



# VANCOUVER ISLAND



**BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**CANADA**

H.E. Laidge

1910

*With Compliments of*  
*J. R. Jackson, M.P.P.*

**VANCOUVER ISLAND  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
CANADA**

**THE  
TREASURE  
ISLAND**



**Agriculture, Timber, Mines and Fisheries**

**A HISTORY OF ITS RESOURCES  
BY DISTRICTS**



— COMPILED BY —

**The Vancouver Island  
Development League**

9810

# INTRODUCTION

---

VANCOUVER ISLAND has an estimated area of 15,000 square miles, which includes numerous small islands lying near its shores, to all intents and purposes part of the main island. At its widest point it is eighty-six statute miles; at its narrowest point not quite nine miles, and its length from north to south approximates 285 statute miles. Its position off the western coast of British Columbia is a very strong one strategically, and gives it a foremost rank among the frontiers of Great Britain, whether from the standpoint of war or commerce.

It is the richest portion of the North American Continent in the variety and extent of its natural resources combined. Its timber and coal are practically inexhaustible. Iron deposits, running as high as from 64 to 69 per cent. in magnetite, are found, and, as yet, have been comparatively undeveloped. It has produced, during the past five years, above half the copper that has come from the entire Pacific Coast District. Vancouver Island produces marble of splendid quality and in immense quantities—blue, grey, red, and variegated, as well as a superior grade of pure white marble. Granite, limestone, and building stone of various grades are all abundant, as well as brick, fireclay, cement, and slate.

Gold and silver have been found in paying quantities on the Island; the former in the river sands and on the sea-beaches principally, and the silver in the copper ores for the main part. Quicksilver and other minerals have also been discovered, but, excepting for coal and copper, mining is still in its infancy on the Island.

Agriculturally, the Island has vast possibilities. It is not, and never will be, a grain-growing country of wide areas like the middle Canadian Provinces, although the cereals all grow well on Vancouver Island. But for mixed farming, fruit-growing, poultry-raising, berry and vegetable raising, the raising of sheep, cattle, and hogs, and for dairy-farming, it is not to be excelled, and scarcely equalled, in fact, in any country. The climate is particularly equable, without any extremes of hot or cold weather. In the southern half the rainfall is moderate, and there are seldom any thunderstorms. In the districts farther north the rainfall is heavier, but there are no severities of climate in the winter season.

Excepting peaches and grapes, which grow in some localities, the entire Island is particularly adaptable to the raising of fruit. Apples, pears, plums, cherries, prunes, quinces, and other fruit flourish splendidly, the flavour and colouring of the different varieties being especially noticeable. Vancouver Island fruit has taken first prizes in national and international exhibitions, and experts declare that for apples, pears, cherries, and plums the Island cannot be excelled as a natural fruit-growing country.

For berries and vegetables the land is admirably suited, Vancouver Island strawberries and loganberries being famous. Vegetables grow to enormous size, and still do not get watery or hollow. All kinds of garden vegetables and field vegetables grow astonishingly, and irrigation is almost a thing unknown.

All grasses grow luxuriantly, and dairy-farming is a profitable occupation. Vancouver Island dairy stock runs almost exclusively to the highest grade, and high prices for butter from the principal Island creameries are maintained the year round.



The raising of sheep, cattle, horses, and swine offers excellent opportunity for the farmer, and good stock of all kinds brings high prices. The soil is of various grades and sorts; clay and sandy loam, rich black soil in the river bottoms and drained lowlands, and even gravelly loam in some districts, which has proven exceptionally favourable to the growing of fruit and vegetables.

Vancouver Island roads are uniformly excellent during the entire year, the lack of extreme cold weather aiding in keeping them in first-class condition. Farmers' Institutes have been formed in many of the rural districts, and district fairs and exhibitions bring out a really remarkable showing of agricultural products, both as to grain, fruit, vegetables, and live-stock.

Vancouver Island scenery has a world-wide renown. Mountains, hills, winding floods flanked by walls of frowning granite, streams that pitch foaming from fir-clad heights to far valleys below, forests of Druidic strength and sublimity, lakes that jewel the silence of cloistered dells, ocean beaches rugged with titanic grandeur, peaks where the snows of centuries whiten to the rising sun, island-studded straits whose gleaming waters flash and fade to sunlight and shadow—these are some of the glimpses of beauty which make the country an ever-changing panorama of haunting loveliness.

To the devotees of rod and gun Vancouver Island offers a fine variety of sport. Elk, deer, bear, wolves, panther, and wolverine may be found in the wildest fastnesses, while blue and willow grouse, and mountain and valley quail are to be had in numerous districts. The magnificent ring-necked pheasant is shot at a number of places in the Island, and everywhere in the season there are almost countless flocks of wildfowl, geese, ducks, and brant. The Wilson snipe, or jack-snipe, is also a visitor to the Island. Salmon-trotting and trolling for grilse furnish exciting sport for the disciples of Izaak Walton, and some of the finest trout streams in the world flow down from picturesque mountain gorges. In the highest altitudes the ptarmigan is also seen.

With the assembled essentials of manufacturing on every hand, Vancouver Island is destined in time to be a vast industrial workshop. In many of its districts, Pulp-woods are to be had in close proximity to good water-powers, and the possibilities of iron and steel manufacturing, with the host of industries that follow naturally in their train, have already invited the attention of investigating capitalists. The lumber trade is even now bringing millions of dollars into the Island, and is still hardly begun. Salmon and herring fisheries are attracting notice from outside capital, and the whale fisheries are the largest in the world. The halibut and cod banks on the west coast furnish thousands of pounds of fish to the Siwash fishers, and their commercial importance will one day rank high with the Island's greatest industries. Ship-building is undoubtedly predicated by the assured fact of a naval base at Esquimalt, with dry-docks for the largest vessels.

Railway building is going on apace, and the future will see the Island girdled and grid-ironed with steel rails. The bridging of Seymour Narrows, once the dream of an enthusiast, now the subject of cool contemplation by daring Napoleons of finance, will one day grip the Island to the Mainland with bands of steel, and complete the line of direct communication from the farthest border of Canada's east to the uttermost boundary of Canada west. In time to come, long deferred, but drawing nearer with irresistible force, great cities will spring up on the coasts of the country, the fame of Tyre and Sidon will be dimmed by newer citadels of commerce, and in every port of the Seven Seas will fly the Union Jack, borne high by Island-built ships that sail from the harbours of Vancouver Island.

# ALBERNI DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

The District of Alberni consists of the area drained by the rivers and streams running into the Alberni Canal; along its north-eastern boundary it is only some ten miles from the East Coast of the Island. The Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway, now controlled and operated by the C. P. R., is building a line to the head of the Alberni Canal, and this line is expected to be completed by the end of 1910.

The town of Alberni is divided into two settlements—Alberni, on the Somass River, where the first townsite in the district was laid out in the year 1886, and Port Alberni, two miles distant, the terminus of the railway on the deep-water harbour. The population of the district is about 700, but is growing rapidly.

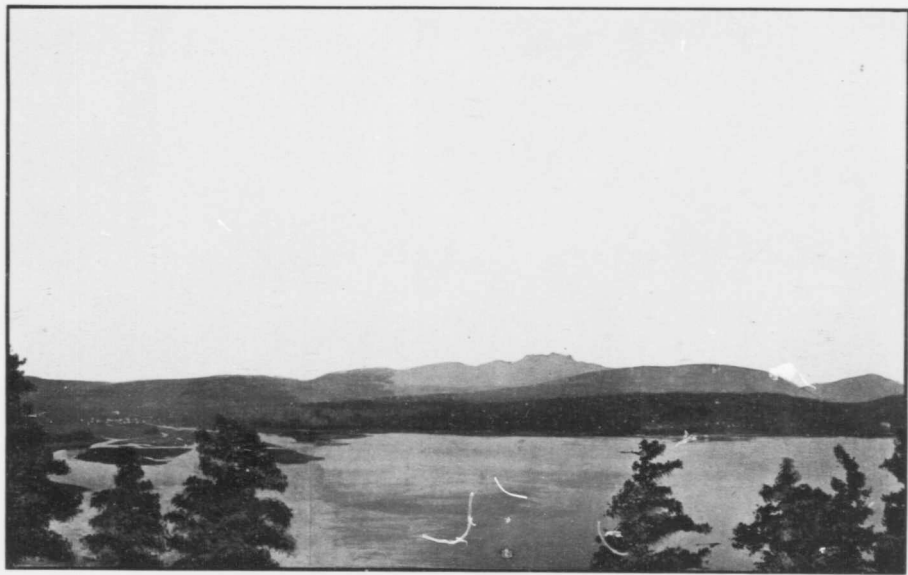
Alberni possesses a splendid harbour, an ideal townsite, magnificent timber, fertile farm-lands, large (though undeveloped) stores of coal, iron, copper, gold, building-stone, limestone, marble, brick-clay and fire-clay; great water-powers, abundance of fish in the adjacent parts of the sea, unrivalled scenic attractions, a plentiful supply of game, and a mild and equable climate which permits of outdoor work being carried on the whole year round.

## THE ALBERNI OF THE NEAR FUTURE.

The advantages of the forthcoming railway connection are enormous, and Alberni will probably show during the next few years as great, if not a greater, proportional development than any other district on the Island. The lumber industry, which the railway will call into existence, should alone make a fair-sized town, and farming will be greatly benefited by the new line. Alberni will become available as a port of call for Pacific mail steamers. These vessels are often delayed by fog and tide between Cape Beale and Vancouver, and by the Alberni route a saving of from eight to twenty hours can be effected for mail and passengers. This saving in time can be proved beyond cavil, but space forbids detailed proof. The proximity of Alberni to the open sea, the absence of rocks and shoals, and the comparative freedom from fog in the Alberni Canal (which is entirely free from tide-races, owing to its great depth) give Alberni a great advantage over some other railway ports of the Pacific North-West, and should insure lower rates for marine insurance and pilotage—a feature of great importance.

Ere long the export grain from Alberta will be shipped *via* Pacific ports, as the saving in transportation charges is so great by that route. Flour, too, will be milled at the seaports as is now done, for instance, at Tacoma. Alberni, with her unique advantages, will claim a large share of this business.

The development of the coal which is known to exist in the valley would also make Alberni a great coal port. The town should also be the distributing point for the rich, though undeveloped, West Coast of the Island.



The Alberni District. Upper and Lower Towns, Vancouver Island, B. C.

7

Transportation facilities and the many resources of the district combine to make Alberni a splendid centre for general manufacturing, as yet in its infancy in British Columbia, but which is bound to grow enormously.

Alberni will be one of the nearest railway ports in British Columbia to the Panama Canal, the Tehuantepec Railway, Australia and New Zealand, and with the powerful Canadian Pacific Railway Company behind her, she should become one of the leading ports of Canada.

#### TIMBER.

The last great supply of merchantable timber is situated on the Pacific Coast of North America, of which the Province of British Columbia contains the best portion. Vancouver Island timber is the finest in the Province, both in quality and quantity, and of this Alberni District contains the cream, there being at the present moment over 500 square miles of first-class timber, in the vicinity and tributary to Alberni.

The majority of the timber is Douglas fir, with hemlock and small bunches of white pine. Towards Barkley Sound the fir gives place to spruce, hemlock and cedar. It is estimated that there are from twelve to twenty billion feet of timber in the district. With a cut of one million feet a day, and allowing three hundred working days in a year, this would last forty years, but the probability is that the yield would be much higher than this. Practically all the timber in the district has now been staked and acquired by capitalists. Four large companies have already secured sites for mills, and the Barkley Sound Cedar Company has erected its mill and commenced operations.

One great advantage of Alberni as a site for lumber mills is that the fresh water flowing down the Somass River spreads out over the surface of the harbour, so that for two miles from the river mouth the water, for a depth of 18 feet, is fresh and free from the dreaded teredo. Logs can therefore lie for months without being injured in any way, and in evidence of this the piles on which the original Anderson sawmill was built, sixty years ago, are still standing and show little sign of decay. With the arrival of the railway the manufactured lumber can be shipped in cars direct from Alberni to all parts of the prairie provinces and to the United States, where a lumber famine is rapidly approaching. With deep-water wharves ships can be loaded with the greatest ease for all parts of the world, and the completion of the Panama Canal will give more rapid transit to the lumber markets of Europe, the Eastern United States, and East Coast of South America.

#### FARMING.

With the advent of the lumbering industry and railroad communication, the agricultural possibilities of this district are attracting widespread and deserved attention, inquiries coming in by every mail from all parts of the world.

The cultivable area is about fifteen miles long by five wide; but this is an extensive tract for Vancouver Island. Like most agricultural districts here will be found a variety of soils—"moraines," of glacial epoch; red loam, which comprises the bulk of the soil, and the wonderfully productive and more easily cleared alder bottoms, which are beaver-made lands of rich, deep, black soils. These latter run in a continuity along the eastern side of the valley and are in greatest area in the Beaver Creek section, the premier agricultural portion of the district, and the backbone of the dairying industry.



Alberni Timber. Vancouver Island, B. C.

for which the valley is eminently suited. A creamery has already been established.

Alberni offers a very profitable and happy future to the lover of the orchard. Of the larger varieties of fruit, plums, prunes and cherries have given marvellous returns with great regularity, and seem highly adapted to the soil and climate. Peaches, when grown on sheltered, southern aspects, are magnificent in size and colour, and luscious to taste. Apples, where looked after, have always been heavy croppers, with large, well-coloured fruit. As the fruit-growing industry develops, a canning plant will be a necessity, if the great West Coast trade is to be held by local producers—this same plant might be utilised in winter as a pork-packing establishment. To the man with from five to ten acres for small fruit farming, Alberni offers exceptional inducements. The conditions of drought, which are so fatal to success in growing small fruit, are rarely met with, the rainfall in May and June tending to form large, well-developed fruit.

In Alberni, locked in, an ocean port, with limited hinterland, the expert market gardener will find an El Dorado, and poultry-raising, conducted in a systematic way, would prove to be a profitable business, as the climate is favourable to a continuous supply of winter eggs. Hog-raising, too, is a profitable source of revenue.

That there is a future in Alberni, with her wonderful climate and natural resources, for the man with the pluck to clear the land, though not necessarily in large amounts, needs no argument. Future success will be in holdings of from five to twenty acres, worked to their full capacity by a system of soiling, with fruit and poultry as companion revenue makers, and a home market for all that can be produced. As in most things, though, it is the man behind the tool who will bring about success or failure.

#### FISHING INDUSTRY.

In addition to the business of salmon canning, there is another industry lying dormant, which will undoubtedly spring to active life with the completion of the railway to Alberni. It is the catching of fish on the banks off Barkley Sound and Clayoquot, and shipping them fresh direct by refrigerator car from Alberni. It is a well-known fact that there are immense and practically untouched fishing grounds off the West Coast of Vancouver Island, where halibut, cod, herring, shad and other fish abound. With an unlimited supply of fish, a short journey to the railroad, a through refrigerator car system and a ready market in the East, we have combined the elements of a highly profitable industry.

#### METALLIC MINERALS.

Ores of copper occur in many places on both sides of the Alberni Canal, on Barkley Sound, and at the head of Alberni Valley. In many instances they appear to exist in promising quantities, and the values are high. Several shipments yielding good returns have been made from a number of prospects in this district. The location of these properties is unequalled. They are nearly all in close proximity to deep tidal water; there is ample water-power available, and an unlimited supply of timber for all mining purposes. The climate is such that mining operations may be carried on throughout the year. A huge mountain of low-grade copper ore has been discovered just beyond Great Central Lake, and is only awaiting capital and transportation facilities for its proper development.



A Harvest Scene. Alberni District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

Magnetic iron ores occur in large bodies in several places on the Alberni Canal and Barkley Sound, and will be a potent factor in the development of the district, especially when electrical smelting becomes commercially practicable.

Some excellent smelter sites are obtainable, with abundant water power, unlimited quantities of limestone for fluxing purposes, and a coke supply within easy reach. Gold ores have been discovered in the mountains, and free gold has been taken from some of the creek beds. Owing to the difficult character of the country the district has never been thoroughly prospected, and new and valuable discoveries of ore may be expected at any time as the country is opened up.

#### NON-METALLIC MINERALS.

The presence of beds of coal under the valley, while not actually demonstrated, is exceedingly probable, as the coal formation, similar to that on the East Coast of the Island, is seen at different points. Good coal from small stringers outcropping at the head of the Alberni Canal has been used for blacksmith's work.

Beds of clay, fit for both common and vitrified brick and tile, exist in different parts of the valley and on the canal. Fire-clay is also found on the east shore of the canal, close to the town. Government tests of these clays are very satisfactory.

Sandstone and good limestone, fit for building purposes, occur in various parts of the district, and on the shores of Sproat Lake black marble of good quality is found.

#### WATER-POWERS.

The chief water powers near Alberni are the Ash, Stamp, Sproat and Somass Rivers, all within 18 miles of the town. The Ash River, a tributary of the Stamp, has a mean flow of 30,000 cubic feet per minute, and has a grade of 40 feet to the mile in its course of twelve miles; 20,000 h.p. could be developed from this stream. The Stamp River, flowing out of Great Central Lake, drops 230 feet in ten miles, and has a mean flow of 80,000 cubic feet per minute, affording a possible development of 40,000 h.p. The power of the Sproat River is estimated at 40,000 h.p. This river unites with the Stamp to form the Somass, from which considerable power could also be generated, though the head is low. Over 65,000 h.p. could be developed from these four streams alone, without counting the smaller rivers, such as Roger and China Creeks, or the various water-powers further afield. There is, therefore, ample water-power for the electrical needs of a large city, and the transmission lines would be short, making electric power proportionately cheaper. Stamp and Sproat Falls, in particular, ten and seven miles respectively from the town, are promising sites for power development schemes.

#### CLIMATE.

The climate of Alberni and district will appeal strongly to those familiar with the rigorous winters and extremely hot summers of the interior of the continent. The average Alberni winter is wet rather than cold, with the maximum rainfall in November and December. January and February are the coldest months, and some snow falls, though there are rarely more than a few degrees of frost. March is milder and wetter, and then spring begins early, and a magnificent, sunny summer follows, though the mercury seldom rises above 90 degrees at mid-day. Occasional showers during the summer prevent the



ground and foliage from getting parched and dried up. The annual rainfall at the town of Alberni is about 50 inches, but up the valley where the best agricultural land lies it is more. The district is wonderfully free from insect pests. Alberni is an extremely healthy place, only six natural deaths having occurred during the last two years, which gives the very low death rate of 6.6 per thousand. Infectious and contagious diseases are almost unknown. The climate is especially suitable for children.

#### FISHING.

The head of the Alberni Canal is an ideal spot for salmon fishing. The fish bite best from 4 a.m. till noon, and the proceeds of a morning's work run from two to a dozen fish, averaging, say, 30 pounds each. Great Central Lake and Sproat Lake are noted for their excellent trout; these run from one to ten pounds each, and are caught by trolling. The Somass, Stamp and Ash Rivers all give excellent fly fishing, and the many small creeks in the neighbourhood also contribute their quota of trout.

#### SHOOTING.

In the Fall, wild geese and ducks frequent the lakes and marshes in large numbers. Blue and willow grouse are particularly numerous, and may be seen quite close to town. Black-tailed deer are plentiful in the immediate vicinity, while elk, black bear, panther and timber wolves are to be had in the wild, unsettled parts of the district.

#### MOTORING AND CYCLING.

No part of Western America affords a more interesting or exhilarating run for the automobile tourist than is to be had between Nanaimo and Alberni, a distance of 56 miles across Vancouver Island. The road is smooth all the way, and the only grade of any consequence is in crossing the Beaufort Range (1,300 feet), where it is just heavy enough to furnish a variation of interest for the chauffeur without tiring his passengers. From one end of the route to the other it is, to the motorist, a panorama of Nature's triumphs in the picturesque. The road drops by easy grades from mountain-top to bench-land, and from bench-land to sea-level, presenting an enchanting variety of placid mountain lake and rushing stream, followed on the lower levels by forests of stately fir and cedar, with here and there pleasant glimpses of fertile farm lands. There is a capital run out from Alberni to Beaver Creek and beyond, along a well-kept road. In fact, the roads throughout the district are excellent for driving, motoring or cycling. The Government is opening a fine trunk road from Victoria through to Clayoquot *via* Sproat Lake.

#### SCENERY.

Every true lover of the beautiful will be delighted with the charm and grandeur of Alberni scenery. To the south-east he sees lordly Arrowsmith lifting its rugged mass 6,000 feet skyward; to the north-east his gaze rests upon the long, lofty ridge known as the Beaufort Range, wooded to its summit, and majestic in its sober solemnity. Away up the valley he descries a ragged series of snow-clad peaks culminating in the mighty dome of Crown Mountain; to the south Copper Mountain, guarding the entrance to the harbour, shuts in his view, and all about him are hills of greater or less degree.

In contrast to the wild grandeur of the mountains are the peaceful homesteads in their sylvan settings, the shining levels of Sprout Lake—the Lucerne of Canada—with its four lovely arms entwining the hills, and the smiling reaches of the Somass River, a treacherous, turbulent stream after a winter storm of rain.

Stamp Falls, with its glorious back canyon, filled with seething foam, is a sight worth going miles to see, and the wild rapids and cascades of the Sprout River are little less attractive.

No pen or artist's brush could do justice to the splendour of the Alberni sunsets. This must be seen to be fully appreciated. At sunset the inhabitants, young and old, turn their gaze westward to view the glorious picture; and the exquisite mingling of red and gold with the white of the glacial ice, the purple of rocky mountain peak, combined with the gorgeous cloud effects, is a spectacle well calculated to justify the creed of the ancient sun-worshipper.

In speaking of the scenic beauties of Alberni, the canal should not be omitted. The banks of this waterway have been compared with the Pall-sades of the Hudson, but are on an infinitely grander scale. Great precipitous hills rise on either hand, with here and there glimpses up a lateral valley to mightier peaks beyond. Emerging upon Barkley Sound, numerous, storm-scarred islands are passed, crowned with verdure, until finally the traveller comes to the broad expanse of the Pacific.





Clayoquot. Vancouver Island, B. C.

# CLAYOQUOT DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Clayoquot is situated on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, distant some 130 miles from Victoria, from which everything in the way of supplies is obtained. Communication is by steamer, four trips monthly during the summer, and three trips during the winter, carrying the mail each way. On the head of a low peninsula is located the townsite. The Dominion Government have erected a wharf here. There is also a school, post-office, telegraph station, general store and repair shop. One mile to the north of the townsite is an up-to-date hospital, with a resident doctor and trained nurses. A mile to the west is a large and commodious hotel, a general store, post-office, Mining Recorder's office and Provincial Court House. A large Indian village is located about a mile and a half from town. About two and a half miles from here is the Christie Industrial School, where some seventy Indian children are enrolled.

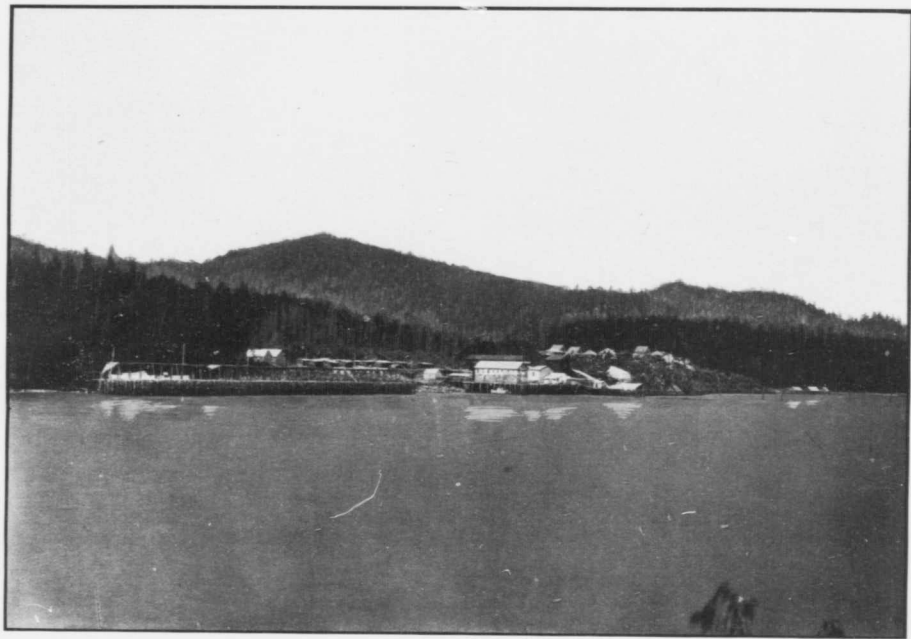
## AGRICULTURAL POSSIBILITIES.

There are some 19,000 acres of land surveyed by the Provincial Government for agricultural purposes, 3,800 acres of which are already pre-empted. Twenty-two hundred acres of unsurveyed land is also pre-empted. This land is practically all good for dairying purposes. Vegetables of all descriptions can be successfully grown, and the land is especially adapted to the growing of deciduous fruits and berries. There is a large tract where the soil is particularly adapted to cranberry culture. The climate is very mild, which allows cattle to range all winter, as there is practically no snow. Chickens can be successfully raised here, and there is a good market here for everything raised at good prices. There is abundant rainfall, and all the timber required for fencing and building purposes.

## TIMBER.

Clayoquot District includes the territory bounded on the east and south by the E. & N. Railway belt in a line to Alberni Canal, with the indentations of Effingham and Pipestem Inlets for natural outlets for shipment. Nootka District on the west, where Sydney Inlet, Herbert Arm, Bedwell and Tofoho Sounds serve as shipping avenues, is an ideal ground for the lumberman and capitalist. It abounds in fir, hemlock and cedar, chiefly the latter, as is evinced by the enterprise of the Sutton Lumber & Trading Co., who have several large holdings; some of them they have already operated by the large and up-to-date mill erected at Mosquito Harbour, on Fortune Channel. Cedar grows here to abnormal size, while for grain it cannot be beaten the world over. Hemlock has become a marketable timber for the Oriental trade, the species in British Columbia being finer than that of Eastern Canada, which has led timber men to value it in some respects on a par with cedar and fir.

The Clayoquot League does not wish to infringe on claims of others in the making up of their reports. It will confine itself to Clayoquot Sound.



Saw-mill at Mosquito Harbor. Clayoquot District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

Even here we can in all fairness enlarge on our timber resources when we consider the Sound (which name we bear) has over 200 miles of coast line, all of which is well wooded and extending into the mountain range which constitutes the backbone of Vancouver Island.

