

**CIHM
Microfiche
Series
(Monographs)**

**ICMH
Collection de
microfiches
(monographies)**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

© 1998

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming are checked below.

- ☒ Coloured covers / Couverture de couleur
- ☐ Covers damaged / Couverture endommagée
- ☐ Covers restored and/or laminated / Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- ☐ Cover title missing / Le titre de couverture manque
- ☐ Coloured maps / Cartes géographiques en couleur
- ☐ Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black) / Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- ☐ Coloured plates and/or illustrations / Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- ☐ Bound with other material / Relié avec d'autres documents
- ☐ Only edition available / Seule édition disponible
- ☐ Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin / La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la marge intérieure.
- ☐ Blank leaves added during restorations may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming / Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.
- ☐ Additional comments / Commentaires supplémentaires:

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- ☐ Coloured pages / Pages de couleur
- ☐ Pages damaged / Pages endommagées
- ☐ Pages restored and/or laminated / Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- ☒ Pages discoloured, stained or foxed / Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- ☐ Pages detached / Pages détachées
- ☒ Showthrough / Transparence
- ☐ Quality of print varies / Qualité Inégale de l'impression
- ☐ Includes supplementary material / Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- ☐ Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to ensure the best possible image / Les pages totalement ou partiellement obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure, etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à obtenir la meilleure image possible.
- ☐ Opposing pages with varying colouration or discolourations are filmed twice to ensure the best possible image / Les pages s'opposant ayant des colorations variables ou des décolorations sont filmées deux fois afin d'obtenir la meilleure image possible.

**This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below /
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.**

A horizontal number line with 16 equal segments. Above the line, the values 10x, 14x, 18x, 22x, 26x, and 30x are labeled. Below the line, the values 12x, 16x, 20x, 24x, 28x, and 32x are labeled. A checkmark is placed in the 11th segment from the left, which corresponds to the value 22x.

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

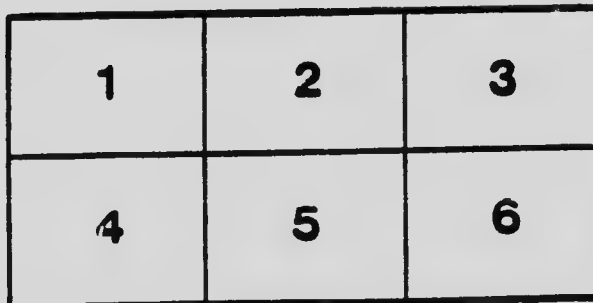
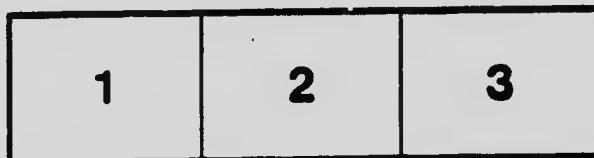
National Library of Canada

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol ➡ (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ▼ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

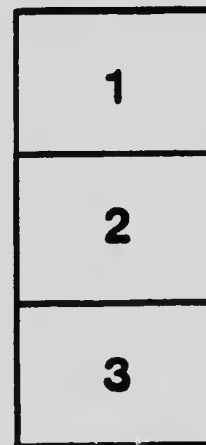
Bibliothèque nationale du Canada

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

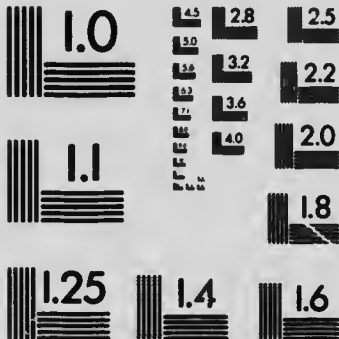
Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole ➡ signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ▼ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.



(ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2)



APPLIED IMAGE Inc

1653 East Main Street
Rochester, New York 14609 USA
(716) 482 - 0300 - Phone
(716) 288 - 5989 - Fax

BUREAU OF PROVINCIAL INFORMATION.

BRITISH COLUMBIA OF TO-DAY.

