

VICTORIA, B.C.

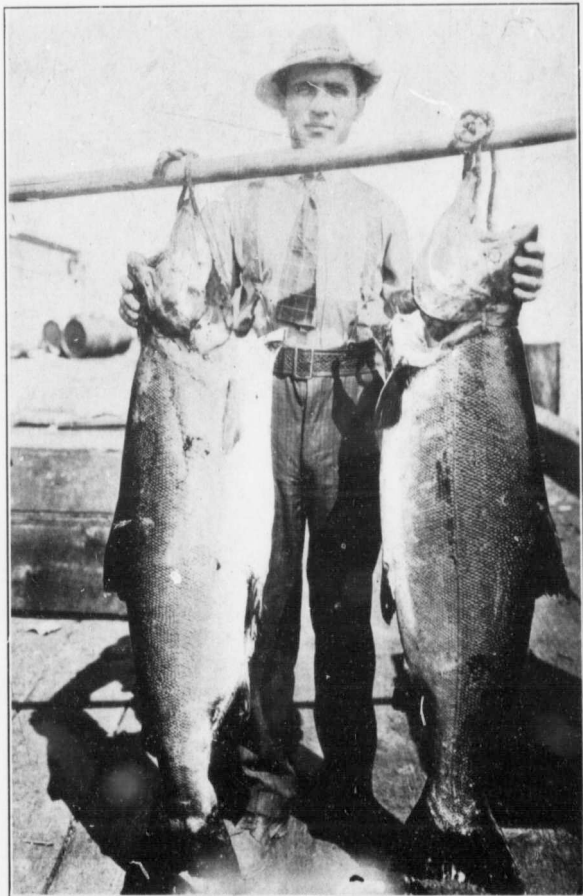
CANADA, Vancouver Island

Whole Year Round in a Mild and Sunshiny Climate without any extremes of heat or cold.

Fishing, Shooting, Golf, Motor-

ing, and All Outdoor Sports the

NWP
799
P741



Spring Salmon, 60 pounds each

Caught with rod and line at Campbell River, Vancouver Island, B. C., August, 1911

234290



Fly Fishing for Trout on the Cowichan River,
Vancouver Island, B. C., Canada.

"Praise God, be quiet, and goe a-fysshynge."
—ISAAC WALTON.

VICTORIA, B. C., CANADA AS A RECREATION CENTRE

INTRODUCTION

The opportunities for fishing and shooting near Victoria are not only unsurpassed, but for general and varied outdoor recreation the Capital City has absolutely no equal on either continent. This doubtless seems exaggerated, but it is literally true. For the motorist, there are splendid roads leading in different directions from the City, and some of these, particularly the famous Malahat Drive, are not equalled anywhere in the world for rugged grandeur and striking beauty. The new Colwood-Metchosin Beach Drive is another road of exquisite attractions, and the run from Victoria to the Alberni District, taking in Malahat Drive is another scenic marvel.

The golf player will find in Victoria links verging on the sea, which rival the best in Great Britain. He can indulge in his favorite sport twelve months out of the year without any discomfort, and at least ten months out of the twelve under ideal conditions.

Cricket, tennis, football, Government rifle range shooting, hockey, lacrosse, baseball, bowling on the green, motor-boating, yachting, canoeing, trap-shooting, bicycling, riding, driving, sea-bathing, and sailing are among the sports and pastimes which can be followed during the year, and indeed there is not a month in which sport of various kinds is not available.

