

ECONOMIC POSSIBILITIES OF YUKON—CAIRNES

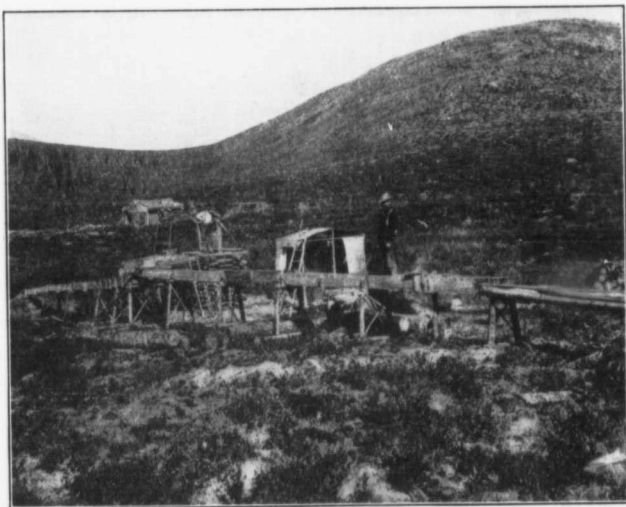


Plate III.—Placer mining on South fork of East fork of Nansen creek by underground drifting and sluicing, summer of 1914. The gravels are hoisted to surface by windlass summer and winter, and sluiced during summer months.

Between 1906 and the close of last year (1914) about \$36,000,000 or slightly more than this amount was obtained from the Klondike gravels, making a total of \$155,000,000 which corresponds with the writer's estimate.

The time required to deplete the Klondike gravels of their gold involves a number of questions, and is thus only very approximately known. It would seem probable, however, if the present policies and methods of the various operators be continued, that the bulk of these gravels will become exhausted as far as this can be accomplished by the most up-to-date mining methods of the present day, in 9 or 10 years: but in places where exceptionally large amounts of low-grade gravels have to be handled, as in the valley of Klondike river, possibly as much