

The Klondike Nugget

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From Monday and Tuesday's Daily.
A SPLENDID SHOWING.

Minister of Finance Fielding's speech on the budget which was briefly quoted in our telegraphic columns on Saturday, discloses reasons of the most substantial nature why the royalty now imposed on the gold output of this territory should be materially reduced. Mr. Fielding's report recites the fact that the Yukon territory since its organization has more than paid its way, something almost unheard of in the history of newly settled countries. An amount exceeding \$2,000,000 has been collected from royalties alone, and this, together with the revenues derived from other sources, has served to pay all expenses of administration and leave a comfortable sum to the credit of the territory.

In view of such a showing, it is no cause for wonder that Mr. Fielding is of the opinion that the time has arrived when a reduction in the royalty should be made. The same conclusion was reached almost unanimously by the miners of the territory two years ago and in the interim since that time no opportunity to force the matter upon governmental attention has been lost. This constant pressure together with the splendid showing which this territory has made, have apparently produced the desired result although official information to that effect has not yet been received. It seems almost certain, however, that action has already been taken and we have little doubt that confirmation of the same will be received within a short time.

ENTIRELY DIFFERENT.

Canned meats and evaporated vegetables have taken a back seat in Dawson during the winter. Two years ago fresh vegetables in Dawson and meat which had never seen the inside of a can was a luxury which came within the reach of very few people.

During the winter just closing the circumstances have been quite different. Fresh meat and potatoes also, have been in the market in sufficient quantities to meet all demands and have been sold at prices reasonable enough compared with other commodities.

Thus one by one the terrors which have been attached to life in this northern country have vanished into thin air. In the minds of the majority of people "outside," as we have come to generalize the rest of the world, the Klondike is still a cold, desolate region where few of the necessities and none of the luxuries of life are to be obtained. They look upon a year or two spent in Dawson as so much time spent in ignorance of the events transpiring in the world, and so much time passed without any of the comforts and conveniences which have become a part of ordinary civilized life.

As a matter of fact the average individual in this territory lives as well if not better than is the case in the large centers of population anywhere in the world.

If there are still skeptics who hold the opinions which they formed from reading the articles which filled the "outside" press in 1897-98, a visit to Dawson at any season of the year would cause them to undergo a radical change of mind. The Dawson of today and the Dawson of three years ago are vastly different.

Whitehorse is wrestling with the incorporation question. The opinion seems to prevail in the up-river town that matters are conducted in a satisfactory manner and that no immediate advantages are to be derived from incorporation. It appears that the agitation for a municipal government will terminate as it has in Dawson, viz: in leaving well enough alone.

The most widely read paper in the Yukon country is the Nugget's Semi-Weekly paper which circulates on every creek in the Klondike and Indian river districts and from Skagway down the

river to St. Michael. Business men should not overlook the fact that all advertisements inserted in the daily edition include publication in the Semi-Weekly without extra charge. The Nugget is the only newspaper in Dawson which maintains a regular twice-a-week delivery on the creeks.

A recent report received from Vancouver states that construction work on the through telegraph line cannot be undertaken until July, owing to the snow fall in some of the mountainous districts traversed by the line. Should this report prove to have reliable foundation it is not to be expected that the line will be completed until fall.

Possession is generally regarded as being nine points in the law. It will doubtless prove a delicate point to decide, however, which will count the most—possession of the logs of which a cabin has been built or possession of the ground upon which the cabin once stood.

A romance with a distinctly dramatic tinge might be written from the story of the faithless lover which was published in this paper Saturday evening. As has been the case since time immemorial, truth continues to be stranger than fiction.

The Chinese situation is becoming more interesting. With so many different claimants looking for a slice of the pie it will certainly be a remarkable thing if something in the nature of a quarrel does not occur before everyone is satisfied.

The carnival of sports proposed for Dawson in July will prove very attractive if carried out on the terms as proposed. Dawson has reached a position where such a series of sports ought to be conducted in a most successful manner.

Dawson is now the mecca of hundreds of pilgrims who are journeying on the trail down the river with various commodities for the local markets. The feast of fresh eggs, fruits and vegetables will soon begin.

