

BOUGHT THE ROAD HOUSE AND GRUB.

The Stampede Down the River Now an Endurance Program.

There are not Enough Claims for Everybody and the Inside Stampede are Bound to Tire the Others Out—One on Charley Meadows.

Last Tuesday night was the occasion of much excitement in Dawson. In every saloon and on every street corner excited knots of men could be seen discussing in subdued whispers some subject of seeming great importance. Up and down through the city could be found numerous dog teams with sleds loaded for what was evidently expected to be a considerable trip. Men were skrimishing all over town in search of any kind of an animal that could be pressed into service for a hurried trip. In short every body was on the qui vive of expectancy and evidently some matter of considerable importance was on the taple.

A typical Klondike stampede was in active progress and the "push" was getting ready to set out.

The only men who were supposed to have absolutely accurate information as to the destination of the stampede were "Nigger" Jim, Sam Stansly and Billy Chappel. Friends of these old timers and hard musers were present in sufficient numbers to stake the length of the entire creek, but in addition were several hundred more anxious and expectant ch-ch-ch who banked on getting a claim simply by following in the wake of the push.

All night long an unceasing procession of men, some with dog teams and some without, some pulling their own sleds and others with a little grub on their backs, some provided with stoves, tents and robes, others with none of these requisits to Klondike travel, helter, skelter, pell, mell, anything to be on hand to stake, this nondescript caravan set out down the river.

Besides those already mentioned, the following were included among the stampedeers: George Noble, Henry Berry, Gus Seiffert, Tom Cannon, Falcon Joslyn, Charley Hiltz, Dougal McMurry, Senator Hill, Gus Backe, Sam Yeade and a host of others.

Various surmises as to the destination of the stampede were made, some locating the discovery on Carlisle creek in the Forty-mile district and others stating that the objective point was a tributary of the Klondike which leads in toward the Yukon in the direction of Forty-mile. Affidavits of the richness of discovery claim were said to be on file and various amounts were stated to have been taken out to the pan, ranging from 80 cents to several dollars.

When the van guard of the stampede reached the Eighteen-mile road house a halt was called and possession of the establishment and all the eatables contained therein was immediately taken. Twenty men managed to crowd into the fur bunks with which the house is supplied and 75 more hungry and weary "musers" crowded themselves into the small cabin and called for coffee or anything else that would assist in warming them up. Two other cabins located near by were soon filled to overflowing and those who could not get inside were forced to camp as best they could.

Now reports from those who have since returned state that the stampede are still located on the same spot. It appears the crowd followed in their wake that there would not be claims enough to go round decided to camp where they were and tire out the remainder of the stampede when the journey would be continued. To put their plan into more effective operation it is said that "Nigger" Jim proceeded to buy the road house together with the grub cache and he and his friends are now in possession and the stampede has now resolved itself into a test of endurance.

If the whiskey and grub in the road house hold out sufficiently long, the scheme will undoubtedly work to perfection. Nevertheless a number of those who are not in with the "push" have sent back to Dawson for more supplies. At all events the outcome will prove exceedingly interesting.

On the quiet, a little story is being told on "Arizona Charley" who has long had his eye on what he is positive is the long looked for mother lode. Charley got a hunch that "Nigger" Jim and the rest of the boys were after that mother lode and he immediately started out to head them off. Unable to secure a dog team for the reason that the stampede had gobbled them all up, Charley, the boys say, managed after a lengthy search to secure an ox noted for speed on the trail. Thus equipped he started in post haste up the Klondike. After traveling a matter of twelve miles he became convinced that the stampede were not going his way and so he put off at a convenient stopping place and sent back to Charley Cole for some cigarettes and a solo deck. As far as is known Charley is still with the ox and probably will remain there until the cigarettes are exhausted.

A Mandamus of no Effect. So many unanswered questionings are floating around in the air, questionings which Governor Ogilvie alone could set at rest—that a

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NUGGET representative was dispatched to his office and on Monday the following important interview was courteously granted by the commissioner of the Yukon:

Mr. Ogilvie, will you tell the readers of the Nugget the status of the mail-carrying problem at the present moment?

"Well, as you know, P. C. Richardson secured the United States mail contract from the United States government, which contract was assigned to the Arctic Express company. This company then secured a contract with the Canadian government for bringing in Canadian mails; thus you see they had a direct contract with one government and a sub-contract with the other. However, they evidently considered the terms of the direct contract too severe and attempted to secure better ones. I surmise that the mails have been deliberately delayed by the company in order to force the government to make better terms. There is now a certain amount of mail matter in their hands, and, as you know, possession is nine points of the law, and whether or not we can legally secure possession of that mail matter or not is a question which the postmaster general or a suit at law alone can determine, and we have not yet had time to apprise him of the condition of affairs. The police at both ends of the territory have made arrangements to bring in and take out the mail; but the plans have not yet had time to fructify. Meanwhile, the Arctic Express company is working its way in with more or less mail. We are starting out a general mail, through the police every two weeks; also an official mail every two weeks. The official mail will leave on alternate weeks with the general mail, so there will be a mail leaving here every week."

