

The Klondike Nugget

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When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of its circulation.

LETTERS: And Small Packages can be sent to the Creeks by our carriers on the following days: Every Tuesday and Friday to Eldorado, Bonanza, Hunker, Dominion, Gold Run, Sulphur, Quartz and Canyon.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1902.

\$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.

AMUSEMENTS THIS WEEK.

Auditorium Theatre: "Woman Against Woman." RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION: It appears no longer doubtful that the railroad from Dawson to the Forks will be constructed during the coming spring and summer.

It is the announced intention of Mr. Hawkins not to cease work with the construction of the line to the Forks, but he proposes to extend the road ultimately to Stewart River.

Next Sunday evening will witness a gala performance at the Auditorium, the occasion being a grand revival by Manager Bittner and his talented company of that intensely comical play "Friends," a piece in which Mr. Bittner made his greatest hit in Dawson.

His Hand Lacerated. H. T. Wilkerson, a drummer, recently a member of Savoy orchestra, had one of his hands badly lacerated day before yesterday while attempting to stop a dog fight.

Amateur Operatic Society. A rehearsal for the male members of the chorus of the above Society will be held in St. Andrews Hall this evening at 7.38 p.m.

Hot and cold lunch at the Bank Saloon. Nicely furnished rooms at the Coping House, 7th ave. and 3rd st.

Fur Coats. We Want to Clear Out the Following: We Have One Each: Wellby, size 36 \$17.50, Electric Seal, size 36 \$7.50, Coat, size 40 \$9.00, Wombat, size 44 \$8.00.

FUR GAUNTLETS: Wombat \$3.00, Electric Seal \$4.00, Hair Seal \$2.50.

J. P. McLENNAN, 233 FRONT STREET.

which has been pursued on the present occasion. The only satisfactory manner by which such a list can be arranged is through individual registration of all voters.

No good citizen is ever so engrossed with private cares that he cannot give some time to public affairs.

It has been rather a cold day for an election but not too cold for the voters to get to the polls.

Today will tell the tale.

List of Missing Men. Patrick Cuddigan, by Mrs. Mary Kenney, Beneca, La Salle Co., Ill., U. S. A.

John Dubach, by Mrs. J. H. Lanning, Fulford, Colo., U. S. A. W. T. Smith, by Thos. Male, 4441 S. Halst street, Chicago, Ill., U. S. A.

James F. Hoten, by U. S. Vice Consul, Dawson, Y. T. Charles Barshaw, by Richard Barshaw, Pine River, Michigan, U. S. A. William Merriman, by N. W. M. P., town station.

A. B. Olsen, by N. W. M. P., town station. C. M. Andrews, by Mrs. C. M. Andrews, Mimco, Ontario.

Lee McCahill, by Ponehata, Louisiana, U. S. A. D. K. Howard, by Mark Howard, McAlester, Indian Territory, U. S. A. Clarence W. Ebert, by Mrs. J. M. Ebert, 1406 S. Fourth street, Philadelphia, Pa., U. S. A.

Walter H. Clark, by Holyoke, Mass., U. S. A. Harry Ransen, by Mrs. A. Kaplan, 258 East Houston street, New York, U. S. A.

Thos. F. Rutherford, by Ella Rutherford, Chatham, Ontario. S. J. Dempsey, by N. W. M. P., town station.

Mrs. Adeline Brunelle, by D. C. Leniot, Wetaskiwin, N. W. T. David John Dillon, by Henry Dillon, American hotel, Ferndale, Humboldt Co., Cal. H. E. Bishop, by Chas. O. Bishop, Sisson, Cal., U. S. A.

William Brophy, by N. W. M. P. Any person knowing the above persons will confer a favor by calling at the town station, N. W. M. Police. Dawson, Y. T., Jan. 9, 1902.

BANQUET OF PRESS CLUB

Pencil Pushers Will Entertain the Bittner Company. Next Sunday evening will witness a gala performance at the Auditorium, the occasion being a grand revival by Manager Bittner and his talented company of that intensely comical play "Friends," a piece in which Mr. Bittner made his greatest hit in Dawson.

