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Roads.—The roads, where found, are of the ordinary prairie nature—excellent in summer, but very indifferent in the spring and wet weather; though, as previously mentioned, the very deep creeks will continue to make hauling difficult until some definite work is done at the various crossings. The long, heavy grades from the creek-bed again to the general level easily reduce the hauling capacity of a team by 60 per cent.

Acreage.—An attempt was made to obtain figures as to the exact acreage under crop. In the time available it was impossible to visit all farmers. In any case, the compiling of exact statistics is always rendered difficult, due to the fact that so many men are suspicious that some attempt is being made for taxing purposes; others are inclined to very much "boost" or "knock"; while still others seem to show stupidity as to what is the size of an acre field. As near as could be estimated by myself, and in consultation with Mr. Cruikshanks, manager of the branch of the Bank of Commerce, the following acres are under crop in Pouce Coupe Valley, 1917:—

Oats, 7,000 acres, average yield 40 bushels; wheat, 5,000 acres, average yield 25 bushels; barley, 300 acres; potatoes, roots, etc. This will give a total yield of 280,000 bushels of oats, 125,000 of wheat, and 60,000 of barley.



Launch at Hudson Hope, just arrived from Peace River Crossing.

Rivers and Creeks.—The Pouce Coupe River runs north in a general direction, leaving the Dominion Block east of Rolla. Various creeks flow into the river in a general easterly direction. They are as follows: Bissell, Dawson, Saskatoon, Rock, and Doe Creeks. At the north part of the Pouce Coupe Valley the banks are 500 to 600 feet deep.

FORT ST. JOHN AND TAYLOR'S FLAT.

In and about the centre of the Dominion Block and situated on the north bank of the Peace River is found the Hudson's Bay Company trading-post of Fort St. John. There are also a few other buildings at this point, as the Dominion Telegraph Office, Revillon's store, and the Police Barracks (across the river). Eight miles down the river is a small flat, of about three sections in extent, known as Taylor's Flat, and eight settlers may be found there.

North and east of Fort St. John is a very good type of district, which is reached by an alleged road which rises 800 feet in half a mile. A large number of homesteads have been filed on this plateau, but only six settlers at the present time remain, and one is inclined to ask "why" they stay under the conditions as they now exist, as they are over 275 miles from the nearest shipping-point (Peace River Crossing), with no immediate relief in sight.