

# The Klondike Nugget

ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY

On Wednesday and Saturday  
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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

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**NOTICE.**

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

The Nugget has a regular carrier and express service covering Bonanza, Eldorado, Hunker, Sulphur and Dominion creeks and tributaries. Mail orders taken and prompt delivery guaranteed on all the above. Orders for delivery of papers, mail or express may be left at this office or given to creek agents.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

The Nugget extends to its readers and friends in the city and on the creeks the wish for a happy and joyous Christmas. With most of us there will be a great many of the customary Christmas features lacking in the celebration this year. Nevertheless we can take pleasure in remembering the joys of former years and looking forward to similar occasions in the future, when again old ties and friendships will be renewed.

Yet the Christmas season, even in the Klondike will be filled with pleasureable events, and if due advantage be taken thereof we are of the opinion that the recurrence of our greatest holiday in this good year of our Lord, 1898, will be an occasion long to be remembered. The best we can wish for our friends is a merry Christmas, a prosperous season and a handsome clean-up in the spring.

**SUGGESTIONS TO THE "MINER-SUN."**

When the marriage of the Yukon Miner to the Yukon Sun had been consummated, a great light suddenly dawned upon the happy couple. It was decided almost immediately to effect a species of divorce a friendly sort of affair, to be sure, but a divorce nevertheless. As a result of the conclusion it was decided that the Sun which is popularly supposed to be the weaker member of the twain, should appear on Tuesdays instead of Fridays, while the Miner edition of the combination should still continue publication on Fridays. By this master stroke it was expected that complete annihilation of the Nugget would follow. For how on earth could a semi-weekly which appears on Wednesdays and Saturdays stand up for one minute against a semi-weekly published on Tuesdays and Fridays?

No other result could follow but death to the Nugget according to the carefully worked out plans of the Miner-Sun people. But in their zeal to accomplish this very laudable purpose a few oversights were made which have resulted most disastrously to their plans.

It was not supposed by these very ingenious persons that an alliance of a paper which bears in every line the earmark of government organ, with one which has endeavored to enact the role of miners' friend would create any suspicion in the minds of people. It was fully expected that all the very plausible stories concerning changes on the Miner staff and new additions to the Sun management would be readily swallowed and all would go merry as a marriage bell.

But the public has just about lost confidence in the protestations of the Miner end of the combination and in so far as the Sun is concerned its weakly utterances have never been given any serious consideration. The result has been an increased demand for the Nugget, a demand which is taxing the capacity of our plant to supply.

Now that their plans are so clearly developed and the inside workings of the scheme brought so plainly before the notice of the public, it would be a wise move for them, should they close either the down town or the barracks office, and publish both papers from the

same establishment. Just as much confidence in the sincerity of their utterances would be felt then as is now, and it would enable the combination to materially reduce expenses.

Should this idea not meet with approval one of the two could be dispensed with and the other could be published on Tuesdays as the government organ and on Fridays as the exponent of miners' rights. Meanwhile we will continue to appear on Wednesdays and Saturdays telling the news as it happens, and keeping a watchful eye upon the plots and counter plots with which the atmosphere is just as heavily charged today as has been the case at any time within the past six months.

**IN THREES.**

Many people acknowledge belief in a superstition that a case of suicide is bound to be followed by two more similar events. Whether or not there is any real ground upon which to base such a belief, it certainly is a fact that three suicides following each other in rapid succession have been and are of frequent occurrence.

It is not so difficult to find a reason why self-destruction in one case leads to the same thing in another. In a community of any size there are always a certain number of people of morbid disposition who are held upon this earth simply for the reason that they prefer enduring the ills they have in preference to flying to others they know not of.