To enumerate once more. We have Deer and Tranquil Creeks, Tofino Inlet, Fortune Channel, Warn Bay, Bedwell Sound, Herbert Arm, North Channel, Shelter Arm and Sydney Inlets, all excellent waterways, deep enough for the largest vessels. Also many excellent sites for mills, etc. Outside of the Sutton Lumber & Trading Co.'s holdings there are over 100 square miles of timber which have already been taken up by English, Canadian and United States capitalists. We are but waiting for them to commence operations, when the shores of every bay and inlet will echo to the hum of their hives of industry. We have had the pleasure of seeing the large tramp steamer "Earl of Douglas" carrying from Mosquito Harbour over three million feet of lumber, including shingles. Lastly we mention that spruce is no mean element of our timber trade. One large tree on Bedwell Sound yielded 24,000 feet, according to the measurement of the Government scales, and this tree was turned over by two of our hardy hand-loggers, who have played no small part in the timber industry of Clayoquot Sound.

#### HUNTING AND FISHING.

Probably there is not another place in British Columbia that has the facilities for fishing, boating and hunting that this district possesses within between two and three hundred miles of inland waterways, surrounded by fine mountain scenery. People fond of boating could not do better than come to this part of the country, where they can spend an enjoyable and healthy holiday, exploring inlets and channels in sailing boats and launches. Clayoquot is specially adapted for motor launches, of which there are about thirty already operating. The prevailing westerly wind in the summer also makes sailing very enjoyable. There are many delightful picnic grounds, either beaches (not to be beaten on the whole Pacific Coast), with miles of sand hard enough for motors, tennis, etc.; or at the mouths of mountain creeks with their little grass meadows and their lofty mountain backgrounds, where the man with the fishing-rod can go up the river or creek, as the case may be, and spend an hour or two in catching the beautiful mountain or speckled trout. Almost all the rivers of any size, such as Deer Creek, Trout River, Bear River, Tranquil Creek and Kennedy River, have fine fishing on them, and are all within easy reach of the two wharves of Clayoquot and Tofino Harbours. Large family launches for those wishing to spend a day on the water are always available at a reasonable rate by the day or week. In the early spring those fond of trolling can spend many an exciting hour with the big Spring or King salmon, which often runs up to fifty pounds or more. As many as twelve or more of these gamey fish have been caught in a morning by one man in a canoe or boat. Later on in the summer come the Cohos and Tyee, both giving excellent sport, and both taking the spoon freely. For those fancying this kind of sport there are halibut grounds only a few miles off shore, where the big fish, often weighing hundreds of pounds, may be caught.

Clayoquot cannot be beaten for its duck shooting in the variety and quality of the ducks—canvas-back, widgeon, mallard, teal and many other varieties, all forming excellent sport for the hunter. There are splendid places for wing shooting at the narrows of the various inlets, where a man can test his capabilities in this excellent sport, twenty-five ducks a day not



Tofino Post Office. Clayoquot District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

being at all an uncommon bag. Many hundreds of brant and geese also spend their winter on Clayoquot Sound, the brant being the black variety. The big, black Canadian goose and two or three other varieties of geese are also found. There are also snipe, willow grouse and curlew, and upon the hills the blue grouse, and farther up on the snow the ptarmigan.

Among the four-footed game the names of the rivers speak for themselves. For instance, Elk and Bear Rivers and Deer Creek. These animals are not by any means confined to the rivers mentioned; bear and deer may be found anywhere during the winter months, the deer being in excellent condition from the mild winters and capital feed available. Then to some people the noblest sport of all, mountain climbing, may appeal. They may go much farther and fare much worse than at Clayoquot, with its snow-capped mountains, 6,000 and 7,000 feet high, offering all the excitement and experience that Alpine climbers need.

#### A DREAM OF BEAUTY AND GRANDEUR.

The summer resorts of the Eastern Coast, and California, with its delightful climate, have their many attractions, but Long Beach, in the Clayoquot District, stands equal to any and all, with its nine miles of hard, sea-beaten sand beach, which does not give to tyres, even with the heaviest of weights. It furnishes an ideal place for the speeding of automobiles. For bathing and rambling it is unequalled, and with the completion of the Government road now projected, the automobilist may enter his vehicle direct from the steamer at Tofino, and run the beach without a break. In the meantime the tourist has access to the beaches by the various launches, of which there are some thirty in operation. During the summer the C. P. R. steamers leave Victoria on the 1st, 7th, 14th and 20th of the month at 11 p.m., arriving at Clayoquot within thirty hours, calling at all way ports, thus giving an opportunity of seeing the various places along the coast; amongst others, the Pacific cable Station at Bamfield will well repay a visit. To those who are fond of camping out every facility can be offered. Launches can be obtained, tents and provisions procured and landed within two hundred yards of the beach, and all by inland waters. An old Government road could be improved and rendered passable for vehicles, and automobiles could be shipped by this inland route direct from the steamer, launch owners furnishing the conveniences for the same. Dawley's Hotel furnishes excellent accommodation to travellers, and the start for Long Beach could be made direct from there.

#### FISHING INDUSTRY.

At the mouth of the Kennedy River the Clayoquot Sound Canning Co. operate a cannery, with an average pack of about seven thousand cases, most of which are first-class sockeyes. There are large halibut banks all along the coast, cod are also abundant, and the herring come in shoals. A fresh-fish industry could easily be established here, shipping the product to the large eastern market. A plant for smoking and salting fish would be a profitable investment. Clams are plentiful and there are several oyster-beds which could easily be developed.

#### MINES AND MINERALS.

There are a number of prospects in various stages of development, principally copper, which only require the necessary capital to put them on a paying basis.





A Metchosin Farm. Vancouver Island, B. C.

# COLWOOD DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

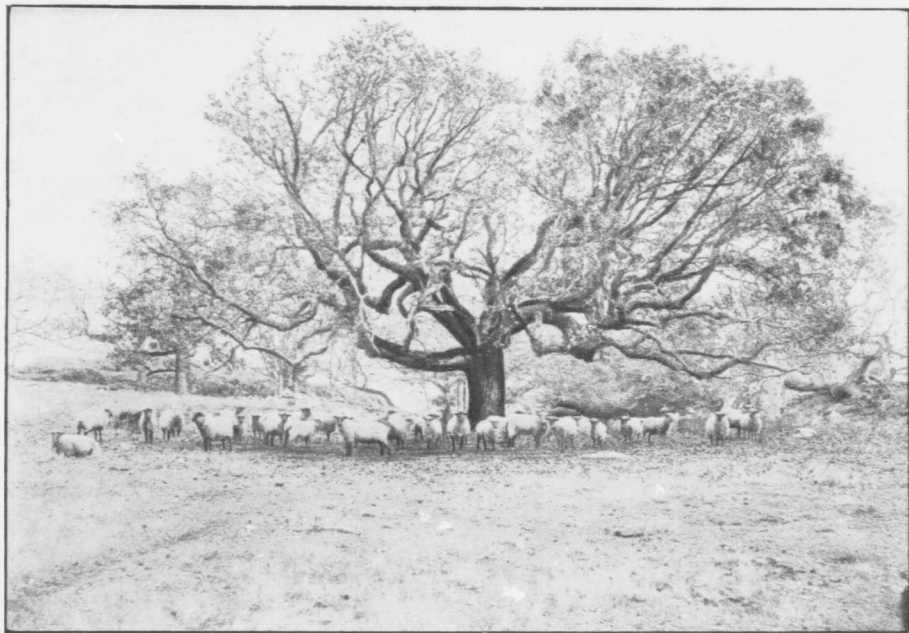
From the beautiful capital of the Island, Victoria, this large section extends southward and westward as far as the Sooke District on the West Coast, from which the shores stretch northward into sea-girt and heavily timbered lands of great scenic beauty and potentiality. Its area is about sixty square miles.

## SITUATION.

Much of this district borders on the sea, fronting the Strait of Juan de Fuca, flanked by the Sooke Hills, composed of stretches of timbered highlands, fertile valleys and fields under cultivation extending down to the sea beaches. Its environment of dark wooded hills, of the ever-changing sea and mountains, make it a panorama of beauty. From numbers of comfortable farmhouses and pleasant country homes radiate fields yellowing in the summer sun, or lush green with forage crops interspersed by orchard slopes. Then in sharp contrast are masses of rock, covered with fern and mosses and rock-plants in astonishing variety, with lines of tall firs outlined stately against a sky often as blue as any of Italy. Between their serried rows are heavenly glimpses of the flashing waters, now green, now blue, of the dimpling Straits. While rising far above and beyond in incomparable beauty from the dark shore line are the wonderful snow-clad Olympics, those snowy peaks of loveliness which, forever unapproachable by painter's brush or poet's pen, make a magnificent background to all the varied scenes of the Island.

## OUTLOOK.

Between the Olympics and our coast lies the Strait of Juan de Fuca, at all times of the day and year presenting an outlook full of interest to the shore dwellers. The world-famed anchorage, the Royal Roads, lies between Albert Head and Esquimalt. Here may always be seen great ships, barques, schooners, sailing ships of all descriptions and steamers awaiting orders. In Parry Bay, between Albert and William Heads, there are often vessels which run in for shelter from ocean gales, and others awaiting pilots or quarantine inspection. Then out in the Strait are continually passing in and out ships and great ocean liners from all parts of the world. All entering Canadian or Puget Sound ports must pass between Race Rocks and the Washington shore. The sight of these large steamers, of ships often under full sail, of tugs and tows, is of perennial interest to landsmen. Nor are smaller craft wanting. A favourite short cruise for yachts is to Albert Head, and a longer to Peddler Bay. At almost any time of the day the eye is delighted by the sight of graceful sail boats, white-winged, scudding before the lighter summer winds. Qualut Indian canoes are constantly crossing, and busy little launches add to the water interests.



High Grade Sheep. Colwood District, William Head, Vancouver Island, B. C.

### CLIMATE.

Situated, as it is, on the southernmost end of Vancouver Island, and containing the last point before the coast turns northward, the climate leaves nothing to be desired. It is mild and moist as that of the south of England, yet far brighter and sunnier. The moderating influence of the Japanese current and of the moisture-laden winds from the Pacific are the main factors in bringing about this desirable result. The freshness of the air is delightful and health-giving. The ocean breezes keep the summers cool, or at most, pleasantly warm.

### WOODLAND.

The land is heavily timbered in places and the forest growth is remarkable. From the carpet of mosses and ferns and wild flowers, through the luxuriant undergrowth of creepers and flowering vines and berried shrubs, rise the magnificently noble trees of many varieties, ever topped in remote majesty by the fine specimens of the giant fir. The varieties include fir, birch, maple, alder, arbutus, oak, balsam, willow, cherry, crab, spruce, yew, cedar and flowering bushes of great beauty, such as dog-wood, elders, briar, ribes, service-berry, laurel, gooseberry, raspberry, blackberry, spirea, hazel and many others. The blossoming vines and wild flowers are wonderfully beautiful. They bloom from February to August. Over fifty varieties are in bloom at one time. Many food products are found in the woods also. Of these the Indians well understand the use. The sallal, service-berry and many roots are used. Mushrooms are abundant. Wild fruits, especially delicious blackberry, black raspberry, strawberry and wild crab grow luxuriantly and make appreciated additions to the table.

### SOIL.

The soil is unusually fertile and easily worked. It is light, full of humus, and with good natural drainage. For the most part, it is a dark sandy loam on the surface and often has next a stratum of clay and then a gravelly sub-soil. At any time of the year gardening operations may be carried on, and any crops will grow.

### MIXED FARMING.

It is essentially a district for mixed farming; and the temptation to try everything in this favouring climate, with its all-round-year possibilities, is very great. Hog raising, horse breeding, market gardening, are considered as good lines for these localities. But the soil, climate and conditions generally, favour three branches: Sheep, fruit and poultry. The greatest successes in the past have been made with these and year by year more settlers are confining their efforts in these directions, while newcomers are purchasing or leasing land in the neighbourhood for these specific purposes.

### SUITABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR SHEEP.

Sheep of Southdown stock, placed at Colwood and thence on the Weir estate at Peddar Bay, is the largest flock of pure-bred Southdowns in the Province. The owner of this flock, Dr. A. T. Watt, says of the locality:—

"An experience of several years with a good-sized flock of sheep in this district enables me to say that the keeping of sheep is a profitable undertaking here. The wool and mutton which can be produced are equal to the best; the market lamb can be ready early, and pure-bred stock can be brought to perfection. The hill pastures, with their natural grasses, produce mutton or

lamb which commands always the highest market price, and there is a constant demand for Island mutton."

Nowhere in Canada is there to be found so equable a climate or an environment so suitable for sheep as in the area comprised in the southern end of Vancouver Island. Nowhere on the continent do sheep thrive better than in the country bordering the North Pacific. Recent reports show that in the adjacent State of Washington, the average wool clip per sheep is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  pounds, the highest in the United States. The sheep kept in British Columbia are mostly of the medium or short-woolled breeds, since the greatest profit here is in mutton. There is, however, a consensus of opinion that, for such sheep, the wool clip averages high. It undoubtedly is the case that on the Pacific Slope sheep do remarkably well, and in the favoured districts of Vancouver Island good wool and tender and well-flavoured mutton and high-class breeding stock are easily produced. Where such ideal conditions prevail, and with a climate comparable with that of the south of England, specialising in pure-bred sheep can be made a feature. The sheep will attain the best development and greatest vigour, and such sheep at exhibitions are pronounced by judges the very best. For pure-bred stock, however, the home market is limited, although the outside demand is growing. Sheep are seldom affected here by sickness of any kind and have only to be protected against wet weather and attacks of wild animals. Many flocks are kept on the open range and find their own living the whole year through. The fact that this can be and is done shows the kind of climate enjoyed, but it pays better to give the sheep some of the care and attention found necessary in less favoured countries.

#### POULTRY.

There are also no contradictory opinions as to the desirability of the districts for poultry. Mr. W. E. Bayliss, a successful poultry raiser, writes:—

"On account of its climate, Metchosin is particularly well suited for the raising of poultry. In order to get the best results from chickens it is absolutely necessary that they should have plenty of fresh air. It is only in a mild climate that they can be kept under such conditions as to insure this. Anywhere near the coast the hen-house can be open night and day during the whole winter, and the laying season may be said to begin with the New Year. In the Metchosin District of Vancouver Island the conditions are, if anything, more favourable than anywhere in the West because of the small rainfall and cool summers. Breeders of pure stock have begun to realise this fact and a good many are making their headquarters in the district."

#### FRUIT.

This end of Vancouver Island is, one may unhesitatingly say, a paradise for the fruit-grower. To give a list of fruit and berries grown here successfully and with great pleasure and profit is an easy task, one can do so offhand: Apples, pears, plums, cherries, prunes, crabs, quinces, peaches, apricots, nectarines, grapes, mulberries, loganberries, raspberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries and strawberries; then there are medlars and walnuts and chestnuts.

Mr. G. Heatherbell, of "Glen Lea," writes:—"Colwood and Metchosin Districts are especially adapted to fruit-growing, both large and small. We have excellent land suitable for that purpose, a large part of which is naturally drained, while that which needs draining can be done easily. In other words, we have an early growth in spring with absence of killing frosts, and the late

apples can remain on the trees until November. With so much sunshine during this long, growing period, coupled with the character or chemical nature of our soils, it gives the wonderful colouring to our fruit. Also we have a light rainfall, but there is still enough for fruit culture by paying strict attention to practical cultivation, thereby conserving the moisture in the soil left by the winter rains. Just to show the possibilities, I may say that I had an Alexander apple tree that bore, last season, 34 pounds No. 1 apples, in its fifth year from the graft—in other words, a two-year-old tree planted three years; also a Victoria plum tree with 42 pounds of plums the same age. And as regards the great growth of wood, I have a three-year-old Ben Davis worked over to a Winter Banana last season which measured  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches in circumference (new growth) above the union; one limb alone (of which there are four) measured  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in circumference, one season's growth. I believe there is no place in the world to-day that offers more or better advantages to fruit-growers than this southern end of Vancouver Island."

Mr. T. A. Brydon, of "Craigie Lea Farm," one of the most successful fruit-growers in the Province, writes:—"The special phase of agriculture to which, to my mind, the district is best adapted is horticulture. The land is right, the climate right, and with intelligent culture and perseverance splendid returns are assured. Some years ago doubts were entertained regarding our district producing fruit of so high a standard as some other parts of our Province. This has been dispelled, for the best of all evidence is the fruit that comes to the Victoria market from Metchosin District. Apples, pears, plums, prunes and especially cherries (not making any mention of the strawberry and other small fruit, which are very profitable), will bring in a sufficient return and a return increasing with the years, so that with careful and systematic culture \$500 per acre can be reached, becoming continuous if the owner carefully performs his part."

#### SMALL FRUITS.

It is difficult to restrain enthusiasm when speaking of the advantages of these districts for the growing of small fruit. The size and flavour of the strawberry on this southern end of Vancouver Island is one of the things strangers marvel at. With us it is most easy of culture and, as elsewhere, serves the waiting orchardist's purpose. Readily taking to newly broken land and easily becoming a crimson glory on sandy soil, it can be found flourishing on all farms. As would be expected in a cool and moist climate, currants bear enormously, are troubled with few insects, and give good returns. Gooseberries do not mildew as in some localities, always bring a fair price and, like all the bush fruit here, stay so long and in good condition on the bushes that picking is not the rush it is in other localities. Raspberries bear heavily, are very large, of fine flavour and, like the cherries and strawberries, are superior in a marked degree. In no other locality in Canada are there finer raspberries and cherries. A berry many growers are enthusiastic about, both for domestic and commercial value, is the loganberry. We find it in Metchosin and Colwood Districts at its greatest perfection. A friend of Judge Logan who originated this fruit, on looking at the bushes at William Head, with branches running along a rough trellis for over twenty feet, said: "I must tell Judge Logan of these wonderful bushes; they far excel the vines on his own place in California. He will be pleased to hear of what this vine can do under favourable conditions."

The early and late blackberry are both cultivated here.



Colwood Apples. Vancouver Island, B. C.

### SUITABLE FOR WOMEN.

In these districts, not too isolated and yet largely undeveloped, is found land most desirable for women farmers. Mrs. Fitzgibbon, a prominent Imperialist newspaper writer and lecturer on women's occupation, recently expressed her opinion that Colwood and Metchosin were ideal spots for small holdings desired by women who wish to engage in farming in British Columbia.

### LAND AVAILABLE.

There is land to spare where hundreds of comfortable homes may be made. No part of these districts are in the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway belt. For the most part, it has been taken up in large holdings. Already some of these have been subdivided, and shortly it is expected that a great deal more will be thrown open to settlers who wish small acreage.

### HORTICULTURE.

The possibilities of horticulture are so great that no homes are without flowers. There are all the proper conditions for bulb farms on much of the land, especially on the sea-bordered stretches. Many of the gardens of this locality are dreams of loveliness in the early spring months, with bulbs and primroses and violets, and about March there is a luxuriance of bloom that seems almost tropical. Dahlias here attain perfection. Great varieties of flowers can be grown, all the sorts of northern or southern climes. There is a wealth of roses from April to November, and shrubs make wonderful growth and flower profusely. All the old familiar garden flowers are at home. Perennials are as plants glorified, so great is their size and so fine their colouring.

### SHOOTING AND FISHING.

Little mention has been made of the shooting and fishing and athletic enjoyments. It is usually taken for granted that any part of Vancouver Island will furnish these requirements, and a detailed description seems unnecessary. The sportsman and the settler will not be disappointed in these localities. Generally speaking, the shooting of deer, grouse, quail, pheasant and duck is excellent. All kinds of wild duck, including mallard, teal, butter-balls, widgeon and geese, abound along the water-front, especially in the inlets and lagoons. Brant are often to be seen, also wild pigeon. Good fishing is to be had in many of the smaller lakes and streams. Salmon, halibut, cod, bass, herring, smelts, flounders, are in the water of the Strait adjoining. At Langford, the lake has been stocked with that game fish, the black bass. Grilse fishing in Finlayson's Arm, in the Goldstream District, is great sport in the early spring months. Salmon trolling at Peddar Bay is especially good. Trolling is the usual way of salmon fishing and is seldom a disappointment.

### TRANSPORTATION—MARKET.

The produce from this neighbourhood is sent in, for the most part, by stage or railway. Excellent stage services are maintained from Rocky Point, Sooke, Metchosin and other points, all passing through Colwood. The Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway passes through Goldstream and Colwood, is within a few miles of Happy Valley, and within easy driving distance of Metchosin and Albert Head. A launch service is already inaugurated to



Sooke and way points, and a steamer is asking for a small bonus to start also on this run. At no point are we beyond a drive of a few hours into Victoria. There are excellent roads traversing the district. Victoria is a market for most produce and the demand is always greater than the supply. Settlers do not need to worry over a market or prices. Prices are always good.

#### SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

There are a few special industries here and room for many more. Among these may be mentioned a lime-kiln, oyster beds, canneries, fish-traps, gravel pits, silica-brick manufactory and sawmills.

The prospects ahead of this neighbourhood are of the brightest. Now is the time for new settlers to come in while land is still reasonable in price. Large holdings are being subdivided and it will not be long before there will be a great rise in values. Available land near Victoria will, naturally, become scarce. Already much of the water-front has been taken up. It will behoove those who wish a pleasant country home within easy reach of the city to come here. They will find social conditions here desirable; churches and schools and neighbours who will extend a hearty welcome to the newcomer.



# COMOX DISTRICT

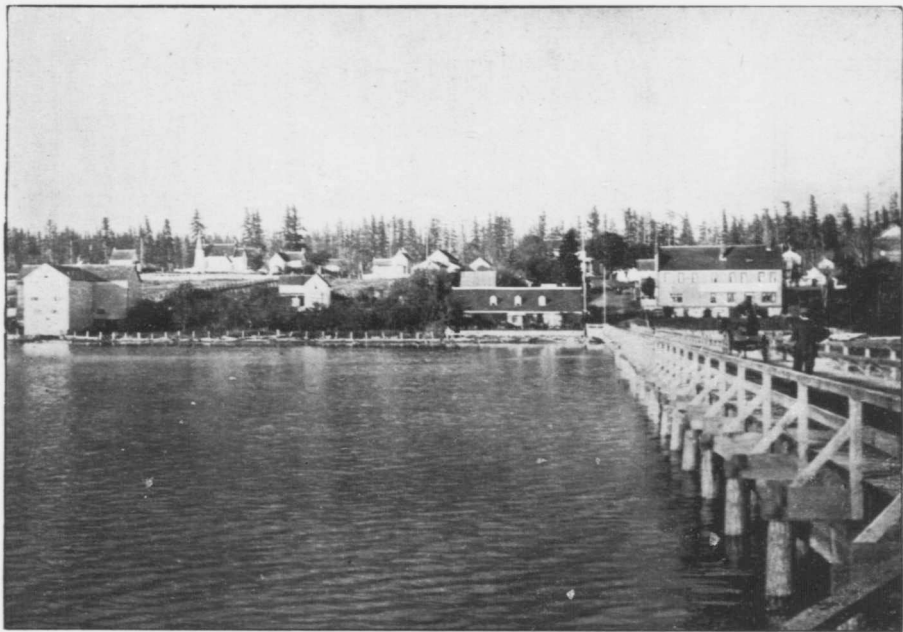
Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

The Comox District is justly considered one of the finest farming and dairying portions of Vancouver Island. Between the sea and the mountains there is a bench of undulating ground which is exceedingly fertile and well adapted to farming. Here and there are found beaver swamps and marshes which, drained, make unusually rich land. A number of valleys in the district are celebrated throughout the Island for their fertility, and the entire district is an ideal one for dairying and mixed farming.

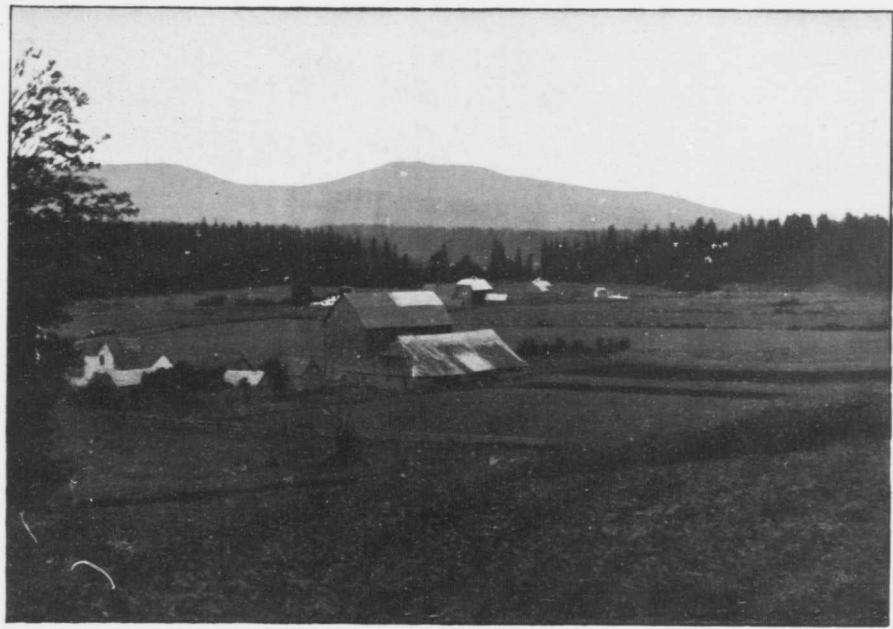
Cattle and hogs do well, and where the land is too light for growing grain and vegetables, it gives remarkable returns in alfalfa, clover, timothy and other grasses. Butter-making and poultry-raising are carried on in conjunction with ordinary farm work, and a good local market for everything grown is assured by the nearness of the thriving city of Cumberland, and of Comox and Courtenay. Sheep do well in Comox District, and as a fruit country it has special advantages. By examining a map of the Island, it will be seen that the Comox District is about centrally located, so that neither the extreme wet of the north nor the occasional drought of the south of the Island affects it. There are all kinds of soil in the Comox country; red loam, gravelly and delta land, or made land, as it is sometimes called. There is also plenty of heavily timbered land and quite extensive tracts of alder bottom. It will be seen from this that a settler will be able to make his own choice. The valley is about forty miles in length, from Cape Lazo to the Narrows, with an average width of about seven miles. It is intersected by rivers and creeks, some of them, as for instance the Courtenay River, capable of producing excellent water power. Good water is everywhere. A great deal of the land is held by lumber companies, or by the E. & N. Railway. Many pieces of land can be bought, suitable for fruit and vegetable farming, at prices ranging from \$50 to \$200 an acre.

