

The Klondike Nugget

ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY

On Wednesday and Saturday

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Yearly in advance	\$24 00
Six months	12 00
Three months	6 00
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Single copies	25

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1908

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.

NEWSPAPER COMBINATION

In his valedictory in the last issue of the *Midnight Sun* G. B. Swinehart gives the names of the new owners as J. L. Reese and Co. The *Klondike Miner*, also in its last issue, points out with considerable impolicy that it is the same name which adorns the head of its editorial columns. The impression made upon the public is that the *Miner* has swallowed the *Sun* which would be a good enough change were it the purpose to suppress one or the other of these papers of declared divergent policies. The declared policy of the *Miner* is to defend the people against any and all encroachments upon their rights. The *Sun* is the government organ pure and simple and naturally its best patron is that government whose cause it has endeavored to espouse in a weak milk and watery way. To an observer it would appear from the last issue as if the amalgamation of the two papers, the *Miner* and the *Sun*, was to result more disastrously to the *Miner* than to the *Sun*, for at once the *Miner* departs from its "people's friend" attitude and endeavors to justify exaction of toll from the poor miner "mushing" his own outfit up the creeks.

The gentlemen of the *Miner-Sun* combination will find the people not nearly so gullible as to believe in the possibility of the genuineness of the "straddle." It is most difficult to carry water on both shoulders, and the experiment usually results in a good "dousing" for the one who attempts it as well as the loss of the water. When the *Miner-Sun*, published near the barracks, makes a howl about government timber matters it in the same issue re-echoes the paid defense of the toll-trail published in the *Miner-Sun* in the down town office. This is certainly to be expected for there are few men in the world who can live out two policies and show no amalgamation of principles. The *Miner-Sun* will find to its sorrow that the people of the Yukon are a long ways from being the gullible fools who will continue to swallow professions of friendship from such a combination of government patronage and the "people's friend."

A man may buy up and operate two or more saloons. Though illegal it is not at all uncommon to find a railroad company buying up its rival; but in such a case the company is in a position to compel patronage and does not depend for that patronage upon being able to persuade the public that there is nothing in common between the two roads as is the case in the present instance. A lawyer who accepted donations from his client's opponent would be professionally ostracised at once if it was to become known. The *Miner-Sun* combination is condemned upon the same grounds, besides that it is a slap in the face to intelligent people that they are presumed to be sufficiently dense to swallow the situation without comment or without grasping the facts. The combination was effected in very crude fashion and the "Valedictory" of the organ and "A change in the *Miner* staff" of the other did not rid the minds of readers of the impression left by the fact that no declaration was made anywhere of the distinct individuality of the two pa-

pers. It requires not the gift of prophecy to foresee the end. If edited with sufficient brilliancy both or either may be read to a limited extent as literary productions, but there will be found few friends for "Beauty and the Beast" under one hat.

OVER THE RIVER ICE.

The time when Lieutenant Schwatka traveled over the ice from where Circle City or Rampart now stands to Dyea, with Indian guides, the feat was heralded to the world as a marvelous instance of hardihood and daring—as indeed it was when one considers the long unknown route traveled over. Not a cabin was found on the journey and though the party started out with supplies to an amount which hindered the teams and delayed traveling, if it had not been for running across an occasional Indian village the entire party would have starved to death. Compare that trip with the journey today. From Circle City to the coast the traveler today need not spend a single night in the open air nor once make his own camp. As all know, in winter traveling, the great discomforts of the trip are incurred, not while traveling, but in camp, before the camp is made and in the morning again in breaking the camp. When wood and water and a fairly warm cabin awaits a man at the end of a moderate day's journey his sufferings become little or nothing and men will look forward to the trip with pleasant anticipations instead of with dread. Owing to the lack of storms on the inside there is no country on earth where a man can walk as easily and with as little effort as in these regions in the winter time. The travel has increased until after December 1, a beaten trail winds along the river with a few cut-offs from Circle City to Dyea and Skaguay and at no point are cabins more than a comfortable day's journey apart. Travelers start out with dogged and sleeping robes with possibly two days rations for themselves to be used in case of emergency. From now on very little bothersome open water will be found on the trip. But with these changes for the better comes a loss of glory, for with thousands making the trip successfully and without danger, the Yukoner appearing in civilization after a 30-day walk will be apt to find himself neglected and not lionized as in years gone by.

SALOON LICENSES.

It is about decided that the permanent license for Dawson saloons shall be \$200 per annum. The law for the Northwest is that licenses shall be confined to hotels or eating places and the result here will be an incorporation of the idea into the license ordinance. It will be required that saloons shall be fitted up with either a certain number of beds or shall have a kitchen with a certain capacity.

The law in the large Canadian cities does not work altogether satisfactorily, though being the law there is a show made of living up to it. In Victoria one can find the recognition of a peculiar principle regarding these saloon licenses. It appears to be admitted that a license is not just for one year, but is renewable at the option of the holder, not at the option of the council—of course during good conduct and behavior of the house. Licenses issued prior to the making of the law requiring beds or eating accommodations are today being reissued yearly to buildings upon the same lots, and these places are not amenable to the hotel law at all. It appears that they have acquired a right which is recognized by all alike.

Something in the same way is being recognized here. A number of places paid their license many months ago and in their cases it is not proposed to enforce the new regulations for beds and eating accommodations, at least until the expiration of the period covered by the license.

IMPORTANT TO THE COUNTRY.

The importance of Captain Jack Crawford's discovery of profitable mineral in the black sand of the Hootalinqua outside of the placer gold can hardly be

over estimated. This sand is in great quantity in many places and on the ground from which the 12-pound sample was brought it is sufficiently abundant to pay 87c per yard upon the gravel run through the sluice boxes. This is really a big proportion even without the discovery of placer gold also with the black sand.