—BY THE—

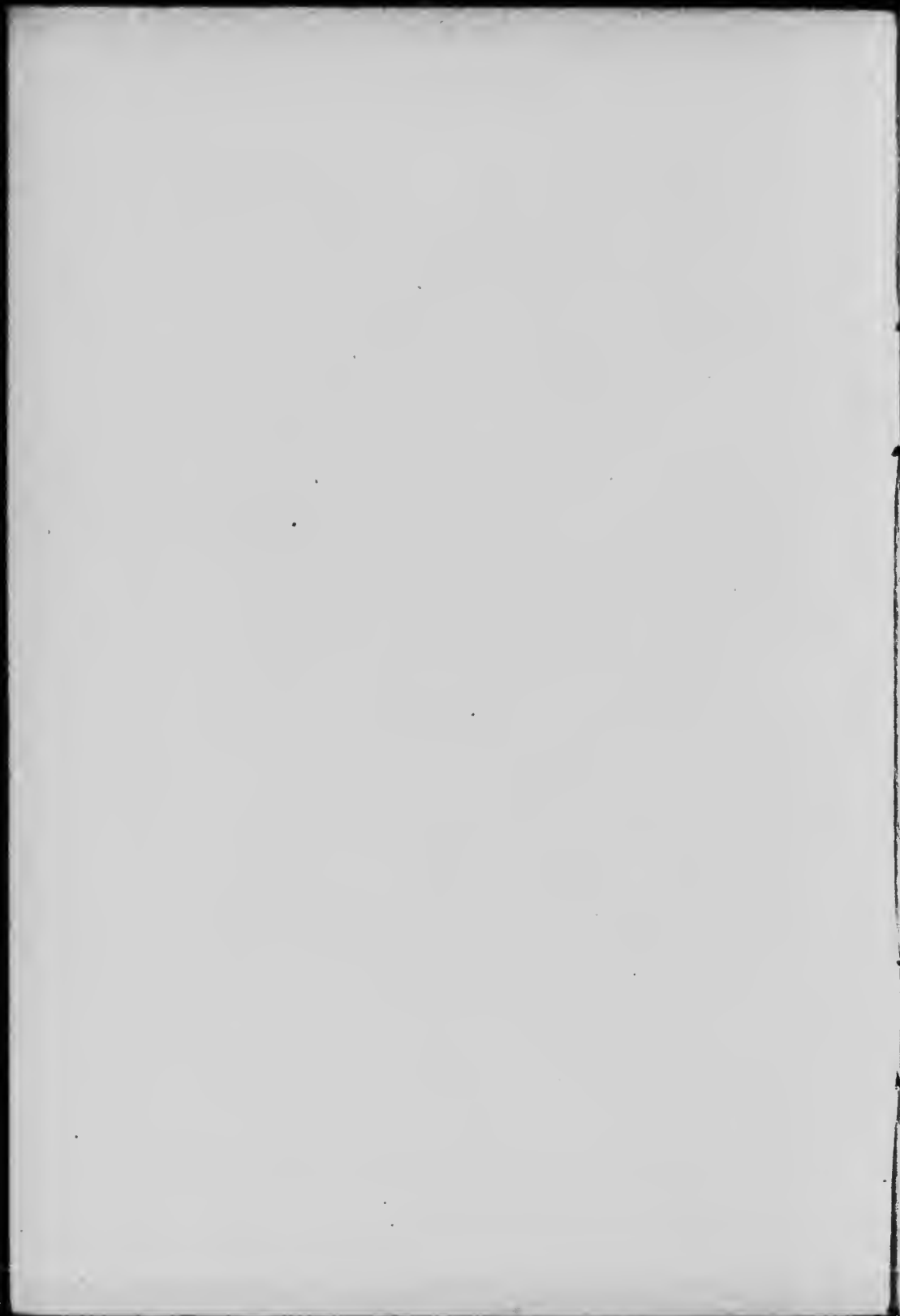
HON. J. H. TURNER, AGENT-GENERAL.

BULLETIN No. 2.



VICTORIA, B. C. :

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1902.



BUREAU OF PROVINCIAL INFORMATION.

BRITISH COLUMBIA OF TO-DAY.

—BY THE

HON. J. H. TURNER, AGENT-GENERAL.

BULLETIN No. 2.



