

informed that the mountains are from fifty to one hundred miles away.

The first and only stop we make is at Port Townsend, a scattered sleepy town of about fifteen hundred population. It is one of the many towns of the Pacific Coast that has "seen better days." (!) To look at it now and believe that but ten years ago it was a "boomer," with a street car system and a population of some ten thousand is hard indeed. Grass grows in the waggon and street-car tracks. A team on the streets is well-nigh a curiosity. A stop of fifteen minutes or so and we are off again.

The Sound now gets narrower and narrower as we near Seattle, where the distance from shore to shore is not more than a mile.

Seattle has upwards of seventy thousand inhabitants. Fifteen or twenty years ago it was a mere village. It is very scattered, stretching one and a half to two miles along the Sound, rises to an elevation of possibly a thousand feet and descends again towards Lake Washington in the rear. In Seattle you have possibly the most "hustling" city of its size in all America. *Everybody* seems to be in a hurry, and the business streets and cars are crowded from daylight till dark.

There are many fine buildings, chiefly of brick and stone,—the shops are very good. You ask how it is and the answer comes: "Klondyke!" Yes, the Klondyke has made Seattle. No other city on the whole Pacific has "outfitted" to anything like the extent or received the same amount of the "yellow metal" per returning Klondykers. Millions of Klondyke gold has poured into Seattle in the past three years. A very good illustration of the prosperity of the place is the fact that but two or three years ago the cable-cars ran to the Lake Washington Parks (a distance of three or four miles) every twenty minutes, while to-day you have a car either way every four minutes. The cable car service, by the way, was to me one of the wonders of the place. At first you gaze in wonder at these cars as they swiftly climb and descend hill after hill—veritable toboggan slides. Your initiatory ride has a most "hair-raising" effect, and as you go over the top of one of the hills and dash rapidly downward, you think your