

The Klondike Nugget

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Notice: When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation."

Letters: And Small Packages sent to the Carriers on the following days: Every Tuesday and Friday to Eldorado, Bonanza, Hunter, Dominion, Gold Run, Sulphur, Quartz and Canyon.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1901

\$50 Reward.

We will pay a reward of \$50 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of any one stealing copies of the Daily or Semi-Weekly Nugget from business houses or private residences, where same have been left by our carriers.

KLONDIKE NUGGET.

COMPOUNDING A CRIME.

The News has again essayed to come to the rescue of the White Pass railroad. Its latest effort is on a par with previous attempts of a similar nature, and will accomplish nothing except to confirm the already well established conviction that our contemporary is in the pay of the company.

In an article dealing with the subject of "future freight rates" the News endeavors to dissuade the merchants and mine owners of the community from attempting to re-cover a portion of the money of which they have been mulcted by the railroad company.

"Now," says our contemporary, "we are approaching another season, and we would like to see more time and attention given to an equitable rate for the coming season, than a long fight to obtain a rebate upon something long since dead and buried." The course to pursue is to deal with the future conditions and let the dead bury their dead.

In other words, simply for the reason that the railroad company has been compelled through the force of public opinion, backed by the strong arm of the government, to announce a radical change in its policy for the coming season, the News urges that no effort be made to secure redress from the grievous wrongs of the past, and that by-gones should be allowed to remain by-gones. We can scarcely credit the fact that a newspaper professing to be an advocate of the interests of the community from which it derives its support, would place itself in such a position.

The government has declared that the rates charge by the railroad have been exorbitant, excessive and wholly and entirely unwarranted by law; that the freight schedules have never been approved as required by the federal statutes and that the company has proceeded in direct violation thereof.

The company has extorted every dollar that by any pretense whatsoever it could wring from the community and by its arbitrary and unjustifiable exactions has done its utmost to prostrate the industries of the territory and bring its commercial interests to the verge of bankruptcy. Nevertheless, the News says that the past should be overlooked and the railroad forgiven, because, forsooth, it has at length yielded, under compulsion, to the demands of justice.

Such a shameful proposal is not worthy of a moment's consideration. Either the policy of the railroad has been right or it has been wrong. If the former is the case, then there has been no ground for complaint, and the fight which the Nugget has made against the road, and the declarations which have issued from the government in support thereof, are inconsistent and unwarranted. On the other hand, if the railroad has been in the wrong—as is maintained by the almost unanimous voice of the community, then it becomes the duty of every individual interested to exert himself to the utmost to see that the wrong is righted. The position of the News is that of one who advocates compounding a crime.

Every steamer arriving at Skagway from the coast cities, brings a crowd of returning Klondikers. When the trail once becomes settled and travel actually begins, there will be a constant and uninterrupted stream

of travel headed in the direction of this city. A great many people left Dawson before the close of navigation, but most of them went with the expectation of returning.

If the Sun wishes to achieve fame that will be undying, it will form a company of South African volunteers to include the entire Sun staff. Such an act of patriotism would be greatly appreciated by this long suffering community, no matter what its effect might be in bringing the Boer war to a termination.

Parties who passed the mail which arrived yesterday, in the neighborhood of Stewart river, reached Dawson 24 hours ahead. Given plenty of time, the mail will be sure to reach its destination.

It is estimated that the cost to the government of bringing the mail which arrived yesterday, would average in the neighborhood of \$1000 per sack.

Superstitions of Gamblers.

Sailors and actors are commonly credited with being the most superstitious of men, but the gambler who haunts the tables of Monte Carlo and similar gambling resorts leaves them hopelessly out of the race in the importance he attaches to omens and talismans.

There is scarcely a man or woman who tempts fortune at the tables who does not go armed with some wonderful talisman which is to bring them luck and these charms often take the quaintest and most grotesque form.

One man who had an exceptional run of luck at Monte Carlo last year ascribed it all to a franc which he carried suspended from his watch-chain. This coin had a grim history, for it was the only one found on the body of a gambler who had lost a fortune at the tables and had shot himself in the groins rather than face the world with a franc as his whole capital.

Another player whose success excited considerable attention and envy carried a quaint little Indian idol carved in ivory which he had picked up during his travels in the East, and which was credited, with mystic virtues. On only one occasion he went to the tables without his idol charm, when he experienced such a run of bad luck that he had to beat a hasty retreat.

