

*Bering's* dark sea. Such tasks may safely be left to the visiting journalists, of whose books on Alaska there is plentiful supply.

It is now thirteen years since the author began his residence in the interior of Alaska, and by far the greater part of the time of that residence has been spent in almost continual travel. The present season is the tenth during which the launch *Pelican* has traversed the waters of the Yukon and its tributaries, and the total distance she has covered is close upon thirty thousand miles.

The original plan of the book contemplated the transcription of a series of journeys from the log of the launch and the author's diaries, in much the way that "Ten Thousand Miles with a Dog-Sled" was composed, and the title was determined upon at that time. But when the plan came to the execution the author found that the subject did not readily lend itself to such treatment.

He has therefore preferred to take the reader right down the Yukon River from its source to its mouth without much specific reference to the voyages of the *Pelican*, and this journey constitutes the first part of the book.

The journeys which the second part of the book describes were made on the Alaskan rivers tributary to the Yukon, the "side streams" as they are generally called by river men, though they are themselves great rivers, and a chapter is devoted to each of the more important ones. All of these streams except the Chandalar have been traversed again and again by the launch, and in-