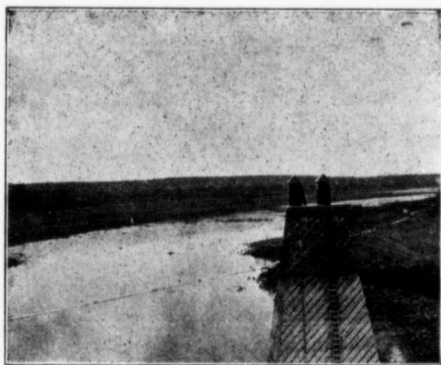


drew in the sand the Horsefly country and the South Fork of the Quesnelle River. Sixteen days later the Indian, as agreed, met the white man at Beaver Creek. Early in March, 1859, they arrived at the spot where Ward's Mine now is; but as only a small area of "pay" was found, and provisions were running short, Dunlevy, after a stay of two or three days, struck across country to the Hudson's Bay fort Alexander. In the month of May he proceeded up the Fraser and on his way met John Rose who told him of Quesnelle River, its forks, and Rose's bar. The information thus received decided him to go in the direction of the North Fork. This he did and mined for a time on Horsefly and Keithley Creeks.

Following in the footsteps of Dunlevy, though unconscious of the fact, came John McLean the very next month. McLean has arrived in Victoria from California in May, '58, had crossed to the mouth of the Fraser, thence to Yale, and had spent the winter mining at Boston Bar. In March, with five men in his party, he continued up the Fraser, rocking in the eddies as he went, and on the 12th of June landed at Quesnelle. He proceeded up the Quesnelle River and its South Fork to a spot opposite the Dancing Bill Gulch, then to obtain fresh supplies hewed his way through woods to Fort Alexander, and while there heard from Indians of the Horsefly country. So making up a party of twelve, the Blue Lead Company, he set out for that quarter. It was noon when they arrived. While dinner was being cooked, Mr. McLean

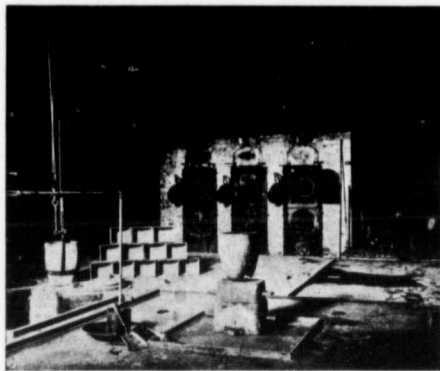


Morehead Lake, showing how completely the water supply has been exhausted.

went to the bed of the stream, opposite to Ward's claim, and in an eddy digging down eighteen to twenty inches, struck a sticky gravel that was rich. By the time dinner was called he had panned out sixteen dollars. When the meal was over a rocker was put together and during the afternoon twenty-seven ounces of gold rocked out. In a couple of days they had realized \$7,000. A wingdam, therefore, was resolved upon. Late in the fall of '59, they left the Horsefly with \$13,000, but returned in the spring, and to handle the deepening gravel, put in a water-wheel and pumps.

In June, McLean received a letter from Rose stating that the latter had discovered coarse gold in Keithley. With the exception of two men, the Blue Lead Company set out for Keithley, a Creek that was paying two ounces a day to the man and which, along with its tributary, Snowshoe, has produced about \$2,000,000

In 1903, work on Keithley so far as could be learned, was confined to Veith and some Chinamen. The former was bench-drifting with about six men. He



Melting room at Cariboo Hydraulic Mine with gold ingot in foreground valued at \$134,728.

took out thirty ounces a week last winter, it is alleged, and sometimes as much as fifty-six ounces; value of gold, \$17.20. On Snowshoe Creek the same man has an hydraulic plant, employs twelve men and has done so for several years. At time of visit he was reported to have cleaned up about \$3,000. Howison, of Spokane, has bonded from Veith a quartz claim in this locality and was busy sampling. At Goose Creek, on the opposite side of Cariboo Lake from Keithley, Helgesen has been hydraulic for four years, and in August was taking out about \$200 a week.

#### THROUGH THE LARDEAU.

AN ACCOUNT OF RECENT PROGRESS AND OF PRESENT DAY CONDITIONS IN THIS MOST PROMISING MINERAL AREA.

(By Our Special Commissioner.)

**L**AST month's notes on the Lardeau dealt with the portion of that country situate in the northern part of Ainsworth Mining Division, and in the Trout Lake Mining Division as far north as Trout Lake. I propose now to describe in due course the principal mining properties about Trout Lake and the Lardo Creek section, both in the Trout Lake division; and about Fish River and its tributary creeks, in the Lardeau division will have notice. The area comprised within these limits is so extensive, though, and the number of mineral claims more or less prospected so