

KOYUKUK NEWSLETS

Rock Island Back From Bergman

Makes a Trip to St. Michael and Brings up a Barge Loaded With Freight.

The steamer Rock Island of the N. C. line arrived yesterday on her first trip of the season from St. Michael, though it must not be inferred from that that she has been idle since leaving here the 5th of June last. The Rock Island was the first boat to leave for down river points this spring after the breakup of the ice, proceeding direct to the Koyukuk with a number of passengers and a heavy cargo. From Pilot C. A. Boerner it is learned that the Koyukuk this year opened up on the 8th of May, fully thirty days earlier than usual. In consequence of being able to take advantage of the earliest water the Rock Island was able to get up the river to within eight miles of Bergman where she arrived on the 15th. The Seattle No. 3 was immediately behind and the passengers were transferred to her at once so that they arrived in Bergman on the same day. The 200 tons of freight on the Rock Island was put ashore as was also the cargo of the Seattle No. 3 at Bergman and upon the arrival of the new and light draft steamer Koyukuk the entire outfit was transferred to Bettles in loads of 30 to 40 tons. The Koyukuk is meeting every expectation in her ability to navigate swift, shallow water and runs up to Bettles without any difficulty. After discharging near Bergman the Rock Island returned to the mouth of the river and met the Hanná, securing more passengers for the Koyukuk, among whom were General Manager Washburn and Captain Hansen. The second trip up the Rock Island could get no further than ten miles above Hog river, about half way between the mouth of the Koyukuk and Bergman. The water had fallen very rapidly and at that time there was less depth than in August of last year, when the water was supposed to have reached its lowest stage.

"The water in the Koyukuk is now lower than was ever before known since it was first navigated," said Captain Boerner, "and I am told the shortage is seriously interfering with this season's sluicing. The Koyukuk

country is peculiar in that respect. A comparatively slight rain of which but little notice would be given here will there be sufficient to raise the Koyukuk four feet and then it will drop again just as quickly. The little gasoline steamer, the Rough Rider, owned by H. V. V. Bean, arrived at Bettles safely and proposes to carry freight from Bettles to Coldfoot, a distance of 80 miles. Bean claims he can run up the river with six or eight tons in six inches of water and if he is successful it will reduce very materially the cost of provisions at the mines as everything has to be poled in at present. Running a boat in six inches of water will be a good deal like sailing in the dew.

Captain Boerner states further that when they arrived near Bergman on their first trip up some thirty or forty prospectors were found on the bank all packed up ready to leave in their small boats, but when they saw the freight that was aboard and learned more of the same character was coming up they unpacked and concluded to try it again. Much of the Rock Island's cargo was potatoes, onions, eggs, and other perishables which had never before been taken to that section and within an hour after the goods were landed half of the population were in their cabins boiling potatoes and frying eggs. A number of miners with whom Captain Boerner talked assured him there were large quantities of dirt in the Koyukuk that would pay \$10 and \$12 a day but it could not be worked to a profit when grub was so high and the quantity that could be depended upon so uncertain. The arrival of the Koyukuk and also the little Rough Rider has done more to restore confidence in regard to the grub proposition than anything that has happened in years.

The Rock Island waited at Hog river for the return of the Koyukuk and then proceeded direct to St. Michael. She left there for Dawson on the 15th with the barge St. Michael No. 2 in tow, the steamer and barge together containing 100 tons of freight. Her trip up in 191 days is considered remarkable when her tow is taken into consideration, she not being built for towing and possessing light machinery. The F. K. Gustin with the barge St. Michael No. 7 left St. Michael 48 hours ahead of the Rock Island but was passed by the latter at a short distance below Fort Yukon. The Gustin is equipped with new boilers which are giving her some trouble. She should arrive tomorrow. The officers of the Rock Island this season are: Captain Le Ballister, master; C. A. Boerner, pilot; R. D. Dupue, purser; Joseph Matthews, chief engineer. She leaves for St. Michael tomorrow forenoon at 11 o'clock.

Good Name Saved Him
James Smith, the negro accused of stealing a quantity of oats from the yard in the rear of the Labbe house on Queen street, was this morning convicted in police court but allowed to go on suspended sentence. Magistrate Wroughton stated to the prisoner that he had made some inquiry into his history and had found him to have been a hard-working man. Smith was cautioned to be careful in his future conduct.

Smith, who is a scavenger, claimed to have found the oats in a barrel in the rear of the yard and said he thought they had been put out as refuse to be hauled away.

