

## The Klondike Nugget

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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.

## WHAT THE ASSOCIATION IS FOR.

The possibilities ahead for the Miners' Association of the Yukon Territory are scarcely to be overestimated. Never did an organization start out with a greater opportunity of distinguishing itself. Here we are to be governed (as far as the miners are concerned) at Ottawa, by gentlemen whose only knowledge of the far-away country they are governing is gleaned from official reports or else is forced upon them by an oppressed people. In all honesty it must be admitted that the gentlemen at Ottawa have certainly exhibited a profound willingness to be enlightened, yet the fact remains that at the present moment their only informants are officials who are here on the ground and see everything with official eyes with a view to revenue only. "How much tax can this, that and the other be made to carry?" appears to be the extent of their statesmanship. While as far as we know no distinction is being made in any department between Canadians and aliens, the fact is undisputed that at Ottawa we are regarded as an *au camp* in some such fashion as the *B. & L.* regard the "Utllanders" of the *T. & N.* Nevertheless, whenever properly authorized representations have been made to them, redress has either been given or promised shortly. Herein lies one of the opportunities of the Miners' Association; it can make itself the recognized authority on all matters pertaining to the Klondike, as a non-official board of trade or chamber of commerce is for Victoria or Seattle.

But there is work to be done nearer home which is quite often of more importance to the individual miner than even the amendment of the mining laws. When a miner finds himself being dispossessed of his hard-earned claim, with the connivance, or by the incompetence of a gold commissioner, or others, he will be apt to rise up and call blessed the association of stalwart and honest men who will be powerful enough, and brave enough, to arise in their might and cry "stop!" and then interpose their strong right arm between that heretofore helpless miner and the incompetency of a certain official which has brought almost ruin to so many poor men and increased wealth to so many of his rich friends.

There will be some minor uses of the association. The association building is destined to become the most popular edifice in Dawson. It will practically become the rendezvous and headquarters of the thousands of miners of the district, and its directory will be the most used book in all Klondike. Its public reading room, with its wisely culled and correct information of the mines and country will instantly become the "Mecca" of all tourists. Its committee rooms will witness gatherings of brain and brawn whose minute doings will be flashed over the world as the most important matters in Klondike. Its retiring or office rooms will be the scene of trades, sales and barter of sufficient importance to attract world-wide attention; but more than all, the existence and maintaining of that institute building

will act as the greatest check on earth to official rapacity and greed.

The Klondike country is undoubtedly a good enough country for any man, providing he is not oppressed by government, and provided further that he is secured in his rights. In a nutshell the opportunity for the association is to acquire the strength that comes with union and then secure every member in the enjoyment of his rights.

## THE COMING PROBLEM.

It does not require a prophet to foresee the conditions in the Yukon Territory the coming winter. Provisions will be plentiful for those who have money, clothing will be plentiful and cheap, except in certain lines which will run short. Most of the mines—especially the uncertain ones—will be worked on lays if worked at all. Wages will never recover their former high standard, and living on the Klondike will never be as cheap again as it is this summer. The advent of winter will catch a good many hundreds of men who are not prepared to winter here, and who have delayed going out until too late. Our charitably disposed citizens and charitable institutions will be over-taxed, and there is bound to be much suffering. Even now, with an open river, and steamboats plying both up and down the river, and fares quite reasonable, the amount of suffering in town is quite beyond the powers of the charitable to handle. Every man or woman identified with benevolent orders, churches and similar institutions is inundated with requests for help. When winter arrives, with cabins renting at from \$75 to \$300 per month, and with the prices of fuel in the clouds—the Lord only knows where—the numbers of destitute will be beyond the ability of the few wealthy of Dawson to provide for. Some of our people are seriously considering the feasibility of advising Uncle Sam's government in time to avert impending suffering.

Having once successfully weathered the coming season of darkness and cheerlessness, we think the territory will then put forth a genuine growth and become prosperous and even rich. Unreasonable and unprecedented booms, like the present, will be matters of past history and referred to merely as lessons for future guidance. It will soon become unpopular for irresponsible boom-papers, like the *P.-I.*, to spread their slobber lies broadcast over the American continent. The truth of affairs will out when swarms of disappointed gold-seekers who are on their way to the coast will spread the truth broadcast over the land. But we think it wise to look conditions squarely in the eye, admit the truth and do what we can to ameliorate conditions.

## THE PASSING OF INDIVIDUALS.

The immediate future of the Klondike will show relieved conditions, better mining laws and a happier community. After that will come a change either for the better or the worse, according to the point of view from which you look at it. placer claims have long been affectionately termed "the poor man's mines" because it was the popular belief, founded on past experience, that the only capital needed to work such claims was healthy muscle and a pick, pan and shovel. But is that true of the Klondike? Is it not a fact that only rich claims will pay to work by individual effort—and in those claims only the richest ground?

