The Klondike Nugget

TELEPHONE NO. 12.

[Dawson's Pioneer Paper]

Issued Daily and Semi-Weekly.

GEORGE M. ALLEN. .....Publisher

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LETTERS

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KLONDIKE NUGGET.

MONDAY, MAY 11, 1903.

BEARING FRUIT.

In Saturday's issue of the Nugget we reproduced a strong editorial from the Montreal Witness, a paper of independent opinions but which has given strong support to the present government. The article dealt with the Treadgold concession which was forcibly and effectually condemned.

In spite of the evident fact that the Witness lacked full information necessary to deal with the subject in all its phases, the position assumed by that influential paper is extremely gratifying. The argument advanced is based upon the petition and circulars issued by the Board of Trade of this city, which are now before parliament and which will undoubtedly figure prominently in the discussion which will shortly be brought up in the house.

In the course of the editorial in question the Witness observes: "The Dawson Board of Trade, therefore, seems to have made out a good case against this concession as that it would put the whole district in the power of one man or a syndicate."

The foregoing sentence constitutes the great fact in the whole agitation and discussion that has been directed against Treadgold during the past two years. In actual operation the concession would be in a position to dictate to every mining operator in the district the terms upon which the latter might operate his ground. Should the concessionaires desire to secure possession of any particular piece of property they would have it within their power to force the owners to sell or abandon their ground.

Under the present terms of their charter they need not sell water to anyone unless they so desire and it is within their power to establish a schedule of rates which would place the whole mining industry at their mercy.

It is, therefore, occasion for congratulation that the east, through the medium of the press, is gradually being awakened to the enormity of the Treadgold grant and particularly is it satisfactory to note that newspapers of government leanings are arrangeing themselves in defense of the Yukon against the greed and avarice of monopoly.

The Board of Trade of Dawson has done splendid work in laying the facts before the country and the members of that body may well congratulate themselves upon the results already brought forth from their efforts.

The aggressive attitude assumed by the board and the active steps taken to make their position clear to the country has given satisfactory proof of the fact that anti-Treadgold agitation is not born of politics. The Board of Trade has approached the question as a public body dealing with a question which vitally concerns the welfare of the whole people irrespective of political associations. The fight against Treadgold has been lifted out of politics entirely, and is being waged by a community wholly united.

If success does not come immediately, then the fight will be continued until success is achieved. There can be no cessation of hostilities until the monopoly contemplated in the Treadgold grants has been annihilated.

It is extremely doubtful whether President Roosevelt's trip will tend to increase his chances for the next Republican nomination. The factional quarrels which appear to have been stirred up in almost every state the president visits, may react disastrously upon his political ambitions.

FORKS RAILWAY.

It is impossible to understand the interminable delays that have been occasioned in the completion of plans for the construction of a railroad to the Forks and other mining districts.

Had the proposed road been in operation three years ago the investment would have long ago been returned to the promoters.

The field for the railroad is already provided. Thousands of tons of provisions and machinery are annually hauled to the diggings by freight teams practically all of which would be diverted to a railroad which naturally could do the work more cheaply and expeditiously.

As heavier machinery is employed and more extensive operations are conducted, the amount of freighting should exhibit an appreciable increase. Again, it should be noted that the time is at hand when the matter of supplying the mining districts with fuel has begun to assume serious importance.

The available wood supply so far as Bonanza and Eldorado creeks are concerned is practically exhausted and fuel must be sought elsewhere.

The coal mines now in process of development a short distance down the river suggest a likely solution of the problem but a way must be provided to land it on the creeks at a reasonable price or it will prove of little assistance. A railroad in operation between Dawson and the head of Bonanza would yield handsome dividends for the next five years from that source alone.

No railway enterprise was ever projected under more favorable circumstances, and it appears all the more strange on that account that the promoters have met with so many obstacles in carrying their plans into effect.

