

lends variety to the scenery. Loch Lomond is specially picturesque. To these lakes sportsmen are attracted each year in increasing numbers.

The descent from the basaltic plateau to Lac la Hache and the older measures which continue to Soda Creek, is made by four hills or escarpments—100-m., 103-m., 108-m., 111-m.—the altitude at the 111-Mile House being about 2,700 feet. Lac la Hache is now eleven miles long and about one and a half miles wide; we saw *now* because its environs show that it once



Thompson River, showing three terraces to left.

assumed much larger proportions. On its south side there is a high and wooded ridge beyond which lies the Fraser; to the north, rolling country admirably adapted for grazing purposes and resembling very much that part of the Okanagan between Vernon and the Greenhowe ranch. Most of the land along the lake and its outlet, the San Jose River, is taken up and the farms in every case appeared prosperous.



Clinton.

Two ranches, 108-Mile and 134-Mile, were sold this summer. Of each of these the purchase price is reported to have been between \$15,000 and \$25,000. From 150-Mile, where the Cariboo Trading Company has large interests, to Soda Creek, is a somewhat uninteresting section of about 28 miles. No rocks appear *in situ*; little cultivation of the soil has taken place; spruce, pine, cottonwood, junipers, and an occasional birch thickly line the road. After passing through an Indian reservation and by a Roman Catholic mission

we descended the three-mile hill to the Fraser River. The formation at Soda Creek closely resembles that of Cach Creek. The country rock is schist and the soil a fine sandy loam requiring irrigation and well-adapted for vegetables and fruits.

At this point during the summer months, the stage ride is agreeably broken by transfer to the "Charlotte," a trim and well-equipped stern-wheeler owned by the North B. C. Navigation Company and operated by it during the past six years. The steamer was built for speed and makes the run of sixty miles to Quesnel in nine hours, but the return trip, which is downstream, takes only two and a half. Though parts of river are difficult to navigate every foot of the way is known to Captain Foster.

At three or four places along the Fraser, Chinamen were observed rocking. Year after year they work the same bars and one season took out \$80,000 between Quesnel and the "Canyon." For the most part the river is bordered by high bluffs wooded to the top and



The 61 Chasm.

with wash-gravel even at the highest points. On the mountain between Mud Lake and the Fraser an outcrop said to be of copper was clearly defined and the ore body traceable for hundreds of feet. Not far from Quesnel a body of lignite occurs. An abandoned dredge that lies rotting in the river shows that some one has made a mistake and that dredging there is either not profitable or not practicable.

Quesnel is an important distributing centre and has good stores, a grist mill and a sawmill. Ordinarily its population is about fifty. We who were Barkerville-bound, left the Fraser behind us here and resuming the stage, turned our faces eastward and ere nightfall were at Cottonwood, 28 miles distant and 1,000 feet higher in altitude. The first ten miles of the road are drift-covered and no rock is exposed, but on 11-Mile Hill and Bonanza Hill schists appear. Shortly after leaving Cottonwood we came in sight of Lightning Creek, which we followed, passing Wingdam, Beaver Pass with its saw-mill and brick-yard, and Stanley. From Stanley two roads lead to Barkerville: one, the Richfield road which crosses a summit of 5,300 feet; the other, the new road of lower grade that runs by