

west side of the Coast range, and while, of course, having severe cold in winter, has in other respects the peculiar lightness and dryness characteristic of the whole country within the Coast range from the international boundary northwards. In fact, it may be said, it is only the gradually increasing north latitude which affects the length of the day, by which the winters are lengthened and the summers shortened. The long summer days make vegetation so rapid that cattle-grazing on the bunch-grass is possible up to October, and even later in some seasons.

THE PACIFIC COAST CLIMATE.

Mr. Stupart, director of the Dominion Meteorological Observatory at Toronto, says: "The annual rainfall along the exposed western coast of the island (Vancouver Island), and thence northward to Alaska, is very great, generally exceeding 100 inches. In the south-eastern part of the island, between Victoria and Nanaimo, the climate does not differ greatly from that found in the North of England; not only does the annual mean temperature agree very closely with that of parts of England, but the mean average of corresponding months is nearly the same."

Dr. Bryce, in "The Climates and Health Resorts of Canada," again says: "Extremes of temperature, and especially of daily extremes—the lowest temperature in two years being 8 deg. F., the lowest monthly average being 20 degs. F., and the highest in summer being 82 degs. F.—to that as above Alberni on the west coast, to Queen Charlotte Island, even to the 54th parallel. In all this country the fruits of temperate climates grow well and farm animals live outdoors the year round. The rich bottoms of the Fraser delta have long been famous for their great hay crops and pasture lands; but here the extreme of rainfall is met, the mean for six years being 59.66 inches at New Westminster. The climate of the great Island of Vancouver, running north-west across two degrees of longitude and two degrees of latitude, presents every variety from that at the sea coast, with, as at Esquimalt, a very low daily range, and no annual extremes—the lowest temperature in two years being 8 degs. F., the lowest monthly average being 20 degs. F., and the highest in summer being 82 degs. F.—to that as above Alberni on the west coast, where the Vancouver range rises first into a plateau of 4,000 feet and even to 7,500 feet in Victoria Peak."

Apart from the mineral wealth of the island, its climate, with every variation possible, becomes most attractive. Its sea-shore climate is milder than many parts of England, with less rain and less seasonal variations. The west slope of the Coast range has a rank vegetation, owing to the excessive rainfalls, and the lower grounds, if mild, have, as a climate for residence, attractions rather for the pursuit of agriculture than as health resorts for the invalid.

TRADE.

The trade of British Columbia, if still unimportant when compared with the extent, resources and immense future possibilities of the province, has improved and developed wonderfully during the past few years, showing an increase in the last decade that speaks volumes for the progress and enterprise of the people. It is now the largest in the world per head of population except Holland. Prominent exports are fish, coal, gold, silver-lead, timber, masts and spars, furs and skins, fish oil, and hops. A large portion of the salmon, canned and pickled, goes to Great Britain, Eastern Canada, the United States, Australia and Japan; the United States and Hawaiian Islands consume a large share of the exported coal, and great quantities of timber are shipped to Great Britain, South Africa, China, Japan, India, Australia and ports in South America. To Great Britain and the United States are sent the valuable furs, and peltries of land animals and the much-prized seal and