

The Klondike Nugget

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

DAILY

Yearly, in advance.....\$40.00
Six months.....20.00
Three months.....11.00
Per month by carrier in city, in advance.....4.00
Single copies......25

SEMI-WEEKLY

Yearly, in advance.....\$24.00
Six months.....12.00
Three months.....6.00
Per month by carrier in city (in advance).....2.00
Single copies......25

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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.

LETTERS

And Small Packages can be sent to the Creeks by our carriers on the following days: Every Wednesday and Saturday to Eldorado and Bonanza; every Saturday to Hunker, Dominion, Gold Run, Sulphur, etc.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1900

SIGNS OF CONFIDENCE.

During the past forty-eight hours nearly 500 people have arrived in Dawson from up and down the river. This is one of the most significant facts that have yet been brought to the attention of the public in connection with the recent growth and development of the town.

Five months ago there was a very well defined belief in the minds of many people that Dawson as a point of commercial importance had seen her best days. That opinion had come about by reason of the fact that public interest had centered upon the Nome country and the craze resulting therefrom threatened to depopulate the Yukon territory.

The fact was overlooked by a great many people that no matter how great a stampede was inaugurated from Dawson, not one iota of valuation could be taken away from the gold known to be stored so bountifully in the gravel and on bedrock beneath our creek beds. Undoubtedly the bursting of the Nome bubble has reacted favorably upon Dawson, but even had Nome proven this year to be a good camp—and we are confident that ultimately it will prove to be a good camp—it would merely have served to delay for a short time, the work of opening up the Yukon.

There is nothing now to detract the attention of the people of the Yukon from applying themselves to the task of developing our immense natural resources.

More encouraging, however, even than the fact that public attention has been withdrawn entirely away from Nome as well as from the objective points of other equally futile stampedes, is the evident intention on the part of the Dominion government to modify somewhat the rigorous mining regulations which have been imposed upon the Yukon. A little more liberality on the part of the government will permit the carrying on of the mining industry at a reasonable profit, even though all the ground in the country does not carry gold in fabulous quantities.

It is a noticeable fact that the many outside newspapers which twelve months ago were accustomed to refer to Dawson as a town which had seen its best days are now commenting on the wonderful vitality which our little city has displayed. Dawson is receiving more solid, substantial advertising on the outside today than has ever been the case before. Instead of boom articles which serve only to awaken public suspicion, the outside papers are commenting widely upon the extent of our importations, the volume of business transacted in the town, the numerous improvements which have been made during the summer, and in general present the facts with reference to Dawson as they really are.

So it comes about that the confidence in the future of the town so universally felt by our own people is now well reflected on the outside, and substantial people are again looking to this city and to the Yukon territory as offering superior inducements for the investment both of capital and energy.

The fact, as noted at the beginning of this article, that 500 people have arrived in the city with the past two days

is ample evidence that this feeling of confidence is widespread and still growing.

The people of the territory are quite awake to the importance of the pending election. They realize that in electing two men to the Yukon council the territory will be placed on trial as to its capacity for self-administration. It is clear that no mistake must be made. The best men only must be selected. There will be no reason or excuse for any other action. When all nominations are in and it is possible to take a clear survey of the field, the voters will determine upon the two men most suited to carry out the well-known wishes of the people. The election of the two best men is now the paramount thing.

As the work of opening up the territory adjacent to Dawson progresses it becomes more and more evident that the gold deposits are greater and more widely spread than has been generally supposed. As will be noted in another column, Quartz creek is coming to the front as a producer and bids fair to rival other creeks which have claimed a greater share of public attention. It will be years yet to come before a defined idea is obtained of the extent of the gold deposits in the Klondike and Indian river districts.

When all members of the Yukon council are elected by popular vote; when Dawson becomes an incorporated municipality; when two Yukon members are seated in parliament; when Minister Sifton's bad ear gets well; when—but we don't want the millennium to arrive ahead of time, so we will quit supposing. Just now we are interested in having the best available men in the country placed on the Yukon council. When that is accomplished we shall be prepared to start in securing the rest of the things we want.

"Up the Spout" in China.
What the public house or hotel is to an English town the pawnshop is to a Chinese community.

Its lofty solid building rears itself above the houses and forms the most prominent feature in the bird's-eye view of any city or town. They are now national institutions and were known to exist in the days of Confucius, over 2500 years ago.

