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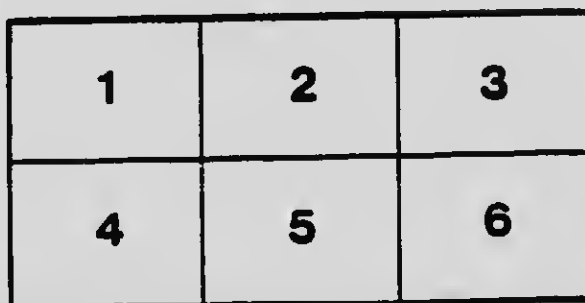
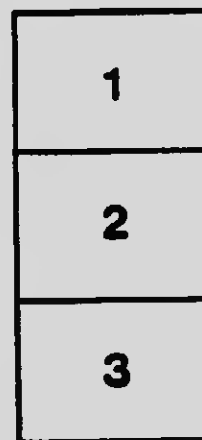
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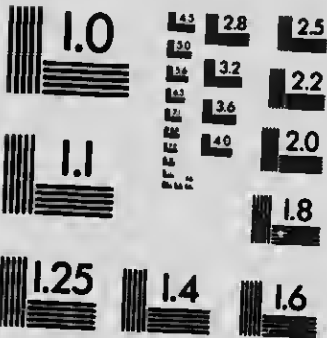
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**The Resources of
British Columbia in**



By C. CLIFFE, Editor of the Mining
Review, Sandon.

Approved by the Government of British Columbia.



**Minerals,
Agriculture,
Lumber,
and the
Fisheries.**



1901

VICTORIA, 5TH DECEMBER, 1901.

To the Deputy Minister of the Interior, Ottawa

SIR:—

Mr. C. Cliffe, of Saanich, has submitted to me the MS. of a proposed pamphlet on the "RESOURCES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA," which, I understand, is to be subscribed for by the Dominion Government on the understanding it meets with the approval of the Provincial Government. In so far as facts and figures are concerned, it is substantially correct. I have much pleasure in stating, for your information, that I have gone carefully over the MS. and find that so far as I can judge, without checking the figures as to their absolute accuracy, it is well and carefully written, and is on the whole an accurate exposition of the capabilities of the province.

I have the honor to be Sir, your obedient servant.

(Signed) J. D. PRENTICE,

Minister of Finance and Agriculture



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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ITS RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTORS AND SETTLERS.

This, the most westerly province of the Canadian Confederation, is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the south by the 49th parallel of N. latitude, on the north by the 60th parallel, and on the east, for its southern portion, by the summit of the Rocky Mountains, and the rest the 120th meridian. This gives it an average width of about 400 miles, a total area of 380,000 square miles, and constitutes it, by nearly 50,000 square miles, the largest province in the Canadian Confederation. Settled as thickly as the older portions of the older provinces are, it would locate from 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 of people, the present population of the whole Dominion. This conclusion can be easily reached by observing that with its natural resources developed, the country would be very nearly self-sustaining, producing as it does produce, nearly everything that can be grown and cultivated in any temperate climate, with the industries native to keep such a population profitably employed. Although its present population does not exceed perhaps 200,000, or the one twenty-fifth part of what it is capable of comfortably locating and profitably employing, that few have brought the province to a very high degree of advancement. It has several lines of railway reaching all points of advanced settlement and others projected to meet all the requirements of the immediate future, with lines of first-class steamers plying on all its navigable inland waters, with good wagon roads and trails connecting with even most remote settlements.

The government of the province is fully representative and always what the people make it through their representatives, selected by manhood suffrage.

The school system is the freest and the most complete in the known world. It is non-sectarian, supported for the most part by the state. Schools are established in every settlement where there are upwards of ten children of school age (from 6 to 16) and taught by duly certificated teachers. There are a dozen incorporated cities in the

province, having populations varying from 2,000 to 30,000 people. Besides these there are towns and villages in all centres of permanent population. In all of these there are churches of all denominations, schools and colleges, society lodges of every description, excellent hotels with all modern equipments, stores carrying large stocks of all supplies required by settlers, as well as permanent residents, shops, factories, newspapers, professional people, etc., etc., establishing the fact that though the country is new, it is not lacking in the spirit of progress and advancement. The salubrity of the climate and purity of its water supply for all domestic purposes are other conditions that especially recommend the country to the intending settler. The climate, being tempered by the winds of the Pacific Ocean, the country possesses none of the extremes of heat in summer and cold in winter experienced by many countries of the same latitude. The latter may be shown by the fact that all of the inland waters are navigated the whole winter through without interruption by ice or its consequences. As all the rivers and creeks that afford the water supply of the country originate in the hills above possible contamination from any cause, there is no further proof required of absolute purity.

With the government having done its share in opening the avenues of trade and commerce, establishing a liberal system of education for the benefit of the rising youth, a system of government for the protection of life, limb and individual rights and nature having done its share in affording opportunities for health and wealth unsurpassed in any other country on the face of the globe, it remains for those desiring employment, permanent homes under favorable auspices, and safe and profitable investments, whether large or small, to fully consider what there is placed before them in the following pages, in a business-like, practical manner.

ITS HISTORY.

The history of the province, including its settlement, is short, but as is outlined above, not uneventful. But little was done in the way of colonization until 1858, when the discovery of gold in the valleys of the Fraser and other rivers led to a large influx of population from the United States and other countries, for placer mining. Previous to this the white population was confined for the most part to a few settlements on Vancouver Island, the Fraser River and the employes of the Hudson's Bay Co., scattered over a large area of country, engaged in the fur trade with the Indians. It was an easy matter for the adventurous miner to take a few days' supplies up the

Frazer and other streams, by boat or canoe, and bring down in dust obtained in washings, and repeat his labors during the season most favorable to such operations. Discovery, however, soon disclosed the necessity for a change in mining methods. When it came to an exploration of the hills whence the placer dust was ground and washed down by glacier and other operations of nature, in the course of ages, and transporting the mineral bearing rock there found to points available for large vessels, mining became a different problem. Even though the inland waters were navigable, adequately proportioned boats to remove the ore from the place of discovery, if at the water's edge, or wharf packed to it when distant and the importation of supplies to the scene of operations, required wagon roads and railways. Until these were built but little progress could be made. From these remarks also the casual reader can see but little progress in mining could have been made before the construction of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway across the continent and the province from east to west and other systems and their ramifications in branches, during the last few years. Though lode mining in silver and lead commenced in 1857, in limited areas and quantities, no quartz gold mining began before 1893. To that date, however, \$57,516,587 worth of gold had been taken from placer workings, or washings, commencing with \$705,000 worth in the year 1858. It is a conservative estimate to place the total value of placer gold production to date (June, 1901) at \$64,000,000. As stated, silver lode working began in 1857, with a record of 17,700 ounces, valued at \$17,331, or about \$1.00 per ounce. It has fluctuated in value and output from that year to this, running about 55 1-2 cents in 1898, and about 3 1-2 cents higher this year. Lead production is inseparable from silver mining in this country, the two minerals being always found together, though varying in proportions in different properties. To the uninitiated we may say that it is to the fact of this inseparable union of the two minerals, and both fluctuating in value, that the peculiarities of varying profits in silver-lead mining may be traced. Thus if silver should be up in value while lead falls down, a mine running high in silver values might be operated profitably, or a property high in lead values might be worked at a round profit if lead was up in value, though silver might be low. For the year quoted (1898) lead was worth about 3 1-2 cents and silver 55 1-2 cents; this year silver is 58 and lead but about 1 1-2 cents. In the first year's operations silver to the value of \$17,331, as stated, was mined and lead to the value of \$9,216, at about 4 1-4 cents a pound. The total value of silver mined to date may be placed at \$15,000,000 and that of lead at more than half that amount. The first record of copper operations was in 1896, in the Nelson and Trail Creek districts,



BRITANNIA MINE.

when \$190,000 worth was taken out, and to-day it promises to become among the foremost of our industries, the Boundary country,—that is, the southwest portion of the province,—proving itself to be especially wealthy in that mineral. The total value of copper mined to date may be placed at something over \$5,000,000. Coal was first mined in 1836, with a very small output, and to the present (June, 1901) our total output cannot be short of \$53,000,000 all told. There are, as discovery has gone, almost inexhaustible beds on Vancouver Island, on the Crow's Nest branch of the C. P. R. just west of the Rocky Mountains, and the Similkameen, in the south-west portion of the province, to say nothing of several other localities but partially explored. The province has also large deposits of iron, zinc, platinum, but these will be dealt with in later pages.

Mining—GENERAL.

The province is now known far and near as a mining country, but though mining is its leading industry, its productions are by no means confined to its wealth in the bowels of the earth. To have extensive mineral wealth a country must be mountainous. From this latter fact this province has immense bodies of inland waters—noble rivers and beautiful lakes. These abound in fish which, with our salt water supplies, leads to one of our leading industries—canning. These large streams in turn have in the course of ages brought down immense alluvial deposits forming in many instances extensive areas of the richest soil to be found in the known world. This fact alone, without any practical assurances of the past, would mark the country for extensive and profitable agricultural operations; also the growth of immense forests of valuable timber. These three latter industries will, however, be dealt with under proper headings later on.

