

NOME BEACH WORKED OUT.

Discouraging Letter From C. H. Warner, of Portland.

Hard Country to Prospect—No Wood—Too Much Water—Ate Raw Food—Left on Last Steamer.

A letter has just been received here from C. H. Warner, of Portland, who came to Skagway a year ago and went to Atlin in partnership with George Towne, a printer who for several months had been employed by E. J. White, now of the Nugget, and to whom Towne forwarded the letter, he received from Warner. The writer is a broad-minded but conservative man, who depicts conditions just as he finds them to exist, and any information imparted or statement made by him may be relied upon as based on fact. He has had much to do with both placer and quartz mining, and an opinion from him regarding conditions as he finds them in any mining camp will give great weight with all who know him. Mr. Warner left Atlin about the middle of last summer for Nome, where he remained until the sailing of the last steamer for the Sound, which was several days after the suspension of practically all beach work, concerning which work he is in position to be fully as well posted as any of those who left Nome six weeks later on, for that matter, as those who are still there, for development of the country during the winter months is a physical impossibility. Mr. Warner's letter is as follows: "My trip from Atlin to Nome was uneventful, except a close shave at Five Fingers and a wreck at St. Michael, where a storm blew the small schooner I was on, onto the beach, where she pounded a hole in her bottom, causing a loss of nearly all of my outfit or what there was left. I managed to get something out of the beach. I put in four days back in the hills—four days of the most damnable traveling I ever had. Green brush for fuel, and it is needless to say that we ate our grub raw. It is a hard country to get over in the summer, from the fact of there being practically no fuel and too much water, both overhead or under foot. We managed to stake a couple of claims at the head of a creek (we were put onto). What good they are no one can tell. We had no time to prospect.

"The 13 miles of the beach I am acquainted with that was worked has practically been exhausted for rockers. Machinery of the proper kind, no doubt, would pay, but that takes money. What the beach will pay further north is practically unknown. So far as I know, it has not been demonstrated beyond a doubt to be anywhere near as rich as what has already been worked. Where it has been prospected many have said it was no good, while others think the contrary.

"It is a gamble in any case, and next spring there will be a tremendous rush up there, everyone expecting to make a fortune. If the beach further north does pan out rich and the creeks undeveloped this past summer prove like the few already worked, it will be the greatest gold producing country on earth. This, however, has yet to be proven. Anyone expecting to locate claims next year will have wasted their time, unless powers of attorney can be knocked out. They are the curse of the country but legal, and I guess will stick as they have so far, all talk to the contrary notwithstanding.

"I fear there are going to be many poor disappointed fellows dropped on the Nome beach next summer."

Ottawa Board of Trade.

At the late meeting of the Dawson Board of Trade a communication was read from the Ottawa Board of Trade calling special attention to a series of proposed resolutions which will come up for adoption at the trade congress

which will convene in May. The one particular resolution of the series which is not readily swallowed by the members of the local board reads as follows:

"Therefore, Be it resolved, that in the opinion of this congress, a certain degree of closer commercial union among the countries of the empire can be most conveniently established, a step towards the introduction of inter-British free trade most readily taken, and the responsibilities of each part of the empire most equitably borne by providing a revenue for its naval defence, and other common imperial purposes, from the proceeds of a small uniform ad valorem duty (over and above those of the local tariffs, where any such are levied) on all importations from foreign countries, with the exception of raw cotton, into every part of the empire."

It is needless to say that the reading of the above did not produce spontaneous enthusiasm and acquiescence in the ranks of the local board. There is a consensus of opinion among thinking people of Dawson and the Yukon district that enough money is being already squeezed from them towards supporting the empire.

A late Ottawa paper congratulates the Canadian government on the fact that during the last fiscal year not only was sufficient revenue collected in the Yukon district to pay all its governing expenses in every department, but that after everything was paid there was left a surplus of one million dollars in the general treasury, and that this is true is known by the members of the Dawson Board of Trade, hence the frigid reception accorded the proposed resolutions, and existing conditions making it possible for such statements as that of the Ottawa paper to be true are today crowding the down river trail with people fleeing from this oppressed land as Lot and his household fled for their lives from the city of Gomorah.

It is not at all likely that the suggestions which would be forwarded to Ottawa by the Dawson Board of Trade would be of such nature as to insure their endorsement at that place. However, as an expression has been requested, it should be forwarded regardless of the ignominious fate to which it would be consigned on its arrival at the Dominion capital.

Fate of Transvaal Mines.