Two years ago several thousand miles of river bed were sold or leased by the Canadian government for gold dredging purposes. The wharves at Victoria and Seattle were piled high with dredging apparatus for transport and one expected to find the rivers here lined with the machines in full operation. But the expected activity did not materialize in this branch of gold mining and though some half dozen of the companies which secured concessions are on the ground, none have gotten to work and in most cases the machinery is inadequate and the enthusiasm of the promoters abated. Captain Jack's discovery will give this branch of the industry a new start for with even an ordinary dredger of crude model and small capacity there is a margin of 87c per yard even though no placer gold be found.

THAT SURVEY.

The time approaches which will terminate the opportunity of Klondike City squatters to make a tender for their own lots. We say their own lots advisedly because it has always been a recognized principle of the race that whoever wanders off into a far country and settles upon a piece of unoccupied land, and makes it valuable by his improvements and his presence, is entitled to that same piece of ground. But that is not the question we wish to raise just at this moment. What is the government going to do with the survey made by their predecessors? The law under which it was surveyed clearly enunciates the doctrine that no land shall be sold nearer than 60 feet of the river, while the present law just as distinctly says not within 100 feet. The latter law was passed shortly after the survey. It does not take a surveyor nor yet require the use of a tape line for one to quickly assure himself that this survey in places approaches the bank as near as 40 feet; and leaving out all abstract questions and fine points of law, with which we are in sympathy, it does seem as if the officials will be selling ground within that 100-foot barrier when any one can show the front line to be within 40 feet.

FREE TRAILS.

As will be seen in the news from the creeks a large amount of trail building is going on at various points where the ascent is steep and passage for sleds almost impossible without it. The work is being done by private individuals and no toll is being charged over these roads. In each case it is done simply that the party doing it may reap the road house trade diverted in that direction by the substitution of a good cut-off trail for a poor and round about old one. To the thinking man this demonstrates more than anything else that even in steep and precipitate places the cost of building trails in winter is but trifling when it can be defrayed by a trifling road house trade. Secondly, it is a strong argument against toll trails on the comparatively level flats when free switch-back trails are being built over the very worst part of the district.

The gold commissioner is mightily exceeding his powers when he considers himself in the light of a court of last resort with powers to settle any matter of title off-hand, ex-parte and without giving an opportunity for evidence to be produced. Yet this is what it practically amounts to when he decides instantly in his own mind adversely to some miner who wishes to file upon a claim, and then and there refuses the application in favor of some one who has already filed or may file hereafter. What would be thought of the judge or magistrate who refused to permit a record of an answer to any of the complaints made in the courts? The gold commissioner's powers are in some respects judicial, and even

if he should not possess legal learning there is no law on earth against him using good common sense and exercising the commonest principles of equity and justice. There is not a stream, a creek, a gulch and hardly a cabin in the Klondike country but possesses at least one inmate who has been irretrievably injured by this ruling or that ruling of the man who was sent here presumably to conserve their rights, not to ignore them. It is to be sincerely hoped the new gold commissioner does not bring with him the impression that his powers and decisions are absolute.

NORTHWEST EXPRESS CO.

Commencing Dec. 5 will run dog teams
Dawson to Bennett
Every 10 days, carrying passengers and mail, load houses and well stocked relay stations en route. Experienced drivers. Leave mail at office of rate of A. G. Co., Empress Hotel and Regatta Cafe. For further information apply to
C. F. Smith, Mgr., 234 Front St.

PRIVATE HOSPITAL.
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.

Freighting

ON ALL THE CREEKS

THE NUGGET EXPRESS

Main Office in
Pete McDonald's "Phoenix"

FEARLESS RELIABLE

INDEPENDENT

The "Nugget"

DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER

The best and most accurate history of the Klondike country that ever will be written will be found in the files of the NUGGET. Every miner should have the NUGGET in his cabin delivered regularly by carrier on all creeks.

Our facilities for executing

JOB WORK

Prompt Attention Given to All Orders

If you are in need of any of the following articles they can be found at the NUGGET office:

- Letter Paper, Note Paper,
- MEMO BOOKS, POCKET BOOKS, TIME BOOKS,
- TABLETS, PENS, PENCILS,
- KLONDIKE MAPS, CASH BOXES,

Bill of Sale Blanks, Document Envelopes, Deeds, Feather Dusters, Letter Files, etc.

THE "NUGGET"

Three doors north of N. A. T. & T. Co.

HELP NEEDED

A Meeting Called of Apply

Many Cases of ready Known Light Every

There is a strong representative to of enlightening the great cause of the Yukon made it his pen but a faint conviction in and abroad and cease or death attract no attention to direct distress to care himself crowded with those worthy more wholesale has tried to take shares itself here indigent sick sick come in re while at this than \$9,000 per near taking ord without money month covers already these, presently, doubt side: The drear and none hospitable know Charles Schmie in his cabin or without wood stack of any even put a foot he called vain none heard his maintained without came known: the barracks at the hospital necessary, keep his wants and the scenery w feet from under by a railroad t Another man the outskirts of reach but dry Hillman laid d hauled to tow he on the outs where he would in Dawson the funds to do a distress ties ti Judge. That to do it in h how can he g chanly of Dav of distress her of the plac, relieve the d here in aben The forego brought on Tuesday night McCook, Col and the follo Committee Bert, T. A. M M. W. Brune Committee Bale and N. Finance Co. A. Bartlett, F. H. Terhoffer company an the memoran

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