

comes quickly, Treadgold and his associates, aided by government imposts, will in the first few years drive the oppressed placer miner from the Klondike basin, and the grantees' right there will be none left to dispute. But further, he has the right to assign the rights acquired, or any of them, to others, and soon we may be met by the plea that new owners have acquired, some of these bona fide and without notice.

Moreover, the administration policy has been to broaden and strengthen Treadgold's claim to his immense possessions. We have only space to mention two instances. First: Creek claim 86 below discovery on Bonanza creek, owned by Treadgold, lapsed for about three months, and was restaked and applied for by free miners. He had not even made the entry which the gold commissioner rules he was entitled to do without fee. No work had been done on the claim for years. The action of Noakes vs Treadgold followed. The result before the gold commissioner disheartened Noakes, the staker, so much that too hastily he concluded there was no law in the Yukon territory against Treadgold. The other instance mentioned is concerning the water grant on Rock creek held by Acklen and others. This small grant, somehow or other, had been made before Treadgold got his grant, and somewhat interfered with his monopoly. The pressure put upon Acklen and his associates in regard to this grant it would be believed impossible to occur in Canada, the generally supposed home of such things being in China or South America.

Thus seems to be ending in gloom the romance of the famous Klondike gold discoveries. From the wealthiest region of Canada, in order to create a giant monopoly, for whose benefit God only knows (certainly not the people of Canada), a population, the best in the world, is being slowly driven. They are now standing at bay against fearful odds and are still keeping up the fight for fortune and prosperity. But no energy or ability can withstand, and the curtain may fall at the close of this history of the struggle on an abandoned land. To us it is a tragedy, but to you we appeal upon the principle that you should save this market for your products and aid in furthering the prosperity of Canada and maintaining her farthest outlying settled and prosperous community.

What is the remedy? The Treadgold order in council was passed under sections 47, 90 and 91 of the Dominion lands act. Under section 47 it is doubtful if a grant can be made to one and denied another. Such would not be a regulation but a subversion of regulations. It has already had the required publication in the "Canada Gazette." See section 91. But it must be laid before parliament within fifteen days of its opening, and we are advised that parliament may then annul it. Until it is laid before parliament it is an inchoate grant contingent upon the approval or disapproval of parliament. This, then, we earnestly ask of you: That you join with us in bringing every possible legitimate influence on parliament and every member thereof to procure the cancellation of this iniquitous, and to us fatal, monopoly or concession.