

AS VIEWED AT WASHINGTON.

Statement From the Second Assistant Postmaster General.

Regarding Carrying of Other Than Letter Mail to Dawson During the Closed Season.

Some time ago at the request of the members of the committee of the local board of trade on mails and mail transportation, E. J. White, of the Nugget, forwarded a copy of the committee's statement and petition, accompanying them with a personal letter to Hon. Francis W. Cushman, congressman from the state of Washington, who turned the communication over to the second assistant postmaster general. By that gentleman's reply to the congressman which he in turn forwarded to E. J. White, and which was received by him yesterday, it is very evident that somebody has a misunderstanding regarding the transmission of American mail to Dawson. Whether it is the people of Dawson or the Washington official who harbors this misunderstanding, is not known; but a perusal of the latter's letter will clearly show that a delusion is entertained by someone. The letter is as follows:

Postoffice Department, Second Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C., March 2, 1900.

Hon. Francis W. Cushman, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.
Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, enclosing one from E. J. White, of Dawson, Canada, together with a petition signed by business men at Dawson, asking for better mail facilities for that place.

It is represented in the petition that the Canadian Development Company has a contract for delivering 700 pounds of mail each week; that the average weight of mail matter transported each week from the outside has been about 350 pounds; that the transportation is limited to letter mail only, and they ask that arrangements be made for transporting all classes of mail matter.

In reply I have to state that this department has no contract with the Canadian Development Company. It is understood that there is a contract between that company and the Canadian postoffice department which, possibly, is the one to which the petitioners refer. Dawson being a Canadian postoffice, all applications for improved service for that postoffice should be addressed to the Canadian postal authorities. Ordinarily the responsibility of the United States for mail destined for points in Canada ceases upon delivery at the exchange offices near the boundary line. In this case the exchange offices are Skagway, Alaska, and Bennett, Canada.

If the Canadian authorities should indicate their readiness to handle other than letter mail for Dawson, this department will arrange to deliver such mail to them at the exchange offices.

It is true that Dawson is an intermediate point on the mail route under contract with this department from Skagway, via Circle, to Tanana, Alaska, and that some mail for Dawson is carried via such route, but it is merely incidental to the transportation of the through mails to and from Alaskan points for which this route is maintained, and our experience has shown, beyond a doubt, that the difficulties of winter transportation in that country are so great as to make it impracticable to undertake to carry any mail matter other than letters. Very respectfully,

W. S. SHALEBERGER,
Second Assistant Postmaster General.

Items From Gold Hill.

The rattle of the rocker can now be heard on all sides, nearly every claim owner on the hill having commenced the work of separating the gold from the large dumps of auriferous gravel. The season this year is fully one month in advance of last, rocking one year ago having begun during the last week of April, and was practically all completed by the 30th day of May. The warm days have materially reduced the water supply and is causing no little anxiety to many of the claim owners. Should the mild weather continue for 30 days, this season's output will be cleaned up nearly one month in advance of last year.

On Gold Hill most of the ground will have to be rocked, though some of the claims on the Skookum side will be able to sluice with water from that gulch. Faulkner & Kroenert have now in position on the creek, near the mouth of Eldorado, two 40-horse power boilers with which they intend to force water onto Gold Hill and wash their dumps. They will have sufficient power to

throw a six inch stream, or equivalent to one good sluice head of water. After their dumps are washed they will supply water to such other neighboring claim owners as may desire it. This will facilitate the cleanup and materially reduce the expenses necessarily incurred by the old system of rocking.

Three tramways are now in operation on the hill, Henry Rabarn having just completed and started going a fine tram that runs like clock work. He is working the Miller claim, owned by John Nelson, and says he will have it worked out and washed up within 30 days.

Hanns Scale has a tram running on the adjoining claim down stream, and is making rapid inroads on the pay streak.

Billy Wilson and Tom Crosby own and operate the third one, running their pay to Bonanza, while the former two have dumping privileges on Eldorado. Billy, who has heretofore been properly classed with the kid glove element, has turned out to be a veritable sour dough miner, looking rugged and jumpy in the regulation miner's habiliments, wearing buckskin mittens in place of two clasp kids, and high-water boots instead of patent leather shoes. His wife says "she is going to have his picture taken before he leaves the hill." Crosby is an old time miner, having spent many years in the principal mining camps of the United States and British Columbia. These parties will have a cleanup this spring approximating \$50,000.