It may be set down as an established fact that something is radically wrong when the News happens to get anything right.

Just another little touch of winter to remind us that summer has not entirely arrived.

Railways to the Yukon.

Notwithstanding the success which attended the efforts of the Conservative members from the coast their brethren in the east to kill the scheme of the Dominion government to build an all-Canadian line into the Yukon country, the project has not been abandoned. According to the annual statement of the minister of railways and canals, reports on four different routes into the gold fields by way of the Stikine river have been laid before the department by surveying parties, and doubtless action will be taken on at least one of them at no distant day. Nothing is said as to the most feasible of the routes projected, but the physical features of the country it will be necessary to traverse and the nature of the wealth contained therein are described. Probably the government of this province and that of the Dominion are acting in concert in the building of a road from a British Columbia port. It is gratifying to know that neither in the distance to be covered nor in the value of the country to be opened up does the Edmonton route, in which Sir Mackenzie Bowell and Senator Macdonald and their friends in the senate had so much faith, compare with those commencing on this side of the mountains.—Victoria Times.

He Had the Characteristics.

Mamma was sitting up reading "Un-heavened Bread." She looked over her spectacles at Mabel as the fair girl entered the room.
"That was Mr. Cooper who just went out, wasn't it?"
"Yes, ma."
"He's a dealer in stocks, isn't he?"
"Yes, ma."
"What sort of dealer—a bear?"
"I'm inclined to think he's a bear, mamma," said the fair girl as she smoothed her ruffled waist ribbon.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

FABLE OF TWO BROTHERS.

William Took Pa's Advice and Cholley Didn't.

Cholley Now Blesses His Pa for His Good Advice Which Makes William Handy.

Once there were two Brothers who started away to College at the same time. Just before they boarded the Train, Pa led them aside and handed them some splendid Advice. He told them that they were now ready to mold their Futures. He said he wanted them to stay in of Evenings and Bone hard, and he hoped they would mind the Faculty and keep away from the Cigarette Fiends who play the Banjo and talk about Actresses. He wanted them to stand high in their Classes and devote their Spare Moments to Reading rather than to the Whimsies and Mimical Fooleries of a University Town.

William listened solemnly and promised to Behave. Cholley fdgeted in his Chair and said it was nearly Train Time.

So they rode away on the Varnished Cars, William reading about the Goths and Vandals and Cholley playing Seven-Up with a Shoe Drummer from Lowell, who gave him several Yarns that he afterward told as his own.

At the University William remembered what Pa had said, so he cooped himself up in his Room and became a Dig and soon enough was greatly despised as a Pet of the Professors. Cholley wore a striped Jersey and joined the Track Team and worked into the Glee Club. He went to his room when all the other Places had closed up. Every time a Show struck Town he was in the Front Row to gey the Performers and pick up some new gags, so as to maintain his reputation as an Original Comic. He went calling on all the Town Girls who would stand for his Fresh Ways, and he was known to be the best dancer in the Ki-Ki Chapter of the Gamma Oopilan Greek Letter Fraternity. The reports sent home indicated that William was corraling the Honors in Scholarship and Cholley was getting through each Exam by the Skin of his Teeth, but he had been elected a Yell Captain and could do his row Yards in Ten Seconds Flat. Pa would write to Cholley now and then and tell him to Brace Up and give him a Hunch that life was full of Sober Responsibilities, and therefore he had better store his Mind with Useful Knowledge and Chop on all the Frivols and Fopperies, whereupon Cholley would write back that he needed Fifty by Return Mail to pay for Chemicals Used in the Laboratory.

By the time that both were Seniors, William had grown a fuzzy Climber in front of each Ear and was troubled with Weak Eyes. He always had a volume of Kant under his arm and seemed to be in a Brown Study as he walked across the Campus. Cholley kept himself Neat and Nobby and seemed always cheerful, even though he had two or three Conditions to his Discredit and had only an Outside Chance of taking his Degree. He was Manager of the Football Team, having been elected because of his Qualities as a Mixer, and he had earned the affectionate Nickname of "Rocks."

