

The Klondike Nugget

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From Thursday and Friday's Daily
THE PHILIPPINES.

Elsewhere we publish a communication signed W. H. B., which in some respects is the most bitter arraignment of the McKinley administration in the States that we have yet seen. We give space to the letter for the reason that we desire as nearly as possible to bring forward all shades of opinion on public matters, no matter to what extent they may differ from our own views.

With much of our correspondent writes we are in harmony, but we are of the opinion that in dealing with the so-called question of "imperialism" he does President McKinley's administration a distinct injustice.

It must not be forgotten that war with Spain was not undertaken until the people of the United States as a whole, without regard to party, rose up in their might and declared that war must be declared. For that war, therefore, the people and not the president or his administration are responsible. With that proposition we think our correspondent must agree.

As a sequence to the war, and a contingency wholly unlooked for and entirely unexpected, McKinley found himself called upon to deal with the Philippine question. Spain had been conquered. In fair open battle she had been worsted. Her sovereignty in the Philippines—a sovereignty recognized by the entire world—had been wrested from her and it was for the McKinley administration to determine what should be done with the fruits of the victory.

At that time the people of the United States were burning with patriotic ardor. The flush of victory was on their cheeks and the lust of conquest was in their hearts. Had McKinley, under those circumstances, decided to withdraw the United States troops from the Philippines he would have been guilty of two crimes. In the first place he would in so doing have acted contrary to the expressed convictions of nine-tenths of his countrymen to whom he is responsible, and in the second place, and in our judgment what would have been a far graver crime—a crime against humanity and civilization—he would have left the Philippines to become in a short time the football of anarchy and revolution. Had McKinley ordered the United States troops withdrawn from Manila after the signatures to the peace treaty with Spain had been attached he would have deserved and received the condemnation of Americans and the contempt of the civilized world.

The president has acted the part of the faithful steward. The responsibility of restoring order out of chaos in the Philippines was forced upon him contrary to his own desires and expectations, but like the broad minded statesman and true hearted man that he is, that responsibility was not shirked nor will it be shirked until the ends he has sought to attain are accomplished. He has applied practical measures to the solution of an actual, existing problem, and when the heat and tumult of the campaign are worn off and he is returned for another term of four years, with full authority to carry his plans to a successful conclusion, the men who are now the loudest in their condemnation will be the ones who will rise up and sing his praises.

A FALSE PROPHET.
Four years ago the present Democratic nominee for president ran for the same office upon a platform, the principal plank in which contained a demand for the free and unlimited coinage of silver. In fact the entire platform upon which Bryan sought to be elected to the chief executive office of the United States might well have been embodied in that single plank, for he practically ignored every other demand made in the platform and concentrated his efforts almost entirely upon the one plank.

National bankruptcy and widespread commercial ruin were prophesied as the inevitable result of the maintenance of the gold standard. All the woes from which the people suffered were to be cured by free silver, but the rejection of this panacea meant, according to Bryan, that the said woes would be increased tenfold. How false a prophet the silver apostle proved to be is best shown by the fact that in the campaign just closed in the States he has relegated the silver question unceremoniously to the rear and turned the full force of his batteries upon McKinley's policy for the control of the Philippine Islands.

Silver has been to all intents and purposes a dead issue during the entire campaign. The reason for this is not difficult to discover. Instead of disaster, which Bryan so freely predicted would follow the election of McKinley in 1896, the inauguration of the latter into office marked the commencement of the most notable era of material prosperity which the States have enjoyed since the civil war.

Thousands upon thousands of mortgages which had been plastered over the farms of the west under Cleveland's Democratic rule have been paid off dollar for dollar since McKinley took office. The farmers of America were never so prosperous as they are today, nor have more men ever been employed or better wages paid in the manufacturing centers than during the past four years.

It is no wonder, therefore, that Candidate Bryan passed the word along, that silver is a dead issue and, the great danger to the republic now lies in "imperialism."