Although lode mining is becoming the branch of the mining industry that is fast forging the country to the front, placers are still worked in many districts with great profit, and, as exploration is prosecuted, it is safe to say many valuable placer diggings will yet be discovered.

PLACER MINING.

As is mentioned above, placer operations were the first commenced in the country, which in any event would naturally be the case. Without roads or trails, the importation of machinery for lode mining was out of the question.

tion. The pick, shovel and a few other rude implements were all that were necessary to enable the hardy adventurer to make his first discovery in the bars of the Lower Fraser River, where the washings of ages had landed them from the country higher up. A glance at the map will show the observer that the country is traversed by four chains or ranges of mountains, from north-west to south-east, generally speaking. The close observer will see the "leads" or mineral bearing seams in the rock structure of the country lead from west to east; and as the glacier movements of past ages were from north to south, the mineral bearing rocks were more or less pulverized by them in their downward descent, leaving it for the rivers formed later on to bring down the pulverised minerals picked up in their courses to the ocean to the west. This theory would show the remains of the mineral bearing leads superficially speaking are still in the hills, and there the prospector finds them, while their bases may be found in lower altitudes below even the placer workings. As silver-lead, copper and other mineral-bearing ledges were pulverized by the glaciers, one would expect a mixture of metals in the gold dust found in the placers, and so it is, varying from 10 to 30 per cent. In some localities silver so predominates in the admixture as to call the dust silver placers. As the dust was first found on the shores of the Fraser, nothing was more natural than that its entire length should be explored, and as its source in the Cariboo country was located, there also were the famous diggings of that name laid bare to the eyes of the seeker after wealth. So successful were the operations a few years after that in 1863 the output fell but a few dollars below four millions. Following up the old glacier track in succession, came the discoveries at Quesnel Forks, Telegraph Creek, Atlin, and, lastly, those of the Yukon country, all in the one prodigious belt. So far in the history of the province the Cariboo country has been the most productive in placers, having yielded upwards of \$50,000,000 of the precious metal. The Atlin country has in one year run up its collections to about \$400,000. The districts around Fort Steele, Ashcroft, Telegraph Creek, Menzies, Berkerville, etc., have also yielded their quota, swelling up the grand total of placer finds to about \$64,000,000 to date. It is safe to say that, as the valleys between the other mountain ranges are better explored, more extensive placers may yet be found to exist, but the working of them, on account of the depth of the dust (covered deep by the washings of later years) its extraction may call for better appliances than the pick and shovel—even hydrauliclog, that is found so satisfactory now in the Cariboo country. It is not, of course, the duty of a publication of this character to explain the operations of any particular machinery in mining. This is dealt with exhaustively in publications for the purpose. Suffice it, then, to say water is drawn from creeks by a system of

canals and pipes and employed by improved methods in washing the beds where the mineral is known to exist. Last year (1900) the plants at Cariboo were operated 171 days; they washed 1,843,938 cubic yards of sand, which yielded 18 cents per cubic yard in gold, giving the company gross \$2,041 per day, giving the company a total profit of \$350,000 for the year. There is, in mining, any more than in anything else, no "Royal road to wealth." It was patience and perseverance that led to the discoveries in the country of the past and it is only the same virtues that can unfold the discoveries of the future. The prospector of to-day has, however, untold advantages over his predecessor. He has all the supplies he may require in his labors at his door at any time, at the lowest possible cost, and a market at hand for the ready sale of the product of his labor. While the prospector of 40 years ago labored under the most extreme privations, his successor of to-day can carry on his operations with modern comforts.



RUTH CONCENTRATOR

LODE MINING.

GOLD.

At the outset, it must be remembered lode mining in this country is simply in its infancy, the first silver and lead having been extracted in 1887 and the first gold at Rossland in 1893. To even anticipate, then, what the future may be, is premature. It is certain that, considering the disadvantages with which working had to contend in the lack of capital, fluctuations in the value of silver and lead, disturbances in the labor market, etc., the industry has made as much headway as it has made in any other country in the same number of years, and developed as many properties on a paying basis as has any other country on the face of the globe, in the few years mining has been in operation. In this short time it has developed upwards of 50 dividend paying metalliferous mines, that have returned upwards of \$8,000,000 in cash to their owners, to say nothing of the immense total of profits expended in that time in improvements in machinery, buildings, and other necessary equipments. This is the eating that is proverbially "the proof of the pudding." Although these are the rewards of mining operations so far he would be a bold man indeed who would venture an opinion on even the results of the next half century, so few of the districts have even yet been but partially exploited. There are three or four mountain ranges traversing the country from one end to the other, with more or less regularity, with minor hills intervening. In the valleys, wherever reasonable exploiting has been prosecuted, plots of unsurpassedly rich placers have been discovered and wherever reasonable prospecting has been done in the hills, seams of valuable minerals have been found. On these, wherever reasonable work has been expended, a large proportion of paying properties have been developed. Nature has for ages been carrying out its unerring operations in these mountain ranges, carrying down loose rock and other moveables to the greatest depths below, covering the seams in varying depths. As a result, many a property abandoned by one prospector as valueless, has been found to be valuable by the next man prospecting workings further. While, then, under past operations a large percentage of discovered ledges has been found to be mineral-bearing, it remains for later working to increase the number.

In mining, as in everything else, nature has her peculiar methods of bestowing gifts. As has been stated, so far but a small portion of the province has been even moderately exploited, but in those, minerals go by localities. Yale and Kontenay, on the main land, and Alherno, on the Island of Vancouver, are the only portions of the country that have been even moderately traversed by the prospector, and in these the minerals have their favorite localities and rock formations. The Slocan country, between Lakes Slocan and Kontenay, south to Nelson and north of the Canadian Pacific Railway (main line) and parts of East Kootenay, are found to be the favorite localities for silver-lead ores, with their limestone and slate rock formations. The Boundary country or South Yale is found to abound in copper, and gold is found to exist in varying proportions over the entire area, being in greatest richness in the Roseland, Lardeon, Ymir, on the main land, and the western portion of the Island, Texada Island being especially productive. But as has been said elsewhere, in no portion of the province has any mineral been found absolutely pure. Silver and lead, with small values in gold and other minerals, are always associated, and the same is true of gold and copper. In speaking of any mineral, then, we mean that which predominates in the admixture. Silver and lead, differing from some of the States across the line, have a partiality in British Columbia for lime and slate rocks, while gold and copper are found in the older—the granite formation, but even this rule in this province has some marked exceptions. These peculiarities of this province are more or less a puzzle to old miners from other countries, but they soon become acquainted with nature's selections here. While to the mineralogist and the man of science these are matters of much interest, to the practical miner they are matters of much less consequence. What the latter wants to know is where the ledges are to be found, the grade of mineral, and what it costs to extract it and land it at the market. The successful prospector regards contacts of different kinds of rock as exceptionally favorable to the existence of large ledges of mineral. To the present the largest and most satisfactory gold-copper lode mines on the mainland are found at Roseland, Phoenix, Greenwood and Camp McKinney, and in the west, on Texada Island, the Van-Anda property leading there, as the LeRoi does on the mainland. The Lubbe Phair, the Raipb, the Marble Bay, the New York group, the Monitor group and Mount Slicker also on that island, are fast forcing themselves into prominence. This Island Texada is small, but 30 miles long by 6 in width, and lies between Vancouver Island and the mainland. The geology is very peculiar and especially so when the ledge of the Van-Anda is considered. The rock is a highly altered crystalline limestone, associated with dykes of felsite, at the contact of which the ore is found impregnating the felsite, and as depth is reached, hornite

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PAYNE TRAM.

and chalcopyrite occur, carrying good values in gold and copper. The workings are very similar to those of all other gold-copper properties in the country—a series of shafts, winzes, drifts and levels, all well known to men of experience. It might be here stated that this slightly varied, is the working system of all the gold and gold-copper properties of the country, the shafts being necessary from the height at which operations are commenced. The silver-lead properties are, as a rule, opened by tunnels lower down the hills, which are either cross-cuts from outside to reach the ledges, or drifts on the ledges direct. They range one above the other and are connected by winzes and upraises, for the facility of operations, procuring fresh air and other uses. All told there are in the province ten gold properties, paying regular dividends; about 40 more that have shipped from trial lots upwards, and the number almost innumerable on which more or less work has been done. The prices asked for these are as various as the extent of work done upon them. The number of hands employed on these properties varies from one to 600 at the LeRoi, Rosaland. The values of the gold-copper ores vary from \$5 to \$35 per ton, and perhaps run an average of \$18 to \$20. So perfected has machinery now become that \$5 ore can be mined at a profit, the rule of the country being the lower the grade the larger the bodies, and vice versa.

