

The Klondike Nugget

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NOTICE

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LETTERS

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KLONDIKE NUGGET.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1903.

AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

It has been the custom usually to consider placer mining as the only industry which engages the people of this territory. On the outside there has been manifest a disposition to regard this northern district as capable of producing little or nothing aside from ice, snow and gold...

The facts of the case are that a considerable number of people are already engaged in productive industries not in any way associated with mining and what is more to the point such industries have proven and are proving satisfactorily profitable. The amount of acreage under cultivation last summer in the immediate vicinity of Dawson is absolutely surprising...

The great advantage to be derived from home production lies in the fact that it contributes materially toward keeping money in local circulation. In previous years the settlement of Dawson's vegetable bill with outside concerns has required several hundreds of thousands of dollars. That money may just as well be left at home and from present indications the time will soon come when it will be.

The islands and low lands near this city possess a remarkable fertile soil and the quality of vegetables produced will easily bear comparison with the average imported article. There is also to be considered the market that is offered in the district for hay and oats, both of which, as has already been demonstrated, particularly along the Stewart river, can be produced with splendid results...

Briefly summed up it may be said that the agricultural outlook for this district is most promising and offers exceptionally promising inducements for men of experience and practical knowledge. There will never be over-production as long as heavy importations continue, and to supply the entire demand of the market means lucrative employment for a large number of men.

While very little has appeared in the newspapers of late regarding the progress of quartz development it is a fact none the less that substantial work has been done in that direction. Prospecting has been done on a number of properties of sufficient extent to indicate that under favorable conditions operations on a large scale would result profitably.

The review of the quartz situation as published in the Nugget of yesterday furnishes a valuable fund of information which withal may be regarded as of a conservative character. A quartz camp cannot be established in a day, nor a

year. Time and money are required as also patience and indomitable perseverance—but a combination of these will in time accomplish results. Dawson will yet become the centre of extensive quartz operations.

The Northwest territories are rapidly filling up with immigrants from the States and England. With suitable legislation secured for Yukon, this territory would be in a position to absorb a greatly increased population. The trend of events must be followed closely to the end that the interests of this district shall not suffer. The making of a great commonwealth lies dormant within the boundaries of Yukon, but assistance is absolutely required. The Dominion government will never expend money more judiciously than by investing a few millions in aiding Yukon development.

Carrie Nation has once more been placed under arrest at the ruthless hands of a policeman. Alas, poor Carrie. She who started out to reform the world bids fair, like other martyrs who have gone before her, to live and die unappreciated. Centuries hence Carrie may be rated among the notables of history. Just at present, however, she merely takes rank among common law breakers.

Yukon interests will be given a front place during the present session of parliament. There are vital questions which demand attention, and the action of the federal legislative body in connection with them will be eagerly awaited.

Operas Are Costly

Dear Sir,—I have frequently been asked why the receipts from the performances given by the Amateur Operatic Society do not meet the cost of production. The society feels very grateful indeed for the liberal patronage it has received for all the productions and in fact it could not expect to receive more support, but there remains the fact that in the last two productions the society did not receive sufficient amount in admissions to defray the expenses and I ask you to publish the following statement of receipts and expenditures for the production of the Pirates of Penzance with the view above stated:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Rent of theatre \$475.00, Stage manager 150.00, Advertising 125.00, Sundries (make-up, etc.) 50.00, Rent St. Andrew's hall 160.00, Painting of scenery 75.00, Orchestra 420.00, Wardrobe 100.00, Royalty 55.00.

Total \$1610.00, Deficit Bohemian Girl 130.00, Total receipts from Pirates of Penzance \$1868.00.

The above does not provide for any remuneration for the conductor. The society is also indebted to Mr. Searle for a large amount of money which he was instructed to expend for costumes, scores, decorations, etc. In San Francisco, none of which has as yet been repaid. It will therefore be obvious that the society finds it necessary to repeat the performance of the Pirates of Penzance which will of course not bring in enough funds to clear the society's indebtedness but which we hope will materially help.

Yours very sincerely, C. W. MACPHERSON, Secy-Treas. D.A.O.S.

Out on Point of Order

Washington, Feb. 19.—Representative Cushman today argued in favor of his amendment to the naval bill restoring the 1 per cent. differential in favor of ship builders on the Pacific coast. Representative Jones also addressed the house in favor of the amendment, but the provision was ruled out on a point of order. It is hoped that the amendment may be introduced and passed by the senate and retained in the bill by the conference committee. Mr. Cushman and Mr. Jones argued today that the Moran Bros. Company was the only plant on the Pacific coast not included in the ship building combine, and that the company ought to be encouraged to build war ships.

Power of Attorney Banks for the Tanana-Nugget Office.