STANSFIELD COMES AGAIN

With a Bunch of Coronation Suggestions

Advances Some Excellent Suggestions for Observance of the Day.

Dawson, Aug. 2nd, 1902.
Mr. Editor:—
Sir,—In connection with coronation day celebration, I would ask you to insert this letter of appeal to the "elite" of Dawson (British subjects especially) to step down from their lofty pinnacles and for once at least to follow the good example set them by their superiors the gentry, the aristocracy, and indeed the royalties of times past and present, and join in heart and soul with their fellow countrymen, irrespective of social or financial position, in actively assisting in whatever may be considered conducive to the making of the coming coronation day a day to be remembered, when all sections of the British subjects in this Yukon district within easy reach of Dawson should meet together—first in the early morning as did the Incas of old who on their great festival days arose ere break of day and journeyed to some high hill or temple there to await the first glimpse of the rising sun, which was taken as a signal for the simultaneous outpouring of first, thanksgiving to their deity, whether the sun or something less realistic is immaterial, for blessings received—
we loyal subjects of the king for his speedy recovery from a serious illness, which might easily have been fatal. Secondly, hymns of praise and rejoicing—in our case to sing aloud one great hymn of rejoicing that whilst we are (as we undoubtedly are) the freest people on the face of the globe we still are delighted to crown a king to rule over us; a king so broadminded and democratic that we may rest assured our liberties will not be curtailed but rather, still further enlarged; a king who has with his charming consort already given us ample proof of a desire to, in all possible ways, ameliorate the condition of the "masses" rather than to pander to the desires of the "classes" amongst their subjects. I would feel like shouting even in church—long live King Edward VII. and his consort Queen Alexandra.

On the question of the early hour suggested (7 a.m.) I would say that the strongest element in the somewhat complex state of feeling which prompts religious thanksgiving is the desire to do something out of the ordinary routine of religious exercises, something which entails an extra effort on the yielding up of some ordinary indulgence or luxury.

Is it too much to expect that those of us who usually lie abed late should on this one morning of the year and of the reign of Edward VII. get up and go to church extra early—yep, even before breakfast. The worthy reverends themselves should, I submit, on such an occasion be ready to give up their personal pleasure, comfort or desire and, like the rest, turn out and get their work done early.

And now I would refer to another matter—the nature of the efforts to be made to fill the day with functions interesting and enjoyable to the largest possible number of the whole population—white, yellow and brown. Whilst the sacred services will, of course, appeal only to we British subjects, the rest of the program is quite otherwise. We should, and I think I may say so, desire the company in every section of our rejoicings of our American cousins whose descent from good old English stock we are proud to shall I say claim or acknowledge? We also desire, I am sure, the company of every other man, woman or child who feels that pleasure will be gained by joining us, no matter what nationality.

The chief idea behind the suggested fancy dress masked confetti fete is that it brings all classes from prince to lowliest peasant for a brief period at least into close contact on terms of absolute equality. The little gamin or ragamuffin with his tricolor red, white and blue sash over his everyday rags and his two-bit bag of paper confetti or his handful of wee bouquets of natural flowers, is perfectly in order at such a time in accosting a princess in mufti and pelting her with his confetti or his flowers of nature or of speech—pretty compliments are right at most times.

In such forms of entertainment the populace are their own entertainers, once get them roused to the necessary pitch of enthusiasm, the cost being slight indeed, simply the preparation of a necessary background—trees, hunting, road surface and light if the hour fixed makes this necessary.

As to costumes, it would be an assistance to many if some few original and artistic minds in the community, especially those who have had experience of such fete costumes, would write to the local press their various suggestions, remembering that it is desirable the materials chosen be cheap and obtainable here, also that the suggestions be promptly made.

As to the aquatic carnival, or as one gentleman very aptly styled this section of the suggested program, "A night in Venice," it is desirable that as promptly as possible information should be given to the proper committee, to the secretary, Dr. Brown, or to myself, who will see it gets to the proper department, stating what individuals or parties may be counted upon to occupy canoes (their own or hired ones), and their vocal or instrumental musical value. Data as to the number proposing to join in costume in the confetti carnival, whether pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians or as carriage parties, would be most useful to the respective committees.