The change which we think will take place within a few years is the bunching together of claims by capital, and the working of those claims by hydraulic. There has been a large number of expert engineers over the ground this summer and without exception they have reported that on a number of creeks already proved the ground could be profitably worked from the crest of the hill on the right to the crest of the hill on the left. Under the present system every effort is made to find the "pay" (the richest part of the ground) and then the digger uses every effort not to leave it again. The poorer ground is all left to sell—or otherwise dispose of.

Correspondents of the conservative London financial periodicals are quite

outspoken in expressing the above as their view of the matter. The London newspapers are filled up with favorable reports of the country and it is but a matter of time before we shall see whole creeks cleaned up to bedrock by the advantageous use of large capital. Ground

will pay and pay big which now proves but a snare to the miner and prospector, but many will regret the passing of the day when every man could be king of his own gold patch.

## CHANGED CONDITIONS.

Of the personality of the incoming commissioner of the Yukon we know nothing; his reports to his government on the Klondike proclaim him gullible beyond belief. Expressions of almost alarm are heard on every hand at his appointment, but the *Nugget* thinks this is too hasty a judgment. Mr. Ogilvie comes here not as former administrator's have come—he will be met by men who know the wants of the country he comes to govern. Probably before he arrives the Miner's Association will be an accomplished fact and he need never again make such palpably erroneous reports as in the past. Mr. Ogilvie will be greeted—loyally enough—but by a fully awakened public. He leaves behind him in Canada, also, a public disposed to watch his actions critically. He comes here to oversee not a bunch of "old croppies" but in many cases men who dread to see him put in his appearance. All these things help to make his position exceptional, and whatever of good is in the man is bound to come out.

Besides the foregoing there is another element to consider. The papers of the Dominion and of the United States have taken up a hue and cry against Klondike officials in general and specifying no one in particular. The *Victoria Colonist* insists upon a government investigation and at once. While we cannot say under what instructions Mr. Ogilvie will come to Dawson, it is altogether probable that he comes advised by a watchful government so that there will be absolutely no fear of his being tempted by official opportunities.

To sum up we think there is nothing to fear in the immediate future from the changes to be made in the administration. Any good we may derive will largely come through our own efforts.

YE Gods and little fishes! What are we coming to? Venus flying a kite or Jupiter going aishling would not shock our sense of the eternal fitness of things as was done on Saturday night on the streets of Dawson by Mr. William Gates, Romeo a clown in a circus; Bismarck doing a song and dance; Rothschild selling matches—none of these would be half so incongruous as a picture of "Swiftwater Bill" learning to ride a "bike" on the streets of Dawson.

AND now the time approaches when some one must account to the people of Dawson for the scarcity of fuel. These chilly days and nights when the blue chills run in forbidding waves up and down one's spine cause one to view with alarm the absent wood pile. A thousand men at least have left the country after a vain effort to obtain permission to cut wood for winter use. Someone is responsible and if winter finds fuel scarce and in the clouds for cost, public opinion is apt to go on a rampage and make things uncomfortably warm for some one.

CALIFORNIA RESTAURANT  
FOR FIRST CLASS MEALS

Reasonable Prices

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## YUKON HOTEL

LEOIS K. SCHONBOHN, Proprietor

Largest and Best Equipped Hotel in Dawson.  
Good Accommodations for 23 People. The  
only Temperance Hotel in the City.

## RESTAURANT IN CONNECTION

CACHES Cache building apart from Hotel  
containing 120 separate rooms for storage of  
goods.

## McCONNELL &amp; PARKER

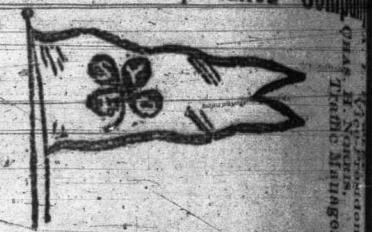
Dealers in

## General Merchandise

Highest cash price paid for provisions and  
all kinds of merchandise.

BLUE TENT Cor. First Street and Third Avenue

## Seattle Yukon Transportation Company

Four Leaf Clover Rule  
W. D. President

90-92 Columbia Street, Seattle, Wash.  
Steamer No. 3 and Barges will leave Dawson for St. Michael's and down river points on about August 8, and connect with our Alaskan Alliance for Seattle.

## THE PACIFIC-ALASKA EX. CO.

Operates over our line and handles Express  
Matter for all points.

Orders for freight coming in will be handled promptly. Goods insured en transit and some at Dawson and other down river points 90 days free of charge. This enables miners to prospect with a light outfit, and sail for the goods when permanent camp is located.

We are the only established company carrying freight for shippers to the various points on the Yukon.

For rates and other information, call on H. TERROLLER, Agent, Library Bridge, Dawson.

Sour Doug asked him

"A look at your features, as he stamped the card."

"Indeed, I've seen you know."

A cloud of Chee Char's face:

"Devils is a grumpy lot."

"Whist!" said Chee Char.

"If you can't get off at once, for god's sake."

"Sour Doug asked him

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