

Irrigation in Alberta.

Many people are not aware of the progress made in irrigation work in the western portion of our territories, principally in southern Alberta. The many fine streams which issue from the eastern slope of the Rocky mountains, afford an excellent means of irrigating large areas of land in the western portion of the Territories.

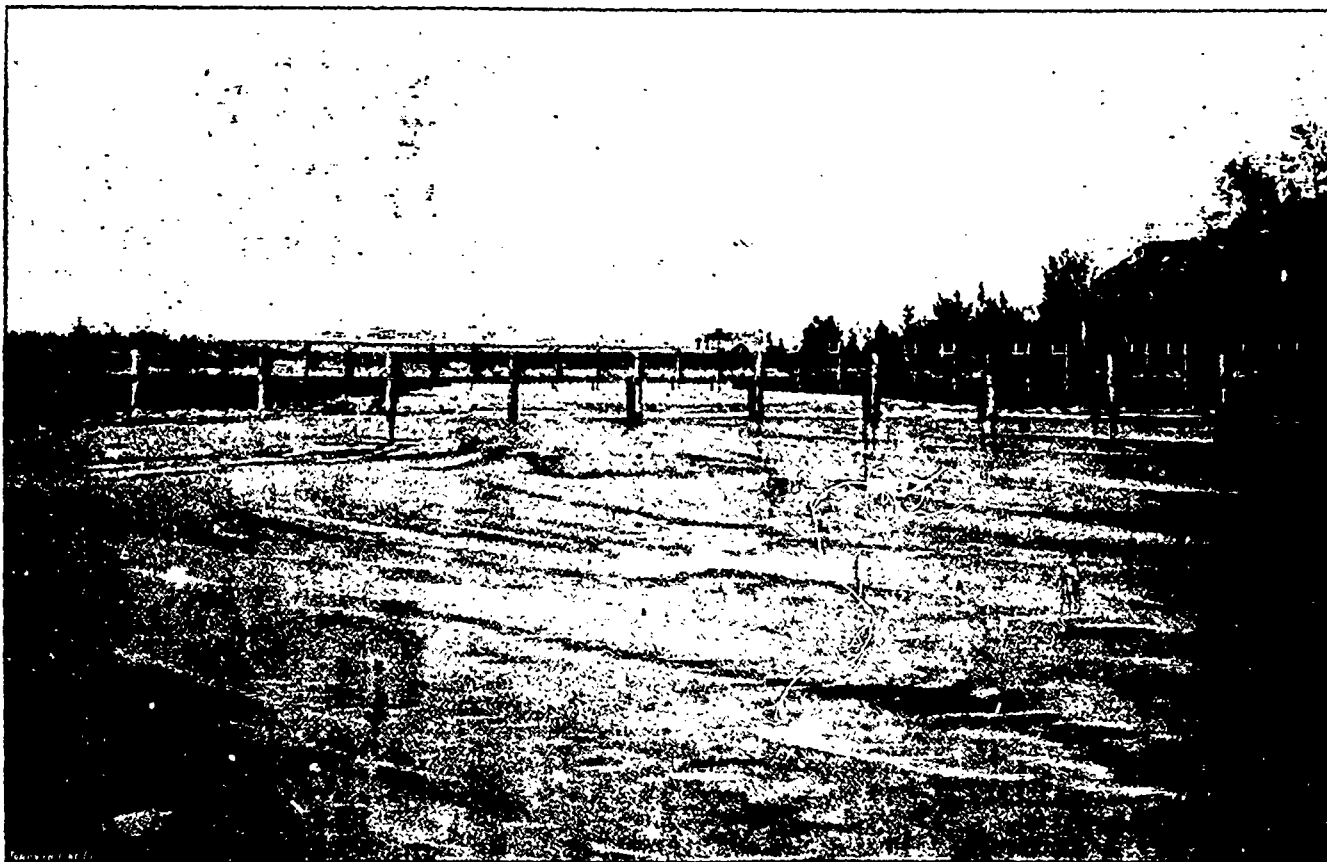
In the southern districts of Alberta the climate is too dry for successful agriculture, one year with another, unless the needed moisture is supplied by means of irrigation. Those who know what wonderful results have been accomplished by means of irrigation in other countries, may form some idea

back to the farmer in nearly all countries. The tiller of irrigated land in a dry region, need not fear injury from too much rain, while he can regulate his supply of moisture to meet the requirements of the crops. The last report of the Department of the Interior says regarding irrigation in the west:

"It is worthy of note that the large and healthy growth of irrigation development as evidenced therein, is largely the outcome of personal efforts of the resident population in their endeavor to improve existing conditions, and is not in the remotest sense attributable to any attempt to 'boom' irrigation or the construction

dertaking which is in an experimental stage, or from which the results are uncertain."

The Calgary Irrigation Company, who were owners of the flume shown in the accompanying illustration, had 700 acres of land under irrigation east of the Elbow river and south of the Bow river, near Calgary, Alberta. The main system of the company is capable of serving water for about 5,000 acres of land. The flume shown in the illustration was a smaller branch one, and not their main ditch, and was built for the purpose of irrigating the 700 acres just referred to.



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Calgary Irrigation Company's Flume & the Elbow river, which was destroyed by the freshet some weeks ago.

as to what may be accomplished in the semi-arid portions of our vast western plains by means of irrigation. The soil is all right. All that is required is moisture. Once the required work for irrigating has successfully been accomplished, the farmer is no longer dependent upon the weather for the required supply of moisture necessary for the development of crops.

The tiller of irrigated land is therefore really in a better position in this respect, than is the farmer who resides in a district where irrigation is not required under ordinary conditions. Insufficient or superabundant rainfall, or rains at inopportune times, make up the principal draw-

of irrigation works. It may be safely said that in very few of the new and undeveloped portions of Western America, have the settlers evinced a greater readiness to help themselves by striving to overcome nature's shortcomings in the way of insufficient moisture than has been shown by our population in the arid portion of the Territories during the past two years. That this fact is sure to aid in the rapid growth of the irrigation principle, and result in the early construction of the larger works requiring combined effort and capital, will be realized by those who have experienced the many difficulties to be overcome in interesting capital in any un-

New Coal Company.

The new company which a short time ago acquired the Roche Perceé Coal Co.'s mines in Northeastern Assiniboia, is preparing to increase the output of their mines during the coming coal season. The mines are now being put in readiness to begin putting out coal in a week or so. The company is spending considerable in improving the property, in new plant, buildings, etc. Another spur track will also be put in. The company has opened an office at 435 Main street, Winnipeg. The property is now entirely in the hands of English capitalists, who will operate as the Roche Perceé Colliery Co.