

The Klondike Nugget

ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY

On Wednesday and Saturday

Each issue reproduced in the United States for distribution throughout the world.

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GEO. M. ALLEN Managing Editor
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1898

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.

SECRET PUBLIC RECORDS.

About the first thing which shocks the newcomer after arriving in Dawson is the secrecy surrounding the records in the recorder's and gold commissioner's office. Records of trades, sales, filings, mortgages, etc., are called public records all over the civilized world, and, in spirit and in truth, are as public under certain reasonable restraints as they can be made. The primal object of an office of record is simply to give publicity to the transactions recorded and to avoid the secrecy so conducive to "crooked" work. For illustration, in an ordinary community there is no liability of mortgaged property being foisted upon an innocent purchaser, for the reason that the said purchaser can first go to the public records and see for himself if there is a mortgage against the property.

But what a diabolical condition of affairs we find at the hall of public records in Dawson. The utmost secrecy prevails about the records and is maintained apparently for purposes of revenue only. When interviewed on the matter, Mr. Fawcett simply protests that the demand to see the records is so great that if they were made public they would simply be worn out with use. To the intelligent mind this very condition demonstrates the imperativeness of their being made public and at once. Take the simple matter of recorded claims, for instance. The secrecy maintained at the office, presumably for revenue only, compels an inquirer to first of all pay an entrance fee of \$5 or \$10, and then ask the recorder if such and such claim is recorded; or he must catch one of the office force and pay him \$10 or \$15 for the information. But the shameful way in which the records are kept secret, for purposes of revenue, is more apparent in other directions. Vacant claims by the block are kept vacant by the simple telling of an applicant for one of them that the claim he wants is already recorded. The misguided miner has no way of verifying or disproving the statement for the public records are secret. Even when a miner pays an employe of the office \$15 for a map of unrecorded claims on some creek he has no way of knowing but the best ground on the creek is being reserved for the "gang." That such ground is withheld is something that can be demonstrated by anyone in ten minutes, if they inquire among the prospectors themselves. What can be thought of a gold commissioner who has brought about such a system for defrauding the people? The upright mind is shocked when he protests his honesty—for only a fool could be in ignorance of what daily transpires at Mr. Fawcett's office. If he knows—and he cannot possibly help doing so—he is equally guilty with the man who charges for information and then falsifies it by withholding certain desirable claims from the lists of unrecorded ground.

The way in which the public is defrauded by the keeping secret of the public records is so open, and the plotters, schemers and grafters so mul-

titudinous that there is but one way now to restore righteousness to public affairs and that is to "turn the rascals out." Much familiarity with crookedness has distorted Mr. Fawcett's vision and he has reached the point of moral aberration when his sole hope, aim or object in the future is simply to be able to make a plea of "incompetent-but honest" and receive a coat of whitewash which will allow him gracefully to slide into the obscurity from whence he sprang. But if he thinks the odium attached so firmly to his name can be nightly shaken off, it is but another illustration of his mental obscurity. In his future career he will never find a hole or cover in Canada where he can hide from the pointing finger of scorn from some returned Klondiker or friend.

THE RICH RICHER AND POOR POORER.

How the minds of great men work, is exemplified by the actions of our gold commissioner in the case of conflicting Dominion creek claims. Some worthless certificates of record were sold in Dawson before values on that creek had soared to anything like their present figures. A survey revealed the fact that there were no claims there for some of the aforesaid buyers. The men on the lower end of the creek cannot understand why they are not allowed to record now that stream has been surveyed from end to end. Fawcett's statement to one of these men some few days ago throws a lot of light on this matter. It appears that the heart of the said gold commissioner is bubbling over with anguish and sympathy for the unfortunate speculators who found they had no claims after the survey. He states that he proposes healing their financial wounds by a grive of his own making. He intends giving to each one of the gentlemanly speculators a claim on lower Dominion in place of the claim he lost higher up the stream, though the records do not show that they ever owned the claims they lost in the first place. The beautiful charity of the G. C. is shown up in its best light when it is known that each of the dispossessed speculators aforesaid is rich, and that the claim he proposes to give them must first be taken away from a poor miner. The gold commissioner is evidently one of those gentlemen who believes in the literal application of the scripture where it is said: "Unto him that hath shall be given and unto him that hath not shall be taken away even that he hath."

NOT ALL THE FACTS.

The last issue of the Nugget was in the nature of a sensation, not—but that most of the facts revealed therein were well known to the majority of our people but because they were gathered and massed into one formidable issue of accusation. But the strangest thing of all is the fact that no denial has been made of the alleged crookedness. The Nugget did not publish all it knew and therein lies the explanation of the silence of the parties alleged to be defrauding the people of their rights; they considered it wise rather to rest under the imputations of dishonorable practices than challenge the statements of the Nugget, and bring about other revelations still more damning in their nature.

To some people, especially our friends from the United States, it appears almost foolhardy to publicly make accusations against officials, even when those accusations are known to be true from one end of the district to the other, but the fact is we are under as free a flag as any in the world; and the truth of the charges is sufficient justification in any court of the land. The libel laws of Canada were not framed for the protection of crooked officialism but to protect the people from irresponsible journals. We are perfectly cognizant of the seriousness of our charges, and willingly takes all responsibility in the matter. By the truth of those charges we are willing to stand or fall.

GIVE THE ASSOCIATION SUPPORT

Miners of the Klondike! we would like to ask you in the light of recent developments whether or not you think

you will need or do now need a powerful defender against schemers, "grafters" and official incompetence and rapacity. That powerful defender can be created by yourselves, and present a solid front to corruption.

