

The Klondike Nugget

TELEPHONE NUMBER 12
(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
ISSUED DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.
PUBLISHED BY
ALEX. BROS.

From Monday and Tuesday's Daily.
A NEW DRESS.

The Nugget appears before its readers today in a brand new dress. That is to say, the type from which the paper is printed is entirely new, having arrived in Dawson on Saturday and used today for the first time.

A point upon which the Nugget has always prided itself is the neatness of the paper with respect to typographical appearance. We have always maintained that other things being equal a newspaper which presents an attractive appearance, from a typographical standpoint, will stand higher in public estimation than one which carries evidences of poor mechanical equipment and unskilled workmanship.

Complimentary allusions have frequently been made by the outside press to the high standard of mechanical effect attained by this paper, many newspapers expressing great surprise that Dawson could produce so fine a sample of the art preservative.

It is the intention of the Nugget to maintain this high standard, and to this end we have brought in sufficient new type to produce both the Daily and Semi-Weekly issues without making any use whatever of the old type which has been in use during the past twelve months. It will not be difficult for the reader to recognize the difference in the print. Every letter in the Nugget today stands out clear and distinct. There are no broken characters or blurs to make reading difficult. The best that the printer's art has achieved in the making of newspapers is represented in our issue today, and we feel very much like congratulating ourselves upon what we have accomplished. We think we are not overstepping the mark in suggesting that the Nugget's new dress is becoming to the wearer, and the wearer equally becoming to the new dress.

ANOTHER SCHOOL.

The council, or rather the committee of the council, which is now acting in the place of that body has done very well with the school question, as far as they have gone. The school now in session on Mission street is well equipped and in every respect is most creditable to the town.

It must be said, however, that with respect to location the present school has little to commend it by reason of the fact that the great majority of children are located north of the central part of town, while the school house is almost at the extreme southern part of the city.

As a matter of fact there are a sufficient number of children to warrant the establishment of another school in the North end. We believe there will be no disputing the statement that for several months in winter it will be impossible for the younger children to cross town to the site of the present schoolhouse. In fact many days will occur when there will be no pleasure in such a trip for grown men. The result is certain to be that a proportion of the children of school age will have to remain away. The solution of the matter lies very clearly in the establishment of another school. There is no need to wait until the arrival of cold weather for a demonstration of the above statement. Anyone who has passed a winter in Dawson knows the facts to be as indicated.

If the children of the town are to be provided with school facilities another building is absolutely necessary.

JUSTICE AT LENGTH.

The announcement as published in yesterday's issue of this paper respecting the disposition of placer ground now held in reserve by the crown is the first real, substantial response that has yet been heard to the many appeals for reform that have gone down to Ottawa during the past three years. The plan of placing the claims on sale and allowing public bidding on them is certainly objectionable. The

experience of past sales has demonstrated pretty conclusively that there is no revenue to the government in claims which are put up for auction. As a matter of fact, several of the sales which have been held, failed even to return the expenses involved in conducting the sale. The claims concerned have, in consequence been branded as having little or no value even though many of them by reason of proximity to ground of known richness ought naturally to command a fair price.

The fact remains, however, that all claims in the district are soon to pass from the possession of the government and into the hands of purchasers or locators to whose advantage it will be that they be developed and the gold in them taken out at the earliest possible moment.

The meaning of all this is clear. It means the employment of a greater number of men; the use of more machinery, the purchase of more goods and a large increase in the yield of gold. It means for Dawson a continuation of the prosperity which the town is enjoying at present, with a constant increase in the amount of business transacted.

In a word, this new order is by far the most important announcement that has come from the government during the past year. It indicates a final determination on the part of the Ottawa authorities to allow the Yukon territory to grow and flourish, as by every right it is entitled to do. The case of the Yukon territory has been pleaded with so much vigor and effect that justice, though late in coming, is at length to be done. We hail the announcement of this order to dispose of all crown ground as an omen of the best and most prosperous era that the Yukon has as yet known.

According to the latest advices from up-river there is no possibility of all freight now at Whitehorse reaching Dawson during the present season. Scows are already being brought into use, but with all of them that can be built there is every reason to believe that more freight is now piled up in the warehouses at Whitehorse than can be handled. Meanwhile the railway company is daily adding to the amount by the train load and it is confidently predicted that as much freight will be left above Dawson at the close of navigation as was the case last year. It is understood, however, that all guaranteed freight has been or will be safely delivered in Dawson. The railway company notified shippers early in the season that no freight shipped after the 31st day of August would be guaranteed through to Dawson, and whatever amount fails to arrive will do so through failure on the part of shippers to observe the rules of caution which the circumstances require. In any event, however, there is not likely to be the great loss which happened last year. A great deal of merchandise may be delayed in transit, but little apprehension need be felt that any considerable amount will be actually lost.

