

## The Klondike Nugget

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(From Monday and Tuesday's Daily.)  
**MRS. NATION.**

Mrs. Nation, of Kansas, who has been prominent of late in the saloon smashing business, is an example of the ultra-reformer who invariably does more harm than good.

Mrs. Nation desires to see the saloons of Kansas abolished, a wish in which she will find herself supported by many estimable people. Having convinced herself that the end which she seeks is right and just, Mrs. Nation stops at no limits in the attainment of her purpose. In other words, she is merely pursuing a line of action based upon the theory that the end is justified by the means.

It appears from the reports of her actions that the fact that she is no more nor less than a common law-breaker, has no deterrent effect upon her activities. Wherever Mrs. Nation finds a saloon, she is ready to smash, and in consequence of her smashing, good, red liquor by the hundreds of barrels has been allowed to trickle its way back to mother earth.

The ultimate consequence of Mrs. Nation's crusade will be disastrous to the cause which she so vigorously espouses. A reaction will set in against her peculiar methods of reform and she and her supporters will be discredited in their own communities as they are now in every place where people still retain a respectable measure of common sense.

The W. C. T. U., which in its day has done no little good work, is giving its moral, if not material support to the lady of smashing fame, and to that extent the organization will suffer in the estimation of the general public.

Whenever a cause, no matter what substantial grounds it may have for claiming public support, is allowed to drift into the hands of rabid cranks, its doom is usually sealed. So it will prove with the cause of temperance in Kansas. We venture the opinion that twelve months hence, saloons will flourish in Kansas as they have never flourished before.

### OF MUCH IMPORTANCE.

The most important information that has come to Dawson of recent date is the notice received by Gold Commissioner Senkler to the effect that a court of appeals will soon be established covering all cases originating before the gold commissioner.

That there will be no delays attending the matter is evidenced by the fact that the order directs that no further appeals be forwarded to Ottawa as the appellate court will be established immediately.

The system heretofore pursued in the matter of appeals has been unsatisfactory for several reasons. It has been necessary to carry appeals to the minister of the interior at Ottawa, which fact in itself has involved so great an expenditure of time and money that many litigants have thereby been restrained from taking advantage of the rights to which, under the law, they had been entitled.

Moreover, an acquaintance with local conditions on the part of the court will be of great advantage. Important points which a court sitting in Ottawa cannot possibly understand in detail, will be clear enough to judges located in Dawson.

Litigation of the utmost importance comes before the gold commissioner who has jurisdiction over all cases affecting mining claims. It is most essential in this particular class of litigation that disputants be given every possible opportunity to prove the merits of their cases. The knowledge that cases may be appealed and definitely settled in Dawson will serve very largely to give confidence to property holders that their rights will be given adequate protection.

Construction work on the American telegraph line from Eagle to Valdes

will begin in a very short time. With the completion of that line and the through wire via Quesnelle to Vancouver Dawson will have telegraph communication with the outside by three different lines. The service via Whitehorse and Skagway will still continue and by that line it will always be possible to communicate with the outside within four or five days. The same thing will be true of the Alaskan line and the through line when in working order will give immediate communication. It is safe to say that when the two new lines now under construction are completed Dawson will never be shut off entirely from the outside.

The council will soon begin sitting for the purpose of listening to complaints against the tax rolls as they stand at the present time. If everyone who thinks he was assessed too much is present at the sessions, it is quite probable that the council will entertain the entire town. We wonder if the man ever was created who paid his taxes and looked cheerful over it.

It does not appear from recent information that Nome is a very flourishing camp this winter. Nome's daily paper, the News, has been published throughout the winter as a twice-a-week paper, which is perhaps the most conclusive evidence that could be secured of a depression in business circles.

The conviction of the Thompson woman will afford general satisfaction. Undoubtedly many cases of a similar nature have occurred where the victims have preferred to remain quiet rather than expose the facts. It is fair to presume that the lesson will have a salutary influence.

People who are now enjoying themselves in putting up ice for summer use might save themselves the trouble by staking a cabin on top of the hill back of town. It isn't every day that ready made ice houses filled with ice are to be had.

