1903

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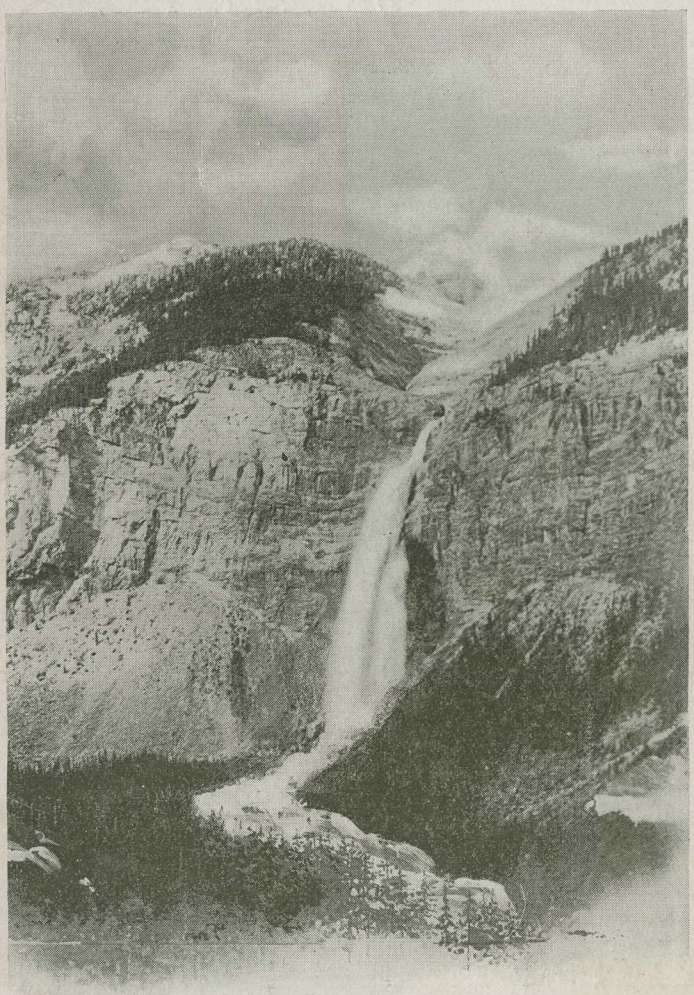
YOHO VALLEY

IN THE

CANADIAN ROCKIES

AND THE

Glaciers of the Selkirks



Takakkaw Falls—Yoho Valley, B.C.

REACHED BY THE

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

1903

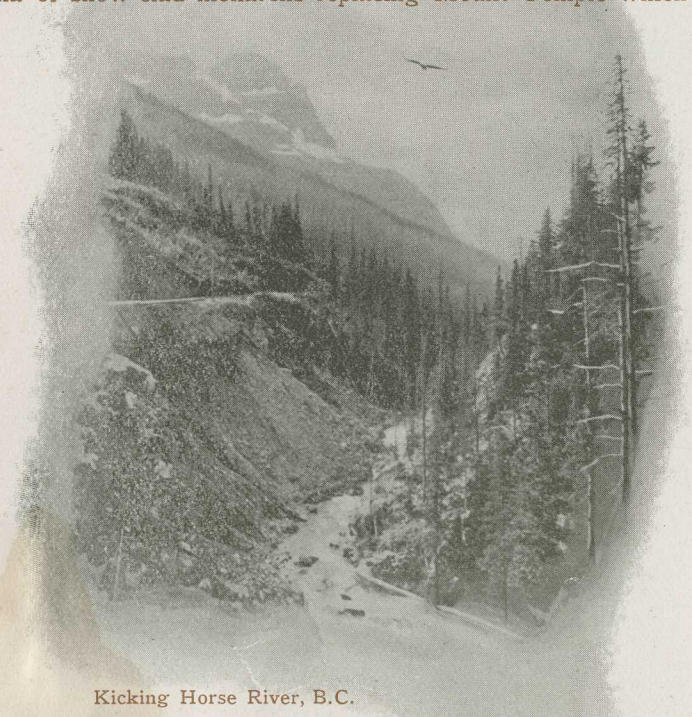
A Region of Mountain Splendor

Twin Falls, Yoho Valley, B.C.

NATURE in her grandest forms is to be found in the Canadian Rockies where the Government of the country has reserved for public uses a vast tract of mountain splendor and magnificence. This wonderful domain includes the Yoho Park Reserve and the Canadian National Park, the dividing line between which is the summit of the Rockies. The Canadian National Park, in which are the famed Bow Valley, Banff, the well-known popular health and pleasure resort, the Lakes in the Clouds and the Valley of the Ten Peaks, lies on the eastern slope of the mountains. On the western slope is the Yoho Park Reserve in which are embraced the famous Yoho Valley, Field, the charming resort at the base of Mount Stephen, the Ice River Valley, the marvellous canons of the Kicking Horse, part of the Van Horne Range, the Ottertail group and a vast stretch of territory in which are lofty, but often unmeasured peaks, undiscovered crags and valleys, dark canons whose depths have yet to be ascertained, magnificent waterfalls far outrivalling Niagara in height, and huge glaciers and snow fields that are still untrodden by man. The Canadian Pacific Railway traverses the parks from the eastern to the western limits—a distance of seventy-five miles by this route. This is the region in which Edward Whymper, the noted mountaineer who first scaled the Matterhorn, made his explorations recently and of which he wrote: "From any of the heights of the Rockies the outlook is a magnificent one. The vast ranges are appalling in their immensity and grandeur, for here are fifty or sixty Switzerlands rolled into one. The opportunities for mountain climbing are in plenty, and while many individual peaks are doubtless inaccessible, there are lots of mountains yet to be ascended which will bring credit to their conquerors." One of the English journalists who visited British Columbia last year, writes: "The Englishman who visits the distant part of the Empire soon becomes painfully aware of the meagre knowledge we at home possess of a country which sooner or later will be hailed as the most enchanting of all the lands which own and maintain Britain's sway. No other portion of the Empire can match its scenery, and its delicious climate, none excels it in fertility, and none can boast of greater or more varied mineral riches. It is like Switzerland and the Tyrol on a vast scale—or like a score of Switzerlands with loftier mountains, larger lakes, mightier glaciers and rivers, and with a magnificent seaboard in addition, all joined in one. Had it no other attractions, its face alone should prove its fortune; and when its wonderful lake-lands—some of which are now accessible by railway and steamboat—are more generally known, tourists who can afford the time and the money will flock in ever-increasing numbers to these far-western fairylands above the clouds in the Rocky, the Selkirk, and the Cascade Mountains. Already the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has built several tourist hotels in these romantic solitudes, and wealthy Americans have discovered that there are no holiday resorts in the world to surpass, if even to compare with them."

Through the Mountains

The way from the east lies through the entire breadth of the Canadian National Park, the railway line entering the foothills by the Bow River Pass and following up the Bow Valley past Banff, to Laggan, the station for the Lakes in the Clouds. On leaving Laggan the railroad also leaves the Bow River, which now runs nearly north for about 25 miles to its source at the Bow Pass, and follows up Bath Creek. To the southward the scenery is magnificent, with a changing panorama of snow-clad monarchs replacing Mount Temple which for so long has held undisputed sway in that direction. Near Stephen the summit of the Rocky Mountains is crossed, marked by the Great Divide, whence a stream, separating into two rills, flows, one-half into Hudson Bay and the other into the Pacific Ocean. From here the descent of the Kicking Horse Pass begins. At first on the right side of the



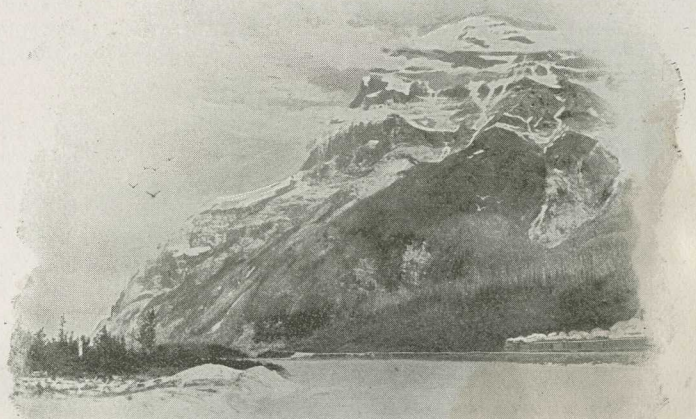
Kicking Horse River, B.C.

stream, the road soon crosses to the left, and clings to the precipitous sides of Cathedral Crags and Mount Stephen. Far below the Kicking Horse River rushes in a series of beautiful cascades, hemmed in closely by rocky walls and well-wooded slopes. A great valley opens to the northward, its eastern side formed by the steeps of Mount Ogden, its western by Mount Field and Wapta Peak, whilst beyond the latter may be seen the Emerald Range, and nearly due north the snowy crests of Mount Collie and Mount Habel, hemming in the valley's head. This is the famed Yoho Valley, which is becoming one of the most popular pleasure grounds of the whole mountains. Ere long the great mass of Mount Field shuts the valley in, and Field Station is reached, nestling at the foot of the great, almost perpendicular crags culminating in the summit of Mount Stephen. Close to the station is the Mount Stephen House.

In traversing the Bow Valley and descending the Kicking Horse Pass from Stephen to Field, the traveller is carried along as if he were walking down an aisle in a gallery a hundred miles long, gazing up at colossal statuary and gigantic pictures ; but this gallery of Nature's art is only one of many mountain-corridors that succeed one another as the tourist proceeds westward. The geological character here, causing the mountains to break and wear under the tooth of time into abrupt cliffs or long escarpments of piled-up ledges, surmounted sometimes by splintered crests, sometimes by massive square-faced summits, gives an architectural character to their outlines far more picturesque, varied, and sublime than is within human imagination.