No more practical or inexpensive method of encouraging quartz prospecting could be suggested than the maintenance of a free test mill. Just at this time when miners are scattered about the country in search of quartz locations, the free mill would prove of exceptional value. If there is any way possible by which it may be accomplished, the government mill should continue making free tests. One good quartz property may thus be helped along to a working basis and in theiend would return to the government and to the public more than is involved in the maintenance of the free mill for a year.

The Stewart river country will give an excellent account of itself during the coming summer. The facts which have developed during the past winter with reference to that district indicate conclusively that a substantial increase in the productive area of the territory has already been made, with the prospects very favorable for further extensions during the summer. Duncan creek and other Stewart tributaries will be splendid customers of Dawson this year and will give the mercantile concerns of the district a splendid outlet for all classes of commodities and machinery.

All that is asked of the Yukon river is to follow the lead of the Klondike.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

STAMPEDER'S EXPERIENCE

Tanana Don't Look Very Good to the Writer

Considers Himself Fortunate as He is Earning $2.50 a day and His Board.

News from the Tanana is almost as much of a glut on the market here at present as is general happenings in the Klondike in the east. Interest has to a large extent died out and there are but very few miners or prospectors who have not arrived at the conclusion that the lower country is a good machinery proposition, but one which operated as were the claims in this country in an early day would not yield but little more than Chinaman's wages. Mr. George Wilcox, for a long time with the Ladue Company, was in receipt of a letter on the last mail from the lower river that may contain matters of some interest. It was written by Edward Brice who with a brother are quite well known in the Klondike. The letter is dated at Fairbanks, April 18, and is as follows:

"We made the trip in via the Fortymile and Good Pasture route and had very pleasant weather all the way with the exception of about three stormy days. The trail was good to the head of Good Pasture, and on that stream it was also reasonably good, though we had considerable water though never over six inches in depth. There was plenty of ptarmigan on the divide, also caribou on the Good Pasture though we did not see any of the latter. We traded with the Indians, securing all told seven hams and two shoulders, for which we bartered three silk handkerchiefs, half pound of tea, three pounds of sugar, dog bells worth about a dollar, an old canvas coat worn two years and a half and costing $2.50 when new, a soiled undershirt costing a dollar, and one plug of T. & B. tobacco. We considered that under the circumstances caribou were not worth while hunting.

"On the Tanana our troubles commenced. First we had to break three miles of new trail, then build a raft, then break another mile of new trail, and as there was a strong wind blowing most of the time it was a case of drifted trails clear through to Fairbanks. We were just four weeks getting here, twenty-one days traveling and one week laying up on account of bad weather or to rest the dogs. Why I have not written sooner has been on account of my desire to form an opinion of my own regarding the camp, and as far as I can learn at present it don't amount to a great deal. Pedro creek is not a very promising stream. The laymen on discovery told me they had had as much as five feet of five and six cent dirt, but at the time I was there it had pinched down to a few inches of five cent bedrock with nothing above it and they did not think they had anywhere near wages in the dumps. The depth on discovery is 24 feet.

"Gold Stream has a much better reputation, but I have not been there yet. I understand Grant Murdock has a lay on a piece of property on that creek on which he has panned as high as 33 cents to the pan with several feet of good pay, the exact depth and average of which I do not remember. Another hole 150 feet up stream is not nearly as good and I am told that Murdock himself thinks he is on a bar without the least idea of the extent of the pay.

"Word has just been received this evening that a man has found $1.25 to the pan on Cleary creek, a tributary of the McManus, on ground belonging to Judge Kellum, the newly appointed commissioner. With regard to the markets. With the exception of one or two articles such as flour, cereals and potatoes there is plenty to be had here at practically Dawson prices. Flour at the Chenoa store is $26 a sack, but I have seen it sold for $10 by people returning and I understand it has been sold as low as $6 per sack. Rolled oats can not be had at any price; potatoes about $1.25 to $1.50 a pound.

