

the variations are yet more plainly marked. It may be divided into the southern, middle and northern zones, in the interior, and the coast climate.

#### THE SOUTHERN ZONE.

This area, including that between the international boundary, 49 and 51 degrees N. lat., comprises several distinct districts—the East Kootenay, the West Kootenay, and the Okanagan and Kamloops country, or that lying between the Gold range and the Coast range.

The East Kootenay climate is so mild that "hops can be successfully cultivated, and fruits give a fair yield, considering that the little orchards were only planted a few years ago."

The West Kootenay lies between the Purcell range and the Gold range proper, and includes the beautiful Arrowhead Lakes, leading down from Revelstoke by the Columbia River. This, while a great mining country, has, as the agricultural report already quoted states, areas from 50 to 1,000 acres in extent, here and there, available for agriculture. "About Revelstoke the red clover and vegetable and root crops grow luxuriantly." Fruit trees, when planted, have done well. The small tracts which have been cultivated about Nelson and Kaslo have produced splendid small fruits. On the shores of Kootenay Lake apple, pear, plum, cherry and fruit trees are all found doing well on a ranch, with fruit of excellent quality. Large reclamation works are going on on lands on the Kootenay River, where 40,000 acres of bottom lands have been dyked. The manager of the works states: "We have found the soil and climate of the Lower Kootenay meadows almost phenomenally favorable for cereals, root crops, garden vegetables, and small fruits. The climate is both healthful and pleasant."

The Okanagan valley, from Kettle River, on the boundary, to the Thompson, "is the great country of the Okanagan," says Dr. Bryce in the "Climates of Canada," "consisting of lower valleys and undulating plains and bench lands westward to the slopes of the Coast range, which, of all British Columbia, has the climate which will go far to give it claims as the great Canadian sanitorium. Of a width of 100 miles or more and 150 from north to south, this country has running northward to the Thompson the series of rivers and lake expansions known as the Okanagan Lakes. The general level of the bench lands lies between 1,000 and 2,000 feet, Vernon being 1,200. To describe it would be to follow up an endless series of valleys, as of the Kettle River, of the Similkameen River and Osoyoos Lake, having the lowest average temperature in January, only 22.6 degrees, and highest average, 75 degrees, in July; of the Princeton and Granite Creek valleys, extending to Nicola, near the railway, lying to the northward, and having a rainfall in 1890 of 5.4 inches and very limited snowfall, not exceeding five inches as rain; of the Penticton and Trout Creek valley, at an altitude of 1,100 feet, with the bottoms for hay-cutting and the ranges for cattle, rising hundreds of feet as bench lands. Hillsides here are of a rich sandy loam, and clothed in many places with pine and the Douglas fir, with cottonwood, birch and willows along the river bottoms, as in the country surrounding the Okanagan Lake, from the Mission to Vernon, some forty miles apart. Here the total annual rainfall does not exceed ten inches, with the highest average temperature in August of 64 degrees and the lowest in February of 21 degrees. About Vernon are the Okanagan Valley proper, the White Valley, Creighton Valley, and the country of Mabel and Sugar Lakes, all with a climate much the same as at the Okanagan Mission, the altitude being 1,200 feet."

Near Vernon is the Coldstream estate of Lord Aberdeen, on which are located the largest orchards in the province, producing annually magnificent crops of the choicest varieties of apples, such as the Northern Spy, King of Tompkins, MacIntosh Red, Golden Russet, Rhode Island Greening, St. Lawrence and others of the most perfect form, coloring and flavor. Bartlett, An-