In such cases it often requires only the force of an example to induce others to pursue a similar course. Especially has this been found to prove true in the lower stratas of society. Continuous dissipation and the attendant nervous excitement almost invariably produce a final reaction under the influence of which it is difficult for the person concerned to see any pleasure or satisfaction in life. In consequence oblivion is sought through self destruction. But to determine any reason why suicides should occur in series, so to speak, of three each is quite another matter. We see no reason why they should occur by threes any more than by fives or tens. Perhaps some of our philosophically minded readers can explain the spell that attaches to the number three in this connection.

**M'KENZIE-MANN RAILROAD STEAL.**

Last winter the miners on the Klondike had their representatives at Ottawa. The gentlemen were paid by the miners and really had no standing in the House at all, though by their vigorous lobbying they made themselves so much felt as to result in the entire defeat of the government's pet measure—the McKenzie-Mann railroad steal. Had the measure gone through, Messrs. McKenzie and Mann would have at once entered into possession of every inch of mineral ground in the district which happened to be unrecorded at the time to some one else. The following, from the Mail and Empire shows the scheme to have been revived and the miners are without defence or representation at the capital:

The following Ottawa dispatch appears in the conservative press: A rumor is prevalent here that Hon. Clifford Sifton intends to re-introduce the Mann-Mackenzie Yukon railway contract next session and that the publication of Mr. Louis Coste's report on the navigability of the Hootalingua and Lewis rivers, between the proposed terminus of the line and Dawson City, is intended to pave the way. The scheme, whilst not precisely the same in detail as that thrown out by the senate last session, will still be identical in design. It will be remembered that Mr. Sifton only most reluctantly gave way to the pressure of his colleagues and agreed not to introduce a second bill last session.

**OUTSIDE OPINION.**

From the Winnipeg Free Press: No person or paper has yet come forward with a charge of wrong doing against a Yukon official. A Vancouver paper stated, and it was repeated by telegraph, that a Mr. F. Johnson had entered an action against the federal government for damages arising out of a refusal on the part of some one to record his claims. This statement is false on the face of it, because no action had been entered. The case will never

be heard of, but it was a good enough statement for the coast correspondents to unload on the patrons of their service.

[The Winnipeg Free Press is misinformed to say the least. A suit is certainly on file at this place by which a Mr. Johnson of Vancouver expects to recover damages for the loss of valuable property lost to him through the acts of the officials a year ago. A letter which passed from Mr. Wade to Johnson was sent outside last summer as evidence, it being then the intention of taking the matter to Ottawa. A brother of the Mr. Johnson in Dawson is a merchant of Vancouver and it is through him the matter became public.—ED.]

From the Winnipeg Tribune: The rather startling announcement appears in the Free Press as a dispatch from Res on interesting topics, musical meeting at 30 p. m.

**CREEK ITEMS.**

Mr. Wilson, who was injured while sledding Hunker is up and around again, although not thoroughly recovered.

Dr. Smith, who owns 38 above on Sulphur, reports a good pay-strike three and one-half feet up that will hold up fifty cents. He has five ft. at work on the claim, and last Friday eked up several nuggets, one weighing two dollars.

The recent warm weather has created havoc in the pay-streak on 7 and 7A above lower, are being, as also are some on 10 below upper, and is very doubtful if work can again be resumed in these holes.

Considerable work is going on up Bear creek and a number of lay men report fair pay. The work is being done by Messrs. Petro and Ker on 7 below, where 11 men are at work digging. No. 6 below is also being extensively worked by lay men.

A. Carlson, employed on 35 below on Hunker, was quite severely bruised by a flying sled and of wood. The sled pole broke and man and sled were precipitated down the hill. Carlson received a sprained ankle and is quite badly bruised, so that he is confined to bed.

**Eagle City Land & Improvement Co.**

the truth of the stories of official corruption and rottenness in the Yukon which have been told in every paper in Canada they have been effectually dismissed by the facts which we are enabled to make public today. They make a shameful chapter in Canadian history which when fully confirmed as they are bound to be by proper investigation, will be enough—if there is any public opinion left in Canada—to drive from office a well known minister of the crown, and place a half dozen officials where they should have been long ago behind the prison bars."

