

miles to the Yukon waters; and the route via Dease Lake, the Frances and Pelly Rivers. Both the latter are easy lines. Ultimately, if the development of the Yukon warrants, there will be no difficulty in finding an easy and all rail route from the head of some of the inlets in northern British Columbia.

### THE GOLD FIELDS ARE IN CANADA.

The great gold fields of the Yukon are in Canada. The earliest discoveries were in Canada, but subsequently the principal deposits opened up were in the United States Territory of Alaska. Hence has grown up the practice of speaking of the Alaskan gold mines. Hence, too, the chief trade of the country has been done with cities of the United States. The fact also that two United States trading corporations, the Alaska Commercial Company and the North American Trading and Transportation Company, have control of the import trade by way of the mouth of the Yukon, has also contributed to keeping the trade of the country in the hands of merchants of the United States. Since recent discoveries have shown that the greatest deposits are in Canada, Vancouver merchants have secured a larger share of the trade and are controlling more and more of it from month to month. As soon as a Dominion custom house officer is put upon the overland route the supply of nearly the whole of the trade of the gold mines will be in Vancouver and other Canadian cities.

### TRANSPORTATION AND OUTFITTING.

Several steamers ply regularly between the Puget Sound ports, Vancouver and Victoria and Dyce and Skagway Bay, owned by Canadian steamship companies having offices at Vancouver and Victoria, thus affording a Canadian route to these great Canadian gold fields.

Efforts are being made in the cities of the United States to create the impression that they are the only places to outfit for the Yukon and the only places where steamship accommodation can be got. This is wrong. Everything that a man needs to take into the Yukon can be bought in Vancouver as well as anywhere else, and by timing his journey right the prospector, speculator or trader can go directly to the ocean termini of the Passes by steamers sailing from Vancouver.

Goods of all descriptions, either for the outfit of the individual miner, or for the trader, no matter how large his order may be, can be supplied in Vancouver as cheaply as at any other point on the Coast, and as the goods are destined for Canadian territory it is a direct advantage to buy them in a Canadian city and thereby save the duties.

The climate of the Yukon is cold in the winter and very warm in the summer. But though the thermometer registered very low in the winter months, there is very little suffering from cold, and not even any very great personal inconvenience. No hardy man need be deterred from going into the Yukon by reason of the cold. A number of women and small children have spent the winter there without discomfort.

Law and order are strictly enforced in the Canadian Yukon by a detachment of the Northwest Mounted Police.