Dairying is the chief industry of Comox. Jersey cows predominate among the high grades of dairying stock. The Comox Creamery made, last year, 91,412 pounds of butter, the average price of which was 29½¢ per pound, and a large number of farmers in the Comox District make their own butter and market it at Cumberland to customers there. One private dairy made 600 pounds last year, and others a less amount.

Good cows are always in demand from \$50 to \$100 per head. Horses are mostly being raised for home use, and Percherons and Clydesdales may be seen on the farms in the district. Hogs pay well at prices ranging from 7¢ to 10¢ a pound, live weight. The number of sheep kept is not enough to supply the local demand, which is always active for mutton. Chickens are kept on all the farms; a few have chicken ranches, devoting their entire attention to that industry. The average clear profit on each hen runs from \$1.75 to \$2 a fowl. Eggs sell from 30¢ to 60¢ a dozen. Ducks are in great demand, and geese and turkeys are also kept; the latter are particularly sought for around Christmas and Thanksgiving. Grain of all kinds grows well. Oats is the crop



Comox. Vancouver Island, B. C.



Comox Valley. From Mission, Vancouver Island.

most chiefly grown, and sells for 2c per pound, usually from \$25 to \$30 a ton. Barley and wheat do well, but not enough is raised for home consumption, as other products are thought to pay better.

Potatoes, turnips, mangels and other vegetables grow to perfection. Fruit is thought by many to be the coming industry, and there are orchards from fourteen acres to a few trees in the district. These are mostly apple trees, but pears, cherries, quinces and grapes may all be seen at the Fall fair, and all a credit to any agricultural community in the land. Denman Island and Hornby Island, not far from the Comox District, are also celebrated for their fruit, both as to colour and flavour. Quite a number of farmers in the Comox District are disposed to sell a part of their land with the purpose of keeping the rest for cultivation. Small fruits grow luxuriously, and sell at 10c to 15c per pound, and when they come in first these sometimes range as high as 30c per pound.

The roads in the district are first-class, and kept up by the Government out of the general revenue. Taxes are low. Schools are also supported by the Government, and they are established wherever needed. Churches of all denominations are established in the district. Telegraph and telephone connections have been installed, and the future prospect of the district is of the brightest. Sawmills, blacksmiths' shops, stores, livery stables, hotels and all other requirements of a model community are to be found. Steamers come to Comox three times a week from Nanaimo, and there is one overland mail a week. There are four post-offices within twelve miles, with the facilities for obtaining money orders, postal notes and so forth. There is a branch of the Royal Bank of Canada at Cumberland.

To those who have followed the momentous question of railroad transportation on the Island, the situation of the Comox District, with its fertile farms, and its proximity to the coal mines, it will not be any surprise to learn that there will be, before long, a railroad running through the district. The line of the E. & N. Railway, from Wellington to Alberni, will be completed either during the fall of 1910 or the spring of 1911. The building of a branch to Comox, either from Wellington or Alberni, will follow as a matter of course. Comox District is, comparatively, so close, and its resources are so great, that it cannot be overlooked. Besides, the necessity of plenty of farm produce for Cumberland on the arrival of the railroad there will necessitate railroad transportation from there to Comox District. It has always been held, too, that the ultimate intention of the E. & N. Railway is to traverse the entire East Coast of the Island by gradual extensions, and Campbell River, beyond Comox, has long been spoken of as one of these objective points. In this event, the Comox District will be on a direct line with Victoria.

Of the opportunities for sportsmen and anglers, it is not too much to say that the angler or hunter will find sport here to his heart's content. The Courtenay is one of the very finest trout streams on Vancouver Island, and one of the most picturesque and beautiful. Blue and willow grouse are found in large numbers, and deer are very plentiful. In the fall and winter the duck shooting, especially near Comox, cannot be surpassed anywhere on the Island. Good trolling for salmon can be found in any of the harbours during the season.

The demand for heavy draught horses is always good, as many are needed in the various lumber camps doing business in the district. There is a great deal of very fine timber land in the Comox District, and a great deal of milling is going on. Flour is all imported, the grinding being mainly confined to the crushing of grain for cattle feed. A mill would do well on Courtenay



Courtenay. Vancouver Island, B. C.

River, as there is ample power there, and by a little encouragement farmers would be glad to grow their own wheat and corn and have it ground at home. Cumberland is the main market for produce of all kinds, and affords a steady source of income to the Comox District. There is a waggon road from Comox to Wellington, and the roads generally throughout the district cannot be surpassed anywhere. Anyone in search of a home would do well to visit this district, as he will find a most beautiful country, an equable climate, future prospects second to none on the Island, plenty of opportunities for mixed farming, dairying and poultry-raising, good fishing and shooting, and desirable neighbours on every hand.



# CUMBERLAND DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Cumberland is the most important town in the northern section of Vancouver Island, and is situated eleven miles inland from Union Bay and connected therewith by the Wellington Colliery's railway. This district is noted as the centre of a great coal-mining industry, no less than four large mines having been in constant operation for several years. The average daily output of these mines amounts to thousands of tons, and an army of men are employed in the various departments above and below ground. The immense coal deposits in this region are vast beds of coal, sometimes six feet and more in thickness, extending miles into the earth, and widening out for miles. The length and breadth of these coal masses is problematical, only the thickness being visible to the naked eye.

The mines in present operation are Numbers 4, 5, 6 and 7. The coal mined from them is shipped to Union Bay by rail and from there sent to all parts of the world. The largest of these mines is Number 4, situated two miles from Cumberland, and has a daily output averaging one thousand tons. The main hauling slope, of which there are two, is over one mile in length. This mine has its own electric power plant, consisting of three 250-volt generators, which supply current to several motors underground, operating mine pumps and also for lighting purposes in and about the pit-head. Number 6 mine is just outside the city limits. Number 5 is situated about one mile from Number 4. Number 7 is about five miles from Cumberland and, although but quite lately developed, is becoming noted for the excellent quality of its coal.

The future of the City of Cumberland is an assured fact, as plans for a new railroad to connect it with Nanaimo are under consideration, and its tremendous resources as a coal region will bring it rapidly to the front. The town now has a population of about 1,200, and it is an active, aggressive, wide-awake community. It is in fact a metropolis in embryo, for the business done at the mines and mills, and the constant demand for the product, keeps the town on its mettle to supply increasing orders.

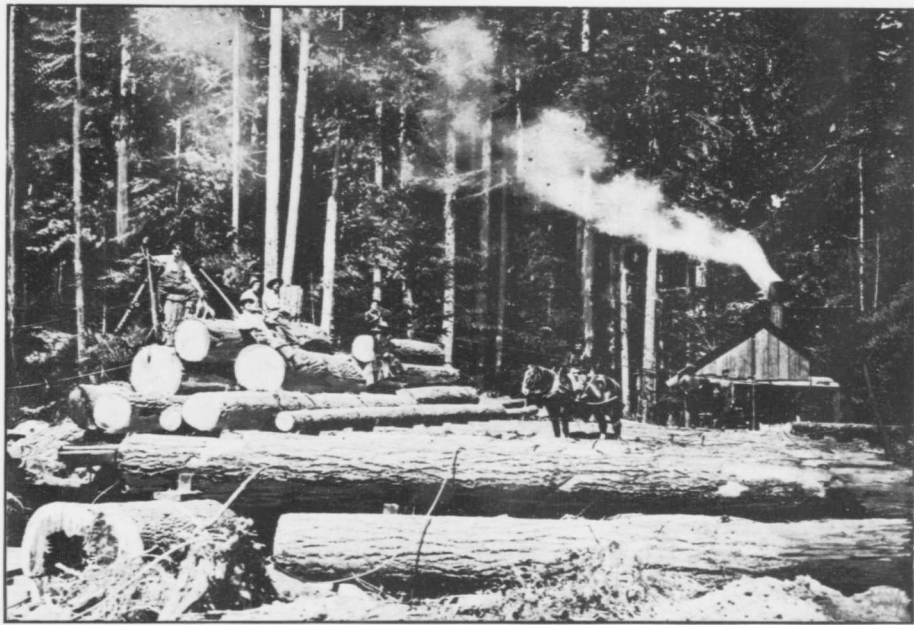
The stores in Cumberland are up-to-date, well stocked and attractive. The fire department is one of the best on Vancouver Island. The building going on has exceeded even the most sanguine expectations, and vacant lots are becoming scarce inside the city limits. One of the handsomest buildings for its size in British Columbia is Cumberland's new post-office and Customs house. Built of native stone, pressed brick and concrete, it stands about forty by forty feet, is steam-heated, and lighted by electricity, finished inside with hardwood trimmings, and is in every respect a model edifice for its purposes, and a source of justifiable pride to the citizens of the town. The Customs house and telegraph office will be installed in the same building.

The Cumberland and Comox Hospital is another building worthy of special mention, being carried on principally for the benefit of the men engaged in the mines. The Hospital has a staff of eminent ability and the methods





Coal Mine No. 4. Cumberland District, Vancouver Island, B. C.



Logging Scene. Cumberland District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

are in every respect modern, to the latest inventions and appliances, including a complete X-ray apparatus.

In its Public and High School system Cumberland takes a proper pride; its High School building being large, handsome and situated amid beautiful surroundings. Seven teachers are employed, and the educational advantages are among the best on the Island.

Two miles from Cumberland is Comox Lake, one of the loveliest of many splendid lakes on Vancouver Island, and is destined to be some day a noted resort for tourists and sightseers. It is walled in by towering mountains, and presents a ruggedly picturesque appearance of cliff and beach in its approach from Cumberland. Several famous trout streams empty into it, one of them in particular, close to Cumberland, and it is itself noted for the fishing in its waters, and game, such as deer, grouse, quail, etc., is plentiful in the hills and woods near Cumberland.

Cumberland is not only a wonderful coal-mining centre, but it has magnificent forests of fir, cedar and other timber directly tributary to it. The sawmills of Grant & Mounce, located at Cumberland, do an immense business, shipping to all parts of the globe. The coming in of the proposed new railway will open up a vast area of hitherto untouched timber lands, running hundreds of thousands of feet to the acre in some portions, and where the fir trees grow to a height of over a hundred feet. Whole lines of logs are sometimes seen at the mills averaging over a hundred feet in length, straight as arrows, and splendid specimens of Island timber at its best. The forest close to Cumberland has a really remarkable quantity of high-class timber, and as yet, the logging done in it has not appreciably affected the supply.

Cumberland draws much of its food supplies from the rich agricultural adjacent districts of Courtenay and Comox, and as it grows in population will advance the prosperity of these districts very appreciably. The manufacturing possibilities at Cumberland are self-evident, particularly in the way of wood-pulp and paper manufacturing, woodenware, etc. There is ample power in the Courtenay River to run a dozen mills, in close proximity to Cumberland, and raw material enough for a century in the adjoining forests. It is apparent that with the appearance of the new railroad there will be mills and manufactories built and a further development of the known resources of the region, which will bring population and prosperity in its train.

Cumberland has an assured future before it; one of natural advancement, not only on account of its present wealth in coal and timber, but because of its advantages as a central shipping and distributing point for the north and north-east. The town has an alert and progressive newspaper, good hotels, shops and establishments of all kinds, professional and business men of high standing, and a growing citizenship of optimistic and hard-working young men who can be depended upon to bring the little city rapidly forward.



Coke Ovens, Union Bay. Cumberland District, Vancouver Island, B. C.



A Vancouver Island Oat Field. Duncan and South Cowichan District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

# DUNCAN DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

The South Cowichan District, of which Duncan is the principal town, is one of the most celebrated, for its many advantages, of Vancouver Island. As an agricultural community it takes high rank, being particularly adapted to dairying, fruit-growing, poultry-raising and mixed farming generally. Duncan is situated forty miles from Victoria, on the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway, on the Cowichan River, at the foot of Mount Prevost. It has a number of well-stocked stores, a creamery, a sawmill, an agricultural hall, public school, government office, two churches, three hotels, and all necessary industrial establishments, such as harness-making, blacksmithing, etc. The Duncan Board of Trade is a flourishing institution and has done a great deal towards furthering the prosperity of the town and district. The "Cowichan Leader," a weekly paper, advocates the interests of the town and district. Duncan has a good waterworks system, and many of the farmhouses have water laid from the numerous springs and creeks.

Some of the most beautiful spots in the Cowichan Valley are to be found on Quamichan Lake, which is the centre of the dairying and fruit industry. There is no more profitable or enjoyable business for the settler than dairying. With systematic principles in the rotation of crops, and employing the system of soiling, a great number of cows can be kept on a small acreage, and by using a silo in connection with the barn it is possible to feed over a head to the acre. Great crops of ensilage corn can be grown and put into the silo at the cost of \$1.50 a ton, twenty tons of which can be secured per acre. Clover and timothy hay will yield as high as four tons to the acre. When one figures that a cow will only consume thirty pounds of ensilage and ten pounds of hay a day, with a small ration of grain, for five months in the year, and the other seven months one can grow green crops, and cut as needed, feeding it to them in the stables or in the paddock, it shows the great possibilities of dairying in this district. The price of butter in the winter is from 45c to 50c per pound, and in the summer months from 35c to 40c. Nowhere is such butter made as that turned out by the Cowichan Creamery; it has never failed to take first prize and gold medal for the best creamery butter in British Columbia. While much of its excellence is due to the modern methods employed by the creamery, still more is due to the beautiful Jersey cow and the wonderful clover which grows luxuriantly in the district. The patrons of the creamery for 1907 received in total payments for the current year, \$57,139, and for 1908, \$61,167, showing the enormous amount of wealth in this one industry, and which can be greatly developed, the supply being always short of the demand. Here one finds the Jersey cow producing its 2 pounds to 2½ pounds of butter a day, its kind disposition and butter-producing qualities making it the queen of all breeds, and a cow should average her \$14 a month for the year. Here you find none of the usual environments associated with the dairy farm of the North American continent. A beautiful climate, good shooting of big and small game, and splendid fishing can be had by any farmer, as all these are at his door, with no pests

in the way of mosquitoes or snakes to disturb his rest. Churches and schools are within the reach of all, so that the children can grow up amidst the delightful society which at present prevails in the district.

Fruit-growing, which is in its infancy, is held by many as undoubtedly the coming industry of the Cowichan Valley. There is every facility to make it so. The climate corresponds to that of the west of England, except that the rainfall (which averages about 30 inches) falls mostly during the winter months. Little trouble is experienced with late frosts or biting east winds, which do so much damage to fruit. There are fruit lands bordering on the sea coast, and also on four large lakes, Cowichan, Shawnigan, Quamichan and Somenos, the two latter already having several commercial orchards under cultivation, ranging from ten to twenty-five acres, respectively. There is also undulating ground, where good aspects can be found on a warm hillside, but it is a well-known fact that land bordering on water is always preferable, as the temperature remains more even and little damage is done by early or late frosts. Cowichan District is rarely troubled by high winds or hail, which is apt to do much damage during the bearing season.

The soil of the Cowichan Valley cannot be beaten in the Province of British Columbia. It is mainly a deep, rich, red loam, with a clay or gravelly subsoil, which is particularly well adapted for the growing of apples, plums, peaches and cherries. Small fruits are not grown commercially at present, excepting strawberries, which grow with very great success. Drainage may be necessary in some cases where the land is not undulating. A great advantage over the Mainland is that irrigation is not necessary. This is a point which should not be overlooked when choosing a location for fruit-growing, for fruit grown on irrigated land is inferior in quality and does not keep. Also there is the expense and trouble of irrigating. As regards marketing, the district has an advantage over the Mainland, as shipments may be made either by water or by land. The Cowichan District has also a growing market in Alaska and Yukon and the various ports along the coast. Last year, at the Provincial Exhibition held in Victoria, Cowichan fruit came into competition with fruit from all parts of the Province, and although the exhibit was small, it took prizes for superior flavour and colour, and received great attention from the judges.

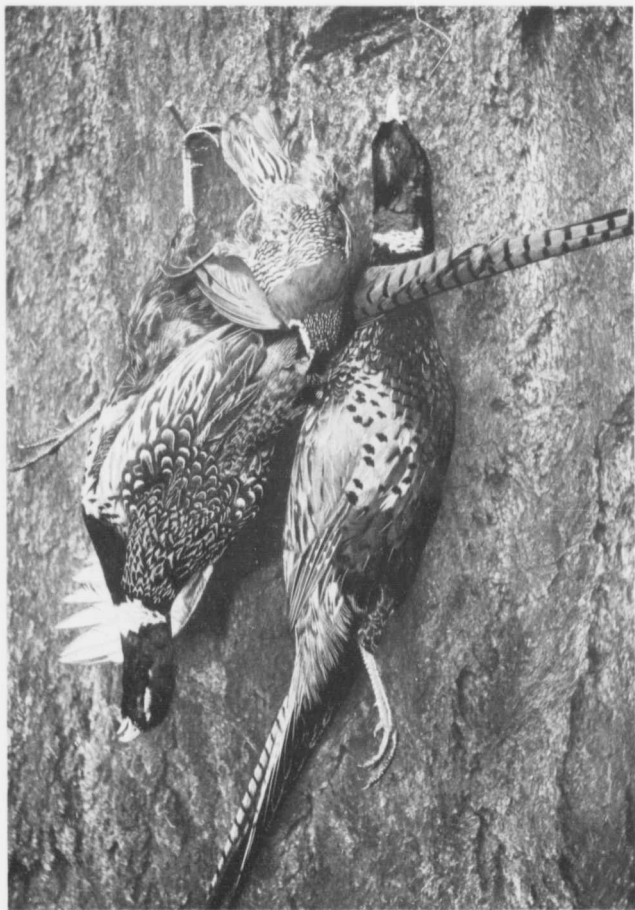
Cowichan is an ideal spot for the man of moderate means. Cleared fruit lands may be had from \$100 to \$200 per acre, according to the location. Most of the growers in the district are beginners, but they are aided by Government experts, who give demonstrations in the orchards on pruning, spraying, etc. Many have started in this with most successful results.

While the Cowichan Valley has become justly famous for its butter and its fruit, there are advocates of poultry-raising who claim that its staple product ought to be, and will be in the future, eggs. The reasons why, as given by one very successful raiser of poultry, Mr. Ernest T. Hanson, of Cowichan Station, are as follows:—

(1.) Hens will produce here more clear profit per acre than either cows or fruit, with less capital invested.

(2.) There are large areas of land in the district eminently suitable for poultry-raising, and fit for little else. These have been slashed, logged, burnt over and seeded down to clover, and can be bought from \$40 to \$100 per acre. The stumps and ferns make an ideal range, affording shelter from hawks, and plenty of shade—most important points. Hens do not require cleared land.

(3.) The climate is exceptionally favourable, being very mild and equable, without extremes of heat or cold; wonderfully free from cold winds in



Sport in the Cowichan Valley, Vancouver Island, B. C. English Pheasants and Quail.



winter, and much less subject to fogs and mists than the Mainland. The rainfall is heavy, but does not affect fowls in the least. They do better than in California.

(4.) The prices for eggs are the highest on the continent, and the market is almost unlimited and expanding all the time. British Columbia imports \$200,000 worth of eggs every year. Last January there was a famine of eggs for a month. Yukon is a large market in itself. A growing new country always outruns its supply of eggs, because their production is neglected. The prices for table birds are also very good.

(5.) Clover grows luxuriantly everywhere. Hens can range out on it all the year round. The Pacific Coast is the only place in Canada or the Northern States where this is possible. It is an enormous advantage.

(6.) The transportation facilities are very good.

(7.) Many men of moderate means are coming here looking for a home, and a business in the open air. They want congenial surroundings, light work and a mild climate. Here is the business for them. Here is one of the finest climates in the world. Here is a community of very high social standing, in one of the loveliest spots one could wish for.

#### COMPARE IT WITH PETALUMA, CAL.

Petaluma is a sheltered valley a short way north of San Francisco. It is the greatest egg-producing country in the world. United States government statistics credit it with one million hens (mostly White Leghorns), bringing \$4,000 a day profit to their owners. Ninety per cent. of the population go in for poultry. Why should not Cowichan do the same?

#### ADVANTAGES POSSESSED BY COWICHAN OVER PETALUMA.

Heat in summer not so great. Heat kills chicks. Colder in winter. Cold wards off disease. Prices for eggs higher. Cost of feed lower. Frozen wheat and screenings from the prairie provinces, and green clover to be had all the year round. Irrigation not needed. Ideal poultry range to be bought comparatively cheap. The profits per bird per year here are \$2 to \$2.50. The profits per bird per year there are \$1 to \$1.50.

Mr. Hanson has made a clear average profit per bird:—

1906-7.....	\$2 70
1907-8.....	3 20

This includes eggs sold for hatching and sales of breeding birds.

The following statement of capital required to establish a plant for 500 layers, of running expenses from incubation of the egg to the close of the first laying period, and the probable profit therefrom, are based upon figures ascertained within the past four years in establishing a poultry plant on a commercial scale, and are capable of easy verification:—

#### PERMANENT CAPITAL.

Land, 5 acres @ \$100.00 .....	\$ 500 00
Buildings .....	1,457 00
	<hr/> \$1,957 00
<i>Running Expenses:</i>	
Feed .....	\$1,055 00
Expenses of incubating and brooding .....	154 00
Cost of eggs for incubating for two seasons .....	288 00
	<hr/> 1,497 00
	<hr/> \$3,454 00



Champion Hackney Stallion in British Columbia. Duncan, Vancouver Island, B. C.

## ESTIMATES OF PROFITS FOR FIRST TWENTY MONTHS, MARCH-OCTOBER.

<i>Sales:</i>	
Eggs, 150 per bird @ 35c. per dozen .....	\$2,065 00
Birds, 1,000 cockerels @ 30c. each .....	300 00
400 yearlings @ 50c. each .....	200 00
100 pullets @ \$1.50 each .....	150 00
	<hr/> \$2,715 00
<i>Stock on Hand at Close of Account:</i>	
100 yearlings @ 50c. ....	\$ 50 00
400 pullets @ \$1.50 .....	600 00
	<hr/> 650 00
	\$3,365 00
Deduct running expenses, as above .....	1,497 00
Surplus available for interest on capital, depreciation of plant, wages, and 2 or 3 per cent. losses .....	<hr/> \$1,868 00

## ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL PROFIT FROM ESTABLISHED PLANT.

<i>Sales:</i>	
Eggs from 400 pullets, 150 per bird .....	\$1,652 00
Birds—500 cockerels @ 30c. ....	150 00
100 two-year-old hens @ 50c. ....	50 00
300 year-old hens @ 50c. ....	150 00
100 pullets @ \$1.50 .....	150 00
	<hr/> \$2,152 00
<i>Stock on Hand at Close of Account:</i>	
100 yearlings @ 50c. ....	\$ 50 00
400 pullets @ \$1.50 .....	600 00
	<hr/> 650 00
	\$2,802 00
<i>Deduct—Cost of Running:</i>	
Feed .....	\$ 950 00
Incubating expenses .....	77 00
Stock on hand at opening of account as above .....	650 00
	<hr/> 1,677 00
Surplus .....	<hr/> \$1,125 00

It may be observed that no credit is taken for eggs laid by the one hundred yearling birds, it being assumed that they are all reserved for incubating on the farm, or sold at special rates for hatching. Conversely, no charge is made under "Cost of Running" for eggs used for incubating. The proceeds for any such eggs are an addition to the surplus, the keep of the birds being already provided for.

Cowichan Lake, twenty-two miles westward from Duncan, and soon to be reached by the railway, is an ideal sportsman's resort, and Somenos and Quamichan Lakes and the Cowichan River are known far and wide for their splendid fishing. Cowichan Bay, at the mouth of the Cowichan River, is another splendid fishing resort. Good hotels are available and the roads are always in a superb condition. There are a few bear and panther in the surrounding hills, plenty of deer, blue and ruffed grouse, valley and mountain quail and the royal English pheasant. The marshes, ponds and the flats swarm with geese, ducks, brant and snipe, and salmon trolling in the bays is pursued with fine results.

Cowichan Bay offers to the traveller and holiday-maker attractions which are quite unique; but above all it appeals as an ideal residential district to the man of moderate means. Here he can find combined in one place what can be found nowhere else in the Province of British Columbia. The Bay is quite close to the railway and telephonic communication is direct with the rest of the Island. The south side of the bay is being lined with good residences, while the country at the back is being opened up in every direction. The scenic and climatic advantages are of the highest possible order, and the fishing in the bay is world-wide in its reputation.

# EAST WELLINGTON DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

There lies a vale in Ida, lovelier  
Than all the valleys of Ionian hills;  
The swimming vapour slopes athwart the glen,  
Puts forth an arm, and creeps from pine to pine,  
And loiters, slowly drawn. On either hand  
The lawns and meadow ledges midway down  
Hang rich in flowers, and far below them runs  
The long brook falling through the clov'n ravine  
In cataract after cataract to the sea.  
Behind the valley topmost Gargarus  
Stands up and takes the morning.

To one who traces, from the outlet where the Millstone River flows into the placid waters of Nanaimo Bay, the meandering course of this boisterous stream and emerges by many a winding way into the broad reaches of the valley, the mind's eye finds in the beautiful vistas beyond a counterpart of the fabled vale of Ida which is pictured so beautifully in the appended lines. Two and a half miles from Nanaimo opens out this Millstone River Valley, which in ever-widening expanse extends thirteen miles in length from the outskirts of Nanaimo to the head of Nanoose Bay. Although within such a short distance of Nanaimo, a city of 8,000 inhabitants, it has been practically undeveloped, except at its southern extremity. Here through the bottom land the stream winds its way through fields heaving with plenty. On the eastern side, a low-lying ridge of hills throw up their verdure-clad crest against the chilly blasts of the Gulf of Georgia. To the west, the bottom lands are crowned with upland dales where fields of grain and orchards lie embosomed in groves of fir and pine. Higher and farther back, the bench lands, forest-clad, extend and erect themselves as bulwarks about the buttresses of Mt. Benson, which lifts its twin peaks to the golden portals of the setting sun.

There is no more stable foundation for the prosperity of a country than that found in the resources of its arable land, and it is in such valleys as the above-described Millstone River Valley that is hidden the wealth that will make the future of Vancouver Island great. For many years, owing to the absence of an agricultural class and lack of progressive development and enterprise, the wealth of such rich land has lain dormant although possessing such great commercial and natural advantages. Having long passed through the rugged days of pioneer life, there has yet hung about it the vague, enticing glamour of antiquity and an indescribable touch of the Arcadian. For many years it has lain in a condition such as some poet has called—

\* \* \* Two worlds, one dead,  
The other powerless to be born.

However, it has now emerged from that peaceful condition which heralds the dawn of rapid development and enterprise. It is, as one writer has put it, rapidly entering into the throes of being "discovered." The general industrial expansion which is being felt throughout Vancouver Island has in no small degree attracted attention to the farming possibilities of the Island in general and this district in particular. Taking into consideration the fact that a 50-acre Vancouver Island farm is the equal of a 200-acre farm in the middle



East Wellington. Vancouver Island, B. C.