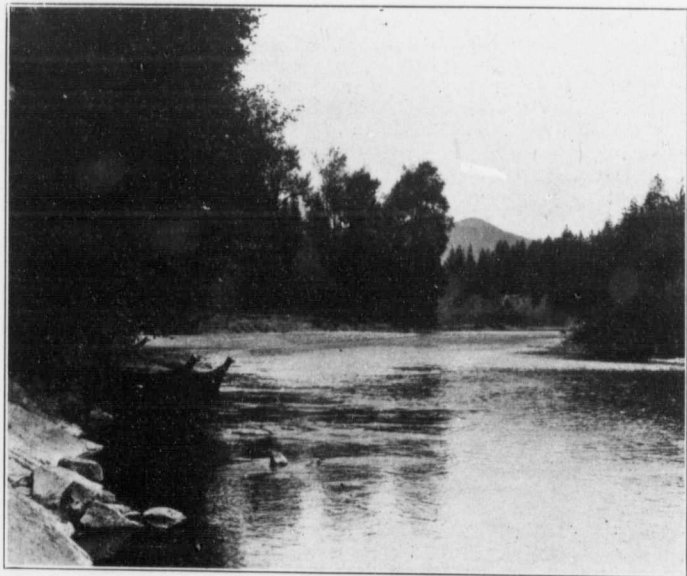
The recent palatial ice rink for artificial ice skating has added the last touch, and visitors and citizens can now enjoy this fascinating exercise, or attend the ice hockey matches, while the fall roses or the spring daffodils are blooming.

You cannot name a city in the world which begins to compare with Victoria for its out-of-door variety and appeal to the lovers of the open. Men and women travel thousands of miles to secure one or another form of outdoor recreation. Here in Victoria it is possible to combine nearly every known form of outdoor exercise and recreation, and under climatic conditions which are incomparable.

Average highest temperature at Victoria during last 20 years, 84.2 degrees above zero. Average lowest temperature at Victoria during last 20 years, 17.3 degrees above zero.



The Serene Angler



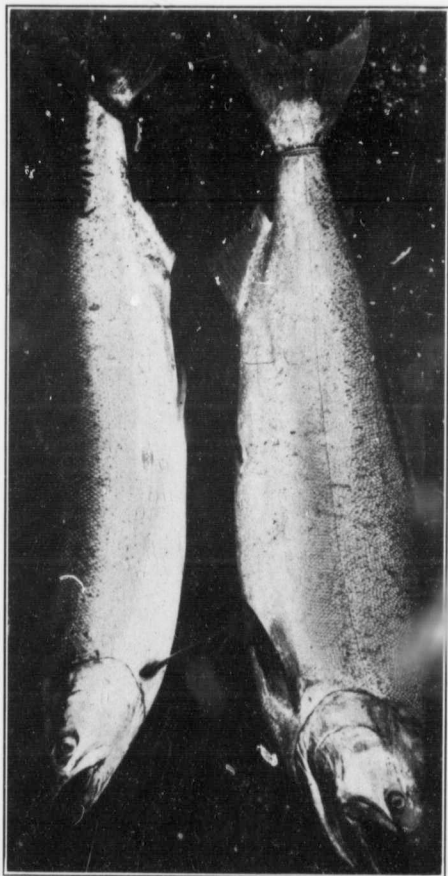
A Vancouver Island Trout Stream

**SPORTSMAN'S CALENDAR FOR FISHING AND
 == SHOOTING ON VANCOUVER ISLAND ==
 FROM VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA**

- Jan. —For the Shooter: Ducks, Geese, Snipe.
 For the Fisherman: Grilse in salt water with a good chance for a Spring Salmon.
- Feb. —For the Shooter: Ducks, Geese, Snipe.
 For the Fisherman: Grilse and Spring Salmon.
- Mar.—For the Shooter: Geese (Brant and Canada Geese).
 For the Fisherman: Grilse and Spring Salmon, Trout, Steelheads; Trout-fishing opens March 26th.
- April—For the Shooter: Geese, Black Bear.
 For the Fisherman: Trout, Steelheads, Grilse, Spring Salmon.
- May —For the Shooter: Black Bear.
 For the Fisherman: Trout, Grilse, small run of Coho Salmon.
- June—For the Fisherman: Trout, Black Bass, Grilse, small run of Coho Salmon. (Best month for Sea Trout.)
- July—For the Fisherman: Trout, Black Bass.
- Aug.—For the Shooter: Wild Pigeons (Band-Tail).
 For the Fisherman: Trout, Spring Salmon, Black Bass.
- Sept.—For the Shooter*: Grouse, Deer, Ducks, Geese, Snipe, Pigeons, Bear.
 For the Fisherman: Trout, Spring Salmon, Coho Salmon, Black Bass.
- Oct. —For the Shooter: Grouse, Deer, Ducks, Geese, Snipe, Pheasants, Quail, Bear.
 For the Fisherman: Trout, Spring Salmon, Coho Salmon.
- Nov.—For the Shooter: Grouse, Deer, Ducks, Geese, Snipe, Pheasants, Quail, Bear.
 For the Fisherman: Trout until November 15th, Cohoes. November 15th Trout-fishing closes.
- Dec. —For the Shooter: Grouse, Ducks, Geese, Snipe, Pheasants, Quail; Deer until December 15th. December 15th Deer-shooting ends. December 31st, Pheasant, Grouse and Quail-shooting ends.

