

## MUCH MONEY BEING SPENT

By the U. S. Government in Exploring Districts of Alaska.

Many Scientific Men Engaged in Research — Koyukuk Country Will Not Be Visited Until Next Year.

The work of the department of the interior in Alaska this year will be on a much larger scale than heretofore. At the end of the season it is expected that many reports bearing on the varied resources will be added to the information now in possession of the government on these subjects. Of all, probably the most important work is that assigned the various exploration parties. Not all of this work, it is said, will be done this year. In fact, it is expected there will be labor for the geological survey branch of the department for many years to come.

The various parties to be engaged in the geological survey work this season are now gathering in Seattle. For a greater number of them this year's supplies are being put up by local merchants. The supplies for those parties that next year will be remote from civilization will be sent up later and cached in some place along the coast to be called for before the winter season sets in.

In speaking of the work in general to be done in the north by the various parties F. S. Schrader, who will take a party to the Copper river country, said: "Our party expects to get away on the Excelsior. That vessel has arrived here, but has had to go to the drydock to make repairs of damage done in the ice. We will take with us ten men and twenty horses."

"The United States geological survey is preparing to continue during the coming summer, the work of topographical and geological mapping, which has been in progress in Alaska for several years. The several parties which are now outfitting in Seattle will devote their energies to the Seward peninsula and to the Copper river and Prince William sound region."

"In the Cape Nome region the topographic work will be carried on in charge of E. C. Barnard, who expects to cover the region lying between the coast and the Sawtooth range of mountains. The northern limit of the work will be in the vicinity of Port Clarence and to the southeast it will take in the country west of Fish river and Golovin bay. It is the plan to extend an instrumental triangulation over the whole of this region and to connect it with the work of the coast and geodetic survey in Golovin bay and with the surveys which will be made by that organization in the vicinity of Port Clarence during the present season."

"Together with this triangulation it is proposed to complete a topographic map of the entire region upon a scale of four miles to an inch with contours representing differences of elevation of 200 feet. Besides this a reconnaissance survey will be made up the Fish river to determine the position of the Omalik silver district. The geological work in this region will be carried on under the direction of Alfred H. Brooks. He will be assisted by G. B. Richardson and Arthur J. Collier."

"A party in charge of Topographer W. J. Peters will make a similar map of the region across the Seward peninsula from Norton bay to Kotzebue sound. The geology will be done by W. C. Mendenhall. The actual limits of the map will be contingent upon the geology and economic development of the region."

"The Copper river party will be headed by myself. Its primary object will be the construction of a topographic map in the basin of the Chitena river and the detailed study of the geology and copper deposits of the region. The topography will be done by T. G. Gerdine with the assistance of D. C. Witherspoon. The geology will be done by F. C. Schrader and Arthur C. Spencer."

"In addition to the detailed work, a geological reconnaissance is planned to Mount Wrangel, and in returning to the coast an attempt will be made to cross the St. Elias range. Also the topography will be connected with the coast by means of a line down the Copper river to its mouth. During the month of October surveys will be made in Prince William sound especially in regard to the occurrence of copper deposits."

"For the season of 1907 it is planned to explore the region which lies north of the Koyukuk river. To this end provisions and complete outfits for two parties are being shipped this summer from

San Francisco to Bergeman at the head of steamboat navigation on the Koyukuk river where they will be stored until called for by the explorers. The geologists and topographers, who will make up these two parties will proceed to Bergeman by way of Skagway and the Yukon in the spring of 1907. One party will strike northward, aiming to traverse the Colville river; the other will work toward the west coast, either along the Noatak or Koo-Wak rivers. The direction of this exploration has not been determined."—P. I.

## Royal Mechanics.

The value of the study of mechanics in the educational equipment of youths is a deep-rooted theory of the imperial family of Germany. In fact, next to war, poetry and painting, mechanics form one of the present emperor's pet hobbies.

In accordance with modern ideas Kaiser Wilhelm thinks the age of the chivalrous knight is gone forever, and that the present day aspirants for military honors must know all about the practical running of an armored train, and the numerous other mechanical problems that warriors have nowadays to meet and overcome.

The kaiser has therefore ordained that each and everyone of the youthful princes, as well as the crown prince, shall make a study of hand labor. It is interesting to note the variance of their different tastes. The crown prince, for example, has developed considerable ability as a carpenter; the second son, Eitel Fritz, has become so proficient in electrical matters that he would make a first-rate engineer; while one of the younger boys has aspirations to become a blacksmith, and spends much of his time with a courtier watching the court smithy shoe his father's horses.

Eitel Fritz has, however, shown such an exceptional fondness for electricity that the emperor has caused a short narrow-gauge electric railway about half a mile long to be built in the celebrated forest of Sanssouci, near Potsdam, the castle and park of which were founded by Frederick the Great.

The railway is a miniature affair, the rolling stock consisting of a trolley locomotive and two small cars, just large enough to accommodate eight or ten persons.

Here the young prince spends one hour every day accompanied by an attendant who is skilled in electric traction. It is his greatest joy to have his emperor-father as a passenger in one of the unique little coaches, while he drives the engine as seriously as though engineering were the most natural occupation in the world for him.—Ex.

## GRAND FORKS ITEMS.

The Forks has experienced a decided change and is as quiet now as the grave. Since the washup many have departed either for the outside or down river, and business will be light in all avenues of trade until winter comes again.

The Rev. Mr. Cox, of the Presbyterian church, is something of a landscape gardener. He has cleared away all debris and leveled up the church yard which gives the premises a very attractive appearance.

