

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
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NOTICE.

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

SMELTING WORKS.

The suggestion has been made to the Nugget by a practical man of affairs that Dawson may at no distant period of time become the center of large smelting and reducing plants. He bases his theory upon the belief that there have been quartz discoveries made of sufficient value to warrant their being worked on a large scale just as soon as a reduction in freight rates makes it possible to land machinery and supplies on the Yukon at a reasonable figure.

From a perusal of the article on the amount and character of the fuel supply back of Dawson which appeared in a recent issue of the Nugget it is clear that in so far as that particular feature of the matter is concerned—and it will be granted that it is a most important feature—the question is practically settled. Coal has been located in sufficient quantities, as has been amply demonstrated by the preliminary development work already done, to furnish fuel in Dawson for all possible purposes for years and years to come.

It will not be long before active work will be begun in the development of the copper ledges at Whitehorse. At the present time freight charges are so high that to ship the raw ore to the outside at a profit is an impossibility.

It will be equally difficult to land coal at Whitehorse for reduction purposes. The key to the situation lies in the coal resources near Dawson. Ore can be floated down the Yukon from Whitehorse much more cheaply than coal can be taken against the current the same distance.

The Nugget is of the opinion that an investigation into this matter would be a wise move on the part of the Board of Trade. If Dawson has what we believe she has to offer capitalists as an inducement for the establishment of enterprises such as suggested, it would be well to have the facts brought out and clearly laid before the public.

THE TRIP TO NOME.

To attempt to dissuade a man from a foolhardy undertaking is often an impossibility, and more particularly so when that undertaking has for its object the attainment of a possible fortune.

It distance and difficulty of access lend enchantment, as is proverbially said to be the case, then the Nome beach diggings at this particular season of the year are possessed of qualities of enchantment far in advance of any of the wildest flights of imagination contained within the pages of the Arabian nights.

Unfortunately, however, it is almost an absolute moral certainty that as the travel worn Nomad approaches the Mecca of his wanderings, the glamor will suddenly disappear and he will find that he has undertaken an expen-

sive and dangerous trip, without securing advantages in any degree commensurate with the danger and hardships to which he has been exposed.

But what is still more to be considered is the fact that there is just about one chance in a hundred of his being able to reach Nome at all before the opening of navigation. In addition to the natural hardships incident to such a journey in the middle of an Arctic winter is the possibility or rather probability of his being lost in the numerous blind sloughs which occur so frequently in the lower country, as will be seen in our local columns has likely happened to the Betsch party, who left Dawson several weeks ago.

The game is not worth the candle. The advantage which may accrue to a man by reason of being in Nome a few weeks ahead of the rush is very problematic. Men got into Dawson ahead of the rush in '97, and are just as well off today as when they first landed, and no better; while many others who came in a year later are well along the highway to wealth. The first steamers which leave Dawson for Nome will, in all probability land their passengers on the beach several weeks in advance of the rush from the outside. That ought to be enough to satisfy the man whose system has been inoculated with the Nome fever germ in its most virulent form.

The following is taken verbatim from the local columns of the last issue of the ex-organ, the Yukon Sun: "Rev. Father Gendreau went up to Dominion creek for the purpose of officiating at the dedication of the Catholic church built by Father Corbeil on Sunday." After a perusal of the above rhetorical gem it occurs to the casual reader to pause and wonder for a moment as to exactly what idea the writer desired to convey. There is apparently an intention upon the part of the Sun's "local" writer to lead the public into the impression that the Rev. Father Corbeil has been guilty of violating the Sunday ordinance, which expressly stipulates that all work, such as the construction of buildings, and we do not think that churches are excepted, must close on the day set aside for public worship. Yet between the lines there is a very clear endeavor on the part of the Sun rhetorician to "square" himself with the reverend gentleman, for he credits the latter with having completed the construction of the church, alone and single handed, in the course of one day. The Nugget has not as yet secured possession of all the facts in the case but we are strongly impressed with the belief that a certain element of exaggeration enters into the story as related by the Sun. We agree with the "better the day, better the deed" theory, but we were not aware before that a man could accomplish more work on the Lord's day than on any other. Father Corbeil's priestly office may have something to do with his capacity for Sunday church construction, but still we feel inclined to the opinion that the Sun-man in some manner or other has the facts twisted.