*The opening date for small game shooting is fixed for the year by Order-in-Council. The dates here given have been those fixed for recent years, but are liable to alteration.

Steel-head
Trout
Weight
14 pounds



Spring
Salmon
Weight
18 pounds

Caught on the Fly in the Cowichan River
Vancouver Island

BAG LIMIT—Five Deer in one season for resident shooter; two Deer for non-resident shooter; 250 Duck and 250 Snipe in one season for either resident or non-resident shooter.

Important Note

CLOSE SEASONS for any species of Game Animal or Bird may be declared in any district at any time by Order-in-Council. Information on such matters should always be obtained beforehand from the Provincial Game Warden, or from a Deputy Game Warden or Government Agent.

LICENCES must be obtained by non-residents to angle for any sort of fish.

Licences for Non-residents

All Licences must be obtained before Fishing or Shooting, and can only be obtained from the Provincial Game Warden at Vancouver or the Government Agent of the District.

GENERAL LICENCE **Fee \$100.00**

For all species of Game in season, also Fishing.
Good only from January 1st to December 31st

BEAR LICENCE **Fee \$25.00**

Good from January 1st to July 15th.

BIRD LICENCE **Fee \$50.00**

Good throughout season as declared by Order-in-Council.

SPECIAL WEEKLY BIRD LICENCE **Fee \$5.00**

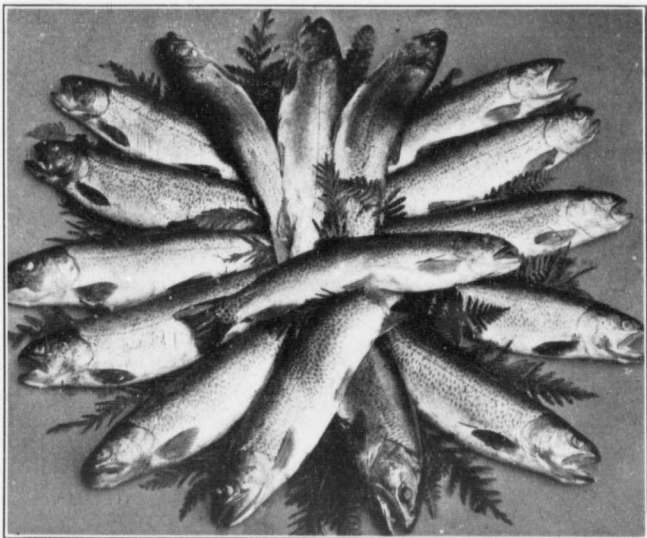
(For British Subjects Only)

May only be obtained at the discretion of the Provincial Game Warden at Vancouver.

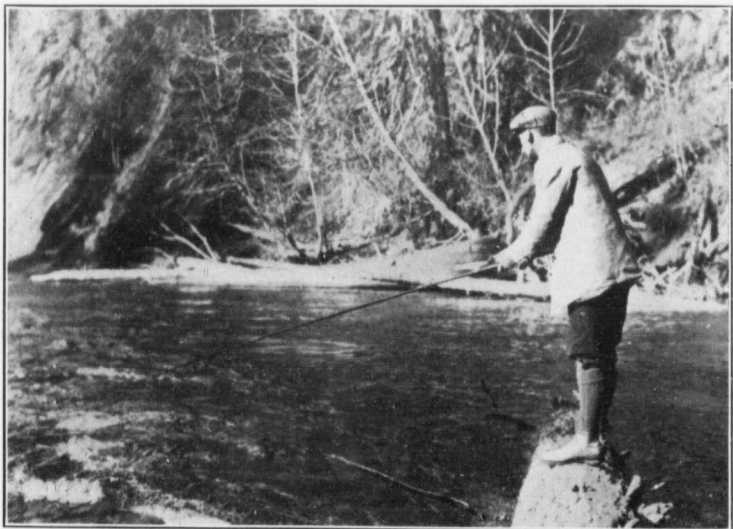
FISHING LICENCE **Fee \$5.00**

Good for one year from day of issue.

