

ECONOMIC POSSIBILITIES OF YUKON—CAIRNES

creeks to be \$53,642,620, and stated that an additional production of from eight to ten million dollars might be expected from the creeks draining into Indian river, making a total from Klondike district of between sixty-one and sixty-four million dollars.¹ Since that time the district has produced approximately \$36,000,000 and from all available data it would now appear that the Klondike will still produce between thirty and forty-five millions of dollars. The thirty millions checks very closely with Mr. McConnell's estimate made nine years ago. In a district as large as the Klondike, however, new methods and new developments, as well as new discoveries are always possible, and the forty-five millions is intended by the writer to cover such possibilities. These estimates as to future production have been made partly from the results of the operations and prospecting of the various mining companies, and partly from other data, all available information being employed. Since, however, the data upon which to base such an estimate is of necessity very incomplete, the estimate is consequently to be regarded as only approximate.

The future output of the other producing placer gold districts in Yukon is relatively even less definitely known than that of the Klondike, as in most localities comparatively little exploration has been conducted. The development and prospecting to date, however, would scarcely justify expectations from the explored gravels of these other now producing areas of more than from one to two millions of dollars. In case, however, certain of the old pre-Glacial channels of Kluane district and elsewhere are discovered and prove to be exploitable, the gold from this source may add greatly to this estimate.

In addition to the areas that have produced, and are still yielding placer gold, encouraging prospects are believed to have been found along the streams of a number of other localities. Among the more promising of these streams, that have so far been found, are certain of the creeks of Upper White River district,² as well as various tributaries of Nisling, Kluane,³ and

¹McConnell, R. G., "Report on the gold values in the Klondike high level gravels": Geol. Surv., Can., 1907, pp. 33, 34.

²Cairnes, D. D., "Upper White River district, Yukon": Geol. Surv., Can., Memoir No. 50, 1915, pp. 124-126.

³Cairnes, D. D., "Exploration in Southwestern Yukon": Geol. Surv., Can., Sum. report for 1914. See section on placer gold.