

BRITISH CITIZEN DISCUSSES

The Attitude of the Canadian Government Toward the Yukon.

A Powerful Arraignment of Abuses Which Preval in This Territory - Cannot Last Forever.

(From Thursday's Daily.) Dawson, May 28, 1900.

Editor Klondike Nugget: Dear Sir: Certain creeks in the vast and sterile Yukon territory of Canada have of late years acquired much reputation throughout the world as valuable mining properties. The government of Canada can hardly take credit for the origin of these creeks. I understand they were among the works of the Creator. In times gone past, however, Canada acquired an option over these properties, but took no steps towards their development. After many years certain hardy prospectors, battling against natural conditions, the severity of which outsiders can form no conception, discovered and made known to Canada and the world the valuable nature of these properties. Canada promptly exercised her option and took business possession. So far, good. The British flag floated, which has always hitherto meant justice, fair play, progress, public works, good and honest government generally. What part did Canada play. After inviting the world to assist in the development of her new properties under fairly liberal laws, she began to put on the screws, and year after year has kept tightening it up till now she has piled on to the unfortunate workers of these properties, already severely handicapped by natural conditions, a complete system of taxation, severe, vicious, and iniquitous to an extent absolutely unequalled in modern history to encourage industry and enterprise in the mine owner a direct levy of 10 per cent is made on the gross output, utterly regardless of cost of production. That this tax is a direct premium on perjury, and accepted universally as such, goes without saying. To encourage the working miner he is yearly fined \$10 for the privilege of earning his bread and butter, or rather his bacon and beans, in this delightful country. The certificate with this gracious permission also purports to allow him to locate a claim, but, false to their written promise, the government locks up the country against him. He becomes the prey of gamblers and prostitutes, encouraged to settle among us by this righteous government on a system of monthly permits called fines.

Of other taxes, direct and indirect, there is no end. Great sums accrue to the revenue from these sources and the clever Mr. Sifton boasts to the admiring voters of Eastern Canada of the great surplus of which he has robbed the Yukon.

In return for all this revenue and the immense indirect benefit that these creeks have been to the trade of Canada, what has she spent in ameliorating the hard conditions of the life of the residents on these creeks—those who discovered and are producing all this wealth—in the shape of roads, bridges, schools and improvements generally—the life blood of a new country. Little or nothing, and that little grossly misapplied. Can you wonder that there is hardly a resident on these creeks of whatever nationality who does not regard the government with bitter personal hatred, loathing, mistrust and contempt. Can you wonder that no prospecting is going on, no new developments, beyond those creeks already discovered, which this season are at the zenith of their prosperity and will fall off in future. Can you wonder that when any fresh attraction offers itself as at the present time, men are leaving the country in thousands. Not the loafers and idlers, but the hardy prospectors who made the country, the best miners who, having made and saved a small stake, prefer investing it in a region other than this, where the dishonored British flag flies. Each steamer carries away a full list of passengers, every man with a curse for the ignorant, greedy and corrupt government who would not give him a fair chance.

Men of Canada, is it good that it should be so. I appeal to you in real earnest. Among you are large numbers of your American cousins to whose pluck and enterprise you are largely indebted for the discovery and development of this land. Numbers of your relatives and sincere well wishers from the old mother country; from far Australia, New Zealand, Africa, etc., with whom on a distant shore you are now fighting shoulder to shoulder in the same good old cause of liberty,

fair play and good government; visitors from all parts of the world. Do you want us all to return eventually to our homes spreading everywhere the word that the cherished British traditions of truth, honor, justice, fair play and honest government are, in this remote corner of the British realm, forsown, forgotten and dead.

CIVIS "BRITANNICUS" SUM. Shooting Affray at Rossland. Rossland, May 2.—As a result of a shooting affray at the Columbia hotel, on First avenue, Henry McArthur lies in the Sisters' hospital with a wound in his back, his legs paralyzed and his head terribly beaten in, and will probably die; Rafael, alias William Albi, is in jail, charged with shooting him, with intent to murder him, and M. A. Albo is also in jail, charged with doing McArthur great bodily harm.

Shortly after midnight Officer Rymer saw McArthur enter the Columbia lodging house slightly intoxicated, and a few minutes afterward heard a shot, followed in close succession by two others, from the upper floors. He rushed upstairs and found Albi in his underclothes flourishing a revolver over McArthur's head, who lay prostrate on the floor of the landing. At the risk of his own life he seized Albi and disarmed him, finding that three bullets had been fired from the revolver. But for his interference McArthur would probably have been killed, for Albi had been pounding his head and face with the muzzle of the revolver. Of the three shots, the first appears to have been fired through the door of Albi's room, and missed its mark, lodging in the opposite wall. Another was fired down the hall, and struck the wall in a glancing direction. The third hit McArthur in the back, and must have caused him to fall at his assailant's mercy. The latter then, it appears, proceeded to beat the man on the head. Albo is alleged to have aided in the assault, and to have made off when Officer Rymer appeared on the scene. He was arrested this morning.