Another well-known gambler who visits Monte Carlo every year pins his faith to a miniature of his dead wife which he wears attached to a chain around his neck, and a very old player attributes his almost unbroken good fortune to a silver watch which intercepted a bullet and saved his life during the American Civil War.

One very familiar figure at the tables is that of an elderly man on whose capacious waist there dangles a perfect armory of charms, at least a dozen in number. There is a pig in gold and another in silver (the pig in any form is the surest harbinger of luck according to the superstitions), several lucky coins, from an Indian ruyper to an Ethiopian coin of the time of Solomon, an Egyptian scarab, and the claw of a tiger that nearly killed him.

And yet all these charms are powerless to bring him fortune, for he candidly confesses that he would be thousands of pounds richer if he had stayed away from Monte Carlo.

But the gambler's superstition is by no means confined to charms. Nothing is so trivial to convert into an omen. A number that he dreams of or that catches his eye in a paper will be sure to bring him luck at roulette. Every man has his lucky numbers to which he adheres, however rudely his faith in them may be shaken.

The number of letters in his name, the date of his birth, his wife's age when he met her, the date of his wedding or engagement—from these and a score of similar fanciful sources he gets the numbers on which he stakes his chances of winning.

Some men will never play on Friday or on the 13th of the month, others find these their most fortunate days, but in spite of these and a hundred other superstitions the bank continues to grow fat and full at the expense of the unlucky gambler—Ex.

A Christmas present will be given away to every child in the Klondike holiday week at Gandolfo's.

Candies, nuts, etc., for the holidays—Kilgore & Landahl's.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

Holiday Goods

USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL. Silver, Leather, Ebony, Celluloid, Etc. AT RIGHT PRICES. J. P. McLENNAN, 233 FRONT STREET.

Yukon Song. A Yukon Song. A Yukon Song.

The Nugget this year proposes to offer fifty dollars for a song. This Yukon territory, in the growth and prosperity of which every inhabitant takes the very deepest interest, has been celebrated the world over by newspapers and magazines, and books even, have been devoted to descriptions of its wonderful richness. But its praises have never yet been set to music.

We therefore invite every poet in the territory in whom the divine spark has been planted to call upon the muse and compete for the prize. Please note the following conditions: (1) The song is to contain five stanzas. (2) No limitation is to be placed as to the metre or length of the verses. (3) Manuscripts signed with nom de plume and accompanied by sealed envelope containing real name and nom de plume must be received at this office not later than December 20th.

THE ISLANDER INVESTIGATION

Lead to a General Smoothing Over of Rough Facts.

Victoria, B. C., Oct. 23.—The commissioner assessors appointed to inquire into the loss of the Islander gave their findings as follows:

After carefully considering the evidence given at the investigation ordered to inquire into the cause of the wreck of the Islander in Stephens passage, near Douglas Island, Alaska, we find: First—The Islander was a steamship of 1495 tons gross register tonnage, built of steel at Yoker, Scotland, in 1888. That the vessel was fully officered and manned with crew consisting of 65 persons, was in a thoroughly seaworthy condition previous to the accident; that her equipment was complete in every particular according to the regulations of the Canadian Steamboat act; that her officers were qualified to fill their several ratings; that the crew in the different departments were sufficient in number to insure the safe navigation of the ship and the safety of those on board.

Second—From the evidence of the crew and experts it appears that the ship was navigated in the manner and custom in the trade in which she was engaged, the navigation being left alternately with the captain and the captain and the pilot, that the master had special instructions relating to the navigation of the vessel from the owners, and that the distribution, management and discipline of the crew was entirely left to him.

Third—That the Islander left Skagway, Alaska, on the 14th August last at about 7:30 p. m., and was totally wrecked at about 2:15 a. m., 15th August, 1901, by contact with some unknown substance (presumably ice drift very much submerged), sinking in deep water in less than 20 minutes after the collision, and resulting in the loss of the lives of the master, 16 of the crew and 15 passengers (of whom two were children).

Fourth—It does not appear from the evidence adduced that the master realized the imminent danger in which the accident placed the ship, hence the lack of prompt and resolute means of arousing the crew and passengers who were asleep in the cabins, in placing an officer and crew to each boat and enforcing the proper quota of passengers to each boat. The evidence clearly shows the capacity of the boats was sufficient to accommodate every person on board, but owing to the improper management and discipline there was a rush to the boats at the last moment, which was beyond the control of the few officers and members of the crew engaged in getting the boats into the water, thereby preventing the rescue of several valuable lives.