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IN THE LONDON ECONOMIST

Recommended by Learned People for Children. Blood-and-thunder literature is not, after all, such a bad thing for boys, if certain claims that have recently been made for it are to be allowed.

It is said that such literature will be effective when nothing else would be in developing in many children the reading habit, and the habit having once been developed, the taste is gradually improved and a demand created for better books.

The Special Commissioner of the London "Economist," who has had much experience in various parts of the world, sends to that paper a letter on the gold deposits of the Klondike, which is of interest as giving the views of an observer who is able to compare the district with others which he has examined, with an especial view to their commercial value and possibilities. We give below some extracts from his letter:

There are two tributaries of the Yukon which fall into the larger river 20 miles apart—the Klondike and the Indian by name. Between these there is a high ridge of country, and from either side of this ridge flow numerous creeks into these small rivers.

Such is the topographical feature of the country, or 40 miles back from the Yukon. This district, each other, stand this expense, or even half of it, but the Klondike reefs are exceptionally rich, and there are many claims, especially on Eldorado and Bonanza creeks, where the expenses did not amount to nearly as much as the gold produced.

Of course, alluvial gold is always irregular in its occurrence. Thus, some of the creeks are rich nearly all the way down, but on others a really rich claim was the exception. The richest ground was worked first. Some of the best claims are now worked out, and it is safe to say that by the autumn of 1903, practically all the rich ground will be finished. Klondike reached its zenith last year. In that season gold to the value of \$22,000,000 was put out; this year the yield dropped to about \$20,000,000, and from now onward there will be sure to be a decline.

But this does not mean the early extinction of the Klondike field. As yet only the richest ground, a mere fraction of the total gravel area, has been worked. The future, as in all gold-fields, lies with the great bodies of low-grade material. This low-grade gravel at Klondike would be rich anywhere else, here the conditions are such that high, and relatively the gravel becomes low-grade. The serious problem for the future is the want of water. The big masses of low-grade gravel, both on the benches and in the creeks, must in future be treated on a big scale, and the only way to do that is by hydraulic sluicing. But there is no water for this. It will have to be pumped up hundreds of feet from the Klondike River, and the cost of a plant, the consumption of fuel, and the wear and tear, will mean a heavy and continued expense.

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It has all to be broken by pick and shovel, re-shavelled into a sluice-box, which too often has got enough water in it for proper work, and this by laborers who cost the employer on an average of \$6.80 per man a day. The gravel on the benches are still more expensive to handle. A small stream of water for sluicing has to be pumped up out of the creek, and the wood fuel that is used for this costs equal to \$35 a ton for coal. The same labor is needed for breaking down the gravel, and there is an extra cost in building barricades to prevent the tailings running down into the creeks.

Labor is, of course, much the heaviest item in the bill. A laborer receives \$5 a day and his food, which probably costs \$1.80 a day. He cannot be reduced under the present conditions. To get to Klondike from the States or Canada costs him \$100; he finds a working season of only 120 days in the year; and unless he is lucky enough to get work in the winter at wood-cutting, or in one of the claims where they do underground work by thawing the gravel, he will have to return to the south or exhaust his savings while staying idle.

Fuel for feeding boilers costs nearly \$15 a cord. To land machinery and supplies by the White Pass & Yukon route costs \$125 per ton for freight alone, and all miscellaneous items are in proportion.

No ordinary alluvial ground could stand this expense, or even half of it, but the Klondike reefs are exceptionally rich, and there are many claims, especially on Eldorado and Bonanza creeks, where the expenses did not amount to nearly as much as the gold produced.

Of course, alluvial gold is always irregular in its occurrence. Thus, some of the creeks are rich nearly all the way down, but on others a really rich claim was the exception. The richest ground was worked first. Some of the best claims are now worked out, and it is safe to say that by the autumn of 1903, practically all the rich ground will be finished. Klondike reached its zenith last year. In that season gold to the value of \$22,000,000 was put out; this year the yield dropped to about \$20,000,000, and from now onward there will be sure to be a decline.

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