Advertisement for J. P. McLennan, featuring 'SEAMS ALLOWED FOR', 'STANDARD PATTERNS', 'BEST FITTING', 'POPULAR PRICES', 'Patterns and Fashion Sheets FOR MARCH', 'J. P. McLENNAN', '233 FRONT ST Phone 101-B'.

SIR JAMES AT THE BAT

Informers Victorians of Affairs in the Northland.

J. H. Falconer, of the government secret service of the Yukon territory, who came down from the north on the steamer Amur on Thursday, landing a lunatic by the name of Van Dall at Vancouver, is now in the city. Mr. Falconer is well known to Victorians, having long been in business in this city. He left Dawson on the 31st of January, making the trip to Whitehorse in six days by means of the excellent stage-service now provided between those two points. Relays of four horses are furnished every twenty-two miles, and passengers come along without interruption some days traveling eighty miles, a performance which was impossible in old days, but which is now rendered possible by means of the splendid road which the Dominion government built to the Yukon metropolis last year. Mr. Falconer says the service at the road house en route is giving every satisfaction and comfort to travelers. The insane man whom Mr. Falconer took from the north has been transferred to the New Westminster asylum, and in his removal to that institution Mr. Falconer was afforded an opportunity of going through that institution, as also the provincial penitentiary. Having previously inspected the big penitentiary at Kingston, Mr. Falconer was naturally in a position to make comparisons, and he was delighted to find both institutions so thoroughly up-to-date in the matter of equipment and management. The places are models of cleanliness, and in both institutions Mr. Falconer states that the governments have just cause for congratulation. In the jail there were 91 prisoners, and in the asylum 300 patients were confined.

Referring to the mining operations in the north, Mr. Falconer tells of a new country which has been attracting much attention. This is that known as Duncan creek, in the Stewart district, about 175 miles from Dawson. The country is reached by two routes, the most popular of which is via Dominion and Gold Run creeks, thence to Mayo creek. The summer route, however, will undoubtedly be up the Stewart river two hundred miles to Gordon landing, and thence overland 70 to 75 miles. The country is known already to contain pay gravel for 33 miles, and to be in some places as wide as two hundred feet, the depth of the gravel being from 18 to 20 feet. This carries on the average from five to twenty cents to the pan, and as high as \$1.25 to the pan has been found. The general statement made by miners of the district is that the country will equal in extent and value the original discoveries around Dawson city. A very large number of the miners in this district are British Columbians, and are on the ground floor. Mr. Brockington, acting for British and American capitalists, has already purchased from fifty to sixty unprospected properties, and is still buying enthusiastically. The prices for the claims range all the way from \$300 to \$3000 apiece. The French-Canadians who own No. 2 below have refused \$15,000 for their claim, preferring to work the property themselves, which they are doing. A large hotel is conducted there at present by Barnett Brothers, of Dawson; Isaac Burpee, of Ottawa, has a general store, and other places of business are being established. That the district is growing very rapidly is evidenced by the fact that a few months prior to the election in the Yukon territory the place was hardly known, while at the time of the election there were over 300 votes cast. Many people, however, had to leave on account of the real cold weather when it set in because of the limited supply of provisions in stock. The day or so before Mr. Falconer left Dawson three boilers had been shipped over the mountains from Dawson to Duncan. In the spring a very large exodus to that district is expected, and a town the size of Grand Forks near Dawson is predicted by next fall. Being alive to the growing importance of the place, the government will build a road from Dawson, and have completed arrangements for the establishment of a mining office there. Thomas Hinton, formerly of the comptroller's office, has been appointed recorder. The country is the same in which a party of Swedes are said to have made something like \$15,000 or \$25,000, escaping out of the country a couple of years ago without paying the royalty. They had worked two seasons, and their big success had created widespread attention at the time. Mr. Falconer reports that the new

Yukon council had been summoned to meet at the administrative building today. Acting Commissioner Major Wood will preside. F. T. Congdon, who has received the commission-ship of the Yukon territory, is a most popular appointment. Previously Mr. Congdon was crown prosecutor and his promotion met with the general approval of all. Since the advent of Hon. J. H. Ross into the territory, first as commissioner and afterwards as member of the government, the prosperity of the country has been marked and continuous.

As a former business man of this city, Mr. Falconer advises that the merchants of Victoria and Vancouver should cater more extensively to the needs of the northern country than they have in the past. He would suggest that a business man's excursion be organized and that during the coming year a visit to the northern country be made. The boards of trade well could manage this, and the result would be far reaching. A movement of this kind, Mr. Falconer points out, would appeal to the rapidly growing sentiment. At the last election he says there were over 900 Americans naturalized as British subjects.

A few days before leaving Dawson Mr. Falconer witnessed the hanging of Fournier and LaBelle.

