

The Klondike Nugget

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KLONDIKE NUGGET. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1903.



AMUSEMENTS. Auditorium—Pirates of Penzance.

GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.

The present is an exceedingly unfavorable time in which to essay the task of manufacturing political capital. The elections are a thing of the past. The people have selected men to represent their interests in the various offices within popular gift and there is no political contest of any nature pending.

The public has no interest in petty squabbles designed either for the promotion or injury of individual political aspirations. What the people desire at the present time is united action along lines which will tend to bring into practical effect needed reforms and legislative enactments.

Ceaseless agitation, criminalizations and recriminations will avail nothing. The country has suffered sufficiently already from that sort of thing.

The time is at hand when such matters should be dropped and the whole community irrespective of occupation or political predilection should stand shoulder to shoulder for the bestment of general conditions.

The mining industry, the backbone of the whole country, is in a most disadvantageous condition owing to the fact that there is no available supply of water which will admit of the prosecution of operations upon a proper scale.

This one single difficulty is at the bottom of the present unfavorable conditions which prevail not only in Dawson but likewise in the mining districts. The smaller reforms, many of which are admittedly necessary, sink entirely into insignificance when compared with the absolutely distressing need of cheap and plentiful water.

The most competent engineers in the territory have given expression to the view that, with the establishment of a suitable water supply system, the output of the district would easily be doubled for a long term of years to come and under favorable conditions increased tenfold.

In the estimation of this paper, therefore, the whole people of the territory should apply themselves to the settlement of this most important problem. It can be carried to a successful issue only through aid received from the government and to this end the most strenuous efforts should be put forward to elicit assistance from parliament at the present session.

Let cheap talk, clap trap and demagogic denunciations cease for a time. There is only one source from which aid can be secured and it is obvious that such aid will never be obtained through the agency of an uplifted club.

A calm, unbiased, practical presentation of the facts backed with ten thousand signatures should be laid before the government through properly constituted channels. Let politics go by the board for the time being and every man join hands with his neighbor in pressing upon the government the necessity of prompt and effective action. A delegation of rabid oppositionists at Ottawa might howl themselves hoarse without creating a single ripple on the surface.

The people by petition and argument by their representative can accomplish the desired result which never will be achieved through any other means.

There is as yet an absolute lack of tangible evidence to indicate that a strike of real value has been made in the Tanana country. The reports thus far received are of an exceedingly general character and are not calculated to inspire with confidence those who are familiar with Yukon mining stampedes. When some man appears with a sack of gold dust and with reliable information, it will be time to believe all that is told. For the present there is nothing before the public but pure guess work.

Parliament will assemble early in the coming month and Yukon's representative will be on hand to press forward all matters pertaining to the territory's well-being. His hands should be strengthened in every possible way by his constituents and all efforts to throw stumbling blocks in his way should be discouraged.

With the marvelous rich resources behind this town there is no reason why it should not flourish and prosper for years to come. All that is needed is united action on the part of the people and a general realization of the fact that altered conditions must necessarily beget new methods of transacting business.

The pope left the Vatican grounds yesterday for the first time in twenty-five years, the occasion being the grand jubilee. While shorn of all temporal power and in one sense a prisoner within the confines of the Vatican, the pope is really to be numbered among the most potent sovereigns of the day.

The passenger lists of boats arriving at Skagway indicate clearly that there will be a steady influx of people during the coming months. Really remarkable how they all come back.

While reports of strikes from distant points continue to arrive, the work of piling up dumps on the creeks tributary to the Klondike and Indian river goes steadily on.

Approaching Extinction of the Muskallonge

While it would seem to be impossible ever to fish out the vast extent of lakes and rivers in the Northwest, it is a fact that very serious inroads have been made upon the muskallonge. This is one of the games and most valuable fishes in the world, but no effort has been made to protect it.

The states protect pike, pickerel, trout and bass, but the musky is left to take care of itself. There is no restriction upon the size at which it may be taken and but little restriction on the time.

The effect of the long war on the muskallonge is seen in the rapidly decreasing weights of those taken. In Wisconsin, for instance, muskallonge of 25 to 30 pounds were common enough 10 years ago, in fact, much bigger fish were taken frequently, but they are now very uncommon. Probably the average weight of muskallonge taken in Wisconsin last season did not run above 8 pounds; certainly 10 pounds would be a liberal estimate.

Now and then one hears of the capture of some old warrior which had successfully eluded the lures of generations of trollers, and ancient buccannery of the wild rice stem and lily-pads, weighing 35, 40 or even 45 pounds, but such things are rare. One weighing 103 pounds was taken last summer from Tomahawk Lake in the nets of the fish hatchery people, "stripped" and put back, but it had never been hooked and never will be. When a muskallonge gets old enough to be so big it knows too much to strike at a spoon, whirl it ever so fancily, and probably is too lazy, anyhow.