John W. Raymond and Capt. Falk have fine dumps of rich pay dirt on each of their claims, and have just recently started their rockers going. They will have plenty of the metallic lustre after the cleanup, and John says he is thinking seriously of then answering the advertisement that recently appeared in the columns of The Nugget from the young ladies in Kansas City.

Missing Persons.

Acting U. S. Consul John Q. Adams is in receipt of the following inquiries: A. E. Hayes, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, asks concerning the whereabouts of his brother, Daniel Hayes, who in company with Angus J. Bradley, arrived at Dawson in the spring of 1898.

E. E. Lindermath, of Seattle, Washington, inquires respecting L. Rhoads, who was in the Klondike country during the summer of 1897. The following winter he visited his relatives in Seattle; on March 28, 1898, he left that place on his return trip to Dawson. He is supposed to be dead by his relatives, and they entertain the opinion that he was possessed of valuable mining interests in this territory.

Outside News.

Mr. G. Griffith, quartz mining recorder, is in receipt of a letter from his brother, Mr. John Griffith, who is gold commissioner at Golden, B. C. Several matters are referred to, which will prove of interest to many citizens of Dawson. The text of the letter is as follows:

"We are in receipt of two letters from you lately, the last enclosing the card of the 'Absent Minded Peggart.' It is very much admired, and shows that you are quite up-to-date, although away up in the Arctic regions. It is also very gratifying to learn that the proceeds netted a very handsome figure.

"War and rumors of war is practically the sole topic now-a-days. A little quieter than usual just at present, but I'll bet 'Little Bobs' is not idle, though.

"The Beasleys stopped with us about a week on their way to Montreal, Harry having been appointed to take charge of the president's office in Montreal. They gave him a fine send off at Nelson. Gold watch and chain from the employees of the road, a silver tea service from the steambot men and a purse of \$200 in gold from the citizens.

"I met Albert Martin at Calgary about a month ago; he was about leaving there for the Front, looking fit enough to eat half a dozen Boers.

"Quite a number of young fellows went from this vicinity; a young fellow named Jolliffe, a particular friend of mine, was killed at Paardsburg the day before Cronje surrendered. He was a lieutenant in the Norfolk militia.

"Dan Stewart seems to be having quite a holiday. I saw him for a few minutes on his way east and he promised to drop over on his way back, but have heard nothing of him since."

Spring Styles Arrive.

The Star Clothing house has received today its first consignments of gent's furnishing goods over the ice. They comprise fancy shirts in swell patterns from the famous Neustadter Bros' factory, the very latest in neckwear, hats of the latest block, and a full line of high-class clothing. A. S. Levine is the enterprising proprietor of the establishment.

Short orders served right. The Holborn.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

Table d'hot dinners. The Holborn.

LAKE AND RIVER SKIPPERS.

On the Way in to Look After and Prepare Their Craft.

All the Big Companies Will Endeavor to Successfully Bid for Patronage This Season.

Representatives of the affairs of three big Yukon river steamer companies arrived in Skagway yesterday on missions that look to the opening of navigation on the lakes and the great northern river and the handling of the big traffic that is in sight for the coming season, says the Alaskan of March 21st. These representatives are Capt. J. B. Sanborn, in charge of the advance inspection party of the Canadian Development Company; J. E. Rayne, looking after affairs of the Bennett Lake & Klondike Navigation Company, and Capt. W. P. Gray, who is to take the steamer Lottie Talbot from Dawson to Nome.

The advent of these skippers and several others who have lately gone to the interior is significant, inasmuch as it points to the nearby opening of river traffic and the attendant activity for the many hundreds of miles along the great Yukon.

The important statement is made by Capt. Sanborn that there will be heavy travel by way of Skagway and the Yukon river this season to Nome, and that a large freight traffic will go into the Yukon basin this season by the White Pass route. He says further:

"I have been in Portland and Victoria and other north coast ports this winter, and have taken occasion to study the Nome transportation situation. My conclusion is that a big share of the traffic may be expected to come this way after the opening of river navigation. Many who will not be able to get away for Nome on the first ocean fleet will, rather than wait for the second fleet, take the steamer to Skagway, the train to Bennett, and the boat down the lakes and river.

"The freight rates from the Sound to the Klondike country by Skagway and the upper river have been reduced fully 40 per cent this year, and that means a good share of the traffic will flow this way.

"As to the recent through rate by the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company boats, the railroad and the Canadian Company, I have no particular information, but I do know the general rates on freight over this route are reduced, as I said before, and the business will come."