With the Miners' Association a success and having an active membership of from one to two thousand you can bid defiance to the gang. Indeed, you will find schemes and schemers fade away like snow before a midsummer sun.

There is power in numbers and we fail to see why the association cannot start right off with a membership requiring four figures to express. The revelations in the last issue of the Nugget should be carried to the furthestmost part of the most obscure creek in the district, and then the result ought to be a perfect stampede of miners to the organization. As will be seen in our local columns the association is what the British call a "go." The charter members are intelligent and determined and all that is now required is the strong backing which will come with numbers.

TAKE NOTICE.

That the statements in our last issue go unchallenged is the most damning evidence possible against the accusers. The Nugget desires to see no man summarily dealt with by angry miners and therefore once more advises the spies of the gang now up the gulches, to at once, make their retreat and get to cover. After this warning if anything happens then they have only themselves to blame. As the confidant of the innermost thoughts of hundreds of good honest miners, the warnings of this paper are authoritative and not to be disregarded lightly. Neither must the gang think they can continue in safety the course they have mapped out for themselves. It is hoped that Mr. Ogilvie will arrive here shortly with instructions to investigate the gold commissioner and his office, for right there is the root of every evil now overwhelming the miners. With an intelligent, honest man in charge, the undue advantage now existing of rogues over honest men would become a thing of history and vanish eternally from before us.

Removal.

After Saturday, August 27th, the Canadian Bank of Commerce will be found in the new premises, between the Barracks and the Gold Commissioners office. A downtown branch will be opened for the accommodation of the bank's customers, shortly. H. T. Wilson, Manager.

CALIFORNIA RESTAURANT

FOR FIRST-CLASS MEALS. Reasonable Prices. Try It.

St. Mary's Hospital

IN CHARGE OF THE SISTERS OF ST. ANNE.

Tickets, good for one year and covering all expense in case of sickness, \$20.
Patients Without Tickets, \$5.00 per day for Nursing, Board and Washing. Doctors' Fees, \$5.00 per visit.

FATHER JUDGE, SUPT.

Rear of Towson Company's Office

Bennett Lake & Klondike Nav. Co.

Strs. Ora, Flora & Nora

SAILING WEEKLY

Head of Lake Bennett

OFFICE: 2 DOORS BELOW NUGGET OFFICE
H. TEMPLE FALLS, Agent

YUKON HOTEL

Louis K. Schloesser, Proprietor
Largest and Best Equipped Hotel in Dawson
Good Accommodations for 75 People. The only Temperance Hotel in the City.

RESTAURANT IN CONNECTION
CACHES—Cache building apart from Hotel containing 20 separate rooms for storage of outfits.

McCONNELL & PARKER

Dealers in

General Merchandise

Highest cash price paid for provisions and all kinds of merchandise.
BLUE TENT. Cor. First Street and Third Avenue

Seattle-Yukon Transportation Company



90-92 Columbia Street, Seattle, Wash.
Seattle No. 3 and Barges will leave Dawson for St. Michaels and down river points on or about Aug. 25, and connect with our A. T. S. S. Alliance for Seattle.

THE PACIFIC-ALASKA EX. CO.

Operates over our line and handles Express Matter for all points.
Orders for freight coming in will be handled promptly. Goods insured en transit and stored at Dawson and other down river points 50 days free of charge. This enables miners to prospect with a light outfit, and call for their goods when permanent camp is located.
We are the only established company carrying freight for shippers to the various points on the Yukon.
For rates and other information, call on H. T. FOLLETT, Agent, Library Bldg., Dawson.

The Fairview

DAWSON'S FINEST HOTEL

European and American Plan

FINE CUISINE

ELEGANTLY FURNISHED ROOMS

EVERY MODERN IMPROVEMENT

MISS B. A. MULROONEY, Proprietress

THE PIONEER

DISSMORE, SPENCER & McPHEE, Proprietors

BEST GRADES OF

SCOTCH and CANADIAN WHISKIES

And the Old Blend Brand of

JACK McQUESTIAN CIGARS

THE AURORA

Tom Gishholm, Proprietor

COR. FRONT AND SECOND STREET

Headquarters for

BEST OF WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS

Mixed Drinks a Specialty

YOU WANT THE BEST OF COURSE YOU DO!

CHOICE LIQUORS, WINES, MIXED DRINKS AND CIGARS

"THE NEW ENGLAND"

Melville & Paterson, Proprietors

Sole Agents for M. F. Butler & Co., Montreal

ELDORADO SALOON

HALL MCKINSEY & YOUNG, Proprietors

KLONDIKE CITY

Finest Brands of

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

THE KLONDIKE HOTEL

DAWSON

Nelson Smith, Proprietor

Each room furnished with fine spring beds and modern comforts

EUROPEAN PLAN—FINE RESTAURANT IN CONNECTION

FINEST WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS

THE NORTHERN

ASH & MANNING, PROPRIETORS

Choicest Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Expert Mixologists

MINING HEADQUARTERS

FRONT STREET, DAWSON

Combination Saloon

Is the Place to go for fun and amusement. Finest kind of Liquors and Cigars

Lloyd Harrison & Co., Proprietors

The "Monte Carlo"

FINEST BAR IN DAWSON

QUALITY OF WINES AND LIQUORS THE HIGHEST

Mixed Drinks a Specialty

HIGHEST GRADES OF CIGARS

THE OPERA HOUSE

BARNE WILSON & PETERSON, Proprietors

DAWSON

Headquarters for Best of

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Mixed Drinks a Specialty

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