

The Klondike Nugget

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From Friday's Daily. NO CAUSE FOR ALARM.

There is as yet no cause for unnecessary alarm over the fact that a combine is made or is being made of all companies operating steamers on the lower Yukon for the reason that from a reliable source has come the statement that the combine is for the purpose of effecting a reduction rather than an increase in charges. And this statement is a most reasonable one for the very apparent reason that the future success of the interests involved in the big companies or in the consolidated companies depends wholly and entirely on the development of the country and to impede that development by the levy of excessive charges will be to kill the goose that lays the golden egg. No companies nor combine of companies can afford for what profits would accrue in one or two seasons to choke off the development of the one industry of this country.

A fair profit should be realized by all transportation companies on the capital invested and for risks taken, and the consumers in the country are ready and willing to pay that fair profit which, we have been informed, is all that will be demanded by the lower river fleet, and until the cloven foot is exposed there is no cause for alarm.

The legitimate growth and development of the country can and will stand what is right in the way of necessary expense, but when the limit is exceeded that growth and development must cease and in the latter event the companies would be the heavy losers.

WILL BENEFIT THE KLONDIKE.

The proposition of Alaska to have her various interests represented at the Pan-American exposition which opens in Buffalo next month can not do other than result in bringing many thousands of people to the North and of these a large per cent will find their way to Dawson and the Klondike. On this subject a late issue of the Skagway Alaskan says:

"The citizens of American Alaska should take a deep interest in the proposition of maintaining a building and suitable exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition to be held at Buffalo in May—only three weeks hence.

"Mr. Jackson of the Geographical Society is at present in the city in an endeavor to have the citizens of Skagway understand what is proposed and have them contribute their share toward advertising a district concerning the needs of which but very little is known on the outside at the present time.

"The time is too short for Mr. Jackson to visit Dawson, where, there is no question in the world, he could collect thousands of dollars toward representing Alaska appropriately on the ground. For this reason only American Alaska will have a chance to shine.

"Within a night's ride of Buffalo 40,000,000 of people reside, and without question nine-tenths of them will pay several visits to the ground and will become familiar with what Alaska produces, including all the way from a \$2000 nugget to an Indian kiak. They can be given a comprehensive understanding of the boundary and other important question. The wonderful progress made by the school children of a year's scholarship can be shown to them, and, taken altogether, there is no amount of money which could be expended by the citizens of Alaska which would bring about such an immense amount of goods.

"The interest taken in Alaska is clearly shown by the statement made by Mr. Jackson that during the recent interstate forests, fish and game exposition held in Chicago 80,000 people attended, and in all 4000 signed applications were left with the managers asking for information concerning Alaska. If this is true, and coming from such a source there is no question to doubt it, with perhaps 50,000,000 attendance at the Pan-American exposition during the six months which it will run there should be about 250,000 inquiries concerning Alaska, its products and its needs.

"As we understand it, all that is required is a small amount of money to erect a building and to maintain an exhibit. The railroads and steamship companies have offered to do all the

rest, and there is no doubt but that the citizens of Alaska will give what is asked."

Another negro has paid the penalty of his infamy in Louisiana and paid it at one end of a rope which extended over a limb and to the hands of an outraged people. Yet the northern press has ceased to use that once stereotyped heading "Another Southern Outrage." On the contrary nearly every northern state in the Union has had a lynching or two of its own to record within the past year or so, and the press has virtually ceased in its efforts to immortalize the dying words of Charles Sumner which were: "Take care of my civil rights bill." Thirty years' trial has proven that civil rights are too frequently abused by the "brother in black," and that a lesson in hemp is much more effective than is the learned legislation of statesmen and the moral suasion of the ministry combined. So long as outrages continue, their perpetrators will be used as tree decorations, civil and religious codes to the contrary notwithstanding.

The moral wave which sometime ago started in Dawson with the demand that houses of ill-fame be subjected to restrictions as to locations, not only swept up the broad bosom of the Yukon to Whitehorse but it went on, crossed the summit of White Pass and is now pervading Skagway. It seems that there the public school building is almost wholly surrounded by dens of iniquity whose debauched inmates are continuously under the eyes of the school children. A crusade was started with the result that law and decency have scored a signal triumph and the women have been ordered to go and stand not upon the order of their going. In fact Skagway is becoming so very effete that a glove contest billed to take place there a few nights since was forbidden by Judge Moore at request of the citizens. Verily, it is not the Skagway as of yore.

If a gambling house wins \$100,000 in two months and, after losing a few thousand in one day decides that it is hoodooed and suspends business, where does the "gambler's grit" we hear about in sporting circles come in? The house that is not broke but stops its games until the hoodoo is broken has much less of that so-called "gambler's grit" than has the poor chumps whose bad luck made the accumulation of a \$100,000 bank roll possible. Brave men are these gamblers whom we are told are the backbone of our city. Did anyone ever hear of a game being voluntarily closed down when the hoodoo was on the players, rather than on it? Well, scarcely.