Field and its Surroundings

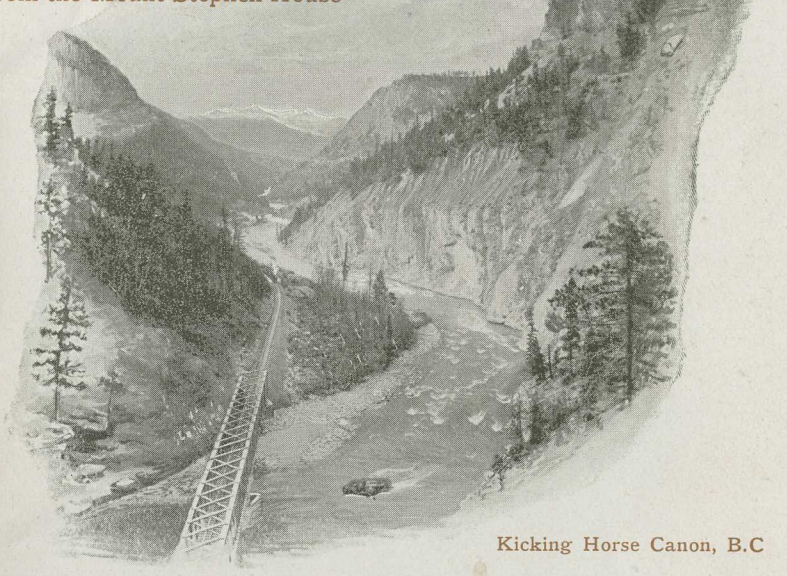
Field is so delightfully and conveniently located that it will be the headquarters for many excursions into the mountain wilds. "No intimation was given me," says Mr. Whymper, the noted mountaineer already quoted, "that I should find Field a charming place, and it has been a pleasant surprise to discover in the heart of the Rockies as delightful a nook as any reasonable person may desire in the midst of attractive scenery. Whether looking north, south, east, or west, the views from Field are fine, and the excursions that can be made in the neighborhood are numerous. I am surprised that the reputation of Field as a winter resort is not more widely known. Thousands now visit the Engadine and other parts of Switzerland each winter, many



Mount Stephen, near Field, B.C.

of them being persons afflicted with pulmonary complaints, on account of the crisp, dry air and the abundance of sunshine, which make outdoor sports a delight. Now in all these respects Field is undoubtedly the peer of any of the Swiss resorts, and I have no doubt whatever, that, when it shall be better known, it will attract many from the United States and Europe."

The most conspicuous point visible from the Mount Stephen House



Kicking Horse Canon, B.C

is Mount Stephen itself, towering 6,500 feet above the railroad. Its ascent is a fine climb, affording magnificent views all the way, culminating in a superb panorama from the summit, whence hundreds of peaks, glaciers and snow fields are visible in every direction. An experienced climber may make the round trip in eight hours from the hotel. Most, however, will prefer to be less hurried, and under the care of one of the sturdy Swiss guides stationed here, make a more leisurely excursion, with ample time to drink in the beauty and the grandeur. The lower portion of the route by a good trail, leading over ancient glacial moraines and terminating at the very interesting geological formation known as the Fossil Bed. This is a rock slide, 300 or 400 feet in vertical height, where every piece of shale or flat slab of rock contains fossil remains of trilobites. From this point a very fine view is obtained of the Van Horne Range, across the Kicking Horse Valley to the westward, whilst to the north are the Emerald Group, studded with glaciers, and beyond them and a little further eastward the great snow peaks of the Continental Divide, Mts. Habel, Collie, Gordon, Balfour and others, tower above the Yoho Valley, one of whose great waterfalls is plainly in sight. Far away to the southeast may be descried Mount Assiniboine, whilst nearer at hand are Mount Victoria and the other big peaks of the Lake Louise region, and to the southwest the splendid masses of Mount Goodsir, the Chancellor and Mount Vaux.

Of less ambitious trips, Field can offer its full share. The best known attraction is perhaps the Natural Bridge, about 2½ miles distant down the Kicking Horse River. A trail leads to it from the Emerald Lake Road. Here a series of ledges of rock, standing nearly

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Aug. 24/93

vertical, has been undermined and cut through by the action of the water, which dashes and foams in its narrow channel, whilst an overhanging mass of rock forms the bridge itself.

Arnold Hague, Chief of the United States Geological Survey, Washington, writes of this phenomenon: "The Natural Bridge over the Kicking Horse is one of the most attractive objects near Field, and to all lovers of scenery will well repay a visit. It should not be overlooked by anyone interested in physical geography or in the wear and tear of torrents. Formerly this stone bridge formed a barrier across the river, the stream pouring over the top, in what must have been a picturesque waterfall. Now the water has forced a passage through the limestone rock, lowering the level of the river, and pours with great force through a narrow gorge not more than twenty inches wide. A short distance above the bridge, the Kicking Horse is more than 100 feet in width, and is now slowly but steadily widening its passage through the nearly vertical walls of the limestone barrier. It is one of the most interesting of all natural bridges. The walk there is most charming and the view from the bridge over the torrent grand and panoramic." One mile below this point, although rarely visited, is an attractive canon.

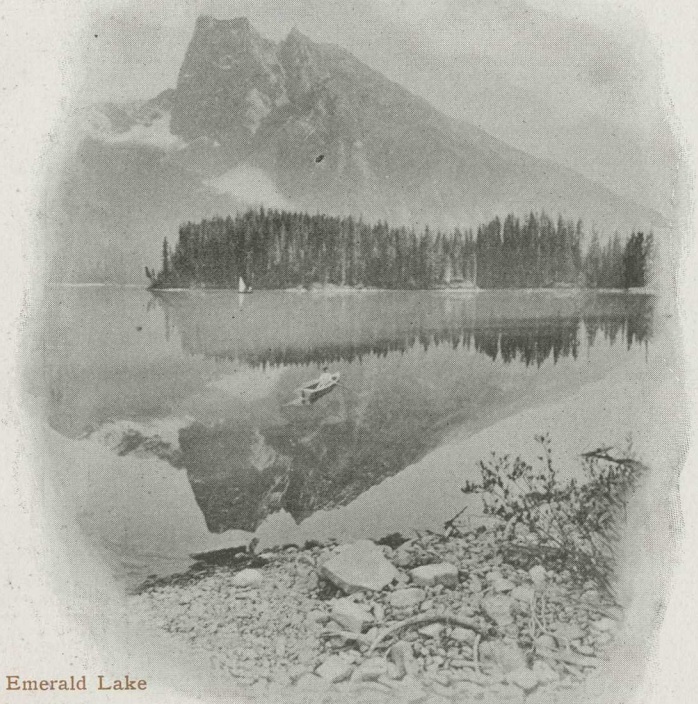
Immediately facing the traveller as he stands on the porches of the Mount Stephen House is Burgess Pass, the divide between Mount Field and Mount Burgess. A good trail makes this pass easily accessible, and the fine views afforded well repay the climb of a couple of thousand feet. The Kicking Horse Valley, the Ottertail Group, and Mounts Stephen and Cathedral are the most prominent objects on the one hand, whilst on the other it seems as if by a step one would reach Emerald Lake and the magnificent snowy peaks surrounding it.

Another short trip is to follow up the river bank above Field to Monarch Cabins where the Yoho Valley joins the Kicking Horse Pass. The views of Mount Stephen, with its hanging glacier, and Cathedral

Mount Stephen House, Field B.C.

Crags are very fine from this point. A short walk through the woods brings one to the canons through which flow the Kicking Horse and Yoho rivers.

No one, however, having a few hours to spare, should miss the walk along the railroad, if possible as far as Hector Station, a distance of about seven miles. Though the trains are run with great caution and move but slowly over this part of the road, there is not time to see



Emerald Lake

all that this wondrous pass has in store for the lover of Nature. To saunter slowly and study the ever-changing panoramas is the more satisfactory way.

A silver mine on Mount Stephen, at an elevation of 2,500 feet above the railway track, is an interesting spot for visitors, and can be reached without any difficulty.

More ambitious mountaineers, who wish to climb, will not pass by the Ottertail Range just west of Field. Here has been done some of the most difficult climbing work so far accomplished in America, and as yet the most important peak of the group, Mount Goodsir, remains unconquered. The other big peaks of this range, Mount Vaux and the Chancellor, afford some splendid climbing, both rock and snow.

Mount Stephen House

The increasing popularity of Field, as its attractions have become better known, necessitated greater accommodation than the old Mt. Stephen House afforded. The result has been the erection of a new chalet hotel of the same name with much greater accommodation, suites of rooms with private baths, billiard room and the same admirable service which is characteristic of the Canadian Pacific Mountain hotels. It has a livery in connection where carriages, pack and saddle horses can be secured at moderate rates, and outfits of cooks and porters are also available. There is also a dark room at the disposal of guests for development of photographs. The rates range from $3.00 to $5.50 per day, with special arrangements for those making prolonged visits.

Hints to Photographers

So many persons have made inquiry for hints with respect to photographing among the Canadian Rockies that a few suggestions to the ever-growing number of devotees of the camera may not be amiss in this publication. Comfortable dark rooms, freely open to the use of guests, are provided at the hotels at Banff, Lake Louise, Field and the Great Glacier, those at the two latter points having an ample supply of running water.

By far the larger number of tourists who use a camera are equipped with some form of Kodak. To these and other users of hand cameras the only caution necessary is to bear in mind that in high altitudes the actinic effect of the light is very much increased. It is probably safe, generally speaking, to employ the diaphragm and speed of shutter which are recommended in the printed instructions accompanying such cameras, as suitable for exposures at the seashore.

