

Mining.

The gold in the early days was extracted mainly by the ordinary placer mining methods, and deep drifting, by which only the richest pay dirt was obtained, but it was obvious, however, that for a country with its conformation, Cariboo has still stores of placer gold not amenable to ordinary methods, and of late years attention has been directed to hydraulicing, which on a large scale has been in progress. Many large hydraulicing plants have been installed, some successful, and others the future of which has yet to be determined. It is very difficult to make an estimate of the gold that has been taken from Cariboo since the outset, and estimates have varied from \$35,000,000 to \$55,000,000.

It is confidently predicted that by the new process of hydraulicing that the district is only on the eve of its production, and that in the years to come more will have been taken from the old river and creek bottoms and benches than were yielded in the past.

At one time it was thought that dredging for gold would prove highly profitable but the dredges used proved unsuitable for the work to be done owing to the great number of boulders in the streams and rivers, so this method has been abandoned for the present.

So far no extensive quartz ledges have been discovered, but both gold-bearing and copper ores have been found. Prospecting for vein mines has not been extensively followed for the reason that in the absence of railway transportation it would not be practicable to put such discoveries to profitable use. With the incoming of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway a new impetus will be given to this class of prospecting. The theory is that with the extensive placer deposits there must be somewhere in the mountains of Cariboo quartz lodes from which they were eroded. On account of the heavy covering of moss the mountains of Cariboo are particularly difficult to prospect, but with the exploration, incident to railway building, it is natural to conclude that important discoveries will be made.

Placer mining in Cariboo has not been active for some years, but at the present time a number of properties are being placed in a position to yield.

Generally speaking there is considerable activity throughout the district, and the prospects for the future are brighter than they have been for many days. Mining development however, depends for its greatest success on railway transportation.

Agriculture.

Mining is what we usually have in mind in thinking of Cariboo, but eventually the greatest resource of that district will be agriculture in its various branches, stock-raising, dairying, grain-growing, vegetable and fruit-growing. There are very extensive areas of good agricultural land in addition to grazing lands, and some of the finest farms in the Province will yet be found in the Cariboo district. Outside of stock raising the market for farm produce is limited to purely local demand, so that farming operations have necessarily been limited to supply that demand. Roller mills operate at the mouth of Quesnel, and turn out the finest of flour from the finest of wheat. Cariboo wheat, raised on Mr. Wm. Adam's farm, took the gold medal at the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876. Of course, cattle ranching on a large scale has been carried on for years with very considerable success, stock being driven to Ashcroft and shipped by the C. P. R. to the Coast, but when railway facilities shall be supplied and the country opened up, the ranches which are owned in large holdings, or many of them suitable for the purpose, will following the example of other parts in the Province, be divided up into lesser holdings, and will enjoy the luxury, heretofore denied, of a large population of small farmers and orchardists. The future for Cariboo in respect to mixed farming is very bright.