He was a great hand to get acquainted with any Girl who dared to show herself near the Halls of Learning and by constant Practice he had developed into a Star Chinner, so that he could Bow to almost any one of them and make her believe that of all the Flowers that ever bloomed she was the one and only \$30,000 Carnation.

William kept away from Hops and Promenades because he remembered what Pa had said about the Distracting Influence of Fripperies and the Twittle-Tattle of Artificial Society. The only Girl he knew was a Professor's sister, aged 51, with whom he was wont to discuss the Theory of Unconscious Cerebration. Then he would drink a cup of Young Hyson Tea and go home at 8:45 p. m. Cholley at about that time would be starting out in his Primrose and Dockstader Suit to write his name on Dance Cards and get acquainted with the Real Folks.

On Commencement day William received the Cyrus J. Blinker Prize of a Set of Books for getting the Highest General Average of any one in the Class. Cholley just managed to Squeeze Through. The Faculty gave him a Degree for fear that if it didn't he might come back and stay another Year.

After they had graduated, Pa gave them another talk. He said he was

proud of William, but Cholley had been a Trial to him. Still he hoped it was not too late to set the Boy on the Right Track. He was going to put both of them into a Law Office and he wanted them to read Law for all they were worth and not be lured away from their work by the Glittering Temptations of Life in a Big City. William said he was prepared to read Law until he was Black in the Face. Cholley said he wouldn't mind pacing a few beats with Blackstone and Cooley now and then, if he found that he could spare the Time. The Father groaned inwardly and did not see much hope for Cholley.

When the two Sons became Fixtures in the Office of an established Law Firm, William kept his Nose between the Leaves of a Supreme Court Report and Cholley was out in the other Room warming up to the Influential Clients and making Dates for Luncheons and Golf Foursomes.

Within three months after they started at the Office, William had read all the Books in the Place and Cholley was out spending three weeks at the Summer Home of the President of a Construction company, who was stuck on Cholley's Dialect Stories and liked to have him around because he was such a good Dresser and made it lively for the Women.

Out at this Country Place it happened that Cholley met a Girl who didn't know how much she was worth, so Cholley thought it would be an Act of Kindness to help her find out. When he sat down with her in the Cool of the Evening and gave her the Burning Gaze and the low entrancing Lure Purr that he had practiced for Four Years at the University, she stopped him before he was half finished, and told him he need not work Overtime, because he was the boy for Nellie. She said she had had him Picked Out from the Moment that she noticed how well his Coat set in the Back.

In one of the large Office Buildings of the City there is a Suite finished in Dark Wood. At a massive roll-top Desk sits Cholley, the handsome Lawyer, who is acquainted with all the Club Fellows, Society Bucks and Golf Demons. When a Client comes in with a Knotty Question, Cholley calls in a Blonde Stenographer to jot down all the Points in the Case. Then he and the Client roast a few Mutual Acquaintances and the Client departs. Cholley rings a Bell and Brother William comes out of a Side Room with his Coat bunched in the back and his Trousers Bagged at the knees. His Cravat is tied on one Side only and he needs a Shave, but he is full of the Law. Cholley turns all the papers over to him and tells him to wrestle with the Authorities for a few Days and Nights. Then William Stips back into his Hole and Humps himself over the Calf bound Volumes while Cholley puts on his Slate-colored Gloves and Top Coat and goes out to where Simpson is holding a carriage door open for him. He and Nellie take the air in the \$200 Victoria that he bought with her Money and later in the day they Dine with the Stockton-Bonds and finish at the Theater.

Cholley often reflects that it was a great piece of Foresight on Pa's part to counsel Studious Habits and Rigid Mental Discipline, for if William had not been a Grind at College probably he would not have proved such a Help around the Office, and although William gets the Loser's End of the Fees and is never called on to make a Witty Speech at a Banquet given by the Bar Association, he has the Satisfaction of knowing that he is the Silent Partner of the best dressed Attorney in Town and one who is welcome wherever he goes.

Moral—There are at least Two Kinds of Education.—George Ade in S. F. Examiner.

Royal Debts.

London, March 5.—The question of royal debts and royal incomes is just now affording the people of our kingdom much food for discussion and gossip. The former are likely to cause parliament some trouble before they are cancelled. The latter must soon be fixed to the satisfaction of King Edward VII.