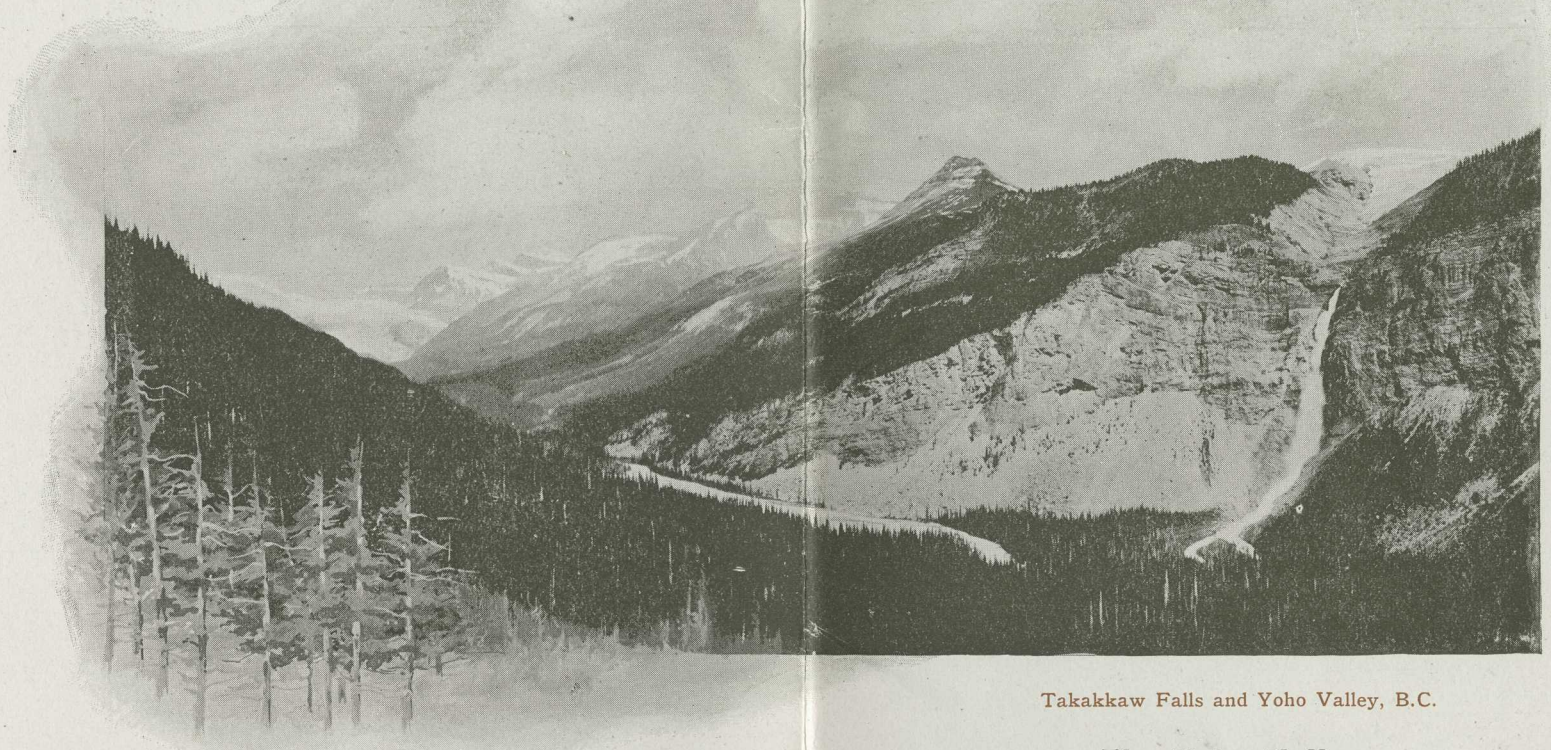
This advice also applies to those using tripod cameras. It will be found that some one of the makes of color sensitive plates now on the market will be far more satisfactory in rendering ice, and snow, and clouds than the ordinary plates. Some workers have obtained excellent results by the use of the ray filter. As a rule the best effect of light and shade can be secured before 11 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

Swiss Guides

Here, as at other points in the mountains, the C.P.R. has stationed a competent corps of experienced Swiss Guides, who during the tourist season can be secured to accompany parties on any of the many delightful excursions of the vicinity. Unless specially engaged to make difficult ascents or extended explorations—when the fee is $5 per day for each guide—no charge is made for their services.

Emerald Lake

Of all mountain waters, there are few that rival Emerald Lake in all that makes perfect scenic loveliness. The Lake is reached by an excellent wagon road down the bank of the Kicking Horse River and thence around the base of Mount Burgess. A spacious chalet erected last year at the lake affords comfortable accommodation. It is elegantly furnished, and has spacious bedrooms, pleasant sitting and smoking rooms, etc., and is under the same management as the Mount Stephen House. The glimpses of the snowy peaks of the Emerald Range, of Mount Field, Mount Burgess, the Ottertail Range and other great mountains, as seen across this charming sheet of water and through the magnificent forests, are not to be excelled. At one point, "Snow Peak Avenue," the road is cut through the deep forest, in an absolutely straight line, for a distance of upwards of a mile. From the vista thus formed a fine snow peak is visible at each end—Mount Vaux to the westward, and one of the Emerald Range to the eastward. There is capital fishing in Emerald Lake, and boats are to be obtained.



Takakkaw Falls and Yoho Valley, B.C.

The Yoho Valley

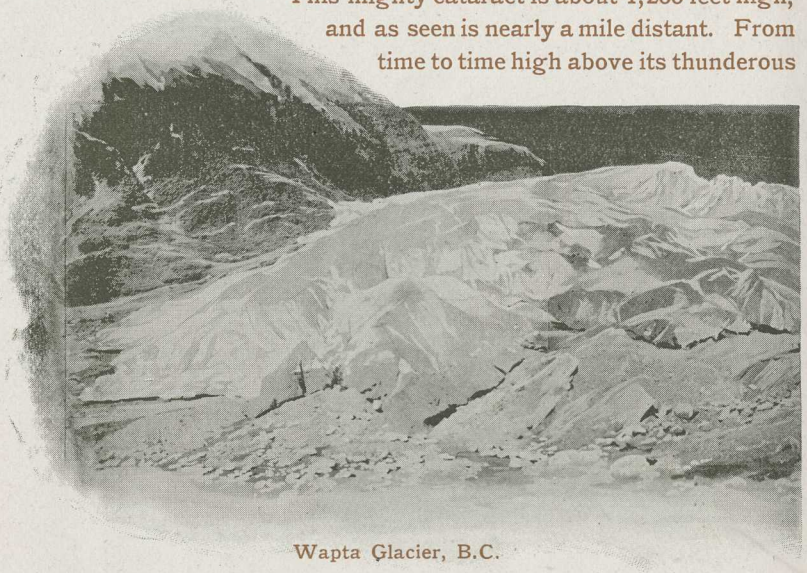
Field is the portal of the Yoho Valley which lies to the north—a region which is described by an eminent explorer as "resembling the Yosemite, but whose environing mountains are more elevated and magnificent."

The trip to the Yoho Valley is one that is most attractive to every lover of Nature, exhibiting as it does a greater variety of beauty and grandeur than any other in the vicinity. The usual route is to follow the wagon road to Emerald Lake, seven miles distant from Field. At the lake the tourist leaves the wagon and takes a saddle pony, or walks, as his fancy dictates, and follows the excellent trail around the head of the lake and up the steep mountain side beyond. On his left the hang-

ing glaciers light up marvellously in the brilliant sunshine, the streams from them falling in a series of beautiful threadlike cascades some 800 to 1,000 feet. The summit of the pass is in thick timber, and about 1,800 feet above Emerald Lake. Here is an exquisite little tarn, Yoho Lake, on whose grassy shores are the most tempting camping grounds.

In every direction game trails thread the forest, while bear and deer are not infrequently gotten by hunters at some distance and small game is plentiful.

From Yoho Lake it is but a half-hour's walk to the Look-out point, whence a superb view of the splendid Takakkaw Fall is had. This mighty cataract is about 1,200 feet high, and as seen is nearly a mile distant. From time to time high above its thunderous



Wapta Glacier, B.C.

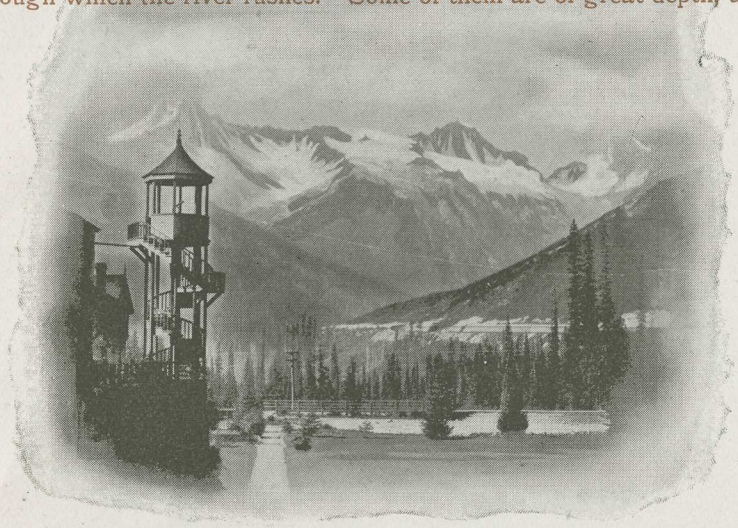
roar a mighty booming is heard, caused perhaps by the crashing of great rocks, which are carried down by the stream. The river which forms the fall flows but a short distance above from the forefoot of the glacier which extends from Mount Balfour to Mount Niles. Hence there is always a good volume of water, though on the afternoon of a warm day the size of the stream is very much increased. The light then is also better. The Takakkaw Fall has justly been compared with some other of the world's famous cataracts. In impressiveness and beauty, it is equal to those in the Yosemite Valley, but it has the advantage over them in that the stream never runs dry, and, being glacier fed, the warmer the season, the larger is the volume of water.

With this grand fall ever in view, the descent to the floor of the valley, 1,000 feet below, is made by an excellent zigzag trail, shaded by magnificent white spruce trees, oftentimes several feet in diameter at the butt, the ground carpeted with many flowers. Soon the visitor is led to the foot of the Takakkaw Fall, which, from below, presents new grandeurs and beauties. Hours can be spent on a charming grassy flower-bedecked meadow watching the everchanging cataract, upon which the wind has a very marked effect. At this point a shelter is erected.

Continuing up the valley numerous cascades are seen or heard, for every stream from the glacier-studded mountains above has to make a leap before it can reach the valley floor. One of these, the Laughing Fall, is most attractive. Its height is not great, perhaps only a couple

of hundred feet, but the setting of dark evergreens makes a delightful contrast with the dancing waters. The stream flows from the upper Yoho Valley.

Among the most striking attractions are a series of deep canons through which the river rushes. Some of them are of great depth, and



Observation Tower, Glacier, B.C.

present a most wild appearance as viewed from the vantage point of some jutting ledge, with the stream madly rushing and torn to foam a hundred feet or more below.

Several miles above the Takakkaw Fall the trail forks, and here again a shelter is provided for the convenience of tourists. Following the right hand branch, before long one is led to the brink of a steep rocky wall, which hems in on its western side the great Wapta Glacier, greater than the famous Illecillewaet Glacier of the Selkirks. Above rise the mighty peaks of Mount Gordon and Mount Balfour, the latter flanked by the serrated summit of Trolltinderne — "The Witch's Crown." Like most of the other glaciers of the district, the Wapta is receding. This characteristic is here shown, however, by the ice becoming thinner, instead of so marked a retreat up the valley as is evident elsewhere. The reason for this is, that this glacier is hemmed in by nearly perpendicular precipices, so that with the diminished supply of ice, the stream is becoming shallower ; shortening will ultimately ensue. Notwithstanding its rough appearance this glacier is readily ascended by an expert, or under the care of a Swiss guide. Two or three hours' climbing will disclose the magnificent snow-peaks of Mount Habel and Mount Collie, from which it flows. The crevasses on the Wapta Glacier appear to be the result of the forcing of the ice stream between its narrow walls, as is explained in the little pamphlet entitled "Glaciers," published by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Looking back from the foot of the glacier, a splendid mountain prospect is seen, including from right to left Wapta Peak, Mount Stephen, Mount Odaray, Mount Cathedral and the high peaks adjacent to Lake Louise.

