

inferior quality, and has been burnt in many places for some distance from the surface by fires, which have been in existence since the river was first discovered. West of the mountains a small seam of lignite was observed on the Porcupine, a few miles above the mouth of Old Crow River, and seams of coal are reported to occur in a small stream which enters the Pelly-Yukon from the east below Forty-Mile Creek. The latter is probably of cretaceous age.

We have every reason to believe that when the boundary award is made it will be found that the head of Lynn Canal is in British Columbia, and should this prove to be the case the shipping would be greatly facilitated. In the meantime we would urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity of making customs bonding arrangements with the Government of Alaska or the United States for the passage of goods in bond through the territory lying between Lynn Canal and British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. It is also necessary that the Dominion Government should have Customs Officers along the coast of this district.

At present the trade of the Yukon country is largely in the hands of the Americans, and we believe the time has come when steps should be taken to secure for the merchants and traders of the province a portion thereof.

The great distance to be traversed and the difficulty of getting provisions into the mining regions necessarily make food stuffs expensive. By establishing a route from the head of Lynn Canal the time taken in the transportation of goods would be shortened and miners thereby enabled to remain in the country later in the year, which would be a decided advantage to them.

We also are of opinion that the Local and Dominion Governments should assist by some scheme such as we have referred to, namely, by assisting financially