

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.

THE ROYALTY.

The royalty tax, insofar as our information extends, has not a single defender left in the Yukon unless it may be that the war-like editorialist of the whilom organ is still ready to toss his hat in the air in applause of Sifton's greatest iniquity. To their credit be it said, even the government officials with few or no exceptions condemn the present royalty regulation in unmeasured terms.

How any man who has lived six months in the country and has been brought into contact with the workings of the royalty system can do otherwise is difficult to see unless he is a man whose prejudices have entirely warped his judgment and ruined his conceptions of right and equity. A tax at any rate whatsoever upon the gross output of the mines cannot be defended successfully by anyone who desires to see the country advance and become developed. Such a tax means a tax upon every day's labor, every ounce of supplies and in fact upon every dollar that is expended for any purpose whatsoever in connection with the development of the claim.

Time and again royalty has been paid into the government coffers from claims upon which the expenses of operation have been greater than the output of the ground. It is apparent to us and must be equally so to everyone who is in touch with affairs in this country that the future of the Yukon territory is hanging right now upon some alteration in the mining regulation whereby a man will be given assurance that he will have an opportunity to reap a reasonable reward from the time, labor and money he expends in taking gold from the ground in this country. A reasonable percentage taxed upon the net output of a claim would not be other than just, provided that the government would, in return, exert itself in the construction of trails and in other necessary ways advance the development of the country.

As matters stand today heavy mine owners are actually being forced out of business for the simple reason that they are compelled to operate upon such a narrow margin that the additional expense of the 10 per cent royalty entirely wipes out the profit. Every Canadian in the Yukon territory who possesses the slightest influence at Ottawa should exert that influence to secure immediate recognition of existing conditions in the territory.

Yesterday's dispatches indicate that some time or other the Nicaragua canal will become an accomplished fact. Uncle Sam has taken hold of the problem in earnest and the big ditch will probably be under course of construction before the expiration of any great

length of time. Sufficient money has been squandered already on the effort to connect the Atlantic and Pacific by a ship canal across the Isthmus of Panama to complete the work had there been a reasonable amount of honesty and intelligence applied in the expenditure of the funds. The scandal which attended the De Lesseps effort to build a canal has hardly disappeared entirely even yet. With the experience of the past for a guide, the United States government should be able to complete the project at a minimum expenditure of time and labor as well as money.

All told there are about 280,000 men engaged in the war now in progress in the Transvaal. Of these the Boers have on a war footing 64,000 men, just about double the strength which they were credited with being able to muster before the actual outbreak of hostilities. These of course include the troops which the Boers have received from the Orange Free State. The main body of the Boers is now engaged in the vicinity of Ladysmith, a portion of them conducting the siege of the town and the remainder resisting the approach of Buller. The latter general is personally superintending the advance of his army, and with his accustomed energy is pushing toward the goal which so long has been his objective point. When the final struggle for the possession of Ladysmith occurs historians will be furnished material for some intensely thrilling narrative.

U. S. Collector of Customs Ivey seems to be able to hold the boards against all comers. Ivey has probably been more abused and made the subject of more charges than any other official who ever did service for Uncle Sam on the Pacific coast. Notwithstanding all these things Ivey always manages to bob up serenely with a smile on his face and a scalp or two, originally belonging to his political opponents attached to his belt. Ivey possesses in a remarkable degree the happy feline faculty of invariably lighting on his feet no matter how hard a fall he may appear about to take.

Bets will soon begin coming in upon the date when the ice will go out. Nomads who are counting the days until the time they can step aboard a steamer and set forth in search of the elusive beach dust are already figuring on the breakup coming along about the first of May. There are numerous parties in town who will be pleased to accommodate the beach enthusiast who holds the above opinion and desires to stand pat thereon.

The most glorious liquor that ever kissed the lips of man at the Rochester Bar.

Grand PATRIOTIC CONCERT!

AT
Palace Grand Theatre
...TO-NIGHT...

Splendid Program Has Been Arranged
Tickets At Reid's Drug Store
Seats Should Be Secured Immediately

PERSONAL MENTION.

C. E. Morgan is stopping at the Regina.

A. Tardell of Grand Forks, is a guest at the Regina.

Floyd S. Wilson, from Eldorado, is in town on business.

Mr. Brackett of Skagway arrived from the outside yesterday.

M. A. Stewart, from Dominion creek, is registered at the Fairview.

Joe Deschamps, blacksmith at 17 Eldorado, is visiting the city.

Tom Lloyd, superintendent of No. 17 Eldorado, is in town on business.