Dr. Reddick, who attended McArthur, has been unable to locate the bullet, nor to exactly define its course. Both of McArthur's legs are paralyzed, and the doctor thinks that this is due to some injury to the spine. The wounds on the face and head are so severe that they will leave scars, even if McArthur should recover.

Albi has left a trail of blood in his track for the last year. He killed a man in a quarrel at the Coeur d'Alene theater in Spokane, Washington, a year ago.

McArthur and Albi had a quarrel in a saloon early on Tuesday evening.

They Will Trek. New York, May 2.—Writing from Pretoria, under date of March 23d, the World's special correspondent, Howard C. Hillegis, says that hundreds of Boers are casting about for a suitable country to which they can go if they find it desirable. State Secretary Reitz said: "If the English take these republics and raise the Union Jack over them I will take my family to America."

Many of the older Boers will trek to German West Africa and thousands will emigrate to other countries. The friends of President Kruger say that if the Transvaal loses her independence he will spend the last years of his life in Holland or Germany.

Mr. Hillegis writes further: "In the Boer army it is customary to grant a burgher a fortnight's leave of absence after he has been in larger two or three months. A low estimate places the number of men 'of commando' as it is called at about 4000 at one time. "Then there are the Bible reading Boers, those who remain behind in camp and will not go into a fight unless they feel in the mood for doing so. Before the reverses at Kimberley, Ladysmith and Paardeburg it was usual to find at least one-third of the men belonging to this class, but since then the percentage has been much less."

Referring to the size of the Boer army he assumes that 36,000 men are under arms today and says: "But it must be taken into account that every Boer is an army unto himself, and that every one is mounted on a fleet horse which can sustain itself on the grass it finds everywhere, and that there is no extensive commissariat to prevent the Boer from dashing up delivering a blow and escaping in time to prevent the enemy from doing much damage to him."

Private dining rooms at the Holborn. We fit glasses. Pioneer drug store. Parties having mining ground partially worked, or full claims favorably situated, can find a purchaser through Norton D. Walling, Grand Forks, Cb-3.

Just received, the finest line of millinery goods, ready made suits, silk petticoats, silk waists, sashes; everything of the latest spring styles, at Mrs. Morrison's London Dry Goods and Millinery, Third st. and Third avenue, next to Mohr & Wilkins.

TO NOME BY WAY OF DAWSON

The Pacific Coast Steamship Co. Selling Tickets

For Round Trip From San Francisco for \$262—Will Require 30 Days' Travel.

Excursion rates for the season of 1900 from San Francisco and from Seattle to Nome by way of Skagway, Whitehorse, Dawson and St. Michael are announced by the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, in connection with the White Pass & Yukon railroad, the Canadian Development Co. and other lines. The return trip is to be made from Nome by ocean.

The fare from San Francisco and return over the above outlined route is placed at \$262; from Puget Sound and return, at \$250. The rates include berths and meals on ocean and river steamers.

The Pacific Coast Company will carry the passengers to Skagway, the railroad to Whitehorse, the Canadian Development Company's steamers from Whitehorse to Dawson. The North American Trading & Transportation Company's steamers or those of the Alaska Exploration Company will furnish the lower Yukon connections to St. Michael, and the remainder of the trip by ocean may be made on steamers of the Pacific Coast Company, the Pacific Steam Whaling Company, the N. A. T. Co., the A. E. Co., or the Empire line.

Excursionists may start from San Francisco on the trip not later than October 1, and will be permitted to stop over at Seattle, Skagway, Whitehorse, Dawson, St. Michael and Nome.

The time estimated for the round trip from San Francisco, says the Alaskan, is one month, but it is figured that with close connections the trip may be made in something less than a month. This deduction, made by careful transportation schedule makers, is considered a valuable point in the argument for the Skagway-Yukon river route to Nome. The Pacific Coast Company has estimated the time of the through journey from place to place as follows:

San Francisco to Seattle, four days; Seattle to Skagway, four days; Skagway to Whitehorse, one day; Whitehorse to Dawson two days; Dawson to St. Michael, five days; St. Michael to Nome, one day; Nome to Seattle, ten days.

