

The Klondike Nugget

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LETTERS
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TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1902.

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KLONDIKE NUGGET.



DID THE NEWS HAVE JOE IN MIND?

Some weeks ago considerable discussion took place among the newspapers of the city relative to the requirements of the man to be entrusted with the weighty responsibility of representing this territory in the house of parliament.

At this particular juncture a contribution to the discussion which appeared in the editorial columns of the News possesses particular interest.

In describing the candidate who could secure the support of the News our contemporary delivered itself of the following:

"This is an occasion upon which all three newspapers are of one mind. Yukon must be represented by a man who is above reproach, competent to perform the duties which will devolve upon him, intelligent upon the matters which will come before the house, courteous in his manner, of good address and at home in his new surroundings. A man of unblemished reputation, with a degree of ability, conspicuous for his honesty of purpose, and one who has inspired the confidence of the people and won their esteem. We believe such a man can be found. We believe such a man is available. If so, he will be obvious. It will not be necessary for him, to prove it, the people will know it. * * * It would be a greater error to elect the wrong man than to suffer the present conditions to continue. Unless the representative from Yukon can exercise an influence upon his fellow members, and be of service in suggesting reforms, proving their necessity by logical, convincing argument, his presence in the house will be negative and no benefits will accrue to his constituency. Therefore, to accomplish the greatest good a man, such a one as the press of this city have described, must be selected for the Dominion commons."

And yet the News has endorsed Joseph!

A GROWING NECESSITY.

The United States government has under consideration a plan for the establishment of a mint at Tacoma, Wash. The project has found much favor in congress by reason of the constantly increasing amount of gold produced in territory which would be directly tributary to the proposed mint.

Regarding the subject an interesting article is published in the Engineering and Mining Journal of July 26, 1902. In connection with an elaborate presentation of the matter the following extract from the proceedings of the 56th congress is given:

"The establishment of a coinage mint at Tacoma, Washington, was proposed at the 56th congress, and the committee had this bill under consideration from the date of its introduction until February 11th, 1902. In making its report the committee called attention to the fact that there is naturally tributary to the proposed mint an aggregate annual output of gold and silver valued at from \$30,000,000 to \$50,000,000. On a basis of \$30,000,000 it is estimated that the saving to the government,

would be in found numbers equal to the expense of maintaining and operating a branch mint at Tacoma.

The interest which the United States government is exhibiting in the question has served to create in Canada renewed discussion of the desirability of establishing a Canadian mint.

There is no substantial reasons why Canadian gold should be exported to the American mints and assay offices. The marvelous commercial and industrial development which Canada is undergoing at the present time furnished unmistakable evidence of the fact that there is ample room for the absorption of all the gold that is produced within the confines of the Dominion.

A mint is one of the greatest of Canada's present necessities.

Any candidate who fails to reckon with the intelligence of the voters of the district overlooks a most important consideration. The men who will be empowered to select a representative to plead the cause of the Yukon before the bar of the house of commons are men of experience and wisdom altogether too ripe to admit of their being deceived by the wiles of a clap trap politician. They will not intrust their interests to a man entirely lacking in principle however much he may be versed in the ways of wire pulling and political skulduggery.

It must not be taken for granted that any old candidate can be elected against Joe Clarke. Clarke is a factor whose strength must be recognized and who must be fought with the best weapons at hand. Good citizenship throughout the territory must unite to procure his overthrow. Clarke's success would be a blot upon the fair name of Yukon from which the territory would be years in recovering.

The News coupled its endorsement of Clarke with an apology so pitifully weak as to indicate its support will be extremely half hearted. When the pen pictures of Messrs. Beddoe and Roediger, so often sketched in the Miner are remembered, it is no wonder that our contemporary makes a bad face in swallowing the dose.

It is by no means surprising that the News has endorsed the candidacy of Joe Clarke, nor will it be surprising if the same paper is found championing another candidate before the date of election.

Case Dismissed.

Albert St. Peronoid, a lad less than a dozen years old was in police court this morning as plaintiff in a suit brought by him against Frank A. Crawford, manager of the local district messenger office, where the boy Albert had been employed as messenger boy, the amount claimed as due being an alleged balance of \$4.