The Fourth of July committee are reaching out over the creeks soliciting finances for the celebration and are meeting with hearty co-operation. There are many who think it a mistake should the committee decide to have no oration.

Fred Bruseth, Thomas Blake and John Condon, owners of No. 11, Eldorado, after a very successful winter's work, will leave for the outside in a few days to spend the summer. Mr. Bruseth will visit the old folk in Norway before his return.

The boys on Chechako Hill had a little surprise, but of a pleasant nature, when the news came that one of their number was no longer a bachelor. On Monday, June 4th, Peter M. Hartle and Mrs. Harriett A. Remillette were quietly married by the Rev. Mr. Wright, of the Presbyterian church at the parsonage in Dawson. Mr. and Mrs. William Sawyer being the attending witnesses. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Brown of Chechako Hill and is a very bright, vivacious and charming little woman, who by her kind attentions and gentle ministrations to the sick, in the absence of sister, mother, sweetheart or wife, has endeared herself to all who know her, and ingratiated her in the heart of every miner on the hill. The groom is a native of New York, but the past 15 years has been spent in the principal mining camps of the Northwest. He has valuable mining interests on Gold Run and Chechako Hill, and the happy couple will take up their residence for the summer at the latter place, deferring a tour of the states until later in the season.

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## MANY LAYMEN ARE LEAVING.

The System in Operation Here Is Not to Their Liking.

Mine Owners Must Be More Liberal or Operate Their Own Claims—Very Few Laymen Played Even.

A gentleman who is in position to be well-informed as to the situation in this mining district is authority for the statement that under the lay system in vogue here during the season just closing, there will not be one claim in every forty worked next year. He says that to work a claim on a 50 per cent lay and make it pay is entirely out of the question, as when one man has made anything during the past season on the lay system, a dozen have gone behind and are irredeemably in the hole. About all the majority of the laymen have been able to hold out is sufficient money to take themselves out of the country. These are not cheerful statements, but they are nevertheless true. Of the hundreds of men who operated lays during the past season, it is doubtful if one in every forty would renew the lay on the same terms, the iniquitous royalty law being still in force, and other conditions remaining as they are and have been.

The situation is a grave one, but it is now narrowed down to this: Conditions and systems in the Klondike must undergo a material change before the opening of the next general working season, else all claim owners will either work their own claims or they will not be worked. The 50 per cent lay system is done for forever here and henceforth laymen will demand a living share and share or they will leave claims severely alone. Nearly all the old laymen, or as many of them as have the price of a ticket are leaving the country for new fields, and the claim operators next working season will be practically a new set.

## Rhodes and Matrimony.

Cecil Rhodes at one time had a private secretary of whom he entertained a high opinion and whose services he greatly valued. One fine morning this favorite abruptly announced that he was going to be married. The colossus was speechless with indignation for a moment, and then, glaring at the culprit, he growled out, "What on earth am I going to do for another secretary?"

Without waiting for a reply he strode from the room, slamming the door behind him with great violence. His good nature, however, prompted him to extend the forgiving hand later on, and gave to the bride some fine diamonds. In addition, he lent them his own carriage and horses for use to and from the church.

It never entered his head to give his erstwhile favorite secretary any more employment. Such a crime as matrimony, though forgiven, could not be condoned.

## Turner Makes a Sensation.

Victoria, May 24.—At a recent political meeting, ex-Premier Turner sprang a sensation on his audience, by stating practically that the dismissal of his government by Lieutenant Governor McInnes was the direct result of his (Turner's) refusal to take into his cabinet W. W. B. McInnes, one of the sons of the governor. Hitherto, although hints have been heard to the same effect, and although Thomas McInnes, another son of the governor and his private secretary, admitted in the official correspondence, which was published after the dismissal of the government, that negotiations had been entered into regarding the entry of his brother William to the ministry the matter never got beyond the rumor stages. The ex-premier has been taunted within the last few days by W. W. B. McInnes, who is now a candidate for the legislature, with having persistently solicited him to join his cabinet. It was in reply to this that Turner made his explanation last night.

He prefaced his remarks by saying that he was astonished at the nerve of the younger McInnes, adding that he (Turner) had witnesses to prove that McInnes had come to his office to make arrangements to enter his government. The preliminaries were arranged by the private secretary who visited him at the treasury one day and asked him if he had received a letter from the governor. "Yes, I am reading it again to get to the bottom of it," replied the then premier.

"I wrote it," was the reply of Tom McInnes. "I am the governor's adviser in such matters and there is a way out of the difficulty."

Young McInnes then went on to make

the offer of his brother's support and added: "My brother would like to see you about it and arrange it. I would like you to have a meeting and discuss the situation." Turner, in order to have witnesses present suggested a meeting at his business office and made arrangements to have his bookkeeper present. At the conference which followed W. W. B. McInnes said that he would run for Cowichan and the ex-premier replied: "We have a certain line of policy; will you accept it?" and also asked for the names of those whom he would bring over to the government. This McInnes declined to do and Turner said they should at least write him. McInnes said he would do what he could to effect this. More parleying followed and no headway being made the governor sent a note dismissing his government.

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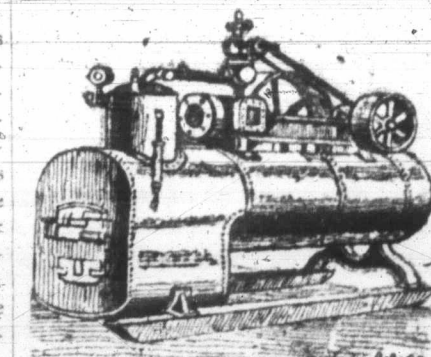
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