EXEMPTIONS TO ABOVE—Officers of the Army and Navy (Both British and Canadian) who are on actual duty in the Province.



Catch of Trout Near Victoria, B.C.



Trout Fishing in the Koksilah River

The Game Fish of the Island

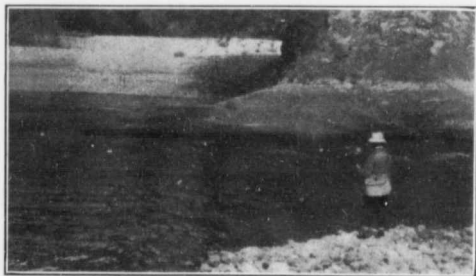
TROUT—Practically speaking, all the streams and lakes of Vancouver Island contain trout of some kind or other, chiefly rainbow, or cut-throat. Very large fish are caught in the bigger lakes by trolling, but there is no trout water in British Columbia where the fish will not take a fly. Larger fish are caught on the fly as a general rule in the streams than in the lakes. In the heat of midsummer when the rivers are low and fly-fishing is hardly practicable, except in the early morning and late evening, excellent sport is given by sea-trout in the estuaries. These sea-run fish average heavy, two-pounders being common, three-pounders by no means rare and four and even six-pounders occasionally caught. As a general rule, they take a fly well even in the salt water.

SALMON—Of the several varieties of Pacific salmon which run in millions all along the coasts of Vancouver Island, there are two only with which the sportsman is concerned, the cohoes and the "Spring" salmon. Of these the "Spring" salmon are the finest table fish and attain to the greater weight, although average weight depends a good deal on locality, as is the case in other salmon countries. The "Spring" salmon is known by several aliases, notably king, tye, and Chinook. The best known and handiest reached places on Vancouver Island for the biggest tye salmon are Campbell River and Comox on the east coast and Alberni and Nootka Sound on the west coast, fifty pounders being common at all of these places. Twenty to thirty pound fish are common in any of the estuaries when the run of "Springs" is on. Spring salmon are caught in these waters practically all the year round. In February and March there is a run to the rivers but the big run comes in August, September and October, varying in date according to locality.

There is a run of small cohoes in May and June, but these early fish, although very game, do not average very large. The big run of cohoes does not arrive as a rule until the latter part of September, when their number is legion all over the coast and the sport they give is superior for their size to that yielded by the springs, as they play more on the surface. The fall coho is about nine pounds in weight on the average.



Fishing at Shawnigan Lake, near Victoria, B.C.



With Rod and Creel, Vancouver Island

That British Columbia salmon will not take a fly is a fallacy which was long since disproved. Both spring salmon and cohoes are caught in considerable numbers every season by anglers who know how and where to use a salmon fly, and give splendid sport in suitable waters.

The expert with a spinning bait will be able to kill many large fish in the rivers.

Most of the fishing for salmon here is in the form of trolling in the sea with a spoon, by which means the veriest tyro is able to kill many fine salmon.

STEELHEADS—Steelheads have been variously classed by different authorities as salmon and trout. The Provincial legislation classes them as trout, and does not allow their capture until the opening of the trout-fishing season on March 26th.

They attain to a large weight and give very fine sport on a good-sized salmon fly expertly fished.

Steelheads have been compared for sport-giving qualities when caught in the Spring (not in the Summer when they are out of condition) to the Scottish salmon—no small compliment.

The Atlantic salmon, introduced some years ago by the Dominion Government, have thriven well and take the fly as readily as in their native waters.

BASS—Freshwater Black Bass are not native to Vancouver Island, but have been introduced with success into several lakes. Handy to Victoria are Langford Lake and Florence Lake, both of which have yielded excellent black bass fishing and some fine large fish of recent years.