The Pacific Coast Company has announced the excursion rate of \$60 from the Sound to Skagway, Glacier Bay and Sitka and return for the season.

Agent F. W. White has received the general circular announcing the schedule on which the steamers of the company will run in Southeastern Alaskan waters and between Puget Sound and San Francisco until next October.

The Alaska schedule shows that the elegant excursion steamer Queen will be in Skagway on the first excursion trip of the season June 15, and make her last excursion trip of the year arriving here August 28th.

It is also shown on the schedule that the steamer Cottage City will start with her first excursionists only five days after the Queen, and five days after that the City of Topeka will start with her first sightseers of the season. The ships will then come in rotation at intervals of five days, making an aggregate of sixteen excursions of the one company during the season.

Brady is Denounced. The Alaska Republican convention met in Juneau on May 18th. The evening after the first session the following correspondence was forwarded to the Daily Alaskan:

"There is a great anti-Brady feeling here among the delegates of the Republican district convention, now in session in this city to elect delegates to the national convention. "It is expected strong resolutions will be passed denouncing the governor and recommending that he be not reappointed."

"It is conceded John G. Price, of Skagway, will be the choice of the convention for national committeeman. John G. Heid, of Juneau, had made a strong fight but early in the day recognized his defeat and made a complete surrender. He is one of the committeemen on resolutions, which is anti-Brady beyond doubt, and if he should be willing to sign the resolutions drawn by that committee denouncing the governor's course, it is likely he may be chosen as one of the four delegates to the national convention, but he will be first compelled to declare against Bradyism."

"The convention was called to order by John G. Heid, of Juneau, at 2:30 p. m. today. Twenty-five delegates were present. Price, of Skagway, placed in nomination for temporary chairman, Fred Page Tustin, of Wrangel, who was elected without a dissenting voice. On accepting the chair Mr. Tustin made an appropriate address on the great importance of the convention."

It is very evident that Alaska is thoroughly tired of her missionary governor, who, it is said, as a Seattle paper once remarked of Sheldon Jackson, has been with the Indians at Sitka so long that when he goes east he takes a piece of dried salmon with him to rub over the faces of female relatives in order that their kisses may remind him of home. His constituency have nothing against Brady as a teacher of Indians, but as governor of the rapidly growing district of Alaska, he is considered conspicuous for his inability, and ridiculous for the old foggy, narrow-minded ideas which control his actions while on the bridge of the ship of state.

As to Captain Talbot. The erstwhile skipper of the steamer Merwin has probably shaken Dawson from his feet forever, and from the odor he left behind, Dawson will not be looser by his actions. His alleged combination with Quinn to smuggle passengers on the boat without the knowledge of her agents and managers was indeed a very low order of high rascality.

Previous to Major Perry's departure for the outside Capt. Talbot was before him in police court in the capacity of witness in a wage case in which a laborer was suing for wages due on a claim on which Talbot had been foreman and timekeeper. The latter had given the man a time check for a certain number of hours; but after delivering the check to its owner, Talbot changed the figures in his own book, thus materially lessening the number of hours which the timecheck showed the man to have worked. A hasty inspection of Talbot's book showed that alterations had been made in it in various places. This style of bookkeeping was not in line with Major Perry's ideas of honesty, with the result that he took the timebook into his own care for the purpose of looking over it and making a few additions, only the figures in the totals having been altered.

In the meantime the case was settled out of court and nothing more was heard from it; but those who chanced to be present in police court that morning could not form other than the opinion that the big steamboat captain had a system of bookkeeping that would not stand the searchlight of investigation. Capt. Talbot's latest venture is in keeping with and along the same line as altering figures in a timebook.

Rich Ore on Lake Bennett. General Manager Hawkins, of the White Pass road, has a sample of fine ore which he obtained a few days ago while in Bennett which came from along the lake. The ore assays \$60 to the ton, he learned, in gold and silver, but he did not learn the particulars as to the property. The lead is eight miles down the lake from Bennett City, and opposite Camp B, Alaskan.

It has been about a year since a stream in the same locality was reported to contain gravel yielding \$15. A number rushed to it from Bennett and Skagway, but it proved to be a false alarm, only a few colors being found. However, it would be in keeping with the proverbial luck of the W. P. & Y. Ry. Co. to fall into such a "cold turkey" snap as would be the discovery of sections of rich ore bordering its right of way.

Election of Officers. The Yukon Masonic Association held its regular meeting Tuesday evening in Fraternity hall and was largely attended. The first annual election of officers took place with the following result: President, T. S. Cunningham; vice president, H. P. Hansen; secretary, J. A. Donald; treasurer, F. W. Shepard; executive committee, J. Douglas, D. Matheson and J. S. Cowan.