On the Amur there were 200 tons of ore from the Grater mine, Whitehorse, for treatment at Crofton. Mr. Lowe, who was elected a member of the Yukon council a short time ago, told Mr. Falconer in conversation before leaving the north that the present difficulty in shipping was the shortage of sacks. Next summer, however, part of the trouble now experienced would be obviated. The company intended to build a tramway from the mine to Whitehorse, a distance of eight miles, thus doing away with the teaming now done, which is a slower and more expensive mode of doing work than the plan proposed.

As for the mining properties about Dawson, not so much work is being done now as last year, but next summer would see more accomplished than in any previous year. Labor would also then be in great demand.—Victoria Times, Feb. 17.

Matter of Irrigation.

Olympia, Feb. 19.—Rival interests were represented in a contest before the house irrigation committee tonight. It is proposed to grant legislative authority for the condemnation of land to be used in the construction of reservoirs, and to this plan, in the abstract, both factions agree. The Washington Irrigation Company is interested in a bill which opponents of the company declare would enable it to secure most of the water available for irrigation purposes in Yakima and Kittitas counties. The company insisted their bill was general in its terms, and would meet all conditions. The outcome was a decision on the part of the committee to empower Chairman Dunn to name a subcommittee to draft a satisfactory compromise bill. Dunn's bill authorizing the expenditure of \$1000 by the experimental station authorities—a branch of the agricultural college—in an irrigation investigation was indorsed; a second bill directing the county commissioners to name a water commissioner, whenever ten farmers petition for the same, will be recommended.

See the opera "Pirates of Penzance" at Auditorium on Thursday, March 5th. Price of admission—Boxes, \$2 per seat, balcony, \$1.50 and \$1, stalls, \$1, general admission, 50 cents. ONE NIGHT ONLY.

NOT GAMBLING

Draw Poker is a Game of Science.

Victoria, Feb. 26.—The first meeting of the newly appointed board of police commissioners was held yesterday afternoon in the committee room at the city hall. The principal business transacted was the reception of the report of the Chief of Police, with the supplementary report of the Detective Sergeant, both of which showed a gratifying decrease in crime during 1902. The question of gambling was introduced, and Mayor McCandless assured the board that public or "open" gambling had been suppressed under his instructions. In course of the brief discussion which followed, it was made plain that the commissioners do not claim to have put a stop to gaming in the city. It was pointed out that private card parties in private rooms of public houses might still be in progress without the knowledge of the police, and that it was difficult for the authorities to reach the offenders in such cases. Indeed the opinion was expressed that the game of draw poker did not come within the law as a gambling game, as it was a game of skill, in which each player had an equal chance. With regard to nickel-in-the-slot machines, played for money, that all machines played for money had been ordered out, and that those which were permitted were of the kind the winnings of which are represented by drinks or cigars.

In Grave Danger

Washington, Feb. 19.—Both the Alaska homestead bill and the Alaska delegate bill are in grave danger of failure unless substantial concessions are made by persons who are opposed to certain features in both measures. Representative Lacey, chairman of the house committee on public lands, declares he will defeat the homestead bill unless the senate conferees abandon the senate amendment prohibiting the entry of soldiers' scrip under the provisions of the pending measure. He declares that it would be a great injustice to allow the senate provision to stand, and that he will see the whole bill defeated before he will yield this point.

The senate committee on territories held a meeting today to discuss the delegate bill. It developed during the meeting that nearly every member is opposed to the method of holding elections in Alaska, as provided by both the Cushman bill and the Beveridge bill. Had it not been for the absence of two or three senators definite action would have been taken on the bill today. This action will probably be the reporting of an amendment to the Cushman bill striking out almost everything except the enacting clause and providing for the appointment of the delegate by a committee instead of his election by the people. The proposed committee is to consist of the governor of Alaska, the surveyor general, who is secretary of the territory ex officio, and the judges of the three federal district courts. It looks as if this action would be taken at the next meeting of the committee.

No Change Here

King Edward's first levee, as described by those attending it, as large, brilliant and stately. The king was more formal than was his custom when Prince of Wales. But notwithstanding the immense trade Dunham is having, he greets his customers with the same hearty welcome as he always has, and in the future as in the past they are sure of getting the very best quality of groceries in the Dawson market at the Family Grocery, corner Second avenue and Albert street. All eggs candled before delivered to customers.

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Job Printing at Nugget office.

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BUILDING THE Monument Von Marvelous Instagenuity Peking, Feb. 19. Ta Men street, from the gate of the tremendous... The construction great mass of... The two... As one... away from... The whole... several of... to a wonder... money... of... and... kinds of... strong... time had... now, and... need again... safety... Saffly... round... nearly... equal to... poor.