

Newspapers and Magazines 1900s

RUN AN AIR RACE FOR GOLD. PITT LAKE VALLEY STAKED BY THE WINNING SEATTLE SYNDICATE.

Rival Seattle mining syndicates have just closed a spectacular race for a gold mine supposed to be hidden somewhere in a valley behind three mountain peaks off Pitt Lake about fifty miles from Vancouver.

Two groups had been approached by an old prospector for financial assistance and, each hearing the other was ready to close the deal, attempted to slip away first and drive in the deciding stakes. One party quietly took the boat for Vancouver and got several hours start, but was left hopelessly behind when the rivals chartered an airplane and flew to Pitt Lake in a couple of hours identified the three peaks and the hidden valley from the clouds, and returned to New Westminster to make landing and charter a launch to finish the journey.

Though no one in New Westminster knew the object of the plane's visit, the second syndicate, reading of the arrival of the Seattle plane, guessed the truth. Nothing daunted, they hired a seaplane in Vancouver, flew to Pitt Lake, passing their rivals chugging quietly along on their hired launch, and after recognizing the valley of the hidden gold, effected a safe landing in the lake and got to shore without much difficulty.

When the other group arrived, the valley had been entirely staked for several hours.

The Seattle men are much more excited over the possibility of finding gold around Pitt Lake than the old-time prospectors who have worked the district for many years.

"Shucks," said a gray-haired veteran, "I wouldn't go across the street to stake that valley. And yet, every ten years or so, there's a new gang goes in with _____ dreams of buried treasure. There's enough stakes in there now to keep those Seattle fellows in firewood for a month.

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