Although there is a liberal mileage of railways in the province for its population, more roads are very much needed, through the Boundary, the Lardeau, the Windermere and the northern districts. Some of these are already under construction and when they are completed they will open up in those parts mines and properties fully the equal of any now in operation. In some of these districts, such as the Boundary, the Windermere and the Lardeau, there are already several mines ready to ship the moment rail facilities are available. The mineral is on hand, but the cost of transport without railways shuts out possible shipping. To show the growth of this gold-copper industry, an illustration from the LeRoi will suffice. In its first six years it shipped 93,000 tons of ore, averaging gross \$14 per ton. For the first four months of this year (1901) it shipped 72,000 tons. It now ships as much per month as it did in its earlier days per year, and the same holds true of all mines that are worked regularly and at their full capacity. We may here quote the shipments of the other large properties of the Rosaland camp:—The War Eagle, 63,250 tons for the first four years of its existence, and 13,900 for the first four months of this; the Centre Star, 16,700 tons, as a total for its first four years, and 37,363 tons for the first four months of 1901. The entire value of the output of the Rosaland mines to date is computed to be \$14,000,000. Camp McKinney has the Cariboo Mine, which has

proved itself very profitable to its owners, having yielded dividends of nearly half a million. There are other mines there also of much promise; but of their magnitude the fields cannot be gathered until a railway is built through that country and they are further developed. Ymir has its Ymir mine, that has paid nice dividends, and others that a little more development will bring well to the front.

The growth of this branch of the industry can, however, be more satisfactorily shown to the public by giving the output of all the mines to date, with the dividends, as follows:—

	oz. of gold	Value
1893.....	1,170	\$ 23,404
1894.....	6,252	125,014
1895.....	39,264	785,271
1896.....	62,259	1,244,150
1897.....	106,141	2,122,820
1898.....	110,061	2,201,217
1899.....	138,315	2,857,573
1900.....	167,153	3,453,381
1901.....	221,000	4,125,000
Totals.....	851,615	\$16,937,860
Total dividends to date of certain properties producing above values:—		
LeRoi.....		\$1,305,000
Carlho.....		478,987
War Eagle.....		545,000
Ymir.....		192,000
LeRoi, No. 2.....		144,000
Centre Star.....		175,000
Total.....		\$2,839,087

The reader will understand that to anything said about dividends, no reference can be made to any properties held by close corporations or private parties, which embrace most of the placers and many of the smaller, or rather younger, gold, gold-copper and silver-lead mines. The owners of these are not compelled to make the same returns to the government the large corporations are, and as a consequence no exact estimate of what they are doing can fairly be made.

COPPER.

As yet copper mining is but in its initial stages, but enough is shown by these to prove the province must become a great copper, as well as gold and silver-lead, coal and iron, producing country. The first shipments were made in 1894, a year later than the lode gold start, with a tonnage of 324,680 pounds, valued at \$16,234, or about 5 cents a pound. In 1900 the shipments were 9,997,080, valued at \$1,615,289. We are without the exact returns for this year, but from the activity displayed in the Boundary country it is safe to say the shipments will much more than double those of the previous year.

What has been said of the appearance of the other minerals may safely be said of copper. Where in the province it may yet be found will all depend on the assurances of later exploitation. In fact, however, the only districts in which it has been met with are: Rossland, the Slocan, Nelson, Lardeau, Coast points, and the Boundary, the latter district yielding it in much the largest quantities. As copper ore is bulky for its value, it is considered good business foresight to erect smelters convenient to the mines to extract the values from the ores with as little transportation cost as possible. To this end all of the mine owners are erecting their own smelters, there being now large institutions of this class at Trail (near Rossland), Grand Forks and Greenwood, with others projected at the Coast and other points. The ledges (copper-gold) are always very wide, and the ore bodies very large, giving employment on every mine to a large force of men, and year after year is certain to witness a larger output of this metal, as the demand for it in the arts and sciences is continually on the increase and the producing areas limited. The yield in Nelson, Rossland, the Slocan, and Coast points is from a small percentage with other metals. That of the Boundary country is the predominant mineral, the others produced with it being merely nominal values. The mines on the Coast that are, so far as known, able to produce perceptible values, are the Van-Anda and the Marble Bay, referred to in the section on gold properties. The "Leora," Mt. Ticker, Vancouver Island, was the chief Coast pro-

duced in 1900. The shipments of the mines of the Boundary country for the first nine months of this year (1901) are given as below, and are sufficiently indicative of copper mining becoming a great industry in the province:

	1900	1901
Old Ironsides and Knob Hill group.. .. .	64,535	167,973
Mother Lode..... .	6,574	62,099
B. C..... .	19,494	34,701
City of Paris..... .	2,000	.....
Golden Crown.—..... .	2,240	.....
Winnipeg..... .	1,100	600
King Solomon..... .	.....	600
Athelstan..... .	1,200	600
Carmi..... .	.....	885
Snowshoe..... .	238	439
Brooklyn..... .	150	.....
Jewel..... .	160	.....
R. Bell.. .. .	.....	480
No. 7..... .	.....	695
Sundry shipments..... .	1,000	600
Sunset..... .	.....	400
Total.. .. .	98,781	269,922

The Boundary district embraces a very large extent of country, all of which, as far as prospecting has disclosed the facts, abounds in large copper bodies. Everything in this portion of the province is on a very extensive scale, large and rapid rivers, high mountains, extensive plains and immense mineral ledges. Partly because of its being out of the way of general travel, that district of country enclosed by the 49th parallel and the Similkameen River has been overlooked by the prospector, but recently it has been found to be one of the richest districts of



BOARDING HOUSE, PECO MINE.

the entire province, bounding in immense ledges of copper. In that territory are Copper Mountain, Nickel Plate, J. J. L., Copper King, and many other properties recently coming into public notice. It is a common occurrence to find the ledges from 75 to 90 feet wide in several parts of this extensive territory. As in the other districts, gold predominates in some of the properties of even this district, though copper, the whole district considered, is the principal mineral. It is not the duty of a publication of this character to particularise localities, but it cannot be out of place to say South-western British Columbia should be a most promising field for investments, as no matter what past prospecting may have exposed in the way of natural wealth, there is yet so much to be explored that "the half has not been told."

IRON.

Although British Columbia is not yet known as an iron producing country, that is for manufactures, considerable quantities have been taken out for lining purposes. The localities from which this output has been made are Kamloops and Texada Island. Recently, however, very large deposits have been found near Kitchener, on the Crow's Nest branch of the C. P. R., and a strong company is being formed to open up the property. Should the expectations become realised, the proximity of the locality to the immense coal fields at Fernie, Michel and other points in that district, would undoubtedly lead to extensive manufacturing, as freights would be insignificant. It is also known that at Chemainus, on Vancouver Island, there are extensive deposits. In several instances the evidences have been traced for many miles. Wherever cuttings have been made along the ledges, ore has been encountered at various depths, depending on the quantity of soil and gravel covering. In some instances cross-cuts have shown 20 feet and more of solid ore, the quality being equal to the highest expectations, assays showing as high as 65 per cent. of pure iron, quite free from sulphur, phosphorus and silica, so frequently found associated in other mines with high grade ore. As with the deposits at Kitchener, so with these—they are near the immense coal fields of the Island and tide water, which facts should assure extensive manufacturing later on. With present assurances of iron and the known quantities of excellent coal, it is not too much to believe that eventually British Columbia will become the steel rail manufactory for many of the railways of the continent, which means the employment of much labor and a large consumption for the agricultural and similar products of the country.

PLAT. NUM.

Enough is not yet known of the resources of the country to give assurance that this metal will be found in any large quantities. So far the production has been almost wholly from placer mines in the vicinities of Quesnelle, North Bend and the Similkameen districts. It strongly resembles black sand when found, and therefore much may have been thrown away as useless in the earlier operations of the country. As, however, it is worth about \$21 per oz., its value may create more attention for its production later on. Even in lode mining, which is now but little better than 10 years under way, later on more attention may be given to this precious metal and procuring it may become a matter of considerable moment.

SILVER-LEAD.

All authorities agree a knowledge was had of these minerals in ledges in the country at a very early day. Some credit David Douglas, a noted botanist, with having discovered the Blue Bell property, near Pilot Bay, in the early twenties, while searching the hills of that locality for botanical curiosities. Others say the existence of lead was known to the Indians even earlier than that; that they used to use the mineral in making bullets, and communicated their secret later on to the Hudson's Bay authorities. Anyway, it is agreed this was the first property known in white men in the country, and the knowledge was general at an early day. Other properties were shortly after located in that neighborhood, and a smelter was erected, but the cost of fuel, the absence of suitable fluxes, etc., caused it to fall into disuse. In the early eighties several properties were located, chiefly around Amaworth and throughout the Stocan country generally, but nothing was done in the way of shipping, chiefly because of the absence of facilities, until 1887, and that year \$17,333 worth of silver and \$9,216 worth of lead was exported. Even though the export facilities were expensive, the prices, silver at \$1.00 per ounce and lead at 4 cents a pound, enabled the pioneer miners to succeed.

In dealing with operations the two names are used together for the most part, for the reasons the minerals are always found together in the ledges, differing in values and proportions in different properties, it is true, but always together, all the same. In some mines silver value runs as high as 500 ounces and even much more, to the ton,

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PAYNE OREHOUSE.

with lead as low as 10 per cent., and in others again lead gives 90 per cent., while silver may not reach more than a few ounces to the ton. Various theories are also set forward for the deposit of these and other minerals in the ledges, but they are as often destroyed by the assurances of later discoveries. It is not, however, in these matters the prospector or the capitalist is materially concerned. What he wants to know is when and how the minerals are found, what it costs to extract and market them, and what their value when disposed of.

