

or Teslin branch, and from their junction to the mouth, has upwards of 2,000 miles, the other 1,200 miles being on the confluents.

As far as can be traced from our present knowledge, the valley in Canadian territory affords 6,000 miles of river, stream and gulch, of which about 1,400 are navigable for the class of steamers suited to the region. In this territory, which I consider by far the most important part of the Yukon valley, we find gold profusely scattered; in fact, it would be difficult to select a single mile on which traces are not found. I do not wish to be understood as saying that all this is rich or will pay for developing, far from it, but we know now that about half of it affords good indications—good enough to warrant us in assuming that it will be worked under more favorable conditions than at present exist. Out of this 3,000 miles not more than 400 or 500 have been thoroughly prospected and developed, and in those 400 or 500 we have found the world-renowned Klondike region, which probably, all told, comprises less than 150 miles of river, stream and gulch.

The Stewart, with its confluents, furnishes nearly 2,000 linear miles of gold-bearing territory. This will average possibly less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile in width. At present much of this we know is good.

The Pelly, up to the time of speaking, is practically unknown. A little prospecting has been done at several points with the result that, though not considered rich, it is an asset in the gold production of the future.

Outside of the Yukon valley in the more south westerly portion of this district, gold has been found on streams tributary to the Alsek River, from which we may reasonably conclude that the whole Yukon territory is more or less gold-bearing and will probably afford 7,000 linear miles of auriferous deposit, of which we may assume say one-half as worth developing; not at present it may be, in part, but with increased facilities for transport there can be very little doubt but that it will be utilized. These remarks refer, of course, to auriferous gravels and earths. When we take into consideration quartz, the possibilities can only be imagined. At present there are upwards of a dozen gold-bearing quartz lodes located in the vicinity of Forty Mile and Dawson, low-grade in quality but vast in extent. It is only reasonable to infer that, where gold is so universally and widely scattered, a portion of it at least must remain in the *in situ* mother lode, and