Fifth—While due praise must be awarded to those officers and crew who remained with the ship until she sank under their feet, and for assisting so many of the passengers to reach the boats, and other available means of preservation as presented themselves, we cannot ignore the fact that there was an un pardonable lack of appreciation of the existing danger to their fellow passengers shown by those in the boats, regarding the rescue of others, who, for the want of an opportunity, had not been able to avail themselves of a chance of boarding the boats before they left the ship's side.

Sixth—Whilst admitting that the vessel was generally navigated in a careful manner, we find that no special instructions had been issued by the master to the pilot, or person in charge of the deck when he left the bridge, relating to the navigation or speed of the vessel in the event of falling in with floating ice—which was not unexpected in the locality arrived through which the ship was passing. We think that pilot LeBlanc is open to censure for his action in keeping the ship full speed at the rate of nearly 11 knots an hour—after having

POPULARITY OF A PURSER

May Have His Face Carved on a Totem Pole.

Purser Langton of the steamer Tees is one of the most popular men in the C. P. R. steamship service. He is liked by all classes of passengers, from the most aristocratic to the lowly Stivash, and on the last trip of the Tees to Naas his fame as a good fellow reached its zenith, says the Province.

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, descendants from famous chiefs of the Tsimpsian tribe, were northern bound passengers and everything went well for the purser till the steamer was off Bella Coola.

At this point an addition to the Brooks family took place and following the sometimes embarrassing habit of the aborigines, Father Brooks immediately set about looking up his dearest friend after whom to name the infant.

Now Purser Langton has a habit of making all the Indians pay full tribute to the coffers of the company, despite their frequent protestations of lack of funds, so he considered that he was safe and smiled as he looked at Capt. Hughes and thought what a fine name that gentleman had.

While sunning himself quite openly in the smiles of the happy father, the purser was tackled and informed that the child should be named after him.

If there is one thing that Purser Langton is to be commended for it is his cool-headedness in a trying moment, and he was equal to the occasion. He had been elected, and he politely acquiesced, at the same time informing Mr. Brooks that should he be honored he would forever after take an interest in the career of the youngster.

Purser Langton, as an evidence of good faith in the matter, therefore immediately went in search of the cook and purchased from him for the babe a can of condensed milk, greatly to the joy of the parents, who thereupon unanimously voted him a "happy tree." Mr. Brooks also casually mentioned to his genial friend that upon the next totem pole he policed he would commemorate the event in the choicest Tsimpsian carving.

Some of those aboard who were jealous of the purser's popularity made mean remarks to the effect that honors had been showered upon him only because he happened to be purser on the Tees, and hinted that Mr. Brooks had the meanest-innocent motives in naming the youngster after him.

Calm, unprejudiced consideration of this charge brings the belief that there may be something in it after all, but even Purser Langton's most bitter enemy could never wish to see him so ungallant as to charge the mother fare for young Mr. Tees Langton Brooks.

Fire Alarm Yesterday.

Some wearing apparel which became ignited from being hung too close to the stove in one of the rooms of the West block yesterday afternoon shortly after 4 o'clock, was responsible for an alarm being turned in which brought out the entire department. Fortunately the blaze was discovered at almost its beginning and was extinguished before the chemical arrived. The damage amounted to only a few dollars.

SEHLBREDE'S EXONERATION

By United States Grand Jury a Deserved Compliment.

By yesterday's mail there came to Dawson a copy of the report of the findings of the United States grand jury lately convened in Skagway at which time a number of malicious charges trumped up against United States Commissioner Chas. A. Sehlbrede during his absence from that part of the district were investigated. The following report was made:

"Referring to the alleged and rumored official misconduct of Commissioner C. A. Sehlbrede, we report that we have examined into every act which has been called to our attention both by this court and the department of justice, as well as every rumor which has come to our knowledge, and have freely used the process of this court in securing the attendance of every witness reported to us as claiming to have any knowledge as well as those who might be in a position to know of such alleged or rumored official misconduct or corruption, if any existed. And every opportunity has been given to those who have seemed anxious to establish such charges and rumors, and every effort has been earnestly and faithfully made by us to establish the truth or falsity of such charges and rumors, and after a full and thorough examination find that the charges and rumors of official corruption or misconduct of Commissioner C. A. Sehlbrede are not only wholly not sustained, but are wholly without foundation, and are the result of personal spite of a few unprincipled persons, who have no more regard for the reputation of others than they have for their own, and seem to have been willing to go to any extent in their attempt to ruin the good name of an upright man and an honest official. We are compelled after an earnest and thorough investigation to not only completely and fully exonerate Commissioner C. A. Sehlbrede from any report or rumor of official corruption or misconduct brought to our attention, not only in this jury room, but upon the streets and in the newspapers; but on the contrary find that his office has been honestly administered by him."

When it was first reported that grave charges had been preferred against Mr. Sehlbrede the old times who were in Skagway during the reign of his predecessor, the notorious John U. Smith, who was hand in glove with his illustrious namesake, "Soapy," and who remembered the high and honorable stand taken by Sehlbrede on his induction into office were loth to believe that he had wandered from the paths of rectitude, and the report of the grand jury fully justifies their faith in him. Judge Sehlbrede has resigned his office, but it may properly be said of his official career, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

On the Cheap.

The excessive price paid for labor in the Yukon river district is having a depressing effect on the gold output of the country, said Adolph Spitzel, a Klondike claim owner, to the P.-I. recently. Mr. Spitzel is accompanied by his brother, Louis and his nephew Sam Spitzel. The party is en route to England. Continuing on the labor question in the north, Mr. Spitzel declares that hundreds of claims were idle because it would not pay to work them at the present price of labor. It is a question that will eventually cause much deep study and one which must be settled within a short time.

Crack Players Coming.

The police hockey team will shortly receive the addition of three new players who in the east possess an enviable reputation as crackback players. They left Whitehorse several days ago and are expected to arrive in time to participate in the first game with the civil service team.

Anglo-Commercial Co.

Five Cigars, Tobacco and Smokers' Articles. Wholesale and Retail. King Street, Bank Building, Opposite N. C. Co.

To the Ladies.

A most appropriate Birthday or Christmas gift in your husband, brother, friend or a business friend may be selected from our extensive stock of High-Class Pipes, Cigar Cases and Cigarette Cases.

ANGLO-COMMERCIAL CO.

Five Cigars, Tobacco and Smokers' Articles. Wholesale and Retail. King Street, Bank Building, Opposite N. C. Co.

Clothing cleaned, pressed, dyed and repaired. Both men and women's—R. I. GOLDBERG, tailor for Herrshberg.

GREAT MONEY MAKING PLAN

Matrimonial Agencies Produce Big Profits

And the Victims Rarely Make Trouble Being Ashamed of Having Been Taken in as Innocents.

A certain well-known man of letters not long ago advised the person who wished to make a fortune to start a matrimonial agency. What authority he had for giving this advice we do not know, but for the unscrupulous an agency of this kind is certainly a most lucrative occupation, and one in which swindling may be carried on ad lib, with but a small chance of a victim having the courage to proclaim how he or she has been duped.

Of late years these agencies have greatly increased in numbers, and although many are well-conducted institutions, others are given over entirely to extracting fees from silly clients. Shopgirls are the chief victims. Tiring of life behind the counter, they apply to a matrimonial agent, and are informed that upon payment of a certain sum—usually \$5—they will be put in communication with a number of gentlemen whose incomes range between \$400 and \$800 a year. The money is paid and a form filled up and signed binding the client down to absolute secrecy, while the agent promises to maintain the strictest secrecy also.

By the return post come the names and addresses of half-a-dozen eligible gentlemen, and the girl communicates with the one who has chanced to catch her fancy. He replies that upon receipt of traveling expenses he shall be glad to arrange an interview. She falls into the trap, and either fails to keep the appointment or does so with no intention of entering into an alliance, for he is one of the agent's decoys employed to rid the agent of her hard-earned savings. She appeals to the agent, but he will not hold himself responsible, and she either loses her money and troubles herself no further in the matter or contents herself with some impoverished swain who had doubtless suffered in the same way before the agent brought the two together.

