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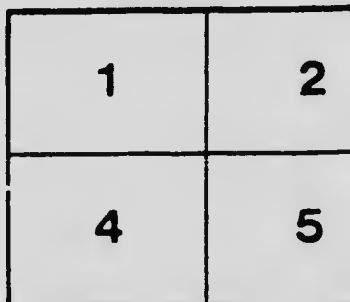
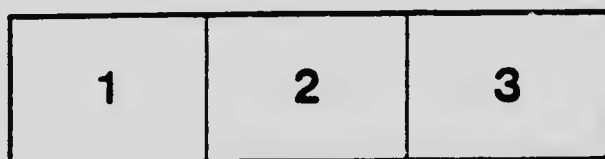
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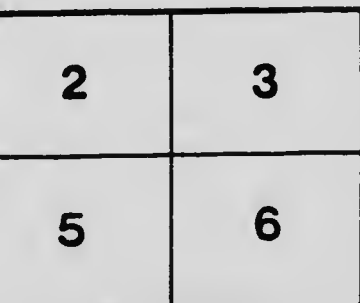
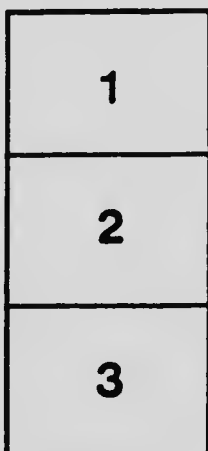
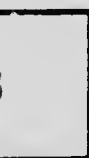
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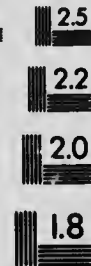
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# VICTORIA

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*"The City of Sunshine"*

CAPITAL OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

AND ITS

2-OBSERVATORIES-2



*The Meteorological Observatory, Victoria, B. C.*

This is a subject of interest not only to residents, but to visitors and others abroad who are anxious to learn the truth respecting our unique and almost ideal climate.

Taking first the question of temperature, it is most misleading to compare the annual average temperature of one station with another; for instance, that of Victoria is 49.6 degrees, while in the Prairie Provinces there are districts where the annual average temperature is the same, that is, the greater heat in summer counteracts the cold in winter. We must, therefore, compare the range of temperature between the hottest and coldest periods of the year.

Prepared by

## F. NAPIER DENISON

Director British Columbia Meteorological  
Observatory, Victoria, B.C.



*One of Victoria's Many  
Modern Schools*

The following table gives the average typical stations throughout Canada, also the seasonal range and the number of degrees each station is above Victoria.

	Av. Temperature		Annual Range	Above Vic-
	January	July	Degrees	toria
	Degrees	Degrees		Degrees
Victoria . . . . .	39.0	61.0	22.0	....
Vancouver . . . . .	36.0	63.0	27.0	5.0
Kamloops . . . . .	22.0	69.0	47.0	25.0
Calgary . . . . .	13.0	61.0	48.0	26.0
Winnipeg . . . . .	-2.0	66.0	68.0	46.0
Toronto . . . . .	22.0	68.0	46.0	24.0
Halifax . . . . .	24.0	64.0	40.0	18.0

Victoria possesses the smallest seasonal range, viz.: 22 degrees, while inland, away from the influence of the sea, the extreme between summer and winter increase, until the maximum is reached at Winnipeg where the range amounts to 68.5 degrees. Passing eastward to Toronto the moderating influence of the Great Lakes is pronounced in winter and finally at Halifax which, like Victoria, is situated on the sea, we find the seasonal range has greatly decreased, but is still more than in this locality.

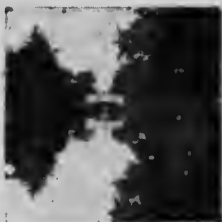
The question naturally arises, why is this portion of our fair Dominion so favorably endowed climatically?

Our cool summers and remarkably mild winters are due to Victoria being situated on the southern extremity of this vast Island, surrounded almost on three sides by the everchanging tidal waters, in conjunction with the prevailing westerly winds of this latitude, which prevent oppressive heat in summer and moderate the cold of winter.