In the present the output of silver-lead and lead is for the most part limited to the Kootenay district, the Slocan portion of it being the heaviest shipper, with small shipments from the Osoyoos division of Yale and a few Coast points. In fact, excepting the shipments of the North Star and the St. Eugene, in East Kootenay and the Silver King mines at Nelson, the Slocan, a small district of country between Lakes Slocan and Kootenay, about 40 x 75 miles in area, has to the present exported over two-thirds of the product of the country. There is every reason to believe the Lardeau country, though possessing a fair proportion of gold and some copper, is very rich in silver and lead; and when the railways being constructed this year are in operation, that district will become a heavy exporter, as many mines there are in a well developed condition, awaiting shipping facilities. As has been said before, nearly all the mines of the country carry values in all the precious metals; but they are invariably named after the predominating mineral.

It has been intimated that the geology of the gold and copper districts of the province are a puzzle to scientific men of other countries, and that of the silver-lead districts is certainly no less so. The lower or granite or granitoid rocks have been pushed up through the metamorphosed, mostly slate formations of later periods, and occupy much of the whole area. They differ in appearance and color, some of them being grey, others characterized by black mica, and frequently with much dark hornblende. In some localities, again, they are coarsely porphyritic, showing extreme igneous action in long ages ago. Everywhere the evidences of eruptive agency are visible on every hand, in many places volcanic. Generally speaking, the mineral is found in contacts of granite and slate, the latter being the country rock or general rock of the districts. Numerous faults, or breaks and slips in the fissures, are found in the slate and limestone formations, which occasion many impediments in the way of speedy development, and discourage the inexperienced miner. They are doubtless the result of lateral and upward pressure to which the surface has been subjected in the cooling process of by-gone days. To the experienced miner, however, they offer but little obstruction in the way of continuous progress.

There are two principal theories afloat for the formation of silver-lead deposits, "the igneous" and "the lateral secretion"—in short, it may be added for the deposit of all the other metals as well as silver and lead; but as the results of practical operations seem to prove and disprove each by turn, but little is to be gained by referring lengthily to either in a work of this description. These are matters for men of science to deal with and not practical miners or men of capital.

For the information of the curious we here make a short reference to the terms that are continuously met with by the general reader on this subject. The direction of the fissures or veins across the country is called "the stroke"; the sides of these fissures are called foot and hanging walls respectively. The course of the mountain ranges to a large extent determines the direction of the strokes, and they are for the most part north-westerly and south-westerly. In other words, the subterranean forces that threw up the mountain ranges determined the line of the fissures or fractures. As all the veins enclosing the minerals are irregular in width in given distances, the sides in some places coming together, forming "pinches," the metal ledges in the seams are irregular in thickness. The bodies of metal between pinches are called "chutes." Small bodies separated by quartz or other ledge matter than minerals are called "horsea." When the chutes are small they are called "McNeys" or "pockets." The explanation of these pinches is that the sides in coming together again after separation by under forces, drop irregularly, one passing the other in movement. This pinching out, to the inexperienced miner, is a puzzle, and often leads him to abandon his claim as worthless, only to be taken up by a successor more determined, who finds the ore again later on in his extended tunnel. Very often width of seam and grade of ore are characteristic of locality; but almost invariably the recompense of nature is observable throughout, that is where the ore is low grade it is abundant, and where small in body it is very rich. It very seldom happens that the mineral or "pay streak" occupies the full width of the seam, especially when wide. In such cases the associate matter is called "gangue," mostly quartz "talo" and such substances.

In silver-lead mining the ledge is found by prospecting (explained elsewhere) on the side hill. Cross-cut tunnels or tunnels on the ledge are driven in at various distances apart. These are connected by upraises or winzes, and the ore and useless rock separated and taken out by cars. When the grade is low concentrators (mills for the purpose) are erected to remove all the rock and leave nothing but the pure metals for shipment to the smelters.



GOLD NUGGET FROM DAWSON.

There are now some 25 concentrators attached to the largest mines of the province and six or seven smelters in the country, with a refinery projected, for separating the metals in the bullion.

As nearly as can be ascertained, there are about 250 silver-lead mines in the province that have shipped more or less ore and the number of prospects on which more or less work has been done would run well up into the thousands. There is but a moderate percentage of those capable of shipping regular exporters, the drop in values of late years, labor troubles of the country, litigation between partners, always inseparable from speculation, and deficiency of shipping facilities; but all of these are being fast overcome. It is a safe figure to place the regular shippers at 75 in number. All the shipping mines in the province last year (1900) were 99, of which only 60 shipped over 100 tons.

In East Kootenay the most important shippers are the North Star and the St. Eugene, at Moyie. These are very important mines and as the projected railways are built the districts of country surrounding will produce many more equally important. The St. Eugene carries a fair proportion of zinc, which induces the owners to ship frequently to Belgium, where they find a good market for their product.

In the Nelson district, the largest silver-lead property is the Hall mines, having a smelter connected with it that does a large business with many of the Slocan mines. Its annual output is about 30,000 tons of low grade ore.

As mentioned before, however, the Slocan is the great silver-lead producing district of the country, grouped according to the towns to which they are contiguous. Ainsworth, on Kootenay Lake, has six or seven that have shipped, and as many more in a high degree of development. The ores are mostly low grade, but with more concentrators to reduce the cost of transport, they will become valuable. The Highlander is the chief property.

Kaslo has the True Blue and two or three other properties on the verge of shipping, with several tributary on Kaslo Creek.

Whitewater has the Whitewater, Whitewater Deep, both good shippers, and a dozen others that have shipped smaller quantities.

McGulgan has convenient to it the Rambler, the Washington, the Antoine, Sussets, 1 and 2, and five or six others that have shipped profitably for the owners.



TRAIL CREEK, B.C.

Cady, two miles from Sandon, has the Noble Five, with its concentrator and excellent premises, the Trade Dollar, the Vulture and seven or eight more in the experimental stage.

Sandon, the centre of the silver-lead district, has grown to be a very important mining centre. Its leading mines are the Payne (the largest dividend-payer in the province), the Last Chance, the Reco, the Omencon Boy, Slocan Boy, Slocan Star, Ruth, Ivanhoe, Goodenough, R. E. Lee, Freddy Lee, Sovereign, John and about 20 others in different degrees of advancement. The Slocan Star, the Ruth, the Payne and the Ivanhoe have all got extensive improved concentrators.

The leading properties at Three Forks are the Idaho, the Alamo, with its concentrator, the Manitou, grown greatly of late, and the Corinth; but like all the other points, this place has also many others that have shipped and are under improvement and development.

The chief property at New Denver is the Boeun, with the California and the Hartney as regular shippers.

Silverton has many noted mines—the Enterprise, Alpha, Emily, Edith, Hewett, Comstock. The next two or three years will see the place with a dozen or more regular shippers.

Slocan, at the foot of Slocan Lake, has the Orington, Black Prince, Two Friends, Bondholder, Chapleau, Speculator, Phoenix, and perhaps a dozen more that have sent out more or less mineral.

At every one of these places there are scores of other properties in their first stages of development that, it is confidently believed, will rival any at present in operation. What it is most desirable to point out to prospectors and possible investors is: there can, in advance of expenditure in development, be no absolute assurance of what any property may eventually prove itself to be. There is the experience of the past, and that is all that can be obtained. The history of mining in the country has, however, proved that, for investments, there have been as many profitable mines opened up in British Columbia as in any other country on the face of the globe, and this of itself is sufficient for capitalists familiar with the industry.

The productions of silver and lead and their values, since the inception of mining in the country, in 1887, are given herewith:—

Year.	SILVER		LEAD	
	Oz.	Value.	Lbs.	Value.
1887.....	17,690	\$ 17,331	204,800	\$ 9,216
1888... ..	79,780	75,000	574,500	29,818
1889.....	53,190	47,878	155,100	6,498
1890.....	70,427	73,948	nil	nil
1891.....	4,500	4,000	nil	nil
1892....	77,160	66,935	808,420	82,964
1893.....	227,000	195,000	2,125,020	78,998
1894....	746,379	470,219	5,862,523	169,875
1895....	1,496,522	977,229	18,475,464	588,355
1896....	3,135,343	2,100,689	24,199,977	721,384
1898....	5,472,971	8,272,838	38,841,185	1,390,517
1897....	4,292,401	2,375,841	31,693,559	1,079,581
1898....	2,039,413	1,663,708	21,862,438	878,870
1899.....	3,958,175	2,309,200	83,358,621	3,691,887
1900.....				
Totals..	22,570,953	\$13,649,808	206,081,558	\$7,519,955

The prices, condition of the labor market, have had materially to do with the outputs in different years. We now give below the shipments of the Slocan mines for the present year (1901) to the 1st of November:—

	Tons.
Payne.....	1,808
Last Chance.....	1,230
Slocan Star.....	3,454
Ruth.....	279
Bosun.....	420



SLOCAN STAR CONCENTRATOR.

