

The Klondike Nugget

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THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1900

MORE JUDGES.

The action of the bar association in reference to the appointment of two additional judges to assist Mr. Justice Dugas in the discharge of his onerous and constantly increasing duties, should, and probably will, receive immediate attention at Ottawa. The present status of cases in litigation is deplorable. There are twice as many cases on the docket as the court will be able to dispose of before the arrival of the long vacation, and how many more actions will be instituted in the meanwhile is a matter of conjecture.

In addition to this, the method of procedure required in taking appeals makes litigation subject to such delays, and so expensive, that the right of appeal is seldom resorted to, notwithstanding the fact that cases frequently occur where properties valued at thousands upon thousands of dollars are concerned. It is proposed by the bar association that two judges be appointed in addition to Judge Dugas, and that any two of the three shall constitute a court of appeal. Appeal from this court may then be taken, if so desired, direct to the supreme court of Canada without the interposition of the minister of the interior or any other official whose position is dependent upon success in politics.

The urgency of the case has been clearly set forth before the government at Ottawa, and it is anticipated that an immediate and affirmative response to the petition of the bar association will be received.

The Boer war will result in a wide distribution of titles, medals and other marks of distinction among British soldiers who have exhibited marked capacity or bravery. The celebrated and historic Victoria cross has been won in numerous instances by the display of conspicuous personal valor while under fire. It has been said by some critics that the soldiers are inspired to deeds of absolute and unnecessary recklessness in the hopes of winning this honor, but the facts do not seem to warrant this belief. In a large number of cases the cross has been awarded to men who have rescued wounded comrades at the risk of their own lives. Such actions are heroic, not reckless.

The laws which govern the mining industry in this territory are so hemmed in with technicalities as to preclude a literal construction being placed upon many of them and at the same time insure the observance of anything like the ordinary rules of equity. For instance, the lapsing of a miner's license, which costs \$10 per year, may, according to the regulations, work a forfeiture of a man's entire rights in the country, although he may be the holder of property valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars. It is such regulations as this one which, although they may not be rigidly enforced, nevertheless frighten away capital from investing

where title may rest upon such slender threads. Our entire code of mining laws should be revised and simplified.

As described at length in the Nugget of last evening, a strong effort is being made by the White Pass & Yukon Railway to divert a share of the Nome travel by way of Dawson. There will be a great many people who will count on a trip to Nome this summer as a means of spending a vacation. There are features about a stampede, such as will rush to Nome, that are very attractive to the average globetrotter. The beauty of the Yukon valley and the facilities for tourist travel offered by the railroad and steamboat companies are now well known, and these will add an additional inducement for travel down the river to those people who are desirous of securing some pleasure out of the Nome excitement. The accommodations which will be offered for travelers by the transportation companies during the approaching summer will be everything that can be desired.

The possibility of a renewal of commercial strife between Canada and the United States, or, rather, to describe it more accurately, between Vancouver and Victoria and Seattle, is anything but pleasant reading at this time. In all probability, however, the matter will eventually subside as has the recent war flurry in France. Neither side has anything of particular value to gain by the passage of measures intended to discriminate against the commercial interests of the other, and we doubt if either government will be drawn into such a tangle as is outlined in today's dispatches at the behest of a few transportation companies and trading concerns.

Nomads in plenty will be found strung along the river at the opening of navigation, awaiting the arrival of the first boats bound down the river. For the most of those who left Dawson during the past month, it would have been far better had they remained until the break-up. They will not reach Nome in advance of those who go from Dawson with the first boats, and wherever they are compelled to remain, awaiting the opening of the river, they will be under heavy expenses. It is quite likely that considerable hardship will ensue.

In the dispatches yesterday it was stated that Mafeking had been relieved by Colonel Baden-Powell. Baden-Powell has been in command of the garrison during the siege, and hence could not have participated in rescuing the town other than by working in conjunction with the relief expedition. This is probably what was intended by the dispatch.

The early thaw will have a tendency to decrease the volume of water in the creeks when the sluicing season is well on. The water which is now running off in such quantities will be sorely needed next summer.

A July Election.