After the regular routine of business was completed the meeting went into social session and a very enjoyable time was spent. Songs, recitations and speeches were made and received with proper appreciation. The wants of the inner man were suitably attended to, and at midnight the meeting adjourned, everyone expressing himself as having passed a very pleasant and profitable evening. The officers are making a special effort to make next Tuesday evening's meeting a success, and every Mason who attends will be gladly welcomed and a good time may be expected.

Sargent & Pinska to the Front. Mr. Pinska has received a wire from his partner Sargent that he is on his way in with a large consignment of goods and will come in with some of the first available boat. Mr. Sargent has been out, nearly all winter making arrangements for the purchase and shipment of this consignment.

YELLOW TO RED STRIPES.

Police Give Smoker to Major Hemming and Staff.

A Pleasant Evening, Where Refreshments, Story and Song Hold the Boards.

An enjoyable smoker was given last night at the barracks of the N. W. M. P. to Major Hemming, his officers and non-commissioned officers of the Y. F. F., the occasion being a royal send off to the major and his company who are soon to leave for the outside.

Sergeant-Major Tucker, of the police, in an able, happy manner, filled the chair during the evening. Among those present were: The guests of honor previously mentioned, Superintendent Primrose and his officers, Messrs. Wade, Senkler, Lithgow, Dugas, Hartman, Tabor, Hulme, Burrill, McKay and Drs. Hurdman, McDonald and others.

The order of the entertainment provided was songs, speeches and recitations.

Excellent songs were rendered by Dr. McDonald, Corporal Cobb, Sergeant Harris and Mr. Shanks. Superintendent Primrose of the police made a happy address in which he feelingly referred to his regret at the calling from Dawson of Major Hemming and his command, to which the latter feelingly and appropriately responded, touching on the very amiable and friendly relations which have always here existed between the soldiers and police.

Additional addresses were made by Messrs. Wade, McKay, Capt. Starnes and several others.

By special invitation Misses Cecil Marston and Marion Tracie were present and each delighted the happy throng with numerous of her specialties. It was a happy and befitting compliment to Major Hemming and his force, and if a few hats were too small this morning, they contracted in a good cause.

Slavin Accepts. Editor Klondike Nugget.

Sir: I was generally surprised to see a letter in Wednesday's issue of a local paper from William Sommerville throwing out a challenge from a man named Perkins to me, as I was of the opinion that everybody was aware that I had practically retired from the ring. At the same time this challenge is too strong altogether. If Sommerville will make it worth my while to meet Perkins in a ten round spar, say for a side purse of from \$1000 to \$5000 a side, and the whole of the gate receipts, I will entertain his challenge.

As regards the remarks referred to in Sommerville's letter, I may say that I have always tried to live within the limits of the law, and I hope he does the same, and I have always tried to be one of the people. If he wishes to go further with this matter, he can call on me at the Bonanza saloon.

F. P. SLAVIN.

Married Yesterday.

M. F. Brown and Grace Hamilton were married yesterday at Capt. Healy's residence, Rev. Father Demerais performing the ceremony.

Both the bride and groom are residents of Circle City and came to Dawson on the steamer Barr. Mr. Brown is bookkeeper at the N. A. T. & T. Co.'s store at Circle, and the bride is the daughter of the manager of that post. A wedding dinner was given the couple by their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Healy. Among those present were: Messrs. Mahoney, Finnegan, Delaney, Mr. and Mrs. Healy, Father Demerais, Mrs. Sherman and Mrs. Mountfield. The couple are now stopping at a leading hotel and will return to Circle City probably on an early boat.

Newspaper for Whitehorse.

The new town of Whitehorse is to have a newspaper, the plant of the Atlin Globe having been moved to that place. The paper is owned by J. T. Bethune, a foster son of Lieut. Gov. Melnis of British Columbia. Mr. Bethune is, while not a newspaper man in any sense of the word, a young man of education and ability. He employed men to look out for his paper at Atlin last year while he conducted a customs brokerage business at Bennett. The Atlin Globe suspended publication last fall. As Whitehorse is destined to grow to quite a town, Mr. Bethune has no doubt selected a good field for his journalistic venture.

Will Be a Proprietor.

Phil Ernst and his brother Joe leave for Nome on the Gustin next Monday. Mr. Ernst has been a valuable employe of the Nugget for the past year and his departure is regretted not only by the management of this paper but by his fellow workmen. He will establish a job plant at Nome.