# What Travelers Say About the Trip to Alaska and the Klondike

White Pass and Yukon Route

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### Issued by the TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

#### White Pass and Yukon Route

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#### FROM THE HON. JOS. G. CANNON

Extract from an interview with the Hon. Jos. G. Cannon, speaker of the House of Representatives which appeared in the Seattle Daily Times.

"I have been surprised and pleased with the grandeur and beauty of the scenery along the inland sea channels, which form the course of the voyage to Alaska. It seems to me that here in this thousand miles are gathered more pleasing mountain and sea scenery than can be found anywhere else on this continent."

In answer to our question whether Mr. Cannon was correctly quoted, he writes:

"I am probably quoted correctly—if not, it is what I might have said."

#### FROM THE HON. C. L. BARTLETT

The following extract is from a statement made by the Hon. C. L. Bartlett, Congressman from Georgia, in the Seattle Daily Times:

"The scenery that breaks upon the vision of the traveler when he first enters this wonderful country is both beautiful and grand, and its magnificence and wonder increases as he progresses until he stands apalled and amazed. To me it surpasses anything I have ever seen before or read of. Surely if our American tourists who yearly make voyages to foreign countries, were aware that their own country abounded in such scenery as we have found in Alaska, they would be glad to come here and view these wonders of nature which no foreign country can furnish."

As to the correctness of the above, Mr. Bartlett writes:

"The statement which appeared in the Seattle Daily Times was written by me and, so far as I can see, correctly quotes what I said."

Ch. Batul

#### FROM THE HON. WM. SULZER

The Hon. Wm. Sulzer, Congressman from New York in the Seattle Daily Times:

"I go to Alaska every summer, combining business with pleasure. I believe Alaska to be the grandest country on earth—God's country. Nobody can describe Alaska. Combine all the pictures in nature's art gallery, think of all the wonders in the world, tumble all the mountains, all the snow-capped peaks, all the glaciers, all the gorges, all the valleys, all the cascades, all the torrential streams rushing tumultuously seaward, all together and you have a faint glimmer of the wonders, the greatness, the glory, and the inexpressible grandeur of Alaska.

"If Americans knew more about Alaska, more about the land of sunshine and glory and promise west of the Rockies, fewer of them would sojourn

every summer in Europe."

Relative to the correctness of the above, Mr. Sulzer has written to us saying:

"The quotation is correct and you are at liberty

to publish it in your booklet.

"I take a great interest in Alaska and go there every year. The scenery is unsurpassed; the climate the most salubrious on earth, but beyond that it is a store-house of treasure and the wonderland of man.

"With best wishes, believe me
"Very sincerely yours,

FROM PROF. W. L. MacGOWAN Supt. of Schools, Warren, Pa.

"Dear Sir: You can use my name in any way you see fit as endorsing most emphatically your very courteous treatment of passengers, and substantiating all your statements as to the beauty and attractiveness of your route that we found published in your pamphlets."

Very truly yours,

W. Lilloacyowan

# FROM THE REV. DR. THOMAS EDWARD POTTERTON

Brooklyn, N. Y.

My dear Sir:—It was my pleasure to take the White Pass & Yukon Route rail and river trip to Dawson during the summer, and my enjoyment of the journey was so great that I am moved to offer you a word or two of appreciation.

From the hour of leaving port at Seattle or Vancouver, a continuous panorama of matchless beauty unfolds to the vision. Where is there another thou-

sand miles of such impressive scenery?

And at Skaguay we commenced our climb over the White Pass amidst the boldest and wildest Nature pictures imaginable. We hardly knew which to admire most; the savage aspects of Nature, the conquering audacity and skill of the engineers who built a way through the mountain wilds, or the venturing spirit of the financiers willing to advance the money to construct the railroad. The ride was great, to use an expressive phrase.

I thoroughly enjoyed the journey on the Yukon. Excellent service in the dining room and the quiet courtesy of the officials conspired to create satisfac-

tion in the traveler's mind.

Among the most pleasant memories I retain are those of your companionable and helpful officials.

At Dawson we entered into the delights of a Northern civilization, where the twenty-five cent piece is the minimum coin, and yet offering the so-journer of a day or two or a week, as keen and zestful enjoyment as any city can give.