VICTORIA, B. C. :

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1902.

00925575

"BRITISH COLUMBIA OF TO-DAY."

—:O:—

Report of Lecture delivered by Hon. J. H. Turner,
Agent-General, at the Imperial Institute,
London, on the 24th Feb., 1902.

—:O:—

ON the 11th of this month I read a paper on "British Columbia of To-Day," at a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute. On that occasion I stated that one of the objects for establishing a British Columbia Agency in London is to thoroughly inform the British people about the Province, its climate, scenery and resources. I then proceeded to speak of the immense dimensions of the Province, its extent being some 220,000,000 acres. To illustrate this, I now refer to a map which is before you. It has been carefully prepared, so as to show at a glance the size of Great Britain compared with British Columbia. This has been done by drawing an outline of Great Britain and a similar one of British Columbia superimposed upon it, both on precisely the same scale. It will be seen that, practically, British Columbia swallows up Great Britain, and leaves a margin of many millions of acres of the Province still unfilled, whilst, in addition, the Province extends over Vancouver Island and Queen Charlotte and the innumerable groups of smaller islands on the Coast.

THE CLIMATE AND SCENERY.

I then spoke of the genial and healthful climate and of the resources of the Province, such as timber, water-power, mining, agriculture, fisheries, and so forth. All these subjects were passed over somewhat hurriedly, owing to the time limit. Probably it would be an advantage in such lectures to consider at greater length one or more only of these subjects, but it is doubtful if such a plan would be as interesting to the audience as the one then adopted, my experience, so far, in my new position, being that all enquirers about British Columbia—and they are very numerous—desire to be informed on all these points; I think, therefore, that to-night I should pursue a somewhat similar plan to that of the former occasion, though, perhaps, considering somewhat more at length such a subject as mining. In my former lecture I separated scenery and climate from the resources of the Province.

That, I am quite convinced, was a mistake, as both of these are most important resources ; not only do they induce a large number of travellers to visit the Far West, but they are a material consideration in the prosecution of all the works required to develop the other resources. How important it is, for instance, to the miner, the lumberman, fisherman, farmer or sportsman, that they should have not only a pleasant but a healthful climate and a beautiful country in which to live and work. The fact of there being practically two climates—one east of the Rockies, cold in winter, warm in summer, but very dry and healthful, and the other on the coast and islands, very similar to that of the south of England—seems an advantage offering complete change. In the interior, winters are very rare in which cattle do not thrive with practically little protection, whilst in the other portion of the Province flowers and vegetables are growing almost all through the winter months, and we see in the gardens English holly with its glistening leaves, and a greater profusion of its berries than in the old home. There are, too, the broom and the gorse, laurel, bay, box, hawthorn, all imported by the early settlers. A very large proportion of these settlers, however, having been Scotch, we have, of course, the “thistle.” This is said to have been introduced about 1860 by an enthusiastic son of the “Land o’ Cakes,” who felt lonely before the influx of population. Farmers and gardeners of the present day, realising the great success of the Scotch Thistle, often invoke blessing—of a kind—on the head of the introducer, or on his memory, in the uncertainty of the situation. However, many useful and beautiful shrubs, plants, vegetables and fruit trees were also brought in at the same time, and show by their luxuriance of growth how well the climate is adapted for them. I said the other night that it was eminently suited for the home of the Briton, and I am sure that any stranger visiting the Province must be impressed with the appearance of the children, their beauty, healthiness, vigour and splendid intelligence.

TIMBER RESOURCES.

Good authorities will agree with me in my view that climate and scenery have a very important effect in the final development of the race. No one could look out on the exquisite landscape of lake, river, stream and magnificent snow-capped mountains tipped with crimson and gold at sunset, fading into blue as night advances, without its glory imperceptibly affecting both body and mind. Then the great forest with its sombre shades and sunny, fern-bedecked openings, with towering monuments of Douglas pine and cedar rising to the deep blue sky, some of them 300 feet high by 30, and even 50, feet in circumference, is most impressive, and at the same time a delight to the senses with its invigorating piny odour. These forests are

indeed a wonderful store of wealth to the country. Whilst it is known that the timber supply of North America is rapidly disappearing, here in British Columbia only the edge of it is yet touched. I think I am right in saying that experienced lumbermen believe there is more timber to the acre in British Columbia than in any other part of the North American Continent; as much as 500,000 feet have been cut from one acre, whilst in the great timber country of Eastern Canada, 20,000 feet to the acre is considered a good average. Dominion statisticians put down the acreage of forest in British Columbia as, at least, 160,000,000 acres; but, of course, a considerable part of this is of smaller growth and is not used for timber, but almost all is suitable for paper-pulp making, and this is an industry that is now being commenced in the Province. The Government Year Book reports as follows:

PULP WOOD.

