

red brick in the Swiss style of architecture. They are reached by a substantial bridge across the bay. An obelisk of gray granite stands at the foot of the well-kept lawn, erected in memory of Sir James Douglas, first Governor of the colony. The buildings belonging to the Dominion, comprising the Custom House, Post Office and Marine Hospital, are solid, serviceable structures. The school buildings and churches are also attractive edifices. The public school, which is under the general supervision of a board of trustees and has an efficient corps of instructors, occupies a two story brick building commanding a fine view of the harbor. The class rooms, play grounds, etc., are well appointed. The school is maintained free of expense to the parents of children attending. A high school, where all the advanced grades are taught, occupies a large and handsome brick edifice recently completed. From this school are graduated many of the teachers of the Province. There are several private seminaries, and a movement is now well progressed for the erection of commodious buildings in which to establish a college, under the auspices of the Anglican Church. The Sisterhood of St. Ann have an excellent institution for the education of girls, occupying a large and attractive structure in the southern purlieus of the city. Eleven religious congregations, representing various denominations, are regularly organized, nearly all of them having good houses of worship. They are divided as follows: Two Anglican, one Reformed Episcopalian, two Roman Catholic, two Presbyterian, two Methodist, one Baptist and one Jewish synagogue. The general air of the city is one of neatness, cleanliness and quiet taste. The residences, notably that of the Lieutenant-Governor, are attractive and often elegant, both as regards the buildings and their surroundings. Lawns are well kept, flowers abound on every side, and shade and fruit trees exist in profusion. Great building activity is now being displayed on all sides, both in the matter of business structures and residences. A stock company has just subscribed \$50,000 for the erection of an imposing opera house, which will be commenced immediately. The Driard House will also begin the erection of a building adjoining the one now occupied, which will give them double the present capacity. Tourists will find superior hotel accommodations in Victoria.

Victoria is well served with newspapers, the various journals being large, well conducted and enterprising, furnishing complete local and telegraphic news. The *Colonist*, daily and weekly, is the most complete establishment in the Northwest. It occupies all of a new and handsome building recently erected by the proprietor, and does a general job printing business, a specialty being the printing of the hundreds of thousands of colored salmon labels used by the canneries of British Columbia. The *Standard* is a well-established daily and weekly journal, and the *Post* is an evening daily, well conducted. The *Times*, daily and weekly, has recently been founded, and exhibits enterprise, neatness and good business ability in the management. The *Resources of British Columbia* is a monthly illustrated journal, devoted to the

development of the Province, and is doing good work in making known its advantages both at home and abroad.

The city enjoys the fullest mail, telegraph and telephone facilities, is connected with San Francisco by a regular line of steamers, and with Portland by the way of Puget Sound and the Northern Pacific Railroad, and within two years will have direct communication with the Eastern Provinces of the Dominion over the Canadian Pacific Railway. A splendid system of water supply has been obtained at an expense of \$200,000, water being brought from Elk Lake, seven miles distant. An efficient fire brigade is thus enabled to furnish the fullest protection from extensive conflagrations. Coal and wood for fuel are both plentiful and cheap. Gas works supply light for both public and private uses, and several powerful electric lights are suspended upon high masts in different portions of the city. The Mechanics' Institute has a valuable library and spacious reading room, and there are a number of fraternal and benevolent associations. Iron works, brass works, planing mills, soap works, boot and shoe factory, match factory, cigar factory, glove factory and a number of other manufacturing industries are in full operation. Four banks and two express companies are of great assistance in the transaction of business. The universal impression of all visitors to Victoria is that here will grow up a city, so combining commercial importance with beauty of location and elegance of appointments, as to make it the most attractive on the Pacific Coast.

The town of Esquimalt is distant three and one-half miles from Victoria, and lies on a peninsula separating Esquimalt Harbor from the Royal Roads. The superiority of its harbor facilities caused the British Admiralty to select it for a naval station many years ago. Here are an arsenal building, where large quantities of naval and ordnance supplies are stored, a naval hospital, a dockyard and a powder magazine, the latter on an island in the northern portion of the harbor. The Dominion Government is building an immense dry dock, the second largest of the public works undertaken in the Province. Its dimensions are: Length, 400 feet; depth, 26 feet; width of entrance, 90 feet. It is being substantially built of concrete, faced with sandstone. Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars have already been expended, and its completion is confidently expected within three years. Esquimalt has two churches, a public school and a number of business buildings and residences. Its advantages as a terminal point for a railway are well known and appreciated, and will soon be utilized by the construction of the Island Railway. The possibility of its becoming the practical terminus of the Canadian Pacific is also being considered.

In the Esquimalt District are the agricultural districts of Colwood, where are a public school and the large tannery of the Belmont Tanning and Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Company; Metchosin, including the farming settlements of Rocky Point and Happy Valley; Sooke, containing a sawmill, barrel factory, numerous