The best season of the year for ice sports is now at hand. Full advantage of that fact should be taken during the next few weeks. Another month will see the ice so soft that skating will be almost impracticable.

As was noted in these columns a few days ago, it is quite within the range of possibility that we shall see more cold weather before the ice in the Yukon begins to leave its moorings and start on its journey to the sea.

There are many reasons why Dawson should not incorporate. There are few reasons in favor of incorporation. The logical thing to do is to continue the present system.

Another insane man has been brought into Dawson. The preparations now being made by the authorities for caring for demented persons have not been undertaken any too early.

Stampedes are now the order of the day. If everyone who stampedes secures a claim there will be enough ground ready to be opened this summer to keep every man in the country busy.

Col. MacGregor is somewhat in doubt if the peacemaker is as blessed as the teachings of holy writ would indicate.

### Illiterate Russia.

The general illiteracy of the Russian country people has one curious result. A writer in Scribner's who has traveled widely in their country notes that the shopkeepers announce their wares by pictures rather than by names. The attention of customers is sought by paintings of the articles on sale—as of coats and trousers in the clothing stores; bread, butter, cheese and sausages in the line of provisions; knives, forks and carpenter's tools at the hardware dealer's, and so on. Even in the barracks the sentry is taught the proper military motions by a series of pictures. It all seems like dealing with children—as it is.

There are millions on millions who read no books or newspapers and write and receive no letters.

## AMERICAN GIRLS ABROAD

### Claims by the New York Herald That They Rule the World.

### Duchess of Marlborough, Consuelo Vanderbilt, May be Made Grand Mistress of Throne Robes.

The news comes over the cables that it is now considered almost certain that the new Queen Alexandra will appoint an American woman as grand mistress of the robes.

If such an event occurs it will be of the most sensational interest to America.

It will be the first time in the history of the British kingdom that an American woman has been appointed to a throne position.

This woman is Consuelo, Duchess of Marlborough, who, as the whole world knows, was Miss Vanderbilt, of New York.

Such an appointment at the beginning of the twentieth century carries out the significant suggestion that American women will rule the world.

The mistress of the robes has a powerful position in the kingdom of Great Britain. It really means that next to the queen she is the supervisor of every woman's position near the throne and of all those who are in court society. She will say "who's who" in one of the greatest kingdoms of modern life.

The Vice-Queen of India, Lady Curzon, is an American woman, and was known as Miss Leiter, of Chicago and Washington.

Countess Adolph Goetzen is the wife of the new governor general of German Africa. This means that an American girl will rule in Africa as another one is ruling in India.

The countess was Miss Lowney, of Baltimore, and later the wife of William Mathews Lay, of Washington.

The Baroness von Kettler has been appointed by the German empress as the head of court life in the kaiser's capital at Berlin. She was a Detroit woman, Miss Ledyard.

The Countess von Waldsee is now the first lady in command in China, as she is the wife of the commander-in-chief of the allied forces. She was Miss Lee, of New York.

You see what this really means!

An American woman in practical control of social affairs in the British empire, an American woman controlling the great empire of England, another one taking the leading part in the etiquette of social and diplomatic life in China, another the first lady of the land over thousands of subjects in Africa, and, again, a fifth controlling the women whose social life is allied to the throne of Germany.

The Duchess of Marlborough is a great favorite already in England, but of course, the queen's appointment will cause great jealousy among the older women.

The duchess can meet this, however, with her tact, quiet courtesy and by her sweet manner, and never give cause for any malice.

Queen Alexandra has been particularly fond of the "little American." She has liked the exclusive manner which has kept the duchess from getting embroiled in the intrigues and "wire pulling" and gossip of the Marlborough set.

Etiquette demands that the grand mistress of the robes to a queen be a duchess and one who is not a widow. The great house of Marlborough is the proper one to furnish a woman for this appointment.

The mistress of the robes to Queen Victoria was the Duchess of Buccleuch, and she is cordially disliked by the new king and queen, for it was she who drew the line against so many of the Prince of Wales' friends being received at court.