From the fork in the trail mentioned, the left-hand path winds past the foot of one of the fine canons which abound in the Yoho Valley. After an ascent of about 400 feet through the trees, are caught the first satisfactory glimpses of the Twin Falls, which, as their name indicates, are two falls descending side by side. Their height is pro-

bably 600 to 700 feet, which is inferior to that of the Takakkaw Fall, but in volume of water, beauty and grandeur of setting, they are fully its equal, and make up by their uniqueness what they may lack in height. No other similar waterfalls are known, and there is a fascination in studying them as the shadows thrown by the shooting rockets of water chase one another.

The return to Field may be made by the high trail which, leaving Yoho Lake, skirts the cliffs of Wapta Peak and Mount Field, and crosses the Burgess Pass, separating the latter peak from Mount Burgess. From this pass splendid views are had across Emerald Lake thousands of feet below to the Emerald Range, on the one hand, and of Mount Cathedral, Mount Stephen, Mount Dennis and the Ottertail Range on the other. The descent to the Mount Stephen House, now plainly in view, is speedily made by an excellent zigzag trail.

In this new wonderland there are admirable opportunities for mountain climbing, pretty park lands which form splendid camping grounds, and the sportsman has chances for rare sport, the botanist finds a virgin field of wild flowers and plants, and the sight-seer an incomparable wealth of scenic grandeur to delight his eyes. The round trip from Yoho Lake can be made in a day, but so entrancing are the surroundings that it is probable two or more days will be willingly given up to this outing by the average individual, for in the Yoho Valley is found all that is attractive to the lover of the grand and the beautiful.

The Great Glacier

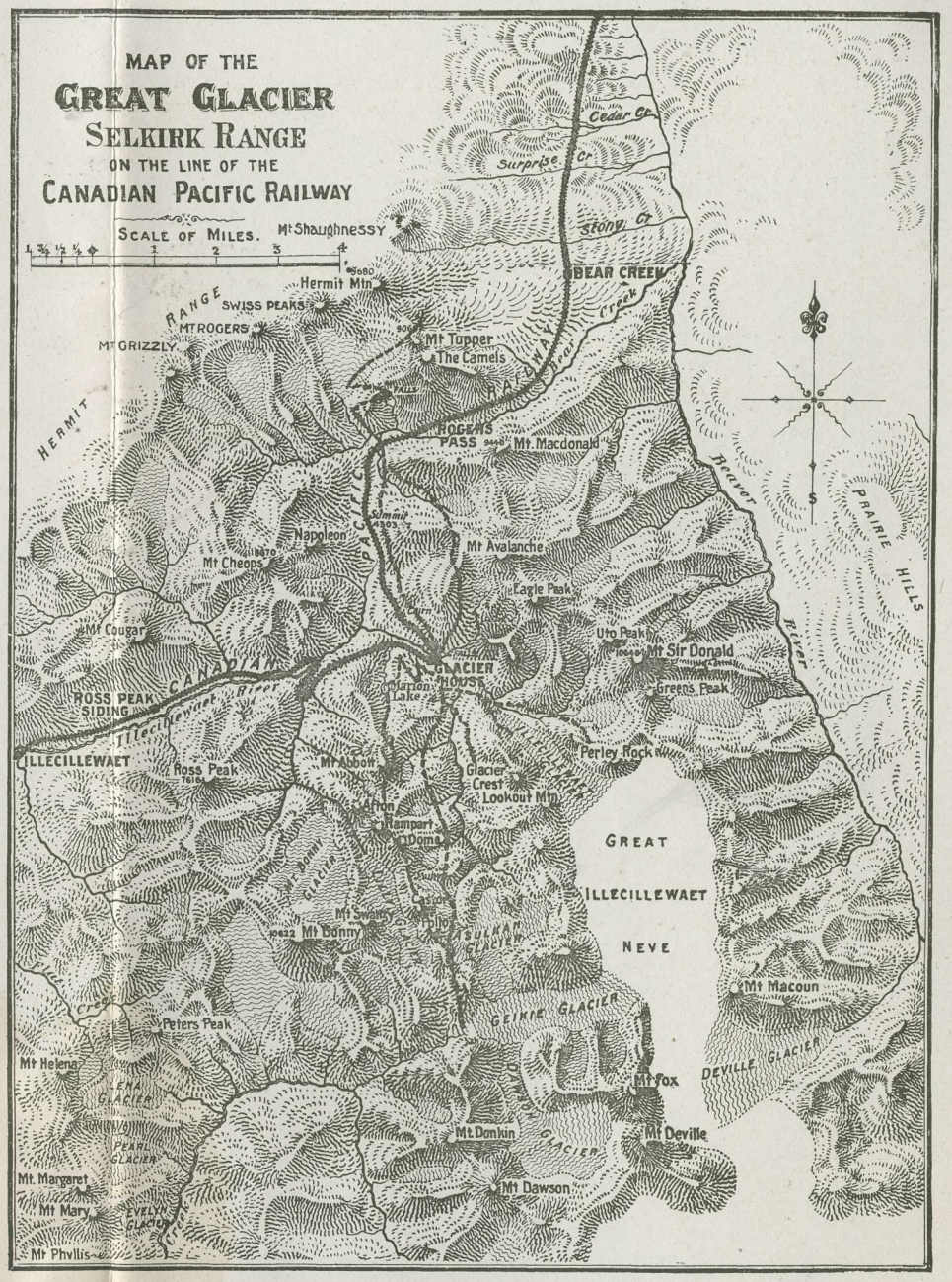
In the heart of the Selkirks, the second great range of mountains, is the Great Glacier, one of the grandest marvels of Nature, eighty-six miles beyond Mount Stephen. Within thirty minutes' walk of this wonderful sea of ice is the Glacier House, the popularity of which is such that the railway company has found it necessary to enlarge the original hotel, erect new buildings and increase the capacity of the annex, until now nearly two hundred guests can be comfortably accommodated.

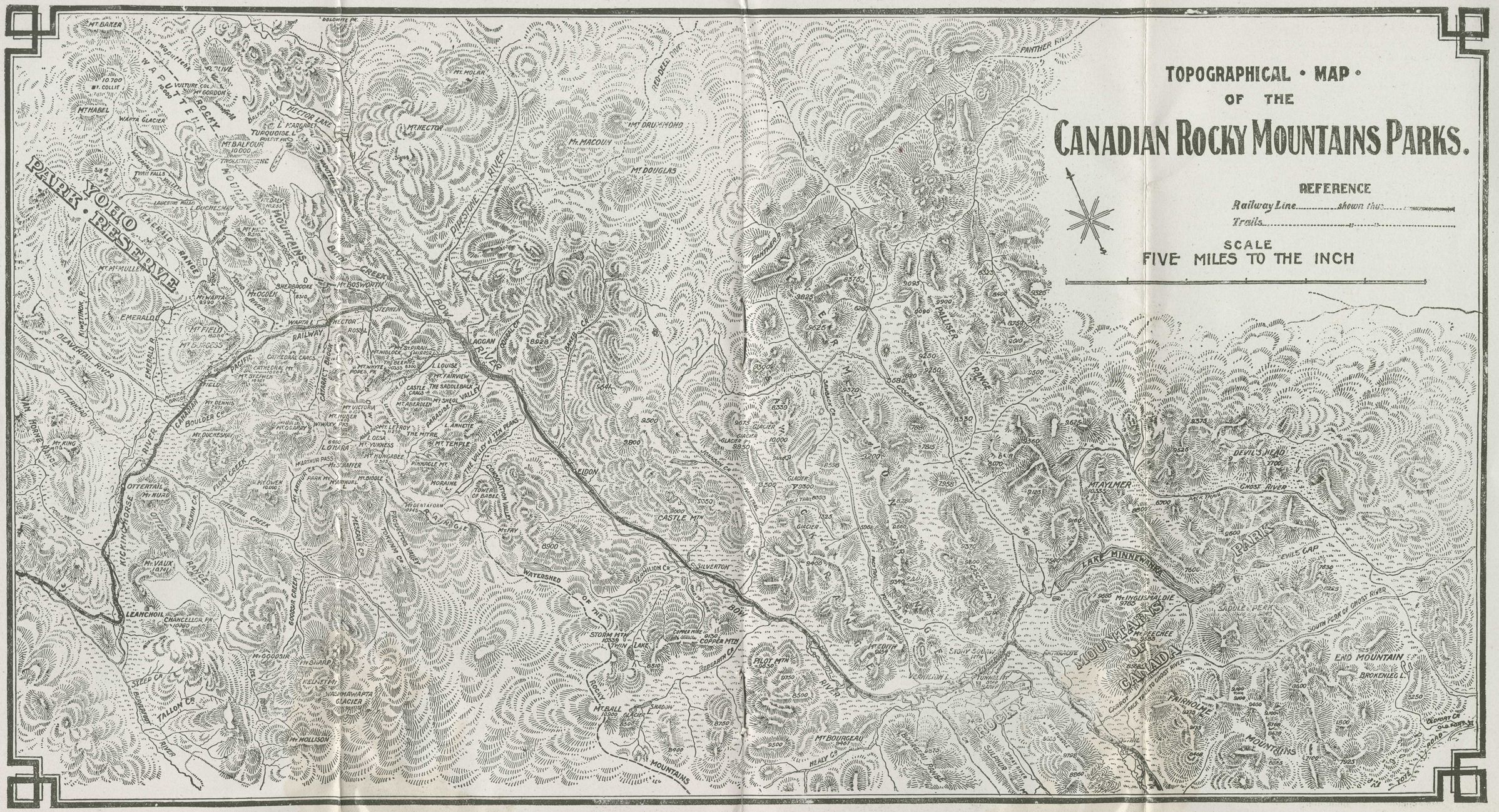
The many attractions of the Great Glacier will doubtless puzzle the traveller who for the first time visits this most charming of spots. Visitors come year after year, so delighted are they with the splendor of the scenery, and one of them, Mr. George Vaux, Jr., of Philadelphia, furnishes a description which is of such general interest and usefulness, that the following excerpts are made from it :—

"The Great Glacier naturally claims attention first. The distance to the forefoot of this frozen river is one and one-half miles, there being a good trail crossing the Asulkan River, and following the Illecillewaet River, to which birth is given by the glacier, till the moraine is reached. One can here see how slowly but surely the ice field has receded in the last ten

years. A trip over the ice itself, under the protecting care of one of the Swiss guides, is not only novel, but reveals much that is interesting and beautiful.