If a very small proportion of the 6000 or 7000 claims which are soon to be thrown on the market are worked, Dawson will stride forward next summer at a much more rapid rate even than she has done during the past season. A year ago the town was seemingly in the throes of death and dissolution. The government was furnishing the death part of the program and Nome was looking after the dissolution. Now the outlook is entirely different. The Nome rush has passed into a memory, the government has experienced a change of heart and Dawson is striding ahead at a rate which in another year or two will cause many outside towns of metropolitan pretensions to look well to their laurels. Such, however, are the ups and downs which are the common lot of mining communities.

Strenuous efforts are being put forward by the interior department for the preservation of timber in the western part of the Dominion. The chief inspector of forestry has recently issued a

report in which it is shown that enormous quantities of timber are annually destroyed by fire and vigorous means are being taken to prevent such losses wherever possible. It would be a first-class idea should some of the measures proposed be extended to the Yukon territory. Our timber resources are almost equally valuable with our supply of gold, for without the former the development of the latter would be much more difficult and expensive than is the case at present.

The ticket nominated by the citizens' convention possesses certain elements of strength which are certainly worthy of consideration on the part of any one who contemplates running against it. One of the men selected is from the creeks and a representative miner, the other is from the town. One is a French Canadian and the other of straight British ancestry. These points indicate that the convention acted with no little wisdom and discrimination, both of which are valuable commodities—if they may be so termed—in election time.

Sluice-box robbing is one of the most serious crimes that can be committed in this country. In the first place it is a comparatively easy crime to commit, and in the second place it strikes at the foundation of the one industry upon which the country depends for its continued existence. Apparently a harsh example is required to force men of naturally criminal instincts to understand what they are doing when they seek to possess themselves of the products of another man's claim.

The presidential campaign in the States is progressing very quietly. Apparently the Republicans are certain of victory and don't care to waste any unnecessary money or energy, and the Democrats seeing defeat inevitable are unable to discover any advantage to be gained from throwing good money into a hopeless fight. From a distance of some 2000 or 3000 miles it looks as though both parties have reached a wise determination.

The agitation for the reduction of the accepted standard of valuation of gold dust from \$16 per ounce to \$15 per ounce terminated in a decision on the part of the merchants of Dawson to maintain the old rate. While it may be said, therefore, that little or nothing was accomplished by the discussion there is no doubt of the fact that more care will be exercised hereafter in removing black sand and other foreign substances before accepting dust in payment of bills.

A communication has been received at this office in which certain personal reflections are made upon members of the committee having in charge the campaign of Messrs. Prudhomme and Wilson. The Nugget will be pleased to publish legitimate criticisms respecting the actions of the committee or its members, but as has been noted several times, we cannot allow our columns to be used as a means of gratifying personal animosities.

There are few places where wild berries grow more profusely than in the Yukon territory. Blueberries and cranberries have come into market by hundreds of gallons, while other varieties have been found in more or less profusion, and still there are people who claim that the Yukon is a howling wilderness incapable of producing anything with which to sustain life.

Two days more only are left in which candidates for the Yukon council may qualify in order to stand for election. We make this announcement so that there will be no complaint heard after awhile from the man who would have been elected if he had only known the date when nominations closed.

A rumor is abroad to the effect that Dawson has recently received a consignment of hard characters from Nome. If this is the case it may not be out of the way to assure these worthies that they will be treated with

very little ceremony in Dawson. This is not a healthy town for six-shooter demonstrations.

Our more or less esteemed contemporary the News gravely informs its readers in a recent issue that it lost thousands of subscribers during the Nome rush. It would be interesting to know how many subscribers the News had left after losing 3000 or 4000.

According to the ordinary acceptance of things dog days ought to be over, but according to the way the average malamute will look at the matter, dog days are just about to begin.

Election bets throughout the States favor McKinley at odds of two to one. It would be just as safe and a little more appropriate to make the ratio 16 to 1.

Unless our political orators begin to get in their deadly work pretty soon, open air meetings are liable to terminate in distinct frosts.

A man who is naturally crooked will always suspect his neighbor of dishonesty.

The Arizona Kicker.

The coroner of this town has been trying for a week to find out the difference between the rib of a mule and the backbone of a man, and still delving at the "mystery." This is the third or fourth time we have been obliged to call him an ass, and if he doesn't pause in his mad career he'll be hunting for another job before he's many weeks older.

