

**The Klondike Nugget**  
ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY  
On Wednesday and Saturday

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1898

THE NUGGET is delivered at cabins on Bonanza and Eldorado creeks for two dollars per month. Orders may be left at this office or given to the agent for the creeks.

**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.

**RE. QUALIFICATIONS.**

There have been two ordinances for incorporation drawn up by our citizens, and one of them has been tendered to Mr. Ogilvie as the wishes of this community in the matter of incorporation. The one given Mr. Ogilvie was drawn up by Attorney Lisle by request of the Miners' Association, to which body the making of the ordinance had been referred by the citizens' committee. This committee had been instructed by a large and enthusiastic public meeting at the Pioneer Hall to have an incorporation ordinance drawn up, giving the most liberal qualifications possible under the law both to candidates and voters at the proposed election, and were further instructed to submit it for discussion at some future public meeting. The ordinance drawn up by Mr. Lisle, in conformity with his directions, made the qualification of a voter or a candidate very low, estimated in Yukon values. A public meeting discussed those qualifications and endorsed them. The ordinance was then presented to the Yukon commissioner as the wish of the people in the matter. But there is, nevertheless, a feeling amongst our more wealthy citizens that the conditions for voting and qualifications of a candidate should be much more exclusive. It is within the powers of the Yukon council to pass an ordinance handing over the city into the hands of our more wealthy citizens, but we doubt the wisdom of such an act. Again, there is no law compelling that the ordinance be first submitted to the people. Mr. Ogilvie has been somewhat non-committal upon the subject, though his inclinations are believed to be towards a much higher qualification than that in the ordinance drawn up by Mr. Lisle. In fact, the committee which submitted the ordinance to him were not given much satisfaction concerning its fate by the commissioner. We understand he has requested the crown prosecuting attorney, Mr. Phil Sheridan, to draw up another ordinance, but what his instructions are regarding the qualification clause we have been unable to learn.

The Nugget believes itself to be in close touch with the people of this section, and we are speaking, therefore, with authority when we say that a high qualification ordinance will never be submitted to the people and receive the sanction of popular approval. For ourselves we believe in a proper property qualification, but this paper will never countenance a qualification which will limit the number of available candidates to a couple of dozen men and the voting list to less than a thousand names, as will be done by a high qualification.

**"LET THERE BE LIGHT."**

The growth of the freedom of the press has been contemporaneous with the progress of human liberty. So inseparable are the two that where one is, there is the other also. Which of the two is the cause and which the effect would be hard to say for both may be the result of one primal cause—the desperate breaking asunder of the bonds of oppression by exasperated humanity. The liberty of the press has resulted in a world-wide purification of governments. The growth of magazines and newspapers in England witnessed the emergence of society and government from a moral atmosphere

which now-a-days shocks us all when we catch a whiff of it in Shakespeare and ancient tales. There could have been no "dark ages" with a free press. There could have been no Henry VIII. with independent newspapers in the land. The invention of printing was a happy event for the human race and its latest development in modern newspapers has been productive of untold good. Evils fly before it, governments bow their heads to it, and the feelings of a nation upon any given subject can be accurately judged by a perusal of the newspapers of that country. A newspaper in touch with the people is after all but a reflection of public opinion and its power is just in proportion as it truly reflects or distorts the popular sentiment. This being admittedly true we can now account for the radical change in the official circles in Dawson since the press of Canada, headed by the Nugget, took up the war cry of "purity in government." But some men unwisely question the motives and popular backing of newspapers out upon a crusade. Messrs. Fawcett, Bolton and Craig pretend to think that this paper is alone in its demands for the retirement of these gentlemen; that it is not voicing popular demands but simply its own feelings and desires. The truth is that this community will never be at peace and the government will never can never secure the confidence of the people until the office of the gold commissioner and his chief aides is filled with men clean of such records as those gentlemen leave behind them when they are forced to depart as depart they must.

The freedom of the press to criticize must never be interfered with for it is the greatest known safeguard of the public's interests. Only evil deeds dread the light of publicity. When the focussed searchlight of newspaperdom is flashed around like a man-of-war's headlight, only lurking and treacherous enemies have cause to fear its rays. All reforms must come as they always have done from publicity. Only wrong fears discussion. Truth and right are eternal and when a man is relegated from public life to obscurity by newspapers it is because, mole-like, his actions would not bear the searchlight of investigation.

All kindly things on sunshine thrive;  
The burglar works at night;  
The man of truth prefers the day;  
Bad deeds abhor the light.

**"BRITISH ALASKA."**

The geography of this Northwest corner of the earth was something entirely unknown to the masses of the world's population until the discovery of the Klondike, and even now it is but imperfectly understood by even the educated classes who have not made the trip into the interior. A letter was received a few days since by a lady now in Dawson and was addressed: "Miss —, Teslin trail, care of Hudson Bay Company, Yukon Territory, Alaska." The amusing indefiniteness of the address makes it strange the letter ever arrived here.