The acceding to the request of the Board of Trade by the Yukon council in that it deferred final action concerning the miners' lien law until it could be intelligently understood and discussed by the former body was quite a compliment to the business interests represented by the Board of Trade, but it is to be hoped passage of the proposed ordinance will not be deferred until it is talked to death. The man in the tunnel and his partner on the dump needs protection and it can only be obtained by legislation and the sooner that legislation is enacted the more secure will be the condition of the laboring man, the one great producer of the country.

If water is running as freely on the creeks these days as it is in the ditches along the streets of Dawson there can be no lack of it for sluicing purposes. The possible drawback to the work of inaugurating the spring cleanup is that the dumps are still frozen and, therefore, inaccessible to the shoveling brigade until thawed either by the rays of Sol or by artificial means. Regarding water for sluicing purposes, no possible shortage can be experienced this season.

After eating eggs all winter at \$1 per dozen the jump in price to \$2.50 and \$3 per dozen and the corresponding advance in the price of fresh meats is

conclusive evidence that the days of corners in the Dawson market have not been relegated to the shades of obscurity. And all this, too, so soon after the passage of the game law which is a protective measure to the poor butcher. Verily, there be things past finding out.

An expectant community is watching and waiting for a report of the investigating committee appointed at a recent mass meeting of less than three dozen people, but no report is yet forthcoming. As the committee was appointed to inquire into the means which secured the passage of a meat ordinance it is in place to say that sausage mills of the gods grind slowly; but as to the fineness with which they grind, only the report of the committee will show.

That Commissioner Ross is above and beyond the petty superstitions which practically govern the actions of some men throughout their lives is evidenced by the fact that he took the oath of office on Friday and entered actively upon his official duties on the 13th day of the month. Men of his stamp have little time and less inclination for nursery superstitions.

After the body blow administered to the recently passed game ordinance by Legal Adviser Congdon last night, it is rather hard to determine the exact standing which that unfortunate document now has in the code of local ordinances. Like Boer Botha, it has not been able to fortify itself in any one position for longer than a few days at a time.

It is encouraging to know that there is a disposition among the business interests of Dawson to take the bull by the horns regarding transportation rates or any other question which should develop symptoms of a spirit of unfairness or of excessive greed. But until such symptoms develop there is no cause for undue alarm.

A fall of nice, fresh, clean, white snow on April 19th is refreshing in any country, as it throws the mantle of charity over a vast amount of filth left bare by the melting away of preceding mantles. However, there can be too much of a good thing and the lap of spring is doubtless tired ere this of winter's lingering.

The addition of Mr. J. P. McLennan to the committee which has in hand the matter of discussing ways and means to bring Dawson and the Klondike from a gold dust to a currency basis is a valuable one and the committee as it previously stood is to be congratulated on its acquisition.

The speedy manner in which justice was meted to a flagrant offender of law and decency today was but another sample of the unswerving regard for right which is characteristic of our judiciary.

That legitimate drama is a success in Dawson has been proven beyond all doubt by the continued liberal support extended to the family night productions at the Standard.

Has anybody observed that it is a long time between stampedes?

Long Island Smiths.

A good story is told at the expense of the Long Island Smiths by a census enumerator. Years ago, before so many new settlers had come in, he fell into the habit of asking at each place he stopped the name of the next householder beyond and invariably met with the response "Smith."

"Bless me!" said he at length to a long, lank old inhabitant. "Are you all Smiths down here?"

"I'll tell you how 'tis, squire," said the old man. "There is a pretty considerable lot of us Smiths on the island and no mistake. There was Tangier Smith, that the British government thought so well of they gave him a grant of pretty much all the present town of Brookhaven. Then there was Bull Smith, who made a swap with the Indians of a few beads and red coats for all the land his brindle bull Sam could trot round in a day. One family of us is known as the John Rock Smiths, because its ancestor used a big boulder for the rear wall of his

house. Another line is called the Jonathan Black Smiths because its ancestor was as dark complected as an Indian. Still another family is known as the Block Smiths, from the fact that their founder had a big horse block before his door, and another as the Weight Smiths, because their ancestor owned the first set of weights and measures in the settlement.

"But, bless you, we're nothing as bad off as they were in Patchogue a few years ago. There were actually five William Smiths living there at one time, not a mile apart either. But the people got around that too. One of them owned a peacock, the only one of the five that did, and he became 'Peacock Bill' Smith. Another invented an improved kind of wheelbarrow with three wheels, and he was known all his days as 'Wheelbarrow Bill' Smith. The third lived on a point projecting into the bay, and he was called 'Point Bill.' A fourth was a famous diver, and he was called 'Submarine Bill,' and the fifth was allers called 'Eleven Dollar Bill' for this reason:

"He was clerking in a store, and when one day a woman gave him a two dollar bill to pay for her trading he gave her back \$10.50 in change. The boss got on to it, and he said he mistook the two Roman numerals II in a corner for the figure 11."—Ex.

A Possible Explanation.

