

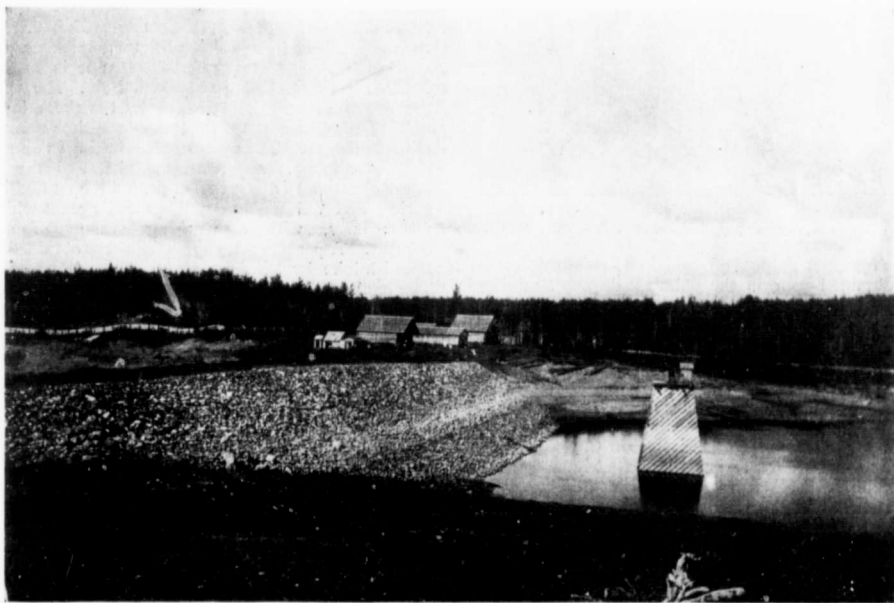
pendent was indirectly as well as directly, responsible for a falling off in the smelter returns.

Another indication of growth is to be found in the suggestion, much discussed during the year of the establishment of a lead refinery at Nelson. Certain steps have been taken with a view to carrying out this project, and it is greatly to be hoped that a rise in the price of lead and silver, in the near future, may lend to the scheme sufficient guarantee of success to ensure of its early materialisation. The adoption of electrical power would, without doubt, greatly facilitate the handling of many properties at present handicapped by reason of the large initial expense requisite for the proving of their merits and for the conversion of so many prospects into a condition of calculable value. And here again it is encouraging to learn that the Hall Mining & Smelting Co. propose to install electrical machinery at their mine and smelter.

summit of the Rocky mountains practically to the coast line, a distance of about 360 miles, and in a northerly direction it covers a distance of about 170 miles. Its total area therefore is approximately 60,000 square miles.

In a northerly direction running through the centre of the district is an extensive, wide and well-defined trough or valley through which the present drainage system of the country passes.

To the east and west of this level portion of the district the country gradually rises, becoming rougher and more broken till it finally culminates in the rugged snow-clad peaks of the Rocky mountains and Coast ranges. This rougher portion of the country is comparatively unknown so far as developments are concerned, but numerous ledges containing lead, copper, silver and gold have been discovered and in the near future, with the advent of railways, these will undoubtedly become valuable.



VIEW OF MOREHEAD LAKE DAM AND CAMP BUILDINGS.

Sustained confidence in the district is also shown by the number of claims recorded during the year, which is in excess of the number recorded in 1900, and by the large number of assessments made, amounting to nearly 1,300.

To sum up, the experiences of the past year in Nelson district afford many indications of an inherent soundness requiring but the re-establishment of normal conditions to produce more active progress and the further development of its resources.

THE MINING INDUSTRY IN CARIBOO DISTRICT, B. C.

By THOS. DRUMMOND, B.Sc., (McGill), M.E., M.C.S.C.E., &c.

THE mining divisions of Quesnelle and Cariboo taken together form what is commonly known as the Cariboo district. It is an area of considerable extent, extending in a westerly direction from the

This central valley is of great importance to the country. It affords easy gradients for railways and waggon roads, and through it passes the main artery of the country in the shape of the Cariboo waggon road, with its numerous branches to the various mining centres of the district. Then in part it is a grass country supporting numerous herds of cattle, and including a very considerable area of good arable land from which good crops of roots, vegetables and grain are obtained.

From a mining point of view it is of especial importance because it is covered with alluvial deposits in the shape of gravel, etc., all of which is auriferous to a greater or lesser extent. We also know that there are many very extensive systems of ancient channels or buried rivers, much larger and more extensive than the modern ones as can easily be seen; for the agencies which formed these immense gravel deposits must certainly have been much greater than any which now exist. These ancient channels at one time formed the drainage system of the country. As exploited, most of