Truck Gardening. East Wellington District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

west, price and productivity considered, and the fact that thousands of acres of land in this valley are still available, it can easily be seen that a marvellous future awaits this district.

Heretofore, mixed farming has been the chief agricultural pursuit, but considerable attention is now being directed to dairying, and fruit and poultry raising. The soil of the valley is suitable for nearly all phases of agricultural life. In the bottom lands a deep, rich loam prevails, which produces grains and roots, it is believed, unsurpassed in any part of the world. In the higher reaches of the valley, which sweep upward to the more heavily wooded bench lands, the soil becomes somewhat lighter and loses its heavy nature—a condition better adapted for fruit-raising, although producing grain and all roots in the greatest profusion. Oats often attain the height of 6½ feet, while all varieties of hay have the same heavy growth. Wheat has not been raised to any extent, but it is thought that its cultivation would meet with equal success. The following figures show what crops can be raised in almost any part of the valley; Potatoes, 8 to 10 tons per acre; hay, 3 tons per acre; turnips and mangels, 35 tons per acre; oats, 70 bushels per acre; oat hay, 2½ tons per acre.

Furthermore, all agriculture is carried on without the aid or trouble of irrigation, though if that were desired, ample supply could be obtained. Through the district settlement at East Wellington, above the valley, runs a stream which by means of a dam could easily supply all the farming land around. For this work the energetic Development League of this district are about to petition the Provincial Government's assistance, and if such work were undertaken, the town of East Wellington might easily instal their own waterworks system.

Hitherto, fruit-raising has been almost totally disregarded, but circumstances indicate that this phase of agriculture is now coming into its own in this district. Those who have now undertaken this especial work have met with great success and they can exhibit fruit which is second to none in British Columbia. Inspector Wilson, in comparing the land here with the famous Okanagan, stated that "equally good if not better fruit can be grown in the district around Nanaimo."

For fruit-raising, as well as other classes of agriculture, the climate is par excellence. Here one enjoys the most equable climate on Vancouver Island, the rainfall being 33 inches per annum, just half that of Vancouver. Snow is the exception rather than the rule, and then falling but to disappear rapidly. The mercury rarely drops below freezing point. In summer the heat is never excessive, although the land is bathed in sunshine from the first of April to the middle of October. Cradled in such a balmy air, it is little surprising that the most tender fruits, such as strawberries, pears, peaches, apricots, grapes, melons and tomatoes, can be raised in profusion.

The other avenues for profitable industry lie open in dairying and poultry-raising. In Nanaimo a poultry society exists which holds a high-class show every year and there are several prize-stocked ranches in the valley. For dairying there are all the advantages which could be desired. There is an unlimited range, while in Nanaimo is situated the Nanaimo Creamery, which is controlled by the Farmers' Association. Despite its considerable output, it cannot nearly supply the local demand, the price of butter ranging from 35c to 45c per pound.

This district partakes as fairly of commercial as of natural advantages. At the distance of a few miles, ready markets lie open for all the farm produce which is available. In Nanaimo, only two and one-half miles distant,



Looking South, Millstone River Valley. East Wellington District, Vancouver Island, B. C.



the demand is much greater than the local supply. Farm produce is shipped in from mainland points nearly all the year round. Hay, oats and wheat can hardly be obtained; butter and eggs are imported in large quantities, while most of the fruit placed on the market is either from California or Mainland points. The following figures show the general prices which obtain throughout the district: Hay, \$20 per ton; oats, \$35 per ton; potatoes, \$20 per ton; butter, 30c to 40c per pound; eggs, 25c to 35c per dozen; milk, 10c per quart.

With increased production, markets could as readily be found at Ladysmith and Victoria *via* the E. & N. Railway, which passes only a mile from the valley, while daily connection can be made, *via* Nanaimo, with the extensive markets in Vancouver, where the highest prices prevail.

Millstone River Valley, however, can boast of more than one industry. At the valley settlement at East Wellington is located a sawmill which has been recently erected by the Ladysmith Lumber Company. This mill is already turning out 40,000 feet of lumber a day, and forms one of the growing industries of the valley. A railway,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length, conveys the output of this mill to Nanaimo for shipment. The company enjoys a large trade in rough and dressed lumber throughout the district, at Nanaimo and Ladysmith, while their export trade reaches the entire breadth of the continent.

Another industry which, though in its inception, means much to this valley is the coal-mining trade. At the southern extremity of the valley is located the Little Mountain coal mine, on which the Vancouver-Nanaimo Coal Company has been energetically pushing work for the past two years. A six-foot seam of the finest coal has been struck and actual shipments have been made by means of a road engine for a considerable length of time. In this mine places are now working, all in six feet of solid coal. The company have also put in a switch to connect their mine with the Ladysmith Lumber Company's railroad which crosses the valley only half a mile distant. Thus they are now able to ship direct by the carload from their bunkers by means of a ferry ship which has lately been built at Nanaimo. They have also made application to erect their own bunkers and wharf on Nanaimo Bay. What this industry may mean in the near future to the valley can hardly be estimated, as it is believed very extensive coal beds underlie this section of the district.

But combined with the industrial possibilities, which all the settlers confidently believe this valley has in store, are all the advantages which go to delight the heart of a nimrod or a disciple of Isaac Walton. Fish abound in lake and stream. Feathered game are plentiful, while farther back in the Interior a veritable sportsman's paradise exists. Here the fleet-footed deer will test the hunter's aim, while bears, panthers and wolves will try his nerve.

With the attention which is now being paid to this district; the number of prospective settlers who are inquiring regarding it; the land clearing in operation and in contemplation by the C. P. R. Company; the opening up of timber limits; the gradually increasing exodus of people from the prairie provinces to take up their residences in the smiling valleys of British Columbia, and with the general industrial expansion which is now taking place in Nanaimo, the settlers of this valley, blessed with an equable climate, richly endowed with natural beauties, look forward with confidence to the time when Millstone River Valley will not only be an agricultural suburb of Nanaimo, but an industrial centre as well.

# HOLBERG DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

The settlements at the north-west end of Vancouver Island were commenced twelve years ago. The plan of the originators was that a considerable number of prospective settlers at the same time should take land in a district where Government land or pre-emption land was yet to be obtained. It was also thought that a colony thus originated would be able to engage in co-operative enterprises, as, for instance, a creamery, a co-operative store, farmers' exchange, etc., without in the least trying to realise any immature socialistic scheme. Land ownership to be entirely individual and adherence to any co-operative enterprise voluntary. The Government of British Columbia having inaugurated a very liberal and commendable policy towards settlers and other circumstances seeming favourable, thirty pioneer settlers took land at the north-west end of Vancouver Island.

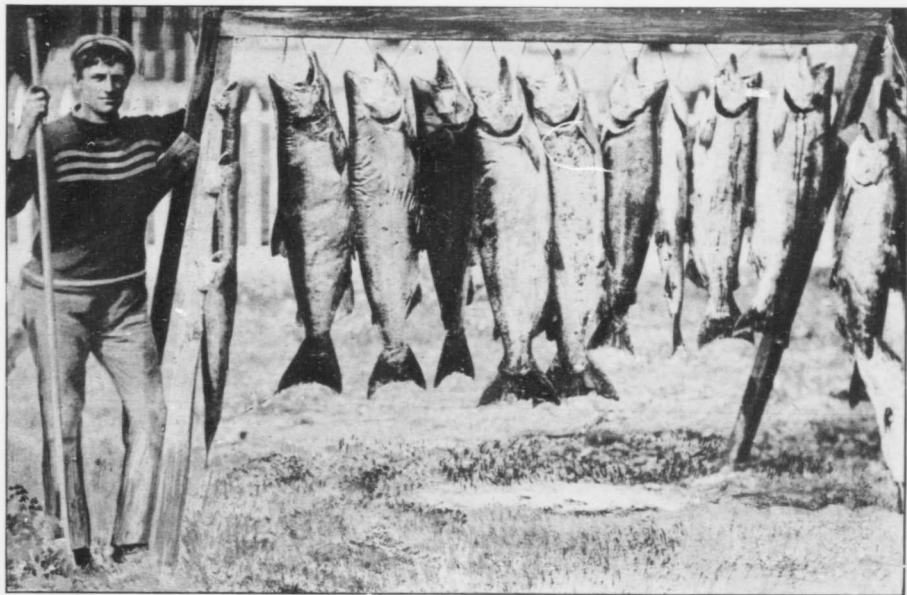
At present four settlements in this locality invite immigrants to settle in their neighbourhood, namely:—Holberg, at the head of the west arm of Quatsino Sound, San Josef Valley, Cape Scott and Cache Creek. These settlements are situated between 50 and 51 degrees, the same latitude as Berlin and Paris. The climate is ameliorated by the Japan current which passes the Island and may best be described as a mild and moist coast climate. The range of temperature being but small, the weather is not subject to great or sudden changes. Violent thunderstorms are almost unknown, and the locality apparently outside of the belt of natural calamities. During the fall and winter months the downpour of rain is considerable. During the summer months enough rain falls to insure a luxuriant growth of grass, clover and all vegetables. The maximum and minimum temperatures observed have been 90 and 15 degrees above zero. The haying season is the driest part of the year, and we have always succeeded in curing hay during favourable weather.

Outside the bottom lands, this tract is somewhat hilly, diversified with flat lowlands. From the coast it rises gradually from 100 to 200 feet above sea-level, while the ordinary hills reach from 200 to 400 feet in height. Owing to the absence of snow-clad mountains our bottom lands are not subject to the danger of being flooded by freshets. The district is drained by several streams, of which San Josef River and Spruce River are the largest. Along a portion of the northern coast is a sandy belt which, on account of the moist climate, has proved very fertile. The soil is of various character; the hills and highlands consist of a yellowish, somewhat compact, clayey sand, called sallal soil. The lowlands are chiefly of a peaty character and require draining; along the rivers are alluvial deposits proved to be very fertile. The higher lands and the sedimentary lands are generally covered with a growth of timber, while the lowlands are scrubby. Timber consists of spruce, hemlock, balsam, cedar and cypress.

At San Josef Bay or Sea Otter Cove and at the west arm of Quatsino Sound would be excellent localities for sawmills. A shingle-mill could be operated successfully at Goose Harbour, near Cape Scott. The following



Splitting Lumber for Settler's Home. Vancouver Island, B. C.



Salmon Fishing in the Northern Part of Vancouver Island, B. C.

extract is taken from a report to the Government by T. H. Parr, Provincial Land Surveyor:—

"The valley (San Josef) is about three-quarters of a mile in width at the western end to over a mile in width in Township 37. The soil is sedimentary and of good depth in the low bottoms, and gravelly on the hillsides. The hills are covered with a thick growth of hemlock, balsam and some cedar with sallow and huckleberry brush, and the bottom with hemlock, small cedars and scattered large spruce varying from five to ten feet in diameter, and dense salmon brush. There are numerous ponds and sloughs formed by beavers damming the waters of the creek.

"There is a belt of about one-eighth of a mile along each side of the river, which can readily be brought under cultivation, the salmon brush being easily grubbed and the timber not of a dense growth. The belt of cultivable land can be extended to the foot of the hills when the beaver dams are removed and the water allowed to drain from the land. The river is navigable for small boats at high tide for about two miles from the mouth, and might be utilised further if several jams were removed. These tend to keep the water back and to cause light flooding. The country is admirably adapted for dairying, there being a plentiful supply of rain during the summer, and the fall of snow during winter is usually very light. The hills could be used for grazing purposes, as they are not steep."

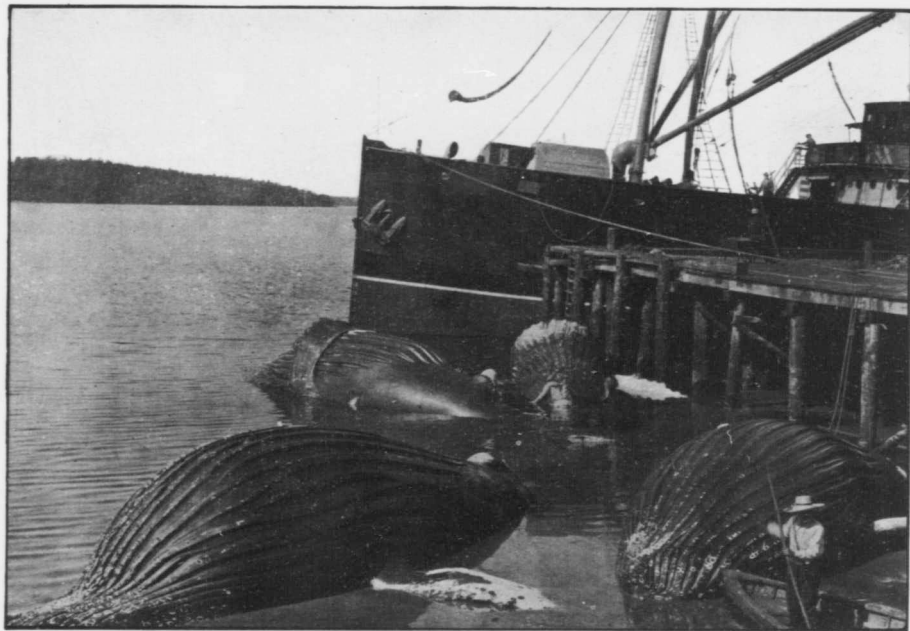
The character of the climate adapts this district principally for dairying and the culture of small fruit. Grass and clover grow luxuriously, peas do excellently, oats and barley give a good yield on well-cultivated land; wheat has only been raised experimentally on a small scale, but has been found to mature. Most garden vegetables are grown with success. All kinds of small fruit are doing extraordinarily well. Apples and the common fruits mature well. Besides dairying, the settlers are turning their attention to fruit-raising. As soon as enough land is under this culture to insure success, a co-operative fruit cannery will be established.

The farmers' market in British Columbia compares favourably with those of other localities. It is a well-known fact that butter brings five cents more per pound here than in the neighbouring State of Washington, and on eggs the difference in price per dozen is even greater in our favour. This local market is constantly being extended, as British Columbia's mining, fishing and lumber industries greatly exceed its farming industry, the import of farmers produce being 80 per cent. of the amount consumed.

A natural resource which will become of importance to the settlers is the fisheries; halibut on the fishing grounds along the coast, and salmon in the bays. In this connection it might be mentioned that the abundance of fish (halibut, salmon and trout) and of game (deer, geese, ducks) favourably affects the pioneer settlers' household expenses.

Crown land, of which there is yet thousands of acres to be obtained, may be taken by bonâ fide settlers on the following conditions:—Each settler may pre-empt 160 acres. After two years' occupation and having improved his land to the extent of \$2.50 per acre, a Crown grant may be obtained by paying \$1 per acre, which may extend over a period of five years from the date of the record. During the period of occupation until Crown grant is issued, the pre-emptor is entitled to be absent from his land two months during each year, and may obtain leave of absence for six months at a time by applying to the Land Office.

The system of government in Canada and in British Columbia is as free and democratic as any under which we have lived. The parliamentary usages



Whales and Whaling at Vancouver Island, B. C.

give the voters effective means of immediately making their will and influence felt. We find that the Government of this Province does more for the development of the country than we have observed to be done under any other Government. The Provincial Government builds and maintains the roads and defrays the chief portion of the expense of maintaining public schools in rural districts. In many instances the Government pays a subsidy to a physician in isolated settlements. On the annual estimates of the expenditures of the Province appears an amount of \$300 for a resident physician in this district. The Government also maintains a system of free travelling libraries.

We do not advise settlers who are to provide for a family to come here unless they have at least \$300 when arriving. The Government is now building a waggon road from the west arm of Quatsino Sound to San Josef Bay, and here settlers who desire to work on the road earn \$2.50 a day for nine hours' work. During the fishing season (about January 25th to August 5th) many go to the fisheries at Rivers Inlet, where a good profit is often made.

The west arm of Quatsino Sound is a fine, sheltered harbour of great depth. Here the settlement of Holberg is located, and here is one terminus of the waggon road. In Sea Otter Cove, at San Josef Bay, is shelter for small craft. Goose Harbour, near Cape Scott, affords similar shelter. Fisherman's Cove, on the northern coast, affords a fair landing place, but it is not sheltered against northern storms. No settler should bring more than two cows at the start, but as cows may generally be bought here it would be preferable not to bring any. They cost about \$50. During summer the cows can feed on the grass in the woods, but in winter they must be housed and fed a part of the time. It would therefore be folly for anybody to bring a large number of domestic animals before he could raise sufficient hay to keep them over winter. Waggon, agricultural machinery, etc., should not be brought at all, only necessary household articles. By not buying tools, etc., until arriving in the settlement, the newcomer is certain to get more suitable articles than he could procure before having personally acquainted himself with the work before him. Prospective settlers are entitled to bring their effects and domestic animals into British Columbia free of duty, provided they have been in their possession six months prior to the time of immigration.

The steamboat for Quatsino Sound leaves Victoria twice a month. The first of these boats stops at Winter Harbour, where connection is made with San Josef Bay by gasoline launch. The second goes directly to Holberg. At present they leave on the second and third Tuesday of every month, but the date is always subject to change, and before leaving the immigrant should correspond with the C. P. R. Company's office in Victoria, B. C.

It is often supposed that in a settlement as isolated as these settlements our time drags heavily, and life becomes void of interest. We find the contrary to be the case. Our co-operative enterprises, present and projected, are topics of mutual interest. We maintain reading circles and debating clubs; settlers' meetings and social gatherings are frequent. We find the pioneer settlers' life anything but dull and void of interest. We do not invite speculators, but bona fide settlers of all nationalities to make themselves at home where, by voluntary co-operation, the great natural resources of land, timber and fish may be developed with mutual benefit. In this respect we believe our settlements afford advantages equal to those of any other district.

# LADYSMITH DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Ladysmith is the youngest of the three important mining camps which are dotted along the East Coast of Vancouver Island. As its name indicates, the town was founded during the Boer war, and in the nomenclature of its streets the name of nearly every British general of note who took part in that war is handed down to an admiring posterity.

The city itself is built upon the slope of a steep hill rising from the shore of Oyster Harbour. Behind it again, in bold and striking front, stand out the soaring peaks of wooded mountains. Bold and picturesque are the adjectives which best describe the general appearance of the thriving city which, as its citizens confidently believe, is only at the beginning of a real era of progress and expansion. The better and more progressive feeling of the citizens is finding active expression in the acts and doings of the City Council. The questions of lights and sewerage are being earnestly handled, and in such a practical spirit that the actual installation and operation of both systems is now within sight. Everywhere there are signs that the townspeople have fully awakened to the real possibilities of the city's development. New buildings are going up; real estate values have at length begun to quicken and rise, and the more far-sighted see the dawn of an era of prosperity in which the city will come into its own.

Just exactly what may be expected for the city may best be gathered from what it is and what it already has in the way of industries and natural resources. Its staple industry and its main corporate sustenance is, of course, the coal mines which are owned by the Wellington Colliery Company, the head of which is James Dumsmuir, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia. The mines are situate some twelve miles back in the mountains north and west of the city, at a place called Extension, from which they take their name. The bulk of the men, however, reside in Ladysmith, and a miners' train conveys them to and from the mines. The mines give employment to some 700 men and boys, and on an average some 12,000 tons of coal a week are shipped at the wharves running out into the bay. The arrival of the miners' train at four o'clock in the afternoon is one of the sights of the town, and the bustling, hurrying crowd of brawny men, taken with the shipping at the wharves, affords the best idea of the importance of the town as one of the Island's great coal-mining centres.

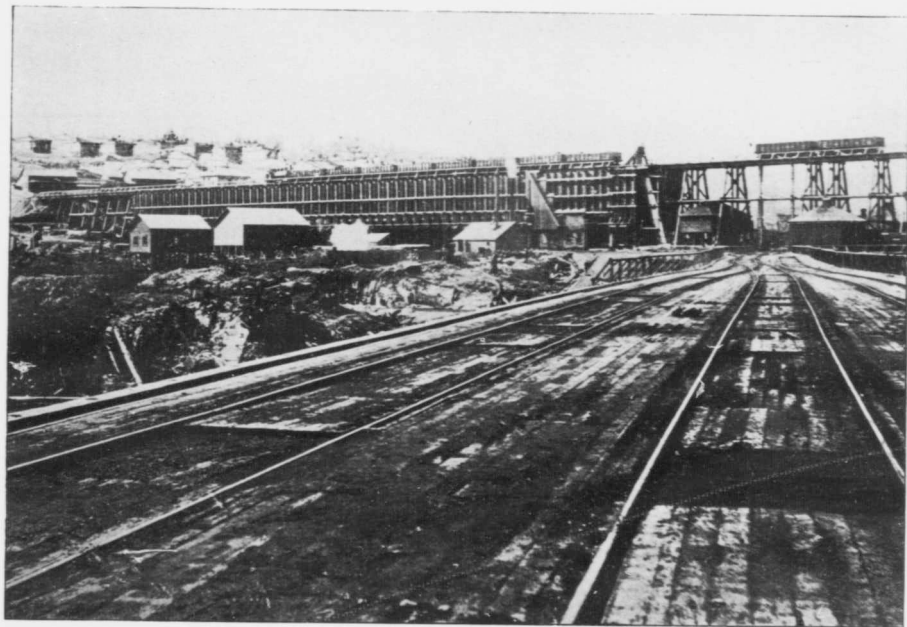
The company is making preparations to open a new mine which will in every respect equal and rival the Extension tunnel. A virgin field of about ninety acres is to be tapped, and the coal is even better than that which has been worked with such profit at Extension. The new mine will be about three miles nearer Ladysmith, and will cause a fresh burst of prosperity to the town and district.

After the mines comes the lumber industry. Back on the wooded slopes of the mountains are several large logging camps which, when the industry is in full swing, give employment to hundreds of men. The felled trees are conveyed by rail either to Chemainus or to the headwaters of Oyster Bay.





Ladysmith and Harbor. Vancouver Island, B. C.



Coal Bunkers at Ladysmith, Vancouver Island, B. C.

The Ladysmith Lumber Company, one of the most progressive firms on the Coast, has also its shingle-mill located on the foreshore below the city. The mill has experienced very little slack time, and the shingles from its saws are shipped to points far and near.

Just outside the city limits, and almost adjoining the mill, is the Tyce Copper Company's smelter. Such is the reputation of this firm and of the smelter itself that Ladysmith has come to be widely known as the Smelter City, and even the Victoria press has, on occasions, regarded this as the main industry of the city. During the last year great improvements have been made to the smelter. A trestle and wharf have been built out into the bay, and the ore is now taken direct from the ship to the bunkers. The costly improvements which the company have carried out are sufficient proof of its faith in the future of the industry, and in this respect alone the city can count upon added importance in the near future.

Between the smelter and the Wellington Colliery road-bed are the works of the McIntyre Stove & Foundry Company. Stoves and ranges are its principal articles of manufacture, and it also does a large general jobbing business.

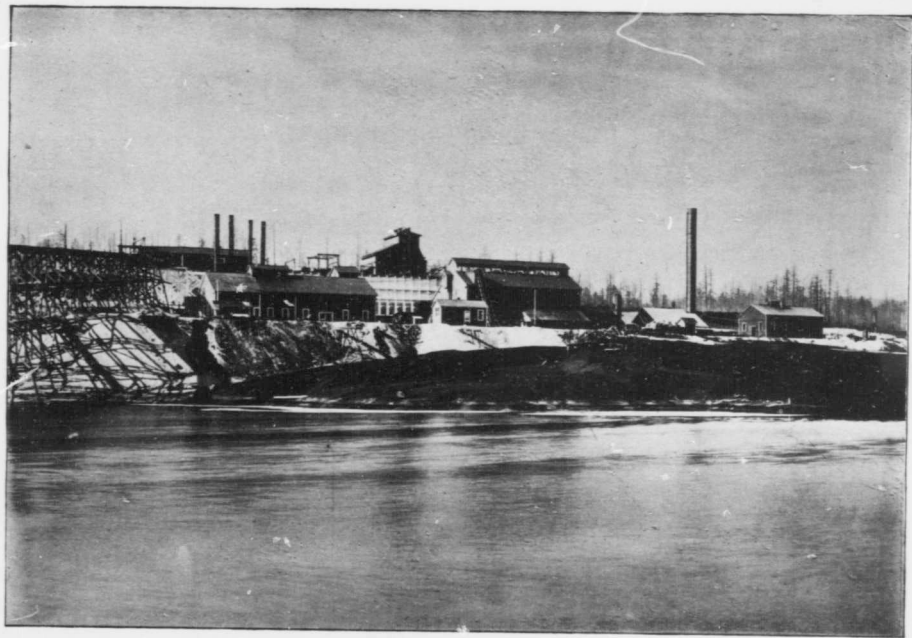
This exhausts the list of present industries, but it affords no hint of the facilities the town offers for other works and factories, nor of its untold natural resources. The most immediate development of the city will be in the direction of agriculture. The soil round about the town is of the richest possible nature, suitable to any kind of cultivation. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company is even now engaged in the clearing of land, which will be put up in lots to suit purchasers, and in a few months the town will reap the advantage of these agricultural developments.

The mountains back of the city have not yet been thoroughly prospected, but there is general agreement that they contain untold quantities of iron in the raw state. They are dotted all over with the claims of hardy and pushful prospectors, and copper, silver and even gold have been found in more or less paying quantities. Some particularly rich copper veins have been exposed, and all that is required for a great mining boom is the attraction of capital. There are all the requirements for the establishment and operation of large and profitable steel works, and the more optimistic of the townspeople confidently count upon the exploitation of all this vast mineral wealth.

In this respect a few words are due to the shipping facilities of the city. The E. & N. Railway gives a daily double train service to and from Victoria. There is also regular steamer service to Victoria and Vancouver. Vessels of the biggest tonnage anchor safely at the colliery wharves—an asset of incalculable value in the natural facilities the town possesses for the founding of great industries.

From the pleasure point of view, also, the harbour is an ideal resort. The bay narrows to less than a mile opposite the city, and runs inland for over three miles. It is so well sheltered that never a wave disturbs its calm and placid surface, and it is always available for boating. Directly across from the town there is a beach the like of which for bathing and pleasure parties cannot be found on the Island. In short, the town is an ideal seaside resort, and only requires to be known to attract those crowds of holiday-makers who find their pleasure in the enjoyment of nature.

An account of Ladysmith, however brief, would be incomplete without some reference to its sporting glories. Small as the town is it has for the past few years been a power and force in provincial football. A year ago the club held the championship of the Island, of the Province and of the Pacific



Tyee Copper Company's Smelter. At Ladysmith, Vancouver Island, B. C.

