

itary regulations runs, I think, something like this: "If you're compelled to travel afore breakfast, git some breakfast afore you go," and I paraphrase this good advice to all landmen: If you are compelled to travel on the ocean, always take the inside route.

We sailed between these islands and the mainland going and coming, and if there could be such a thing as a surfeit of the picturesque we had ample opportunity to experience it. After touching at Loring and Kasaan, we stopped at Wrangel, where the totem posts are; at Juneau, where the Yukon miners start into the interior; at Douglass Island, where the great Treadwell gold mine is located; at Killesnoo, at New Metlakahtla, and at Tongas. We spent a day at the great Muir Glacier, we visited Sitka, went up to Pyramid Harbor in the Chilcat country, and then retraced our way, sometimes passing through the same waters, at other times seeing new beauties as we struck a different route.

The resources of the country are few, but those few are large. All the coast line is covered with timber, and the 2,500 miles are multiplied many times by the lines of shore created by the innumerable islands. The warm Japan current which tones the temperature of all that coast, brings with it the most abundant moisture, which is precipitated in rain as it strikes the coast range mountains. One result is a redundant vegetation; the ground is covered with vines, and mosses, and ferns, and these are constantly soaked like a universal sponge, so that fire cannot travel through them, and although the forests of Puget Sound appear to be burning continually in one direction or another, those of the far north have never been devastated by fire, and apparently that catastrophe is impossible. Just what an investigation of the interior might reveal I am not prepared to say, but to the casual observer there appears to be timber enough in that region to last the whole country for ages, until the forests of Maine, Michigan and Wisconsin shall grow again. The transportation question is of