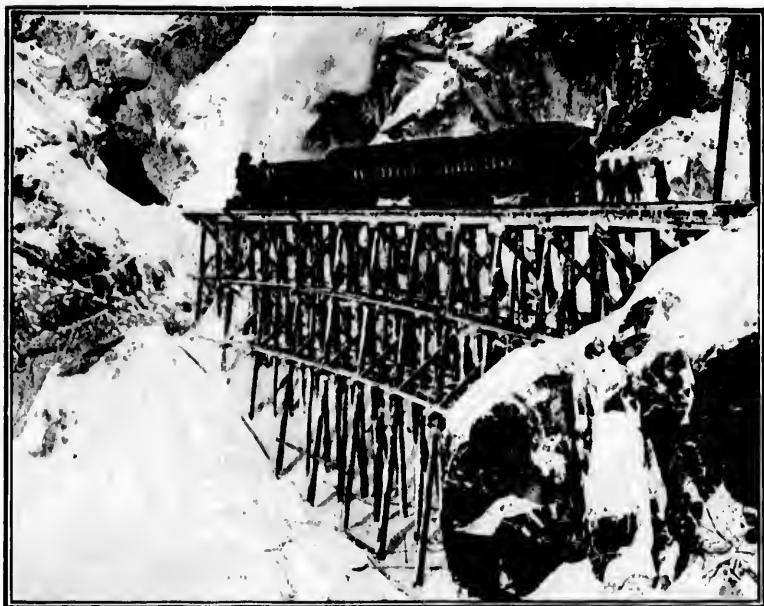


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FIRST PASSENGER-TRAIN EN ROUTE TO THE SUMMIT.

merchandise over the pass, that no one is likely to complain at the company's getting back in this manner some of its outlay.

The northward traveler landing at Skagway is now met at the wharf by hotel vans, and the ubiquitous hotel runner makes the occasion hideous just as he does in other cities. The town has a population of about eight thousand, resident and transient, and boasts upward of twenty hotels. It has a telephone system, electric lights, water-works, a fire department, a company of National Guardsmen, schools and churches. But the most important of all is the railroad, and next comes a telegraph line soon to run far into the interior as a result of Canadian enterprise.

When the future fortune-seeker arrives at Fort Selkirk after a comfortable railway journey, as he will do after a few months, there will be many directions in which he may strike out, for the thousands of prospectors entering Alaska have brought news of rich gold-fields in other localities.

For a time all roads led to Dawson, but the word Klondike has since been in dan-

ger several times of being superseded as a synonym of the miners' paradise. Last August the Atlin district, eighty-three miles north of Skagway, was discovered and developed by Americans. Upward of fifteen thousand claims were staked during the fall, and then the miners were driven to tide-water by the snow and cold weather.



WAITING FOR A TRAIN TO PASS.



THE SUMMIT,  
UNION ACT.