Mr. Bryan has overlooked the fact entirely that a natural disposition exists among most people to discredit a prophet whose past forecastings have proven false. What reason is there for belief that Bryan, whose attitude during the present campaign has been a practical admission that he was wrong in '96, is not again wrong in 1900.

We fancy that the question has already been answered by the voters in the States in a most unequivocal manner. We apprehend that the man who prophesied woe which never came has again been left at home while the man who promised prosperity and made his promises good, has been returned for another term of four years in the White-house.

Interest in the Dominion election has been re-kindled by the arrival of the lists of nominations, which are published in another column of this paper. From the fact that very few seats will be filled by acclamation, it is very evident that a hard fight has been made both by Liberals and Conservatives. While we are much in the dark as to the progress of the fight, both in the Dominion and the States there seems little reason to doubt that both the Laurier and McKinley administrations have been returned to power. However, it is the unexpected which is always occurring in politics, and there is the possibility of an unlooked for landslide, which must be taken into consideration. Altogether, the arrival of definite information will serve to relieve a great deal of nervous tension in Dawson as also to relieve a number of bad guessers of their spare dollars.

This idea of being compelled to wait four or five days for election returns from the outside is a distinct nuisance. Half the fun in an election is the pleasure of staying up all night to hear the returns. There is, however, one consolation for people who have made losing bets in Dawson. They will have the use of their money several days longer than people on the outside who have fallen into the same error.

Every once in a while the Yukon council takes a spurt and does something to convince us that our august legislative assemblage is after all an institution of which we may all justly be proud. The new ordinance forbidding dog teams to be driven, or bicycles to be ridden on the public sidewalks is a case in point. Certainly we must ad-

mit that it took a long time for the council to get down to the work of considering this most important matter, but when at length they grappled with the problem it was settled in short order. It is now an offense, as it should have been six months ago, to drive dog teams or ride bicycles on the sidewalks. We must at least credit the council with hewing straight to the line—that is when its somewhat poor eyesight enables the line to be distinguished.

Ruthless Slaughter.

The creditable work of the Boers in freeing South Africa of the dreaded lions, which roamed in such numbers that life was rendered unsafe anywhere in the country, is offset by their ruthless destruction of the giraffe from Cape Colony to the Botletli river. If they killed 600 lions in the Transvaal before existence was made safe, they have killed 60,000 of the innocent, graceful giraffes. In the early days of South African history the giraffe was the most abundant game in the Transvaal, Matabeland and Orange Free State, but the creature has been killed off like our American buffalo, and the few remaining representatives of a noble race gradually driven north. For years past the giraffe has been a profitable quarry for the Boer hunters, and the animal was valued by them only because the hides were articles of commercial use. They were not hunted, shot down in droves, and destroyed in the greatest number possible in every direction.

A good giraffe skin is worth from \$70 to \$80 in South Africa today, and much more in Europe. On their hunting trips 10 and 15 years ago it was a common matter for one hunter to kill 40 and 50 of these graceful animals in one day. The reason for this is that the giraffe is the most innocent of animals and is easily hunted. It is absolutely defenseless, and there is hardly a case on record where a wounded giraffe turned upon the hunter. It is true giraffe have great powers of speed, and they can dodge rapidly from tree to tree in the woods, but they offer such a fair mark that these tactics hardly ever save them.

The hide of the animal is its chief article of value. No wonder that the bullets often fail to penetrate this skin, for it is from three-quarters to an inch thick, and as tough as it is thick. The skin, when cured and tanned, makes excellent leather for certain purposes. The Boers make riding whips and sandals out of the skins they do not send to Europe. The bones of the giraffe have also a commercial value. The leg bones are solid instead of hollow, and in Europe they are in great demand for manufacturing buttons and other bone articles. The tendons of the giraffe are so strong that they will sustain an enormous dead weight, which gives to them pecuniary value.—Ex.

Cotton Production in Russia.