CHAR—Scientifically speaking char is the correct term for some of our varieties of popularly-styled trout, notably the Eastern Canadian brook trout. The Dolly Varden "trout" is typically a char in structure and habits. They are a very handsome fish, attain to a large weight and give very fine sport on spinning tackle, being found chiefly at the outlets of the larger Island lakes.

A Victoria
Pointer



"Victoria
Bruce"
Pointing
Pheasant



Pheasant Shooting near Victoria, B. C.

Feathered and Furred Game of the Island

PHEASANTS—The pheasants we have here are the Chinese or common ring-necked, frequently erroneously termed Mongolian. They were first introduced a good many years ago and have done extremely well in all the districts where there is any cleared land, so well in fact as to have several times become a cause for complaint on the part of some of the farmers, owing to their attentions to the potatoes and other crops. The law allows the killing of cock birds only. This, and the nature of the country, which everywhere affords abundance of heavy cover, has helped to keep up a good stock in spite of the ever-increasing number of sportsmen who hunt them.

With a view to improving the stock and introducing fresh blood, the Government of late years has been hatching and turning out a considerable number of true Mongolian pheasants. The Mongolian pheasant has been proved in other countries to cross well with the Chinese ring-neck, the cross-bred birds being very hardy and good fliers. It is a little early yet to see much result from the Government's action, but, as it is no experiment, but a continuous policy, there is no doubt that it will be of great benefit.

By the nature of the country, the man who makes a good bag of game works hard for it, but this is one of the fascinations of the sport to most sportsmen out here, who are not looking for enormous bags of game, found and driven to their guns by others, but take a zest and pleasure in the hard work of a long day with a favorite four-footed friend. The man who wants luxury with his shooting is little likely to be suited with what Vancouver Island has to offer him, but the man who takes a delight in good, vigorous, outdoor exercise in the company of a good dog, with an excellent chance of a fair bag of game, can get it within easy reach of Victoria at any time in the season.

"Roy's
Last
Montez"



A Point
on
Willow
Grouse

A Victoria Setter



Blue Grouse Shooting

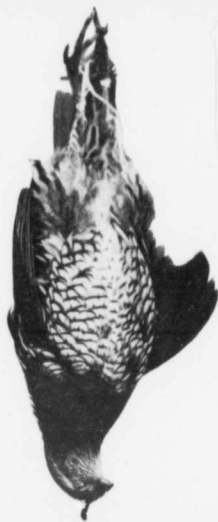
WILLOW GROUSE—Willow Grouse is the popular name for the Ruffed Grouse, which is common throughout the country. In the early part of the season the willow grouse frequent the swamps and thickets, where they are difficult to get at, and, when found, are apt to play into the hands of the pot hunter by the way they have of perching in the trees and staying there until he spots and pot-shots them. Later on, however, when the swamps become overflowed, they take to higher and more open ground, when the sport they afford over a good dog is by most British Columbia sportsmen considered the best of any of our game birds.

BLUE GROUSE—The Blue, Sooty, or Pine Grouse is a timber bird which is plentiful all over the Island, particularly in those places in the hills where there are bare patches of rock among the tall timber. For the greater part of the year they feed on the foliage of the Douglas pines and keep in the trees. They come down to lower ground in the breeding season, but when the young birds are full grown they speedily retake themselves to the tall timber and the higher levels of the mountains. Hence the season for blue grouse shooting is in practice a short one, as, however plentiful the birds before the shooting opens, a week or two of shooting will find them very scarce, not because they have been decimated by the hunters, but because they have taken to their natural refuge in the timber of the mountains. Formerly the season used to be open the first day in September, when numbers of birds not fully grown were killed and the stock of blues was seriously threatened. The last two or three years they have undoubtedly multiplied very considerably, owing to a wise alteration in the opening date.

Shot on level ground over dogs the blue grouse is not a particularly hard bird to hit, but among timber, and especially on steep hillsides, where they invariably fly down-hill at a great pace, they afford shooting which is difficult to beat for its sporting quality.



VALLEY
QUAIL



"Broad Mead Ben" Pointing Quail



QUAIL—Two kinds of quail have been introduced with success on Vancouver Island, the California Valley quail, and Mountain quail, a rather larger variety. The former have done best, although the latter are fairly plentiful in certain districts, notably the hills round Sooke harbour. Valley quail have multiplied amazingly, and afford the finest kind of sport with a good dog. Saanich peninsula holds enormous numbers of Valley quail, which on the Island at any rate have proved a huge success.