It is believed by western anglers who have watched with alarm the deterioration, numerical and physical, of this fish that if proper laws were passed it would regain its former ascendancy, and efforts will be made to induce the legislatures of the states interested to throw legal safeguards about the musky.

While the trouble lies partly with the lack of restrictions, it is also due in part to the number of dams which

have been built at the outlets of lakes and across streams which connect the lakes with the Mississippi river. These dams have been built by the great lumbering companies and have for object the control of the water so that a flood may be assured for the spring drives of logs.

The muskallonge is a powerful and active fish, and cannot surmount many of these dams, which are sometimes from eight to ten feet higher than the water below them. In consequence, fish which wish to ascend to the broader water of the big lakes in the woods, are kept below and those which go out of the lakes cannot get back.

The anglers doubtless will be able to obtain legislation putting some check upon the taking of all sizes of muskallonge, but they will not effect the removal, or lowering, of any dam. The lumber companies regard hard wood as of more value than fishes, and the legislators lean to their way of thinking.

SOME NEW FACTS ABOUT THE STARS

It has just been announced by one of the ablest of modern astronomers that a long exposure survey of the whole heavens with the modern photographic telescope would show no fewer than 500,000,000 stars.

The writer says that in the southern sky he has counted 5600 stars visible distinctly to the naked eye, which shows there are about 10,000 stars in the whole heavens which can be seen by the eye alone. An ordinary opera glass will show close on 10,000 stars, and with the great Yerkes telescope about 200,000,000 are visible. If a photograph would show 500,000,000 stars, the question arises: "Where does finality come in?"

The writer answers the question thus: "As we go on constructing larger and yet larger telescopes, more and yet more stars will appear. Each remove we are only seeing farther and farther down the great endless galleries of space, and the goal of our desire is as far off as ever."

"We may not only be making visible the frontier realms of an infinite domain, the hinterland of which is a region so vast that no human intellect can fathom it, and no human intellect can measure or comprehend it."

"This does not at all follow, it is true that the larger the telescope the greater number of stars made visible by it, but the same question is, does the number of stars increase in the same proportion as the size of the telescope would lead us to expect?"

"If the universe is infinite in extent and the stars infinite in number, then in a telescope of a certain size we ought to see a definite number of stars. Do we see this number?"

"Eow, the answer to this question is that the number of stars we do see in a very large telescope falls far short of the number we ought to see on the assumption that there is no limit to the number of stars, but, on the other hand, the number seen is quite in keeping with the contention that each increase of the telescope power brings our vision nearer and nearer to the outer fringe of our infinite universe."

"The same remarkable result is reached if we consider recent photographic research in this direction. As we increase the length of the exposure we do not obtain an equivalent increase in the number of stars registered on the photographic plate."

"Indeed, we sometimes reach a limit, different, of course, for different parts of the sky, beyond which we cease to photograph any more stars, however long the exposure. We have, in short, photographed all there is to photograph."

"The telescope carried the astronomer through the stellar distances right on to the region where the stars thin out on the margin of the great ocean of space that surrounds the universe like a garment. From what he sees he is able to estimate all he could possibly see. The parallax is so small—a certain measure of the whole."

"And that whole how vast, how stupendous! The most modest estimate gives 1,000,000,000 as the total number of stars in the universe."

"If this be so—and the result is arrived at by a variety of ways—then a telescope 10 feet in diameter will bring us to the forehores of that vast, inviolate girdled sea of empty space that girds our realm of earth."

Fighter's Death. Seattle, R. I., Feb. 1.—The case of Hugh Murphy, a New York pugilist who is charged with manslaughter as a result of the death of Eugene McCarthy, his opponent in a bout here two weeks ago, came up for hearing in court today. While it is generally believed that Murphy will be exonerated, the fatal ending of the bout is certain to put a quietus on prize fighting in Rhode Island for some time to come.

Left for Tanana. Raoul Bussing and Ed. Graham left this morning for the Tanana. The hardy adventurers had two dog teams and complete outfits. They expect to make a splendid trip and get in on the ground floor.

W. H. B. Lyons, manager of the Ladue saw mill, and Henry Hounen of the Dawson Transfer Co., made a flying trip to Grand Forks today.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

JOB WAS ANGRY AND NO WONDER

Lackawaxen, Jan. 27.—"If it hadn't 'a' been for that dod darn bear," says Job, "that black shoot o' Simeon's mowt 'a' follered me in, some time or other, consarn him!" says Job.

"It was a leetle inconsider'rit in that bear, that's so," said the man from the Knob country. "Cause in the first place, bears had kep' shet o' that deestric' for more'n five year, and fols wasn't countin' on bears as bein' apart and parcel o' things amongst 'em, but sort o' depended on Job to kep' 'em on their taps. So I said then, an' I say now, that it was a leetle inconsider'rit in that bear, and skeerely fair to Job, for it to come mixin' in things the way it did."

