



Ootsa Lake, Looking West—Showing Spit Formed from Outcrop of Silicious Beds by Waves.

by stage, 150; 720 by pack-train and canoe; and 800 by steamer; total, 1,870.

From October 10 to 16 the provincial mineralogist was at his office in Victoria, leaving again on the latter date for the North to examine the recent mineral discoveries on Windy Arm, on the boundary between the Atlin district of British Columbia and Yukon Territory, and returning to Victoria November 2, 1905, having travelled 2,000 miles on this trip. With the exception of a week between trips, preparing for the next, the provincial mineralogist was travelling from June 1 until November 2, covering in that time about 3,500 miles.

In December a meeting of the Board of Examiners for Assayers' Certificates of Competency, composed of the provincial mineralogist, the provincial assayer, and Mr. Thos. Kiddie, of Crofton, was held in the Government Laboratory.

The remainder of the year was occupied in the preparation of the notes taken in the field, the collection and preparation of statistics for the year, and the regular routine work of the office.

ASSAY OFFICE.

The following is a summary of the work of the Assay Office of the Bureau for the year 1905, as reported by the provincial assayer, Mr. Herbert Carmichael:—

During the year 1905 there were made by the staff in the Government Assay Office 1,176 assays or quantitative determinations, which is an increase over the number made during the previous year. Of these, a number were for the Bureau of Mines, or for the Department, for which no fees were received. The fees collected by the office were as follows:—

Fees from assays and chemical determinations	\$ 340
Fees from melting and assaying gold dust and bullion	752
Fees from assayers' examinations	520

Total cash receipts	\$1,612
Determinations and examinations made for other Government departments for which no fees were collected	300

Value of assaying done	\$1,912
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The amount of gold melted during the year was \$90,631, in 142 lots, as against \$103,693, in 171 lots, in 1904.

Free Determinations.—In addition to the above quantitative work, a large number of qualitative determinations or tests were made in connection with the identification and classification of rocks or minerals sent to the Bureau for a report. Of these no count was kept, nor were fees charged therefor, as it is the established custom of the Bureau to examine and test qualitatively without charge samples of mineral sent in from any part of the Province, and to give a report on the same. This has been done for the purpose of encouraging the search for new or rare minerals and ores, and to assist prospectors and others in the dis-