"Along the coast line of British Columbia and Vancouver Island practically inexhaustible areas of pulp woods can be found. South of Knight's Inlet, the most abundant is the Douglas fir, which is successfully used for the manufacture of chemical pulp. Its suitability for mechanical pulp is not so certain. North of Knight's Inlet is the spruce and hemlock belt affording enormous supplies of excellent pulp wood—the Sitka spruce, especially, being unexcelled by any other wood for pulp purposes. These woods cover large tracts immediately contiguous to the sea coast, so that logs can be landed at the mills at very low cost. An important point in the favour of industries on the sea coast of British Columbia is the mildness of the winters, which admits of operations being carried on throughout the whole year."

WATER POWERS.

So far, four companies are at present in the field for this business; the demand for the product is daily increasing in the world, and is likely to continue doing so, as the use of the innumerable articles, besides paper, that can be made from pulp is in its infancy. Pulp mills require very great power to run them, in order to grind up the heavy timber, and nature has provided this power in the numerous mountain torrents and rivers throughout these regions. At present only two companies have so far taken up water claims, one arranging for a supply capable of producing 18,000 horse-power, and the other in a different stream for 12,000 horse-power. Some streams have, however, already been harnessed for supplying electric power to run street cars and work compressors and drills in the mines, and light streets and houses, the result being that already these conveniences and comforts of modern life are scattered through the land; you find them not only in the

large towns but also through the country at the smaller towns, even on mountain and at isolated houses. The* great future of this power it is impossible to estimate; it is evident, however, that for traction and lighting, and probably heating also, this resource is practically inexhaustible, and it must eventually have a wonderful effect on the development of mines and other industries of the Province.

MINING.

The mines are probably the most important resource of British Columbia; they have been even less developed in proportion than the timber. At present, it is true, there are a number of mines round Rossland and what is called the Boundary country, or section lying west of that town; also in the Slocan District, a little to the east, in Lillooet to the north, at Princeton in the Similkameen, in the Cariboo District, and on Vancouver Island; but these places are hundreds of miles apart, and the intervening country, all throughout the mountain ranges which lie approximately in parallel lines for some 600 miles, is all rich in minerals. The product from this early work is already of importance: last year the output was valued at \$20,700,000, whilst in 1898 it was only \$10,906,000. These totals, as stated by the Provincial Mineralogist in his report, are taken as follows:—

“The output of a mine for the year is considered that amount of ore for which the smelter or mill returns have been received during the year. In calculating the values of these products, the average price in the New York Metal Market has been used for a basis. For silver 95 per cent. and for lead 90 per cent. of such market value has been taken; treatment and other charges have not been deducted.”

Since writing this it has been brought to my notice that an adverse criticism of Mr. Robertson's (the Mineralogist) report has appeared in the *Mining World* of the 15th inst.

The critic considers that Mr. Robertson has overvalued the output of 1901 by the plan adopted, and had he valued it properly the product would be found not to amount to \$20,000,000; and, therefore, the increase over 1900 was not 25 per cent. as stated by him. I think, however, that this critic, quite inadvertently no doubt, has not put the case fairly. Admitting, for the sake of argument, that the value for 1901 was too high, though I don't think it was, the same condition applies to 1900, as the value was given then on the same plan: consequently, a similar reduction must be made on the output of that year, and when that is done it will be found that the increase for 1901 was really more than 25 per cent.

LODE MINES.

