

So much has been written about the magnificent scenery of the northwest that it seems almost useless to speak of it in connection with each of the places we have occasion to describe. Still, grand as is the general character of this scenery, each locality has features peculiarly its own. The rugged mountain ranges and the grand snow-capped peaks form a part of the landscape from almost any point of view, and from no two points do they present exactly the same appearance. From Olympia the white mass of Rainier looms up against the sky to the eastward and Olympus to the northwest. To the southeast, Mount St. Helens is the principal feature. But immediately around Olympia are many charming bits of scenery that interest all visitors, the chief one being the inlet at the head of which the city is situated. Its deep, clear water, and the banks clothed with verdure in luxuriant variety, its placid wildness, make a view that is rarely surpassed. The high shores are frequently cleft by wild streams flowing down from the hills of the interior, where the angler may find as rich sport as his heart desires. The drives about the city form another attraction that is much frequented. There is boating and driving and hunting and fishing to suit the most fastidious or timid, or for the most daring. The traveler in search of healthful diversion and pleasant surroundings will find both at Olympia. A special effort is now being made to provide accommodations that will attract the vast number of tourists that frequent the Pacific coast.

It is estimated that about six hundred people a month are being added to the population of Olympia and vicinity through immigration. This estimate is based on the number of passengers which the transportation lines carry into the city in excess of the number taken away, and is a pretty reliable indication of the somewhat remarkable growth that is taking place there. Of course, many of the newcomers settle outside the city, some of them going a number of miles back in the country and buying farms or taking up government lands, which may yet be obtained in fairly eligible locations, but they increase the wealth of the territory directly tributary to Olympia and build up the interests on which it depends for support and growth. The influx during the past few months has been so great that the facilities for entertaining the strangers in the city have been taxed to the utmost. Recognizing the demand for greater accommodations, the citizens have organized a company and raised \$50,000.00 for the erection of a fine hotel, and the work is fairly under way now. The site selected is one of the most sightly and pleasant in the city, and the structure, when completed, will be first class in every respect, and one of which the citizens may well feel proud. Besides the important purpose

which it will serve, this hotel will add another to the already considerable list of public buildings of the city.

The most important public building in Olympia is, of course, the capitol. This is a frame structure, two stories high, with a dome. It is situated on an eminence in the southern part of the city, and overlooking a portion of the inlet. The needs of the territory have so far outgrown the limited room of the capitol building, that it has been found necessary to provide quarters for the territorial auditor in another building, down in the business portion of the city. One of the most imperative demands of Washington at present is a new capitol, and as provisions have been made for its admission as a state this year, the construction of a state house will not be delayed much longer. Next in importance are the court house, county clerk's office and the county jail. The city hall and firemen's headquarters complete the list of structures used for official purposes, unless the three public school buildings, in which eight hundred children receive instruction, be so classified. There are two academies in the city, one under Methodist and the other under Roman Catholic supervision, and a hospital maintained by the latter denomination. The city has seven churches, all of them neat and substantial structures and well supported. Four public parks are provided for the city's adornment, and in the suburbs are the territorial fair grounds and race track. For a town the size of Olympia, it has unusually fine business blocks and residences, which are constantly increasing in number. In the matter of municipal improvements it is in the front rank, and is keeping pace with the growth that is centering at that point.

There was recently incorporated in Olympia a company for the construction of a street railway, which is one of the important projects at present occupying the attention of the local capitalists. It is probable that, before many months have passed, the motor line to Tumwater, which is now under construction, and a street car line across the bridge to the west side, will both be in operation. These enterprises will meet with a hearty welcome on the part of the citizens, and, no doubt, will be handsomely supported. The rapidity with which the city's area is being extended surely warrants the building of street transit lines to accommodate suburban residents.

The town of Tumwater, adjoining Olympia on the south, and for all practical purposes a part of the same corporation, has one of the best water powers in Western Washington. The large body of water of the DesChutes river falls eighty-five feet in a horizontal distance of about fifteen hundred feet. There