Coast. Last year they figured as finalists in the two former competitions and also met Calgary in the final for the People's Shield and the championship of the Dominion. They just failed of success on each occasion; but their gallant and desperate struggle will live long in the annals of provincial football.

An excellent motor road connecting Ladysmith with the principal cities of the Island is taken advantage of by many visitors to Vancouver Island, since her many industries and attractions make Ladysmith one of the principal points of interest to be visited by both tourists and investors. The energetic public spirit for which the city is famous makes its future as a thriving city assured. Perhaps nowhere on the Island is there more of a metropolitan alertness in moving for and putting through needed civic improvements. It is this characteristic which is most typical of Ladysmith and its population. Granted a necessity, and her citizens do not recognise difficulties in the path, but go on quickly and enthusiastically to successful achievement.

As a site for a seaside resort, the beach opposite the city offers a notable opportunity, and will repay the attention of capital looking for an opening in that direction. In fact, the investor can find, in the many opportunities about and in Ladysmith, a field for investment second to none in the Pacific North-West coastal country, whether in Canada, British Columbia Mainland, or on Vancouver Island.



# NANAIMO DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Nanaimo!

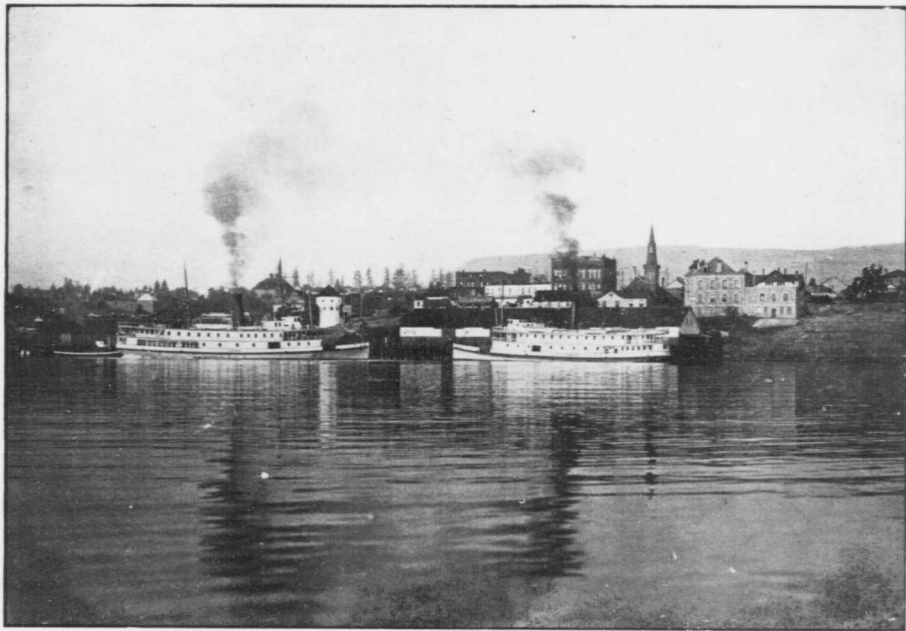
What is it?

Where is it?

To answer the above questions in brief: Nanaimo is a name derived from the Indian language, meaning "a collection of tribes," and is the name applied to a thriving city of some 8,000 people, including suburbs.

This city is the hub of Vancouver Island; the place where all the important roads meet and where steamer connections are made with all parts. To reach Nanaimo from the United States, take the steamer at Seattle going to Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, and, as elsewhere described in this book, the most beautiful residential city in America. Arrived at Victoria one can reach Nanaimo either by train, auto or steamer. The trip by this route is a most delightful one. By boat, one runs through the magic archipelago of small islands lying close to the larger island; by train, the journey lies along pleasant ways by mountain side, by meadow and by stream, and through many small villages and hamlets until Nanaimo is reached.

A more charming place to idle a few days than Nanaimo would be hard to find indeed. It is one of the oldest places in British Columbia, being founded away back in the fifties. The city is most beautifully situated, the townsite sloping gently towards the Gulf; in the rear Mt. Benson; to the fore two large harbours, perfectly land-locked by the islands of Newcastle and Protection which shelter them from the Gulf. Beyond the twin harbours is the broad outlook on the Gulf, the mountains on the Mainland rising up majestically in the blue mist. There is a charm about this portal to Vancouver Island that is indescribable—a touch of the Arcadian—a suggestion of the poetical. In Nanaimo, with its historical traditions, reaching back into the fifties, with its vague enticing glamour of antiquity, as evidenced by its notable bastion, the last remains of the Hudson's Bay Company's fort, there is the repose and serenity of an older civilization than is found elsewhere in British Columbia. And yet there are not wanting many strong, rugged evidences of the Western spirit, Western enterprise, hope and boundless ambition, heralding progress and advancement, a larger and more prosperous city. Incongruous as it may seem, Nanaimo is a happy combination of the old and the new; the city has all the established institutions of the well-ordered, well-grown community and the strength and vigour of the bustling, hustling new Western city. As a residential town it stands prominent among the cities of the Pacific Coast. There is not a more beautifully situated place on the whole of the Coast, and this remark is not made in haste, as anyone who has ever seen the city will indorse. Its climate is ideal; no extremes in winter or summer, and a very moderate rainfall, running on an average materially less than forty inches a year, less by a great percentage than the annual rainfall of some Mainland cities. In short, the climate may be described as of the perfect summer and winter resort variety. Never uncomfortably hot nor cold, free from the strong winds; the city never has



Nanaimo, from the Harbor. Vancouver Island, B. C.

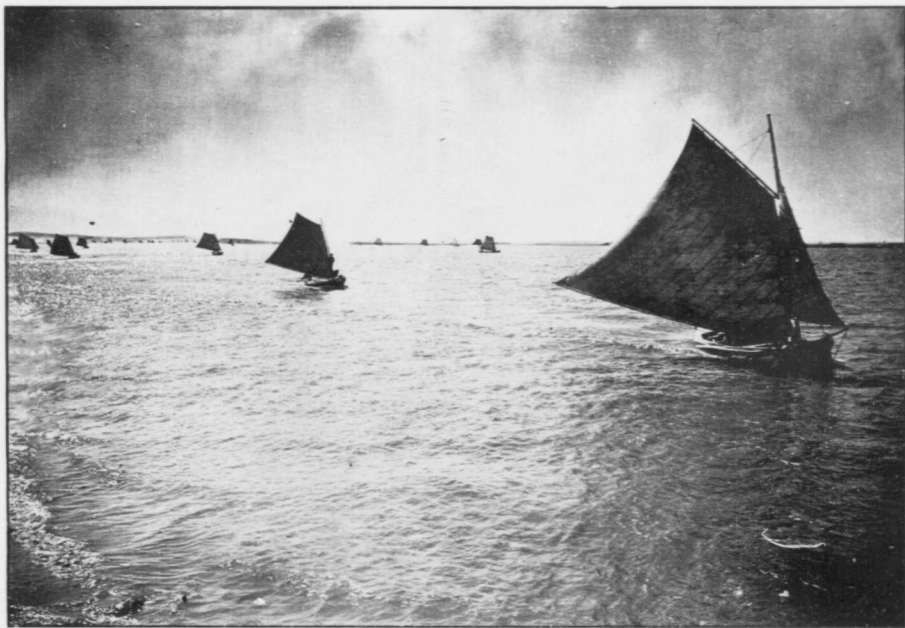
as much wind as many other places on the Island. Not a little of the population of Nanaimo has been induced there by its splendid climate.

Behind the city there are mountain paths to climb, and from the mountain tops magic panoramic views of the expansive Gulf of Georgia are to be had; or, if one wishes a more pastoral feast for the vision, there are roads to be ridden over, smooth, well-made roads, winding among well-cleared farms, over brook and meadow, at times plunging into dense forests, losing themselves for awhile among the stately pines of the Island—the best timber on the American continent—and then emerge on to smiling farms or run alongside sparkling trout streams with their cool reaches and rippling waters—the sportsman's paradise.

There is a well-equipped station three miles from the city which is worthy of a visit during the whaling season; or one may wish to do some salt-water fishing. What better sport is there than fishing for salmon in the Nanaimo Harbour, or deep cod fishing, or the sight of the herring fishing? Likewise the trip deep down into the oldest and best equipped coal mines of the Pacific Coast.

What about Nanaimo itself as a city? To begin with, she occupies the strategic position on Vancouver Island—an asset of paramount value when the importance of this Island is fully realised. There is no argument about the vast riches of the Island, of the great part it is to play within the next few years in the history of Western Canada. This is something that all those who have followed the trend of events in the West now recognise. Nanaimo is the logical as well as geological key to this rich district, being centrally situated and is destined to be, even as she is now to a certain extent, the great distributing point for the whole Island. Besides being the central point on the E. & N. Railway, which is branching all over the Island, Nanaimo also enjoys most excellent water transportation facilities. She has excellent harbours which float the largest steamers that ply the seas, and besides being a coaling port is the natural place of call for all steamers engaged in the coastwise trade on the eastern shores of the island; and to further emphasize her importance as a commercial port, it must be remembered that all produce shipped from the greater portion of the Island must necessarily pass through her port. The day is not far when Nanaimo is to play a very important part in transcontinental transportation, a statement which the farseeing made many years ago and which was received with incredulous smiles, but which to-day is generally admitted to be not only practicable, but imminently possible. The extension of the railway from Nanaimo to Alberni on the West Coast, which is now in course of construction, when completed will give the Mainland a shorter route than now in use to the Orient by cutting off the long and more or less dangerous trip around the Cape from the Pacific to Vancouver, the Western terminal of the C. P. R. It is not a far glimpse into the railway future to see that fast mails and freight will be landed at Alberni, taken by rail in an hour or two to Nanaimo and from there by fast ferry to Vancouver, to which place from Nanaimo there is a clear passage always navigable, despite fog and weather, and across comparatively clear water. Then there is the other transcontinental possibility of which so much has been heard lately, a trans-Canada line coming to the north shore of the Island, skirting the Eastern Coast, touching at Nanaimo and running to Victoria. Vancouver Island supplies one-third of the revenue of the Province and is entitled to, and will receive, more consideration from the railways in the near future. When she does, watch the Island develop, and, likewise, watch Nanaimo, the great distributing point of the Island, grow with it.





The Herring Fleet at Nanaimo. Vancouver Island, B. C.

At the present Nanaimo as an industrial point is a marvel. Situated in the city, right under the very streets that you walk on, are the oldest and most important coal mines of the Coast, although you would not know it unless someone were to tell you, as, in the pretty, cultured rose gardens, the well-kept premises, the cheerful, bright homes of the inhabitants, there is no suggestion of the "Black Diamond" dust, which the laymen always associate with a coal-mining centre. "But I thought you had coal mines here," says the stranger as he walks down the broad streets, past beautiful gardens and handsome residences, and is not fully assured until he is taken to Brechin, where the coal is coming out of the mine and is loaded into yawning hulls of great steamers from San Francisco, Europe and all the world; or to No. 1 mine, where locomotives are backing up to the shaft with empty trains to be filled with the finest coal on the Pacific. Thirteen hundred men find employment, and many thousands of tons of coal are mined yearly for not only British Columbia consumption, but for the San Francisco market, which derives most of her coal from here, as well as coal that goes to supply fuel for the many steamers from all parts of the whole world that coal here. The Western Fuel Company control the mines in this city. There is coal in abundance here to last for many years to come. In addition to the thirteen hundred men finding work in the Western Fuel Company's mines, there are several new properties being developed in the immediate vicinity of the city, and several new mines have started or are in the course of opening up. The largest of these is the Pacific Coast Coal Mines Company, who will have spent, at the end of this year, well on to half a million dollars in developing their property.

Lumbering is another large item in the city's business, and Nanaimo, by reason of its favourable situation, is bound to become an important point in this connection. At present the Red Fir Lumber Company have a large mill in operation in the city, and the Ladysmith Lumber Company, whose headquarters are here, have extensive holdings in the neighbourhood and will shortly open a new mill three miles from the city.

Being in the heart of a good agricultural centre, the farming community, which must surround every city to establish its stability, contributes not a little to the revenue of the business interests of the city. Indeed, it is to mixed farming and fruit farming that the whole Island looks forward for its greater development and future prosperity. The E. & N. Railway Company are selling land as soon as prepared for occupancy and they only hold a small fraction of the land that is to be secured. Vancouver Island lands are very productive and the climate and other conditions being so congenial a great many settlers are coming from the prairie provinces to take up land in the district about Nanaimo. There is not space for a detailed description of the agricultural lands about Nanaimo, but a card addressed to the secretary of the Citizens' League of Nanaimo will bring all the necessary information. Suffice it to say that large farms on the Island are not common and not necessary, as a 50-acre Vancouver Island farm is the equal of a 200-acre farm in the middle west, price and productiveness considered. There is no fruit grown in Canada that cannot, with equal success, be grown on the Island. Government Inspector Wilson, comparing the land around Nanaimo with the famous Okanagan fruit lands, says, "Equally good if not better fruit can be grown around Nanaimo."

Another among the many advantages enjoyed by this favoured city:—Copper, iron and other valuable minerals are found everywhere. The prospector has blazed the way; what is now required is capital to finish the work. Considerable development in connection with mining is now being



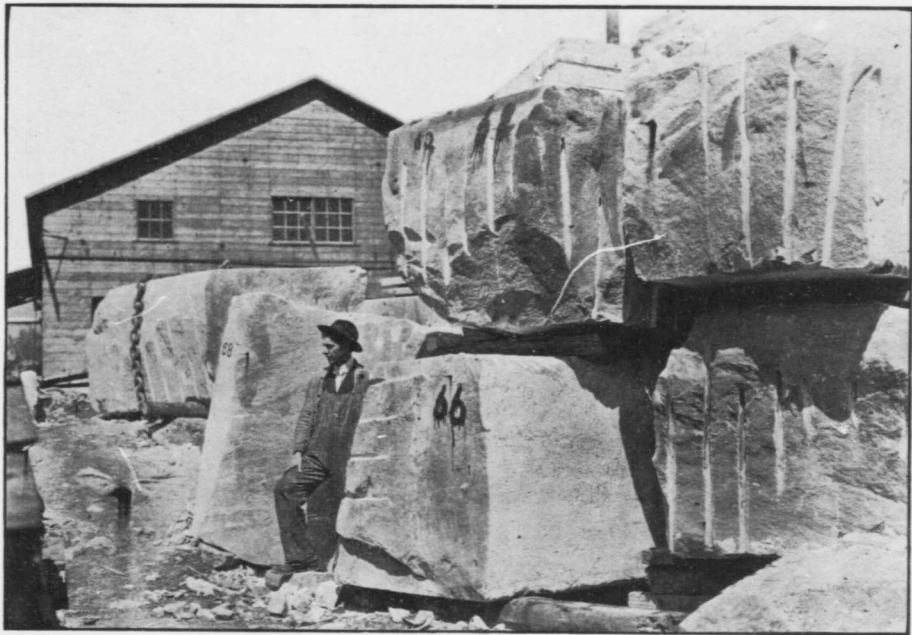
A Nanaimo Quarry. Nanaimo, Vancouver Island, B. C.

carried on, and the district around Nanaimo, in which many rich propositions are held, will share in this work.

No word of Nanaimo would be complete without some reference to the herring industry carried on for several months every winter. The Nanaimo herring fisheries without a doubt are the most extensive and valuable on the Pacific Coast, and annually hundreds of thousands of dollars are expended in connection therewith. Last season forty-five million pounds of herring were caught here. Figure up the number of men employed in the season; the amount of salt used; the amount of lumber supplies, steamer traffic, etc., and you find that one way and another quite a large amount of money is placed in circulation as a result of the herring. The herring are not the only fisheries, either. Salmon and cod fishing are carried on, although in a small way at present, but there are possibilities in this. Then there are clams, crabs, and who knows but that the oyster will some day be cultured to the commercial standard in these waters.

Richly endowed by nature; blessed by the finest climate in the world, where the death rate is the smallest in the Province; holding the strategic key to the richest part of Western Canada; with splendid railway and water facilities; a population of whole-souled, hospitable people, progressive and ambitious, Nanaimo has a magnificent future assured her.





Nootka Marble Quarries. Nootka, Vancouver Island, B. C.

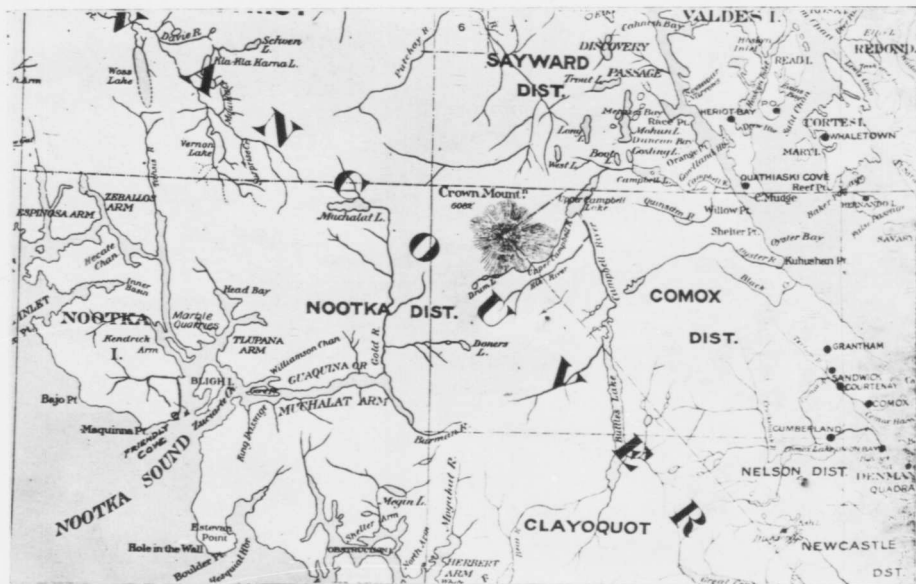
# NOOTKA DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Nootka Sound, a world-known name during the latter part of the 18th century owing to the bitter dispute that then took place between Great Britain and Spain as to the right each nation had to the country, was discovered and named by Captain Cook in April, 1778, who entered the sound with his ships "Resolution" and "Discovery" and remained there refitting for about four weeks in a small bay on Bligh Island, now known as Resolution Cove. Cook first named the inlet King George's Sound, afterwards changing the name to Nootka under the impression the latter was the Indian name; this impression has since been found to be incorrect, the word "Nootka" being simply a frequentation of "Nootk-sitl," which in the Indian language means to "go around."

When Nootka became known to the fur traders on Cook's discovery being given to the world and British vessels proceeded there for the valuable fur of the sea otter, the first vessel arriving in 1785, the Spaniards realised the value of this port and claimed the ownership, not only of the whole west coast of America through a Papal edict, but this portion particularly, by priority of discovery, stating that the Spanish frigate "Santiago," commanded by Juan Perez, sailing from San Blas in 1774 on an exploring voyage to the north, had, on her return southwards, anchored in August of that year in Nootka Sound, naming it Port San Lorenzo. This statement has since been proved to be incorrect, the frigate never having been nearer Nootka Sound than Estevan Point, which still bears the name Juan Perez gave to it. Nevertheless, on hearing of British vessels frequenting Nootka, where, during 1788, land had been purchased by a British merchant captain named Meares, who was also an ex-lieutenant R. N., from Chief Maquinna of that place, a storehouse erected, the British flag hoisted and a vessel named the "North-West America" built and launched, the Viceroy of Mexico, Don Manuel Flores, despatched, in 1789, under the command of his nephew, Don Estevan Jose Martinez, who had been second lieutenant of the "Santiago" with Perez, an expedition consisting of two vessels, "Princesa" and "San Carlos," to occupy Nootka Sound, where they arrived on the 6th May, 1789. Formal possession was taken of the place in the name of the King of Spain on the 24th, Martinez naming the anchoring place, now known as Friendly Cove, "Puerto de Santa Cruz de Nutka," thus recognising Cook's name of 1778. Barracks were erected in the cove and a battery of sixteen guns built on the island at the entrance, which the Spaniards named "La Insula y Bateria de San Miguel." On this island, in 1903, a small granite monolith was erected to the memory of Vancouver and Quadra, on which is the following inscription:—

"Vancouver and Quadra met here in August, 1792, under the treaty between Spain and Great Britain of October, 1790.  
Erected by the Washington University State Historical Society,  
August, 1903."



The Heart of Vancouver Island. Nootka District, B. C.



A Sandy Beach at Nootka. Vancouver Island, B. C.



Friendly Cove is a small harbour at the entrance of the sound, and is a point of call for steamers passing up and down the coast. Here W. T. Dawley has a store, carrying supplies suitable for the trade of the district and for the replenishing of prospecting and timber cruising outfits. Friendly Cove is also the headquarters of the Nootka Roman Catholic Mission. Father Stearn has been in charge of this mission for several years and has won the love and devotion of his people.

The Nootka Marble Quarries are situated on an excellent harbour near the centre of the sound. A marble-mill has been erected; excellent examples of monumental work in blue marble, and large blue marble slabs have been manufactured and sold to dealers in Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle. A Doric column of extra dark blue marble was manufactured at the request of the Dominion Government for the A. Y. P. Exposition at Seattle. This will also be sent to Brussels, and after exhibition there will be returned to Ottawa to be placed among the permanent exhibits in the Dominion museum. A turned shaft and die and a large marble slab have also been purchased by the Dominion Government for the Ottawa museum. During the past autumn the company has been core-drilling in deposits of dark blue, variegated blue and white, and white marble, using for this purpose a four-inch core-drill. The cores have been polished on one side to show the quality and beauty of the stone. The company has prospected over one thousand acres of marble property accessible to the mill and harbour.

From the quarries the sound extends in an easterly direction about twenty miles to Gold River. From Gold River to Campbell River a trail runs through a country in no place higher than 750 feet above sea level, and any railway passing from Victoria to the north of Vancouver Island will, on account of the grade, necessarily pass within a few miles of Nootka Sound. Another branch of the sound runs from the quarries north about ten miles to Head Bay, where one of the most important iron deposits in British Columbia is found. This deposit, known as the Head Bay Iron Mine, is owned by James Dunsmuir. The sound extends from the quarries to the north-west about twenty-five miles under the name of Tahsis Canal, opening into a navigable channel passing through picturesque scenery to the ocean on the way to Kynoquot Sound.

The scenery of Nootka Sound is probably the most beautiful on the coast, and the numerous rivers and fresh-water lakes, easily accessible from the sound, afford sport for hunter and fisherman. The country surrounding the sound is covered by a dense growth of timber suitable for export trade, and coal is found on the Estevan peninsula.

Timber, limestone, marble, iron and coal are known to exist in sufficient quantities on Nootka to warrant the establishment of large industries. The port itself is so excellent, so easy of approach from the ocean and so central that it is well up in the race for the terminus of a transcontinental railway.

# NORTH SAANICH DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

On the south-east of Vancouver Island is situate what is known as the Saanich Peninsula.

The peninsula from Victoria to Sidney is about twenty miles in length with an average breadth of five miles, and is traversed by two excellent roads and one railroad, the Victoria & Sidney, operated by the Great Northern.

The district they run through, taken as a whole, is a rolling plain, broken by knolls, and where uncleared, covered with dense woods of pine, rich alder bottoms and thickets of maple and dogwood, and about the centre are the lakes from which Victoria draws her water supply.

The soil is excellent and admirably adapted to the growing of fruit, and, considering its producing power, its vicinity to the capital, and its social advantages, cheap.

Let us grant at once that the Saanich Peninsula cannot grow certain apples, *e. g.*, Northern Spy, to compete with those grown in the Okanagan Valley, but it can grow other varieties equally remunerative, *e. g.*, Duchess, Wealthy and King of Tompkins, to compete with any of the same variety grown on the continent, whilst pears (Bartlett and other varieties), cherries and prunes grow with us to perfection, which is not the case in the rival districts. Moreover, none of the other districts named would attempt to compete with us in the production of strawberries and other small fruit; as there is no irrigation necessary and as labour for picking is more easily obtained, cherries, too, do well in this district. At the old mill, North Saanich, there is a Whiteheart cherry, the height of which is 24 feet, the girth 3 feet 4 inches and the spread of its boughs 31 feet; the only year record has been taken this tree supplied its owners and their friends with all the fruit they needed, and 220 pounds were sold from it at 10c per pound.

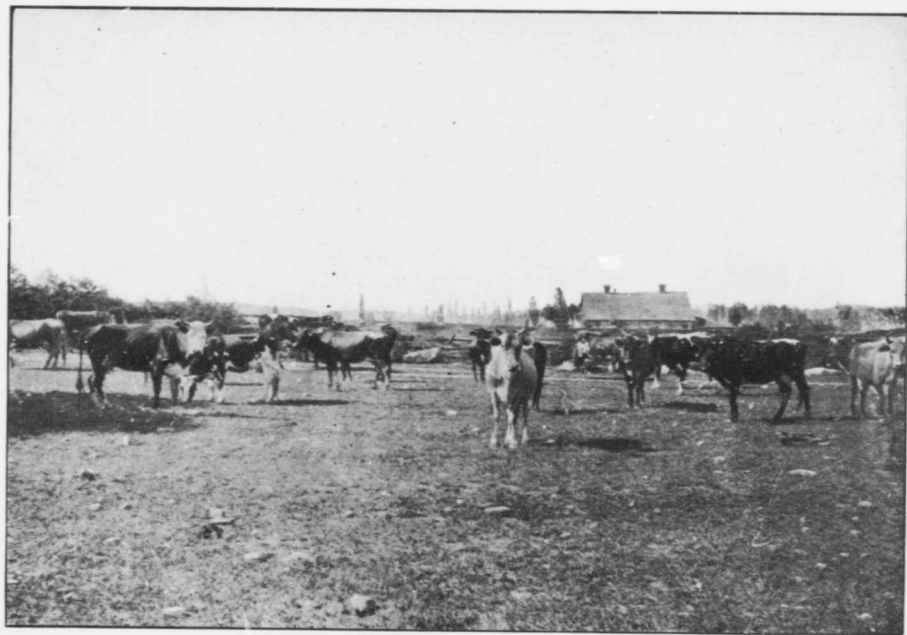
In the same orchard (the subsoil is what we call a deep deposit of clam-shell soil) is a standard apricot, 35 feet in height and 3 feet 5 inches in girth, which is weighed down every year with fruit which ripens upon the tree; 300 pounds of fruit per annum would probably be a very conservative estimate of its output. Alongside it is a plum tree whose plums go from four to five to the pound. This tree stands over 20 feet, girths 4 feet and spreads 27 feet 6 inches.