It must be borne in mind that practically mining for these minerals in British Columbia has been going on but a very short time, but the result to the present clearly indicates what an enormous amount of gold, silver and copper British Columbia will supply to the world as work progresses. We have now well authenticated reports that very rich quartz has been discovered in Atlin District, nearly 700 miles to the north, and a strong company is now being formed to work these deposits.

On Howe Sound, 500 miles south of Atlin, near Vancouver, at an elevation of some 3,500 feet, and at about 3 miles from deep water, there is an enormous vein of low-grade copper, known as the Britannia Group. The Provincial Mineralogist reports—"That the situation of this claim is an ideal one for cheap working. A suitable site for a concentrator has been secured a short distance below the property; the claim is traversed by a lode of schistose silicious ore 300 to 600 feet wide, averaging 4 % to 13 % of copper. The available tonnage has been estimated at from 1,800,000 to 3,000,000 tons. This ore body may be worked as an open quarry for many years, and the daily output will from the start be limited only by the will of the operator and the capacity of the equipment provided."

A hundred and fifty miles further south there are the Le Roi mines, shipping at the present time some 700 tons a day.

At the Greenwood Camp there is a group of mines worked by the Miner-Graves Syndicate. An enormous body of ore is being operated on here. This is shipped to the Granby Smelter, at the Town of Grand Forks, a few miles from the mines. This smelter is run on the most improved modern principles, and is turning out about 800 tons per day. A refinery plant is now being added to these works. Close by is another highly important body of ore, known as the Snowshoe, similar in character to that of the property just referred to. A great amount of work is being done on this, and shipments are now being made, but these are only examples of a great number of mines coming to the front in this district. In the Slocan silver-lead district there are the Last Chance, Slocan Star and other great properties, and similar deposits of ore are gradually being opened up all through the enormous extent of the mineral belt of the Province. If we go further east, we find the St. Eugene and North Star at East Kootenay, as specimens of another section of the country. Then, again, on Vancouver Island there is the Mount Sicker Group of copper and gold properties, from one of which 30

to 50 tons of very rich ore is being shipped daily, though work was only commenced about two years since. A smelter is now being erected for the reduction of the ore from these mines. On the West Coast of Vancouver Island a similar formation exists, and a number of claims are in progress of development on it. All this mining matter, and much more, is fully set forth in the report of the Minister of Mines, to be obtained at my office, Salisbury House.

HYDRAULIC MINES.

I have not touched on the hydraulic mines in the Cariboo District, though they are of great importance and are now coming into prominence. In addition to these, there is another form of mining—river dredging. Singularly enough, this has so far not been successful, though the river bottoms are known to be highly auriferous. The cause of this non-success, it is reported, is due to the errors of construction of the dredgers, but I understand it will be remedied during the present year by the adoption of the same kind of dredger as is used so very successfully in New Zealand. On the coast of Vancouver Island considerable deposits of auriferous black sand have been found, and a large number of placer miners commenced to work on these last year, with very good results to themselves.

THE MINING OUTLOOK.

The low price of copper is proving prejudicial to the lower grades of copper mines, but with improved appliances, cheapening the charges for reduction, they will be enabled in the near future to be worked profitably. Electricity may eventually effect this, and at the present time a new plan of concentration by the oil process is being tested in London. I am informed it has proved most successful on the ores of the Le Roi and Britannia Groups; the saving effected on the cost is so great as to ensure a profit on the product. You may indeed feel confident that the ingenuity of the mining men will eventually devise plans to minimise charges, so that most of the waste ore bodies will be worked profitably. I have not yet mentioned iron; this mineral the Province possesses in abundance, but it has scarcely been considered yet. An American company, however, has contracted for a large quantity of this ore from the west coast of Vancouver Island and from near Howe Sound, to supply smelters in the State of Washington. All these facts make me feel confident that the mining industry of British Columbia is only just beginning to run; it is in its infancy, but is a very strong and healthy infant,—a Hercules, in fact, that is even now proving that it can strangle the serpent of difficulty.

COAL.

