

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY

On Wednesday and Saturday

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A. F. GEORGE Associate Editor

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1899.

NOTICE.

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

THOSE NEW REGULATIONS.

As told in a recent issue, the government at Ottawa has amended the mining regulations, the amendment to take effect upon the arrival in Dawson of an official notification. By the provisions of the amendments, a claim can be renewed upon payment of \$200 in lieu of three months' work on the claim.

The consensus of opinion appears to be that the new law will have a tendency to depopulate the country of workingmen. Under the old law, the representing of the 13,000 recorded claims furnished a field for working men which made their services in much demand during the representation period.

It requires but a superficial knowledge of the creeks to convince one that many a hundred working men have thus been placed in possession of a comfortable "grub stake," who would have been left without one but for the labor representation clause of the present regulations.

Holders of bunches of claims will naturally welcome the payment of \$200 in lieu of labor representation, though it occurs to us that in the consequent depopulation of the country, the opportunities to dispose of their holdings will become proportionately less, and will more than counterbalance the advantages given by being able to represent by a cash payment.

Again, Notwithstanding that in many cases the representation labor was purely a farce, no bona fide working of the claim being attempted, yet the sum total of the prospecting which resulted must have played no unimportant part in the rapid development of the various creeks.

But of all the cold-blooded stabs at a newly born country, the government's murderous decision to take over to itself all unrepresented claims is the most heartless. Blinded by greed, excited to the point of stupidity by avarice, it will require results to convince the government that it is killing the goose which lays them the golden eggs. Sifton confessed in the late session of parliament that the Klondike had contributed a round million of a surplus to the revenues of Canada in the first year of its existence. The figures in our possession show that surplus to have been many times that amount. Nevertheless, taking him at his own figures, it is self-evident to all that a new country which, in its first year of life, could contribute a cool million of a surplus, was a lusty infant, capable in its more mature youth of pouring a continuous stream of wealth into Canadian coffers. Under such a law as the present one this country would never have been settled as now; and under such a law it will receive a backset from which it will never recover until the repeal of the

senseless regulation. The seizing by the government of all the vacant claims and fractions on Dominion and their sale by the government for \$18,050, did not pay the printing and advertising bills, let alone the clerk hire. It simply delayed the development of those claims; placed them into the possession of non-resident speculating henchmen of the government, and formed one more link in the chain of evidence which proves the Sifton government (Laurier proves to be a nonentity) to be utterly heartless, utterly beyond all sense of right; utterly given over to spoilation; disgustingly greedy; villainously indifferent to the future good of the Dominion; wedded to the policy of the enrichment of self and friends at the expense of their country; basely traitorous to their trust in office; indifferent to the good of humanity or of Canada, and given over to practices which in ancient times caused the fall of empires as great as the British, of which Canada forms a part. No one here believes for a moment that the government purposes honestly disposing of the thousands of claims which it is thus to acquire. When the government says it will dispose of them fairly, for what they will bring, people look at each other and smile knowingly. Not a grant; not a concession; not a sale has been honestly made in this vast country. How then are we to expect a sudden change of heart in men given over body and soul to duplicity?

EXPANSION THE ISSUE.

Silver and gold as political issues seem to have taken a back seat in the States and their place has been largely occupied with the proposition of expansion and anti-expansion, or as the Democrats prefer to term it, imperialism and anti-imperialism.

The latest dispatches from Manila indicate that Aguinaldo is basing his hopes of ultimate victory largely upon the expectation of the growth and final triumph of the anti-expansion sentiment in the States. He has issued several manifestos to his followers proclaiming as a fact that the Filipinos need hold out only until the general elections of next year when a complete overturning in American politics will take place and the Aguinaldo sympathizers will come to power.

Influenced by this delusion, his fanatical followers still support their leader in his hopeless contest.

Aguinaldo is basing his expectations upon an exceedingly unstable foundation. Despite the croakings and agitation of the omnipresent peace-at-any-price party, the American people will not support any movement looking toward a withdrawal from the Philippines. The American government was drawn unwittingly into the contest with Aguinaldo, and until he is subdued there can be no alteration in the government's attitude. The few enthusiasts who are crying tyranny and imperialism are doing more to prolong the war than any other single influence.

Some men are not given to logic, but it only requires a child's mind to grasp the fact that in collecting \$3000 in duty from Humboldt Gates, the Canadian government worked an unjustifiable hardship. Here are the facts, and our readers can come to their own conclusions. Gates was coming to Dawson with three scow loads of machinery. Their destination was Dawson, be it ob-

served, and the machinery was wanted for the Klondike. While yet distant some 600 miles, viz., at Bennett, the customs officers, in the performance of their duty, "held him up," so to speak, and he was forced to contribute about \$3000 before being allowed to brave the treacherous and icy waters of the Yukon. He lost all three scows and their contents, but escaped with his life. The loss was something like \$35,000, plus the duty. Would it be more than right if the \$3000 was refunded, since the point of destination was Dawson, and the stuff never arrived and never can?