"Did the Arctic Express Company give bonds for the faithful performance of its contract?" "I suppose so. But even if they should forfeit their bonds it would not be any satisfaction that I can see to the men who want their mail."

"Is it true that your powers of commissioner have been extended by official communications in this last batch of official mail?"

"The governor explained at length that he was now duly authorized under the great seal of Canada to thoroughly investigate any charges made against administrative officials. He produced the law under an investigating commissioner acts and read its pages aloud. By virtue of his authority he can now summon anyone he chooses and compel them to answer even though the evidence should be of the most self incriminating character; but a proviso reads that such evidence cannot and shall not be used against the witness giving it; thus granting an immunity without which an investigation would be simply a farce."

"Have you taken any steps yet in the way of an investigation?" "I shall take active steps just as soon as possible and then the makers of charges will be invited to come forward and we will see how much they know."

"Mr. Ogilvie is it within the power of the territorial court to order the gold commissioner to record fractions?"

"No, it is not. The Dominion lands act and Mining acts provide that for public use or other purposes the Minister of the Interior may withdraw from location or entry such of the domain as he may see fit."

"Did the Minister of the Interior so order the withdrawal of fractions?"

"Yes. His order to reserve fractions to the crown arrived here July 22, 1898."

"Have no fractions been recorded since then?"

"No."

"The incorporation of the city of Dawson was next touched upon. The ordinance is partly completed and the governor explained that he had been in no hurry as it was desirable that everyone should have ample time to think it over and also that Ottawa might be heard from on the subject. The government had expressed itself now and there was no objection at Ottawa to incorporation."

"When the ordinance has been approved by the Yukon council, will it be submitted to the public for discussion?"

"On this point our worthy governor was disposed to be somewhat equivocal. He thought it would be sufficient if the citizens who brought the ordinance to the council were invited to look over its provisions. Again he pointed out that it was not at all obligatory upon the council to submit its ordinances for ratification by the people before their passage. It was explained to him that the gentlemen who had brought the ordinance to him were not present at the mass meetings which had brought forth the ordinance and had never even signified to the public their approval of its parts. The provisions most desired by the public might have been omitted by the council and the omission be agreed to by the citizens' committee" and yet that omission be far from meeting the approval of Dawson."

"Can an objectionable incorporation ordinance be passed by this council and we be compelled to accept it?"

"Well, I guess if the people didn't like the ordinance they could refuse to work under it—could refuse to vote, and so on."

Other unimportant matters were touched upon and then the scribe thanked our chief executive for the courtesy of the interview and departed.

Graded Toll Rates. An amusing attempt has been made to equalize the injustice being perpetrated upon the miners by the toll-trail exactions by a letter from our chief executive directing the toll-trail company to moderate their charges. In accordance with this order the tramroad company, which does not own a single team, has established the following scale of prices: All freight hauled and sledged by yourselves will pay a quarter of a cent a pound as far as claim No. 90 below on Bonanza; a half cent to No. 60; three-quarters of a cent to No. 30 and one cent per pound from there to the Forks. This desirable grading down of rates, which has no right to extort anything at all, was brought about by the vigorous "kicks" of Mr. C. C. Osborne, who was not content with registering

his earnest protest with the tramroad people but who carried the matter and laid it before our chief executive. Unfortunately the numbers of Mr. Osborne's claims are 26 and 57, so that he gets no benefit from the reduction in rates he himself has brought about.

A number of sledders are avoiding the unjust toll by simply refusing to pay anything when it is demanded of them, and we have yet to hear of any such resolute people being turned back. An organized resistance would soon put a stop to the entire farce.

MAIL FOR THE OUTSIDE.

To Be Taken by the "Klondike Nugget" Representative Direct.

The Nugget representative, Mr. D. W. Semple, will leave in a few days for Seattle and the Eastern states via NUGGET EXPRESS team and will make all connections being favorable—a very fast trip to the coast. He will carry nothing with him save blankets and robe necessary on the trip, and will take any mail or small light packages to be forwarded.

It was expected to get away Sunday but matters of importance here the past few days have delayed the departure. Mail of packages may be left at the Nugget Express office in the Phoenix or at the KLONDIKE NUGGET office, or sent in by Nugget Express teams on Bonanza, Eldorado, Hunker, Dominion and Sulphur creeks.

What We Would Do.

The royalty tax we'd soon pay as we would dig up for toll and to kick will not stop. We'll pay for our wood and for moss in the deal. We'll pay the whole bill and never will quarrel. We'll buy any old thing they've got here for sale if only just once they will give us some mail.

Mr. Senkler on Fractions.

Immediately after the publication of the Reilly episode Mr. Senkler, the gold commissioner, was seen on the matter but did not care to express himself at length for publication.