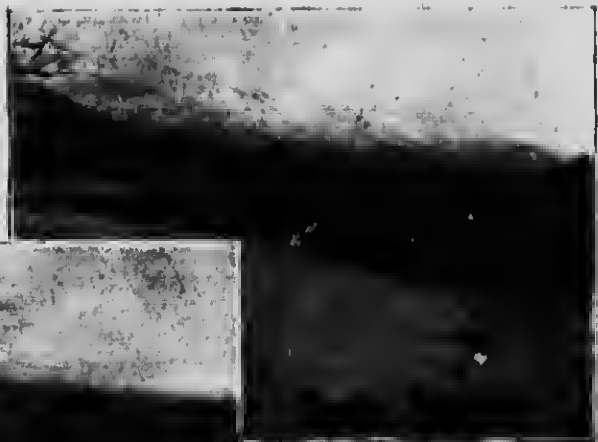
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Hewett.....	2,020
American Boy.....	1,265
'hoe.....	1,117
Sunset (Jackson).....	632
Sovereign.....	127
Wonderful.....	64
Arlington.....	5,048
Two Friends.....	40
Enterprise.....	566
Hartney..	140
Black Prince ...	155
Goodenough.....	215
Miller Creek.....	20
Reco....	279
Sunset (Can. G. P.).....	53
Silver King.....	14
Noble Five.....	59
Red Fox.....	103
Antoine.....	53
Queen Bess....	1,199
Monitor.....	480
Corinth.....	81
Bondholder.....	26
Rambler.....	2,500
Surprise....	200
Kadio Group..	10

Chapleau.....	15
Speculator.....	20
Ajax.....	10
Echo.....	60
Emily Edith.....	40
Phoenix.....	25
Alpha.....	40
V. and M.....	20
Marloo.....	22
Ruby.....	1
Esmeralda.....	6
Hampton.....	9
Copella.....	22
Fourth of July.....	7
Tamarack.....	5
Mary Durhaot.....	5
Buffalo.....	5
Total.....	23,900

following are the dividends of the silver-lead properties to date:—

Mine.	Amount.
The Payoc, Soudon.....	\$1,438,000
Slocan Star ".....	450,000
Ruth ".....	375,000
Reco ".....	556,000
Idaho, Three Forks.....	292,000



KASLO, B.C.
General View Looking East.



FREIGHT WAGGON AT YALE, B.C.

Whitewater, Whitewater.....	250,000
St. Eugene, Moyie....	210,500
Hall Mines, Nelson.....	220,000
Last Chance, Sandon..	145,000
North Star, E. Kootsnay.....	237,000
Rambler, Cariboo, McGuigan..	190,000
Noble Five, Cady.....	50,000
Best, McGuigan....	50,000
Goodenough, Sandon....	50,000
Jackson, Whitewater....	40,000
Siocan Boy, Sandon....	35,000
Washington, McGuigan....	30,000
Two Friends, Siocan.....	30,000
Athabasca, Nelson....	20,000
Queen Bess, Three Forks....	25,000
Antoine, McGuigan	20,000
Surprise "	20,000
Bosun, N. Denver.....	12,000
Fern, Nelson....	10,000
Monitor, Three Forks	20,000
	<hr/>
Total of silver-lead.....	\$4,509,500
Total of gold mines..	2,829,087
	<hr/>
Total dividends..	\$7,348,587

To these figures must be added the profits of properties owned by close corporations and private parties, who are not compelled to make returns to the government, which cannot be short of \$750,000, making a grand total of over eight millions of dollars to date.

What we desire most particularly to impress here upon the general reader is, that this has been done in a new country, with very limited capital and by but about 4 per cent. of the population the country is capable of comfortably and profitably locating. Every man cannot in any mining country be expected to strike rich properties; but as there are openings in British Columbia for twenty-five times its present population, with its mining but just begun, it needs no further argument to show the intending settler and investor that no country offers better inducements than this.

HOW AND WHAT TO PURCHASE.

It goes without saying that any man can understand prices of properties must vary as the blades of grass in the field—that they must all depend on the locality and conditions of the property, having due regard to the avariciousness of the owner. As with everything else, every holder wants all he can get and often more, too. Generally speaking, however, the best time to buy is when ore is first reached in the property. The intending purchaser knows he has then the making of a mine of some magnitude, that all that is in it is before him, and enough wealth is not disclosed to turn the head of the holder. In every case an inexperienced capitalist should first fortify himself with the assistance of a reliable experienced mining man and depend largely on his advice. There are scores of such men in the country and their advice is always valuable. The writer knows of mines in this country that have been bought for less than \$3,000 that have paid over 100 times that amount in dividends; others again pay working expenses after a few hundred dollars have been expended, and of course some never pay. The country, however, has openings for all classes. The man who wants to take his \$5.00 outfit and some provisions, can find his field in the placer diggings; he who wants to prospect and sell his locations to the capitalist has plenty of field before him; the man with a few hundred dollars in hand who wants a property that will pay its way from the start can find his ideal in the silver-lead prospects; and, of course, the man with ample means can procure developed shipping properties in all corners of the country.

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SCENE OF TRAIN ARRIVAL ON K. & S. RAILWAY.

PROSPECTING.

Our reference to metalliferous mining in the country cannot be better closed than by describing the methods of the prospector. He imagines, of course, he can find the indications he is after on the surface of the rock, and so he can; but for the long ages that have intervened between the depositing and the present, the seams are now for the most part covered with loose rock that have rolled down, the remains of vegetation, and other such accumulations. The nearer to the top of the hill he approaches, the less the accumulations, and as a result, when uncovered by snow, the summits are the favorite fields for the prospector. Evidences of the existence of minerals are not wanting at the bases of mountains, or even in the gulches traversed by the streams. There are sometimes assurances, ledges extending from summit to summit of hills, and that in the valley traversed by a summit fed stream broken pieces or float ore or even placer dust, when not washed too far down, may be seen. Sometimes snow on landslides and the uprooting of trees, expose ledges on the hill sides, where they are seen by the prospector. The most common means, however, is this: The prospector, some distance down the hill, finds a piece of ore, changed and worn it may be by the action of the elements through ages. The prospector knows this has been broken from a cresting or capping of a mineral lead. He considers the lie of the hill, to ascertain whether it has been brought down through a regular or sinuous course, by a slide or rolled down by the force of gravity. After fully measuring all these surroundings, he starts up the hill, pick in hand, testing the rock at intervals, until, if fortunate, he discovers the original source of his find. He marks the spot, stakes out the area allowed by law, registers, and then he is the owner of a prospect or claim. His later operations under development, as explained elsewhere, show what he has discovered.

The government has divided the mining sections into conveniently sized mining divisions, in which there are Record Offices, at which the prospector or mine owner can transact all his necessary legal business. These offices are so located that no prospector or miner is at any time more than from 5 to 15 miles distant from one.

COAL.

It is not alone in the metalliferous ores that British Columbia is especially wealthy, as its coal deposits are now known also to be among the largest in the world. Operations in the latter were commenced on Vancouver Island and

... the methods of the rock, and seams are now other such result, when un- of minerals are sometimes mit fed stream lmes snow or the prospector. piece of ore, this has been whether it has gravity. After rrvns, until. If lowed by law, t, as explained

... 1838, reaching, the past year, an output of nearly 1,400,000 tons and employing some 3,500 miners. Of this amount quite a percentage was converted into coke. The chief points on the Island at which large deposits are known, from workings, to consist, are Nansimo, Protection Island, Wellington, Ladysmith, Union, Alexandria and Quatano. The principal markets so far opened up for the Island production are Australia, America West Coast and the Orient. The methods of mining are very similar to those in use in the mines of England.

The last couple of years have disclosed the fact that ironstones on the mainland also abound in "black diamonds." At the time of the first surveys for the construction of the C. P. R. through the Crow's Nest Pass, immense beds were found to exist, where now the flourishing towns of Fernie, Mehal, etc., are growing in prosperity. Nothing, however, was done with these deposits until three years ago, when the Crow's Nest branch of railway was built in their vicinity. The past year these mines have turned out over 300,000 tons of coal, half of which was converted into coke. The smelters of the mining districts are likely to become extensive customers for the product of these mines, with the prospect of American smelters later on. These mines employ some 800 hands altogether. Still later prospecting has shown that immense beds of this mineral exist in the Nicola Valley, Peace River, Skeena River, Queen Charlotte Islands, Atlin and the Similkameen country, in the south-west portion of the province. Though lignite, to a limited extent, appears on the surface in all the mines, the best of bituminous coal shows itself in all the lower strata. A new company has been formed to work the Similkameen beds and if the railway goes through then the coming summer it is safe to predict that portion of the country will be the scene of great mining activity. The total value of coal produced in the country to date runs to about \$52,000,000.

Prospecting for coal differs somewhat from searching for the other minerals, in that the beds of the creeks and abrupt hill-sides are chiefly examined. In these the evidences are easily discernible if coal exists. When coal is found the lands can be got on most advantageous terms from the government, and they always turn out a profitable investment in being freer from chances than metalliferous mines.

To sum up, the value of the output of all the mines of the country from the first operations may be placed as follows:—

Coal and coke..	\$ 52,000,000
Placer gold..	64,000,000
Lode gold.....	16,500,000
Silver....	16,000,000
Lead.....	10,250,000
Copper.....	6,500,000
Other minerals, say.....	1,000,000

\$100,250,000

In some instances the values for the year ending June, 1901, are estimated.

