

The Klondike Nugget

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LETTERS

And Small Packages can be sent to the Creeks by our carriers on the following days: Every Wednesday and Saturday to Eldorado and Bonanza; every Saturday to Hunker, Dominion, Gold Run, Sulphur, etc.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1900

(From Wednesday's Daily.)
THE VOTER'S CHANCE.

Tomorrow evening a meeting will be called in McDonald hall for the purpose of selecting delegates to represent Dawson in the convention to be held on Saturday.

The meeting is an important one and it devolves upon all citizens who feel interested in advancing the cause of reform to attend. The delegates selected will be empowered to speak for the reform forces in Dawson and it is for the meeting to say tomorrow night in what manner the delegates are to act. Every man who has a vote and who endorses the memorial presented to the governor general by the citizens' committee is entitled to participate in the meeting tomorrow night.

The delegates are bound to act under the instructions of tomorrow night's meeting and whatever those instructions may be it is to be expected that they will be carried out to the letter. If the citizens have any candidates whom they wish nominated in the convention, tomorrow night is the time for them to state what they want. If they have any features which they desire incorporated in the platform to be adopted on Saturday the delegates selected tomorrow should be so instructed.

In brief, the purpose of a primary meeting for the selection of delegates is to give the voter an opportunity to control the convention proper if he so desires. If the voters of Dawson do not turn out and improve the opportunity now before them they will have no one, aside from themselves, to blame.

We expect to see a large and representative meeting tomorrow night.

The completion of a good system of roads connecting Dawson with all the adjacent creeks means a reduction of from twenty-five to fifty per cent in the present cost of operating claims. When this is accomplished a very considerable amount of ground now regarded as being impossible to work can be developed on a paying basis. Transportation of freight into Dawson from the outside and from Dawson to the creeks is altogether too high. Excessive freight tariffs have greatly hindered the development of the country which never will make the showing to which it is entitled until a substantial reduction in these charges is made. Every time freight charges are reduced it simply means that a larger area of ground can be worked and a greater quantity of commodities will be consumed. There is something in this which the transportation companies may well take into careful consideration.

John R. Rogers, the present governor of the state of Washington, has been re-nominated by the fusion forces of that state for the office of governor. Rogers has given the state the best administration it has ever had, although he has been badly handicapped on account of the warring factions of which the fusion party is composed. While the people of Washington have been very well satisfied with the present governor's conduct of his office, there is little reason for belief that he will be re-elected. This will be distinctly a

Republican year in the coast states. Senator Frink, the gubernatorial candidate on the ticket of the latter party is the strongest man the Republicans could have nominated and in spite of the enviable record which Rogers has made for himself during the past four years, a victory for Senator Frink seems almost certain.

The interest which was manifested at the various polling places on the creeks in the coming convention betokened the fact that the people generally are fully alive to the issues involved in the present campaign. Voters generally are manifesting a strong degree of interest and this appears to be just as true on the creeks as it is in Dawson. The main consideration, now is to get the best men. For its first elected representatives the Yukon should put forward the very best men of which it can boast.

The Chinese dragon bids fair to be cut up into large chunks and distributed around among the various nations of the world which have had sense enough to become civilized during the past three or four hundred years. China has refused to accept the Christian religion and is now to be made acquainted with the Christian sword. The latter may not be more to the celestials' liking than the former, but at least it will be something which he will be able to understand.

While the various candidates who are seeking political preferment at the hands of the people of this territory are not saying much there is a great deal of quiet wood sawing going on, the result of which will become manifest a little later on. The convention Saturday will doubtless develop the fact that a number of candidates who have not been very conspicuous of late are after all very much alive.

It has become quite the fad to guess upon the date when the Yukon will close this fall. We suggest to people who are figuring on a late close up that they do not back their judgment too strongly, particularly if they anticipate getting any freight in along toward the end of the season.

Keep Your Eye on Kadiak.

Already the warning comes, "Look out for Kadiak island. That's the next place to be boomed." Nome has had its day; York was a fizzle, and now it is predicted Kadiak will be chosen as the place for next spring's boom. Here is what W. B. Heims of Marion county, Oregon, says about it:

"As we came down we stopped at Kadiak to take off the crew of a cannery which has just been shut down. There were 40 men in the crew, bound for San Francisco, and some of them exhibited vials of black sand in which colors of gold could be discovered. The sand was found on a high stretch of beach which is washed by the sea at times of full tide. None of the cannerymen cared to stay with the diggings themselves, but when we arrived in Seattle the daily papers came out with scare-head articles on the fabulously rich diggings to be found at the mouth of Red river, on Kadiak island. The news was given the world on the strength of what the captain of the Valencia had said about the place, and the information was vouchsafed that a great stampede was being made for Kadiak, where hundreds of miners were digging out gold to beat all. Yet there isn't a human soul within 80 miles of the mouth of Red river, but all the same, look out for that point as being the place to which the unwary are to be lured next."