ACCOMMODATION AND CLIMATE—There are plenty of good hotels close to shooting and fishing grounds, while good camping grounds are always to be found close to the rivers and lakes. The winter rainfall is fairly heavy, but very little rain is to be expected after the end of April until October.

General Observations

When the pheasants, grouse and quail are out, the ducks and geese are in, and the wildfowl shooting is at its best. Before these are out of season, angling is open for salmon and grilse, with excellent prospects for large baskets of these latter, and a very fair chance of good sport with "spring" salmon on most parts of the coast.

Trout fishing starts on March 26th and from that date until November 15th, well into the shooting season, excellent trout fishing can be had in some one or other of the nearby waters. Different weather conditions of course suit the fishing in different waters, but there is no time throughout the season when the angler has not an excellent chance of filling his creel from either lake, river, or estuary. When the weather is hot and the rivers are low, he can be sure of good sport with the sea-trout in the bays and estuaries, handily reached from any of the coast towns, while, from August to the end of the season trout-fishing as well as salmon-fishing is probably at its best. Good sport of some kind can be obtained all the year round on Vancouver Island by anyone who cares to indulge in it.



Brant Shooting near Victoria, B.C.—“Staying Out”



Brant Shooting near Victoria, B.C.—“Coming In”

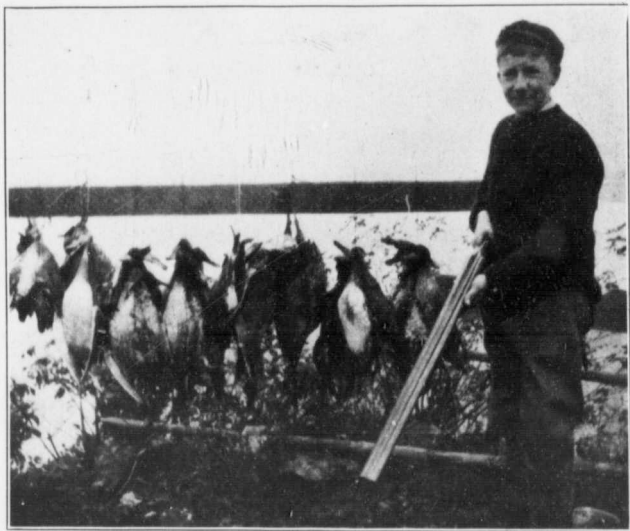
BRANT—This shooting, almost entirely over decoys, and from shore blinds, is very fine sport indeed, and the birds are always excellent for the table. The sand spits and low shore points around Vancouver Island and adjacent islands are the best places for this sport.

CANADA GEESE, or "HONKERS" are shot in large numbers up the West and East coasts. Live decoys, when such are obtainable, are the best, and after that the sheet-iron profile decoys. Some geese are shot during the brant flight, but the "honker" is a wary bird.

In all shooting on Vancouver Island it is advisable to get in touch with some of the sportsmen of the Island whenever this is possible. Most of the best pheasant, willow grouse, and quail shooting is in country which is more or less settled up, and where it will be necessary to get permission to shoot, before entering on the land. Deer shooting and blue grouse shooting can be had on wild land in most of the districts and where no permission is essential.

SNIFE will be found in the ditches in the fields during November and December, and on the flats around the lakes and low-lying meadows. Snipe, grouse, duck, deer and pheasant may be had in a day's bag during these months in some portions of the Island.

WILD-FOWLING on Vancouver Island will be found to be free from the usual discomforts of excessively cold weather, but caution should be observed in going to and coming from the shooting grounds. Small boats and launches are not always safe in these ocean waters, and shooters who are strangers to conditions here are especially urged to take every precaution in the way of staunch and seaworthy boats.



