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THE 20-INCH HYDRAULIC DREDGE "KING EDWARD."

By A. W. ROBINSON, M. Can. Soc. C.E.

This dredge is one the more recent acquisitions of the Department of Public Works of Canada to its fleet of dredges, and is intended for work on the Pacific Coast. The plant of the department in that district up to the present has been small, comprising the dipper dredge "Mud Lark," clam-shell dredge "Muskrat," snag-boat "Samson," and some other small plant, the whole under the jurisdiction of G. A. Keefer, M. Can. Soc. C. E., resident engineer. The works in contemplation include principally the rectification of the Fraser River in its lower part, and also such incidental dredging at various points as may be required. It was decided to adopt a hydraulic dredge as being best suited to the conditions.

This type of dredge is sometimes termed a suction dredge, but the writer has adopted the term hydraulic dredge as being more suitable, for the reason that the suction principle is not employed at all for purposes of dredging. The dredge consists essentially of a mechanical excavator, by means of which the material is dug up or loosened and fed into the mouth of the suction pipe and the