In conclusion, I would remark that though tis generally easy to take a horse to the water, tis often difficult or indeed possible to make him drink. In like manner tis very easy to me to make these suggestions and to issue this appeal, but beyond this the way is difficult, for I cannot take forcible possession of my fellow British subjects, attire them in costumes, and masks, decorate their vehicles, their horses or cycles and then parade them, I simply make the suggestions, assist in getting funds and preparing backgrounds. You, the public generally, and Britishers especially, if sufficiently imbued with the spirit with which you ought to be filled on such an occasion should do the rest.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for according me so much of your valuable space, I am, sir, yours very truly,
J. W. STANSFIELD

LABOR CONGRESS

Will Meet in Berlin, Ont., September 15

Letter From Officers Details Important Matters Which Will be Brought Up.

The officers of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada have issued the accompanying letter in connection with the coming session of that body which convenes in the city of Berlin, Ont., on Sept. 15. A copy has been forwarded to the Nugget with a request to publish. The letter which will prove of interest to members of local labor organizations is as follows:

Office of the Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Drawer 1017, Ottawa, Ont., July 15th, 1902.

To officers and members of Trade Councils, Trade Unions, Central Labor Unions, Federal Labor Unions, District and Local Assemblies of the Knights of Labor in the Dominion of Canada, greeting:

Fellow labor unionists and brothers,—The eighteenth annual session of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada will convene in C. O. F. hall, King street, city of Berlin, province of Ontario, on Monday, September 15th, 1902, at 10 o'clock a.m., and all labor organizations in the Dominion of Canada are invited to send representatives.

The basis of representation shall be as follows: Trade unions, local assemblies of the Knights of Labor and federal unions shall be allowed one delegate for each one hundred members or under, and one for each additional one hundred or majority fraction thereof; trade councils, central labor unions, national trade unions and district assemblies of the Knights of Labor, three delegates each. Two or more trade unions or local assemblies of the Knights of Labor, whose aggregate membership does not exceed 150, may unite to send one delegate. No proxy representative will be allowed, and all delegates must be members of the bodies they represent (except in the case of bodies composed of delegates from local organizations), at least six months prior to and at the time of election, but nothing in this clause shall be construed to prevent unions or assemblies from combining to send one representative, who is a member of one or such unions or assemblies; also provided that nothing in this clause shall prevent organizations being represented not six months organized.

Owing to the introduction of the following bills, affecting labor, namely:

No. 146—"An Act for the settlement of Railway Labor Disputes";
No. 122—"An Act further to amend the Act to restrict the importation and employment of Aliens";
No. 32—"An Act to amend the Conciliation Act, 1900";
"The proposed amendment to the Trade Mark and Design Act, with a view of legalizing the Union Label"; and
"The Report of the Chinese and Japanese Commission on the Exclusion of Oriental Coolie Labor in the Province of British Columbia," as to which, consequent upon the short duration of the last session, action has been deferred until the next session;

The coming convention (which must voice the opinion of organized labor, as a whole) will be the most important yet held, and at which some of the most brilliant men in the Canadian labor movement will assemble, and we hope that Divine Providence will give them light to wisely study the history of our movement and benefit by its examples, in taking into account the present necessities of our toilers and in devising means for their advancement, to promote the study of existing labor laws, to encourage the introduction of new legislation for the betterment of the conditions of the wage-earners of Canada, and, above all, to foster and extend the basic principles of our movement—education, organization, legislation, conciliation and arbitration.

awaiting with pleasure the opportunity of greeting the representatives of organized labor, and confidently expecting that the Berlin meeting will be a notable assemblage, productive of the utmost good for the wage-earners of our Dominion, and that when it adjourns it will leave a shining mark on the pages of Canadian labor history that will not only prove a blessing to the present and

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an inspiration and a hope to the future membership of "The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada."
We are, yours fraternally,
RALPH SMITH, M.P., Pres.,
Nanaimo, B.C.
JOHN A. FLETT, Vice-Pres.,
Hamilton, Ont.
P. M. DRAPER, Sec.-Treas.,
Ottawa, Ont.

Will Not be Prosecuted
Spokane, July 21.—The county attorney has decided that no attempt shall be made to prosecute Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Graham, whom the coroner's jury pronounced guilty of criminal negligence for failing to provide medical attendance for their children, three of whom died of diphtheria.

Murderer Escaped.
Harrisburg, Pa., July 22.—William Filler, a stone worker, shot and killed his wife Clara Filler, and Harry Bennett, today at Steelton, near here. The Fillers and Bennett boarded at the same house, and it is alleged that Filler was jealous of Bennett's attentions to his wife. The murderer escaped and is still at large.

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