In another district is a young cherry orchard. The trees are healthy and clean, the dark greenery of them being very striking. They are three years old and they were bearing more than ten pounds of fruit to the tree. With seventy-five trees to the acre and cherries at 10c per pound, this is not a bad showing for three-year-olds.

Some years ago hops seemed likely to become the favourite crop in the district and may yet make men's fortunes here, but for the time this industry has received a setback and several of the old hop yards have been ploughed up, not because hops would not do well, but because the growers were not able to make a market.



Sidney and North Saanich District, Vancouver Island, B. C. Unsurpassed Roads and Scenery.



A North Saanich Dairy Farm. Vancouver Island, B. C.

Dairy farming at the present time is one of the principal industries, and this district of Saanich will always be the main source of milk supply for Victoria; to-day a large percentage is sent to the city as sweet cream and readily sells at \$1.50 per gallon, while butter retails at 50c. So that it may easily be seen that dairying with good cows can be made to pay well.

Very few men can be justified in holding on to three hundred acres of land which, if cut up into small holdings, would afford a comfortable living to thirty thrifty families farming not by the acre, but by the foot.

Intensive farming will be the system of the future in this peninsula of rich land and sunshine, of small pleasure farms and exquisite homes for the well-to-do and of cottage homes and comfort for their working neighbours, and this means happiness and well-being for the many and for Victoria more real prosperity than either mines or manufactories could bring.

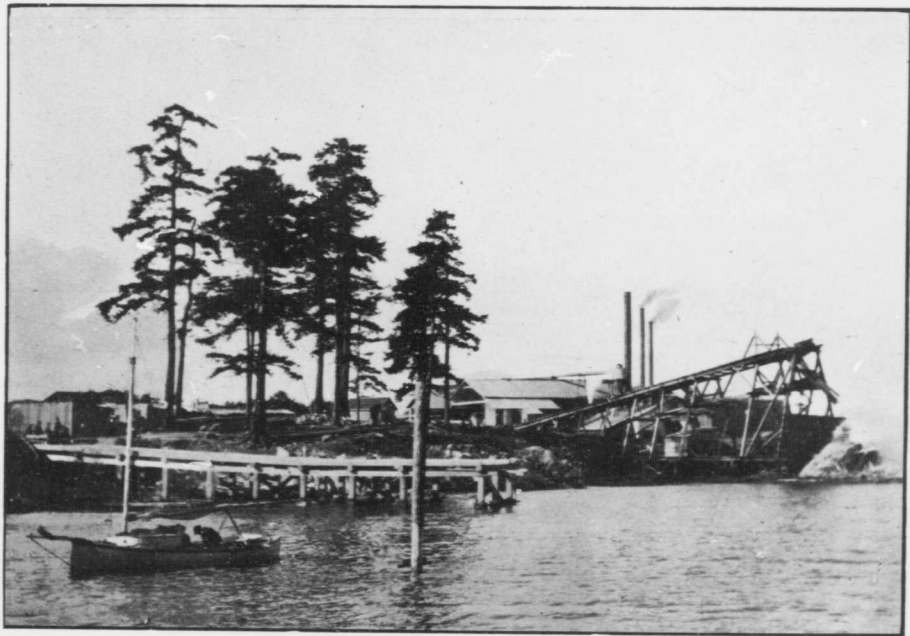
The Saanich farms have the advantage of suburban lands in close proximity to the Capital city of the Province and the great and growing market of Vancouver.

Sidney is a seaport town at the north-east end of the peninsula, offering every advantage and accommodation to be found in a growing Western town—several flourishing industries and trades, churches, schools, hotels, etc. The Merchants' Bank of Canada, recognising the possibilities of this district, have recently opened a branch in the town.

The Great Northern have their railway ferry to the Mainland here and the Government have during the last year built a substantial new wharf to assist the increased traffic with the district. The British Columbia Electric Railway Company are spending \$1,500,000 in completing a 10,000 h.-p. plant at Jordan River and the extension of their tramway lines through districts adjacent to Victoria, and the Saanich Peninsula will be one of the first districts to be traversed by one of the new lines. This will add greatly to the desirability of the region for agriculture, fruit-growing, poultry-raising, etc., and also open up a beautiful summer residence district along the coves and bays of the Saanich Peninsula.

The price of land varies according to the quality or position, and water-front or cleared and planted lands are naturally very much more valuable than unimproved tracts, so that it ranges from \$50 to \$500 per acre.

Our conclusion put into a nutshell is that the Saanich Peninsula is destined in the near future to be the wealthiest and most populous of Victoria's suburbs. The long narrow strip of land is more sheltered from cold winds than Victoria itself; it has, from the very shape of it, more water-front in proportion to its acreage than any similar area on the Island, and every well-to-do settler wants water-front, which can here be found in all its natural and wonderful woodland beauty, with ever-changing view of islands, sea and mountains, unsurpassed by any other district in the Province.



A Saw-mill at Sidney. Vancouver Island, B. C.



Looking Seaward from Oak Bay. Vancouver Island, B. C.

# OAK BAY DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

The most desirable of all the suburbs of the City of Victoria is Oak Bay, a young and growing municipality with the advantages of the city, but having none of its drawbacks. This district adjoins Victoria on the east side, extending between it and the sea. It is an ideal place of residence, whether it be for the millionaire who wishes a beautiful home, or the smaller homeseeker who wishes only a cottage snuggled beneath the oaks. He will find nothing just like it elsewhere in the world. The place is unique.

In Oak Bay there are no long avenues of trees, no formal groves such as offend the taste in the usual suburban district. Here are the trees as Dame Nature left them. They are guarded well by the municipal councillors, who are proud of them and prefer to have them obstruct the highway slightly, rather than cut them down. It is only necessary to mount one of the small hills and take a bird's-eye view of the place to realise what a leafy heritage has been handed down to the people of to-day from the ages that are past; the days when none but the Indian traversed the fields and glades of Oak Bay.

But the foliage is not all that of the oak. Here and there along the shore the arbutus with its shiny red bark, the Douglas fir, the balsam, the broad-leaved maple and numerous native ornamental shrubs, such as the syringa and spirea, all add their beauties to the scene. Wild flowers deck the meadows and woods. In the early spring the wild lily or dog-toothed violet, later the camass or wild hyacinth and hundreds of other flowers may be picked almost anywhere, while in the month of June the rocks along the shore become silver and gold with the stonecrop that covers everything.

The soil at Oak Bay is rich and friable, extremely well suited to the growth of flowers and vegetables. On account of its nearness to the sea there are no spring frosts, and even in the winter many flowers may be seen in bloom and vegetables may be cut or dug from the gardens at any time. It is a common thing to be able to have a choice of half a dozen or more vegetables, fresh from the soil, for the Christmas dinner. There are few places where at the Christmas season a man may walk out into his garden and cut cabbage, cauliflower, brussels sprouts or spinach, or dig parsnips, carrots, artichokes, turnips, beets, etc., but Oak Bay is one of these.

Owing to its large oak trees and the hilly nature of the southern end of the district there is an absence of those winds which are sometimes rather annoying in other parts of southern Vancouver Island. The year round birds make their homes in Oak Bay. The native robins, thrushes, warblers and a number of other feathered songsters sing in the trees; pheasants, grouse and quail roam the fields at large and nest in the sheltered recesses, often visiting the gardens and sunning themselves upon the lawns, and from the sky overhead may be heard the stirring music of the English skylarks which have been imported and remain in the district winter and summer.





Victoria Golf Club. Oak Bay, Vancouver Island, B. C.

Last, but not least, of the natural charms of Oak Bay is the sea, for which so many people forsake the prairies or the mountains. How little really beautiful scenery there is without the sea! How much real pleasure the person misses who does not live near it! Stand for a moment on a point overlooking Oak Bay proper. The placid waters with the islands beyond and the lordly Mt. Baker in the far distance is a picture such as it is almost impossible for the person who has never been there to imagine.

Near the Oak Bay Boat Club boat-house on a summer day may be seen many yachts and boats passing back and forth carrying the owners to or from some pleasure ground up or down the shore. Children are playing on the beach, basking in the sun or paddling in the water enjoying themselves to the utmost, while their elders share in the fun or quietly enjoy the beauty of the scene.

Shoal Bay, farther south, and other points along the shore are equally interesting, and it is impossible to live in Oak Bay municipality and not be near one or more favourite spots where boating or bathing may be indulged. Several large portions of the water-front at the principal beaches were purchased by the council in the early days of the municipality while the prices were very low, and will be retained for the use of the public for ever.

The municipality has been subdivided at different times and by different people, but the general tendency is to have large lots. Very few houses are built on less than two 60-foot lots, while a great many have acreage on which their homes are made. On nearly all the properties there were oaks or other native trees, and this has prevented that formality in the gardens as well as in the roads which is apt to disfigure so many residential grounds. Nature set out the trees and the rest of the garden has been arranged to give effect to them. This makes Oak Bay different from the rest of the world; a place uniquely beautiful.

The character of the land has had a great effect in attracting a class of people of means, whose gardening is more of the landscape variety and who require only a small kitchen garden in one corner of the grounds, the remainder being used as a pleasure ground. A person intending to make his home in the municipality may be sure that he will be among neighbours of the more intelligent and cultured class.

The educational facilities at Oak Bay are equal to those in almost any part of the world. There are two public schools in the district, modern in every respect. On the border of the municipality is the University School, a combined boarding and day school of the type of the English public schools, such as Rugby, Eton or Harrow. St. George's School, a private institution for girls, is also located on the borders of the district. Older pupils have the advantages of the Victoria College, where they may take their high school and university courses. As Victoria College building is on the carline between the city and Oak Bay, pupils residing in any part of the municipality may easily attend without inconvenience in any weather.

There is ample scope for anyone who is fond of games. Along the water-front is one of the most picturesque golf links that may be found the wide world over. The club has a large membership and every year its members try conclusions with the crack players of the cities of the North Pacific, and have won many a trophy, not uncommonly carrying off the championship of the whole Coast.

All the other games are played here. Tennis, baseball, cricket, lacrosse and football, each in its season attracts its votaries. Fishing is a favourite sport. Off Trial Island, and in fact all along the coast, large salmon are



In Oak Bay's Sea Suburbs. Vancouver Island, B. C.

regularly caught with a trolling line, and cod may be either hooked or speared. What can be more delightful than to go out in a rowboat or small launch and haul in two or three salmon before breakfast on a summer's morning? At that time all nature seem attuned; the waterfowl are feeding as well as the fish, and everything is at its best.

There are not many churches in Oak Bay, but everyone is within easy reach of the city churches, where many of the residents attend regularly. The cars run on Sundays, so that there is ample opportunity for attending church.

The water supply of the district is even better than that of the city. The water is supplied to the municipality in bulk, the distribution being in the hands of the municipal council. There is a good force of water and arrangements are being made for a more extended supply.

The light is supplied by the same company that controls the city lighting. The rates are the same and facilities are offered for every house to be supplied. The telephone system connects the district not only with Victoria, but with the neighbouring cities of Nanaimo, Vancouver and Seattle.

A natural question which many ask and which it is easy to answer is, "Can one live as cheaply in Oak Bay as in the city?" The answer is, "Cheaper." The municipal council have moved warily while not being niggardly. They have carefully conserved the finances so that taxes are low. They have also decreed that only the land shall pay the taxes, all improvements being exempt. This makes the rate of taxation very low and for this reason many residents have chosen the place as a home. The general commodities of life cost the same as within the city, so that on the whole it is a cheap place in which to live.

So far, prices of property are very low, so low that anyone can buy. Compared with the property surrounding any city of the size of Victoria, land is comparatively very cheap. There is land of almost any kind; hilly or flat, rocky or without rock and with any slope. Taken generally, the land slopes towards the east, thus giving the sun without the winds from the strait.

Everything points to Oak Bay as a pleasant place in which to live, but perhaps the best recommendation it has is in the mood of the people who live there. While all are anxious to improve the district as much as possible, they realise that they live in the best place in the world, the one spot on which nature smiles more than on any other.





Indian Boys Racing in San Juan River. Port Renfrew District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

# PORT RENFREW DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

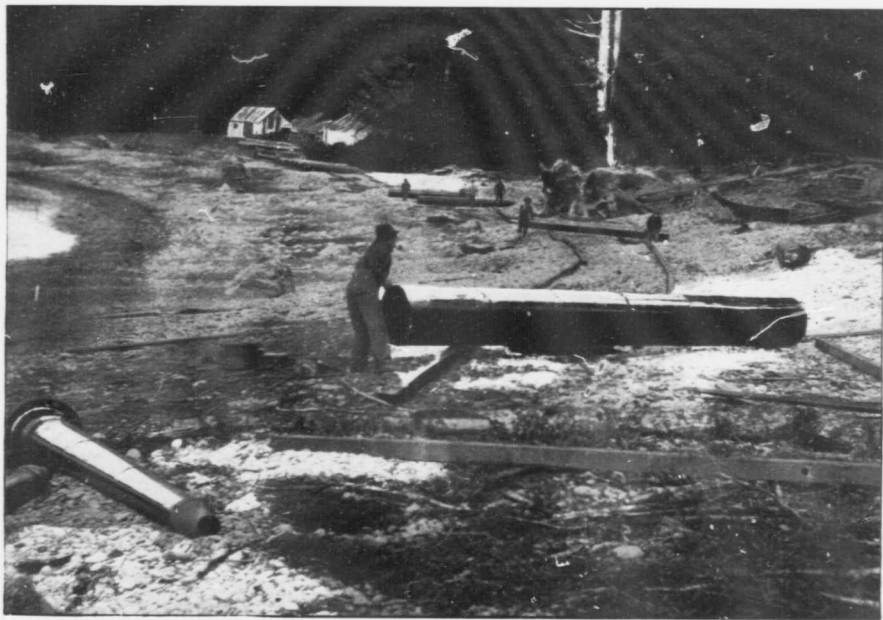
Situated on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, at the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca and sixty miles from Victoria, the broad and spacious harbour at the mouth of the San Juan River lies open to the south-west Pacific Ocean, but is sheltered by the mountains from the worst winds that blow on this coast. It is the only large harbour of refuge in a hundred miles of stormy coast, and previous to the era of steam would have been a place of importance, due to its position at the mouth of the strait and inland waters of Puget Sound. At present, however, only small shipping puts in here, though steamers and ships of His Majesty's navy are frequently found taking refuge from the stormy seas while commissioned on this coast.

Within the harbour and sheltered from all heavy seas and winds at Snuggery Cove is the wharf, hotel, store, telegraph and post office. There is also a Customs house office, for the place is a port of call and ships have to register. Every house in the valley has telephone communication with Victoria. Logging camps and a lumber-mill are established, and on the weekly days of call of the steamer from Victoria the wharf presents a busy scene which shows signs of greater increase each season. At the two end corners of the harbour, which form a perfect parallelogram of six square miles, are two rivers, the San Juan and Gordon, which drain the south-west of Vancouver Island, and can be navigated for about twenty miles in a small boat.

The San Juan River, as the name would imply, was well known to the Spaniards in the early days, and evidences of their mining for gold on river banks are frequently found.

The West Coast of Vancouver Island has been the scene of frequent efforts by prospectors and mining companies to develop what is believed to be the richest deposits of mineral on that coast. The uncertainties of their prospects, owing to the exhausting of what appeared to be rich veins of metal, gold, iron, and other deposits, have frequently ended in financial loss. But the Sombrio Mining Partnership has the prestige behind it of working a district originally known to have been worked by the Spaniards here centuries back. The name, "Sombrio," and the old writings that have been found there, lead to the supposition that somewhere around the mouth of the river some gold deposit of a rich nature is to be found. The neighbourhood has been prospected time and again, by single miners with wash-pan and spade, who made some kind of a living out of scattered deposits on the seashore.

With the aid of a hydraulic pipe 24 inches in diameter and a mile in length, with a dam to the head of the waters of the Sombrio River, at a height of 250 feet from the shore line, the Sombrio Mining Co. are endeavouring to make a more determined effort to wrest the gold from its bed in the rock and gravel. With this water-power it is proposed to wash down the sides of one of the headlands, where gold deposits on a paying scale have previously been found, and the works are now complete to commence



Gold Mining at Sombrio River. Port Renfrew District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

operations. Should the washings turn out as expected, and as an assay has warranted it, it will be one of the best paying propositions on the coast, and will doubtless lead to development in other places on this Western Coast of Vancouver Island.

Owing to the river changing its course, due to freshets and jams in its broad valley, together with the luxuriant vegetation which grows to the tops of the hills, and almost tropical in its nature, it is impossible to say to what extent the valley was exploited in the past or what is the nature of its wealth. Time alone can show this, but capital and labour have been slow to take advantage of its natural resources. The valley remains as nature has made it.

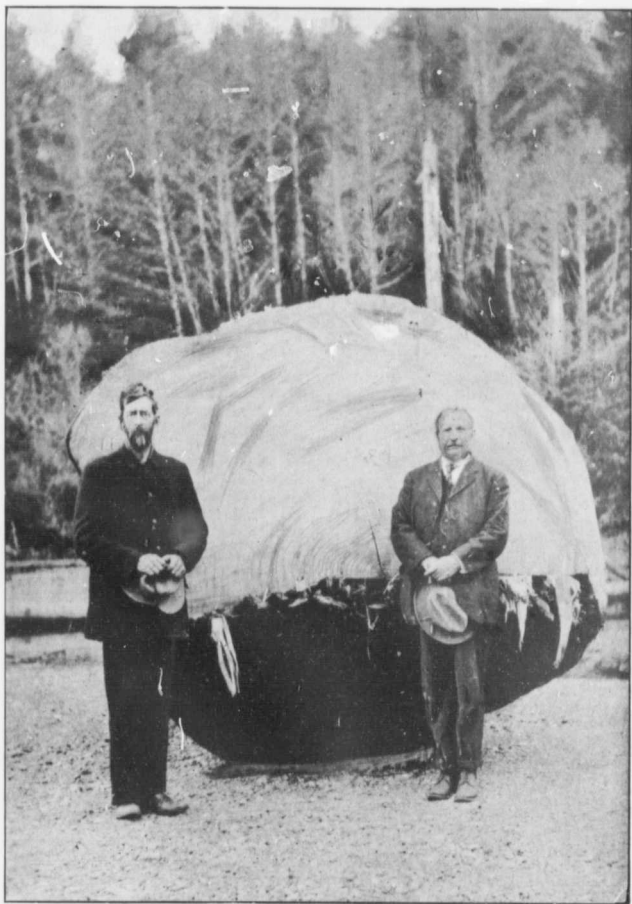
Government surveyors in 1891 examined the land in the San Juan Valley and reported excellent land in the valley. "It slopes gently towards the coast and can be easily cleared and drained. The soil is a rich black loam, in parts from six to ten feet deep and irrigated by mountain streams." A number of settlers went into this valley some years ago, but the absence of means of communication and transport of freight caused them to abandon their holdings. Most of these Crown-granted sections are now held by logging companies, who will undoubtedly, before the advent of a railway, clear the ground of its magnificent timber, when it will be more or less available for fruit culture on the higher bench land and small farming and stock-raising in the valley. The road which the Government made for the first settlers is now completely grown over and hidden. The river appears to be the only means of access to this country, which both in mines, timber, and agricultural soil is known to be a rich but a very rough country. The Gordon River drains one of the wildest sections of Vancouver Island. A Government surveyor says he found about 800 acres serviceable for cultivation, but it is generally a mining and forest section. So rich is it in iron ore (magnetic) that a compass is useless in the whole district and in consequence many prospectors have gone astray. A number of mining prospects have been opened and a Dominion Government surveyor has reported it to be one of the richest sections for iron and copper in the Island.

Needless to say, this whole district and coast line with its fisheries, mines, timber and agricultural resources, as yet only casually known, is awaiting the construction of the Barclay Sound Railway, and until it is completed the country must remain undeveloped and even unexplored in parts.

Much comment has been made on the stormy nature of the coast and the rainfall. The rainfall at San Juan averages 100 inches a year, the larger proportion of which falls in the winter in place of snow, which is seldom seen in the valley, except on the tops of the mountains. The thermometer does not vary 10° the year round and remains about 60° Fahr. all through the spring and summer. The valley feels the full effect of the Chinook winds in the winter and in the summer the south-west wind blows with the regularity of a trade wind. The result is that the vegetation keeps green and fresh in winter and throughout the summer months grass with a tropical growth will come up on any cleared spot in a very little while. The timber averages in many places 50,000 serviceable feet to the acre.

As to the storms that rage on this coast, they occur mainly in the winter season, and disastrous shipwrecks are due to the fogs, coast currents and tides, which drive ships out of their reckoning, and are not at present understood by seafaring men. Such incidents should not be allowed to interfere in the settlement of this coast, especially for those who love the sound of the waters and the fresh smell of the brine.

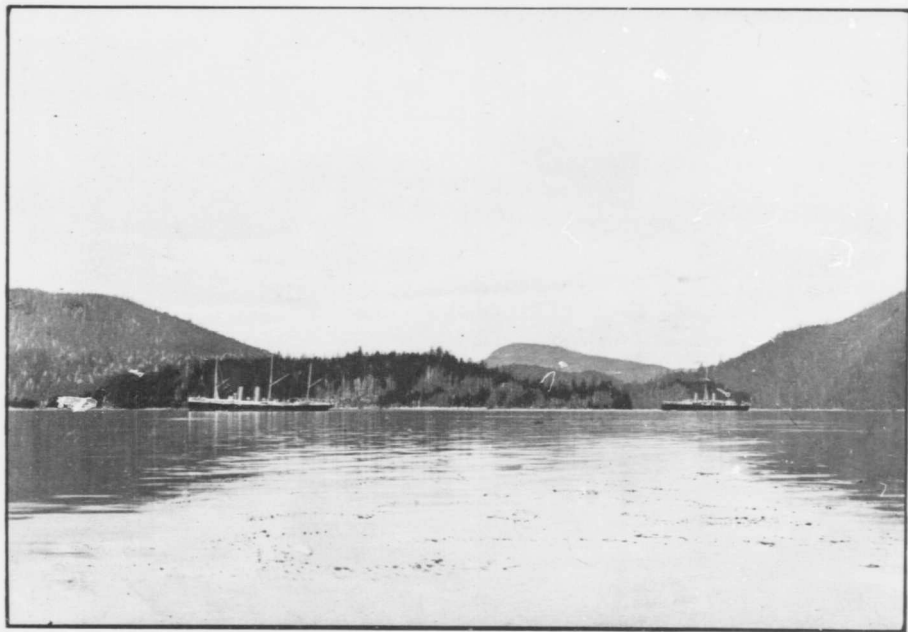




Spruce Log. Port Renfrew District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

The day cannot be far distant when the beautiful stranded shore of the San Juan Harbour will be a summer resort for visitors as it is for the students of the Minneapolis University, who have established a biological station and summer resort for the study of marine life. The healthful, balmy air and the gentle winds that blow from the ocean make it one of the healthiest and warmest places on the Island. The scenery is varied and enthralling. The fishing and shooting are probably as good as any to be found, but the rich undeveloped resources remain hidden till the whistle of the locomotive is heard and the settlers follow, who shall make the gifts of nature bow to the hands of civilisation.





H. M. S. Squadron Lying in Winter Harbor. Quatsino District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

# QUATSINO DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Nearly five degrees west of Victoria, unique in its almost central position between the terminal of the transcontinental railroads of Canada, the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Pacific Railroads, Quatsino Sound, the most northerly of the great indentations on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, penetrates to within nine miles of the eastern coast of the Island. This Sound affords nearly three hundred miles of coast-line, and besides the main Sound, which stretches twenty-five miles from the entrance to the Narrows, consist of three branches, the West Arm, the Rupert Arm, and the South-West Arm. The approach to the Sound from the sea is excellent, and when the lighthouse being erected on Triangle Island by the Dominion Government is completed, in addition to the lighthouse now built on Entrance Island, the way to the entrance of the Sound will be visible to ships in clear weather for a distance of seventy-five or eighty miles out at sea. The Sound is deep throughout and navigable for ships of the largest tonnage. The depth of the central channel is from 20 to 80 fathoms, ample and safe anchorage being afforded throughout the entire Sound.

Near the mouth of the Sound, on the north side is Winter Harbour, which has been spoken of in connection with the construction of transcontinental railways. The Quatsino Harbour is in point of distance very little farther from the Orient than Prince Rupert, and in point of time required for navigation it is quite as near. The approach to the more northerly point on the mainland may be delayed by reason of fogs and snow, but Quatsino Sound, being south of the belt of the fogs prevailing north of Vancouver Island, its approach will be safe in all weathers. There is nothing intricate about the entrance. Navigators generally declare that it is easily entered and affords safe shelter. In the original plan for the C. P. R., as prepared by Sir Sandford Fleming, Quatsino was taken into consideration as a terminus for that railway.

The region around the Sound is rich in natural resources. At present the one mostly in evidence is

## THE TIMBER.

The hills are well wooded, principally with hemlock, balsam, cedar, spruce, fir and yew, the percentage of those several woods being about in the order of the names as mentioned. It is becoming generally known that British Columbia hemlock has a high commercial value as a building material. When manufactured only an expert can distinguish it from fir. These woods are valuable not only for structural purposes, but for the manufacture of pulp. There is, perhaps, no part of Canada where a greater amount of excellent pulp-wood is to be found more conveniently situated to transportation than around Quatsino Sound.

Quatsino Sound is surrounded by an extensive area of land suitable for mixed farming. North of the Sound is an area extending from Koprino



Bringing in Halibut to Indian Village. Quatsino District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

Harbour towards the West Arm, consisting of bottom land covered with salmon-berry brush; this land is similar in quality to the land in the more northern San Josef Valley, which is now being settled and highly recommended by the settlers. A fertile valley of even greater extent has been found along the Mahatta River, and streams like the Johnson, the Ingersoll and others afford fertile areas of less extent. From Rupert Arm to the East Coast is an extent of nearly one hundred sections of level land suitable for agriculture.

The following is taken from the official report of Messrs. Herman and Hawkins found in the Sessional Papers for 1892, page 395. Speaking of the country lying in the extreme northern part of the Island, they say:—

"To the north of this range of hills is a belt of grazing land." The reference is to hills near Quatse Lake. In Township 20 is "an extensive valley," and in Townships 23 and 35 another similar valley containing 1,000 acres of good land. "A large valley extends westerly from West Arm to San Josef River, which may be found suitable for agricultural purposes." The opinion expressed in regard to this valley has since been confirmed by settlers. From Township 37 the land slopes gradually to the sea and is level. On Township 32 is a large valley similar to that between West Arm and San Josef River. On the south side of Quatsino Sound "what appeared to be large fertile valleys extending into the interior were observed." Township 8 and part of Township 9 are "covered with a sparse growth of scrub timber, giving them a park-like character with a fine growth of grass suitable for grazing purposes, with here and there swamps and ponds that could be easily drained." Township 28 consists of low, rolling hills, with a scattered growth of scrub timber, supporting a luxuriant growth of succulent grasses, eminently suited for pastoral purposes."