"As to my opinion of the camp. I believe there are a great many more men here than necessary; too many townsites, three, Chenoa, Fairbanks and another about half a mile above here on the opposite side of the slough called Greyling. There is not enough pay in sight to warrant a stampede like the present one and I don't think there will be a great deal of development work done this summer, as a great many of the owners have gone back to Circle and Rampart, as they have other property in those camps to work, and taking it all together I consider this will be a very poor place to be in this coming summer. A year from now, however, I believe things here will be somewhat like they were in the old Birch creek diggings in the early days of that camp. I have not decided yet what I shall do, except that I shall remain until the opening of navigation. I am one of the lucky ones at present as I am making $2.50 a day and board working at the Fairbanks hotel. The great majority are making nothing and eating the grub they brought with them. There is plenty of fresh meat on hand as almost everybody owning a rifle has a moose in their cache which sells from 10 to 25 cents a pound and is about the only dog feed to be had."

The friends and acquaintances of Mr. Brice say that his statements can be taken as absolutely correct.

The Court.

London, April 10.—A glance round the personnel of the present entourage will reveal the interesting fact that the king is disposed more and more to rely upon men of mature years for his boon companions. Young men are rather a trial to him, and it is a very rare thing for a courtier in the early twenties to attain any position of confidence among the king's more intimate acquaintances. There are some new faces to be seen—that is to day, men who did not graduate for the royal favor by being attached to Marlborough house in the old days. It is the rarest thing for a son to be admitted upon the same terms of friendship as his father, and Captain Fritz Ponsonby, who is scarcely a case in point, as his father is no longer living, is only in a certain sense the exception that proves the rule.

The king's court is not a youthful court — indeed, it is scarcely more youthful than the Victorian court was, let us say, ten years ago. New posts will be given to men of experience, and the idea of presenting a young man to a high place out of regard to the friendship which the king may bear to his father is not by any means a policy that is now observed, as it was in the case of the previous monarch.

Queen Alexandra's friendships do not increase in number. With the exception of the members of Queen Victoria's retinue, who were taken over when the new regime was organized, her majesty has scarcely added to her intimates during the last two years at all. She does not cast an eager look around the ranks of the social world for the purpose of making new acquaintances among the younger women, and the vogue of the young matron, which is one of the features of our modern life, owes nothing whatever to her encouragement. Her majesty tends to hold more and more aloof from the general interests of the world of leisure, and her relations with it are almost confined to the official functions, whereat she discharges the duties of her station with the grace and stately reserve that are a marked feature of her present mood.

New Railway

Montreal, April 10.—The owner of an important electric railway charter Mr. A. J. DeB. Corriveau, has just returned from New York where, it is stated, he interested a number of Americans sufficiently to induce them to provide capital to build the road. The charter embraces sixteen counties, and should the road be carried out as planned it would tap every important town and section of the eastern townships, including Sherbrooke, and running almost as far as Sorel. The first line to be constructed is to run between Montreal and Valleyfield and St. Johns, Que. The intention is to carry the farm products of the south shore and the St. Lawrence into Montreal, and it is hoped that permission to enter the city will be obtained. If entirely built the road would form a rough triangle one side of which would skirt the St. Lawrence and another the international border.

When Margaret was eight months old, she and her mother came home from the Philippines, leaving her father in Manila. Now she is two, and refuses to adopt papa who, just returned, is trying to get acquainted with his daughter. Finding her busy with pencil and paper one day, he asked, "Writing a letter, baby?"

Without deigning to look at him, Margaret answered, "Go way, man! I'm w'itin' to my dear papa in 'Nilla."—Chicago Little Chronicle.

Power of Attorney Blanks for the Tanana—Nugget Office.

I AM NOW IN MY

New Store

105 Second Ave.

TELEPHONE 118A.

J. P. McLENNAN.

The Ballad of Simon Stone

Simon Stone, he spied a boat,
"Oh, here's a boat," said Simon Stone.
"I've a mind to try if this boat will float;
I'll fish a spell, if I go alone."