It seems to me that Alaska and the Yukon will present such inducements to the tourist, that each year will witness an increasing number traveling toward the Arctic Circle, guided by the Star in the

North.

I am glad I went to Dawson, and some day I will try to travel over the same route, which gave me the keenest pleasure last July (1906).

Faithfully yours.

Thomas Edward Potterton.

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#### FROM G. BIE RAVNDAL

Formerly American Consul at Dawson City. Y. T., Canada.

I enclose copy of an interview in Dear Sir: the Yukon World, which is authentic. Yours truly,

G. Bie Ravns American Consul.

The following is an extract from the interview referred to above:

"It strikes me that this fascinating Northland will before long loom up as an attraction to tourists equal to Switzerland and Norway. The inside passage between Seattle and Skaguay, practically all the way, presents scenery of natural beauty and grandeur and picturesqueness only equalled. not surpassed, however, by the fjords of Norway. Between Skaguay and the White Pass you revel in the delights of Switzerland. Sailing down the Yukon in luxurious steamers, with abundant opportunity for hunting, fishing, exploration and scientific research, is an experience never to be forgotten."

#### FROM MR. GEO. D. BARROW

1009 Empire Building, Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Sir: It is certainly a pleasure to be able to heartily recommend anything, when one can do so with full feeling of appreciation. I have seen about all of the grand scenery of this country, and certainly the trip over your road is equal to anything on this side of the Atlantic.

I was particularly pleased with the entire Alaskan trip, but mentioned the Road especially.

While writing I shall take this occasion to thank you for the courtesies shown to me, and at the same time advise you that I also received the same courtesies from the various local officials en route.

Yours very truly.

Geod Barn

#### FROM MR. CLIFFORD T. JONES

of Jones & Nichols, Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries etc.

Calgary, Alta, Canada.

Dear Sir: The trip from Vancouver to Skaguay, and from Skaguay to Dawson, via your lines, cannot be excelled in America. I have travelled over most of the continent and pretend to be somewhat of a judge. The accommodations at both Skaguay and Dawson are excellent. The meals are as good as can be obtained in the best hotels in large cities. For a person who is tired and wishes a pleasant rest no finer route could be taken. I was barely able to walk when I left Vancouver, but the second day I was in Dawson I drove thirty-five miles up the creeks and walked around and felt none the worse after it. The air in the Yukon has a freshness that cannot be found outside of the north. The people are the best in the world.

Yours truly,

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#### FROM MRS. EVA H. KERR

St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of September 20, (1906), will say, we were delighted with our trip over the White Pass & Yukon this summer, and hope some day to take it again.

The river trip is fine when taken on one of your large steamers. We returned on the "Dawson" and found Capt. Turnbull a most efficient officer, and received the greatest courtesy from him and all under him.

Sincerely yours,

( mue) Era Pl. Kein

#### FROM MR. J. MAX BERNARD

Real Estate Trust Bldg., Philadelphia.

Dear Sir: I have your favor of Oct. 28, and in reply would state that our trip to Dawson, during month of July, 1904, was one of the best trips that we have had during our extensive travels, not only in this country, but elsewhere.

Your officers, both on the railroad and steamship line, gave us their best attention, and taking everything into consideration, the trip over your railroad to White Horse was enjoyed immensely, the scenery—very fine, and your steamer service from White Horse to Dawson and return-far better than we expected. The staterooms, as well as meals, and the service from your valuable emplovees, especially mentioning your captain and chief steward, who gave us their personal attention, doing everything in their power for the comfort of the ladies, my wife and sister, Miss Mary B. Shaw, who were traveling with me. We have already highly recommended the trip to Dawson, and believe many of our friends in the future will take the trip. The scenery, etc., we can safely say is some of the best in the world.

It gives me pleasure to have the opportunity of recommending the trip in the highest terms.

Yours very truly,

#### FROM MR. ELBERT C. OSBORNE Seneca Falls, N. Y.

Dear Sir: I wish to thank you for the letters and the courteous treatment I received from all the people of the White Pass & Yukon Route. The trip was the most delightful and instructive one I have ever taken. I joined the MacGowan party and enjoyed them very much.

