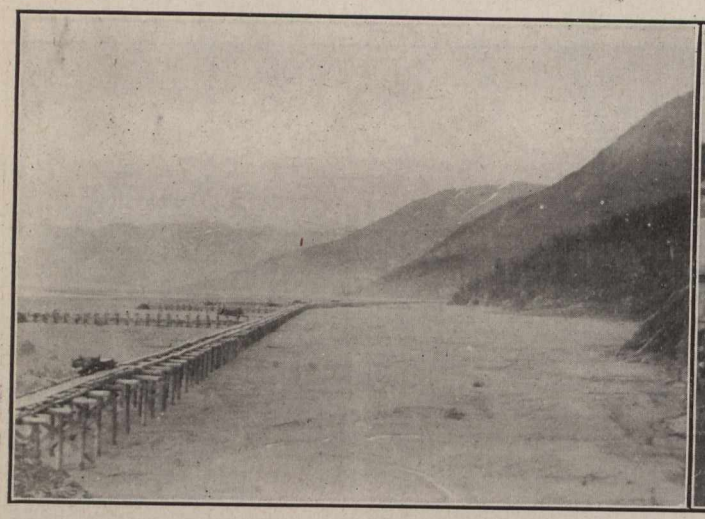
At some places great precautions had been taken in the location to avoid the action of snow-slides. Thus at mile 67 a low trestle had been considered preferable, 4,280 feet in length, across the sandy foreshore of Turnagain Arm, which is covered at high tide, rather than run the risk of damage on the solid slopes.

The terminal is at Seward on Resurrection Bay, an excellent harbor, 16 miles in length, and 5 or 6 miles in width, free from ice all the year round, and, having a comparatively narrow entrance with a high island in the centre, it could be easily fortified. The U.S.A. Naval Department had made a reservation of 3,200 acres near Seward for a coaling station.

The railway company have erected a fine head office at a cost of about $39,000.

The land to the southwest of Turnagain Arm forms the Kenai Peninsula, and is already noted for its magnificent hunting and fishing.

The whole route of the railway from Seward to Fairbanks lies through what is officially reported to be a rich mineral country, and agricultural prospects, too, are good, so that the future of the undertaking is practically assured.



Timber Pile Bridge, 6,000 Feet Long, Mile 67.

Knik and Yacht "Valdez" A.C.R.

SASKATCHEWAN LIGNITE DEVELOPMENT.

As a sequel to the operations carried on by the government of Saskatchewan at the lignite testing plant at Estevan, a limited stock company, known as the Saskatchewan Coal, Brick and Power Co., Limited, has recently been formed to manufacture lignite fuel and other products at Shand, Sask., about thirty miles south-east of Estevan on the main line of the C.P.R. between Moose Jaw and St. Paul. According to the Journal of the Canadian Peat Society, it is proposed to acquire about 300 acres of coal lands, on which there are estimated to be upwards of 4,000,000 tons of minable lignite of excellent quality. The principal seam which is now being mined is nine feet thick and eighty feet below the surface. There is at present on the land a plant for mining coal and making wire cut brick, with a capacity of 500 tons of lignite and 50,000 brick per day.

The company proposes to produce: Dried lignite for use with automatic stokers and in fuel gas producers; powdered fuel from the dried pulverized lignite; dried lignite briquettes for use in large hand-fired furnaces; carbonized lignite for use in power gas producers; carbonized lignite briquettes for domestic service; gas, which may be sold as "town gas," utilized for production of cheap electrical power, or for burning clay products; power, derived from the surplus gas generated in the carbonizing process; sulphate of ammonia, of which about 15 lbs. are procured from each ton of lignite; tar products; clay products. At the outset only simple distillation products will be procured, such as fuel oil, creosote and other oils and pitch. Later it is proposed to manufacture various synthetic chemical products. Eventually it is expected a complete line of common, face and ornamental brick, hollow ware, partition, floor and roof tiling, sewer pipe, drain tile, and many kinds of common pottery will be manufactured.

A brochure issued by the company points out that tar products have heretofore come from Germany. The total export of Germany's coal tar industry in 1913 is said to have been $55,264,522, produced by twenty-two factories, whose average dividends were 21.74 per cent. It is estimated that electric power can be generated at very low cost, and that eventually the government of Saskatchewan will undertake the distribution of power over its own transmission lines in the same manner as Niagara water power is now distributed over Ontario by the Hydro-Electric Commission.

The lignite on the company's property is said to be of excellent quality, as shown by analysis:—

Volatile matter	37.5 per cent.
Fixed carbon	54.5 per cent.
Ash	8. per cent.
	100. per cent.

Calorific value of dried lignite, 11,000 B.t.u.

Percentages determined on dry basis.

The southern part of Saskatchewan will furnish billions of tons of lignite. Only about 200,000 tons are now mined annually, while 2,000,000 tons of eastern and western coals are imported at high cost into the territory naturally tributary to this source of supply. When local lignite areas and accompanying clay deposits are developed, millions of dollars which would otherwise be sent out of the province annually for fuel and building materials will be kept at home.