"Another trail leads to Marion Lake, where a shelter is erected, and thence to Mount Abbott. The lake is about 1,750 feet above the hotel, and the distance by trail, which is good, though steep in places, is less than two miles. On the way up, exquisite views of Eagle Peak and Sir Donald are had through the trees, while a path skirting the north end of the lake leads to Observation Point, whence superb views of Rogers' Pass and the Loop Valley are obtained, with the silver thread of the Illecillewaet, flanked by the railroad, winding through the latter. The ascent from the lake to the summit of Mt. Abbott should




TOPOGRAPHICAL • MAP •
OF THE
CANADIAN ROCKY MOUNTAINS PARKS.
REFERENCE
Railway Line.....shown thus.....
Trails.....
SCALE
FIVE MILES TO THE INCH
PARK YOHO RESERVE
WAPTA ROCKY MOUNTAINS
HECTOR LAKE
MT. HECTOR
MT. MACOUN
MT. DRUMMOND
MT. DOUGLAS
PIPESTONE RIVER
BOW RIVER
ACCAN RIVER
BATH CREEK
EMERALD
MT. FIELD
MT. BURGESS
EMERALD RANGE
DEAVERFAIL RIVER
OTTERTAIL RIVER
KICKING HORSE RIVER
LEANCHOIL
CHANCELLOR PK.
MT. VAUX
OTTERTAIL RANGE
STEEP CR.
TALLON CR.
BEAVERFOOT RIVER
MT. HOLLISON
WASHMAWAPTA GLACIER
MT. GOODSIR
MT. SHARP
MT. STEPHEN
HECTOR
ROSSI
CATHEDRAL CRAGS
CATHEDRAL PASS
CASTLE MTN.
SILVERTON
WATERSHED OF THE
STORM MTN.
COPPER MTN.
PILOT MTN.
MT. BALL
SHADOW L.
MT. BOURGEAU
HEALY CR.
MOUNTAINS
PANTHER RIVER
HALLISER RANGE
MT. AYLMER
DEVIL'S HEAD
GHOST RIVER
LAKE MINNEWANKA
PARKS
MT. INGLISPALDIE
SADDLE PEAK
SOUTH FORK OF GHOST RIVER
END MOUNTAIN
BROKEN LEG L.
MOUNTAINS OF CANADA
FAIRHOLME
CARROT CREEK
PACK TRAIL TO GHOST RIVER
BLOODY CR.
OLD FORT
SQUAW RIVER
MT. EDITH
VERMILION L.
SULPHUR
MT. BRUCE
MT. MCLEOD
MT. MCMULLEN
MT. WAPTA
MT. BOSWORTH
MT. BALFOUR
MT. HABEL
MT. BAKER
MT. COLLIE
MT. GORDON
MT. MOLAR
MT. DENNIS
MT. VICTORIA
MT. LEFROY
MT. TEMPLE
MT. FAIRVIEW
MT. ABERDEEN
MT. SHEOL
MT. BIDDLE
MT. OWEN
MT. NUBA
MT. CHAPPER
MT. DENTAFORM
MT. FAY
MT. DUCHESNAY
MT. KING
MT. WIWAXY
MT. YUKNESS
MT. HUNGABEE
MT. OESA
MT. MCGARY
MT. MCCARTHY
MT. MCCRAE
MT. MCLEAN
MT. MCINTYRE
MT. MCGUIRE
MT. MCKA

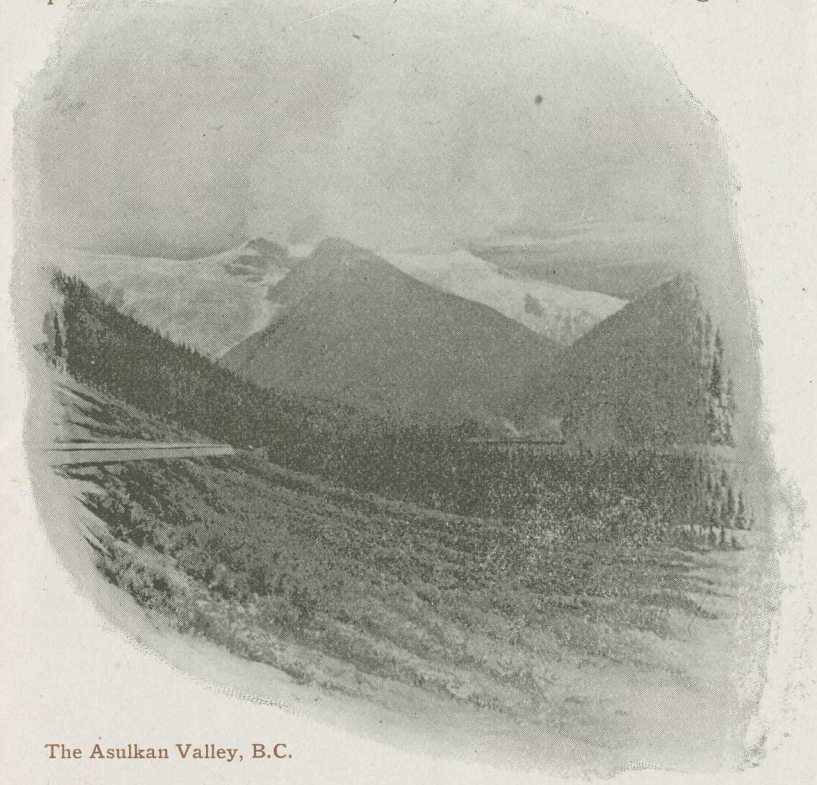
be made by everyone at all equal to the exertion of a day's climb. With the improved condition of the trail and an early start, the ascent may be made in a few hours with ease by persons unaccustomed to mountaineering. A branch trail leads from Marion Lake, and skirting Mount Abbott terminates above Asulkan Valley, affording very fine views.

The Asulkan Valley and Glacier

"Possibly the most charming of any of the excursions is that up the Asulkan Valley, a gem of Alpine beauty which was first explored in 1888. The name "Asulkan" given to this valley with the glacier and pass at its southern end, is Indian for the mountain goat, which is at times found here in large numbers. The Asulkan Valley is hemmed in on its eastern side by Glacier Crest and the ridges running from it to the southward, which form the western side of the great Illecillewaet névé, or snowfield. On its western side the valley is bounded by the long range which is comprised in order, beginning at the north, of Mounts Abbott, Afton, the Rampart, the Dome, Castor and Pollux. A series of glaciers sweeps down from all of these except Abbott, and the streams flowing from them form a number of most graceful and beautiful waterfalls. The Seven Falls, so far unnamed in detail, at

Mount Sir Donald, Selkirk Range, B.C.

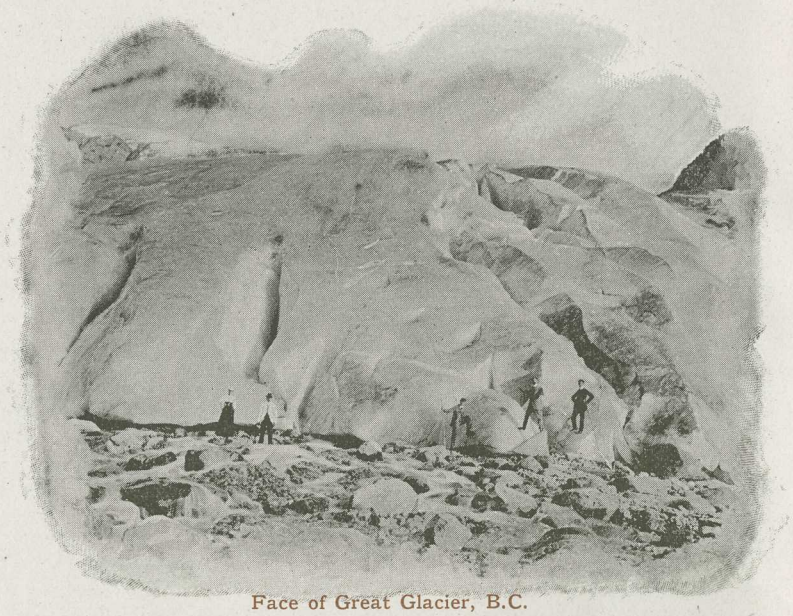
other places would be considered worthy of special attention. The rich meadows would prove tempting pastures for herds of cattle or flocks of goats. At the distance of two and one-half or three miles the river is contracted between narrow and rocky walls, and the canon sides here show no striking signs of glacial action. Emerging from the gorge, the path leads over an old moraine, across the stream flowing in from



The Asulkan Valley, B.C.

the east, and thence up a very steep, grassy slope to the shelter erected for the accommodation of tourists. This point is about 2,000 feet above Glacier House, and about five miles distant from it. From about this level superb views of the Asulkan Glacier are had, while the glaciers covering the sides of the Dome, Castor and Pollux are exceedingly striking. The ice-towers, pinnacles, obelisks, minarets and turrets are of surpassing grandeur and beauty, and the sight of them is an ample recompense to any one who takes this trip, which, in fact, includes more variety than any of the others now easily accessible. Looking from near the shelter to the north, the Hermit Range is most beautifully set out, while nearer at hand and passing eastward come in order the summits of Mount Avalanche, Eagle Peak and Sir Donald, the latter manifesting quite a different aspect from that seen from other positions. From the shelter the ridge may be followed upward for a mile or more, till sufficient elevation is obtained to observe the peaks of the Dawson Range. The total distance of the round trip is some twelve or fourteen miles, and the time occupied about the same number of hours for an ordinary walker who does not wish to hurry. A variation of this trip is to follow upward along the crest of the great moraine just east of the Glacier, instead of climbing the grassy slopes to the shack.

"The trip to Glacier Crest is not so often taken, but the view from

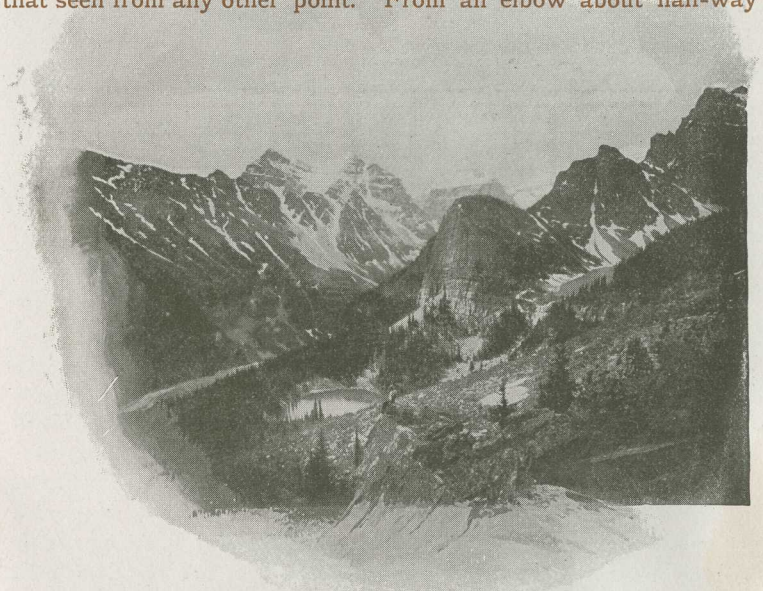


Face of Great Glacier, B.C.

the summit is well worth the exertion. This excursion should only be taken by ascending the face of the Glacier, and turning off on the rocks at a high elevation, though the descent may be made by a faintly marked trail through the woods.