In conversation with a Nugget representative yesterday a prominent but conservative Canadian expressed the belief that the demand of the citizens of the Yukon district for representation on the local council will be headed at Ottawa and that the petition will be granted; but that the time set for the election of such representation will not be before some time in July, which will probably be after the general election which will, if preceding custom is adhered to, shortly follow the adjournment of parliament; and in the opinion of the gentleman above referred to, if the general elections is later than July, the local election will be arranged to

follow it, as he does not think it likely that any display of the political strength of the Yukon territory is desired by the government at Ottawa until Dominion matters are settled.

The Royal Box.

It is said that the latest portrait of Queen Victoria brings out in a striking way her resemblance to the Stuarts. The German emperor has a great love of new inventions, especially of those, however humble, which affect or facilitate the doing of business. Wilhelmina, the queen of Holland, is spending much of her time in skating on the ice covering the ornamental water in the gardens of the palace known as the House in the Woods, where the peace conference was held last year. Don Carlos, the king of Portugal, has an importance just now out of all proportion with the power of his state. The king's title is almost as big as his domain is small. He is "king of Portugal and the Algraves, within and beyond the seas in Africa, lord of Guinea and of the navigation and commerce of Ethiopia, Arabia, Persia and the Indies."

They Played High.

Charles Davenport and Camille La Grant, two natives of France, made a sensational play yesterday against the crap game in the Aurora club room. They commenced to gamble early in the afternoon and continued their flirtation with the blind goddess until midnight. At one time the game was \$7000-loser, and a little while afterwards it was even, and then \$5000-winner. At the conclusion of the play, La Grant had won \$3000 and his friend Davenport was loser to the extent of \$5000. Until yesterday, Davenport had succeeded in winning, and when he commenced in the afternoon he had \$2500, which he had won during the week from the Aurora. Now, he is that amount loser. The limit was \$200, but occasionally the players pressed their bets to \$400. The house is still loser on the week's play, as La Grant won several times before his famous plunge of yesterday.

Curtain Raisers.

Louisa Drew, daughter of John Drew, has made her debut as a player. Nat Goodwin has had a play written called "When We Were Twenty-one." The fine stage properties of the late Alexander Salvini are to be disposed of at private sale. W. A. Brady has secured the rights to a new American play which will be used for Grace George later in the season. The South African war will first invade the American stage in a new melodrama called "Brave Hearts," to be presented by Gus Hill. Ada Colley, the young woman with the high notes, has gone to Europe to carry out some contracts she made before she married Sidney Cohen. The Girl With the Auburn Hair has not set New York afire as she did Chicago. One paper says it is a pity the manager did not engage for the act a good looking woman or at least one who could sing. Edward A. Emery, who plays Lord Robert Ure in "The Christian," and Florence Simpson, the Betty in the same play, have married. Emery was an officer of distinction in the British army at one time.

Mary Linck, pleasantly remembered for her good work with the Castle Square company early in its season, is resting at home just now. She has been under a doctor's care, but will be back at her singing before long.

Eugene Moore of a Milwaukee stock company made a flying leap from the ruined castle in one of the hair raisers given there, landed among the scenery instead of on the mattress placed to receive him and broke his ankle.

"As You Like It," "Peg Woffington," and a revival of "Romeo and Juliet," are promised by Charles Frohman at the Criterion theater, with Maude Adams as the star. The Romeo's name is not given, but the part will hardly be taken by Faversham.

Will Be a Strong Contest.

Arrangement for the glove contest for points which will be participated in by Dick Case and Pat Malloy at the Orpheum Thursday night of next week, the 29th instant, will be one of interest to all lovers of the manly art. Both men are training hard, and both are confident that his efforts will be crowned with success. Considerable interest is being manifested by the boys out on the creeks in the coming event. The rates of admission will be announced later.

Table de hote dinners. The Holborn. The most popular house in town, the Fairview; new management.

Short orders served right. The Holborn.

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FIRST BOAT FOR NOME

STEAMER MERWIN is now in Winter quarters at Dawson, and will be ready to leave on opening of navigation, sailing direct to Nome, without delay or transfer at St. Michael. Tickets and berths can now be secured at

YUKON DOCK, Frank J. Kinghorn, Agent.

Trunks and baggage stored in Dock Warehouse until departure of boat.

OFFICE HOURS, 9 to 5.