

The Klondike Nugget

TELEPHONE NUMBER 12
(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
ISSUED DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.
GEORGE M. ALLEN, Publisher

From Saturday and Monday's Daily.
ATTENTION! POETS.

In Saturday's issue of the Nugget notice was given, which is repeated in our issue today, of a prize offered for a Yukon song.

We hope that sufficient interest will be awakened in the contest to enlist the best poetic talent in the community. That such talent exists and of a high order as well as we are fully aware. There have at times appeared in the local press contributions in verse of a very creditable nature. Various occasions have called forth such efforts, but no subject could possibly inspire our poets to greater endeavor than the one proposed by this paper.

It is the belief of the Nugget, and we feel satisfied that our optimistic hopes find echo in the minds of the majority of the community, that this territory stands at the threshold of an unprecedented era of activity and prosperity.

The history of the past four years—in itself a record of marvelous things—bids fair to find itself entirely surpassed and outdone by the events which will take place within the near future.

The seal of permanence has been placed upon Dawson, and the prosperity of Dawson serves merely to reflect the general conditions which prevail over the entire territory. In an extremely short time we have seen a straggling village of tents and rough board shacks give way to a city—small, it is true when compared with the great commercial centers of the world, but possessing every attribute that bespeaks a thriving, bustling community. Splendid governmental edifices, substantial business blocks and comfortable residences, confront the observer on every hand, each and every one bearing silent testimony to the one undisturbed fact that Dawson and the district of which it is the capital and trade centre, have before them a future of splendid prosperity.

It is this condition which we hope will call forth from our poets a song which will fittingly portray the greatness of the territory in which so many fond hopes are centered and in whose progress and growth such deep interest is felt by every inhabitant.

Particular attention is drawn to the fact that the manuscripts must be received at this office not later than Dec. 20. The time allowed is not long, but we believe it is sufficiently extended for the purpose in view.

The prize of fifty dollars will be awarded as soon as possible after the closing of the contest. The manuscripts will be submitted to the judges on the 21st, and they will be asked to give their decision as quickly thereafter as possible.

The full particulars concerning the contest will be found published in another column.

A PUBLIC MEETING.

The suggestion that a public meeting be called for the purpose of securing public discussion as to the advisability of incorporating Dawson, or of accepting the alternative offered by the council of a commission to take the place of a mayor and council, is heartily endorsed by the Nugget.

What is wanted now is all the light that may possibly be thrown upon the situation. There is, we may say, an almost unanimous desire that Dawson be afforded the best form of government obtainable, with strict observance given at the same time to the practical problems involved. In other words, everyone wishes to see the affairs of the town conducted along lines adapted to a progressive community, but no one, excepting possibly a few individuals who may expect to profit thereby, is desirous of plunging Dawson headlong into debt.

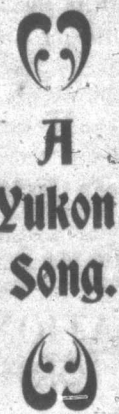
The time for threshing these matters out is at hand, and the voters will be called upon in a very short time to decide the matter one way or another.

A public meeting, therefore, at which all who are interested may be given an opportunity to express their opinions, is decidedly in order.

It is for the people themselves to say what they want and now is the time for them to make their wishes known.

ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN.

Proceedings have been begun in the courts of British Columbia against the White Pass Railway Company for the return of freight charges collected by the company without the sanction



A Yukon Song.

The Nugget this year proposes to offer fifty dollars for a song.

This Yukon territory, in the growth and prosperity of which every inhabitant takes the very deepest interest, has been celebrated the world over by newspapers and magazines, and books even, have been devoted to descriptions of its wonderful richness.

But its praises have never yet been set to music.

It is for the purpose of remedying this oversight that the Nugget makes its present offer.

We desire to publish a song which will represent to Yukon what the "Maple Leaf" is to the Dominion, what "America" is to the United States, and what "God Save the King" or "Rule Britannia" are to Great Britain.

The prize of fifty dollars will be offered for the words only. The music will be cared for later on.

We therefore invite every poet in the territory in whom the divine spark has been planted to call upon the muse and compete for the prize.

Please note the following conditions:

(1) The song is to contain five stanzas.

(2) No limitation is to be placed as to the metre or length of the verses.

(3) Manuscripts signed with nom de plume and accompanied by sealed envelope containing real name and nom de plume must be received at this office not later than December 20th.

A competent committee of judges will be selected to decide upon the merits of the verses submitted and the award will be made in accordance with their decision.

Everyone who desires may compete and we hope that a lively interest in the contest will be awakened.

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

DIRECT FROM VANCOUVER.

RY. CO. SUED FOR \$8,000,000

Asked to Return That Amount Stolen From Patrons During Its Life of Less Than Two and One Half Years—Victoria, Vancouver and Dawson Merchants Interested.

From Monday's Daily.

Vancouver, Dec. 8.—Suit has been entered against the British Yukon Company (White Pass Railway) for the return of money aggregating eight million dollars exorbitant freight and passenger rates collected by that company since it began operations on British soil nearly two and a-half years ago. Higgins & Powell are representing the claimants and they will carry the case to the Privy Council of England.

