

There is not much published information concerning the Peace River country available at present; after the return to Victoria of the provincial mineralogist later in the year, the Provincial Government may decide to have his report printed and issued in bulletin form as soon as practicable. Meanwhile, the following, taken from official reports, though not of recent date, may be of interest. Among other extracts from "Report by R. G. McConnell, B.A.Sc., Geological Survey of Canada," reprinted in the "Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for British Columbia, 1897," was one relating to the country under notice, as under:

"Peace River is the continuation of Finlay River,

junction of Smoky River with the Peace, by a trail of 65 miles. The ascent of the river may be made by boat or horse, the distances as given by Dr. Selwyn being as follows:

	Miles.
"Smoky River to Dunvegan	44
Dunvegan to Fort St. John	70
Fort St. John to Hudson's Hope	38
Hudson's Hope to head of Canyon by portage Mt. of Rocks	11½
Head of Canyon to mouth of Parsnip . .	75

"(b.) The journey from Quesnel may be made entirely by water, ascending the Fraser River 110



Quesnel, Fraser River, as it Appeared in 1896.

after its junction with the Parsnip. It flows eastward, close to the 56th parallel of latitude, from the 124th meridian into the North-West Territories, finding its way through Slave and Mackenzie Rivers to the Arctic Ocean.

"Access to the Peace River may be gained from the east by way of Edmonton and Dunvegan, N.W.T., or from the west *via* Quesnel.

"(a.) From Edmonton a wagon road runs north about 80 miles to Athabasca Landing, from which point the Hudson's Bay Co.'s boats go up the Athabasca 50 miles to Little Slave River, and up this to Little Slave Lake. The river is about 40 miles long, very crooked, and, in the lower half, shallow and rapid. To the Hudson's Bay post near the head of the lake is 65 or 70 miles, the width of the lake being from two to 14 miles. This post may also be reached overland from Edmonton by a trail 210 miles in length, and connects with Smoky River post at the

miles to Giscome Portage, 27 miles above Fort George. A portage of six or seven miles is here necessary to Summit Lake, whence a series of little lakes connected by streams, sometimes rapid, sometimes still, leads to McLeod Lake. Of this portion of the route, known as Crooked River, Dr. Selwyn writes in his Report, 1876, 'In some places the channel was 20 or 30 yd. wide, full of large, rounded stones and barely sufficient depth of water to float the boats over them; in others it is still shallower and, for long distances, we had either to walk alongside in the water, lifting the boats over the stones or to make a channel by moving the stones or digging out the gravel.'

"McLeod Lake, 17 miles long, with an average width of two miles, discharges at Fort McLeod into Pack River, which empties into the Parsnip, 17 miles below.

"The arduous ascent of the Fraser River and the difficulties of Giscome Portage and of Crooked River