"Oh, no," cried the rest, "we are going too,"
"Then jump aboard," said Simon Stone.
They sprang to the boat, a happy crew—
Wouldn't you like to have counted one?

They rowed and they rowed, they sailed and they sailed:
"Small luck, small luck," said Simon Stone.
They tried and they tried, and they failed and failed,
Till they ached in every muscle and bone.

They dipped and they dipped, and they hauled and hauled;
"Not a fin for our pains," said Simon Stone.
"Hark!" cried one, for somebody called,
"Who can be out on the shore alone?"

"Never mind who, pull away, pull away."
"Let's give it up," said Simon Stone;
"We have fished all night, we have fished all day,
"Let's quit; I'm going ashore, for one."

Then the strange voice called from the shore again.
"Listen! listen!" said Simon Stone.
And now in the dawn they see him plain,
Walking along the shore alone.

"Boys, have you anything there to eat?"
"Not a fin, nor a scale," said Simon Stone;
"Not a crumb of bread, not a morsel of meat,
Not a thing to offer a hungry one."

"Throw the net to starboard, and then you'll find,"
Cried the voice. "Let's do it," said Simon Stone.
So they dropped the net with a willing mind.
"Heave ho! there's a haul," cried everyone.

They tugged and they hauled, but they hauled in vain.
"Let's drag it ashore," said Simon Stone.
So they dragged and dragged with might and main.
"It's the Lord," spoke softly Cousin John.

"What!" "What!" "What!" cried the rest in the boat.
"What's that you're saying?" quote Simon Stone.
"The Lord? Why here, then, give me my coat."
In trice he had it, and had it on.

"Why, what in the world are you going to do?"
"I'm going ashore," said Simon Stone,
As he sprang, without any more ado,
Overboard into the sea alone.

Then the rest they looked and said with a smile,
"What a man, to be sure, is Simon Stone;
He's up to some queer thing all the while."
"How he loves the Lord," said Cousin John.

Oh! he swam for life, and he swam for love,
Till he stood on the shore with the Lord alone.
Who knows but he and the Lord above,
How the Lord spake sweet to Simon Stone.

Then, tell me if ever you loved like him?
If ever you felt like Simon Stone?
"Whether I run, or fly, or swim,
I must have a word with the Lord alone."

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KLONDIKE ICE GOES OUT

River Broke Up Saturday Evening

Ice Much Thicker and Water Several Feet Lower Than at Last Year's Break Up.

The Klondike river has broken up, the ice is running out and it is believed that all danger to bridges from jams and the island farms from overflows is past. The ice broke Saturday evening when two jams formed, one off the lower end of the first island above the toll bridge and another 200 yards above the Ogilvie bridge. Early yesterday morning the lower jam went out and at 11:30 the one above the Ogilvie bridge gave way and its pieces were soon strewn around on the bar where the Klondike enters the Yukon. In the afternoon another jam formed off the lower end of the first island and the water above quickly rose, but a heavy charge of dynamite tore loose the mighty anchor and that jam floated gracefully down beneath the toll bridge and joined its predecessors on the bar.

It is noted that the water at the Klondike is not as high by fully four feet as when the ice went out last year and as the ice this year is much thicker than that of last it is thought that the river will not run clear yet for several days as many of the huge cakes are lodging on bars. Thus far neither of the bridges across the river have been even jarred by the floating ice.

Thousands of people viewed the Klondike yesterday, there being an indescribable attraction about the going out of the ice that is a greater drawing card than a horse race or a prize fight.

Last year the ice in the Klondike broke up and began going out on the afternoon of the 4th of May. The Yukon first moved at 8:45 the night of the 11th.

Freddie to be Princess

In the cast for the popular opera Erminie to be produced in Dawson May 23, 25, 26 and 27, Princess De Gramponour will be impersonated by Mr. Fred N. Atwood and not by Mrs. Fred N. Atwood as stated in a morning paper, the latter now being in Seattle.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

H. Pinkiert

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