The merchants of Dawson who during the past two years and over have been systematically mulcted by the White Pass and Yukon railroad out of countless thousands of dollars have at last awakened to a realization of the fact that through the instrumentality of the courts it is possible to compel the octopus to disgorge illegally gotten gains which during the past season alone it is estimated will approximate close to one million dollars. That the opinion held by many of the most prominent members of the bar of the city is concurred in by leading counsel on outside as to the ultimate success of the suit is shown by the fact that shippers in Victoria and Vancouver have likewise begun suit upon similar grounds, the aggregate of which will amount to nearly ten millions of dollars.

Messrs. Clark, Wilson & Stackpole, one of the leading firms in the city, have undertaken the suit in behalf of the complainants and within a day or two will file their complaint and cause a writ against the company to be issued. The amount involved here would be considered a fortune by anyone and in the prosecution of the suit the best and most astute legal talent will be employed. The method of procedure will be that suits will be instituted by one person only to whom the claims of consignors have been assigned. In the event of an adverse decision being had in the territorial court an appeal may be

The Audience Was Spared.

As about eight out of ten men meet nowadays are thinking of putting up for the vestry elections, county council, or something, it is not surprising that a large proportion of the self-made variety that could not deliver an intelligible speech if they were to be hanged. The result is that the hard-up penny- liners are turning an honest penny by supplying these tongue-tied statesmen with ready-made campaign thunder.

Some time ago there was a most enthusiastic meeting in a part of Birmingham for the purpose of introducing candidates for the vestry. A timid gentleman who was no orator was brought forward. He laid a voluminous written speech on the desk and made a start. He had got as far as "Ladies and Gentlemen," when a hungry looking party in a week-before-last shirt stood up in the front row and whispered—

"How about that little account?" The orator coughed, colored, looked fixedly at the gallery, and strove to continue.

"I say," continued the interrupter, more loudly, "you know what I told you—cash down."

"I'll—I'll see you in the morning," gasped the mortified candidate.

"That won't do," replied the creditor, doggedly. "You can't play the morning dodge on me. I'm dead on you 'fellows,' I am. You've got to settle up or shut up. Fork out that

An Example.

Mr. Birmingham—It is a wonderful instinct which teaches animals to seek a safe retreat when danger is nigh.

Mr. Manchester—I myself have often seen a cowhide.—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.



THE HIGHEST TRIBUNAL OF THIS EMPIRE WILL BE APPEALED TO AGAINST THE WHITE PASS RAILROAD.

SHIVERING CONTINUES

Wood Supplied the Public School Building of Poor Quality.

Complaints are still heard of the quality of wood supplied for heating or attempting to heat the public school building. The system of heat-wood supplied makes the diffusion of heat throughout the big building very difficult. The wood supplied is said to have lain in the water a good part of last summer and now when frozen is about as inflammable as so much ice.

When Father Carves the Duck.

We all look on with anxious eyes when father carves the duck. And mother always sighs when father carves the duck. Then all of us prepare to rise and hold our breath before our eyes and be prepared for some surprise when father carves the duck.

He braces up and grabs a fork. When he carves a duck, And won't allow a soul to talk Until he's carved the duck. The fork is jabbed into the sides, Across the breast the knife he slides, And every careful person hides From flying chips of duck.

The platter always seem to slip When father carves the duck. And how it makes the dishes skip! Potatoes fly amuck, The squash and cabbage leap in space, We get some gravy on our face, And father mutters Hindoo grace When he carves a duck.

We thus have learned to walk around The dining room and pluck From off the window sills and walls Our share of father's duck.

While father growls and grunts and kicks And swears the knife was full of nicks, And mother scolds at him because He couldn't carve the duck.

Catching the Cricketer.

A well-known county cricketer visited a certain seaside resort with his team. Early on the third morning of the match he was taking a constitutional on the sands, when he was recognized by a group of youngsters who were engaged in playing cricket. At their request he consented to bowl down a ball or two. He took several wickets in a little time, after which the youngsters suggested that he should have his innings.

He agreed, and the game came to an abrupt conclusion, as he managed to break the bat in playing the very first ball he received. The youngsters looked very down hearted, but brightened up considerably on receipt of five shillings with which to buy a new bat.

Later in the day the gentleman chanced to refer to the incident. To his astonishment the other members of the team thought it very funny and laughed.

"I can't see what there is to laugh about," he began.

"Well, you see," explained the captain, "we happen to know that bat. I broke it on Monday morning, G—here broke it on Tuesday, and the smart youths have sold you on a Wednesday morning. They must have made a good sum out of that bat."—Ex.

Bargain Day.

Mamma—Tommy, do stop that noise. If you'll only be good, I'll give you a penny.

Tommy—No, I want a nickel. Mamma—Why, you little rascal, you were quite satisfied to be good yesterday for a penny!

Tommy—I know; but that was bargain day.—Philadelphia Times.

The Nugget's Department for Children

The Obstinate Stork.