"Simeon come in one day, lookin' as if he was chief mourner to a funeral, and I says to him: "Some o' your fols dead?" I says: "No, he says. "That black shoot o' mine turned up missin' this mornin'," he says.

"Well, I says, 'why don't you go up to Job's and git it?' I says: "I been up to Job's," he says. "I jest come from Job's," he says: "Why didn't you bring the shoot back with you then?" I says: "Job didn't have it," says Simeon.

"Job didn't have it," I says, "thinkin' that I hadn't heard Simeon right. "Job didn't have it," I says: "No," says Simeon. "He didn't have it. Leastways," says he, "Job don't think he's got it."

"That jest knocked me criss-cross. There was a shoot missin', and Job didn't have it! Job lived somethin' five four miles back on the ridge, and bears havin' kep' shet o' that deestric' for five year and better, folks sort o' depended on Job to kep' 'em on their taps."

"They didn't never come right out and say that Job'd walk off with things, but they sort o' hinted that things somchow had a way o' stickin' to him or follerin' him. Whenever somebody's sheep or chickens or pigs was mis' in from the premises where they'd by rights nat'urly ought to belong, why the owner o' 'em, jest went up to Job's and brung 'em back. So, when Simeon says to me that he'd been to Job's to git his missin' shoot and Job didn't have it, I was jest knocked criss-cross and all I could say was:

"Simeon, you don't mean to say it?" "And Simeon said he d d. "Leastways," says he, "Job don't think he's got it."

"And after I had got enough breath to make it worth while for me to be gin, I says: "Simeon, I says, 'tell me why.' "Dan'l, says he, 'it was this way. As soon as I missed my pig this mornin', says he, 'I was put-out tremendous, 'cause I was busy as bees and hated to spend the time to throp up and drive to Job's to bring the pig back. But we was 'spectin' to 'ill in a day or so, and as we needed the pork, I didn't see no way out of goin' to Job's. So I hooked up and drove to his place on the ridge."

"Job was home, and I says to him that I had come after my black shoot, and that as it was a pesky contray critter to drive, I says to Job that I'd have to ask him to help me home with it. Job by scratched his head a minute, and looked as if he was trying like all-possessed to think o' somethin'. They by and by says to me that he didn't think he had my black shoot."

"I says to him that he must have the shoot, and he says to me that he'd like to know what made me think so, and I says to him that he must have it 'cause it wasn't to home."

"Why, is that so?" says Job, and he think some more, puckerin' his forehead all sorts, and scratchin' his head, and loovin' up to the sky as if he was tryin' to get things straight. Then he shook his head and says to me that he'd be darned if he remembered the shoot follerin' of him in, but he'd go an' look."

"So we went over to Job's piggery, but the shoot wasn't there. We looked high and low over all the premises, but not a sign of a black shoot was anywhere to be seen."

"Then I had an idea, and I says to Job, tryin' to log his memory, that maybe he had run the shoot over the ridge, down into the Pocono country, and sold him there. Job scratched his head and looked more gum-fuddled than ever, and by and by he says to me that he mowt 'a' done it, but it didn't seem to him, he says, as if he'd had time to do it and git back home, and he hollers to his wife and asked her if a black shoot had follered him home last night and so on over the ridge to Pocono."

"Job's wife she str' k her head out o' the door and then, a while, and then she hollers back that there wasn't no shoot follered him home last night, neither black or white, and that there hadn't nothin' follered him home, since Mose's two sheep had tagged him in, and that was day afore yestreday, she says."

"That's jest what I was thinkin'," says Job. "No, Simeon," he says, "I don't think your black shoot follered me in last night. He mowt 'a' but I don't think so," says Job.

"And that's as far as I got track o' my missin' pig," says Simeon. "Where do you s'pose he kin be, Dan'l?" says he.

"The idee that anything could turn

up missin' in that deestric, and not be at Job's, where it was sent for, was more than I could handle, and I told Simeon that his shoot must 'a' been swallered up by an earthquake or took-wings and flew—cause I never for a minute think that an inconsider'rit bear had come along to unsettle things."

"I guess we'd never got on to the mystery of it if along to ard noon Capt. Joe, from the Eddy, hadn't come ridin' in to look over a lumber job he had took," and he says: "Has anybody 'round here lost a black shoot?"

"Twasn't a minute fore he knowed all about that missin' shoot o' Simeon's, and Simeon hollers: "And Job hadn't got him, neither!"

"Good reason for why," says Captain Joe. "A bear took that shoot, for I came square out on him not long ago eatin' of it over yonder in the edge o' the woods. He had it half eat up, but he went scootin' away and left the rest when he see me," says Capt. Joe.