"Mr. Senkler, do you care to state for publication what you propose to do in the matter of officials taking up fractional claims which the general public is not allowed to record?"

"Mr. Senkler replied that he had not even read the case completely yet. 'I can't very well make a statement until I have investigated a little. For a fact,' said Mr. Senkler, taking up a copy of the NUGGET, 'this is the very first inkling I have received of the alleged wrong.'"

The NUGGET man continued: "We have understood that you will at once dispossess Mr. Reilly of his fractional claim. Will you make a statement regarding it?"

"Really this is early in the matter to make any positive statement. However, I shall do what is right. I simply invite you to watch me and see what I shall do."

Another matter touched upon was the giving out to exclusive circles of friends by the clerks in the gold commissioner's office of information regarding new discoveries. Mr. Senkler stated that he was going to look into the matter with a view to making discoveries public as soon as reported at the office. Such information will probably be given to the public prints and in this way will do much to prevent stampedes as it is not the knowledge of new discoveries as the lack of fuller information, the secret withdrawal of the bartering of interests or the information to the public, causing these unreasoning rumors to spread, Swede, Mousehide and a thousand other streams.

On Sunday night at the Monte Carlo the Wondroscope Company will present four new specialties beside new films on the Wondroscope. There will also be new illustrated songs, the most popular number now in Dawson.

Badly Frozen.

Mr. W. H. Miller, a wholesale liquor man, arrives from Eagle City with the intelligence that, as he left, David William Jones had just been brought into that bar, with both hands and one foot frozen. The foot was almost a hopeless loss and it was expected that it would have to be removed.

Go to the Monte Carlo on Sunday night, and witness the charge of Roosevelt's Rough Riders as shown by the Wondroscope. See Lee Richardson in his inimitable performance on the wheel. A complete program presented.

Postponed Again.

The NUGGET's tramway case has again been postponed until after the hearing of jury cases. Perhaps the settling of the case by the judge for Friday the 18th may have proven unlucky.

An Explanation.

Owing to the license matters coming up, and our decision not to take out a license, left us with a considerable stock of liquors on hand. When advertising to give away what whiskey we had on hand in the Pullman Cafe it had not occurred to us that such would conflict with our good friends in the business. We have withdrawn the advertisement and the offer and regret the fact had not occurred to us earlier. J. R. ARMSTRONG, Proprietor.

Grand Family Entertainment.

On Sunday evening next the Wondroscope Company will present a change of program, and among the startling moving pictures will be the bombardment of Matanzas, showing the 12-inch gun in operation from the Puritan; also the great effect of the dynamite shells from the Vesuvius, each shell containing 200 pounds of gun cotton and the pictures showing the actual damage done the embankment. Don't forget, the Monte Carlo Theatre on Sunday night.

The New Tivoli.

The Tivoli has been fitted up with plentiful electric lights and was reopened on Thursday night under the management of Fred N. Tracy. The performance opens with a clean, wholesome border drama, and after a variety of single numbers and some new faces, concludes with a selection of moving pictures on the vitascope. A concert will be given on Sunday night with new numbers and new faces.

Mr. Tracy has made himself exceedingly popular among the men who patronize the local theatres by his rendition of songs which are peculiarly adapted to the circumstances. He throws a depth of feeling into his work

which is not often seen. The packed houses which have greeted the performers since the reopening is a guarantee that the Tivoli will continue to do a splendid business.

Pan Roast of fine Eastern Oysters at the Arctic Oyster House.

The Dining Room service of the Regina Club Hotel is such as to invite you back again.

Hershberg, the Seattle clothier, will sell you clothing at exceedingly low prices.

The best meals served in the city are at the Regina Club Hotel.

Dawson's Dog Doctor is Shoff, the chemist of the Pioneer Drug Store

Money to Loan Apply at the Nugget Express office, Front st.

Special Rates for room and board by the month at the Regina Club Hotel.

Look at Hershberg's sign and see what he has to say about clothing, furnishing goods and footwear.

The Regina Club Hotel Bar is the standard of Dawson in quality.

Hershberg, the Seattle clothier, has moved to 222 First avenue, next to Rutledge building.

Elegantly furnished rooms, comfortably heated, at the Regina Club Hotel.

Claims Bought and Sold By Louis Couture, North-West House, two miles above mouth of Hunker.

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When in town stay at the RAINIER HOUSE... Neatest, Cleanest, and Most Comfortable Bunk House in Dawson.

First Class Dining Room in Connection. Special Rates by the week or month. Water Front, opp. A. C. Co. F. W. ARNOLD, Mgr.

Time to Go to Ottawa. (Continued from first page)

John McDonald, MERCHANT TAILOR. Fine Line of Gentlemen's Suitings, Just Arrived. Water Front, bet. 1st and 2nd Sts.

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For the Outside Leaving Dawson Jan. 15 and returning Leaving Seattle Feb. 15.

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Immediate Arrangements Should be Made by Parties Desiring Passage.

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