Another ingenious swindle that never fails to net dozens of victims is frequently practiced in the following manner. The agent advertises extensively in the daily with a large income—seldom less than \$1,500 a year—in desirous of meeting a gentleman with a view to matrimony, money no object. Applications from enterprising bachelors roll in by the hundred, and to each is sent a letter explaining that upon payment of 10s. he will be given an introduction to the lady, as he seems to answer the description she requires. Two-thirds of the applicants will pay the fee and be provided with letters of introduction. They either call or write, and to each she replies that she is already in correspondence with another gentleman, but if he fails to suit she will consider their applications. Of course no more is heard of the matter, for the fair one is in the pay of the agent, who has absolutely no trouble in obtaining for this purpose the services of as many pretty girls as he requires, because he can afford to pay them well.

A few years ago a very daring scheme was worked by a matrimonial agent. He advertised that he had upon his books the name of a certain young lady in possession of an income of £7,000 a year and an inclination to be married. He charged every applicant a guinea for an introduction, and then when he had filled his pockets to overflowing he promptly bolted, and apparently the young lady with him. How much he cleared by the transaction no one knows, because he was never caught, but when the case was exposed it was proved that the postal authorities had been compelled to employ handcarriers to convey the letters to his office.

Foreign titles are one of the most attractive baits the matrimonial agent offers, but it should be said that they are invariably sham ones. Although the elaborate ancestral table sent to each applicant acts as a blind, the man of wealth, but without position, who is anxious to see his daughters well married, is the chief

AMUSEMENTS

THE AUDITORIUM. W. W. BITTNER, MANAGER. Ralph E. Cummings and Auditorium Stock Company. Week Starting Monday Dec. 9. JIM, THE WESTERNER. Monday and Thursday Ladies' Night.

DAWSON LIQUOR CO. We have the Highest Grade and Finest Assortment of Liquors sold anywhere in the world, and plenty of it. Come and Get Our Prices. We Can Save You Money. TELEPHONE 101. CHEAPER THAN EVER!

PROFESSIONAL CARDS. LAWYERS. WADE, CONIGON & AIKMAN. ATTORNEYS, Notaries, etc. Office, A. O. Office Building. PATULLO & RIBLEY - Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Office, Rooms 7 and 8 A. C. Office Bldg. WM. THORNDEN - Barrister, Solicitor, Advocate, Notary Public, Commissioner. Fructer of the Admiralty Court. Office, Hans Building, Room 21 and 22. Telephone 118. P. O. Box 502.

B. A. DODGE STAGE-LINE. Last Chance, Hunter and Bonanza. DAILY SERVICE. LEAVE DAWSON 8:30 A.M. LEAVE CARIBOU 8:30 A.M. OFFICE - HOTEL McARDALL.

F. S. DUNHAM'S THE FAMILY GROCER. Corner 2nd Ave. and 6th St.

"Hurry-Up Jobs" Done In a Manner To Surprise The Rush-Job Fiend.

Printing. CLEAN, ORIGINAL, ARTISTIC WORK. The Right Kind of Paper, Type, Design and Presswork. The Nugget Printery.

HOW TO HOCUS RICE

Polynesian Injected Bene. Hide Will Do It.

Good-morning, Westwood, Chief as I entered his sanctum... I have entered Pole Star... I will prove an easy nut, unfortunately for my... it has come to my mind... that an attempt will be made... so that he will be only... outman in the race... the information has come... a very indirect, insidious... altered form—a word here... eye-yet color is given to... caption that something will... implied by the fact that one... my stable boys have no... of simple strangers lurking... Downs when my horses go for... and that they invariably wait... for the form of the various... means of "best-placed"...

After five days of hushed struggle the Standard again closed its doors Saturday evening last. This week's attractions are confined to the wild and winsome ways of the dance hall fair.

Toys and games—all kinds for the little ones—Kilgore & Landahl's.

DAILY SERVICE. LEAVE DAWSON 8:30 A.M. LEAVE CARIBOU 8:30 A.M. OFFICE - HOTEL McARDALL.

Shredded Whole Wheat Bread. AT F. S. DUNHAM'S THE FAMILY GROCER. Corner 2nd Ave. and 6th St.

"Hurry-Up Jobs" Done In a Manner To Surprise The Rush-Job Fiend.

Printing. CLEAN, ORIGINAL, ARTISTIC WORK. The Right Kind of Paper, Type, Design and Presswork.

The Nugget Printery.

They are warm numbers—the cartoons at the Pioneer saloon.