In all there are 150 metalliferous mines in the province that have shipped more or less ore, and last year there were 3,800 men employed in the metalliferous mines and about 4,000 in the coal mines.

When saying British Columbia offers unequalled opportunities for the settler of capital and the man of resolution and energy, for proof it is only necessary to refer to the accomplishments detailed above of a population ranging from a few hundred in 1858 to less than 200,000 at the present.

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AGRICULTURAL SHOW

AGRICULTURE.

The general opinion of statesmen is that when the balance of trade is in favor of any country—that is when it is exporting more than it is importing—it is on a fair way for commercial success. Under such circumstances, British Columbia has been on the road to eventual success from an early date in its history, its exports having long since exceeded in value its imports; and the indications are it will grow more and more so every year. It will always be a heavy exporter of minerals, and later, as manufactures become more developed, of their products; and will, when its agricultural resources become more developed, raise sufficient of nearly all the necessaries of life to make the country self-sustaining. Under such auspices no country can help becoming wealthy and progressive. With the readiness with which farms can be put under cultivation in Manitoba and the Territories, the surface being for the most part prairie, those parts will naturally attract the attention of farm settlers for some time to come, but the peculiar advantages of this province must tell in the end. Large farms can be put in shape on many portions of Vancouver Island, the Valley of the Fraser and other large rivers on the mainland, the Okanagan, the Similkameen, Windermere, Chilliwack and many other portions of the mainland; but it is not yet a settled fact that large farming requiring a large expenditure for help is always the most profitable in this or any other country. When size alone is sought after the mixed principle, that ever ends in the best profits, is always neglected. Even in Manitoba and the Territories, with all their advantages for grain growing on an extensive scale, it has ever been found most profitable to cultivate cattle raising, dairying and the other branches of mixed farming as well. In this province, as far as experience goes, no farmer hopes to realize the best results from farming operations without recourse to the mixed enterprise, adding fruit growing as well. There are wrecks of attempts in this province as well as all corners of the Canadian Territories; but investigation proves this is no fault of the industry either here or elsewhere. Thousands of young Englishmen, and even young men of other countries, educated for the professions, come to this province as well as to other parts of Canada, or are sent here by experimenting parents, to cure them of idle habits, and

set up in farming. No one could expect anything but failure from such experiments; it comes as naturally as the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, and farming gets a "black eye" in consequence. If such young men were first compelled to work on farms with good farmers at what they were worth, if observing they would become infinitely better fitted for working better ventures on their own account.

As the province is geographically in two sections, Vancouver Island and the mainland, for convenience sake it may be as well to deal with each separately, remarking at the outset that, except in the extreme north of the mainland, wherever soil is found everything that can be grown in any temperate country on the face of the globe can be grown luxuriantly in British Columbia, always bearing in mind the failures the results of inexperience and lack of energy found in all other countries, will also be found in this. It is not enough that a man should even possess a laudable desire to succeed to make a success of farming any more than any other business. Nothing can take the place of energy and experience, and men who fail in any business, farming as well as anything else, from their reports do a country almost irreparable injury. The fact of failure is always advertised, but it is rarely or never overtaken by the cause. If reports of failure, in any business, only reached the ears of people of the same class as those who failed, the matter would be of little consequence; but as they as often reach the ears of those well fitted to take up the enterprise, who are left without proper explanations, serious injury often follows. The failures of British Columbia have locked up a certain area of country mostly on the Island, that should now be a heavy producer, supplying the mining districts of the country. Many of these abandoned farms have some improvements on them in the shape of spaces of cleared land and buildings, and in some instances young orchards. The successful and experienced farmer of any country, who is not very familiar with the experiences of the pioneer, will find these openings especially to his liking. They give him a much better climate than he is accustomed to, a richer and more productive soil, and the best of markets, as there is home consumption almost at his door for everything he can possibly raise, saving the expenses of heavy freights. A few years' work on such properties and they will ensure the ease and comfort so much desired by declining life. There are, of course, many other districts that have never yet been settled even by the "experimenting farmer," and these in their virgin state are rated as wild lands.



FARM HOUSE.

As may be expected, the country around Victoria, on the Island, is well settled, highly cultivated, and any farms that may be offered there command a high price; but in distances removed, in all directions, both government and railway lands may be had at very moderate figures, even some farms with improvements, from \$6 an acre up. Cowichon, including the Cowichon, Camlaken, Quamian, Saanich, Sohalton and Seymour districts, is one of the most flourishing belts on the Island, and therefore one of the most advanced in the province. Through it runs the E. & N. railway. It is midway to Nanaimo, and centrally located as regards markets. As in the most favored parts, it raises fine fruits, grasses, cereals, roots, vegetables, and in fact all other crops. Dairying is carried on very extensively, a large creamery being in operation for some years. The municipal authorities have so economized that taxation is very light. Further on lies Chemainus, an equally good district, and then Nanaimo, which includes many large settlements, presenting excellent openings for mixed farming. Improved properties in these parts command from \$15 to \$20 an acre, with government lands at \$1 and railway farms from \$1 to \$3. There is much good land on Hornby, Denman and Lasqueti Islands, close by and easily accessible, on which cattle ranching is the favorite occupation. The Camox district, north of Nanaimo, is famous as well for its agricultural products as its coal fields. By the latter the farmers have an easy market at hand for all products. Most of this land is arable, but little of it being broken by hills or mountains. A tract of land 60 miles long by some 10 in width forms a bench between the sea and the mountains, which is admirably adapted to agriculture in its various forms. The surface is undulating, heavily timbered in places, with many marshes and meadows easy of reclamation. Several valleys are cut through from sea to mountains and these are especially fertile. All of this bench land will produce as excellent crops as can be produced anywhere. In weight the soil varies and the cropping should range accordingly. Dairying is also carried on here, but to a more moderate extent than in other portions of the agricultural country. The Valdez group of islands in the Narrows embrace sufficient lands for many large-sized farms. All the grains are known to grow here, to the satisfaction of the agriculturist, and cattle and poultry raising and dairying are successful wherever tried; but so far none of these branches have been undertaken seriously by a thrifty class of white population. Alberni, at the head of Alberni Canal, is another very important agricultural district, 40 miles from the Pacific, and a little less from the Gulf of Georgia. It is a valley of 200 square miles, having an exceptionally mild climate, with a very plentiful rainfall. Of late, in addition to its agricultural capabilities, it is known to possess large deposits of gold and

copper-bearing quartz. These discoveries invariably lead to the location of a large consuming population, which creates the ready markets. The country is also well supplied with roads and such other improvements as make the lot of the farmer one of ease and comfort, and his calling profitable. This is a district the man in quest of a comfortable home and a profitable farm should not be slow to examine.

The San Juan is in the southern portion of Vancouver Island. The soil, like that of most of the Island, is of alluvial deposits, and is very productive; but withal the enterprise has not been prosecuted very systematically. There are there perhaps 5,000 acres still for pre-emption.

It may be gathered from what has already appeared in the mining section of this pamphlet that the mainland is not as fully explored and settled as the Island, and especially the interior and northern portions of it; but enough is known of it from the experience of settlers who have spent many years in even these, to enable one to speak with absolute certainty as to their agricultural areas and producing capabilities. The most noted districts, as far as cultivation has gone, of this portion of the country, are Chilliwack, Okanagan, the Fraser River Valley, Peace, Blackwater, Nicola, Bulkley, Lower Skena, Belle Prairie, Similkameen, Neas Alin and other districts of lesser note. In fact the valleys of all rivers and plains among mountains or mountain ranges are for the most part of alluvial formation, and therefore rich in all the elements that make the most productive soil. Many of these are of sufficient area to admit of improved farming on a most extensive scale, and there is scarcely a town, even in the most mountainous parts of the mining districts, that has not around it sufficient areas for cattle ranching, market gardening and fruit growing, contiguity to consuming centres guaranteeing excellent markets for everything that can be produced.

The Fraser Valley, Chilliwack, Okanagan, Belle Prairie and some other districts are in an advanced state of cultivation, with their large improved farms, large herds of thoroughbred horses, cattle and sheep, large orchards, agricultural societies, creameries and such other improvements and institutions as can only be found in the most advanced districts of the older provinces. A trip through any of them would well repay the man who contemplates settling in this province, as it would show him what could be done in many other improved districts in a few years with energy and enterprise. Of course, these extensive improved farms, when for sale, are held at a song figure; but in districts where the Provincial and Dominion governments and the railway companies and private parties and corpor-

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AGRICULTURAL SCENE.

ntions hold improved lands they can be got at reasonable figures. Both governments, and the railway companies have agents in all important towns ever ready to answer all enquiries of intending settlers. On most of the wild or unimproved lands there is large timber, one of the best evidences of fertility and depth of soil and rapid vegetation; but there are many grassy swamps and alder bottoms on even those of large extent, that prove themselves, under the hand of the skilled agriculturist, to be the best farming land in the world. In the Aitlik country there are immense tracts of grassy lands which will, as the country is fast settling up with a mining population, eventually become lucrative to those who engage in the enterprise.