The Duchess of Portland would be the next choice; she is a very stately, splendid woman, with an exhaustive knowledge of court life, and one of the beautiful and powerful figures at the courts of Austria and Russia, as well as England.

But the new queen does not care for her. It was she who worked with the dead Victoria to keep out from court life some of the Prince of Wales' younger friends. She is bitterly opposed to Countess de Gray, who may be appointed as one of the ladies of the bedchamber.

The Duchess of Devonshire would be an ideal appointment, but her husband is a member of Salisbury's cabinet. The Duchess of Wellington has none of the qualities that would fit her for so high a position. The Duchess of Northumberland has never found favor

with the Princess of Wales, and it is not likely that Queen Alexandra would put her in a position of honor.

So far as diplomacy is concerned the appointment of the Duchess of Marlborough is good. She has no English relation; she has no life-long associations in England; she has not inherited prejudices; her husband's house is one of the great ones of England, and she herself is fitted to rule. She would be better in this place than an older woman, for she is entirely pliable to the new queen's wishes, having no settled likes and dislikes of her own in the court set.

She will have a wonderful position to fill.

It means that she will be at the head of all social affairs at the court, that she will supervise the women who belong to the royal household and who are in court society, that no one will have so much influence as she to bring in and put out women in high society. "Ach! Himmel!" are the words now heard from one end of Germany to another.

"When will America let up?" ask the lovely women of the German empire.

For the German empress has appointed Baroness von Kettler as mistress of the robes at the throne of Berlin.

This is the identical position that Queen Alexandra may give the duchess.

The beautiful Detroit woman lost her husband, the German minister, in Pekin; the first foreigner to be shot down by the Boxers.

It was because of her fondness for the American woman and her deep respect and admiration for the way the baroness behaved during those hideous days and the splendid manner in which she represented the German empire abroad that the wife of Kaiser Wilhelm II appointed her the first lady near the throne.

Miss Ledyard, now the baroness, is a typical American woman.

She is from Michigan, the daughter of a millionaire in trade, a self-made man, the backbone and sinew of the American people. She had all that wealth could give her in education and travel; she is lovely, gracious and stately.

To this Michigan girl women who bear the grandest titles of Germany must bow. She stands closer to the empress, as far as rule over social life goes, than any other woman.

But the "Achs" and "Himmels" that are now heard in Germany when American women are mentioned are not entirely over this great appointment of the lady from Detroit as mistress of the robes.

The tremendous significance of the appointment of the Countess von Goetzen follows closely on the heels of the other appointment.

The countess will rule over German's possessions in Africa. She has lunched with her majesty, who gave her a superb portrait in oils of herself, and decorated her with the Order of Louise.

Her career has been far more romantic than those of the Duchess of Marlborough or that of Countess von Kettler. As Miss Cowney, of Baltimore, she was a belle, and always went by the name of "little May Lowney." Before her first season was over she married Mr. William M. Lay. Four years ago she was the most fascinating widow of Washington. Possessing money, beauty and social reputation, magnetic to men, admired by women, she had a most delightful position.

The Count von Goetzen was the military and naval attaché at the German embassy in Washington and met her one night at a dinner party at Calvin Brice's. Their marriage took place a year after, and the couple went at once to Berlin, that she might be presented to the emperor.

It was the old story of a woman's adoration of a powerful, intrepid, brave man. He was one of the great African explorers, having fitted out an expedition of 600 men at his own cost and explored the African forest. He discovered a volcano and mapped out the country around Lake Edward, and returned to Germany with an international reputation.

The count is, therefore, the best man in Germany to trust with such a diplomatic position; but it is loudly whispered that he never would have had the appointment if his little American wife hadn't won the hearts of the emperor and empress, as one of the great pieces of work there is in the betterment of woman in the colonies.

The women of Berlin are eaten up with envy over it, and, of course, will watch carefully to see if "the American" really knows how to rule.

Well, let them watch!

If the foreigners are going to keep their eyes on all parts of the world they will see an American at the head everywhere.