Course of Lectures.

There was quite a large gathering last evening at the rooms of the Yukon Theosophical Club. The Theosophical principles were discussed by Dr. Barry and Mr. Theodore Solomons. Afterwards by request Mr. Henry Cowley (B.A.), gave a short lecture on the

human body under the title of Pathology, or that branch dealing with pain and disease and their cures. The subject will be continued at the next meeting, when Mr. Cowley will announce the date of the first of his contemplated series of lectures on scientific and other subjects.

Poet Burns.

This is the anniversary of Bobbies' birth and the event is to be celebrated in the McDonald hall tonight with a social dance that promises to do high honor to the national bard. As the hall is small there were only a limited number of invitations issued and all those fortunate enough to receive one have a jolly time ahead of them.

The program includes 19 selected dances which are expected to be reeled off between the hours of 9 p. m. and 1 a. m., to the sweet strains of Bray's orchestra.

Notice.

If H. B. Pigott will call at the town station, N. W. M. P., he will hear of something to his advantage.
J. J. WILSON, Sergt.

IS BETSCH PARTY LOST

(Continued from Page 1.)

as the others. On the Kaltag cutoff, Kaltag being 35 miles below Nulato, Mr. Wingate says is a hard route for dogs, owing to the snow which is very deeply drifted in some places and very scant in others. Where the snow is deep good time can be made on snow shoes, but where it is scant the surface of the ground is a continuation of nigger heads which render travel to dog teams very laborious.

As to provisions, Mr. Wingate says there is no scarcity at the various posts, and that they are for sale much lower than Dawson prices. Bacon has never been known to be above 40 cents per pound, with other things in proportion. Of the many persons met by Wingate on his long journey up the river from Fort Hamlin he is of the opinion that but very few of them will ever reach Nome over the ice; and unless they camp for the balance of the winter, many of them will experience great suffering and possibly death.

Mr. Wingate is the bearer of sad news regarding the Chris Betsch party, composed of Betsch and his wife and two men which left here early in December with two sleds and a dozen dogs. When Wingate reached Fort Yukon on the 2d of January, the Betsch party had passed through that place a week or ten days before, or on about Christmas day. Yet Wingate neither met nor heard anything of them on the river below Fort Yukon. The only explanation of the disappearance of the party from the river is that they must have led off into one of the many blind sloughs which branch off from the river and many of which run for as much as 40 or 50 miles before terminating at "no place," but where there would be no exit except by back tracking. From a point on the river just beyond Fort Yukon one of these sloughs leads off to a place called Fish Camp, a distance of 35 miles from the river where there is an Indian village, and as the trail from Fort Yukon up this slough is plainer and straighter than the one on the river, which by the way, makes a short turn at that point and leads almost south again for a few miles, it would be a very natural mistake on the part of the Betsch party to take the well traveled Indian trail and not discover their mistake for days. Besides this blind slough leading off from Fort Yukon, Wingate says there are many others and to the person traveling against a fierce wind which is pelting his face with snow that cuts like a knife, it is simply a guess with strangers on the river whether they are following the right trail or not.

Mr. Wingate does not think that anything serious has happened to the Betsch party further than that they have wandered from the trail and will probably be delayed for many days on account of the very natural mistake. But his advice to people contemplating the journey over the ice is "Don't you do it."

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.

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.

Notice to Creditors.

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Notice to Next of Kin.

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 that all persons claiming to be next of kin 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, or having, or pretending to have, any interest in the estate of the said Rasmus 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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THE OTTAWA TRUST AND DEPOSIT COMPANY (LIMITED),
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada,
Administrators of the Estate.

Are you planning any improvements in the building line? Place orders for lumber with the Nugget Express. Office, Boyle's wharf.

A General Stampede

The Pay Streak
In Two Places.

FRONT ST., Opposite
S.-Y. T. Dock
and
Corner Second Street
and Fifth Avenue

Inspect Our Complete
Stock of
**Groceries and
Miners' Supplies**
What We Have We'll Sell.

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Full Line of Choice Brands of
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CHISHOLM'S SALOON
TOM CHISHOLM Proprietor