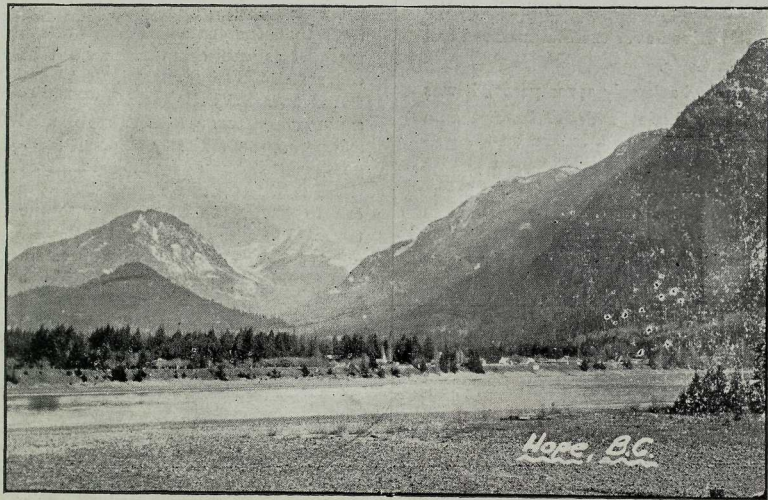


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HOPE

A Bit of the History of British
Columbia's Beauty Spot



Being an Editorial from "The West Yale Review" of August 18th, 1916

HOPE is now entering a new chapter in its chequered story. It is a far cry back to placer mining days or even to the days when steamers came to Hope to transport to the coast the cattle driven over the Similkameen and Nicola trails.

To go back only seven years, it was a sleepy little hamlet of fewer than a hundred inhabitants known on the outside only to a few old-timers and to a few hunters, anglers and rest seekers.

Then came the Steamboat Mountain delusion and with it much of the flotsam of the coast mining camps, dwellers in tents and shacks who never dreamed of a more permanent habitation. But, incidentally, the false hopes built on Steamboat were responsible for the creation of two modern hotels.

Then came the era of railway building, which, with one gap of less than a year, has lasted to the present and seems likely now to last until the first snowfall.

This stage has seen the building of a considerable number of substantial residences and of a quite pretentious

business block until a June morning conflagration destroyed it. During the construction period there were a number of transient business houses erected which flourished for a while but they were not intended to be permanent any more than the tents and cabins of the prospectors and camp followers that came with the mining boom.

And now the little town is assuming a new character. Although our mail and perhaps a majority of our passengers are still carried by the main line of the C.P.R. to which we travel by motor car to Haig, the contribution to the town's life and growth by the C.N.R. and the K.V.R.—both now in operation—is already substantial and certain to increase. And now the long expected and many times deferred connection with the Great Northern Railway is under construction. When this is completed, Hope will be, after Vancouver and perhaps Nelson, the chief railway centre in the province.

And what is to come next? Three railways will require a certain number of hands resident here and will each have a small but steady payroll. But no town has ever become rich or popu-

lous because railway trains are hauled through it. Hope must provide traffic for those roads if it is to derive any real benefit from them.

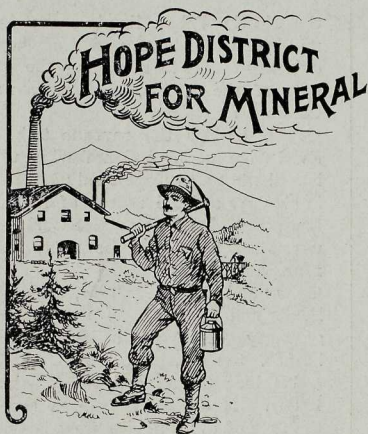
There is already a good beginning made in mining development. Two properties may be described as shipping mines but the shipments must become very much larger and more frequent. There must be enough production to attract and support a much larger permanent population than is now here if the land values are ever to increase or even to be maintained at present standards. It is gratifying to be able to say that there are very few now who do not realize this, and there are few who are not assisting, financially or otherwise, in the promotion of mining as a genuine industry.

Another asset of the district, which is being exploited sporadically and spasmodically, and with little or no benefit to Hope, is the timber. Cutting down the timber and sending it in booms to Rosedale, Harrison Mills or New Westminster is adding to the pay-rolls of those places, very little to Hope. This is the natural site for a big lumber and shingle mill, and with

the Kettle Valley line in operation, a mill here would have a great advantage over any others in supplying the markets of the Nicola, Similkameen and Okanagan districts.

And, besides the revenue to be derived from mining and lumbering, there is still what was Hope's only attraction in old days and the reason of its being known at all to the outside world—the unrivalled beauty of its natural surroundings, the magnificent peaks of Ogilvy and Hope Mountains, the Eureka Peaks and Holy Cross, the changing greenery of Croft and Greenwood islands, the valleys of the Coquihalla and Silver Creek, and the Kawkawa Lakes. If the railways have scarred the face of the townsite they have not marred the mountains, lakes and rivers. Half an hour's walk in any direction will land one in a bit of unspoiled natural park.

But intelligent development of all resources and united effort to make them known are necessary. We need the industries to provide a living for permanent residents, and all the natural beauties must be preserved and made more accessible to attract visitors and make them glad to return to Hope.



INVESTIGATE
HOPE'S
OPPORTUNITIES

HOPE'S
RESOURCES

MINES

TIMBER

WATER POWER

A SUMMER RESORT

HUNTING

FISHING

TRANSPORTATION

THREE TRANSCONTINENTAL
RAILWAYS

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