Some six weeks ago we announced that Jim Murdock, formerly of this gulch, had been neatly and thoroughly hanged by a vigilance committee in New Mexico, and that we were glad of it. Three days ago James walked in on us to say that our article had hurt his feelings. As he explains it he was hung all right enough, but after the crowd had departed the rope broke, and in the course of a day or two he got his breath back. While we do not feel that we owe him any apology, we will express the hope that he has profited by his lesson. The ropes used here never break.

We have known Major Bob Wharton for six months, and we have never met him that he didn't boast of the lightning way he could pull a gun. Yesterday he got into trouble with a stage driver and had an opportunity to beat electricity all hollow. He knew what was coming, and yet before he had his hand on his gun the driver had him covered and was making him eat dirt. To cap the climax, the major's revolver hadn't a cartridge in it when it was taken from his pocket. Why certain people in this town don't carry club instead of guns is something we can't make out.

Last week, when we undertook to convince the Blue Front drug store that advertising always pays, Mr. Sheridan started to draw his gun on us. Four seconds later the muzzle of our pistol touched his nose. He came down gracefully. In this issue will be found his two column ad., and our readers are advised to go to him for anything wanted in his line. Aside from being a little impetuous, Mr. Sheridan is a tiptop fellow and an honor to the town.

M. QUAD.

No Place for Them.

Within the past ten days or two weeks Dawson has been the dumping ground of two very undesirable classes of people and the majority of both classes have arrived by way of the lower river, they having presumably come from Nome. It is known to almost a certainty that a late St. Michael steamer brought up a trio of Nomads who are supposed to have experience in swinging sandbags and in afterwards rolling their unconscious victims. These fellows will do well to take the precaution to saunter up and carefully size up the royal fuel works before opening up business in Dawson; for it is the pride of the Yukon that such crimes will not be tolerated within her domain.

The other class referred to is composed of "hop" or "hypo" fiends, a number of whom, with their glassy eyes and tallow-candle complexion, have lately arrived and by the average man are recognized as soon as seen. These people may also have an opportunity to reform in the royal sanitarium for inebriates; but in the meantime the thug and "hop" contingents will do well to ship to the outside where there is more room for them.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

8000

CLAIMS

Will Be Thrown Open and Subject to Purchase or Location

AS RESULT OF THE RECENT ORDER

Sent Forward From Ottawa and Published by Mr. Bell.

NO RESERVES ARE HELD BACK

Everything Not Sold at October and November Auctions Will Be Subject to Location.

The order received by Assistant Gold Commissioner Bell from Ottawa on Sunday, as published in yesterday's issue of the Nugget is of a more sweeping nature than was at first supposed as the order empowers the putting up at public auction everything in the shape of a mining claim or mining prospect not otherwise owned than by the government, and if such property is not sold at the regular monthly auction day in November, which is the 2d of that month, it will all be open to location by duly accredited miners, those having regularly issued licenses. In this list will be included all those claims and fractions on Bonanza, Eldorado and Hunker which were advertised some months ago to be sold at auction but which were withdrawn just before the day of sale.

It is not probable that the last batch of claims and fractions mentioned will be offered at the October sale or until November.

While it is not yet possible for Mr. Bell or any of the employees of the gold commissioner's office to arrive at anything like an accurate conclusion as to the number of claims which the new order will dispose of either by auction or location, an employe of the office who is known to be an encyclopedia of knowledge pertaining to the gold commissioner's office and the entire mining district, stated to a representative of the Nugget that on the various main creeks he thought the number of new claims will be from 5000 to 6000 and with the various pups, gulches and other tributaries the number may run up to over 8000.

The throwing open of all this territory without reserve will greatly increase the work of the gold commissioner's office and until the property is all properly listed it may be that additional clerical aid will be required. It is Mr. Bell's intention to have his books in shape to be ready for the locators just as soon as possible after the auction sale on the 2nd, as after that date everything will be open to location by the first man who stakes and records.

Already the effects of the order published yesterday are apparent on every side. New life pervades the atmosphere and permeates the entire machinery of the local business field. "This is the day we long have sought and mourned because we found it not."

Wanted, a Job.

At no time in the past ten months have there been so many men looking for positions in Dawson as at present. The reason for this is that great many men are coming in from the outside and an equally large number are down from the creeks where on a vast number of claims work has been suspended until the first of the year. The majority of those coming in from the outside are of the class that prefers to work at something in town instead of out on the creeks. For every position of gold weigher, book keeper and bar keeper there are numerous applicants. The managers of gambling houses are also besieged by dozens of applications for positions as dealers, case keepers and even boosting. While there are in Dawson a great many positions, there is but little doubt but that if every incumbent would resign today, his position would be filled tomorrow by a new man. Too many people are coming here with not sufficient means to live even two weeks without earning something, and vacant positions waiting to encompass the new arrivals are few and obscure.