

The Klondike Nugget

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KLONDIKE NEWS LETTER.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1903.

CONFIDENCE RE-ESTABLISHED.

Klondikers who have returned recently from the outside are almost unanimous in expressing the view that a reawakened feeling of confidence is manifest in the permanent character of the resources of this territory.

Predictions made in 1897 that the district would last but a few years have fallen flat. Some ground it is true has been worked out but new territory to take its place has been opened up. Yukon is today a heavier purchaser of supplies and machinery than ever before in its history and requisitions for the coming season will be larger, if anything, than was the case last year.

The language that speaks most eloquently to the outside merchant or manufacturer is the language of cold hard cash. Year by year the territory has been buying from outside markets in steadily increasing quantities and paying spot cash for what it buys.

At the present time the heaviest commercial concerns, both of the Dominion and of the United States, are reaching out for Klondike orders as they never have done before. It is true, they have ceased to look for speculative returns, and now express their satisfaction with reasonable profits.

Drummers are being sent into the territory looking for trade and finding it profitable to come. Klondike business is good business, for it means no haggling over prices and prompt settlements of accounts. Frontier communities always live well and are liberal spenders and in these particulars Dawson has been no exception to the established rule.

TANANA SITUATION.

Latest reports from Tanana indicate an almost pitiable state of affairs in that camp. Stampeders by the hundred have arrived almost destitute of supplies and the stocks in the town of Fairbanks were long ago practically exhausted.

According to one report, the reliability of which seems to be unquestionable, horses purchased in Dawson at \$200 to \$250 are selling in Fairbanks for \$25. The situation existing at the present time does not indicate that the new district has no possibilities ahead from a mining point of view. The same conditions or even worse, might exist even though the district were a second Klondike. In the excitement of the stampede people rushed off to the scene of the alleged strike almost wholly unprovided with supplies, trusting to luck to see them through. The natural consequence must be that hardships will ensue and there is possibility of actual suffering.

It is singularly fortunate that the

season of navigation is near at hand

and that with the spring freshets steamers will be able to reach the scene of the strike. Relief in the form of supplies will be sent on the first boats and the true facts in connection with the camp will then be elicited. Sufficient is known, however, to indicate beyond question that the men who decided to "wait and see" were extremely wise in their day and generation.

Suspension of customs charges on imported mining machinery for a term of years would be an inestimable boon to the Yukon. There are many grades of machinery not to be obtained in Canada at the present time and until manufacturing concerns for their production have been established, a liberal policy on the part of the government in this particular connection would be of distinct advantage.

In former years it was claimed that neither dredging nor hydraulic operations could be conducted successfully in this territory. Practical working has demonstrated the fallacy of this theory. Dredgers have proven themselves to be veritable money coiners while hydraulic mining was well demonstrated last summer to be perfectly feasible and successful.

All-rail communication with the outside would give a wonderful impetus to the whole northern district. It appears now that capital is desirous of taking the work in hand without demanding half the country as a bonus, and if such is the case every encouragement and assistance to so desirable an enterprise should be given.

Our dispatches today announce the fact that two north-bound steamers are bringing with them nearly 200 passengers most of whom are bound for Dawson. Scenes about the Seattle and Vancouver docks must begin to look like old times. From all indications the travel this season will easily be double that of a year ago.

The decision in the case of the United States government vs the Northern Securities Company indicates very plainly that the trusts are not quite the whole thing. The only safety for the people rests in competition and the courts have decided that the roads must compete willy nilly.

The really up-to-date ocean liners are now equipped with newspaper plants and publish daily papers, the world's news being received by the Marconi system. Civilization has made greater progress during the past 100 years than in the 5 preceding centuries.

The radical "antis" do not want the government to provide a public water system because when that greatly to be desired institution is once established, the "antis" will not have a leg upon which to stand.

A free ferry across the Yukon would greatly stimulate trade with the Miller and Glacier country, and would be of no little aid to the agricultural interests of West Dawson.