Duck Shooting at Quatsino, Vancouver Island



A Mixed Bag—Deer, Duck, Grouse,
Quail, Snipe, Salmon



"A Chip of the Old Block"

Wild Fowl

DUCKS—Mallards, Widgeon, Pin-tail Buffle-head, Golden-eye, Blue-bills and some Teal make up the greater portion of the duck tribe to be found on the Island. On the west coast, around Clayoquot, Ucluelet, Nootka, Quatsino and the Alberni District, and on the east coast in the Comox and the Campbell River Districts, and further north the shooting is the best. Where the birds feed on the flats extending up the rivers, they will be found to be of good flavor. As the season advances, and they commence feeding along the sea-shore, their flesh becomes fishy. Some of the lakes afford fair shooting, and the birds feeding there are good eating.

General Notes for the Angler

FISHING TACKLE—The English patterns of flies are suitable for use in Vancouver Island waters. Good stock patterns are: March Brown, Coachman, Coch-y-bonddhu, Zulu, Governor, Black Gnat, Parmacheene Belle. A miniature salmon fly dressed on a trout size hook is often an excellent killer in coast waters for sea trout.

Dry flies are seldom used, but there are excellent opportunities for their use and they have been proved successful both in the lake and river waters of the Island.

The angler who wishes to try his hand at fly-fishing for salmon will find the regular Atlantic salmon patterns all he needs. For steelheads a medium-sized Jock Scott is as good as any. It is not a very uncommon occurrence for a trout fisherman to hook a steelhead when fly-fishing, but the fisherman who goes after steelheads will do well to arm himself with regular salmon tackle.

For the big lake trout the favourite lure is a double spoon, but no doubt a phantom minnow or other similar baits would do equal execution. Although spoons are the most generally used lure for salmon-trolling, a minnow is often successful when the latter fail.

For salmon fishing in the rivers a fourteen-foot double-handed rod is usually all that will be required. For trout-fishing a ten to eleven-foot fly-rod will meet all requirements.

For Dolly Varden trout a Devon minnow is as good as anything, but they can be caught also on a salmon fly fished deep.

Deer
Shooting
17 Miles
from
Victoria,
B. C.



A Good
Buck



Vancouver Island Black Bear

DEER—Blacktail Deer are numerous in season, and found in nearly all parts of the Island. Deer-hunting with dogs is illegal.

BEAR—Black Bear are found all over Vancouver Island. Some good sized specimens are shot every year, and while they are occasionally seen from the roadside, it requires good dogs and a guide acquainted with the country to get them as a rule.

WAPITI (American Elk) are found in the interior of the Island, but at present are protected for a term of years.

COUGAR, known variously as Panther or Mountain Lion, are plentiful in many districts. To hunt them with success it is necessary to employ guides who will provide suitable dogs. A cougar skin makes a handsome trophy, but cougars can hardly be classed as game. The Provincial Government by putting on a bounty of \$15 a head, classes them as vermin, as also wolves.

WOLVES, both black and grey, are found in the northern and northwestern districts of Vancouver Island, but are seldom seen by the casual hunter. Bounty \$15 a head.

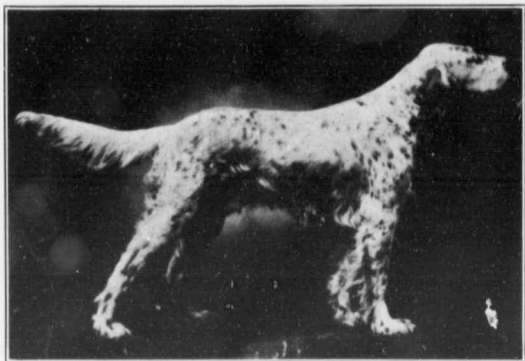
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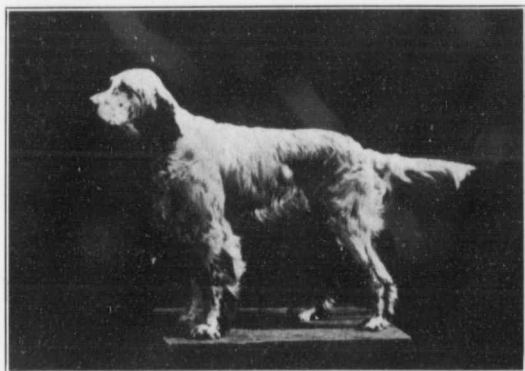
"Got him
that time"

Some
Victoria
Setters

Champion
"Zola
Montez"