Capt. Sanborn is at the head of a party which will inspect all the steamers of the Canadian Development Company as soon as possible, and send back reports to the company's head offices at Victoria, so that supplies and men to man each craft maybe forwarded just in the numbers and to the proper extent needed within the next three or four weeks. With the captain are E. A. Murk, clerk; Harry Chapman, chief engineer; J. A. Ritchie, second engineer, and a third engineer.

The Canadian Development Company has the largest fleet of steamers of any company on the Upper Yukon—its steamers and the places at which they are in quarters follow: Bailey and Australian at Bennett, Victorian at Whitehorse, Anglian at Lebarge, Columbian and Canadian at Dawson.

No Papers Come.

For some cause unknown to the local postoffice and to an expectant public no paper mail was received by the consignment which arrived early yesterday morning and which has been distributed. For the past month paper mail has invariably been brought with the letters, and this sudden cessation is a great disappointment, coming, as it does, just after people had again become accustomed to receiving the papers regularly. The only explanation of the failure of papers to arrive is that the dispatcher at Skagway probably entertained the idea that the warm weather had probably so effected the trail as to make the hauling of a load laborious, and therefore, decided to lighten it as much as possible which he did by leaving out the paper mail.

Private dining rooms at the Holborn.

The Star Clothing House, A. S. Levine, manager, announces that until further notice he will sell spring suits for \$15, hats, all styles, \$3.

When in town, stop at the Regina.

Chewing tobacco \$1 per pound. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

Every room a miniature home. The Fairview.

N. A. C. & C. Co.

Bargains in

Spring Footwear

Buy Now Large Stock...

Reducing Prices to Make Room for Summer Goods.

John McDonald...

Merchant Tailor

Full Line of New Suitings.

FIRST AVE. OPP. S. Y. T. WAREHOUSE

Fresh Beef

The Only Fresh Beef in Dawson.

Pat Galvin..

Market..

Sold at Reasonable Prices

Wholesale and Retail

Depot, First Avenue T. & E. Co. Building

H. I. MILLER, Prop.

NOTE—This beef has been brought in over the ice from Selkirk, where 119 head of choice stall-fed cattle were slaughtered.

MOHR & WILKENS,

DEALERS IN

The Finest Select Groceries

IN DAWSON

S. E. Cor. Third Street and Third Avenue Opposite and Klondike Bridge

Electric....

A Steady A Satisfactory A Safe Light

Dawson Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.

Donald B. Olson, Manager.

City Office Joslyn Building. Power House near Klondike. Tel. No.

Full Line Choice Brands.

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Chisholm's Saloon

TOM CHISHOLM Proprietor

Yukon Hotel Store

FRONT STREET.

We Want to Close out Our Stock of

Groceries, Provisions

Choice Hams and Breakfast Bacon Just in Over the Ice.

J. E. BOOGE, Manager.

Mitchell, Lewis & Slaver Co.

OF SEATTLE, WASH.

Mining Machinery

Of all Descriptions.

Pumping Plants a Specialty Orders Taken For Early Spring Delivery

Chas. E. Severance, Gen. Agt. Room 15 A. C. Building

Seattle St. Michael Dawson

Empire Transportation Co.

Empire Line

TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE

Yemans & Chisholm..... Dawson Agents.

Seattle Office 607 First Ave.

Health Is More Than Wealth

Cry the Sanitarium Baths...

For All Physical Ailments

Ford's Club Baths The Only Health Resort in Dawson

Third Ave., Bet. 3rd & 4th Sts.

BERT FORD Proprietor

Changed: Hands.

Having Purchased the Business of the

Juneau Hardware Co.

We Beg to Announce We Are in a Position to Supply all Wants in the Hardware Line

Just Received Over the Ice:

Patent Bush Shives, 6 and 8 inch. Globe Valves, Bit Stock Drills, Stillson Pipe Wrenches, also a Nice Line of Assorted Whips.

M. H. JONES, Manager

Buy Your Meat From



The City Market

And Get the Best in Town

Largest Wholesalers

Miners Call and See Us. We Will Meet all Competition and Give the Best. Orders Promptly Filled.

C. J. Dumbolton & Co.

Second Ave. Opp. S.-Y. T. Co.

Why Buy Meat in Town

When you can get Fresh Meat at Dawson Prices at the

Grand Forks

Meat Market

FRED GEISMAN, Proprietor.

.....Opposite Gold Hill Hotel.

Received Over The Ice

Full Line of

Globe Valves and Steamfitters' Supplies

McLennan, McFeely & Co. Ltd.

DAWSON, Y. T.