

these mines is being operated at present, areas of similar rocks are known to exist elsewhere in Ontario, and one may fairly hope for further discoveries.

Passing westerly across the prairie lands, we come to the range of mountainous country, constituting British Columbia, which is known to be highly metalliferous through the length of two continents. The occurrence of gold, even if not always in payable quantities, in so many of the rivers running from the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, is a most encouraging sign. For some distance along the North Saskatchewan River, near Edmonton, gold has been washed from the river bars for years, and with the advent of dredges now being put in operation this and other rivers should become of much greater importance.

The rich gold gravels of the Klondike and other tributaries of the Yukon River extend our gold-bearing areas far into the North, and even if one must regard as unreasonable the conception lately indulged in by the public, of one vast placer deposit extending southward from thence to the known gold placers of British Columbia, we may justly believe that many rich districts will yet be located at points along this stretch of over 300 miles.

In British Columbia, to the north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, lies an area of mountainous country about 800 by 400 miles, which is very difficult to travel, being opened up by but few trails, and although fairly well prospected for the shallower gold gravels, it may yet be regarded as mostly an unknown territory with all its possibilities before it. This may be said to be especially the case in regard to veins and other deposits of ores of the precious metals, and to the poorer and deeper gravels suitable only for hydraulicing, as well as to any river bed deposits so situated as to require to be dealt with by dredging. The era of placer mining by these methods can, however, now be said to have begun with good chances for great expansion in future years.

To the south of the Canadian Pacific Railway the province is fairly well opened up, and the railways projected and in construction assure favourable economic conditions in the future. In the operations in the Trail Creek, Slocan, Nelson, Boundary Creek, East Kootenay and other mining camps, exist the begin-