The total production of Russian cotton up to within a few years has hardly reached half of the total yield of the United States. The output of India does not exceed 3,000,000 bales and that of Japan is hardly 300,000 pounds. Within a few years however Russia has been striving to create an important cotton center in Turkestan and she expects to secure raw material from that quarter in sufficient quantity to supply the mills of the metropolis. It is difficult at first glance to explain the success here; the climate is severe, the extremes of temperature marked, rain is rare and the heat intense. But the extreme warmth of summer intensifies the power of vegetation, and irrigation takes the place of rain.—Consul J. C. Covert.

Pigeons Tire in Ocean Flights.

An old tar on a sailing vessel said recently that sailors on ships in the regular line between Europe and New York are always sure of pigeon pie the day after the carrier pigeon service leaves this port. He adds that pigeons flying at sea soon get tired, and settle on the first craft that comes in their way. A carrier pigeon was released from the French steamer Aquitaine one day and was picked up by a schooner seven miles from Newport on the same day. The bird was handed to its owners in this city. The impression is gaining that pigeons are not so useful for long ocean flight as has been believed.—New York Sun.

"Beshier Life, Old Boy."

There is an old saying: "Woman's work is never done," meaning that the housekeeper has to perform almost the same identical duties day after day and that it is impossible to escape from those duties. There is another class who find themselves in about the same boat, and that is the person who week after week lay before you the news of the world—the newspaper people. The same old path is trodden day after day, week after week, from one year's end to the other. The news is gathered, the type is set, the forms made up, the presses grind out the papers, then back into the cases go the type and the same monotonous grind that brought forth the previous issue is kept up. It is a business that requires a never ceasing vigilance. While others rest from the maddening cares of life, they expect the newspaper man to be just as alert, just as keen scented and tireless in procuring for their benefit an account of every passing event. There can be no let up, no resting when weary. The stern law of necessity is forever driving

relentlessly on and it is little wonder that men become prematurely aged and broken down.—Wayne Republican.

Mining Under the Sea.

The great zinc works at Arnao, Spain, obtain 50,000 tons of coal a year from a coal mine which extends under the Bay of Biscay. On the seaside of the shaft, working has to be carried on with the utmost precaution and very slowly, says the Philadelphia Record. The water tightness of the submarine portion of the mine is due not only to the slowness with which the working is carried on, but also to the existence of certain beds of shale which crack and fissure when pressure comes on to the roof, and then swell as the sea water filters through.

Unlike most of the Austrias coal which is friable, dull and iridescent, the Arnao coal, especially that from the portion of the mine below the sea, is hard, brilliant and whitish, like that from the Saar coal field, this whitish tint being due to scales of calcium sulphate and sometimes there is an appearance of concentric rings on the surface of the coal pieces.

The Eskimo's Liver.

Does every one know in what notable physical particulars the Eskimos who live in the far north differ from us temperate zone people? It will be remembered that half a dozen or more Eskimos came to New York from the arctic zone with one of Lieut. Peary's homing parties. Most of them died presently of pneumonia, to the distress and somewhat to the indignation of the public. Of several of them careful autopsies were made and, not a little to the excitement of our medical world, it was discovered that the Eskimo intestine was about four feet shorter than ours is, and that his liver was not shaped like what we have been used to call a human liver, but was more like that of a dog. The Eskimo, apparently, is so constructed that he can live and thrive under such conditions and on such a diet as he can command at home.—Harper's Weekly.

That Coal Scuttle.

In these days when so many excuses are used to obtain entrance to dwelling houses and burglars carry off everything possible it is as well to be careful. Therefore when a servant recently informed her mistress that a strange man had called and said that he had come to "measure for a coal scuttle," the mistress was naturally alarmed. The man came again, however, bringing with him three others, and then it appeared that he had come to put in an electric wire and box for messenger service. What he really meant to tell the servant in the first place was that he had come to measure for the "call box." He had apparently broadened it into "coal box," and the servant had repeated it as "coal scuttle."—New York Mail and Express.

The Trolley Eye.

