

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY
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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 NUGGET has a regular carrier and express service covering Bonanza, Eldorado, Hunker, Sulphur and Dominion creeks and tributaries. Mail orders taken and prompt delivery guaranteed on all the above. Orders for delivery of papers, mail or express may be left at the Nugget Express office or given to creek agents.

THE TIME IS RIPE.

The time is ripe for a presentation at Ottawa of the Klondike's grievances. Last winter it was a matter of difficulty to secure a hearing by reason of the fact that so little was known about the country on the outside that legislators could not be expected to act with any considerable degree of intelligence. Now, however, the situation is entirely changed. During the past summer and fall a campaign of education has been in progress throughout Canada and at the present time the public mind is in a receptive mood to listen to our wants. As indicated through the columns of clippings which have been published in this paper from time to time during the past few months, powerful newspapers and influential public men have already arrayed themselves upon the side of the Klondike. Some have done this from motives of policy and others have been brought to see things in their proper light from their own sense of right and justice. The iron now is hot and should be struck without delay. The NUGGET is so certain of what can be accomplished through a practical and intelligent presentation of the case that it is sending its own representatives to Ottawa to forward the movement. We have invited the men whose interests we are endeavoring to conserve to give to us all the support they feel themselves able to and it speaks volumes to the credit of the miners on the creeks that they are rallying heartily around the movement. You can rely upon it, gentlemen, that your case will be presented in the very best manner within our power. We have no private axes to grind, no bed rock flume concessions to secure, nor are we asking you to furnish the capital to forward any private scheme for ourselves whatsoever. We will fight at Ottawa as we have fought in Dawson. Facts will be used and our representatives will be plentifully supplied with them. If you desire to assist the movement the opportunity is open to you.

LET THERE BE LIGHT.

Gov. Ogilvie in the interview published in our last issue declined to state that the proposed incorporation ordinance would be submitted to the people for adoption or rejection. He intimated that the so-called citizens' committee would be given the opportunity of looking over the ordinance before it is finally passed but it appears that in so far as an expression of popular opinion is concerned it will not be called for.

Without knowledge of the terms of the ordinance which document has been framed within the sacred seclusion of the Yukon council's star chamber sessions it is of course impossible to criticize or endorse it intelligently. The public have had no knowledge from time to time of the actual progress the framers of the ordinance were making and of the attitude of the council toward such important matters as revenue, police, sewage, light, water supply, etc. With such knowledge public discussion would have followed and valuable suggestions as to

the requirements of the community when it assumes municipal powers and responsibilities would naturally have resulted.

We are unable to see any reason for the exclusion of the press from council meetings, excepting only executive sessions. The Yukon council is distinctly a legislative body and when acting in that capacity, the right of the public and of the press to admission should we think be recognized.

A public official or a public body never loses anything by taking the people into his or their confidence. Secrecy always begets suspicion and distrust whether or not there be just grounds therefor. The secrecy which has prevailed in the gold commissioner's office and the inability of the public to secure information to which it is entitled, has proven a curse to the country and inspired the general feeling that the term public official is synonymous with that of private schemer.

We are of the opinion that this feeling is not altogether justifiable. We believe that there have been and are men in the government service in this territory who are as conscientious and who set as high a standard for their action as do the officials in any part of the Dominion. But the light of publicity must be thrown upon good and bad alike in order that the public may discriminate intelligently in forming its opinions. It is the wrong doer who seeks the cover of darkness. An honest man need never fear entrusting a knowledge of his actions to the people, especially when he is acting in a public capacity.

THE REILLY CASE.

An opportunity is now presented to Mr. Ogilvie to redeem his oft repeated promise to investigate and probe to the bottom any specific charge of irregularity brought against any government employe. We believe, and the facts produced in the last issue of this paper warrant us in believing, that a very serious irregularity occurred when Mr. Thomas Reilly was allowed to record his claim on Gold Hill.

The statement of the case as published in the NUGGET together with the sidelights thrown thereon through the letter of Mr. W. K. Heiskell warrant us in calling upon Gov. Ogilvie to sift the matter to its very foundation. Gov. Ogilvie has stated positively that no fractional claims have been recorded since July 22nd, when an order from the minister of the interior was received retaining all fractions for the crown. How under these circumstances Mr. Reilly's five sided claim could be recorded is a matter of interest. Why other parties who applied previously for the same ground were refused opens up a further field for interesting speculation. Why the abstract of title secured at the gold commissioner's office did not show the dimensions of the claim is worthy of investigation. Why Mr. Hurdman, recorder of bench claims, was so exceedingly reticent when asked for information regarding the claim is another matter worthy of Gov. Ogilvie's attention. Again Mr. Heiskell's letter presents a promising field for inquiry. It is in fact filled with points that throw interesting side lights upon the transaction.

We are unable to see how the Reilly claim can be considered in any light other than a fraction. Its area is far too great to allow it to come under the 100 feet regulation and too small to be considered a 250 feet claim. It is a clear case for investigation on Mr. Ogilvie's part. The NUGGET has published a list of witnesses who are most prominently concerned in the case. If these witnesses are all called we believe Mr. Ogilvie will find no difficulty in reaching the bottom.

A PLEASANT WINTER.

The terrors of an Arctic winter disappear very largely when a person is brought actually into contact with them. The popular impression of a Dawson winter on the outside is most cheerless and unpleasant, but the actual winter itself is something that might easily be far worse. While there have been short

periods during which an intense cold might be said to prevail, for the most part the winter has been exceptionally mild. Many people from the northern states and from the lower Canadian provinces have marked the fact that they have often seen more suffering from the cold in their former places of residence than has been the case here. One reason for this is the fact that in this country people anticipating a season of intense cold provide themselves with clothing suitable for the occasion. But more than that must be considered the fact that the climate itself is anything but the bug bear which it is ordinarily reputed to be on the outside.

