

land is cleared up and drained. An important factor in stimulating the growth of all vegetation is the exceptional length of day that prevails in these latitudes during the summer season. A wonderful amount of sunshine is liberated between May and September.

In the Rocky mountain belt the winters are fairly cold and the snowfall heavy in the higher altitudes. In the Rocky Mountain trench, paralleling the western base of this range, the climate is milder with a range of temperature and an annual precipitation favourable for the development of the rich agricultural areas lying in it. It includes the valleys of the Canoe, South Fork of the Fraser, Parsnip and Finlay rivers.

In the Great Plains division lies the northeastern part of Central British Columbia, consisting of the upper part of the Peace River district. The climate here is very agreeable and remarkably moderate considering the latitude. The winters are dry and cold except for short periods when affected by warm Chinook winds, but the snowfall is light and the air clear and bracing. Winds and storms are rare and the average temperature is not severe, though cold snaps sometimes occur, when the thermometer goes as low as 50 degrees below zero. The coldest record of the year 1918 was 48 below and the mean temperature for January, the coldest month, was 1 below. Winter weather may be expected in October, though open falls are by no means rare. There is seldom much severe weather before Christmas.

Spring comes early and quickly and the summer seasons are pleasant with long sunny days and short cool nights. In fact for some three months there is almost continual daylight. The precipitation is light, averaging from 12 to 15 inches annually. It occurs, however, most in the form of rain during the growing months of June and July and is sufficient to ensure successful crops of all classes of vegetables, grains and grasses.

Taken on the whole the climate of Central British Columbia may be termed mild to moderate, varying according to belts, latitude and altitude. It is pleasant, healthful and favourable for agricultural activities. There are no objectionable extremes of heat or cold, humidity or drought. Violent wind storms, hurricanes, blizzards and tornadoes are unknown and such electric storms as occur are not of undue severity. Fogs and heavy cloudy weather prevail to a certain degree on the coast but the amount of sunshine is surprisingly high.

Following is a table showing the highest, lowest and mean temperature records and the amount of precipitation for each month of the year 1918, at twelve representative points through Central British Columbia. Three of these, Anyox, Prince Rupert and Bellakula, are on the coast, though their meteorological stations are located at points varying in elevation from 150 to 370 feet above sea level. A fourth, Terrace, is more inland, though its elevation is still low. It is on the Skeena river in a gorge of the Coast mountains. It will be observed that the weather here not only becomes slightly colder but the range of temperature variations increases. The precipitation also is less.

In the interior plateau are New Hazelton, Vanderhoof, Prince George and Fort St. James, with Quesnel and Chilcotin lying farther south. Of these Quesnel and New Hazelton have the mildest climates, with Chilcotin somewhat colder and drier. The other stations are Cranberry, in the Rocky Mountain trench on the