In those days usurers charged exorbitant interest for money lent, and very frequently the borrower disappeared with his booty for good. To one ingenious shylock there came an idea. As hostages were given in war as a guarantee of good faith, why should not borrowers deposit pledges for the money lent them? Thus originated pawnbroking in China. The pawnshop is a square building, towering to some 70 or 80 feet above the ground. The first 20 feet are built of solid granite, the remainder of best brick. As precautions against fire and thieves, they are most solidly built. No woodwork is allowed on the outside, and the walls are raised several feet above the roof. The windows are very small and tightly laced with thick iron bars, and inside are iron shutters to repel flames.

The eight or ten storied building stands several feet back from the street line. There is a small doorway, and behind it stands a wooden screen bearing the name of the pawnshop. Instead of the English "three-balls" the Chinese pawning sign consists of two. This represents the battle gourd, used in China as a natural life buoy, and thus proclaims the pawnshop as "The Life Preserver."

Behind this sign board is a small courtyard where all business is transacted. The front of the shop is fenced off with iron bars, like a lion's cage, six feet above the ground. The Chinese coming to pawn his winter clothes hands up the bundle to the broker behind the bars.

The Chinese "uncle" fixes the price, gives the "nephew" a ticket and the money; the pledge is ticketed and packed away, just as in England.

The rates of interest are high. On advances of less than 10 shillings 36 per cent per annum is charged. From 10s. to £1. 2s. per cent, and on larger sums slightly less.

But during the winter months articles can be redeemed at a reduction of one-third on the interest, as a concession to the needs of the poor.

A pledge may hold good for three years. After that time it cannot be redeemed.

Periodically the pawnshops sell off their unredeemed pledges to second-

hand shops, sales direct to the public being forbidden.

On migrating to Australia, America, or elsewhere, the Chinaman pawns his implements of worship—censur, urn, tripod, etc., thus leaving them in security till his return. Pawnshops are also used as banks.

A man having saved some money consigns it to the pawnbroker for safe custody, paying a small fee for the privilege. From time to time he is admitted to see that his treasure is still intact or to add more to it.

There are three classes of pawnshops in China. The largest are, of course, the more respectable, while the smaller houses are more grasping in their business. Both are duly licensed by the government and pay an annual fee. There are also small secret pawnshops existing outside the law and only by connivance with the officials, whose complacency is purchased. In China the business of pawnbroking is honorable, and followed by the highest men in the kingdom. Much of Li Hung Chang's vast wealth has come and still comes from his five large pawnshops. He is pawnbroker as well as viceroy.

The Chinese "uncle's" great enemies are fire and thieves. If fire originates in the shop the proprietor must pay the full value of all pledges destroyed. If the building is wrecked by a fire starting outside the owner is exempt save for a small percentage. As to robbers, carloads of stones are stored to repel an attack, prompted by the rich booty of the pawnshop. The attendants are also armed, but not infrequently the places are wrecked by gangs of robbers.—London Daily Express.

Coming From the Clouds.
"Coming down from the clouds in a parachute is like a dream," said a circus balloon artist. "Ever dream of falling from a high place? You come down, alight quietly, and awake, and you're not hurt. Well, that's the parachute drop over again. No, there is no danger. A parachute can be guided readily on the down trip, but you can't steer a balloon. To guide a parachute out of harm's way a practiced hand can tilt it one way or the other, spill out the air, and thus work it to where you want to land, or to avoid water, trees, chimneys or church spires. Circus ascensions are generally made in the evening, when the sun goes down the wind goes down. The balloon then shoots into the air and the parachute drops back on the circus lot, nor far away.

A balloon is made of 4-cent muslin and weighs about 500 pounds. A parachute is made of 8-cent muslin. The rope that secures the parachute is cut with a knife. The aeronaut drops fully 100 feet before the parachute begins to fill. It must fill, if you're up high enough. There are several hundred parachute men in the business and the accidents are less in ratio than railroad casualties. Our business is new at that. After awhile the ratio will be less. A man can't shake out a parachute if it doesn't open. A man in the air is simply powerless. Invariably the fall is head first. When the parachute begins to fill the descent is less rapid, and finally when the parachute has finally filled, it bulges out with a pop. Then the aeronaut climbs on to his trapeze and guides the parachute to a safe landing. In seven cases out of ten you can land back on the lot where you started from."—New York News.