The Herald proceeds to state that it has information from a gentleman of undoubted intelligence and veracity, who left Dawson City as late as the middle of August, that fully confirms the most serious charges made against Siftonian rule in the Yukon. This gentleman's report we quote in part:

"The universal feeling in and around Dawson is that the administration is disgracefully and hopelessly corrupt. Nearly every official makes a business of extorting bribes. It is impossible to get a good claim recorded unless the officials are given a sum down in cash or an interest in the claim. The post-office officials habitually ask for and receive bribes for the delivery of mail matter. When gold is discovered on a new creek the claims are not thrown open for entry until the officials and their friends have grabbed all the best slices. If a miner goes to record a claim he is asked to wait a couple of days while it is ascertained if the claim has been previously entered for. Upon going back he is told that he is too late—the claim has been recorded. He is not allowed to see the books, but upon enquiring he finds the claim entered for in the name of a prostitute or some other friend of the official's, and it is openly charged that the hard-working prospector is deliberately stood off in order that the officials may use the information he has given them to steal his claim. Good men—miners and prospectors—who have gone into the country believing they would get British fair play have got dirt. They are either leaving for the American side or patiently waiting to record their claims when the new commissioner arrives on the scene, hoping that his advent will be accompanied by a sweeping reform. They say it is no use trying to secure justice from the present officials, and if they find a good claim they say nothing about it. The extraordinary royalty imposed under Mr. Sifton's regulations has resulted in enormous quantities of gold, how large nobody but the owners know, being concealed or smuggled quietly out of the country."

There are two objects in the punishment of wrong-doers by the law; the first is to give warning to people who are similarly disposed to the prisoner and the second is in the way of atonement by the prisoner. In the saloon licensing ordinance just passed by the council a provision is made for the punishment of

saloon inspectors who shall by collusion with saloon keepers defeat the objects of the ordinance, or who shall use their position as a means of extorting money, or who shall accept money from the men they are to watch. In the hands of an unscrupulous person the position of inspector could easily be made to yield many times the salary of the office, while the punishment for being detected is but a \$100 fine for the first offense. The inadequacy of the punishment is plain to everyone; the section of the law forbidding inspectors, accepting bribes, fees, etc., etc., is a waste of white paper when the penalty is such a gentle one.

The proposed amendments to the mining regulations as suggested by the Miners' Association should interest the miners on all the creeks. It must not be accepted for granted that all the changes offered are just what the country needs. The fullest discussion possible should be obtained before any recommendations to the government are made. With this end in view we understand that meetings will be held on the different creeks for the purpose of hearing expressions of men who are actually engaged in the work of developing claims. If a set of regulations can be framed that will reflect the views of a majority of the men now on the creeks, the association will be in a position to recommend them to Ottawa with considerable prospect of their being ultimately adopted.

The Elks are to be congratulated upon the representative character of the audience which attended their social session on Tuesday night. In looking over the large assembly of well dressed ladies and gentlemen who attended, it was quite easy for one to forget for the time being that he was living in the Arctic regions.

**NORTHWEST EXPRESS CO.**

Commencing Dec. 5 will run dog teams Dawson to Bennett  
 Every 10 days, carrying passengers and mail. Road houses and well stocked relay stations en route. Experienced drivers. Leave mail at office or care of A. C. Co., Fairview Hotel and Regina Cafe. For further information apply to C. F. Smith, Mgr., 262 Front St.

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Skilled Nursing and Home Comforts. Number of patients limited. Bring blankets. Apply to DR. SCOTT, of Washington, D. C., U. S. A near cor. 8th St. and 5th Ave.

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ASSAYER AND ANALYTICAL CHEMIST  
 Gold Melted into Bars. All Work Guaranteed  
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MANUFACTURERS OF  
 First Quality Matched, Dressed, Rustic, Roofing, and Rough Lumber  
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 Orders filled promptly.

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**LEON, LINDA AND ARNOLD**  
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 J. R. FULDA, Agent.

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