I quote from the report in extenso in relation to the area north of Quatsino Sound:—

"The surface presents a beautifully diversified appearance when viewed from the high lands in the south-west portion of Township 21, and which is aptly described by Mr. Forbes in his essay on Vancouver Island:—

"Stretching into the heart of the country, lying along the bases of the parallel ridges of trappean rock, are numerous lakes, in some cases forming a continuous chain. Others, solitary, lie embosomed among the mountains and form a beautiful feature of the landscape; among the rocky pine-clad hills they lie, clear and calm, fringed by the willow, the alder and the trembling aspen, the tender green of the foliage brightly, yet softly, reflected in the sunshine from the watery mirror, while reaching across, as if to grasp the light, the dark purple outline of the shadow of the frowning peak envelops the farther side in gloom."

"From the high land above noted a very extensive view of the country lying to the north and west was obtained, and it appeared to be a low, rolling country, as far as the eye could reach.

"From our observations it is estimated that a very large and valuable tract of land, highly suitable for pastoral purposes, requiring only a comparatively small expenditure to render it fit for immediate occupation, lies in this part of the district, the area being well watered and easy of access.

"The soil on the portion described is a vegetable loam, having a depth of from one to three feet and resting upon bed-rock.

"The snowfall is probably less on this portion of the Island than farther south owing to the influence of the Japan current and the low altitude of the country.



A Northern Trout Stream. Quatsino District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

"In recapitulation we would place the amount of arable lands explored at 50,000 acres; pastoral lands unexplored, 100,000 acres.

"Further developments will probably reveal mineral wealth, which, combined with the particularly favourable facilities for ocean shipping, will give to this section of the Province an importance little thought of at present."

The climatic conditions are favourable for dairying and the culture of small fruits. During the summer months the rainfall is sufficient to maintain all kinds of garden vegetables in luxuriant growth. While the annual range of temperature is between 80 above and 11 above zero, the daily range is but small, and the thermometer only falls below freezing a few weeks each winter. The snowfall is generally light. Enough fruit trees have been planted to demonstrate that pears, apples, plums and cherries do well. All kinds of small fruits and garden vegetables grow luxuriantly, while the sufficiency of moisture insures good crops of hay and clover. For the cultivation of the common cereals the height of temperature is not considered sufficient.

As an industry which in the future necessarily must become of importance should be mentioned

#### THE FISHERIES.

There is generally a large run of cohos and blue-backs. From January to March comes a small run of spring salmon, a similar run of salmon in the fall. The run of hump-backs is good during August. The dog salmon is also abundant in the Sound. At present a small plant for the canning of salmon and evaporation of clams is operated at Winter Harbour. If a hatchery under Government control were placed at the Sound it would materially increase the run of the more valuable species of salmon. About three miles off the entrance of the Sound are very valuable halibut grounds. By way of illustration it may be mentioned that the schooner Selina, of Victoria, a short time ago, took 15,000 pounds of halibut in less than twenty-four hours.

The run of herring is good during January and February. During the summer the presence of a fat herring, similar to the famous Norwegian herring, is noticeable. The pilchard is also found here, though it is not known to what extent.

Cod and other varieties of sea-fish are abundant; also clams and numerous other shell-fish.

All conditions together point to a refrigerator plant as one which would give most immediate promise of success. Capital and labour intelligently directed along those lines would not fail to be profitable.

#### MINERALS.

The mineral resources of this portion of Vancouver Island are but imperfectly known. No one can at present say how extensive they are; but there are indications causing us to believe that mines of great value may be opened here.

Professor Dawson, in his special report to the Federal Government, states that the geological structure of this country from the neighbourhood of Kopriho Harbour to Winter Harbour on the north side of Quatsino Sound is sufficient indication of the presence of coal in quantity and quality to warrant a thorough examination of that territory. Besides, there are numerous indications of the presence of coal in the vicinity of the Sound, especially from Coal Harbour and along the West Arm.



Near the West Arm is also a large deposit of bog iron-ore and limonite. This deposit is formed by seepage from the great mass of white iron, as it is called commonly, which lies a short distance in the interior. The known amount of ore in these bog and limonite deposits is measured by expert calculation to be twenty million tons. This property is owned by a company in Seattle, Washington, U. S. A.

Of gold, copper, lead, zinc and other minerals there are numerous and promising indications, but, as has been said, none of them has as yet been prospected sufficiently to warrant any estimation as to their value.

Limestone and fire-clay are found in sufficient quantity to insure the success of a cement factory.

A railway has been projected from Quatsino Sound to Hardy Bay, on the East Coast. A few miles south of this point are the Squash coal mines, which have lately been opened. It is therefore highly probable that in the course of a comparatively short time a considerable number of men may be employed in the pulp, iron and coal industries, and Quatsino become a very busy place.

Expectations in that direction are definite, and the value of land has more than doubled within the last two years.

#### GAME AND FISH.

The vicinity of Quatsino Sound teems with game of many kinds. The elk, however, has become so scarce that the settlers have applied to the Provincial Government for protection by prohibiting its being hunted for a certain period in order to preserve this beautiful animal, but deer are very plentiful. Of other large game may be mentioned the bear, the wolf and the wolverine. There is a large field for trappers with mink, coon, marten and the various animals of the woods. The pioneer settler finds that his diet and household expenses are pleasantly modified by the abundance of deer, geese and ducks. In all our streams and lakes several kinds of trout are very plentiful. This summer a boy of thirteen and his sister secured, during the forenoon of a holiday, seventy fine trout.

The cheerful character of the landscape of the Sound adds to its attractiveness for the sportsman, and during the sunny months of August and September it can hardly be surpassed as a summer resort. The mountains do not stand forth in "stupendous array," displaying a barren monotony, but the diversity of wooded hills and valleys, the narrows and expanses of the Sound, the numerous curvatures and coves lend to this great indenture a charm which is distinctly characteristic and unique.

# SHAWNIGAN DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Shawnigan District lies on the East Coast of Vancouver Island, about thirty miles north of Victoria, and contains an area of about sixty square miles. On the east it is bounded by the Saanich Inlet, one of Vancouver Island's most noted salt-water fiords, a most beautiful stretch of water and one that is growing in attraction every year. It will in the near future be a source of both pleasure and profit, as it is the obvious and cheap means of communication between the district and the other parts of the Island and the Mainland. There is a lovely sheet of fresh water in the district of the same name, Shawnigan Lake, a very popular summer resort for the people of Victoria and other parts of the Island, easily reached by rail, where they can spend their summer vacations in the pleasures of boating and fishing in delightful surroundings of both natural scenery and artificial comforts.

The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway runs right through the district, entering alongside Shawnigan Lake, where there are two stations, both popular resorts and about one mile apart, and thence north *via* Cobble Hill. The name Cobble Hill is taken from a hill at the foot of which the station is situated, and it owes its name to a hill in Devonshire, an association of an early settler to his old home in England. That portion of the district lying between the railway and the salt water contains most of the settled and cultivated parts and is eminently suited to agriculture. The exhibits of the settlers at an agricultural exhibition held by them in the autumn of 1909 were, as freely expressed by visitors, fully equal to and in some respects superior, "especially in the colour of the fruit," to anything they had ever seen. Fruit of all kinds suitable to a temperate climate, oats, wheat, barley and all kinds of vegetables were there in profusion, making a display worthy of an old farming community.

There is a crying need for more land under cultivation, as the great bulk of the land is still under timber and the individual efforts are too slow to supply the market demands, which are good; the prices for produce, butter, eggs and all other farm products being remunerative enough to inspire a wish to get more land under the plough. When this is taken up in earnest, as it necessarily will be in time, this district will be a most desirable place for settlement.

The climate cannot be surpassed; there are no extremes of heat and cold. The average amount of sunshine is high, without any discomforting hot weather in the summer and with very many bright sunny days in the winter. The frost in the winter is very light, rarely making it uncomfortable to work, and the snowfall is very seldom sufficient to use sleighs. The rainfall for the year is about forty inches and comes mostly in the winter, leaving splendid harvest weather for the farmers, while summer frosts are practically unknown.

The Farmers' Institute in this district is in an unusually flourishing condition and shows by the attendance at the meetings and the interest



Farm in Shawnigan District. Vancouver Island, B. C.



Deer-shooting at Shawnigan Lake. Shawnigan District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

shown that the settlers are fully alive to the excellent results obtained by co-operation and scientific methods of farming, and there is a most roscate outlook for the future of this promising community.

From its first settlement until recently lumbering has been the main industry of the district, but this is being gradually replaced by agriculture, the land being brought under cultivation proving more and more a permanent source of profit, both to the country and its owner, for as yet produce is being imported to its very doors.

There are two sawmills available for supplying settlers with building and fencing material, the supply of timber being sufficient for many years, the principal kind being Douglas fir, the most noted general-purpose timber in the world. There is also cedar, hemlock, spruce and several varieties of deciduous timber.

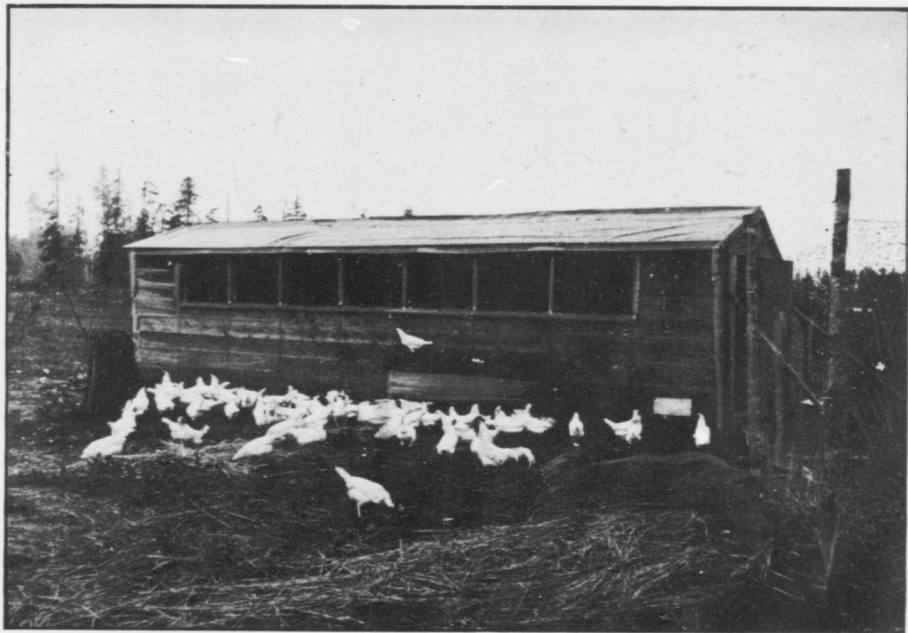
The district at present boasts of about fifty miles of excellent waggon roads. In addition, there is at present under construction eighteen miles of road to connect this district with Victoria. This road will open up a tract of country remarkable for its natural beauty; it follows the shore line of the Saanich Inlet and in its absence of heavy grades will prove an attraction to driving parties not to be excelled in any part of the world.

The placid beauty of the inlet with the autumn tints on the foliage surrounding it, with thousands of salmon sporting in its waters, a few whales and seals and enough of human life in the Indian canoes and white men's boats to give it zest make a picture never to be forgotten while life lasts.

For the sportsman the district offers great attractions. The deer are plentiful enough to give the farmer trouble by eating his crops, while a few miles back in the interior the more ambitious sportsman may get bears and panther. There are also partridge, grouse, pheasant, quail, ducks and geese to tempt the lover of feathered game.

Socially the district stands very high indeed. The schools and churches keep the educational and moral standard up, and there is a very general feeling of good-will and unity only to be found in a community where the educational standard is of high principle and broad view.





Prize Leghorn Poultry, Shawnigan District, Vancouver Island, B. C.



A Busy Corner of Sooke Harbor. Sooke, Vancouver Island, B. C.

# SOOKE DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

This district, some twenty miles distant by road in a westerly direction from the City of Victoria, is situated on both sides of a harbour unique, so far as the south coast is concerned, for depth, shelter and capacity.

Independently of the coves and smaller bays, the water frontage of the harbour alone is some fifteen miles in length, that of the Sooke River six miles, and that of the Strait of Juan de Fuca extending from Company Point to the Jordan River about twenty miles, all of which practically admits of settlement to the water's edge.

The district is connected with Victoria by excellent roads along which four stages ply almost daily to and fro, the drive being an easy one for a good single horse in two and a half to three hours.

Water and wood, as elsewhere on the Island, are here in abundance. Good springs are struck at depths of anywhere from five to fifty feet. The Sooke River above tide level and various inland lakes offer an unlimited supply to the cattle ranging along their banks. The fallen timber alone is sufficient to satisfy the demand for firewood during the next twenty years, and a judicious handling of the standing timber guarantees a full supply for an indefinite time to come.

The settlement is mainly of Canadian and British people at present, though the fisheries and timber as usual are beginning to attract our enterprising and very welcome United States friends.

It possesses already excellent postal and telegraphic facilities, three schools, a church, a good general store, a blacksmith's shop, a saw-mill, and a large public hall.

Of the numerous advantages and attractions incident to close proximity to a large city, one is apparent, and that is the facility with which the best medical attendance can readily be obtained in case of serious illness or accident.

## AGRICULTURE.

The branches of agriculture for which this district is more particularly suited are:—Fruit-growing, poultry-raising, market-gardening, sheep-raising and dairying.

The main belt of arable land is that stretching from Naylor's Bay westward to the strait and extending back some two to three miles from the water-front. Farther west, towards Otter Point and the Jordan River, there is also excellent general farming and fruit-growing land. Cattle, horses, pigs, sheep and poultry of all kinds thrive everywhere, the surrounding circle of hills affording special protection from the north winds in winter.

The Sooke exhibit at the Victoria Exhibition last September is the best guarantee of what the district has as yet done (without any special effort) in raising of fruits and vegetables of all kinds. Strawberries second to none on the Victoria market have recently been raised on the slopes rising to Muir





A Section of Sooke's Exhibit at Provincial Fair at Victoria, Vancouver Island, B. C.

Mountain. Experience has shown the climate peculiarly suited to the production of apples of large size and exceptional flavour.

#### FISHING.

This industry, first established in 1904, may, with a steady fishing season extending from the middle of May to the end of September, be regarded as permanent. A large amount of capital is invested in wharves, web and bunk houses, pile-drivers, scows, etc., besides the thousand and one things necessary for the upkeep and repair, as well as that of the web and wire netting used by the mile in the construction of the salmon traps. Several tugs are kept constantly employed during the season and a good home market is offered for all farm produce, to say nothing of good wages and the very best of board to the younger and disengaged men of the district.

#### LOGGING.

Logging in all its varieties, from the small camp on the river to the larger at Kemp's Lake and an outfit of some eighty men at the Jordan River, is persistently and steadily carried on. These camps also make a demand for farm produce which the local supply at present is totally unable to meet, beef and mutton only excepted.

A charter for the Victoria and Barclay Sound Railway, designed mainly with the idea of tapping the great inland belts of timber and mineral deposits between here and Barclay Sound, has been duly gazetted and applied for.

#### AS A SUMMER RESORT.

In this connection there are two things mainly needed at present, and they are:—Rapid, comfortable and frequent communication with Victoria by steam or electric road; a thoroughly up-to-date and well-equipped hotel.

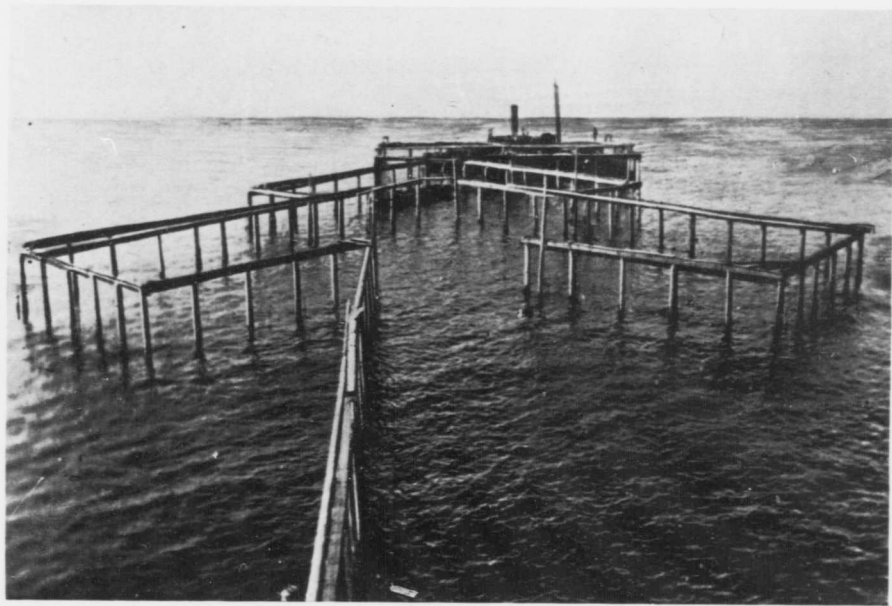
The natural facilities for bathing, boating, yachting, fishing, in stream, lake and sea, are here in abundance. With the possible exception of elk, the shooting of all the larger animals, the small animals, the wild fowl and game birds is successfully followed during the open season. The local Farmers' Institute, Rifle Club, and Development Association are well organised and take active interest in everything that appertains to the instruction, recreation, material prosperity and defence of the district.

#### FOR THE PERMANENT RESIDENT.

For the man with a small independent income, the east of the harbour, on a line drawn from Naylor's Bay to Caffrey's Cove on the opposite shore, offers the most charming building sites and locations. While the general character of the land in this small part of the district does not admit of farming on any extensive scale, yet the openings for small orchards and poultry are all that can be desired, and on the northern side the comparative nearness of Victoria would to many be an additional attraction. The call for a good resident doctor is urgent.

#### CLIMATE.

Speaking broadly as to climate, of all parts of Canada that of Vancouver Island is the most attractive. Of the Island itself the southern portion in which this district lies has various distinct advantages over the western and



A Salmon Trap at Sooke. Vancouver Island, B. C.

northern, and of that southern portion the vicinity of Sooke Harbour may fairly be said to have all the advantages with none of the drawbacks of the surrounding districts. Moist without the excessive moisture of some, dry without the excessive dryness of others, sheltered from the north winds in winter, the bite taken out of the south-west winds in spring, as they do not here pass over snow-capped mountains, a practical absence of snow in winter, with its consequent slush, and the full freshness without the violence of the breezes from the Pacific.

#### POSSIBILITIES.

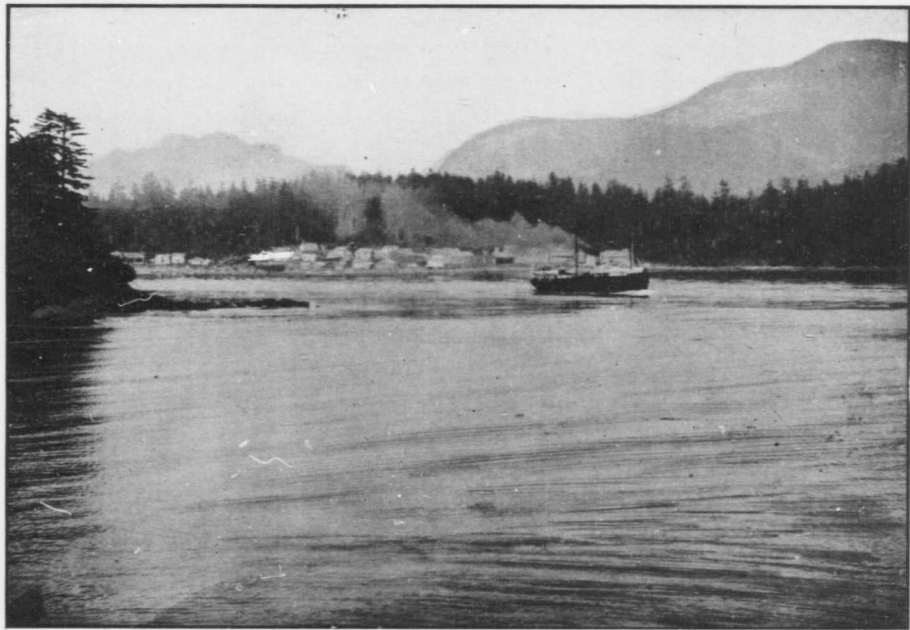
With its transcendent advantages of site, climate, harbour and natural resources, it must strike even the most casual observer that here is a place which with the advent of capital and enterprise must ere long be developed into a most prosperous and thriving community.

The Dominion Government is now at work on the removal of the two rocks that at present narrow the entrance to the harbour, and with these cleared away to a depth of fourteen feet below low-water mark perfect safety will be assured to any vessel entering the harbour, and any danger to the passage of tows, tugs, pile-drivers, scows, booms of logs and piles and general steam craft will soon become a thing of the past. With the general advance of the district consequent upon its development by improved methods of transportation, steam or electric, the construction of lumber-mills and factories, etc., would be followed by the dredging of the outer harbour of Sooke, and these industries would in their turn react to the advantage of the surrounding farming district.

The B. C. Electric Company have completed their plans for a 12,000 horsepower plant at the Jordan River, which will undoubtedly mean electric railways to the Sooke and Otter Districts shortly. A very great possibility, both as to water supply and electric power, lies in the damming of the Sooke River immediately above the falls.

The eyes of the men whose fingers are on the pulse of copper are being directed to the slopes of Mount Maguire in East Sooke. Along that shore lie some beautiful sites for summer homes, rocky points, sheltered nooks and pebbly beaches.

All of which and various other considerations would tend to point to the general conclusion that, for the intending settler or resident, NOW is the time. There is a local movement on foot tending towards the subdivision of the land with a view to sale into ten or twenty acre blocks, with, whenever possible, some two or three acres ready for the plough, as it is considered that the district is eminently suited for intensive farming along the lines of poultry, fruit and vegetables.



View Across Ucluelet Harbor Looking North. Vancouver Island, B. C.

# UCLUELET DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

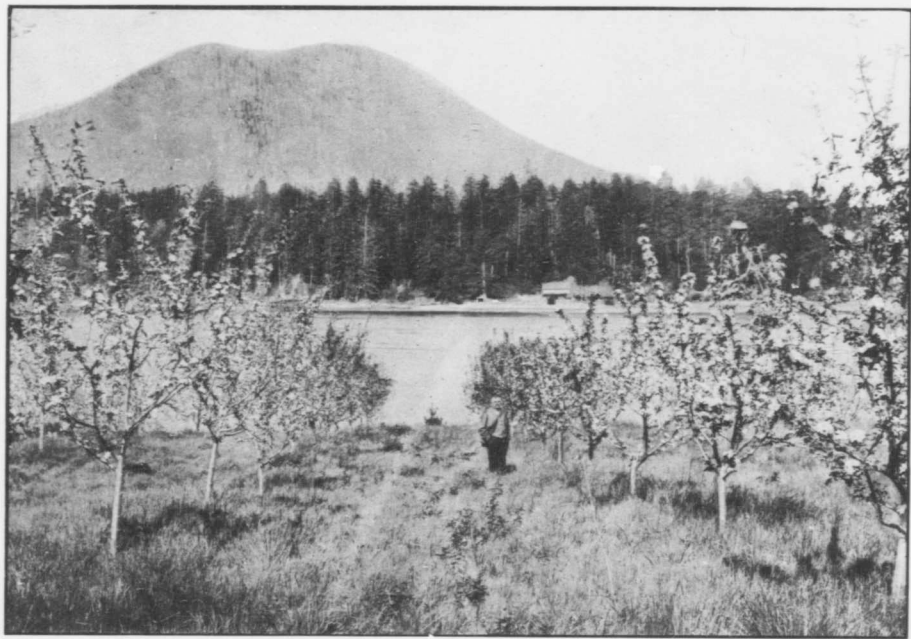
This district is situate on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, and consists of a large tract of land, which fronts partly on the Pacific Ocean and partly on the western channels of Barkley Sound. Many acres of the land have been surveyed for the convenience of intending settlers. The climate is considered the mildest in Canada.

By way of description we will take our reader (with his or her kind permission) on an imaginary trip from the western to the eastern limits of the district, and we will attempt to point out the most interesting features as we proceed.

We shall start our journey, therefore, about the middle of a magnificent stretch of sand, named Long Beach. This beach is ten miles long and several hundred yards wide, and slopes gently into the sea. The sand is mostly yellow, intermixed with magnetic iron, or ruby sand in which flour gold has been found; and here, also, musical or electric sand has been noticed. The land back of Long Beach is of a rolling nature; the dips are swampy and covered with wild grass, wild cranberries, swamp moss and a few scrubby pine and cedar trees. The ridges are of a yellow sandy loam, covered by timber (hemlock and cedar) of a good marketable quality and a dense undergrowth of salal and salmon-berry bushes. This class of land extends backwards eight or ten miles to the shores of Kennedy Lake, a large body of water with an outlet into Clayoquot Sound.

Leaving Long Beach, which, we believe, will in the future become a famous summer resort, we cross a trail of one and a quarter miles and come out on Wreck Bay, noted for its placer mines. The beach, about four miles long, is composed of gravel and sand, and here on a stormy day a splendid view of enormous breakers can be obtained. The land lying back of Wreck Bay is of the same nature as that behind Long Beach. It may be mentioned that a company has again staked the placer diggings on the beach and is contemplating extensive mining operations here this summer. This prospect was worked seven years ago by the Ucluelet Placer Mining Company, Ltd., who took out some twenty-five thousand dollars, but work was stopped as only inadequate appliances for the recovery of the fine gold were obtainable at that time.

Continuing eastwards from Wreck Bay, we pass along a trail one and one-third miles long, and strike the head of Ucluelet Arm, a harbour opening to the broad Pacific Ocean, with the entrance sheltered by an island. This harbour is broad, deep and safe, and measures four miles in length. Now we are at Ucluelet Settlement, the white population of which is estimated at about thirty-five souls, and we find a general store and a post-office, a telegraph office, a life-saving station and a sawmill. Some of the settlers have very nice homes, and raise considerable quantities of fruit and vegetables. Here, also, is a nursery garden, owned by Mr. Geo. Fraser (horticulturist), where we will find fruit of almost every variety, shrubs and small plants



A Vista in Ucluelet's Orchards. Vancouver Island, B. C.

from all parts of the world, rhododendrons by the thousands and roses of the choicest kinds. In this garden fresh strawberries can be picked in December. One glance at Mr. Fraser's homestead will convince the most sceptical of the possibilities of the district. A doctor is resident in the settlement, and there is at present a private school which, as soon as the attendance of pupils warrants, will be promoted to the dignity of a public school. There is, also, an Indian Reservation where dwell some two hundred natives, who make livelihoods by fishing, seal hunting, etc. The land in the immediate vicinity of the settlement is again somewhat similar to that behind Long Beach; it extends back about two miles to the foothills, where, on the higher ground, extensive timber limits are held by the Ucluelet Mercantile Company, the owners of the already mentioned sawmill.