Old timers have ceased making prophecies concerning the weather. They are for the most part satisfied that everything has not been all right, but how to account for it all is another question. Doubtless the presence of the irrepressible cheechaco is largely responsible.

We understand that the new gold commissioner is endeavoring to enforce regular office hours upon the clerks of his office. Under the gentle rule of Mr. Senkler's predecessor, oversleeping in the morning till towards the hour of noon, and early absence before the hour of closing at 4 p. m. was much too common for an office avowedly congested with more business than could be handled. There is yet room for improvement in this matter and the general public cannot understand why they must stand in line for hours at the various windows which are opened for business so late in the morning and closed so early in the evening. Business men in Dawson think nothing of 10 and 12 hours of work, and why the government offices should be such a sinecure is past finding out. The police branch of the government is operated upon a different plan and many of the boys are familiar with a whole 24 hours of continuous duty.

LATEST reports from the coast indicate that the season is just as far behind in the upper country as here. At last accounts all the rivers and lakes between Thirty-Mile and Bennett were still open and navigable by boats. On Lake Le Barge only about seven miles at the lower end was frozen over. Travelling, in consequence, is still exceedingly difficult which accounts in large measure for the scarcity of arrivals from the coast. It will probably be a matter of some weeks yet before any considerable number of people get through from the outside.

PEOPLE who have placed high faith in Dominion, Hunker and Sulphur creeks are finding their belief well grounded. Systematic and thorough prospecting is proving that the skeptics who scoffed at the claims made for the outlying creeks had little upon which to back their opinions.

OUTSIDE OPINION.

The last number of the *Canadian Mining Review* contains two excellent articles from the pen of its correspondent, Mr. A. N. C. Treadgold. The first one deals with the question of royalty in the Yukon and although the writer is in favor of some exactions being made on miners in that country he advances many reasons, apparently well considered, why he thinks the present royalty of 10 per cent on the gross output too high and detrimental to the interests of mining in that region. He is of the opinion that it is not the best policy for the government to expect that a new country should be self-supporting from its first opening up and says further that it is a delusive idea to suppose that the Klondike is so enormously rich as to be able to pay any royalty imposed. The, in many cases, almost insurmountable difficulties incident to mining in that country are vividly exemplified and according to the writer it would seem that this excessive royalty should have been kept back until it could have been presented with some counterbalancing gains to the miner whom it loads heavily at the time when he is struggling with very imperfect methods to develop a hard country of his own discovery. In reciting some of the evils of a too high tax of this nature he says it encourages dishonesty in making returns; the middling and poorer claims are unworkable at a profit, and it has a tendency to discourage capital. The tone of the article

throughout is very moderate and in closing he says the conditions of mining in the Yukon want knowing—they are not yet known sufficiently by the government—and improvements should be made in them before a royalty of so much as 10 per cent is imposed.

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Our facilities for executing

JOB WORK

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THE "NUGGET"

Three doors north of A. N. T. & Co.

THOUGHT THEY HAD
Victoria Gulch Flood of Thought

Imprisoned Water Shows
Feet—Miners' Drive
Flood of Water Fro

A strange case of flood on Victoria gulch... between Nos. 7 and 8... perseveringly by the... small island partly bl... stream winding on ea... the water has been b... all winter. Coming f... froze at once, with... of ice formed at last... fractional claim betw... dangled their shafts... last week the brilli... boys of "tapping" the... low and allowing the... No sooner said than... itel was made in thi... afternoon one of the... erated the ice until... underneath his feet... and he jabbed his p... hardly prepared for t... oned water immedi... and shot up into the... wetting the industri... skin and almost wash... rent. The creek was... ends to the depth of... dismay of all proceed... low. Men travelling... steep side hills and f... The water continued... when the supply was... creek had been reach... alarm created there... The philosophy of... waters is apparent... frozen top, bottom... forming a culvert... broken main at the... above is exhausted... yet convinced from t... escaped that they un... and such is the repor... been spread. Some... been filled with wat...

For Sw... The entertainment... Carlo theatre on Sun... the benefit of the m... the best show ever g... the outlook even at t... tax the capacity of t... There are a great... have never been ab... bition who will cap... this opportunity, off... to see Frank P. S... boxes the world e... offered to give his s... the poor. An exhib... and so clever a boxe... not help being enjo... enlighten a great m... of self defense is rea... he nothing in such... most fastidious lady... offense at... Frank Raphael an... apar four friendly r... pretty go... The bicycle race w... as both riders are e... very close finish... The other attracti... pictures and illustr... bill which for vari... It would be hard t... Mr. E. M. Sullivan... the theatre compl... has certainly beha... ways does when ar... arises... Mr. Ogilvie has g... tion that he is alw... to assist the "reedy... Messrs. Bartlett a... success of the unde... entire receipts are... there will be for a... in the suffering be... and inability to ge...

Adop... The quick adopti... the deceased Mrs... Mosler furnishes f... it became known... motherless there w... of open arms exte... hearts yearned to... The care of an inf... tude is a most seri... being at least five... dar charge in Calif... mitting care nigh... individual. What... each person's time... woman, is worth... And notwithstanding... ladies eager to tak... it were their own... It warns ones hear... struggle for posse... ladies of the Klond... find our indignat... heat at the author... the Mince which...