In the hearing of the case it came out that when the boy quit work he had \$30 coming to him; that Crawford gave him \$26 in cash and tabs amounting to \$4 taken by the boy from patrons. The boy had accepted the tabs but later returned them to the office, demanding cash instead.

Magistrate Wroughton dismissed the case.

Fell Dead.

Juneau, Aug. 20.—Geo. Sicily, a cook, aged about 50 years, dropped dead on the street in the upper part of this city yesterday. He was an old timer here, but has just returned from Nome, where he had been for some time. He was known as Crazy George, because he was always talking about some patent machine he had for operating steamboats. The cause of death is supposed to have been heart disease. He was a heavy drinker. Sicily was a native of Italy.

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FEARFUL CONDITION

Drains Choked and Specially Need Attention

Stagnant Water Abounds Throughout the City—Engineer is Checked Up.

The present miserable condition of the city drains was gone into quite exhaustively last night at the meeting of the city council and it was the unanimous opinion of all the members that they must be remedied immediately cost what it may. On a half dozen streets stagnant water filled with putrid vegetation stands which is a constant menace to the health of the community. Had it not been for the unusual amount of rainfall this season there would have undoubtedly been a great deal of sickness as the result of such condition, and in handling the subject several members of the council did not mince matters in the least or hesitate to state their opinion of the way sewers had been neglected. City Engineer Rendell came in for a full round share of abuse, in fact, the bulk of the blame was laid at his door. The council had upon several occasions ordered certain work done and instead of attending to it at once the city engineer had dilly-dallied along until patience had ceased to be a virtue. The box drain ordered put in on Second avenue was cited as an instance. It was agreed upon nearly a month ago and yet it is not in and the east side of Second avenue between York and Duke streets is in a condition that is a disgrace to the city, so filthy and so foul that the sight of it is nauseating. The King street sewer is no better except that it is not visible. The sewer is choked up and the surplus water drains off under the buildings adjoining, undermining them and causing smells that are bound to breed sickness. Many of the side streets are in no better condition. Along Fifth avenue between Harper and Church there is stretch of stagnant water that has a green scum over it that would make angels weep to gaze at. Parts of Third and Fourth avenues are likewise afflicted. Much of the difficulty of keeping the box drains open is said to be due to the quantities of silt that is being continuously washed down from the hillsides. His worship gave a bit of his personal experience. For some time he has noticed that the drain that flows in front of his house has been carrying but little water and he wondered what had become of the natural flow. It was not until yesterday that he ascertained that the surplus had been passing under his house causing the rear portion to settle eight inches. A few dollars expended in keeping the drain open would have saved him at least a thousand dollars damage that has been caused his residence.

Wilson insisted that the streets committee had and was doing the best it could with the monthly appropriation available for such purposes and if any additional services were required the appropriation would have to be increased.

In connection with the matter Adair took a fall out of the fire department. He said a big bill for coal was presented to the council every month whether there were any fires or not and he would like to get some action on it. While the engine could do nothing toward cleaning out the open ditches as the force of the water would groundsluice everything it came in contact with, still the box drains could be flushed and opened. He favored putting the fire department to work, let them do something.

Norquay, chairman of the fire, water and light committee, quietly remarked that the fire department was at the disposal of the streets committee any time it was needed.

Several in unison—"Well, we want it right away."

Murphy scored the city engineer up one side and down the other and in view of his neglect to properly attend to the sewer's moved that Tom Kinney be appointed to have charge of that department and devote his whole time to seeing that they are kept in proper condition.

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ACTIVITY ON PELLY RIVER

The Scene of the Latest Strike

Diggings Reported Which Will Yield Two Ounces to the Man Per Day.

A new discovery of placer diggings was reported yesterday which if proven as represented will rival in richness many of the creeks of this district. The scene of the strike is Campbell river, a tributary of the Pelly about 60 miles above the canyon.

The report was brought to Dawson by Mr. Horton, an old time prospector and trapper who returned from there in a small boat Sunday night. According to the report of Mr. Horton the ground is very rich and will yield two ounces per day per man. There has hardly been enough work done yet, he says, to fully show its value, but he is very confident that it will prove a big surprise. Yesterday he was busy getting a large outfit and a company of men together and last night they left for the Campbell river on the steamer La France and will remain there all winter.

