

these channels are rich in gold and where they are crossed by the modern streams these have also been enriched. They are, I take it, the main source of supply of the gold which has been, and will be, obtained from the district.

In distinction to shallow placers these deeper deposits require a heavy initial outlay for plant, exploitation and opening up. The prospects of success, however, are such that the available placer ground promises to yield



Two 8-inch streams opening up Pit No. 2, at S. Fork Mine, Cariboo.

a much greater output of gold in the future than was ever obtained even in the palmiest days of mining in the district. Placer gold is also an indication of quartz gold, and one reason why this has not been found to any great extent near by, is probably due to the fact that the gold has been transported for a considerable distance in these old channels.

British Columbia has produced a large amount of gold as is well known, and the bulk of this has been obtained from the alluvial deposits of Cariboo district. Placer mining therefore is its principal industry, and it is the mining lookout from this point of view which I wish to notice, in reviewing briefly here operations during the past year.

The most important mining centres are Barkerville, Quesnelle Forks, Keithley creek, and Snowshoe creek and Horsefly.

The Consolidated Cariboo Hydraulic Mining Co., Ltd.—This mine is situated at Bullion, on the southerly side of the South Fork of the Quesnelle river, about four miles above the town of Quesnelle Forks.

The company hold a number of leases covering the old channel system in this vicinity, which consists of immense deposits of high-grade auriferous gravel.

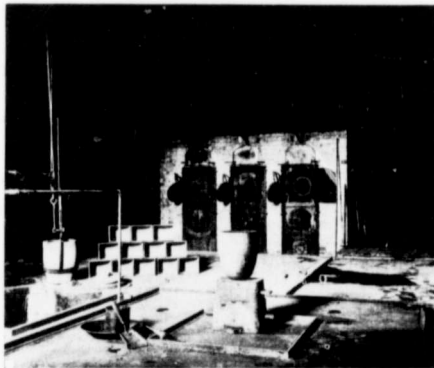
The water supply is obtained from Polley, Bootjack and Morehead lakes by an extensive system of canals with a delivering capacity at the mine of 5,000 miner's inches of water under a head of 400 feet. In the aggregate this canal system is 33 miles long.

The mine is fully equipped with all the modern hydraulic appliances necessary for working gravel on a large scale.

An electric and power plant was installed this season to light the mine and houses, and to operate drills, etc., for bed-rock cuts, and the company also operate a telephone system 35 miles in length. On May 12 the company exploded a bank blast containing 4,540 kegs, or 113,500 pounds of black powder, which broke up eight acres of ground and made available for washing 4,000,000 cubic yards of gravel. A new camp is also being

built near the waggon road and clear of the channel, consisting of five stores, store houses, shops, dwelling houses, residences, etc., and the construction of these will all be completed about the end of the present year. The bank is about 350 feet high and the average value claimed for the gravel is 27 3-10 cents per cubic yard. The mine has produced \$1,020,400 exclusive of the amount produced under the management of the original Chinese owners. The total amount of gold recovered this season is \$142,000—a falling off from last year due to the unusually dry season and small snowfall of the previous winter. The annual precipitation was 10 42-100 inches less than for the previous year, making an actual shortage in the water supply of 128,428 miner's inches. The season's operations were confined to the removal of the low-grade top material and when the water failed there was uncovered 1,000 feet in length of bottom pay gravel, which will come into next season's work. No dividends have as yet been declared and the profits have been used in extending the water system and enlarging the plant. When this work is completed the mine will be in a position to pay handsome profits.

Roses Gulch Mining Co.—The mine is owned by Messrs. John McRae and James Bain. The water is taken from Roses lake and delivered at the mine with a head of about 150 feet through a ditch about two miles in length. The owners are working in on the old channel coming through Roses lake, and the leases cover one and a half miles of it, and operated in the spring and fall with a small hydraulic plant while the water lasts, with a working season of several months. A permanent supply can be obtained from Spanish lake by building about seven miles of ditch. The bank is about 75 feet high. The top ground carries fair values in fine gold, but the actual pay is about 10 feet thick on bed rock, well washed lead gold and fairly coarse pieces as large as \$17 having been obtained. The available dump into the Quesnelle river is about 400 feet, and the present dump about 150 feet. The property pays a small dividend and with a good



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

permanent supply of water it would probably yield good values and rich returns.

Joe Moore Co.—This claim apparently is on a higher channel than the last. The channel was first located by sinking a shaft and this season the claim was opened by drifting through the rim into gravel. The gravel is now being washed through sluice boxes with satisfactory results, I am informed.

(To be continued in our next).