S. R. Bonne, the A. E. Co.'s representative at Grand Forks, is at the Regina.

William Gates, more generally known as "Swiftwater Bill," is registered at the Fairview.

Tom Deagle and Mike Walsh departed for Nome on Wednesday; each had a team of three dogs.

L. R. Fuida did not get away for the outside yesterday as he expected, but will start tomorrow.

Mr. and Mrs. John Estep and Forrest the comedian, started over the ice for Cape Nome this afternoon.

Baron Spitzel, Norman Macauley and James Muigan left for Skagway this noon. They are provided with a horse and sled.

John Sullivan, Eugene Sullivan, and John King left for Nome yesterday. They were provided with two good dog teams.

Mr. Heron, manager of the A. C. Co., and Doctor Cassells, started yesterday with three dogs, on a trip to Forty-mile.

Charley Nourse and Herb Wilson will leave in a few days for an extended trip over the creeks, covering Sulphur, Gold Run and Dominion.

Gold Commissioner Senkler and Comptroller Lathgow left this morning on an extended trip over the various creeks. They will be absent a week or ten days.

POLICE COURT.

In Major Perry's court this morning J. H. Crowley was up on the charge of being drunk and of disturbing the peace at the Aurora last night where the arresting officer said he was interfering with the games. Crowley had no recollection of having been in any way offensive, but cheerfully paid a fine of \$10 and trimmings.

The experience of F. R. Mason as a dog dealer has not been conducive to peace of mind on his part. Sometime in December he invested \$1400 in nine dogs, purchasing them from various parties, one from a man named Geo. Banks who gave a bill of sale with the dog. It turned out later that the dog was not owned by Banks, but was the property of a man by the name of La Rue. The latter went and recovered his dog, and it was to see as to who is entitled to the animal that Mason was in court this morning. But no trial was held, it being evident that La Rue is the rightful owner. Banks, who sold the dog, has departed for pastures new.

Suit was entered by A. B. Llewellyn against Bigelow Bros. & Romaker for \$405 for wages alleged to be due for labor performed on claim 46 on Eldorado. The case will come up for hearing Monday afternoon. Patrick Whalen instituted suit against Dr. Thompson for \$288, labor performed on a mining claim operated by the latter; trial set for Tuesday morning.

The three men Yakshaw, Zimeran and Krusner who were implicated with John Dickerson in the robbing of a scow at Halfway post on the Yukon river, to which charge Dickerson plead guilty and is now serving a six months' sentence, were brought into court yesterday afternoon and after being handed a severe warning were discharged.

Yukon Agriculture.

Vice-Consul Morrison of Dawson City, sends a report on the results of agricultural experiments, written by a resident of that city, which reads in part as follows, says the Scientific American: "Grain has done exceptionally well, being well filled, and I see no reason why it should not be extensively and successfully grown here."

"So far as my observations go, the climate here is as suitable for raising winter wheat as in any place in the northwestern or the northern states of America. From my experience of the last two years I see no reason why this country should not be able to produce its own vegetables and grains."

"As for flowers, the success I have had proves that all hardy annuals will do well. The coming year I intend

planting several hundred hybrid roses, also summer flowering bulbs, a large variety of other hardy and half hardy annuals, and some of the hardy perennials. Small fruit, such as strawberries, currants, blackberries and raspberries, cranberries, and blueberries grow wild here."

Here's looking at you. The Rochester Bar, cor. 3d and 2d ave.

For gentle slumber try the Fairview.

The most popular house in town—the Fairview; new management.

Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

Orpheum Theatre

FRONT STREET
Grand Opening!

...FIRST...
Sunday Evening Concert
FEBRUARY 25
NEW HOUSE NEW SCENERY

Dawson Symphonie Orchestra
Twenty-Two Musicians
Musical Conductor,
WILLIAM GORBRACHT
Assisting Artists, MISS BEATRICE LORNE,
MRS. LEROY TOZIER, MISS BLOSSOM
and MR. F. W. ZIMMERMAN
ZIMMERMAN & RADCLIFFE, MANAGERS

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Second St. & Fifth Avenue.

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Teams Leave Every Week for
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and Intermediate Points.
Freight Contracted for Both
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Seattle St. Michael Dawson

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Empire Line

TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE
Yemans & Chisholm.....
.....Dawson Agents.
Seattle Office, 607 First Ave.

The Dewey Hotel

GRAND FORKS

Finest Brands of
Wines, Liquors & Cigars

Emporium of Music
and Mirth

Cavanaugh & Sullivan, Props.