"We started to run that bear down, but he got away and never came back for the rest of Simeon's black shoot."

When Job came down a day or so afterward and heard about it, he was madder than snakes a scottin'."

"If it hadn't 'a' been for that dod darn bear," he says, "that black shoot mowt 'a' follered me in, some time or other, consarn him!" says Job.

"And I didn't blame Job much for bein' mad and disappoint'ed, neither, for if there's anything I don't like it's inconsider'ritness, partic'ly in bears."

FROM WORLD-CAPITALS. London.—The Bank of England authorities are thinking of making a change in its notes to prevent ease in counterfeiting. There are now a large number of bogus five and twenty-five pound Bank of England notes in circulation which can only be detected by experts.

West-End shopkeepers have pursued for years the policy of giving every woman detected purloining articles the option of being hinged or being prosecuted, and in all twenty English women have accepted the ordeal of the birch.

Two new leagues have been started in London. One is to promote a pledge not to drink between meals. The other is called the League of the White Rose, and its members are to marry only for love, to avoid needless extravagance at weddings and to maintain a high ideal of the home.

John Redmond, M.P., the Irish leader, responding to a Nationalist address, said he believed that the friends of Ireland would soon see a measure become law which would heal the wounds of centuries, and give the Irish people a chance of living in peace and prosperity on their own soil.

"Big Ben," the clock in the houses of parliament, is now lit by electricity. It is still wound by hand, taking two men twelve hours weekly to complete the operations.

Liverpool.—There is a good demand here for tonnage to carry pig iron from Middlesbrough and Hartlepool to the United States. The chartering of coal tonnage on the St. Lawrence and Clyde and at Welsh ports continues.

Paris.—The Automobile Club of France is arranging an international competition for timing mechanism. A prize of \$200 and gold and silver medals will be awarded.

Sir Hiram S. Maxim has written a remarkable letter relative to gambling at Monte Carlo in which he demonstrated that the ordinary player has not one chance in a million of winning and that the bank takes ninety per cent. of all the money staked.

The Chinese minister has signed a contract for a new Chinese loan of \$1,000,000 for the construction of a Railway from Tchengting to Yunnan. The bonds will be issued by the Russo-Chinese Bank at the end of February.

Berlin.—Birkeland's electro-magnetic cannon is now engaging the attention of German artilleryists in an improved shape. It is only available in forts. The principle of the gun is the passing of a powerful current through wire spirals in the bore without heating. It throws a fifty-pound projectile more than three miles, with accuracy. Birkeland says he can increase the distance fourfold.

The Baron Wallburg, son of Archduke Ernst, of Budapest, is to be prosecuted for participation in the forgeries committed by one Max Skudinger.

Easy for Ryan. Hot Springs, Ark., Feb. 1.—Tommy Ryan, disposed of "Cyclone" Kelly in the seventh round at the Whittington Park Athletic Club last night. Ryan played horse with his opponent from the sound of the gong and evidently intended to give the crowd a run for their money. Ryan finished his man with a star left to the chin in the seventh round.

See Mr. A. M. Thornburgh as "Samuel" in the opera "Pirates of Penzance" at the Auditorium on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 18-21.

WANTED.—Clean, ragged at Nugget office for wiping machinery.

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ORGAN IS... Miners J... Ass... Pledged to... of Mining... The organization has been... and from... into a power... final arrange... on Thursday... of the assoc... permanent off... were o...tended... creeds to orga... bers of the a... The officers... as follows: Name: first... Thomas; sec... Klondike; sec... Reid; member... mition, J. S... A. C. Field... The accom... tions were at... Section I... lower as the... tion of bond... 2. The obje... shall be the... interests of... all legitimate... 3. Partisan... into the disc... 4. This an... pond of acti... entitled to be... and speak... brought bef... accept as her... officer... 5. Any ma... who takes... a meeting... dues shall be... this associa... 6. The des... this associa... month... 7. The off... shall be nee... mining... 8. Regular... whenever the... all meetings... has been giv... meetings... 9. Special... at any time... twenty-four... 10. The as... of the assoc... The presid... fore order... of debate, a... we not dire... and perform... appertain to... First vice... fore 15-16... the absence... Second v... perform the... the absence... vice-preside... Secretary... let all meet... association... the same op... tion; as the... he shall con... of the meet... such meeting... dues as 10... and shall... as the usual... minutes... Executive... consist of th... ed members... terial betw... the rights o... ciation... 11. Elect... in the first... 12. Any... meeting of... business m... 13. The... trying the... following at... ciation... 14. The... der of busi... reports of... parts of th... of the sec... Trading... etc.; callin... one elec... welfare of... best... 15. The... any comm... up in fact... business... 16. All... above shall... be executed... by procurin... MESSING... knows the... Prefecton... errors, 12... ber, Illin... See Mr... rate King... Penzance... Wednesday... Saturday...