A new affliction has come upon the long suffering trolley car conductors. Perhaps you have noticed how many of them are wearing smoked glasses. That's because they claim the incandescent lights hurt their eyes. Headaches arising from strained optic nerves have become so common that several of the afflicted ones some time ago consulted eye specialists and were told that the ailment was due to the incandescent lights in the cars. Dark glasses were prescribed to insure temporary relief, and now there's a great demand for goggles among the conductors, while caps with long visors are generally worn down over the eyes. Conductors on the new cars, which are of greater length than the old ones, are said to be the greatest sufferers from the "trolley eye."—Philadelphia Record.

An Ingenious Scheme.

In boring a deep well in Germany the hardened end of a steel drill broke off at a depth of about 1,000 feet. As it was clearly impossible to drill out the hard steel, it was necessary either to remove it or abandon the boring. It was removed in a highly ingenious way. A soft iron bar 5 feet long and 2 1/2 inches in diameter was wrapped with a single layer of india rubber covered wire, thus making it an electro magnet. The bar, with wires leading to it, was lowered into the hole and a current from a small dynamo turned on. This magnetized the bar, which was then carefully drawn up to the surface, bringing the steel drill point with it.

Photograph on Horse's Eye.

J. P. Sullivan of Salina has a horse in whose right eye there is a photograph of his wife. He is offered \$500 for the animal, but refuses to sell it. The photo is a perfect likeness. Mrs. Sullivan stood in front of the horse during an electrical storm recently, and veterinary surgeons attribute to this fact the photo coming in the horse's eye. Its sight is not affected.—St. Louis Republic.

POLICE COURT NEWS

In Magistrate McDonell's court this morning the first case heard was that of the Queen vs. C. L. Marsh who was up on the serious charge of stealing a team of horses, the prosecuting witness and original owner of the equines being A. Thomas. The grave charge, however, did not stand when the searchlight of investigation was thrown upon it, as it came out in evidence that Marsh had purchased the team in good faith and at a stipulated price, the money to be paid in a few days; that 40 days later the purchase price was tendered by Marsh's agent and refused by Thomas who wanted the horses back; that Marsh refused to give them up and was, in consequence, charged with theft. The decision of the court was that no theft had been committed, and the case was accordingly dismissed.

The case of Cowan vs. D. H. Delaney for wages alleged to be due for labor performed was continued, the defendant not being in court.

J. Labbe paid Robert Labbe \$245.25 for 75 cords of wood represented to lie in the country back of Moosehide, and when Labbe went after it notices were posted showing that the wood was the property of Chris Sonnirkson and partner. In fact, several parties claim certain amounts of wood in that locality, 100 cords or so more than is really there to say nothing of the 75 cords Labbe claims to have purchased from Riddle. The court deemed the evidence sufficient to warrant the holding of Riddle to answer to the territorial court.

Chance for Speculation

The fact that when the river closed there was a large section of it in front of the north end of Dawson remained open and has not since closed is a matter concerning which there is considerable speculation, as many are of the opinion that it will remain open all winter while others say it will be closed as tightly as any other part of the river by Christmas. As it does not require much in Dawson to draw out wagers, a number have already been laid as to whether or not this now open space in the river will entirely close this winter.

In the event of its closing, the individual who locates, stakes and records sufficient space for a skating rink will have the world by the caudal appendage, so far as having the best ice court in the city is concerned, as when that place freezes up, if it does, it will doubtless be as smooth as glass and as level as nature can leave it.

If, by some unexplainable working of nature the river at that point should remain open all winter the city will, in all weather in which the atmosphere is colder than the unfrozen water, be enveloped in a cloud of fog which will arise from it, and which will make a difference in the temperature of the immediate vicinity of several degrees.

It is said that there is a point on the river immediately in front of Moosehide that has never yet been known to freeze over and it is on this account that the Indians located their town where it is, as that is said to be the warmest point on the river for many miles either up or down, the usual cold of the atmosphere being materially modified by the vapor which arises from the open water. Should this spot remain unclosed in front of the city, it will be the first time in the memory of the oldest white settler that there has ever been an open place in the Yukon in winter between the mouth of the Klondike and Moosehide.

The Nugget

The Nugget reaches the people in town and out of town, on every creek and every claim, in season and out of season. If you wish to reach the public you will do well to bear this in mind.

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