Yours truly,

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#### FROM MR. HENRY A. RICHMOND

Mr. Henry A. Richmond of Buffalo, N. Y., writes, in part, regarding his trip over the White Pass and Yukon route, from Skaguay to Dawson:

"I certainly never enjoyed a trip more than I did my trip down the Yukon River. A very mistaken impression prevails in the east as to the hardships of such a trip. I can say from personal experience there never was a time since I left Seattle to take the Yukon trip that I did not have a good bed to sleep in and a good meal to eat.

In conclusion, permit me to express my great satisfaction with the service. The officers of the steamers all seemed to be very desirous of doing everything in their power for the comfort and pleasure of the passengers.

Again expressing my appreciation of the Yukon

trip, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Henry Whilewerd

# FROM MR. R. W. RAYMOND Sec'y American Institute of Mining Engineers. New York City.

Dear Sir: I am instructed to express to you the thanks of the Council and members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers for the safe and comfortable transportation of the excursion party of the Institute from Skaguay to Dawson and back in July 1905. It was a pleasant surprise to the party to find this trip through a newly developed region so free from hardship or annoyance. The magnificent scenery of the White Pass was a fitting climax to the picturesque voyage from Victoria to Skaguay; and the long trip on the Yukon river was not long enough to make us tired of its picturesque and everchanging banks.

Yours truly,

am. Paymen

## FROM MR. B. F. McMILLAN McMillan, Wis.

Dear Sir: Just arrived home and wish to tell you how much we enjoyed our trip to Dawson and Atlin. Now, sir, don't feel backward in urging people to go to the "inside." It was the most enjoyable part of our trip and I cannot thank you enough for what you said to us to induce us to go to Dawson and that side trip to Atlin. No one can know the Yukon Territory until they have been there, and it is made so comfortable for them on your boats that it is an easy trip. I tell you that a person who just goes to Skaguay and does not go "inside" makes a great mistake. You certainly give a person more for his money than any company that I have traveled with.

Mrs. McMillan joins me in thanking you for the words, "Don't fail to go to Atlin."

Yours truly,

B. F. McMILLAN.

# FROM MRS. EM. L. CORYELL AYERS Bound Brook, N. J.

Dear Sir: It is with great pleasure I reply to your request and try and tell you how much I enjoyed the trip with the "Mining Engineers" over the wonderful White Pass Railroad. There never was a more wonderful piece of engineering than that, and the Yukon and Dawson are great beyond description. To me it was Norway, Sweden, Russia, the Rhine and the Alps all combined with no wide and deep sea to cross on the home stretch. Somehow the mountains and the silent stillness added so to the wonder of the trip. Then, too, the land where rivers flow up hill and sunshine lasts all night is attractive and well worth the trip.

With regards,

Em L. C. agra.

#### FROM DR. G. C. PURDUE

Witchita, Kan.

Dear Sir: I had intended writing to you immediately on my return from Alaska, but business matters have kept me from doing so. I, however, wish to thank you for your advice in our former correspondence, and to say for the "White Pass & Yukon Route," that I have never received better treatment from any set of men than I did from vour officials and employees.

Will say that the trip is all and more than your literature describes. It is certainly one of the most pleasant, interesting and exciting trips one can take on this continent and I doubt whether there is another trip in the world that surpasses it. Your steamboats are as good as anyone could possibly ex-

pect. Your railroad service is first-class.

Thanking you again for your kindness in this matter, and hoping that I may be able to send some one over the same trip that we took. I am.

Yours very truly,

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#### FROM MR. D. S. CRUMB

St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir: In response to your letter of the 13th It gives me pleasure to signify my entire satisfaction with our trip over your line from Skaguay to Dawson and return last summer. My wife and I have traveled a good deal and have learned to accept the unpleasant incidents that are liable to occur on the best regulated routes through new regions. As a matter of fact our trip this last summer was more than usually free from drawbacks. The White Pass Railway is so well made and managed that we were quite free to enjoy to the full the scenery along the line, which comes fully up to the claims of your literature. The steamer "White Horse" we found so satisfactory as to rooms and table, and the officers were so accommodating, that we cut short our stay in Dawson to come back on same boat.

An unexpected feature of our trip was the social opportunities it afforded. We met a number of the prominent people of the territory and they were so cordial, notwithstanding that we had no letters or other introductions, that we felt loath to part with them. In response to the invitation of a prominent citizen of Atlin we made the side trip to that point and had fine rides and bountiful entertainment in the mining gulches back of that city.

Yours very truly,

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