People have all kinds of ideas as to what the debts of the king amount to. Some people say they are as high as £3,000,000 (\$15,000,000), which would be almost equal to those of George III, parliament having paid for him £3,398,000 (\$16,900,000).

George II handed in a list of debts of £1,000,000 (\$5,000,000), which parliament wiped out, but in 64 years Queen Victoria had weaned the country from the habit of paying royal debts and out of a very diminished civil list, amounting to £385,000 (\$1,925,000), saved in 50 years about £825,000 (\$4,125,000), which will certainly be used by the radicals as a convincing argument that the allowance was sufficient.

The queen's civil list will expire in

six months' time and it is understood that the king is disposed to ask for an annual allowance of £800,000 (\$4,000,000), on the understanding that he would give up the crown estates, and on the other hand, he would, unless otherwise advised, ask to have his debts paid off.

In both cases it is understood that violent opposition will be offered by the extremists of the house of commons and they might even lead to disturbances through the country.

Then will come the test of the king's personal popularity, which up to now has been simply immense.

It is stated upon trustworthy authority that the gross value of her majesty's private estate will not exceed three million dollars. It is said that the amount of Queen Victoria's private benefactions of which the public know nothing would aggregate a sum greater in value than the fortune she left.

Speculation is rife as to the date of King Edward's coronation, some people maintaining that it will occur as early as September. But probably the year of court mourning will be strictly observed, the coronation not occurring until February or later in 1902.

The curious fact of the king's birthday coinciding with Lord Mayor's day, November 9, may cause an alteration in the date of one or the other of these celebrations in the immediate future.

The county council of London has virtually adopted a proposal to spend £1,500,000 (\$7,500,000) on a scheme for a better housing of the poor of London, a matter in which King Edward is greatly interested.

Bloody Prizefight.

Louisville, March 4.—Tommy Ryan of Syracuse tonight was given the decision over Tommy West of Brooklyn, after 17 rounds of a 20-round contest. West's seconds threw up the sponge. The fight took place at the Auditorium under the auspices of the Southern Athletic Club and was the bloodiest and most desperate ever seen in Louisville.

They entered the ring at catch weights and each weighed in the neighborhood of 157 pounds. After the tenth round West was assisted by Terry McGovern in the first round honors were about even, though both were right in for business. Both landed often and hard, West getting in several hard jolts on Ryan's nose.

At the first knock down Ryan took almost the full count. The third and fourth rounds were West's and the fifth Ryan's. In the sixth West landed often and hard, West getting in blood. Ryan was the aggressor in this round, but West blocked and landed at will, and but for the gong might have finished his man.

In the seventh Ryan's lip was split and West's nose broken, his right eye closed, his forehead laid open in two places and his cheek split. Blood poured from his wounds as time after time Ryan landed on the injured places. He played continuously for the broken nose, and for the next half dozen rounds made a veritable chopping block of West.

The punishment West took was wonderful, blood pouring from nearly a dozen of his wounds. West's corner looked like a slaughter house and the fight announcer actually had to wipe the blood from the floor with a mop. So bloody, indeed, was the fight that several persons near the ring were nauseated and had to leave the hall. Still, during round 17er round, West came up only for more poundings on the nose, eyes and cheek.

In the seventeenth round, when it was seen that West was fighting a hopeless fight, Terry McGovern threw up the sponge for him, and the referee gave the decision to Ryan.

Vale Slot Machines.

Olympia, March 12.—The senate by an overwhelming vote today passed the Rines bill, which prohibits the operation of any nickel-in-the-slot machines of any sort or description in the state. The bill had already passed the house, and all it lacks now to make it a law is the signature of the governor. The bill carries no emergency clause, and will not go into effect for 90 days. The vote was 27 yeas to 2 nays.

What Could He Say?

"Charley, dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "I am going to turn over a leaf."

"In what connection?"

"I'm going to quit being superstitious. I have always disliked to begin anything on Friday."

"Yes; it is very silly of you."
"Well, your arguments have convinced me. You know that new was talking to you about?"
"Y-yes."
"Well, I'm going to start out and buy the material on Friday just to show I'm not afraid."—Washington Star.