

the centre of a mountain region that could easily blanket the European Switzerland. From a tourist standpoint its attractions are manifold and each year sees an increasing number of visitors, drawn thither by the opportunities afforded for mountain climbing, rest, sport, recreation and pleasure. Swinging down from the north the great Selkirk range is split into two parts by Kootenay Lake and the tributary lakes and streams at its northern extremity. The Selkirks proper lie to the west of Kaslo and beyond the lower hills close to the lake shore loom up the giant peaks and glistening glaciers of the range, which is pierced by a narrow pass through which the Canadian Pacific is now constructing a railway to connect Kaslo with the great Slocan silver-lead mining camps around Slocan Lake and the Arrow Lake section beyond. On the east side of Kootenay Lake and facing the town the bulky Purcell range presents a panorama of stately grandeur, with some of the smaller glaciers flanking its sides in full view and snow covering the mountain summits for the greater portion of the year. Few places possess such a wonderful mountain panorama as does the town, the peaks rising to altitudes of 8,000 to 9,000 feet and extending an unbroken front for a distance of forty miles, and yet appearing so close in the clear mountain atmosphere as to convey the impression that they are only a stone's throw distant.

LAND OF A THOUSAND PEAKS

So numerous are the peaks of this region that no attempt has been made to name them. Close to the lake their sides are clothed with evergreen timber, which higher up gives place to a stunted growth and finally to the bare rock of the summits. Deep canyons allow scores of roaring streams to wend their way from the ice fields at the summits to the lake below. Incomparably weird and wonderful at times are the effects produced by light and shade, ranging from the deep gloom of the lower canyons to the rich blue of the glaciers and the wonderful afterglow that lights up the summits of the peaks when darkness is enveloping the lake valley below. North, south, east and west extend the slate and granite battlements, constant reminders of the terrific forces that heaved them up and the patient work of Nature that carved their fantastic shapes.



A Tourist Party in the High Altitudes