There is a very good prospect ahead that the river will remain open in places during the entire winter. Ordinarily the Yukon closes as a result of immense jams of ice coming originally from the side streams. If the side streams close entirely before the main river jams, the result is open water for an indefinite length of time. This circumstance has occurred below Forty-mile, and as was published in our last issue, the Yukon is open for a distance of 125 miles, beginning at a point about 10 miles below that town. Insofar as this particular stretch of water is concerned, steamboats might just as well be plying upon it as not. In the opinion of old times it is quite likely that the portion of the river mentioned will remain open for the greater part, if not for the whole of the winter. How many similar stretches occur in the lower country is a matter of conjecture, but it is altogether probable that many miles of the Yukon will not close during the present winter.

Constable Gregory, the officer stationed at Selwyn at the time of the Stratton disaster, has asked for and will be granted an investigation into his conduct toward the passengers of the ill-fated steamer. Constable Gregory is, by all means, entitled to such an investigation. The statements which have been published were all made by people of undoubted standing in the community, who could possibly have no other object in view aside from a desire to see the actual facts brought to light. Some of these statements reflect very strongly upon the constable, both as to his qualities as a member of the mounted police and his instincts as a man. However, The Nugget has no desire to take snap judgment in the matter and wishes only to see justice done. The real facts will all be brought out at the coming investigation, and the blame properly placed.

It is a matter for general congratulation that a legitimate drama such as has been running at the Opera house during the past week can be successfully placed upon the boards in Dawson. The Nugget is of the opinion that public taste in Dawson is as elevated as elsewhere, and plays of a legitimate character, properly staged and produced, will be generally preferred to the low order of vaudeville that ordinarily has prevailed in the town. Had the Two Orphans been produced in a house to which ladies could properly be taken, Dawson would compare very favorably, from an amusement standpoint, with any town of similar size throughout the States or Canada.

In view of the recent governmental activity in ordering the removal of all merchandise and other obstructions in

front of Front street stores, it is most amusing to note that the worst blocked portion of the entire street is in front of the government buildings south of town. By the gold commissioner's office the wagons and sleighs have been crowded out to the very edge of the bank by firewood and other impedimenta until it will be a marvel if some one does not get seriously spilled one of these dark nights.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Postmaster Hartman spent Sunday at the Forks.

M. L. Lewis, from Dominion creek, is stopping at the Fairview.

Thomas Reilly of Grand Forks, is spending a few days in town.

W. C. Leak, of No. 31 Eldorado, is a guest at the Hotel McDonald.

Matt Webber, a claim owner on Quartz creek, is a visitor to Dawson.

Mrs. Harland came from Dominion recently and is visiting friends in the city.

Pete Iversoon, who owns four of the best claims on 'Gold Run', is visiting the city.

M. J. McNeil, from No. 3 below upper on Dominion, is stopping at the McDonald.

Pete McDonald is suffering with a relapse of sickness. He is in a precarious condition.

Duncan McTavish is ill with typhoid fever and is being treated at the Good Samaritan hospital.

Harry Pinkert left here on Monday to visit his claim, No. 2 below lower discovery on Dominion.

Capt. Fenn, who has been confined for some time in Doctor Bourke's hospital, is now convalescent.

Andy Young, jr., the son of the general carrier of The Nugget, is convalescing from his recent attack of sickness.

Mrs. Ramps Peterson is one of the recent arrivals in Dawson. Her husband, not expecting her return this year, started for Nome some two months ago.

If you want to reach your home with a memento in time for Christmas, don't forget the date—November 16th.

When at the windlass don't cough. Use Reid & Co.'s cough cure. First avenue.

The Eagles Entertain.

At Brand's gymnasium on last Sunday evening, a most enjoyable social event was tendered by the Fraternal Order of Eagles. An orchestra of eight pieces, under the leadership of Prof. Harry Warnock, rendered excellent music. President D. W. Semple of the Eagle's Social Club, occupied the chair, and acquitted himself of his official duties in a most pleasing manner.

The musical and literary features of the occasion were solos by the Messrs. O'Brien, Marion and Vivian and Messrs. O'Brien, Rooney, Mulligan, Kelly and Long. Conchita and Messrs. Tozier and Maurettus gave recitations. Eddie O'Brien and his daughter played well some instrumental selections, and the little girl entertained the guests with one of her inimitable dances. Refreshments were served, and the enjoyable social was not terminated till midnight.

The London Klondike Development Co., Ltd.

Notice is hereby given that Mr. W. Joel is no longer connected with the above company and the undersigned is the sole representative for the Yukon territory.

J. C. LIDDLE,
Hotel McDonald.

Dawson, Nov. 9, '99.

We will show you our coff drops and let you sample them. Reid & Co. chemists.

Investors, see "For Sale" column.

Fine lamps at Mohr & Wilkens.

Dawson's Modern Hotel.

The Hotel McDonald
Electric Light, Bells, Hot Air and all modern conveniences.

FIRST CLASS IN EVERY PARTICULAR.

HOTEL McDONALD CAFE

Regular Meals.....\$1 50
Board.....\$100 per month

SHORT ORDERS A SPECIALTY.....

OPEN ALL NIGHT.
Cuisine unexcelled in the city.
H. W. LEONARD, Prop.

HARRY DAVIS

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