Perhaps it will be Kadiak—perhaps some other place. At any rate, it is a safe guess that the transportation companies are already trying to choose some far-off region which they can describe as a new Eldorado and to which they can stampede a crowd of dupes before the truth comes out. It doesn't matter how many thousands come back disgusted—it doesn't matter how many don't come back, but leave their bones rotting on the beach, as they will at Nome; the steamship companies have got their money and there will be a new crop of suckers in the spring. Who cares?

After a while it may be the stampede starters will discover their "wonderful gold region" so far north among the icebergs—that it will take a man two years to go there and return, and then the same boom can be worked for two seasons. But for the present people may expect to see a fresh Alaska boom every year.—Spokane Chronicle.

STROLLER'S COLUMN

The Stroller is being importuned by residents every day and by letters every mail for advice on points relative to the election now pending. Many of these requests are from men who say "I have not yet announced my candidacy, but am awaiting for my friends to bring me out." They invariably look upon their nominations as assured in case their respective names are placed before the convention in a suitable manner.

While the Stroller has religiously refrained from giving advice to individuals, he deems it his Christian duty to give some general points on matters pertaining to nomination speeches. There is such a thing as overdoing matters and a nominating speech can be made too strong as easily, as more so, as it can be left undone. Therefore, in the approaching convention, in case of placing in nomination the name of a man for whom it is desired to make a strong plea to the miners, don't overdo the matter by asserting that the man whom you are about to name was born and raised in a mine, that the first bath of his life was taken in a gold pan and that his ancestors for seven generations back were miners.

The Stroller once knew a bright and promising young man to have his blissful anticipations rudely shattered and a brilliant future irrevocably clouded by an over-zealous friend who had been selected to place the name of the young man before a convention as candidate for member of the state legislature from Coffee county, Georgia. He was known to be true to his promises and he was on record as saying he would, if elected, use his vote and his influence against the pernicious practice of levying a state and county tax on the manufacture of whisky. What more could be asked of any candidate who was willing to trust his fate to the hands of the suffragists of Coffee county? Nothing. And yet, he was killed by an overdrawn nominating speech. The man who made the speech had been selected for the purpose several weeks previous, and had been practicing down in an "old field" every day for nearly a month.

As agriculture was the principal industry of that county, it was necessary that the successful candidate should poll the farmer vote and it was to catch the farmers' attention that the speech had been prepared. After dilating at length on the many qualities of his man, the speaker said:

"And now, my fellow citizens of Coffee county, I wish to state that the man whom I am about to place in nomination is not only to the manor born, but to the farm born. His grandfathers were farmers! His father was a farmer! He has always followed farming himself! Why, to tell you the truth, my fellow citizens, the man whose name I am about to submit for your distinguished consideration was actually raised between two hills of corn. I take pleasure in"—

"Hold on thar," came a voice from the Hoop-pole precinct delegation, "you've done said 'nuff. I reckon I'm a farmer myself; but dam me if I'll vote for a pumpkin."

The old man's break dissolved party harmony with the result that a yellow nigger represented Coffee county in the next legislature.

The above is given for the benefit of those who are practicing on nominating speeches for next Saturday. Verbum sat sapiente.

"This is a queer world we live in," said an old rounder in the presence of the Stroller yesterday. When asked in what respect the world is queer he replied:

"In the respect, sir, that so long as a man has a job and is making money nobody ever duns him for what he owes; but as soon as he gets out of work and goes to hanging around on the street like a homeless dog everybody to whom he owes a cent is after him when they well know he hasn't a sou in his clothes.

"For example: I quit work Saturday evening; was fired. Things had been coming my way for a few weeks and I had established a good credit. The laundryman would say 'that's all right, old fellow; pay me any time that suits you; next month or month after will do.' The restaurant man would say 'come here and eat any time; there is nothing too good for you.'

"Well, as I said, Saturday night I got fired and today when I called at the laundry for my clothes, while I hadn't said a word, the fellow seemed to size me up as being 'on the pig,' for he said 'when you pay up the back bill you can get your clothes; savey?' It was the same way at the restaurant. I told the boss I wanted to take a meal with him and he said when he started a free lunch counter I could eat with him, but not before.

"But that's all right. These old bones will rise again and then Rome will howl for some of these stuck-up geees who try to rub it in on me jest because I'm broke—ah, thanks; I'll take a little rye! This is the first ray of sunshine which has crossed my path this week."

And the man who had lost his job strolled down the street and when last seen was gazing earnestly at a boiled ham in a restaurant window.

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