A letter reached this office from a New York advertising firm addressed to "The KLONDIKE NUGGET, Alaska." It arrived here O. K. Yet the writer's idea of the size of Alaska must have been decidedly vague when he supposed the name of a newspaper was all that was necessary.

Today nearly all the people who come in and leave Dawson for the outside speak of leaving or arriving in Alaska. Quite a few call it "British Alaska," which at least is distinctive and descriptive.

**OGLIVIE NOT LIKE WALSH.**

The miners of the Klondike are unanimous enough in their just demands for a removal of the royalty of 10 per cent upon the gross output of the mines, but under the old regime some of the more grossly outrageous features of the law were much modified by the absolute powers of Major Walsh who took the responsibility of remitting payment in all cases where the mine owner made proper representations to him of the hardship the collection of that royalty would work. The wretched royalty law not being enforced whenever hardship was apparent, the full effect and monstrous evil of the regulations remains for future demon-

stration. Mr. Ogilvie, the present Yukon commissioner, has already declared that his powers do not extend to the remitting of the royalty even in the most flagrant case of injustice. From Mr. Ogilvie's utterances it is evident that if the wash-up occurs before the royalty law has been abolished and himself made officially acquainted with that fact, the enormous royalty will be collected against the thousand and one new claims opened this winter in which every dollar taken out will cost as much to dig. Then the enormity of the tax will become so evident that it will either be repealed at once or the camp largely deserted. However we all hope that with Major Walsh recommending a change and with Special Mining Commissioner Lynch advising it, with two miners' committees praying for it and the Miners' Association working for it—we all hope, that long before the wash-up that obnoxious regulation will be a thing of the past.

**NO FIRE ESCAPES.**

The attention of the Nugget has been directed to the fact that large hotels and office buildings have been and are being erected in Dawson without any provision being made for fire escapes. It is most creditable to the energy and enterprise of our business men and a lasting testimonial to the permanent character of our city that such large and commodious buildings are being constructed. Each and every such structure is a guarantee of the owner's faith in the future of Dawson. When thousands upon thousands of dollars are invested in a single building and no expense spared to provide its tenants with every convenience enjoyed in large cities in the states, it is safe to assume that the investor has considerable confidence in the stability of the city in which he is placing his capital. It is all the more creditable to the men who have thus invested their money when it is remembered that no fire risks are taken in the town and up to the present time there has been little or no fire protection for any one.

But these very facts render it all the more imperative that the occupants of our two and three story buildings should be provided with adequate means of escape in case of fire. We are not informed as to the amount of material available in town from which suitable escapes could be made but it is safe to assume that some means can be found whereby the present serious condition may be relieved.

Were Dawson an incorporated city which we are all hoping will be the case within a short time an ordinance would probably be in force compelling owners of buildings more than one story in height to provide them with the necessary fire escapes. Pending the incorporation of the town and in the absence of action on the part of the Yukon council the Nugget urges the matter upon the attention of owners of large public buildings. A number of tenants of these structures have expressed themselves very forcibly on the subject and their wishes are entitled to consideration.

It is altogether probable that two or three dollars will be expended for every one that is taken out of the ground in this district. This means of course that a very large proportion of men who have come to the Klondike will go out, richer in nothing but experience more than when they came. Nevertheless the best and most extensive gold fields on the face of the earth today are situated right here in the valley of the Yukon river.

In view of the fact that within a very short time there will be only a few hours of daylight during the 24, we suggest to our esteemed contemporary, the government organ, that it would be expedient and appropriate for it to change its name. For the next eight months it would be quite in accordance with the eternal fitness of things to style the organ "the Noonday Moon."

If the moon were known to be made of gold instead of green cheese some means would long ago have been found to reach and explore it.

**St. Mary's Hospital**  
IN CHARGE OF THE SISTERS OF ST. ANNE

Tickets, good for one year and covering all expense in case of sickness, \$50.  
Patients Without Tickets, \$5.00 per day for Nursing, Board and Washing. Doctors' Fees, \$5.00 per visit.

FATHER JUDGE, SUPT.

**YUKON SAW MILL CO.**  
MANUFACTURERS OF

First Quality Matched, Dressed, Rustic, Roofing, and Rough Lumber  
House Logs Furnished, Cordwood &c.  
Orders filled promptly.

**RAINIER CHOP HOUSE**  
SHORT ORDERS A SPECIALTY.

E. DETWILER, Mgr., S. Y. T. Bldg., Foot of 5th St.

**Job Printing**

In all the Latest Styles executed from new type faces at this office . . . . .

**Check Binding**

**Perforating, Numbering and**

**Stapling**

STOCK VERY COMPLETE AND WELL ASSORTED

Plenty of type and press facilities for the quick execution of

Pamphlets, Blanks and Programs

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