Lady Curzon's exalted position in India is too well known to require going into at length. But the wife of

Count von Waldsee has had a most romantic and brilliant experience.

She was Miss Lee, of New York, who married and became the widow of Prince Frederic of Schleswig-Holstein. He was A. D. C. to the king of Prussia during the Franco-German war.

His wife was made the Princess von Noer by the German emperor after Prince Frederic's death. She was especially favored in many ways by the kaiser and the kaiserine.

When Count von Waldsee was made commander-in-chief of the allied forces in China, it put his brilliant wife in charge of the farthest end of the Orient.

Great Britain, the German Empire, Africa, India and China, each with an American woman at the head of social affairs!

It is enough to make one say: "Does the American girl rule the world?"—New York Herald.

### Big Alaska Mining Deal.

An offer of \$2,000,000 for two of the mines on Berners bay, owned by the Nowell Gold Mining Company, has lately been made in this city by J. M. Herman, a New York mining engineer in behalf of an Eastern syndicate of capitalists. Although the offer has not yet been accepted by President T. S. Nowell, the chief owner of the properties involved, it is expected that the deal will shortly be closed, and that development work on a scale larger than ever before attempted in Southeastern Alaska will be undertaken by the purchasers.

The Nowell properties are among the best known gold mines in Southeastern Alaska. They are at present in the hands of a receiver, F. H. Nowell, son of T. S. Nowell, being the receiver. Included in the group are 50 claims owned by the Berners Bay Mining and Milling Company, the Seward Gold Mining Company, the Northern Belle Gold Mining Company, and the Ophir Gold Mining Company. The properties lie adjacent to each other, forming an unbroken stretch of four miles of mineral belt.

Mr. Herman's offer relates only to the Northern Belle and Johnson properties, at Berners bay. Mr. Nowell, the chief owner of the properties, is here now and at the Butler yesterday he said that no deal had been closed for the sale of the properties. He stated in addition that negotiations for the sale of \$150,000 of receiver's certificates in New York, which, if consummated, as was expected, would put the company on its feet financially and enable development work to proceed. There is now a forty-stamp mill on the properties, which it is planned to ultimately enlarge to 300 stamps.

Mr. Nowell has great faith in the properties and believes them worth more than the price offered by Mr. Herman.

Another Southeastern Alaska property which Eastern capitalists represented by Mr. Herman are anxious to acquire, it is stated, is the Sea Level mine, in the Ketchikan district. Mr. Herman lately examined this property, and declares it to be one of the richest and most promising in Southeastern Alaska. It is not so large as the Northern Belle, but the ore is of a higher grade.

An offer to purchase the Sea Level outright for a price approaching \$750,000 was made through Mr. Herman, but refused by the majority stockholders of the company, who are local people and who propose to reap the benefit of its development.

Secretary Steel of the company, states that it is the purpose of the owners of the Sea Level to soon begin the erection of a stamp mill on the property, operated by water power, with air compressors and other needed machinery for the development of the mine to the fullest extent.—P.-I.

### Gen. Colville in Disgrace.

London, Feb. 22.—In the house of commons, Mr. Broderick, secretary of war, replying to Mr. Mansfield, Liberal, took occasion to offer an explanation regarding the retirement of Maj.-Gen. Colville, for which Mr. Broderick had been so much criticised. Gen. Colville, said Mr. Broderick, was sent home by Lord Roberts for inefficiency in the field. Gen. Colville was never tried, and though his cause was considered on his return to England, and he was allowed to resume his command at Gibraltar, he was not exonerated from blame. Subsequently Gen. Sir Evelyn Wood (the adjutant general) brought the Lindley disaster to Mr. Broderick's notice. After consultation with Lord Roberts, who advised that Gen. Colville should not be allowed to retain this command at Gibraltar, Mr. Broderick ordered action in accordance with this advice.

Mr. Broderick added that he understood the matter would be brought to the attention of the house later and therefore he would defer a fuller statement.

Mrs. Statestreet—Did she marry her first love?

Mrs. Stockyard—Oh, my yes! Her first, second, third and fourth.