A newspaper which deals in veiled threats and hints of what it could tell if it chose is very much akin to the average blackmail.

LOST—One Irish Setter bitch, in good condition, answers to name of Bell. Scar on fore foot. White horse Stables.

COURT OF APPEAL

Next Week Will be Devoted to Territorial Appeals.

Argument in the case of Woodworth vs Jensen et al before the court of appeal was completed Wednesday and the action of Chance vs Lusk was taken up and likewise disposed of. In the latter case the plaintiff protests a survey that was made of the defendant's claim and while the action was being heard Lusk allowed his claim to lapse, judgment going for the plaintiff for the amount of the claim. Later Chance filed a survey of his ground and proceeded to advertise it in the regular way when Lusk protested it and an action styled Lusk vs Chance was begun. Judgment again went in favor of Chance and it is said that Lusk now proposes to appeal that case also. In the former case already heard by the bench the decision of their lordships was reserved as it was also in the case of Woodworth vs Jensen et al. The last case to be heard yesterday was that of Ackerman vs Lapar in which judgment was also reserved.

The only case remaining on the docket on appeal from the gold commissioner's court is that of Fraser vs Gandolfo which is to be heard by consent. Next week the time will be entirely occupied in hearing cases appealed from the territorial court in which the anomalous position will be observed of witnessing a judge sitting in judgment on his own decisions.

BANK CHANGES

Lord Cowan Examining His Bear Creek Interests

Dick Cowan, who has been dubbed by his friends as the Placer King of Bear Creek, is missed from his cap at the cashier's desk in the Bank of Commerce this morning having gone on a pilgrimage to the creek upon which he at present holds a first mortgage. While absent, which will be for but a day or two, Mr. Cowan will endeavor to compute the wealth contained in a block of ground of given dimensions and fifteen feet in depth the pass of which will average something less than ten dollars to the choicest of dirt. G. V. W. Howard, "Gat" for short, is acting as paying teller today. Another addition to the staff of the bank who arrived Thursday evening on the same stage that brought the commissioner, is M. Nickerson, formerly with one of the branches in British Columbia. Within another month there will be a number of changes in the positions at present held in the bank due to the opening of the assay office for the summer. In the winter assays are made but once a week, but in the summer when the gold begins to arrive from the creeks the office is kept open continuously, two men being constantly employed.

Send Them to the Hague

It is rarely the president's way to back out of things, and undoubtedly in this instance he will be reluctant to pass on to others a vexatious task which has been put before him as a duty. But neither the yuletide cheer of the world nor the most scrupulous sense of personal obligation need induce Mr. Roosevelt to undertake an arbitration fraught with present perplexities and perilous in its future implications. It would be assumed that Venezuela will accede to any fair proposal which comes from the United States; indeed, President Castro has actually given Minister Bowen plenary power to settle the whole dispute. The Hague tribunal exists for the purpose of arbitrating differences. It has greater dignity and independence than any individual arbiter can enjoy. This country has had the credit of sending the first two cases to that high court. To follow that precedent in the Venezuelan imbroglio, and not to offer ourselves as dubious arbitrators, would be the true way of repeating the first Christmas proclamation of "peace on earth, good will to men."—New York Post.

MISS THURBER'S BURGLAR

How She Distinguished Herself in the Interview and He Was Very Cool, Too.

"Raffles," that most entertaining of "gentlemen burglars," and "Bunty," his amiable and unsophisticated friend, had seemingly taken up quarters in New York, judging from the experiences of Miss Jeannette Thurber with two courteous and affable cracksmen in the home of her father at No. 49 West Twenty-fifth street.

Interrupted in his work of going through the room of F. B. Thurber, her father, the head of the gang working in the house engaged in the interchange of airy persiflage with Miss Thurber for a few minutes, adding something of impressiveness to his remarks with a revolver, and then leaving her quietly seated in the room, withdrew, meanwhile calling off his confederates.

