

itecture. The general tone of color throughout is amber and pale blue. The proscenium boxes are of the latest design, and while not obstructing the view from any portion of the house command the entire stage. The rich carvings on the proscenium front and boxes are in plastic relief and from original designs. The entire house will be furnished with opera chairs, with folding seats, automatic backs and coat and hat racks, the seats and backs being upholstered in elegant plush. The seating capacity is 1,500, besides ample standing room.

Special attention has been given to the safety of the audience as well as its comfort and enjoyment. All the aisles are broad and lead to exits, of which there are fourteen, with a total width of seventy feet and a capability of completely emptying the house in two minutes. In addition to this a solid brick wall runs between the auditorium and the other portion of the theatre and a fire proof steel wire or asbestos drop, with steel cables and operated automatically, will close the front of the stage in case of fire. The appointments of the theatre are most ample and complete. The stage is very large and the settings will be most complete and artistic, harmonizing as much as possible with the coloring of the auditorium. There are sixteen large and well lighted dressing rooms above the stage level, a large property room, a fire proof scene room and a paint bridge from which the largest drops can be painted. The entire house will be illuminated by incandescent electric lights, proceeding chiefly from the more prominent points in the architecture of the auditorium. The ladies and gentlemen's parlors and lavatories off the foyer will display most refined taste in furniture and coloring. In fact from one end to the other the theatre will be complete, capacious and elegant in every detail. When completed the building will be a lasting monument to the skill, taste and experience of the architect, and to the enterprise and public spirit of its projector and owner, to whom Portland will be indebted for one of the finest architectural productions in America.

British Columbia is beginning to realize the imperative necessity of providing communication between the Canadian Pacific and the Kootenay region toward the United States boundary. The Spokane Northern railway is heading in that direction, and proceeding so rapidly that it will before long drain that British district toward Spokane Falls, and secure to Americans the benefits that must accrue from the development of this Canadian territory. The Americans have the start of their Northern neighbors, and they are likely to reap the harvest. Instances of this sort will influence commercial union between the United States and Canada more than all the congressional junketing tours that can be conducted by overworked statesmen.

A DAY ON SAUVIE'S ISLAND

LIVING between the main channel of the Willamette and Columbia rivers and a side channel, known as "the slough," which branches off from the Willamette a few miles above its mouth, and joins the Columbia some fifteen miles below, is Sauvie's island, the paradise of Portland's aquatic sportsmen. The island in its highest point is but a few feet above high water mark, and numerous depressions in its surface form lakes of all sizes from 100 yards to half a mile in length, which are a great resort for ducks in the rainy season.

The island was at one time known as Wapato (Wah-pa-to) island, because of the luxuriant growth of wapatos on its numerous lakes. This is a plant with tuberous roots, like a sweet potato, and a tall stalk growing up from the mud at the bottom of the lake to a short distance above the surface of the water. It has a very sweet and pleasant flavor, and is a favorite food of water fowl, especially the canvas back and swan. The past summer season was an unusually dry one, and the wapato lakes nearly all dried up, but the late rains have partially filled the larger ones and the earlier ducks are already there. The shooting season is limited by law to the eight months between September 1 and May 1, but, as was the case this season, it often happens that the fall rains do not set in early enough to render shooting good in September. The highest prized fowls are the canvas back duck, whose flavor is unexcelled, swan, geese and sandhill cranes. The canvas back is so highly prized by epicures that they often sell at \$1.00 to \$1.25 each, while "trash" ducks, such as mallards, widgeon, teal, etc., bring from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per dozen.

The season generally opens with the wood duck, which breeds here, but which emigrates to the warmer lakes of California as soon as the heavy rains set in. However their place is soon taken by mallards, widgeon, teal, butter ball, spike tail, etc., which are driven in from the coast by the heavy storms. When they get a taste of the delicious wapato they feel sorry that they delayed coming so long, and all the gunning they are subjected to does not suffice to drive them away until they start for the northern breeding grounds in the spring. The canvas backs begin to straggle in a little later and keep coming till December, remaining continuously until the close of the shooting season. They frequent only the larger wapato lakes, and their resorts are the shooting preserves most eagerly sought for and the rental of which brings the highest price. In November and December swan make their appearance, remaining two or three months and then departing again for the north. Two kinds of geese are killed, known locally as the "fall goose" and "spring goose."