

Nicola Valley

THIS beautiful valley comprises the country lying between the Thompson River on the north and the Similkameen on the south, and is bounded on the east and west respectively by the Okanagan and Fraser Valleys. The Nicola Valley and district is now the last of the best country awaiting development. The general direction of the valley is east and west, and is about seventy miles in length.

Extent of the Valley

The valley comprises some 175,000 acres of grazing and arable land. The arable land lies in the form of large bottoms or low lands. There are large benches which rise above the low lands; these are natural terraces. They are adapted for growing hay, cereals and vegetables, irrigation in most cases being required, but not necessary in every case, as enough moisture is retained by the winter snows. High above the benches are rolling plateaus covered with bunch grass and peavine, which are most nutritious. These plateaus constitute great summer ranges that have made the Nicola Valley famous as a cattle country throughout the Dominion of Canada for the last forty years. The famous Douglas Lake Cattle Company's western boundary runs into the town of Nicola, and with the other big ranches they ship annually some 5,000 head of cattle to the Coast market.

Climate

Situated at an elevation of 750 to 3,000 feet, the atmosphere is clear and dry, with summer and winter temperature neither excessively hot or cold, the duration of winter seldom exceeding three months. The valley is sheltered by the surrounding mountains rising several hundred feet above it, protecting it from the bleakness and cold north-west winds. The valley having an east and west trend it secures the beneficial effects of the "Chinook" winds which so admirably equalise the temperature.