The coal industry I do not propose to enlarge upon to-night, beyond saying that from Vancouver Island there was shipped in 1900, 1,500,000 tons of coal and coke, and from Crow's Nest Pass, on the Mainland, 262,700 tons, that being the first shipping year of the last-named mine. The output from these two sections in 1901 amounts to nearly 1,700,000 tons. The Crow's Nest Mine, it is said, on good authority, will in a few years' time ship at least 5,000 tons a day, and is capable of much larger output. There are other bodies of coal, both on the Mainland and Vancouver Island, not yet worked, and on Queen Charlotte Island, to the north of Vancouver Island, there is a very large field, reported on by the late Dr. Dawson, the Dominion Geologist, as of fine quality and very great extent and situated most favourably for shipping.

MINING AS AN INVESTMENT.

It is frequently stated here that the mines of British Columbia have not proved remunerative, and, consequently, are not likely to be sought for by British investors; but similar statements were originally made about the African mines, and also, notably, about the great mining districts in the United States to the south of British Columbia. How many years these were in a sort of chrysalis state, giving hardly any return to the investors in them. But Americans are somewhat more venturesome than British mining men; they take hold of mining properties in an early stage, and though many of them may not prove profitable on development, still, if one of a dozen turns out to be good, it pays a large profit on the cost of all the ventures, because it was bought in the early stage at a low price. Americans may be said, in fact, to work on the insurance principle of average in these matters, and the result is often seen by the fact that, after developing the good mine to a certain extent and taking out probably a large amount of wealth, it is sold at a very high price to some English company, that will buy only developed mines, the consequence being that, the English company having put an excessive capital into the undertaking, good dividends become very difficult to realise.

AGRICULTURAL AREA.

A very important resource of the Province is its agricultural and grazing lands, at one time considered to be practically useless for these purposes, but now proved to be suitable for cattle and horse-raising, fruit-growing, mixed farming and dairying. There is no fruit in the world better than that grown in British Columbia, and though this branch of industry has

only been started a few years, it is proving eminently successful, and a considerable quantity of fruit is being exported to the North-West and Manitoba, or is being sold in the mining districts of the Province, which are always such large consumers of fruit, at most profitable prices. Small fruits such as raspberries, strawberries, currants and tomatoes, are produced very abundantly and of superior quality. Dairying is also making good progress, owing to the more scientific methods recently adopted. Creameries have been erected in various parts, and their product is greatly appreciated by consumers, it being of excellent quality; but the wants of the Province are not half supplied yet by these, and heavy imports continue. Cattle-raising has proved remunerative, and the Province practically supplies its own wants and is beginning to export. On the other hand, sheep, pigs and poultry, though they can be raised most profitably, are still brought into the Province in large numbers; but as settlement on the farm lands increases, this will be remedied.

FOR TOURISTS.

The great wants of the country are capital and population. The immense resources are, however, gradually providing this with respect to population, it having nearly doubled in the last ten years; and when, by application of capital, its timber, minerals and other resources are being more developed, population is certain to flow rapidly. The tourist travel alone, I believe, will be very large in a few years, though the wealthy classes in Europe who travel do not yet seem to know of the grandeur of the scenery of British Columbia. Many thousands are spent yearly by the British people amongst foreigners, in visiting the Continent, or Egypt, or Palestine, and still further off countries, the journey costing just as much or more than a round trip to the Pacific and back, which can be done now in the most luxurious manner, the Atlantic boats being as perfect in their appointments as the best London hotel, and the trains across the great Continent not being behind in this respect. And what a journey it is! from interesting Quebec, that old French town, through the cities and agricultural lands of Ontario; westward across the rolling prairies; then through oceans of wheat to the Rocky Mountains, climbing amongst the glorious peaks and glaciers and past rivers, waterfalls and forest to the finest Province of Canada, and still winding on through the canyons and crossing mountain passes whose grandeur I cannot describe; then by the majestic Fraser River to the Pacific Ocean, all the time journeying in utmost comfort, not only well supplied for the wants of life, but with all the luxuries, and arriving at Vancouver there is found a beautiful modern city with excellent hotels, a