We shall now make for the eastern boundary. Our best route is that of the telegraph line, so we cross a fine tract of wild land, one to three miles broad, that has not yet been surveyed. This land is well adapted to mixed farming, but at present is covered by scrubby timber and heavy undergrowth. Behind this again are fifteen miles of timber limits, owned by a Mr. Simpson, of New York, who intends in the near future to erect large millling plants, either in Ucluelet Harbour or in the adjacent harbour of Toquart. The telegraph line comes out on to the beach of the Barkley Sound, where we gain a fine view of the sound and its countless islands. We walk the beach for a mile or two and ultimately reach Maggie River, which is supposed to mark the boundary. From this point we see before us Toquart Harbour, which we cannot help commenting on, as it is one of the finest in the world and will, no doubt, some day be the home of a large lumber industry. It is a land-locked harbour, with the finest of anchorage and two distinct entrance channels, both navigable by the largest of ocean-going vessels. Back of Toquart Harbour is a timbered valley seven miles long by five miles broad, and the surrounding hills are, also, covered by splendid timber, nearly all held by the Hillis Company, who will commence operations shortly. There is a salmon cannery at Toquart where, each fall, a large number of dog salmon is salted and put up for the Japanese trade. A telegraph operator and linesman is also resident here. At the north-east side of Toquart Harbour is Pipestem Inlet, which, with mountainous banks rising sheer up out of its deep waters, is worth a visit on account of its beautiful scenery.

#### SPORT IN THE DISTRICT.

From a sportsman's point of view, Ucluelet and vicinity is ideal. Lucky Creek, at the mouth of Pipestem Inlet, teems all summer with steelhead salmon. (This creek is also noted for its natural water power and some very beautiful waterfalls, which would delight the eye of the camera fiend.) Then there is Toquart River, where trout up to five pounds can be seen sporting themselves in its clear waters, awaiting the angler to try his skill. Some very good catches have been taken from this river and also from the lake at the head of it, which is about one mile and a half in length and half a mile in width, and is full of the finest trout and steelhead salmon. Ducks and geese abound on the flats at Toquart for five months in the year. At Maggie River, and the lake from which it owes its source, we again find an angler's paradise. The lake is only twenty minutes' walk from salt water. Ucluelet Harbour will also entice the sport lover, as there he can fish salmon for nine months in the year. In the winter and spring months, he will find the great Tyee salmon, averaging twenty-five pounds, ready to take the





Wreck Bay. Ucluelet District, Vancouver Island, B. C.

poon, and numbers have been taken that weighed sixty pounds. In the summer he is certain of hooking many of a smaller species of salmon, which average about twelve to fifteen pounds, but is very gamey. In the bays at the head of the arm, the hunter can bag duck and geese any day in the season. The angler's attention must also be called to Lost Shoe Creek, a small stream running into Wreck Bay, and famous for its trout fishing. The trout are small, but are to be had in great numbers. Sandhill Creek, running into Long Beach, is likewise noted for its trout. Last, but not least, is Kennedy Lake, which is, without boast, one of the finest in British Columbia, both for fishing and scenery. It is partly surrounded by lofty mountains, some of which are perpetually snow-clad. When the fame of this lake is known to sporting men and tourists, it will undoubtedly become one of the most frequented spots on this side of the Rocky Mountains.

#### MEANS OF INGRESS AND EGRESS.

Ucluelet at present can be reached by steamer only, but there is under construction an extension to Alberni (about forty-five miles from Ucluelet by water) of the E. & N. Railroad. We are negotiating for a waggon road from Ucluelet to Alberni, and when the railroad is completed, at a near date, we expect to have a daily steamboat service from and to that latter place. As it is, the C. P. R. SS. "Tees" leaves Victoria for Ucluelet and other West Coast points on the 1st, 7th, 14th and 20th of each month. There is also some talk of another company putting a steamer on this route, while a company has been formed to build a railroad from Victoria to a point on Barkley Sound, distant about twenty miles from Ucluelet. The ways and means of conveying produce to the market will soon, therefore, be ready and varied, and a large amount of fruit, vegetables, etc., can be disposed of locally to the various miling and lumber camps.





The World-renowned Parliament Buildings. Victoria, Vancouver Island, B. C.

# VICTORIA DISTRICT

Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Victoria means Victory. It is better to start with that dominant note, since the trend of events is shaping itself so irresistibly toward the upbuilding of a great metropolis in the Capital City of British Columbia. All previous records were broken during 1909 in the value of new buildings, bank clearings, amount of municipal work, sales of real estate, numbers of visitors to the city and increase in population. The bank clearances for the first week of January, 1910, increased over the corresponding period 84 per cent. of last year, being the greatest increase of any city in Canada.

Victoria's present size, about 50,000, is approximately the same as that of Seattle in 1897, when the discovery of the Klondike goldfields caused the tremendous rush to that region. Victoria's prospects to-day are immeasurably superior to those of the Sound city, since the riches of Vancouver Island (in their entirety incomparably more valuable than the gold-mines of Alaska) are directly tributary to the British Columbia capital.

Victoria has only begun to rise. She is still virgin territory for the exploitation of manufactures and gigantic commercial schemes of manifold possibilities, and "opportunity" is in her lexicon no idle breath that holds the word of promise to the ear and breaks it to the hope.

Her people have not been unobservant of the significant change in the city's history. Nor have the capitalists. Millions of money have been poured into the Island in the last twelve months, every dollar of which means additional enlargement and progress to Victoria.

The Dominion Government has made enormous appropriations for two naval bases, one of which comes to the former Imperial harbour of Esquimalt—and Esquimalt is Victoria. The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway is extending its present line to Alberni, on the middle West Coast, and purposes to continue directly north to Comox on the East Coast. From Crofton, on the East Coast, a new road is building to Cowichan Lake, tapping one of the greatest timber belts ever known to lumbermen. The Canadian Northern will begin during the present year a line making Victoria a terminal of its Mainland railway, and will push construction from Victoria west and north to Barkley Sound, bringing a vast area of mineral and timber tracts into direct connection with the city. The Grand Trunk Pacific Railway has announced its intention of extending its lines to Vancouver Island within the coming year, and is now engaged in building extensive docks at Victoria Harbour for its shipping and steamship trade.

All of this additional railway extension means the coming in of manufactures. Vancouver Island has all the assembled essentials of a great manufacturing city, and while manufacturing has not as yet grown to large dimensions, it will be certain to follow the natural course to the source of the cheapest and most accessible supplies of raw material.

In this class must be considered the iron and steel manufactories, with all that these include in their following industries. All of the manufactories

that a vast supply of lumber, marble, granite, sandstone and limestone, brick, clay, cement and other material will attract find in the districts closely aligned with Victoria their natural home.

Of coal there is too much to be estimated. It is shipped now, as is lumber, to all ports where ships can enter. The most important whaling fisheries in the world are on the West Coast of the Island, and will, with the completion of the Barkley Sound Railway, furnish material for all manufacturing enterprises which whalebone, oil and by-products afford. The halibut and cod fisheries on the West Coast, adjacent to the whale fisheries, are open to opportunities for Oriental as well as home traffic, and have as yet hardly been touched.

The British Columbia Electric Railway Company is expending a million and a half dollars in the development of electric power at Jordan River, and this means cheap light and cheap power for the manufacturer. The company will also extend its tramway lines through the rich agricultural and horticultural districts adjacent to the city, and this will have a tremendous effect in building up and populating Victoria's suburbs.

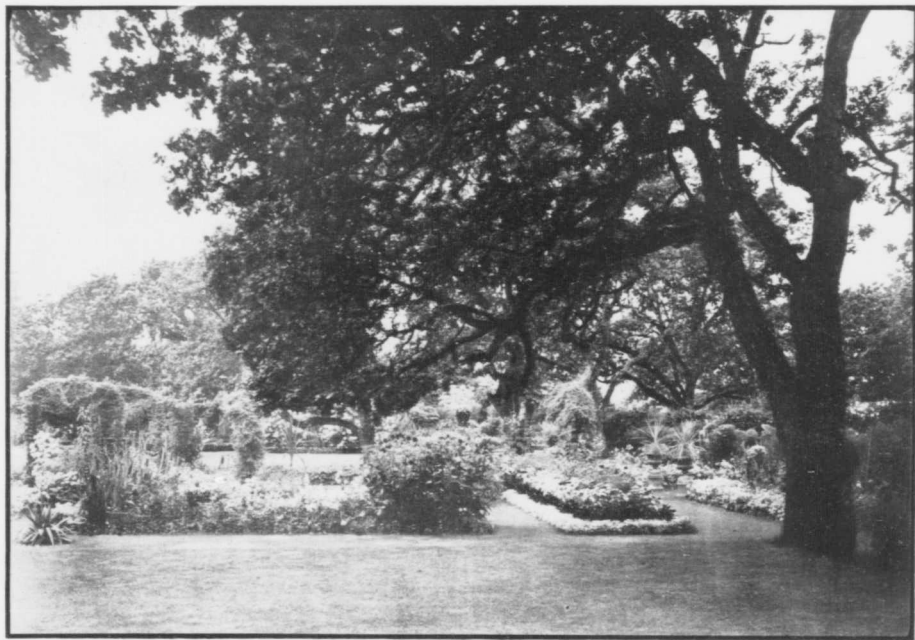
The largest amount of municipal work in the annals of Victoria is now being entered upon, and the permanent and modernised paving of many streets and avenues will be completed during the year. Scores of new buildings are being erected. The \$100,000 Y. M. C. A. building; the "Times" newspaper and office building; the magnificent Pemberton block; the Sayward block; the Grand Trunk Pacific's extensive docks, offices and wharves; the new station of the Victoria and Sidney Railway; the additions to the Empress and Dominion Hotels; the new Parliament Building additions, and other edifices, too numerous to mention, show the remarkable activity prevailing in this direction.

Victoria is the oldest port in Western Canada, and always has had business houses with reputation unsurpassed in this or any other country; it has the largest stores of any city west of Winnipeg, the stocks carried being largely of British-made goods brought around the "Horn" in sailing ships and those immense freighting steamers which ply between Liverpool, China and Japan and the North Pacific coast. The shipping business of Victoria is one of the largest in Canada; in fact, it has been for years the third or fourth port. The amount of tonnage entering the harbour in 1908-9 was 1,932,657.

In addition to the present large fleet of steamers regularly making the harbour of Victoria, there will be an increase during 1910 of from fifteen to twenty passenger steamers alone, including such new vessels as the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway's palatial steamers the "Prince Rupert" and "Prince George" (sister ships to the well-known C. P. R. "Princess"), and various other large new vessels of the C. P. R., the Alaska Steamship Co., the Boscowitz Steamship Co., the Mackenzie Steamship Co., etc.

Turning from the purely commercial uplift now in progress in Victoria, and estimating the Capital City from its residential and climatic advantages, its beauty of surroundings and the lavish generosity Nature has showered on it, words fail to give it a proper setting.

If there are sights more beautiful than the Olympian Mountains from Beacon Hill, or the windings of the Gorge as the waters come in from the sea between waving battlements of plummy firs, then eyes have not seen them. If there is a sweeter song than the skylark's matin melodies high up from Cadboro Bay, then ears have not heard it. If there be more bewildering loveliness than clusters about the shaded and flower-gemmed gardens of



Under the Oaks at Mountjoy, One of Victoria's Beautiful Gardens. Vancouver Island, B. C.

Victorian homes looking seaward, then poets have not written it in imperishable numbers, nor minstrels celebrated it in well-remembered song. If there be a city of dreams, even the fabled Atlantis of antiquity, or vision of Babylonian towers set in hanging gardens, and redolent of strange odors of musk and myrrh, or fairy casements opening out to perilous seas forlorn, then never one of them approached in splendour this jewel of all time, ringed by the azure seas and sentinelled by everlasting hills.

The climate of Victoria is best expressed in figures. The average highest temperature in the Capital City for twenty years has been 84.2; the lowest temperature for twenty years has been 17.3. There are no extremes of either heat or cold. The rainfall averages 25.7 in a year. There is more sunshine in Victoria than in any North American city. Zero weather, sunstrokes and prostrations from the heat are afflictions only known to Victorians through newspaper reports from other parts of the world.

The moderate temperature of the summer season makes Victoria the ideal place for holiday-seekers. Her proximity to the Pacific Ocean, and the Japan current flowing past her shores, keep the temperature of the winter usually mild. During the summer months the prevailing winds are from the south-west, which, passing over the snow-capped Olympian Mountains and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, are comfortably tempered before reaching the City of Victoria.

The winter climate is the most moderate in Canada, the average winter temperature being 38 degrees (above).

No day is so hot as to be uncomfortable, and no night so warm as to warrant discarding the blanket.

The ideal summer temperature is one where the mean maximum for the month of July during a long period of years is not in excess of 65 degrees Fahr.

The ideal winter temperature is one where the mean maximum for the month of January over a long period of years is as high as 35 degrees Fahr.

The ideal all-the-year climate is the one where both of these conditions obtain.

There is only one such spot in the world, and that is at Victoria, British Columbia. The reason for this is, that the isothermal lines, marking the highest temperature in the winter and the lowest temperature in the summer, intersect at Victoria, thus making ideal climatic conditions permanent.

Surrounding Victoria is a country estimated at some 50,000 acres, unsurpassed for fruit-growing, vegetable and berry-growing, poultry-raising and flower-culture. All this will soon be pierced in every direction by electric tramways. Here is Victoria's base of living supplies; here is the market-gardener's and fruit-grower's and poultry-raiser's Mecca.

The very large average of sunshine daily, the small yearly average rainfall, and the almost total absence of frost have made Victoria an ideal location for the cultivation of bulbs and flowers. During the past few years this business has grown very rapidly, although it is undoubtedly true that even these successes can only be looked upon as preliminary experiments, so large and important will the future achievements be in this delightful industry.

The same success has been met with in the cultivation and sale of cut flowers under glass. Last year almost all florists in the city, notwithstanding that they have been steadily enlarging their premises in every way, were sold out entirely, and found it impossible to keep up with their orders that poured in from all parts of the Pacific Coast and Western Canada. Tomatoes

and lettuce, grown under glass for winter consumption, are also important factors in the success achieved in this business. Tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce are sent from Victoria as far north as Fairbanks, in Alaska, and Dawson, in Yukon. The prairies also provide a market as far east as Winnipeg. There is no question that the phenomenal success of this industry is due to the fact that so much more sunshine is experienced in Victoria than in any other part of the North Pacific coast.

Close to Victoria are the best motor roads in North America. Easily accessible by motor or train are some of the best trout streams and lakes in America. Within a few hours' ride of the city first-class sport may be had for black-tailed deer, ruffed and blue grouse, valley and mountain quail and the lordly English pheasant, handsomest and most toothsome of birds. In the fall and winter come swarms of ducks, geese, brant and other wild-fowl, and in the late summer and early fall fine salmon are caught by trolling, all around the city. Sailing, cycling, golf, driving or motoring are all at the command of the visitors among scenes of exquisite beauty and amid sunshine and flowers.

Victoria's schools and educational facilities, her colleges, churches and libraries, are in keeping with her high standard of citizenship and culture. Her public buildings are nowhere to be approached in all the Western country, and must be seen to be even faintly appreciated. The Parliament Buildings are especially noble in a chaste simplicity, surrounded by spacious lawns and commanding a fine view of the harbour.

In the Parliament Buildings there are three distinct museums—namely, in the Agricultural Department, the Mines Department, and in a wing solely devoted to this purpose, there is a fine natural-history museum. In this museum may be found mounted specimens of practically all the animals and birds that are found in British Columbia, as well as fossils, Indian curios, ethnological specimens and other features, the most complete and unique collection of its kind in America.

As a health and pleasure resort the outdoor life is particularly charming. From the 15th of May, almost right up to Christmas, most of the usual summer sports may be indulged in with full enjoyment, while the numerous sea beaches around the city afford ideal recreation grounds for young children, and in the long summer days are crowded with little people and their parents or nurses. The national games of Canada and Britain are all played in Victoria, including lacrosse, football, cricket, hockey, bowling on the green, lawn tennis and golf. The golf links at Oak Bay are considered as fine and are as beautifully situated as any links on this continent. They are owned by the Victoria Golf Club, and visitors are allowed to use them upon very liberal terms. The military and naval officers have also some fine links at Macaulay Point, so that Victoria is a centre of a large circle of golf enthusiasts. The links at Oak Bay are open summer and winter. Boating and yachting are favourite forms of recreation of both residents and visitors, and it is safe to say that nowhere on the continent are there greater facilities for the perfect enjoyment of these pastimes than in and around Victoria.

The Victoria Yacht Club has just erected a new club-house in Victoria harbour, with accommodation for motor boats as well as yachts. At Oak Bay also a fine new boat-house has been erected recently for the use of club members and also to provide boats at a moderate rental to all who wish to use them. There is an Automobile Club in the city with a large membership, the members of which are always glad to extend a welcome to visiting motorists, and to put them in the way of enjoying to the fullest extent the





Christmas Day, Beacon Hill Park. Victoria, Vancouver Island, B. C.

magnificent runs for which the Island roads are so well suited. These roads were originally built in the old colonial days by the Royal Engineers, and are patterned on the British macadam roads, which are noted the world over. A number of tally-hos are a distinctive feature of the driving about Victoria, and during the summer are loaded with tourists. The observation cars of the B. C. Electric Company, holding fifty persons, also furnish a delightful means of seeing the city from the various car lines.

The motor-boat, steam or gasoline launch is almost as familiar on Victoria waterways as the motors are on her splendid roads. These boats are of the greatest enjoyment to the citizens fortunate enough to possess them and are becoming almost indispensable to those who wish to thoroughly enjoy life in Victoria. Auto parties, coaching and launch parties, make the season very gay for a large number of residents and visitors. Many of these boats and their engines are built here, this being one of the newest industries.

Too much cannot be said of the educational facilities of Victoria. The public schools, which are free to every one under twenty-one years of age, are up-to-date in every respect. The teaching staff is thoroughly competent, and as the city grows, new buildings are erected to meet the constantly increasing demands for accommodation.

The High School is in affiliation with the University of McGill, Montreal. None but university graduates are employed on the teaching staff, and pupils from this institution have almost every year taken the highest honours in the East when they have gone there to finish their course, residence there being required for the last two years.

Besides its public educational system, the city is the home of a large number of private colleges and academies, both for boys and girls.

Lord Strathcona, addressing the Victoria Canadian Club on September 1st, 1909, said: "Victoria should be a great centre of education. The surroundings here are ideal for youth. Indeed, I know of no other place which is better situated as a vantage ground for the establishment of educational facilities."

Where the broad ocean leans against the land, in the residence districts famous to Victoria alone, are the houses of which so much has been written, and which have in their surroundings so much of what is the essence of Victoria. Here of a verity are old places that breathe the airs of Arcady; that have the dignity of ancestral acres; that present, in environment and tone, all that might be sought for as ideal. Walled in by battlements of granite, or green-bulwarked with hedges against the eyes of the idly curious, these picturesque residences stand, with sea and mountain in the background, pictures of homelikeness and loveliness. Only by seeing them on a budding spring day can their charm be even imperfectly gleaned.

Lawn: that are velvety pages of emerald, written over by wandering sunbeams chequered with shimmering shades, silent in the surrounding silence. Great trees cathedraled under the noonday skies, and hedges that divide beds and parterres of bewildering colour, changing and sparkling in myriad dyes, blindingly brilliant in their diversified hues. Gay as a peacock's plumage, the tulips cup out to the sun, while daffodils, lilies, pansies, and a host of other blossoms and buds twinkle out from the edges of paths and arbours, making a veritable vision of delight.

A bird's song drops like the sudden peal of a bell. Outside are broad boulevards, grey with powdery macadam, stretching towards the bustling city; highways of progress and modernity, now scrolled by the flight of a whizzing automobile, now echoing with the staccato sound of hurrying hoof-

beats. Inside are flowers and brooding hedges, the sheen of close-cropped grasses and sun-lacquered tree-trunks—rest, peace, and sweet seclusion.

Everywhere the observer will find the home spirit exemplified both by faith and works. Everywhere the little homes on the side streets peep up like daisies from some sunny len, each with its bit of colour, each with its carefully kept lawn and hedges.

But to pass from these quiet side streets to some avenue reaching seaward is much like coming from a secluded meadow-nook into a splendidly arranged conservatory. Since in a few of these luxurious and old-time homes the beauty is haunting indeed. Something poignant, and beyond words in the intensity of flashing colours and broad-spreading greenery, overhung with blue canopies of sky-line, and lulled by the far-away muffled beat of the sea's pulse. Something of almost too much beauty, like the heart of a blown rose, or the sad purity of a carved lily. Something of a weighing-down of sweetness, as the perfume of a tuberose, or the honeyed breath of alyssum or hyacinths held close to one's face.

For the rarest of these Victorian homes are akin to moods in painting and poetry. And the recollection of them is like the memory of a picture sprung from the brain of one of the Old Masters—as a Corot, steeped in mists of shimmering loveliness. Or a lyric, born of some moment of wonder and inspiration—as "The Skylark," straight from the heart of Shelley, bare-headed and listening under English skies.

Victoria's parks are another angle of her exquisite belongings. Neither Beacon Hill Park nor Gorge Park is at all comparable with any other places of this sort the world over. From the hills at Beacon Park one can see far and wide, and always with the haunting effect of beauty. "Space liberates the soul," and to look over the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the carved Titans of the Olympian Range, domed beneath a canopy of turquoise infinitude, is to find that saying true.

In the summer the broom breaks into gorgeous drifts of bright yellow, outshining the wealth of Croesus or the fabled treasures of El Dorado. It vies with the blue of sea and sky, and strikes bold across the entire colour scheme of lavish nature in a panoramic splendour of its own. It grows luxuriously along Beacon Park Hill, skirting the green downs that roll in turfy undulations to the seashore.

Gorge Park, just as nature left it, is alive with nature's aristocratic beauty. Here the tides ebb and flow, the rocky defile at one time being alive with rushing waters, and, again, calm with the lull and ripples of the resting ocean. Here the forest primeval still lingers, and the untarnished nobility of pristine woodlands is found in all its charm.

And thus with a past memorable for the deeds of its hardy pioneers; with a present which is filled to the brim with enthusiasm and resolution; with a future as bright as the dawns that paint its eastern horizons, Victoria the Beautiful, Victoria the Commercial, rises citadelled like a Gibraltar, the glory of the last and greatest West.

## IMPORTANT TO INQUIRERS

The list of Branch Leagues on Vancouver Island, alphabetically arranged, is hereby given. Those wishing information about any one of these districts can obtain it by writing direct to the Secretaries.

### Name of District.

### Address as Follows:

<b>Alberni, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Alberni Board of Trade, Alberni, B. C.
<b>Port Alberni, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Port Alberni Board of Trade, Port Alberni, B. C.
<b>Clayoquot, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Clayoquot Development League, Clayoquot P. O., B. C.
<b>Colwood, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Colwood and Metchosin League, Metchosin P. O., B. C.
<b>Courtenay, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Comox Development League, Comox, B. C.
<b>Cumberland, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Cumberland Development League, Cumberland, B. C.
<b>Duncan, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Duncan Board of Trade, Duncan, B. C.
<b>East Wellington, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary The Millstone River Valley Development Society, East Wellington, B. C.
<b>Holberg, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Settlers' Development League, Holberg, B. C.
<b>Ladysmith, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Citizens' League, Ladysmith, B. C.
<b>Nanaimo, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Citizens' League of Nanaimo, Nanaimo, B. C.
<b>Nootka, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Nootka Development League, Nootka, B. C.
<b>North Saanich, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Sidney & North Saanich Development League, Sidney, B. C.
<b>Oak Bay, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Oak Bay Development League, Oak Bay, B. C.
<b>Port Renfrew, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Port Renfrew Development League, Port Renfrew, B. C.
<b>Quatsino, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Quatsino Development League, Quatsino, B. C.
<b>Shawnigan, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Shawnigan Development League, Cobble Hill P. O., B. C.
<b>Sooke, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Sooke & Otter Development Association, Sooke, B. C.
<b>Ucluelet, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Ucluelet Development League, Ucluelet, B. C.
<b>Victoria, B. C.</b>	..... Secretary Victoria Branch Vancouver Island Development League, Victoria, B. C.

## VANCOUVER ISLAND OFFERS

**To the Capitalist—**

The most profitable field for investment in the known world.

**To the Manufacturer—**

A great wealth of raw materials.  
Unsurpassed shipping facilities.  
Rapidly increasing markets.

**To the Lumberman—**

Millions of acres of the finest timber in the world.  
An ever-increasing demand for lumber at home and abroad.

**To the Fisherman—**

Inexhaustible quantities of salmon, halibut, cod, herring and other fish.

**To the Fruit Grower—**

Many thousands of acres of land producing all the hardier fruits, as well as peaches, grapes, apricots, melons, nuts, etc.

**To the Dairyman—**

Splendid pasture and high prices for butter, milk and cream.

**To the Poultryman—**

A cash home market for poultry and eggs at big prices.

**To the Farmer—**

Good profits from mixed farming and vegetable growing.

**To the Miner—**

Thousands of square miles of unprospected mineral-bearing country.

**To the Workingman—**

Good wages and a reasonable working day.

**To the Sportsman—**

An infinite variety of game animals, big and small, game fishes and game birds.

**To the Tourist—**

Magnificent scenery.  
Good hotels.  
Well-equipped trains.  
Palatial steamships.

**To Everybody—**

A healthful climate.  
Inspiring surroundings.  
Golden opportunities in all walks of life.  
Just laws, well administered.  
A complete modern educational system—free, undenominational primary and high schools.  
All the conveniences of civilized life.  
Health, peace, contentment and happiness.

**Home Office Vancouver Island Development League  
VICTORIA, B. C., CANADA**

GRAVEN BY  
ELECTRIC BLUE PRINTING  
VICTORIA B.C.

— Railways in operation  
— Railways in operation  
— Railways in operation  
— Railways in operation  
— Railways in operation

