

the section. The Cambrian sediments forming the highest summits of the Selkirks, and the Cambrian-Ordovician beds flooring the Rocky Mountain trench, are outliers of the great group of Palæozoic strata which largely composes the Rocky mountains. That geological province is now being energetically studied by Dr. J. A. Allan and Dr. C. D. Walcott, who follow the pioneers in this field, Mr. R. G. McConnell and Dr. G. M. Dawson. The Cenozoic, Mesozoic, and younger Palæozoic formations at and east of Kamloops represent the eastern part of a totally different complex which has recently been attacked by Dr. C. W. Drysdale, Mr. B. Rose, Mr. C. Camshell, and the writer, all having the advantage of Dawson's published account of his reconnaissance of south-central British Columbia.

The broad intermediate band of Pre-Cambrian rocks was also covered by Dawson and McEvoy in their laborious explorations. Since Dawson published their joint results on the country west of Revelstoke, twenty years ago, no geologist has carried on serious work in the railway belt between Golden and Kamloops. Until quite recently this stretch had been wholly traversed by no other geologist except Dawson, and practically no other name appears in the bibliography of a section twice as long as the average cross-section of the European Alps. In many essential points the present writer has come to the same conclusions as Dawson. In others the agreement is only partial, while a few important conclusions of this second reconnaissance differ completely from those of Dawson. These divergences are chiefly due to the writer's access to many new facts discovered, since Dawson's death, in the railway belt itself and in the detailed survey along the International Boundary, where the same great Cordilleran zones are crossed. Such differences of view have had but little effect on the writer's increasingly high admiration of Dawson's intense spirit, which carried him, in spite of enormous physical difficulties, through one of the longest and most arduous explorations on record. It is safe to say that his general statement of British Columbia geology will stand as essentially true; his details could not all be correct. In occasionally emphasizing differences of interpretation, one must not forget that Dawson's task was to outline the general geology of an area as large as Germany and France combined.