The presence also of the vast areas of low barometric pressure which hover over the adjacent ocean during the winter months tend to keep this season mild.

When a cold wave, which usually sweeps southeastward from the Yukon, across the Prairie Provinces on its way to the Atlantic, spreads southward over this province the cold northerly winds from the Mainland are tempered in crossing the inland tidal waters of the Strait of Georgia.

Respecting the annual average precipitation (rain and snow) at Victoria and certain stations, the following table shows some interesting facts:



*Bridge in Beacon Hill Park*

	Inches
Victoria .....	27.46
Beaver Lake .....	34.46
Goldstream Lake ..	65.70
Nanaimo .....	38.66
Vancouver .....	59.34
Halifax .....	56.26



One of the Many Entrancing Views  
From the Meteorological Observatory  
Gonzales Hill





*Typical Water View  
Victoria*

Victoria holds a remarkably favorable record of only 27.46 inches, while at Beaver Lake, only five miles distant, the amount rises to 34 inches and at Goldstream, at an elevation of over 1,700 feet, and only thirteen miles from Victoria, the average amount is 66 inches.

The figures for Nanaimo show an increase for that portion of the Eastern coast of Vancouver Island, while those for Vancouver represent in a general way the average annual amount on the lower Mainland. Halifax represents an Atlantic Coast station.

The heaviest amounts of precipitation in Western British Columbia are brought to our shores from the Pacific in the great atmospheric disturbances which spread inland over this province in winter. The moisture-laden air first meets the mountains of the West Coast where heavy rain is general. The same air in passing the comparatively low land and open country about Victoria loses a remarkably small amount of precipitation, while at the elevation of Goldstream Lake much more is recorded, and the heavy fall to the west of the Mainland mountains prove the presence of vast quantities of moisture still in the air.

The remarkable absence of fogs in this vicinity, which is due to the open country about us and the almost constant movement of the air, is a great factor in connection with the building up of an important shipping port such as Victoria is rapidly becoming.

The large amount of bright sunshine enjoyed here is remarkable. The average yearly amount is 2,068 hours, that is, **NEARLY SIX HOURS PER DAY.**

Throughout the summer months visitors are struck by the steady fine weather enjoyed and the absence of thunderstorms. Although the local precipitation is so light ample quantities occur within a short distance which insure the best of water supplies for all purposes, including power and light.

As the average lowest temperature of the coldest month here is decidedly above the freezing point, Victoria is indeed the "Evergreen City of Canada." The general appearance of our winter foliage and green grass proclaim this most emphatically.

### VICTORIA'S CLIMATIC CONDITIONS BROUGHT THE ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY HERE

The selection of Victoria as the location for the great new Dominion Observatory was due solely to this city's splendid climatic advantages. For more than two years investigations were carried on throughout the whole of Canada for the purpose of choosing the best site, and finally Victoria was decided upon, because it is the best site available, not merely in all Canada but on the entire continent, owing to the low range of temperature and the steadiness and clearness of the atmosphere.

### GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

When the decision to locate the Dominion Observatory at Victoria was reached in 1914 the following announcement was made by the Government:

"The Dominion Government has reached the important decision of installing on Little Saanich Mountain, a short distance from Victoria, an Astronomical Observatory carrying a 72-inch reflecting telescope, which will be larger than any in use at the present time in any part of the world.

"After the most exhaustive expert investigation, covering practically every part of the Dominion, Victoria has been chosen as the site because of its superlative climatic and atmospheric conditions. As soon as our data had been compiled respecting this locality, all doubt vanished as to where the choice should be."

# VICTORIA

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THE HOME OF THE LARGEST  
TELESCOPE IN THE WORLD



*The Astrophysical Observatory*

## TO REACH THE OBSERVATORIES

The Dominion Astrophysical Observatory may be reached by motor car from the city or by electric train via the B.C. Electric Interurban Line, alighting at Observatory Station.

The Meteorological Observatory may be reached by street car No. 6 (Foul Bay), alighting at the terminus of the line.



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VICTORIA, B.C.

CANADA



