

ing a separate island to the west of Prince of Wales Island, may or may not be included in the final interpretation of the treaty as having belonged to Russia.

9. The water-boundary running north from Cape Chacon to the 56th degree of north latitude, on the coast of the continent is accepted by a large number of British Columbians as being in accordance with the wording, spirit and sense of the treaty. It forms a convenient, reasonable and practicable boundary to accommodate both countries, which the line by way of Portland Canal is not, nor never can be.

10. As to the line from Cape Chacon, along Portland Channel to the continent at the 56th degree, it is contended by British Columbians that the correct line from that new point of departure (the 56th degree) in accordance with the treaty, should be retracing the line through Ernest Sound (a portion of Portland Channel) until the former line along the eastern coast of Prince of Wales would be reached, and following that line to what is now known as Sumner Strait (a portion of Clarence Strait on Vancouver's map and charts); thence crossing Sumner Strait, and working under the ten marine leagues measurement from the ocean coast, as a conventional boundary line, proceed northerly between the islands Kuiw and Kopreanof to Frederick Sound as far as the 57th degree of north latitude; thence west along that parallel to Chatham Strait, which would be followed to Icy Strait to the continental shore, at such point as might be deemed most convenient, to utilize "the strip of land" mentioned in the treaty; and thence ten marine leagues from the ocean coast to the 141st degree of longitude; and thence to the Arctic Ocean along the 141st meridian. It is but reasonable to conclude that Great Britain desired to protect the frontier of British Columbia, to the east of Prince of Wales Island and north to Cross Sound. This was effectually accomplished by the deflection of a branch of the main boundary through Ernest Sound to the continent at the 56th degree. Then by retracing the same line and joining the line of demarcation from Cape Chacon, continued along the east side of Prince of Wales Island as formerly mentioned, completed the southern portion.

10. The latest infringement in connection with the Cape Muzon extension line of boundary, is an imaginary line drawn from Cape Muzon, east to the entrance of Portland Canal, thence north to the head of the Canal, and then westward (forming an elbow) to Burroughs Bay, where the line is supposed to cross the 56th degree of latitude. Should the interpretation of the treaty according to the contention and belief of many British Columbians who have studied the question, together with not a few of the citizens of the United States, (amongst others, Mr. J. W. Treadwell, of San Francisco, who wrote a conclusive article on the boundary question in 1897), be accepted, and the common sense, just view be adopted according to their contention, the Portland Canal boundary line, and its continuation along the frontier of the mainland must be abrogated, and the Portland Channel water boundary to Cross Sound be used. The settlement—the just settlement of the question to both the United States and Canada, hinges on the direction of the line of boundary from Cape Chacon.

11. The *Edinburgh Review*, April, 1900, has a comprehensive article on the Alaskan boundary dif-

ficulty. Amongst other things it says: "It is commonly though erroneously supposed that the United States have exercised control at Dyea and Skagway for a considerable period of time. The facts are that Dyea and Skagway did not exist prior to the spring of 1897. At the opening of that year there was nothing more than a single log cabin or shanty at either place. In May the influx of miners to the Klondike began. Thousands of them arrived by steamer in the Lynn Canal, and congregated on its margin where Dyea and Skagway now stand. The necessities of this migration caused considerable trade and commerce. Without any survey or further diplomatic action respecting the position of the boundary, the United States government assumed political control of these points, and established custom houses, post offices and other evidences of authority, with such reasonable diligence as the extreme difficulties of access to this territory and other circumstances permitted, Canada protested against this cavalier mode of solving the difficulty, and urged the desirability of establishing the boundary line as contemplated by the convention of 1892." The United States people are continuing this summer to take possession of land in Clarence Strait, on Island Revilla Gigedo, and on locations along Behm Canal—complications are increasing, and hence the greater necessity for an early settlement of the boundary.

12. A few points in the *Review* article from a British Columbian point of view require amendment. For example on page 287, last paragraph, it is stated that: "Having ascertained the southernmost point of Prince of Wales Island, one is suddenly confronted by the fact that between it and Portland Channel sixty miles of ocean intervene. Furthermore, Portland Channel lies almost due east from the southernmost point. * * * Again, the line is to ascend north along Portland Channel, until it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude. But Portland Channel does not attain to latitude 56 degrees, etc." The difficulty here is the substitution of the name Portland Channel for Portland Canal. The name Portland Channel was not used by Captain Vancouver in his maps or charts—only Portland Canal—and Portland Channel was only used in the description of the line of treaty by George Canning and Sir C. Bagot. The change of the name seems a small affair, but when it applies to a different body of water and gives the boundary another line or direction it makes the treaty impracticable, and unworkable. That the name "Portland Channel" should have been written Portland Canal, appears evident from the explanations and the reference of "sixty miles of open ocean" between Cape Chacon and Portland Canal, whereas Portland Channel as named and described in the treaty is alongside Prince of Wales Island, and furnishes a water boundary, as mentioned by the framers of the treaty to lead to the 56th degree on the coast of the continent. The paragraph quoted is therefore incorrect, except where it says the line is to "ascend north along Portland Channel" to the 56th degree, and the error, though apparently trivial, has been the case of the principal misinterpretations of the treaty. It affects the whole continental frontier of British Columbia from Cape Fox to Cross Sound. Also on page 288, par. 4, a mistake occurs. It is stated that "both parties concur in holding Cape Muzon to be the southernmost point of Prince of Wales Island. * * * and both acknowledge that