Pleased With Dawson Market.
John Kalem, the wholesale grocer, who arrived from Dawson yesterday, says the market at the city is firm and dealers are buying freely for their wiper stock. He is greatly encouraged with the outlook for the remainder of the season, and the future. He will return this week to the Klondike capital and may spend the winter there. Mr. Kalem made the round trip in the very quick time of two weeks.

"My trip to Dawson was very successful," said Mr. Kalem. "I found a good, steady and firm market. I put the fifteen tons I took down with me and five tons I had at Dawson on the market at noon and was closed out completely by evening. I could have sold many more goods, and I took many fine orders. I could have gotten many fine orders that I was compelled to refuse on account of the lateness of the season."—Alaskan.

Mrs. Maggie Warnke has opened a first-class restaurant at the Hotel Metropole. Meals a la carte. c12

Best imported wines and liquors at the Regina.

Short orders served right. The Holborn.

Fine tweed tailor-made suits. McCandless Bros., opp. S.-Y. T. dock.

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

Whiskies at wholesale at the Northern Annex. Rosenthal & Field, props.

Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

Alaska Commercial Company

NEW GOODS

...In All...
Departments

RIVER STEAMERS
Sarah Bella
Hannah Margaret
Susie Victoria
Louise Yukon
Leah Florence
Alice

OCEAN STEAMERS
San Francisco to
St. Michael and Nome
St. Paul
Portland
Ranier
St. Michael to Golovin
Bay, Nome, and
Cape York
Dora Sadie Fay

TRADING POSTS
ALASKA
St. Michael
Andreofsky
Anvik
Nulato
Tadana
Minook (Rampart)
Fort Hamlin
Circle City
Eagle City

KOYUK DISTRICT
Koyukuk
Bergman

YUKON TERRITORY
Fortymile
Dawson

Dawson Post Is Fitted With Public Safe Deposit Vaults.

THE KLONDIKE CORPORATION, LTD.

Strs. ORA, NORA, FLORA

The only independent line of steamers between Dawson and White Horse Light Draft and Swift. No loss of valuable time on account of sandbars and low water. Best dining room service on the river.

CUT RATES!

\$30.00 First Class to Whitehorse, including Meals and Stateroom.

\$20.00 Second Class, which includes First Class Meals and Canvas Berth.

Save Time and Money by traveling on steamers which are always reliable at any stage of water.

Office at L. & C. Dock. R. W. CALDERHEAD, Agent

YUKON FLYER COMPANY

NELS PETERSON, General Manager
Strs. "Bonanza King" and "Eldorado"

Speed, Safety, Comfort. For reservation of staterooms and tickets or for any further information apply to company's office.

WILLIAM F. GEORGE, AUDITOR AND GENERAL AGT. AURORA

"White Pass and Yukon Route"

A BOAT SAILS
Nearly Every Day

White Horse and All Way Points!
J. H. ROGERS, Agent.

Why Not Dress Well?

It does not cost any more—in fact, it is less in the end than if you purchase shoddy goods. We have now on display **Stetson's Finest Hats, Slater's Boots and Shoes, Tailor-Cut Nobby Suits of Imported, Tweeds and Wool; English Derbies, and the finest invoice of Gents' Furnishing Goods in the city.**

MACAULAY BROS., First Avenue
NEAR FAIRVIEW

40 Cases School Is Open

OF
NEW GOODS
Will Arrive in a Few Days.

I Have Just Opened...
TRIMMED HATS, FELT HATS, FLOWERS, FEATHERS, BIRDS, ETC.

And a small lot of the Latest Novelties in PARISIAN NECKWEAR

J. P. McLENNAN
FRONT STREET, Dawson
Next to Holborn Cafe.

Bonanza - Market
All Our Meats are Fresh Killed and of First Quality.
TELEPHONE 33
Third Street, Opposite Pavilion DAWSON

BLACKSMITHS AND MINERS
IF YOU WANT
Cumberland Coal, Round and Flat Iron, Steel Horse Shoe Nails, Shoes, Rasps, Hammers, etc., try THE DAWSON HARDWARE CO.
SECOND AVENUE PHONE 38

A BIG LINE OF
Tablets
25c. Each

"Nugget" Office.
MRS. E. R. ROBERTS
...Furrier
FUR GARMENTS MADE TO ORDER.
Third Avenue, Near New Postoffice.

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