The Okanagan district is of especial interest in the interior, because of its proximity to the Kootenay country, the scene of such active and extensive mining operations. This district is as much a wheat growing territory as any in the province, although in fruits, vegetables and roots it is unsurpassed. It is the intention of the settlers to increase the orchard acreage in the near future ten-fold, and it is supposed that in a year or so the territory will meet all the demands of West Kootenay. Hay is very productive, but the farmer's experience is that other products pay better. Year by year the acreage under wheat is being increased, as the flour manufactured in the mills of the district finds a ready market hard by. The great obstacle in the way of further expansion is the want of a more direct railway with the Kootenay country, but this is being overcome in the construction of the Midway and Vernon road. With that completed the Kootenay should import but little from the United States or elsewhere. This locality is especially noted by having near its centre the large farm and orchard of Lord Aberdeen, one of the most comprehensive in the whole of Canada.

What has been said of the Okanagan may be repeated of the whole of the Fraser River valley, including the New Westminster district, Chilliwack, the Similkameen and Windermere countries, the two latter being but very imperfectly settled, because of the lack of railways. The farmer who succeeds in locating in either of these, and economizes for a few years, is on the fair way to wealth and comfort.

All the cereals can be profitably grown on these fertile districts to perfection. Leguminous plants, roots and vegetables of all kinds that are grown in any portion of the temperate zones, grow here to a large size and of ex-

cellent quality. All such fruits as apples, pears, plums, prunes, cherries, peaches, and all the small fruits, with great perfection in nearly all districts of the Island, while nectarines, apricots and grapes can be raised most successfully if given reasonable care and attention. Many varieties of nuts, such as almonds, filberts, walnuts, hazelnuts, chestnuts, etc., do well wherever cultivated. Flax of excellent quality has been grown, but so far applied to no special use except cattle food; but no doubt the western march of eastern industry will yet find more advantageous uses for it, the fibre being long, silky and fine, yielding from two to three tons per acre. Some of the arguments against raising it for home consumption or export, are that the land on which it may be grown can be more profitably employed under other products. Hops also grow luxuriantly and yield from 8 to 9 tons per acre. Cattle, sheep, swine and poultry do exceedingly well, the climate being specially favorable, grazing being available the year round and very little housing being required. The yields of hay, wheat, oats and other grains are unsurpassed in any other portion of the continent, and many of the fields are of great extent. In short, under better clearing and cultivation the fields may be made of sufficient extent to profitably employ the most improved agricultural machinery and in any portion of the world, not excepting our territorial prairies. A visit to the annual agricultural exhibition at New Westminster will convince the most skeptical that, great as the province may be in minerals, timber and fish, its agricultural capabilities are a mine of untold wealth.

The Provincial and the Dominion governments are doing considerable towards the encouragement of the industry in the province. The latter has established an experimental farm at Agassiz, on which farming in all its branches is experimented with, and the records are kept for the information of farmers the province over. From these records information as to the most profitable methods of carrying on the industry in all its details is available, without cost of any kind to the farmer. All kinds of grains and other products are grown in all soils and in all the methods known to the industry. All kinds of fruits are also experimented with in the same way. All animals raised on the farm are also raised here, and dairying is engaged in to some extent. It will readily be seen that from the records of this institution the farmer inexperienced in the methods of the country can get the knowledge necessary for success without trouble and expense, and better, without loss in experimenting.

The Provincial government, again, has organized a system of farmers' institutes, by which the agriculturists of

localities meet together at stated times for the interchange of ideas on practical operations. It has also created and maintains at provincial expense a Board of Agriculture, that receives annual reports from capable and experienced correspondents in all parts of the country. These deal with all farm operations and declare results. They are distributed to all who desire them, and do much to educate those who have neither the means nor the time to experiment on their own account. They, of course, result in the adoption of the best methods the country offers. The advancement all around from all causes combined, during the last five years, has been very marked, and the next five will show a decided gain even upon the immediate past. But withal there is yet much to be done. The country is very extensive, its population is sparse, and its opportunities for the industrious settler in whatever calling, unsurpassed. The country is now exporting extensively from three of its industries—mining, lumbering and fishing—and has made a commencement in agriculture by shipping to the territories large quantities of fruit against the competition of the Western States and Ontario. Out of this will yet certainly grow a most extensive and profitable business.

We cannot close this section better than by giving a few facts condensed from the four sections throughout. The country has an area capable of locating profitably five millions of people, and the present population scarcely exceeds 150,000, or one for every thirty who may find a comfortable home and profitable employment in the country. All of its industries are fully developed.

That the country is wealthy and that the residents are prospering is amply shown by the Trade and Commerce returns of the Dominion government year by year. For instance, for the year ending December, 1900, the total exports of Canada were \$177,776,044, or, deducting the population and exports of this province, 150,000 and \$17,156,281, respectively, just \$29.47, while our 150,000, sending out \$17,156,281, exported \$114.87, nearly four times as much per man as the rest of the Canadian people. The meaning of this is simply that, man for man, the British Columbia people got four times as much for their time as the rest of the Canadian people.

Out of the entire population about one-half are in the cities, towns and villages, many of the number being miners and fishermen, and the remainder are engaged for the most part in agriculture and lumbering.

THE LUMBER INDUSTRY.

Unlike the country to the east of the Rocky Mountains, British Columbia is well wooded. The frequent fires ignited by the Indians on a grassy soil strewn with dry leaves, and a dry climate, in mid-summer, must be either thanked or condemned, as the spectator looks at it, for the extensive prairies and the great absence of timber in Manitoba and the Territories. On the hills where prairie grass to encourage forest fires and on the skirts of rivers, lakes and ponds is absent in the east country—districts less accessible to fires—timber of fair size is generally to be found. Again, in districts protected later by the white population, bluffs of timber spring up with great rapidity, all going to prove the country would have been wooded instead of prairie but for the ravages of fires occasioned by the nomads of the plains. In this province conditions were very different. The mountains and the hills, for obvious reasons, were less the haunts of the red man, grass growth at elevations and among rocks was less luxuriant, and the climate was more humid, snow lying longer at elevations and rains more frequent at lower altitudes. These causes combined, led to the preservation of British Columbia forests. In places in the interior where the climate is more arid and the land is comparatively level, patches of prairie are frequently to be found. In these, under cultivation, more or less irrigation is found necessary for the proper growth of agricultural products. It is easily obtained, however, from the many streams coursing down the hill-sides hard by. On the island of Vancouver and the West Coast of the mainland, where the climate is moister and protection more general, the timber growth is simply immense. For the purposes of this description, however, it may be said that when white settlement was first commenced, British Columbia was from one end to the other one dense forest of the finest and most useful timber in the known world. The British Columbia cedar is now used in all parts of the world as the best finishing timber available for the better class of buildings. Douglas fir, named after David Douglas, a noted botanist, referred to before, who explored much of the mainland in the early years of the past century, is easily the king of the forest. It is of very nearly the same weight as the ash, but grows to an enormous size. It has often been used to the length

of 250 feet and is frequently found with a circumference of 50 feet at the base. A fair average is perhaps 200 feet in height and from 8 to 10 in diameter at the base. It is much used in construction work and in strength, durability and workable qualities it stands midway between the hemlock and the spruce. Experiments have shown it to be an excellent pulp timber which latter will be in great demand as soon as paper manufacture is commenced in the country. In point of abundance on the Island, the Coast and much more so in the Interior, is the cedar, the red being quite plentiful on the Island and the white more abundant on the mainland. On account of its rapid growth it is frequently found a larger tree than even the Douglas fir. It is especially valuable to the pioneer, removed from mills, because of its straight grained growth, being readily split in planks, boards, shingles and fencing timber with the primitive tools at the command of the early settler—a saw, axe and wedge. With the addition of a plane and one or two other tools, the settler of a little mechanical skill can easily, with this timber, construct a comfortable residence without the aid of a sawmill or other machinery of more modern invention. This timber is found in other colors—yellow, perhaps, being the most important—that are highly prized in finishing, working very smooth and taking a magnificent polish. The cypress is found in large quantities on the Island; the yew, the oak, juniper, arbutus varieties of the maple, etc., are also plentiful there, as well as on portions of the mainland, while spruce, in quantity and utility, is perhaps the next wood grown in all parts of the country. It is also an excellent pulp producer and is extensively used in buildings of every description, whether in frame work or in ordinary supplies. It makes the best of body building material. Hemlock grows to a very large size, its bark being used extensively in the tanning of hides; cotton wood, poplar, one of the best of pulp producers, birch, willow, etc., are also found in great abundance. The birch grown is a good cabinet timber and is very extensively used when hardwood is required for a finish. As has been stated above, though sufficient timber is found in all parts of the country for home uses, the valleys of the West Coast of both the mainland and the Island produce the most valuable quantities and as a result furnish the most for export, leading to the operation of the most extensive mills. At the present time, taking in the small as well as the large institutions, about 100 sawmills are in operation in the country; and, of course, as population increases there will be a field in all parts of the country for many more. Considerable of the timber land is held by speculators, but much is held by the government. As the prairie country to the east, as well as China, Japan, Australia, South America, and even Great Britain, furnish open markets for our production, to say nothing of

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extensive home consumption in shipbuilding and general country development, there is a prosperous future before the lumbermen of British Columbia. Pulp is likely soon to become one of the greatest industries of the world, and happy should this province be in its possession of so large a supply of pulp producing timber. The eastern provinces have some 40 pulp mills in operation, involving about \$20,000,000 of capital. The United States, a large consumer, as well as Great Britain, are without supplies and must become very heavy purchasers in this province. Prof. Macoun says our fir, hemlock, poplar, spruce, etc., are the very best material for the demand. The very refuse of these timbers, after the lumberman has made his selection in the forests, could be used to great advantage to supply the ever-increasing demand for pulp were economy directed that way. With good timber in supply and the industry yet so young in this country, these latter considerations have scarcely yet been taken into account; but the day is not far distant in which they will give employment to a large population and bring a mine of wealth to the province. The demand for paper is ever on the increase the world over, opening up new markets, creating a new impetus to shipping; and with the supply of material in this province, it ought to become a source of untold wealth to the country, to say nothing of the business as an employer of labor.