The German emperor was one of the first European statesmen to recognize the importance of the new position of the United States brought about by the results of the war with Spain. He has keenly watched the growing strength of this country, he appreciates its tremendous material resources, and since it has commenced the creation of a modern navy he has seen that if it wants it can easily become one of the most important of the naval powers. He understands how great an influence the United States will in the future wield in international affairs. "The United States," I am credibly informed he said on one occasion, "must in the future be reckoned with in 'welt-politik.'" This was said after peace had been made with Spain, and he added in a probably the people of the United States did not realize how the position had changed, that they had escaped from their former isolation, and in future international complications the voice of the United States would be as potent as that of any of the European powers. It seems almost prophetic read by the light of recent events in China, and perhaps it explains why the inspired press of Germany indulged in such savage criticisms of American diplomacy when the astuteness of Secretary Hay forced the other powers into rejecting the first German note and compelling the emperor to modify his demand for revenge.—Harper's Weekly.

Prose vs. Poetry.

"There," said the hopeful young man as he placed his contribution on the editor's desk, "I wrote that poem with a pen the handle of which was made from a picket that was torn from the fence in front of a house in which Edgar Allan Poe once lived."

"Oh," replied the editor, after he had read the verses. Then he lifted up one foot and, pointing to it, said:

"Do you see that shoe? The leather of which it is made was tanned with bark a part of which may once have grown upon a tree that gave shelter to the heavy weight that struck Billy Patterson."

The young man took his manuscript and, having bestowed upon the base being before him a look of scorn mingled with pity, went out.

Romance.

After the joust the victorious Sir Launfal knelt at the feet of Clara Vere de Vere.

"Oh, what a name thou hast made for thyself!" murmured the fair lady shyly.

Time had been when the knight would have raised his eyes ardently and exclaimed:

"Not for myself! For thee!" But how he protested, not unbitingly:

"Not for myself! For some three inch collar!"

None knew better than Sir Launfal that the mission of romance is no longer what it was.—Ex.

Right Up With the Crowd.

"Oh, yes, they're getting on."

"How do you mean?"

"They're keeping up with the world. They're not living in the dead past. They call their hired girl 'the maid.'"

—Chicago Times-Herald.

Field for Anticruelty Society.

The Wife—I do believe I would fall dead if you were to come home early some evening.

The Brute—You will have to offer a bigger bribe than that.—Indianapolis Press.

WILSON'S LIEN LAW WAS UP

Before the Council Last Night But Was Laid Over

Until It Could Be Further Discussed by the Members and Before Board of Trade.

From Friday's Daily:
The discussion of Wilson's miners' lien law occupied a considerable portion of the time at the council meeting last night. This ordinance passed its first and second readings at the meeting a week ago and was postponed for final action on the advice of Acting Legal Adviser Pattullo to give the new legal adviser, Mr. Congdon, an opportunity to consider it. There are certain sections concerning the retroactive nature of the ordinance which was considered advisable to go into in the fullest possible detail.

At the meeting of the Board of Trade Wednesday the ordinance was discussed and in view of its retroactive character, which was considered by the board as being dangerous to the interests of the business men who have been supplying the mine owners with provisions and machinery on credit during the winter, the secretary was instructed to address a communication to the council requesting the postponement of the final passage of the bill for one week and to furnish the board with a copy of the ordinance.

The communication from the Board of Trade was read by Territorial Secretary Brown and Mr. Girouard moved that the communication be received and the ordinance be laid over one week.

Mr. Wilson made an amendment to the motion to the effect that the communication be laid on the table and the discussion of the ordinance proceed. In support of his motion he said that the ordinance had been pending for four months and had been before the council for about four weeks and the ample time had been given for the discussion of the ordinance and a special request had been made through the press for such discussion and that unless the ordinance should receive its final hearing then and there he would take no further responsibility in it. His motion was seconded by Mr. Prudhomme. He withdrew his motion on a suggestion from the commissioner that he was out of order and that the discussion should properly come under orders of the day.

The communication was accepted and when the ordinance came in its proper time, Mr. Girouard again requested as a special favor that Mr. Wilson allow the ordinance to be postponed for another week in order to give himself as well as the Board of Trade an opportunity to consider it. Mr. Wilson said that he was sorry that he could not accede to his friend's request as the bill was an important one and if it was to protect the men whom it was designed to protect, it would have to be considered then, for as it was a lien on the dumps there was a possibility of the dumps all being washed away before another week had passed.

Mr. Girouard said that he had asked his learned friend as a special favor to postpone action but as he seemed inclined to be arbitrary, he would take advantage of his rights under the rules and prevent the ordinance being considered, and in that case it would have to go over.

After a further debate on the subject it was agreed to go into a committee of the whole and Mr. Wilson was given the chair.

Mr. Girouard immediately moved that the committee arise.

Mr. Ross asked if it was the intention to kill the bill which would be the result of the committee arising without reporting progress.

Mr. Girouard replied that if Mr. Wilson was willing to adjourn for a week he would amend his motion by reporting progress and have the matter brought up again in a week.

After further debate on the point Mr. Girouard withdrew his motion as it being agreed to simply discuss the merits of the bill and leave the retroactive sections for further consideration.

Two sections were read but it was found that the legal adviser had made so many amendments that it was decided to leave the whole ordinance to be discussed at the next meeting.

On motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Prudhomme, the committee arose and reported progress.

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