abundant, while to the east of that range is situated the Dry Belt extending from Okanagan to Tacla lakes. The Interior Wet Belt, another zone of abundant precipitation, occurs along the western slope of the Selkirk mountains, while there is also a smaller dry belt in the vicinity of Kootenay lake. Some indication of the diversity of climatic conditions may be obtained from the meteorological records of the places given below. However, most of these places are centres of settlement and agriculture at comparatively low elevations and are not representative of conditions obtaining on the higher mountain slopes. Barkerville, with an elevation of 4,180 feet, is the highest point included.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS IN THE WESTERN REGION.

Place.	Absolute Minimum Range.	Mean Temperature.		Average Rain, June to Sept.	Average Sunshine, May to October.
		January.	July.		
	°F.	°F.	°F.	in.	hr.
Invermere	−43 to 0	11·7	63·0	5·49	1,347·7
Vancouver	4 to 29	35·6	63·3	9·28	1,278·9
Victoria	− 2 to 34	38·6	59·9	3·57	1,381·0
Clayoquot	10 to 31	39·5	57·6	15·71	[1]
Kamloops	−31 to 20	21·8	69·8	4·24	1,434·1
Prince George	−57 to 4	14·0	59·3	6·79	1,229·2
Prince Rupert	− 6 to 30	35·2	56·0	21·84	790·7
Barkerville	−42 to 4	16·2	54·2	13·34	[1]
Atlin	−58 to 0	2·0	54·0	3·95	[1]

[1] Data not available.

While there is no single family peculiar to the Western Region, there are 80 genera which do not occur elsewhere in Canada and the number of characteristic species is very large. Of these western genera, 2 are gymnosperms *(Chamaecyparis* and *Pseudotsuga)*, while 12 are monocotyledons, including 6 of the lily family, but only 1 *(Melica)* of the grass family. The genus *Phyllospadix* occurs in the sea.

There are 66 genera of dicotyledons, of which 3 belong to the family *Cruciferae*, 3 to *Ericaceae*, 6 to *Umbelliferae*, and 18 to the family *Compositae*. The full list of genera will be found in the author's "Survey".[16]

Some of the characteristic trees of the Transcontinental Region are found also in the northern part of the Western Region, such as White Spruce, Black Spruce, Tamarack, Balsam Fir, and American Aspen. But, generally speaking, the trees of the Western Region are quite different. Among those with a comparatively wide distribution, at least in the southern part, are Lodgepole Pine *(Pinus contorta)*, Western White Pine *(Pinus monticola)*, Douglas Fir *(Pseudotsuga taxifolia)*, Western Red Cedar *(Thuja plicata)*, Black Cottonwood *(Populus trichocarpa)*. The Engelmann Spruce *(Picea Engelmanni)* occupies a wide area to the east of the Coast Belt, while Western Larch *(Larix occidentalis)* is confined to the southeast part of British Columbia.

Four species occupy the higher slopes of the mountains and reach the limit of tree distribution, namely, White-bark Pine *(Pinus albicaulis)*, Limber Pine *(Pinus flexilis)*, Alpine Fir *(Abies lasiocarpa)*, Alpine Larch *(Larix Lyallii)*.

Some characteristic shrubs of the Western Region are Oregon Grape *(Mahonia Aquifolium)*, Thimbleberry *(Rubus parviflorus)*, Buck-brush *(Ceanothus sanguineus)*, Devil's Club *(Echinopanax horridum)*, Tall Mountain Bilberry *(Vaccinium membranaceum)*, Wax-berried Elder *(Sambucus glauca)*.