Miss Thurber identified yesterday her unannounced caller of the night before after a search through the Rogues' Gallery. Albert Matthews, recently released from Sing Sing, where he served a term for burglary, was at once pointed out by Miss Thurber as the man whom she met so unconventionally in her father's room.

Miss Jeannette Thurber is the daughter of F. B. Thurber, for many years identified with the big wholesale grocery firm of Thurber, Whyland & Co. They live in the large house at No. 48 West Twenty-fifth street. Miss Thurber's room is on the third floor, while her mother sleeps in the rear room and her father in the front room of the second floor.

Soon after 9 o'clock on Tuesday evening, Miss Thurber went to her father's room to leave on his dress, a note she had written him about some household matter.

As she stepped quietly through the open door she noticed that the light was burning dimly, and then, with a shock that almost startled her out of her ordinary composure, she saw standing in front of the table in the center of the room, a well-dressed, good looking young man, going carefully over the contents of a drawer he had taken from one of Mr. Thurber's desks.

"What in the world are you doing here?" cried Miss Thurber. The intruder turned sharply and faced Miss Thurber without embarrassment. Then he reached down to the table and picked up a heavy revolver.

Catching Miss Thurber by the shoulder, the burglar forced her into a chair and thrust the muzzle of the revolver between her eyes.

"Now, don't say a word or raise a cry," he said rather angrily. "I'd hate to have to shoot you." Miss Thurber is a tall, statuesque, fair girl, twenty-four years of age, and strikingly beautiful. She is not easily frightened and she accepted the situation as gracefully as possible.

"Sit down," she said, graciously. "Let me talk to you. I'd like to talk this over with you." "Thank you," said the burglar. "You can easily understand that this is no 5 o'clock tea."

Then, turning to a corner, he said quietly: "Bill, go upstairs and tell Jack to get out. It's all off." From behind a pair of portieres, a heavy set man, who has not been identified by Miss Thurber, slipped out and stepped quietly into the hall.

She heard him go upstairs and when after heard two men walk quietly down stairs to the first floor. "Won't you sit down," said Miss Thurber, smiling pleasantly at the burglar. "Father will be home shortly, I hope."

"Thank you again," said the cracksmen, "but I am not a bit tired, and moreover I've never met your father. He might think it extremely unconventional of me to be making free of his room in his absence."

"No more so than I do," said Miss Thurber. "Why do you do it?" "Oh, largely because it leads to pleasant acquaintances," said the young man affably as he backed to the door, and then, more sternly: "Remain seated right where you are for ten minutes. Don't stir. I'll hear you if you do, and it may cause lots of trouble. I may have to commit a more serious crime than burglary if you cry out."

Then, with the revolver still strongly in evidence, the burglar backed quietly out of the door.

A few minutes later Miss Thurber heard a low, but shrill whistle on the lower floor and, disregarding the warning of the burglar, stepped quietly in to the hall. She met her mother coming from the sitting room in the rear of the second floor with Miss Margulies, a friend who had been with her mother. Going down to the lower floor, they found both the front doors open.

The maids in the house were awakened and a telephone message was sent to police headquarters asking that detectives be sent at once to the house. Detectives Duffy and Phillips from the West Thirtieth street station arrived and made a thorough search of the house. They found evidence of the visit of the three burglars.

Nothing was taken from the house except a heavy Colt's revolver, the weapon used to intimidate Miss

RETURNS FROM TRIP.

Mr. J. H. Rogers of the W. P. Co. Visits Stewart Crossing

Mr. J. H. Rogers, general agent of the White Pass Co., returned recently from a drive to Stewart Crossing. Mr. Rogers took the trip as a means of acquainting himself with conditions along the route and also as an outing. He says the trail as far as he went is still in excellent condition with plenty of snow to

last for several days. The large amount of travel this winter has been very brisk and all of them have splendidly stood the strain of the condition and are in much better time last year, although they have perhaps been worked a little harder. Mr. Rogers enjoyed the trip immensely. Butter, two-and-a-half pound only \$1.00, at all stores.

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