

miles to the Yukon waters; and the route via Dease Lake, the Frances and Pelly Rivers. Both the latter are easy lines. Ultimately, if the development of the Yukon warrants, there will be no difficulty in finding an easy and all rail route from the head of some of the inlets in northern British Columbia.

THE GOLD FIELDS ARE IN CANADA.

The great gold fields of the Yukon are in Canada. The earliest discoveries were in Canada, but subsequently the principal deposits opened up were in the United States Territory of Alaska. Hence has grown up the practice of speaking of the Alaskan gold mines. Hence, too, the chief trade of the country has been done with cities of the United States. The fact also that two United States trading corporations, the Alaska Commercial Company and the North American Trading and Transportation Company, have control of the import trade by way of the mouth of the Yukon, has also contributed to keeping the trade of the country in the hands of merchants of the United States. Since recent discoveries have shown that the greatest deposits are in Canada, Victoria merchants have secured a larger share of the trade and are controlling more and more of it from month to month. As soon as a Dominion custom house officer is put upon the overland route the supply of nearly the whole of the trade of the gold mines will be in Victoria and other Canadian cities.

TRANSPORTATION AND OUTFITTING.

Several steamers ply regularly between the Puget Sound ports, Vancouver and Victoria and Dyea and Skagway Bay. The only Canadian line is that of the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company, having its headquarters at Victoria. The company has just completed arrangements to put on its splendid ocean-going steamer *Islander* on the route, and will continue to handle freight and passenger traffic as long each season as it offers. This gives to Canadians a Canadian line to these great Canadian gold-fields.

Take the Canadian Pacific Railway to Victoria *via* Vancouver, and at Victoria take the C. P. N. steamers to Dyea or Skagway Bay.

Efforts are being made in the cities of the United States to create the impression that they are the only places to outfit for the Yukon and the only places where steamship accommodation can be got. This is wrong. Everything that a man needs to take into the Yukon can be bought in Victoria as well as anywhere else, and by timing his journey right the prospector, speculator or trader can go directly to the ocean termini of the Passes by steamers sailing from Victoria.

Every person intending to go into the Yukon should make Victoria his starting point.

Goods of all descriptions, either for the outfit of the individual miner, or for the trader, no matter how large his order may be, can be supplied in Victoria as cheaply as at any other point on the Coast, and as the goods are destined for Canadian territory it is a direct advantage to buy them in a Canadian city and thereby save the duties.