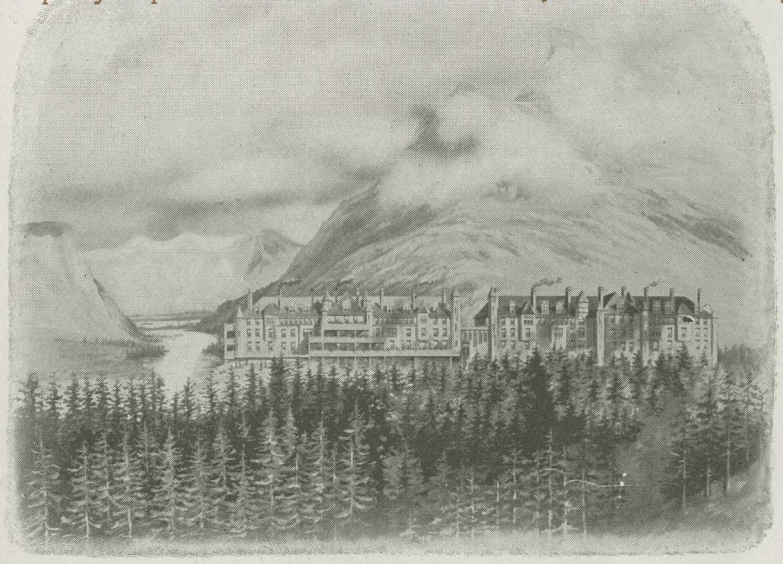
Mount Avalanche

"Another excellent trail is that to the top of the Cascade, and thence to the grassy slopes which culminate in the fine twin peak of Mount Avalanche. The view is a superb one when the points outlined against the sky just above the snowsheds are reached, and in many respects rivals that from Mount Abbott. The most striking object is, perhaps, Mount Sir Donald, which rises as a square pyramid. Two sides are visible, and it thus presents an entirely different aspect from that seen from any other point. From an elbow about half-way up,



Lakes in the Clouds

where the trail reaches its most southern point, a fine view of the Great Glacier and its rough ice fall is had, and throughout, where it can be seen through the trees, the Asulkan Valley is most exquisitely beautiful. This trip should have a day devoted to it, if possible, and the visitor is strongly urged on this, as on the other more extended trips, to make an early start. The morning light discloses beauties not dreamed of, and should the weather be warm, as it sometimes is at mid-day, one gets the advantage of doing the hardest part of the work in the cool of the day. An early breakfast and a substantial lunch are always obtainable without difficulty. The ascent of Mount Avalanche itself affords all the delights of a true Alpine climb, and whilst not difficult from the standpoint of the mountaineer, should not be attempted without a guide except by experts. From the summit literally hundreds of snowy



Banff Hotel, Canadian National Park

peaks are visible, all sinking into insignificance below the towering height of Sir Donald. The trip is an exhilarating one, is varied with rock and ice work, and on the descent a glissade may be enjoyed over the steep névé of the Mount Avalanche glacier.

The Monarch of the Selkirks

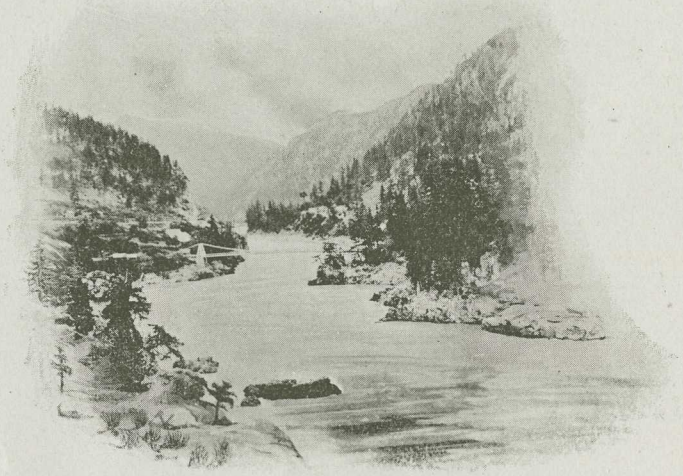
"But no real lover of mountains will rest satisfied till he has climbed Sir Donald, the Monarch of the Selkirks, which so long defied the attempts of climbers to reach its summit, but whose ascent may now be made without undue risk or exertion under the skilled leadership of the Swiss guides. The climb to the summit will occupy several hours, and whilst they are hours of labor, they are filled to overflowing with beauty and grandeur. The real summit, which is not seen from Glacier House, commands a superb and unbroken panorama in every direction. From here alone the great extent of the vast snowfields which feed the numerous glaciers, and the mighty peaks of the unknown surrounding wilderness—many of them a hundred or more miles distant can be appreciated.

Other Places of Interest

"In contrast to these expeditions to higher levels is the always beautiful and attractive walk to Rogers' Pass along the trail above the snowsheds. This affords the opportunity to enjoy with more leisure the views which the westbound traveller has only just caught while scurrying through on the 'Imperial Limited.' Climbers also will appreciate this trail with its continuation taking them high up on the flanks of the Swiss Peaks. These mountains rival Sir Donald in height, and their ascent is not the least attractive point the mountaineer will aim for.

"Another pleasant walk is that along the railroad to the Loop, whence the changing panoramas of peaks are ever new and attractive. The view of Mt. Bonney, which lies to the south of Ross Peak, as seen from the top of the Loop, is very beautiful.

"There are yet other trails to follow, and in such a sea of mountains, most of them yet awaiting their conquerors, the variety of view and diversity of experience is infinite.



The Fraser Canon, B.C.

"These notes are only intended to start the visitor with a few suggestions as to the attractions of the surroundings of Glacier House. If he has spent a week or more the foregoing outline will have kept his time fully occupied, and the familiarity he will have gained with the vicinity will enable him to outline numerous other trips equally delightful but taking more time".

During the tourist season a corps of Swiss guides is stationed here, who, as at Field, and the Lakes in the Clouds, will personally conduct mountain climbers who desire to make expeditions to places difficult of access. Ponies, which are generally used here as pack animals, are obtainable at reasonable rates, the charge to the Glacier being $1.00, or for a full day's trip $2.00 per pony. There is fairly good trout fishing at the Loop, and much better a few miles further west, and excellent grouse shooting in the fall. At the hotel are many sources of amusement for guests—billiard hall, bowling alley, and swings for the children. An observatory has been erected, and a large telescope been placed at the hotel. There is a dark room here for photographers. The rates are $3.00 per day and upwards, special arrangements being made with those making prolonged visits.

Banff, the Beautiful

At Banff, in the Canadian National Park, on the eastern slope of the Rockies, are the marvellous Banff Hot Springs, near which the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has erected a large and excellently appointed hotel, where the River Spray rushes furiously over a series of rapids into the Bow River. The hotel, perched on a promontory overlooking the valley which carries the mingled waters of the two rivers through the great natural park, commands uninterrupted and glorious views of the peaks and stretches of the Rockies in all directions, and its delightful situation and magnificent environments make it the favorite rendezvous, during the summer months, of tourists from all parts of the globe. Pleasant drives lead to high altitudes, and Lake Minnewanka and the Bow River afford capital boating and fishing. Banff has not only unusual attractions in its surroundings, but there are many points of interest—the Cave and Basin, the Bow Falls, the observatory on Sulphur Mountain, Sun Dance Canon, the Hoodoos, National Museum, herd of buffalo, etc.—that delight visitors. The hotel has accommodation for 300 guests and the rates are $3.50 and upwards per day with special rates for those making prolonged visits. A motor car will be run during summer months between Banff and Laggan, which will afford excellent facilities for parties wishing to make expeditions through the Bow Valley. The car is upholstered in leather, has seating capacity for 14, and the motive power is supplied by an electro-gasoline engine.

The Lakes in the Clouds

Between Field and Banff are the Lakes in the Clouds, a magnificent trinity of mountain waters of rare beauty. They are reached from Laggan by a short drive along the mountain side to Lake Louise where a chalet with accommodation for 70 guests is erected. Lakes Mirror (altitude 6,550 feet) and Agnes (altitude 6820 feet) are reached by good trails, and other trails branch off to Paradise Valley and the Valley of the Ten Peaks, both of which rival the Lakes in the Clouds region in their beauty.

For detailed description of Banff and the Lakes in the Clouds see folder devoted specially to those places.

Up the Columbia

One of the most pleasant trips that can be made in British Columbia is that by steamer from Golden—nearly half-way between Field and Glacier—to Lake Windermere, one of the Mother Lakes of the great Columbia River, passing through the foothills of the Rockies on the one hand and the Selkirks on the other. Leaving Golden, the Columbia is divided into several narrow channels, the banks of which, for the first fifty miles, are heavily wooded, tall cottonwoods, willows, and the wild rose being predominant, but at Spillamachene the valley broadens, and a park-like bunch grass country is entered, in which is a string of fine fishing lakes lying from four to eight miles west of the river. These lakes are easy of access by good pack trails, and, never having been

fished except by miners and prospectors, offer magnificent sport to the fisherman. They lie at an elevation of three thousand feet above the sea, overshadowed by Mount Ethelbert, the highest peak in sight of the Columbia. Passing through the perpendicular banks of the river, which rise to a height of from one to two hundred feet and have been carved by the action of the streams from melting snow into the most fantastic shapes, Lake Windermere is approached. The placid lake, ten miles long and a couple broad, at the base of the rolling green foothills, with its background of the grim Rockies and the Selkirks, presents a view which can never be forgotten. At Windermere, half-way up the lake, there is good hotel and boating accommodation. No meadow or swamp land is in the vicinity, and there is a consequent freedom from mosquitoes. A large steamer of the sternwheel pattern leaves Golden on Tuesdays and Fridays during June, July and August, returning from Windermere on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Down the Arrow Lakes

Another delightful trip is that down the Columbia River and Arrow Lakes to the Kootenay Country, which can be made from Revelstoke, 44 miles west of the Great Glacier. The Columbia, which was seen at Golden running north makes a great detour—while the railway has cut across the mountains—and at Revelstoke it flows south. Branching away from the main line at Revelstoke, the head of the lakes is reached in a little over an hour, and then, for a distance of a hundred and twenty miles, the steamer threads a lake never more than three miles wide, frequently much narrower, banked on either side with high hills, whose massive frames are hidden under a belt of soft green mountain foliage. At Halcyon Hot Springs is an excellently appointed hotel, with a complete system of baths. The waters have admirable medicinal qualities, and the pleasant surroundings make this a favorite resort for health and pleasure seekers.