SAWMILLS.

The reader will hear in mind there are large supplies of building timber in all parts of the country; that towns and villages are springing up in all parts of the province, the agricultural as well as the mining; and therefore mills are needed in every locality to supply the demand. There is then a field for the sawmill of capacity for local supply in many parts, and room for the capitalist who is prepared to manufacture extensively for export. For the purpose of meeting the expectations of the curious, we will give a brief outline of the working of the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Co's mills at Chemainus, on Vancouver Island, one of the largest concerns of the kind on the American continent. It has a capacity of 400,000 feet of lumber per day and a timber limit of 150,000 acres of the best wood in the country. In short, the mill was located there because of the supply of superior timber in the vicinity. The company has a branch railway of its own into the centre of the hush, some 10 miles in length, bringing in whatever lengths of timber may be required from time to time to meet demands. All old appliances at ordinary mills have given way at this to a system of automatic working much resembling human hands, so perfect is it and tim-

in its movements. Often when speed is required the tree that stands in the bush in its stately form in the morning is in lumber or timber to fill an order ere the sun goes down. In full operation, the mill employs about 400 men, one-half about the mill handling the lumber and the other half in the bush getting out the timber. To the man acquainted with handling timber at the country mill only, handling a stick 100 feet long and more and from 6 to 10 feet in diameter would seem a novelty. Necessity compels the company to keep a machine shop of large proportions and a staff of competent machinists employed sharpening saws, repairing, refitting, etc., to save delays, if for no other purpose. Being at the edge of the ocean, the company has its own wharf and all wharfage shipping facilities. The mill has cost over \$100,000. The company ship regularly to Australia, many European countries, South America, China, Africa and the Fiji Islands, which countries will always be our customers. The average wages at the mill are 30 cents per hour. This is not one of the large mills of the province; there are others at Nanaimo, Portmoody, New Westminster, and, in short, all the more important places in the country, on the Island and the West Coast of the mainland, with smaller institutions at inland points. No one can make mistakes in erecting mills at places without them where suitable timber is obtainable.

This vast extent of forest and the ever-increasing demands of a growing population, suggest the prosperous future of pulp mills and wooden ware manufactories of all descriptions. An outline of the law relating to timber limits is given elsewhere, so this chapter cannot better be closed than by saying the total cut of lumber last year (1900) on Crown lands, leasehold, private property and Dominion and railway lands was a little over 225,000,000 feet and this is scarcely appreciable when the entire forest wealth of the country is fairly considered.

THE FISHERIES.

Not among the least of the industries of the province are its fisheries. Newfoundland and Nova Scotia have their catches and curing establishments for cod and other varieties of fish that are quite extensive; but the varieties of fish in the waters of our coast and the rivers entering it from the Island, as well as the mainland, are much more numerous and varied. Our fishing industry has already given more than a continental reputation to the country, as our products are found in almost every corner of the globe. The industry is deep sea and shore and inland. To the inhabitants of the Atlantic seaboard the term "fish" almost invariably implies cod alone in its various species. For the same reason the term on the Pacific has been associated almost entirely with the salmon. The salt waters of the country abound in the finest food fish, in variety, to be found in any portion of the world. No doubt the most important of salt water fish is the true cod (*Gadus Morhua*), but while the salmon leads, our industry possesses interesting variety. It will be understood that with the finny tribe so abundant more or less fish had been taken on the coast from the earliest visits of the white man, to say nothing of the catches of his predecessor, the red man; still the first catches for export were not made until 1863, and three years later nearly 20 vessels were employed in the trade, capturing well on to 1,000,000 fish the first season. At the present, Australia, South America, Asia, China and Japan, to say nothing of Eastern Canada, are opening up large markets for the fisheries of our ocean and inland waters.

After our salmon or cod, probably our next fish in importance is the halibut; and both come in swarms into shore water. The average weight of a catch of cod is about 12 lbs. and but an average catch to bring in 1,200. In appearance it is very similar to its namesake in the Atlantic waters, and the cod in both oceans strongly resemble one another. Clams are a favorite bait in the Pacific, and they can be got practically without cost, thus reducing the most expensive portion of the fishing enterprise in the east to a mere trifle in the west. The fishing season on

the northern banks usually lasts from the first of April to the first of November. It might be extended even much longer, but that later weather is usually unfavorable. A crew for such a business numbers from 15 to 30 men.

The mainland, however, is the great field for the salmon—the Columbia, Fraser and Skeena rivers are literally alive with them during the fishing season. The canneries, as a matter of convenience, are all on the mainland, though some of them are owned by Island parties. Sturgeon and other fish are also found in abundance in most of our larger rivers. The salmon pack of last year was well up to 1,000,000 cases, going to all countries mentioned above as our regular customers. The magnitude of the industry may be understood by saying the total revenues of the industry in the province going to the Federal government for licenses, etc., is yearly about \$50,000, with an expenditure of \$13,000, while the revenues of the rest of Canada from the same sources only foot up to \$38,000, with an expenditure of four times that amount.

Properly speaking, sealing is also a portion of this industry. Usually from 25 to 35 schooners are annually employed in it, the average yearly catch being worth about \$75,000 in the London market. All told the province has at present some 75 vessels annually employed in deep water fishing, manned by about 250 men. No official figures are at hand showing the number of men employed in the industry in the inland waters, but it is very large—several thousand—distributing a large sum of money in the country. Like all the other industries of the province, this one is yet but in its infancy, and as the inland waters are explored in this enterprise, and they are all found to be fully inhabited, the number of men eventually employed in it throughout the country will become very large. As with the other industries, so with canning. It offers inducements for capital and enterprises scarcely excelled by any of the later enterprises.

RECAPITULATION.

The mining districts, one way or another, embrace nearly one-third of the area of this immense country, and in placers, silver-lead, gold, gold-copper, lodes and coal mining open fields for the miner in every condition of means. The man who has no more than his \$10 outfit and a supply of provisions can find a field in the placers or prospecting the hills for lodes. The man with a few hundred dollars, who prefers to purchase, can find what he wants in



SALMON FISHING.

the hands of the prospector, or first owner, properties under every degree of improvement; while the men of wealth can secure an interest in the dividend-payer to all miners, and the instances are numerous of men who, under all of these conditions, have made fortunes. Everybody does not, of course, succeed, but the records show fewer failures relatively than are shown by any other country.

The farmer of every condition of means can find what he desires—the grain, the vegetable, the fruit-producing or the dairy property, or that best adapted to all four—in every degree of cultivation, from the primitive forest up to the highest degree of cultivation.

The lumberman who wants to hire to the hush, to establish a lumber yard or to build a mill, can easily find openings to his taste, and so with the fisherman.

The business man and the professional man may find their business at present fairly well represented, but the country is growing and fields are continually opening with the natural growth.

In the whole country there is the best of climate, the purest water in the world, and other natural conditions favorable to rapid settlement.

Shipping facilities are fast springing to existence to meet all demands of settlers, settlers' effects are everywhere to be had in the cities and towns, schools are opened and supported by government wherever there are children to attend them, and the laws of the country protect the rights of the individual regardless of creed or color. In all substantial respects it is the ideal country for the industrious, enterprising settler who wants to carve out a home and a competency for himself and family.

SPORT AND SCENERY.

To the pleasure-seeker or the sportsman, British Columbia is a veritable paradise. Everything that nature has done for the country she has done on the largest scale. After a traveller from the east reaches Calgary by C.P.R., the Rocky Mountains loom up before him and from that on until he reaches the West Coast of Vancouver Island to the West, the 49th parallel to the South, or the Atlin country to the North, it is one continuation of surprises, the

mountains being so high, the lakes and rivers, with their falls, being grandeur exceeding itself at every stage. In a trip in any direction, the artist has everything on which to feast his practised eye. Of late scarcely a visitor reaches the country without his kodak or his camera and at every stop on a passing train or boat he is taking his "snap-shots" for scenery exhibits on his return. In addition to the natural scenery, there are several springs, such as those at Banff, Halyon, Harrison, etc., where the waters are medicinal and most helpful to persons afflicted with many ailments. As it is not the intention to make this little book a description of scenery for the artist, we close by simply saying the experienced tourist and traveller never hesitates to say that in all that he has read of the country "the half has never been told."

As many of the hills and plains are thickly inhabited by the larger game—bears, goats, deer, etc.—and the streams, lakes and rivers swarm with the choicest fish, the sportsman never fails to find everything up to his liking in a visit to British Columbia.



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