This can hardly be called a new discovery according to the story of Mr. Theakeson, another pioneer prospector and trapper of this country, who claims to have been in this very region and to have washed gold out of this stream in the years of 1878-79 at the time the Hudson Bay Co. had its trading post at the head of Liard river. When the Hudson Bay Co. abandoned its post it took away the base of supplies and the trappers and prospectors in the district were starved out and it has only been since the district was opened up by the steamers operating on the Pelly river that attention has again been directed to this portion of the country.

Mr. Theakeson is also organizing a party of prospectors to go into this district and will leave at an early date.

Mr. J. G. Ponpore recently received the appointment of mining recorder for the district and will accompany the party, establishing his office in the centre of the diggings so that the stampede may obtain their grants without making the long and expensive trip to Dawson.

Mr. Theakeson's party will consist of 4 men and they will take 10 tons of provisions with them and will remain throughout the winter. The fact that Mr. Horton purchased his outfit and returned immediately to the ground is in the opinion of those who know him an indication that he has struck a paying proposition, as he is considered to be a reliable man and an expert placer miner.

Hot After Brady

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 20.—Last night's session of the Transmississippi congress was notable for a sensational attack made upon Governor John G. Brady, of Alaska. The charges against the Alaskan executive were made by Donald Fletcher, a member of the Seattle chamber of commerce and a delegate from that body to the congress. He accused Gov. Brady of being an exponent of a policy of oppression and repression. He further charged the governor with being an active agent of the big companies, and that as such he is opposing self government.

Fletcher condemned Brady's last annual report, and urged that there was an ulterior motive behind his recommendation that the full land laws of the country be extended to Alaska. He said the recommendation was made in behalf of the big corpora-

tions. Its purpose was to keep congress quibbling while the real question of self government was being indefinitely delayed.

"Let congress pass the bills recommended and have the land laws extended to Alaska and there would follow years of waiting," said Fletcher, "while the head bosses go on gobbling up the best part of a magnificent country, worth many times more than the entire national debt." Fletcher asserted that Brady was a consistent opponent of self-government and that he was such for selfish purposes. He maintained that he was one of the worst drawbacks to the district of Alaska and that the welfare of the district absolutely demanded his dethronement.

Fletcher eloquently argued for the necessity of a territorial form of government for the district of Alaska. He said that until the pioneers of that northland are permitted to make laws to meet the conditions then obtaining, avarice and ignorance would fashion the government for 75,000 intelligent Americans.

F. B. Thurber, of New York, private secretary to President Cleveland during his second term, and now president of a New York trust company, took exception to the allegations against Governor Brady, and presented resolutions demanding an investigation of the charges. A vote on the resolutions was deferred.

Good Quartz Prospect

"One year ago quartz in any quantity was not thought to exist in the Klondike, but now the prospects are better than ever that the region about Dawson will develop many rich properties," said President S. H. Graves of the White Pass & Yukon Route, last evening. Mr. Graves arrived in the city yesterday, after spending six weeks in Dawson and along the route of his railway and steamship lines.

"Today fully 500 men are prospecting for quartz or are interested in quartz mining," Mr. Graves contin-

ued. "But a short while ago the scoffers at any mining other than placer were many. Now these have completely changed their views and many have bought quartz properties. Of course the mining of gold in the hard rock is the backbone of any mining camp and the transportation companies are interested that gold in this form be found and extracted."

"From the appearance of the placer gold in the Klondike it was but to be expected that quartz discoveries would be made. The gold is coarse and indications are plain that it has not traveled far. The mother leads must be near. It is evident now that the theory was correct. It is my opinion that the output of the Dawson country will not increase materially for several years, but that mining will be placed upon a firmer basis. The day has passed when immense fortunes are to be made by the men who know nothing about mining. The most approved methods must be used. Much more dirt has now to be worked to secure the same amount of dust. The day of the phenomenal yield of a few mines is over. Now many mines produce the same amount of gold."

Mr. Graves says his company has no intention of extending its road down the Yukon, as he believes such an expenditure would be folly in view of the cheap method of transportation which the Yukon affords. The company has put on a steamer between Dawson, Fortymile and Eagle. This is done to accommodate the Americans, because a steamer from Canadian territory is allowed to touch at but one American port, and the same in the reverse is true. Mr. Graves will remain in Seattle a day or two before returning to his headquarters in Chicago. He is a guest at the Rainier-Grand hotel.—P.-I.

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