Will the mines on the Rand suffer destruction, as has been threatened (according to newspaper report)—will they be seized and worked in the interests of the Boer government—or will they merely lie idle and take the damage due to neglect? Unfortunately no direct answer seems obtainable. It is not to be believed, however, that any destruction of equipment could receive official sanction. In the first place, contrary to the generally received opinion the ownership of the mines is vested chiefly on the Continent. British interests are a minority only, the majority of the shares being held in Germany, France and other European countries. The large neutral interests involved would deter the heads of the government from directing or sanctioning any wreckage of property or plant. Whether or not the recklessness and lawlessness of the lower elements of the community could be restrained is quite another matter. Wholesale destruction is not to be apprehended, but more or less vandalism of a desultory character. For the present, it is likely (as reported) that some of the mines (though only a very few) will be worked for the gold needed by the Boer government, and that such work will be so prosecuted as to yield the largest immediate returns.

Only the richest ore is likely to be taken; no attention to maintenance or repairs can be expected; it will, beyond question, be a systematic robbing of the mine and driving of the machinery to death.—Charles B. Going interviewing John Hayes Hammond, in the Engineering Magazine for January.

Improvements in Storage.

The Empire Transportation Company contemplate numerous improvements for the coming season. A new edifice will be erected at their present location for warehouse and office purposes. Dr. Yeaman, the local manager of the

company, is of the opinion that the offices of his company will be the finest in the city when this building is completed.

Elevators with steam hoists are to be placed in the company's storehouses and an improved system of heating introduced for warm storage. The floors and walls will be made with false bottoms and sides and dry steam will be piped around the storch use. All the plans relative to these improvements have been sent out to the home office and upon their return the work will immediately commence.

For a good room try the Fairview.

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Complete steam thawing plant. Four-horse power boiler in splendid condition. Apply Nugget office.

When in town, stop at the Regina.

See our stock of valentines. Cribbs & Rogers, Dawson and Grand Forks.

Weather Report.

The minimum temperature last night was 2.5 degrees below zero.

At 9 o'clock this morning the thermometer registered 3 degrees below.

This noon the instrument pointed to 2 degrees above.

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

Meet me at the Rochester bar tonight.

One double engine noist, 8-horse power, friction brake, for sale at Shindler's.

Sour Dough Letter Heads for sale at the Nugget office.

Notice to Creditors.

In the matter of the Estate of Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, late of the Parish of Stranden, in the Kingdom of Norway, miner, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, Cap. 129, Sec. 38, and Amending Acts, that all persons having claims against the estate of the said Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, who died in or about the months of July or August, A. D. 1897, at Dawson, in the Yukon Territory of Canada, are required to send by post, prepaid, or to deliver to The Ottawa Trust and Deposit Company (Limited), Administrators of the above estate, at the address below given, on or before the 10th day of March, A. D. 1900, their names, addresses and descriptions and a full statement of particulars of their claims and the nature of the security (if any) held by them, duly certified, and that after the said day the undersigned administrators will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have notice.

Dated, at the City of Ottawa, this 12th day of December, A. D. 1899.

THE OTTAWA TRUST AND DEPOSIT COMPANY (LIMITED),
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada,
Administrators of the Estate.

8-eod4w

Notice to Next of Kin.

In the matter of the Estate of Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, late of the Parish of Stranden, in the Kingdom of Norway, miner, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons claiming to be next of kin of the said Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, who died in or about the months of July or August, A. D. 1897, at Dawson, in the Yukon Territory of Canada, or having, or pretending to have, any interest in the estate of the said Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, deceased, are required to give notice thereof to The Ottawa Trust and Deposit Company (Limited), administrators of the above estate, at the address below given, on or before the 10th day of March, A. D. 1900.

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Administrators of the Estate.

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Notice to Creditors.

In the matter of the Estate of Rasmus Karlson Odegaard, late of the Parish of Stranden, in the Kingdom of Norway, miner, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, Cap. 129, Sec. 38 and Amending Acts, that all persons having claims against the estate of the said Rasmus Karlson Odegaard, who died in or about the months of July or August, A. D. 1897, at Dawson, in the Yukon Territory of Canada, are required to send by post, prepaid, or to deliver to The Ottawa Trust and Deposit Company (Limited), administrators of the above estate, at the address below given, on or before the 10th day of March, A. D. 1900, their names, addresses and descriptions and a full statement of particulars of their claims and the nature of the security (if any) held by them, duly certified, and that after the said day the undersigned administrators will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have notice.

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