charming park, and fine scenery; then crossing in a comfortable steamer, winding amongst the innumerable islands of the Straits, to the Queen City, Victoria, on Vancouver Island, surrounded by lovely scenery, with innumerable drives, any one of which can show no view but what is beautiful. The traveller can from British Columbia enjoy a charming voyage in still water up the coast among the islands and visit the remarkable fiords and inlets of the Mainland, which are so striking a feature of the coast, running, as they do, many miles into the land, in some places a few yards wide, or extending again into great lakes, under wild mountains, which are at some points clothed with dense forests, at others bare, with great rocky escarpments. This is indeed a journey well worth taking, and it would be all the time on British soil, and amongst the people whose sons volunteered to fight England's battles, side by side with Imperial troops, who may well be proud of their record. The voluntary offering of their lives was not caused by the military excitement of the moment, for after a full knowledge of the privations and suffering that they must be subject to in an African campaign, they are still as ready to come forward and fight for the Motherland.

But to give a true idea of British Columbia, I cannot do better than quote a recently published work entitled "With the Royal Tour," by H. F. Knight, who travelled with the Royal Party some 40,000 miles. He says:—

BRITISH COLUMBIA AS A HOME.

"Extremes of heat and cold are unknown on this beautiful coast, and the climate of Victoria has been compared with that of our South Devon health resorts.

"Vancouver, standing as it does, on an undulating wooded peninsula, has a splendid situation. As one wanders through its thoroughfares, one finds oneself frequently brought to a pause at street corners and in open places to admire the wonderful views that suddenly burst on one, extending far over blue waters, pine-clad shores and distant peaks, and the Stanley Park is surely the fairest pleasure-ground possessed by any city on the continent."

Of Victoria he says:—"Victoria has been described as being the most English city in Canada, and visitors soon realise this. We had two full days there; one would fain have stayed longer for of all the cities in the course of this long royal progress, the fair capital of British Columbia seems to me the one which the Englishman would most gladly make his home. Victoria is not only a busy place, a great emporium of trade, the distributing centre for British Columbia, but it is also a favourite place of residence for well-to-do people. Some drives and walks I took in the neighbourhood of

the city gave me a full explanation of why this place is so beloved of the British. The country outside the town is singularly beautiful, the undulating promontory being covered with woods of fir, spruce and a lovely wild jungle of arbutus, roses, flowering bushes and English broom. The carefully laid out gardens surrounding most of the mansions and cottages astonish one by their profusion of flowers. Never in the environs of any city have I seen such a glory of flowers as surround these lovely homes. Then how magnificent are the landscapes, embracing the mighty ranges of the Mainland with their summits of eternal snow."

But this admirable writer was not probably aware of the important fact that the houses of Vancouver and Victoria and of the other towns in British Columbia are almost all owned by the people residing in them, the mechanics, merchants, lawyers and others being their own landlords, and this in a measure accounts for the beautiful appearance of the surrounding gardens.

The photographic slides which I am about to show you will, I trust, enable you to appreciate some of the great resources of this favoured Province.

British Columbia, indeed, has all the natural beauty and latent wealth to make it a great country; it wants, however, development. The Government has to face great difficulties; the Province is so vast, distances are so great, that enormous expenditure is required for making roads, trails and bridges and surveys, and building schools and court-houses; but by such works only can the country be fairly opened up. A great deal is being done every year towards the development of the Province by these means; thousands of miles of roads and trails have been built; laws have been passed to bonus railways; about a thousand miles of new lines have so far been provided for, and if these are constructed they will greatly increase the prosperity of the Province.

RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT.

It is very gratifying to learn from the King's Speech delivered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province at the opening of the Provincial Parliament on the 20th instant—which speech, by the way, appeared in the London papers on the same day and several hours before it was actually delivered—that the Government of British Columbia intend to bring in a measure during the present session to subsidise a line of railway from the Yellowhead Pass, on the eastern boundary of the Province, to the Coast, and then on to connect with the present system of railway on Vancouver Island, through Nanaimo and Ladysmith to Victoria.

This is, indeed, a most important piece of work for British Columbia and the Dominion ; there is already a line being constructed from the East to Yellowhead Pass, so that the continuation across the Province will give two overland routes, the last one opening up very valuable lands some 150 to 200 miles north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and also the lands on Vancouver Island. This line, it appears to me, should commend itself to the Imperial Government, as it will give a second route for the transportation of troops and supplies to the headquarters of the fleet on Vancouver Island.

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1902.