The tour of the mining regions can be made by this route—there being rail connectlon from Nakusp with Sandon in the Slocan silver-lead district, and with the Rossland and Boundary mining districts from West Robson. An English writer says of the latter trip: "It is impossible to give an adequate description of the beauty of the scene, which becomes more amazing if, after reaching Robson, the traveller will take a train into the Boundary district. At the outset the trains run back along Arrow Lake, but ever mounting, crawling round narrow curves, over high bridges, until at last it rests on the brink of a precipice, at the bottom of which, a thousand feet below, lies the lake. It is a picture painted in the softest shades of green. The waters of the lake reflect on their placid surface the shadows and contours of the wooded heights, and for miles on either side the lake winds in and out, now bending one way, now the other, ever forming a charming perspective, on which the eye lingers in perpetual delight." From Robson, Nelson, on an arm of Kootenay Lake is reached by rail which parallels the bank of the turbulent Lower Kootenay River, an exceptionally good fishing water, and at Nelson he will find a number of pleasant tours open to him, and he can, if he will, charter a house-boat and enjoy an outing on the lake amidst the most delightful surroundings, and with a certainty of good sport with both the rod and gun in season.

Hotel Sicamous

On an arm of Shuswap Lake, in the valley on the western side of the Gold Range, is the Hotel Sicamous, a handsome, well-appointed and elegantly furnished structure. In the lake, whose arms stretch out like the tentacles of an octopus, is capital fishing—rainbow trout, the the gamest of fish, being plentiful; and the shooting in the vicinity is

Hotel Sicamous, B.C.

unexcelled. There is a houseboat on Shuswap Lake, and it can be chartered by fishing and shooting parties, it being towed from point to point by a small tug. Row-boats and other craft are also procurable. Sicamous is the gateway to the famed Okanagan Valley, a noted hunting ground, which is reached by branch railway. One of the Company's fine steamers plies on Lake Okanagan, and outings on it are pleasant and enjoyable.

The Fraser Canon House

At North Bend, on the Fraser River, is the last of these mountain hotels—the Fraser Canon House—and it is in all respects similar to the others. Here the incomparable wild flowers for which British Columbia is famed reach the highest perfection, and grow in wonderful profusion, making the spot one of unparallelled loveliness. The gardens and lawns of the hotel are perhaps the finest in Canada, and are a great attraction to the tourist. The hotel is in the immediate neighborhood of some of the most remarkable and furious reaches of the Fraser River, which for over 50 miles rushes through narrow and picturesque canons, before reaching the fertile country of its delta below Yale, and makes a convenient base from which these wonders can be explored. There is a pretty series of cascades a short fifteen minutes' walk back of the hotel, and one mile west is a favorite spot for salmon spearing, it being an interesting sight to witness the Indians engaged in this occupation, and even more interesting for the tourist to participate in it himself, as he is, in the season, easily enabled to do. At Scuzzie, four and one-half miles west, and Salmon River, four miles east, there is capital trout fishing, and a trip to Hope by rail for a day's fishing is a popular outing.

Hotel Vancouver

At Vancouver, a short distance from the harbor, and commanding a series of views of the bay and the surrounding country, is the Canadian Pacific Company's Hotel Vancouver, the principal hotel of the city, and one unsurpassed in its appointments and general comfort by any on the Pacific Coast. It has recently been rebuilt. It is at all times well

patronized, summer and winter, but on the arrival and departure of the Japan and China, or Australian steamers, is more than usually bright and busy. Adjoining it is the Opera House, one of the most charming theatres outside of New York, and this, with other attractions has served to make the hotel so popular that is has been found absolutely necessary to largely increase the size of the building.

This series of hotels, with the Chateau Frontenac on the famed Dufferin Terrace at Quebec, and the Place Viger, facing Viger Square

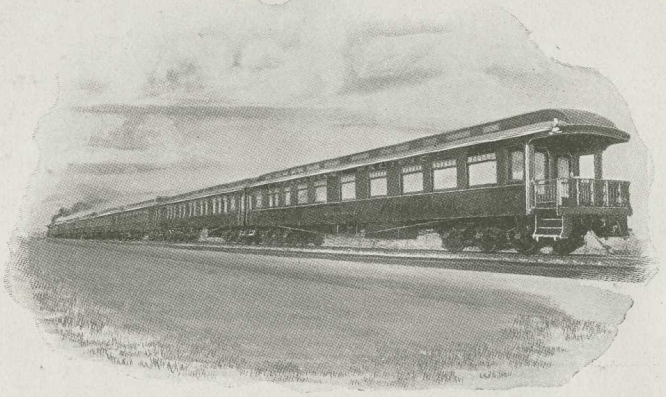
Hotel Vancouver

at Montreal, two of the finest hotels in America, enables the tourist to cross from the Atlantic to the Pacific through Canada, and to spend whatever leisure time he chooses in fishing, shooting or wandering amidst the magnificent scenery of the Rocky Mountains, with all the comfort that capital and enterprise have provided for the traveller by this route. The rates at the Vancouver are $3.00 per day and upwards, with special terms for prolonged visits, on application to the manager.

Further information as to accommodation, rates, etc., can be secured by writing the managers of the different hotels, or Geo. McL. Brown, Superintendent of the Company's Hotels, Montreal.

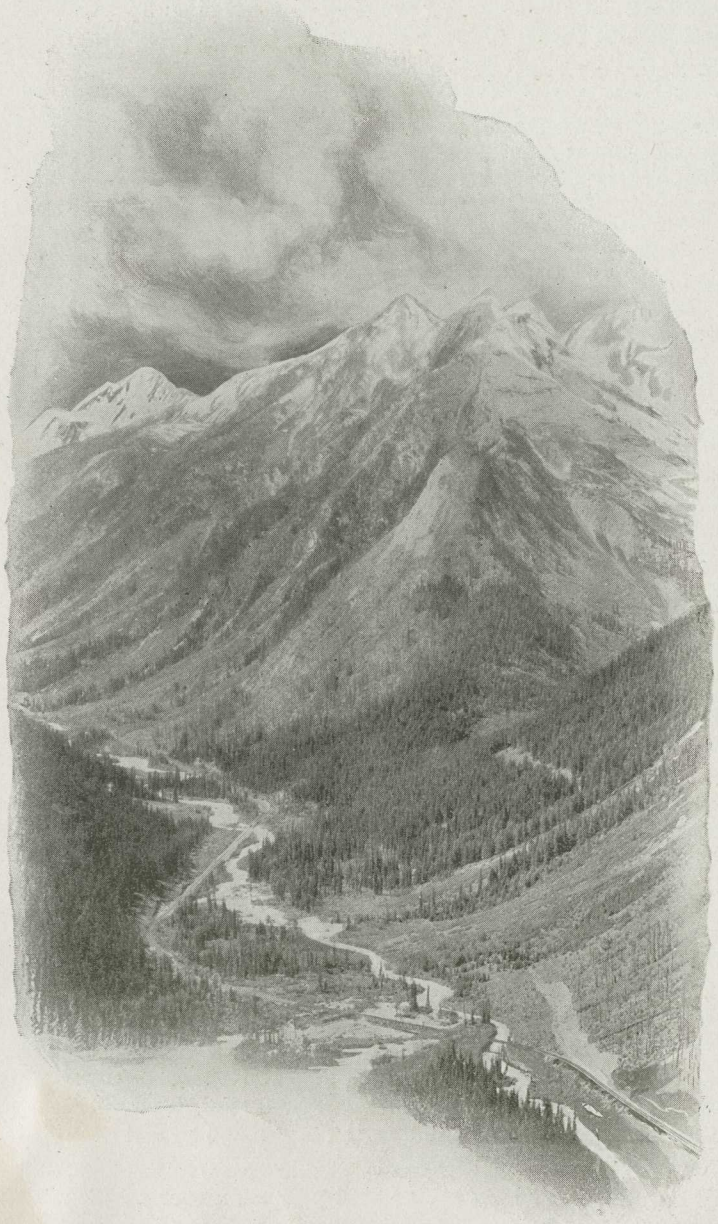
Canadian Pacific Train Service

The transcontinental train service of the Canadian Pacific Railway more than meets all the requirements of modern travel. In addition to



Transcontinental train

the daily overland express between the Atlantic and the Pacific, the Imperial Limited trains, commencing early in June next, and continuing throughout the summer months, will leave Montreal and Toronto every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday, and Vancouver on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The continent is crossed in 97 hours. The Imperial Limited consists of wide-vestibuled palace sleeping and dining cars, in whose construction no feature that is needed to give the greatest luxury and comfort to the traveller is lacking. Sleeping and dining cars are attached to the daily transcontinental expresses, and also observation cars through the mountains during the tourist season.



Illecillewaet Valley, B.C.

Swiss Guides

The Route through the Rockies

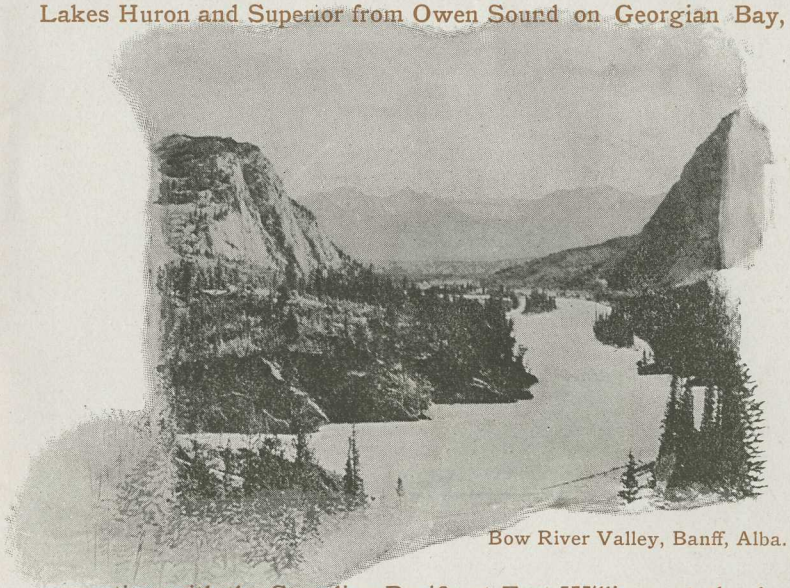
The beauties of the region through which the Canadian Pacific runs add to the delights of travelling over this great highway. The interesting Ottawa Valley, the picturesque north shore of Lake Superior, the charms of New Ontario, in which lies the famous Lake of the Woods with its thousands of clustering islets, and the great stretches of wheat lands and ranges of Western Canada are a fitting prelude to the delights of the run through the mountains. Of this trip, Mr. Whymper, the famed mountaineer, already quoted, says in a letter to the London Times : "It was at Calgary that the interest of the trip commenced for me ; though in saying so I an not insensible to the charms of the other parts of the Dominion. There are, in particular, two long pieces of country through which the Canadian Pacific passes—the run for 200 miles through Ontario from Ottawa to Mattawa alongside the River

Three Sisters

Ottawa, and the 60 miles that skirt the northern shores of Lake Superior—which cannot fail to impress every one, and will remain in the recollection of all those who have any appreciation of natural beauty. At Calgary one approaches the mountains, and the panorama of the chain, stretching over nearly half an horizon, is a thing to be seen, and may be compared with that of the Alps from the plains of Italy. No one should miss it. Forty miles further on the line enters the mountains, and thence to Vancouver, 588 miles, there is not a dull spot. Views and vistas of valleys and ravines, of torrents, rivers, lakes and waterfalls, peaks and precipices, succeed one another continuously. The mountain section of the line is picturesque all the way over ; but its beauties cannot be grasped upon a single journey, for it is impossible to see to the right and left, in front, and behind all at the same moment."