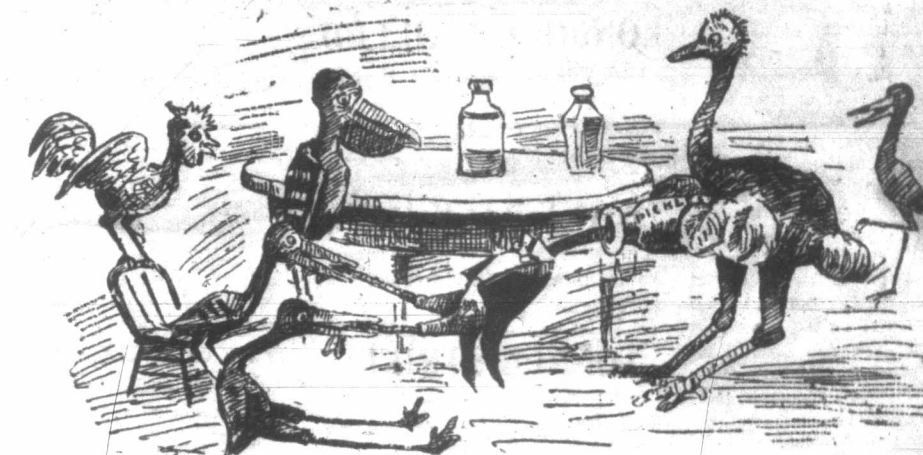
A wonderful bird was Mister Stork. As ever was met twixt London and York; He'd a very long beak with which to peck, And very long legs, and a very long neck. He wore a dress coat when he went to dine, And his stick-up collar was really fine! But folks would talk—for Mister Stork Said he must eat pickles without a fork!

Now postman Crane once brought him a note From Dowager Lady Slender-throat:



So into the jar his bill he poked, But 'twas so narrow he nearly choked; And then, when he tried to turn about— Horror of horrors!—he couldn't get out! And now was a bustle, and now was a din, And all the guests cried, "What a pickle he's in!" "Help, help!" in his agony gasped Mister Stork, And he also groaned something like "pickles," and "fork."

Lord Ostich exclaimed, "The bird's going too far! Some pull the gentleman; I'll pull the jar."



"Dear Mr. Stork, some friends of mine Are coming on Thursday next to dine. A good bill of fare I promise that day: There'll be plenty of bills, but nothing to pay." "I'll come like a bird," wrote Mister Stork, "But I will eat my pickles without a fork."

Behold him dressed in his evening best, And the dowager Lady received her guest. That Thursday with pride, as though to say, "I own him the handsomest guest to day." A plentiful pickle-dinner was placed in long-necked jars of exquisite taste; And the forks were brought, but Mister Stork Said he would eat pickles without a fork.

Puzzles.

PRIMAL ACROSTIC.

No. 23.—All the words described contain the same number of letters when rightly guessed and placed one below the other the initial letters will spell the name of a large American city.

Cross words: 1, a mansion; 2, to interrupt; 3, a baby; 4, thick; 5, a reply; 6, small stones; 7, to appoint.

CENTRAL ACROSTIC.

No. 24.—All the words described contain the same number of letters. When rightly guessed and placed one below the other the central letters

Not Born to Dawson.

Word has come to Dawson, not by mail for mail except from the lever river is now an unknown quantity, that "Kid" West, narrowly escaped drowning by falling through the ice into the river while musing along

will spell the name of a sovereign.

Cross words: 1, a body of water; 2, to float; 3, to cleanse; 4, a heathen; 5, to welcome; 6, burdened; 7, to bring down; 8, to pursue; 9, a scow; 10, dirty.

DIAGONAL ACROSTIC.

No. 25.—All of the words described contain the same number of letters. When rightly guessed and placed one below another the diagonal beginning at the upper left-hand corner and ending at the lower right-hand corner will spell the name of a large animal.

Cross words: 1, suitable; 2, to brighten or adorn; 3, miserable; 4, suitably; 5, a dealer in wearing ap-

parel; 6, to devote to a sacred use; 7, concealing; 8, motion.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

So they tugged and they pulled with main and with might, While poor Lady Slender-throat fared with fright; They tugged and they pulled with night and with main, Till poor Mister Stork nearly fared with the strain, And vowed for the future that he, Mister Stork, If he lived, would certainly eat with a fork.

At last Lord Ostich let go, and the bound. Sent the jar with a dash and a thud to the ground, And broke it in hundreds of pieces and then. Poor Mister Stork breathed once again! He never forgot that dreadful day, And always, when asked to dine, would say, "As sure as my name is Mister Stork I won't eat pickles without a fork!"

WORD SQUARE.

... A way or passage. ... A quantity of land. ... Honest, genuine. ... To caution.

WORD PUZZLES.

No. 27.—What word is there of five letters from which if you remove one only one will remain?

No. 28.—What word is there of six letters from which you can take away one and leave eight?

No. 29.—What small animal is found into a large one by being joined?

For the 24 hours previous to 10 o'clock this morning the official weather record shows the maximum temperature to have been 51 below zero, the maximum 37 above zero. Coldest yet recorded this season was 35 below.