of course, but by people from abroad, that the sky is clearer and the stars brighter here than anywhere else. The temperature is equable, the changes from hot to cold are neither sudden nor great. Everybody knows that sudden changes of temperature are not conducive to health, whilst an equable climate in addition affords people the opportunity of keeping for many hours daily in the open air. The air, too, is dry. An umbrella is better known as a curiosity brought from the coast than as a useful personal article. The soil is dry and sandy, and sand and gravel form the best natural drainage, so that malaria is practically unknown around Kamloops. The water supplied by the waterworks is slightly alkaline, but is wonderfully free from impurities. It is pumped in from the middle of the great stream, which has natural filter in the large Shuswap Lake.

We take the liberty of publishing a letter from Mr. Berry, Analytical Chemist, from University College, London, England, who is out here for his health. He says:—

"It is not possible to form a correct opinion of the climate of a place in three weeks only, but Kamloops, in our opinion, is incomparably superior to all the other places at which we stopped when travelling lately across Canada from Quebec.

I spent four months in the early part of this autumn in Northern Italy, and the brightness and coloring here greatly resemble that part of Europe.

The amount of rain has been very slight, and owing to the strong but warm wind which we have had almost constantly, the ground was dry again almost as soon as the rain stopped. The wind here is most pleasant, being so dry and bracing.

The difference in the temperature here in the daytime and in the evening is very slight in comparison with the Riviera, where, as soon as the sun sets, the air at once becomes very chilly, and renders people very liable to catch cold.

Fur Robes and Rugs.

Fur robes of the better sort are popular, and always meet with a ready demand for fashionable consumption. Black bear is one of the leading articles, and always gives entire satisfaction. Fine robes are also made of grizzly and Polar bear skins. Wolverine robes, composed of from four to six skins are attractive, the shades of brown being contrasted with good effect. Warm and handsome robes are made of natural beaver, which is exceptionally durable; some examples in high cost robes are shown in the skins of the musk ox; the number, however, is limited.

Carriage robes that are remarkably handsome and delicate are made of white fox fur, twelve to eighteen skins being used, the tails serving as a trimming for the border; robes of this description are also employed as bed coverings. A robe for similar purposes is composed of the small skins of the ermine, lined with quilted satin. Other robes for carriage or bedroom service are of white Mandarin lamb.

Sleigh robes are shown in Hudson's Bay wolf, which is very serviceable; others are of sealskin, lynx, wild cat, gray and red fox, raccoon, black genet, Alaska marten, Hungarian lamb, and gray skimmer. These robes are all elegantly lined and are finished in excellent taste.

Stylish rugs are shown for the parlor, hallways, library and other rooms; these are made of whole skins, finished with borders of contrasting fur or trimming, so as to perfectly show the entire form of the skin used. Superb rugs for large rooms are of the whole Bengal tiger skins, finished with full mounted heads; selected leopard skins are prepared in the same way, and are very desirable. Cosily rugs are displayed in full size Polar bear skins; these are prepared with mounted heads set at different elevations. Rugs are also used thrown over the sofa, lounge, or divan; some of the large bear rugs, with mounted heads, may be thus employed with gratifying effect, as they

always appear in good taste in association with the other decorations of the room.

Stylish rugs are also shown in Isabella bear, Siberian wolf, Axis deer, Hudson's Bay wolf, tiger cat, Iceland sheep, Canada lynx and other suitable pelts, made up with contrasting fur borders that enhance their natural attractiveness.—*New York Fur Trade Review*.

We have received from Howard, Bartles & Co., 28 Sherman street, Chicago, a copy of their grain and provision reference book. This publication contains a vast amount of statistical and other information, in handy reference form, relating to these trades. A good deal of space is given to Chicago market and crop statistics, but foreign countries are also well represented.

WAUGHORN'S GUIDE for February is issued. Of chief importance among the many changes it records is the boundaries and officials of the new municipalities for the current year. In railway matters it will be noticed that the train service has been extended on the Canadian Pacific railway Glenboro branch to Stockton and Methren, 21 miles west of Glenboro, and on the Souris branch trains now run as far as Hartney.

THE *Trade and Mining Review*, published at Chicago, has been purchased by P. E. Bissell, who makes the following announcement. "The new management propose to make the *Review* thoroughly reliable. Hereafter no advertising space will be sold to any one whose business standing is doubted. Editorial favor cannot be purchased at any price." This is the proper basis for any journal, but it is one which is violated by a great many papers, and perhaps particularly by mining journals, which pursue the "write-up" system at so much a line, and "boom" properties and prospects on a financial basis, hence the unreliable nature of so much mining "information."

At the annual meeting of the Toronto board of trade President Davidson delivered his annual address. He stated that the business of the past year had not been as good as some of the more sanguine had anticipated, but the yield of the province was a good average, and the farmers had paid off their mortgages and other debts more readily than for some years past. Speaking of the extension of Canadian trade, Mr. Davidson expressed himself in favor of the intentions to extend it with England rather than in other quarters, especially in view of the McKinley bill. He spoke favorably of the objects of the Imperial institute. After referring to the mineral wealth of the country he urged the establishment of refining works in the city.

J. B. CARLILE, the veteran insurance man, has organized a new company which will be known as the Cosmopolitan Life Association. It will be a mutual company, with head office at Toronto. The company is to be conducted upon the Sheppard Homans system. "The mortuary premiums, i. e., the cost of carrying the risk, should be regulated according to, and gradually increase with, the age of the insured; or if the premium is to remain uniform, then the amount of insurance at risk must decrease as the age of the insured increases." The payments of premium are to be made every two months, which will issue risks on women, also by joint policy on business partners or on husband and wife.