How to Reach the Rockies

Banff, Field, the Great Glacier, and the other resorts in the mountains, and the Pacific Coast, are reached from New York, Boston, and other Atlantic Coast points by way of Montreal, and thence by the Canadian Pacific Railway, or by Niagara Falls, Hamilton and Toronto, and thence to North Bay on Lake Nipissing, where connection is made with transcontinental trains, an alternate route being offered during the season of navigation by the company's magnificent steamships through Lakes Huron and Superior from Owen Sound on Georgian Bay, and



Bow River Valley, Banff, Alba.

connecting with the Canadian Pacific at Fort William, at the head of Lake Superior. From the middle-western states the route is by the Soo-Pacific Route, from St. Paul and Minneapolis, connecting with the Canadian Pacific trains at Moose Jaw, in the Canadian Northwest.

The return trip can be made through the Kootenay gold region and by the Crow's Nest Pass line to the plains of the Canadian Northwest, and by the main line of the Canadian Pacific, the Soo-Pacific Road and the Great Lakes. This alternate route is by the Canadian Pacific main line from Vancouver to Revelstoke, and thence by a combination of rail and steamer down the Arrow and Kootenay Lakes to Kootenay Landing and Crow's Nest Pass branch, etc. Returning by this route, the tourist is enabled to compare the mountains of British Columbia from different latitudes.

For further particulars or information, apply to any agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway or to

E. V. Skinner . . . . General Eastern Agent, 353 Broadway, New York.

H. J. Colvin . . . . . District Passenger Agent, 362 Washinton Street, Boston.

C. B. Foster . . . . . District Passenger Agent, St. John, N.B.

A. E. Edmonds . . . City Passenger Agent, 7 Fort St. W., Detroit.

A. J. Shulman. . . . City Passenger Agent, 233 Main St., Buffalo.

A. C. Shaw . . . . . General Agent Passenger Department, 228 South Clark Street, Chicago.

M. M. Stern. . . . . District Passenger Agent, 627 Market Street, San Francisco.

W. R. Callaway . . . General Passenger Agent, Soo Line, Minneapolis, Minn.

W. S. Thorn . . . . . Assistant General Passenger Agent, Soo Line, St. Paul.

G. W. Hibbard. . . . General Passenger Agent, D. S. S. & A. Line, Marquette, Mich.

J. H. Thompson. . . 129 E. Baltimore Street, Baltimore.

H. McMurtrie . . . . 629-631 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

W. W. Merkle . . . . 1229 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington.

C. O'D. Pascault. . . City Passenger Agent, 500 Smithfield Street, Pittsburg, Pa.

A. H. Notman . . . . Assistant General Passenger Agent, 1 King Street East, Toronto, Ont.

E. J. Coyle . . . . . Assistant General Passenger Agent, Vancouver, B.C.

Wm. T. Payne. . . . General Traffic Agent for Japan, 14 Bund, Yokohama, Japan.

Theo. H. Davies & Co., Honolulu, H. I.

Wm. Stitt. . . . . General Passenger Agent, C.-A.S.S. Line, Sydney, Australia.

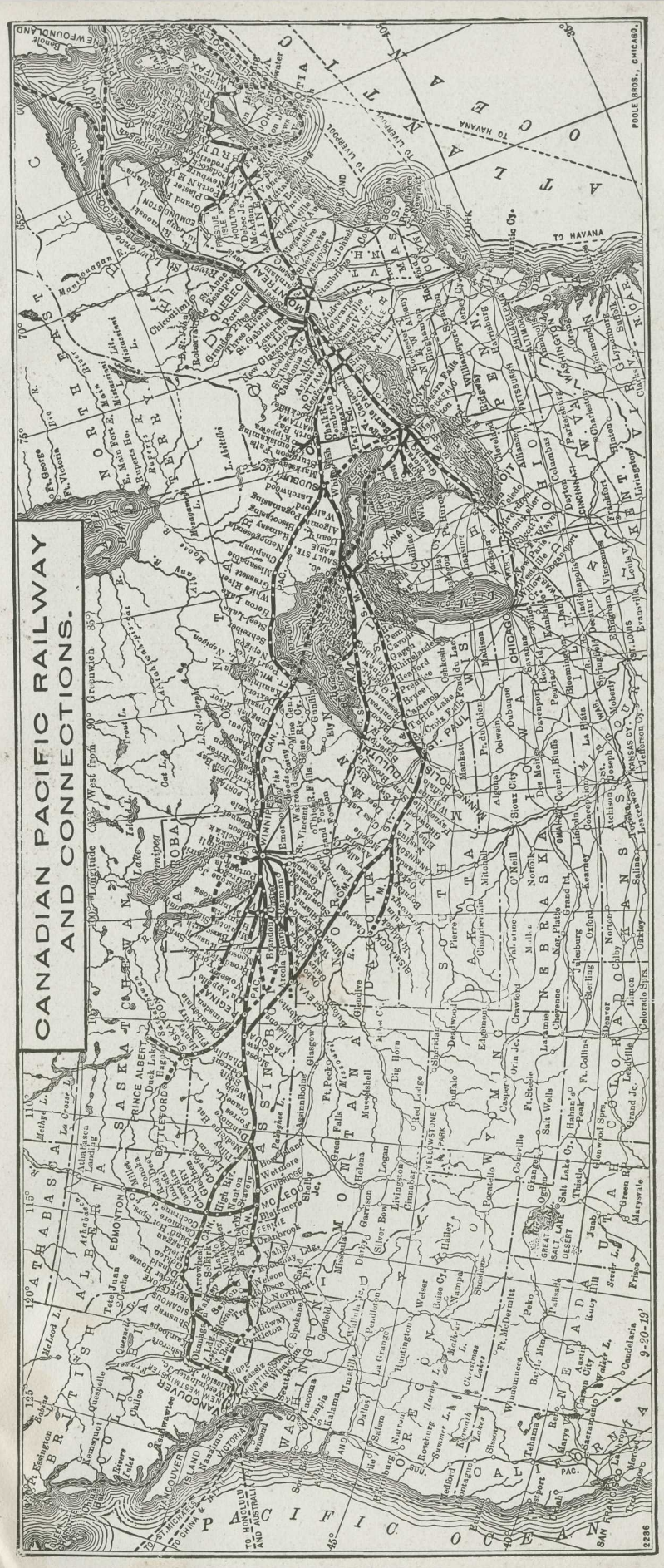
D. E. Brown . . . . . General Agent for China and Japan, Hong Kong.

Archer Baker . . . . European Traffic Manager, 67 and 68 King William Street, E.C., and 30 Cockspur St., S.W., London, Eng.; 9 James St., Liverpool, Eng.; 67 St. Vincent St., Glasgow, Scotland.

C. E. USSHER,
General Passenger Agent,
Eastern Lines,
Montreal.

C. E. McPHERSON,
General Passenger Agent,
Western Lines,
Winnipeg.

ROBERT KERR,
Passenger Traffic Manager,
Montreal.



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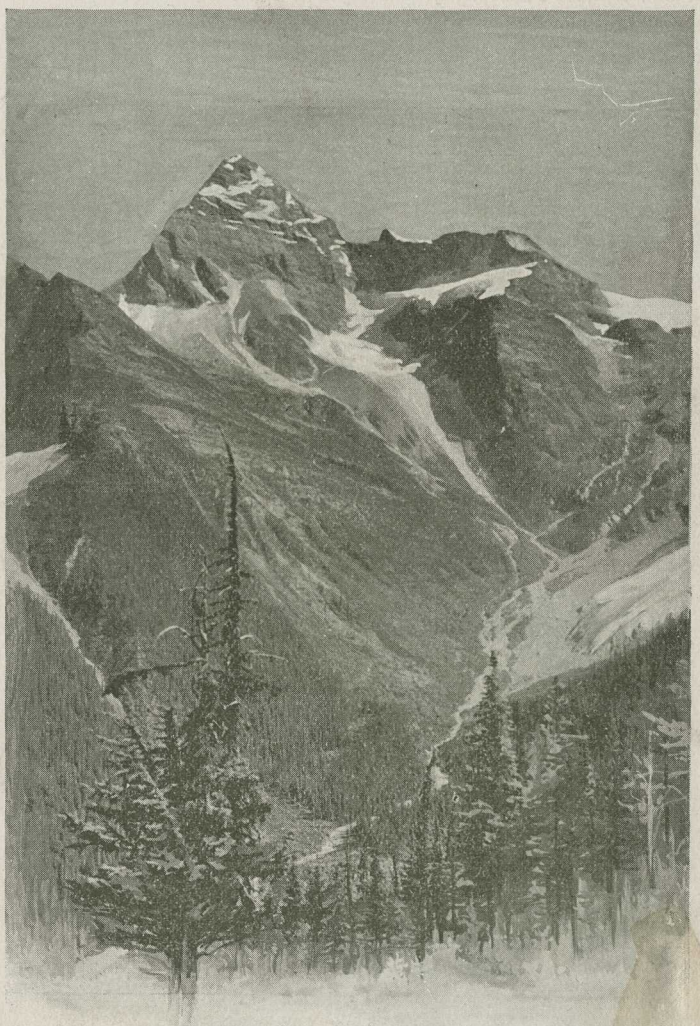
YOHO VALLEY

IN THE

CANADIAN ROCKIES

AND THE

Glaciers of the Selkirks



Mount Sir Donald, Selkirk Range

REACHED BY THE

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

1903