Champion
"Mallwyd
Bob"



"Gladys Montez" Pointing, Champion "Roy Montez" Backing

Some
Victoria
Pointers

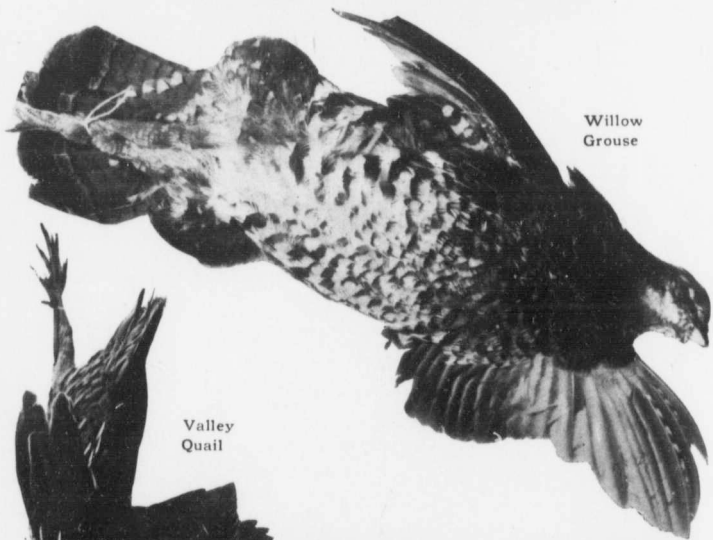


"Victoria
Ned"
on Point
Quail



Champion
"Victoria
Spot"
at age of
12 years

"Two Souls
with but
a Single
Thought"



Willow
Grouse



Valley
Quail

A Rest by
the Wayside



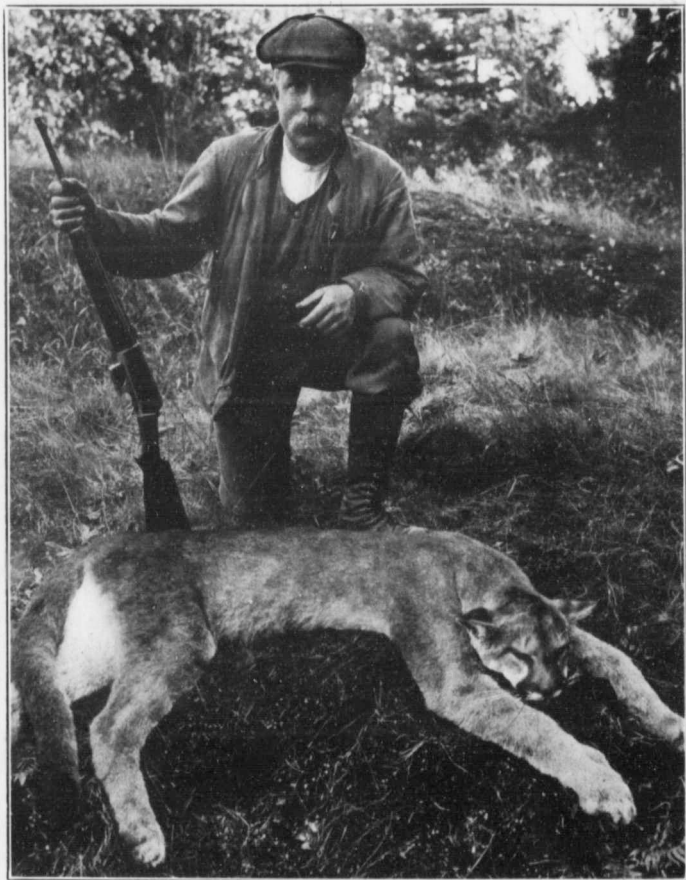
PHEASANT SHOOTING

requires good dogs, accurate marksmanship, and a knowledge of the habits of the birds. An old cock is a wily customer, and not easily bagged.



Chinese Ring-Neck Pheasant (Cock Bird)

VICTORIA, B.C. Fishing, Shooting, Golf, Motor-
CANADA, Vancouver Island ing, and All Outdoor Sports the
Whole Year Round in a Mild and Sunshiny Climate without any extremes of heat or cold.



A Vancouver Island Cougar