

Seattle = Yukon Transportation Company

S.-Y. T. Co.

A Credit to the City of Dawson and It's Progressive Manager.
A Flourishing Enterprise.

"High Grade Goods" the Motto of the Concern

From a Small Beginning It Now Assumes Immense Proportions.

Of all the many transportation or trading companies organized to operate in the Klondike during the excitement of '97, there is but one to-day in existence which has continued successfully—the Seattle-Yukon Transportation Co. While one company after the other has gone to pieces on the rocks of financial disaster, the S.-Y. T. Co. has grown with a steady and healthy growth ever since its organization, and year after year has added to its strength until to-day it is one of the great institutions of this country, with almost unlimited resources. This company, unlike that of the majority of large concerns doing business in this territory, has grown to

In the meantime the Seattle-Yukon Transportation Company was formed with Seattle capital, the work of organization being done entirely by wire, and the boat sent out on her first voyage for the company. On this trip the Humbolt carried passengers and general freight, the company at that time not having entered into the commercial field. This trip was a successful one and the passengers were landed at St. Michael, where the first river boat of the company was put together, the material being part of the cargo. This boat, Seattle No. 1, was put together in the remarkable time of 14 days and left St. Michael with 200 passengers

they were without any experience of the dangers to be encountered on the journey. A trail had to be broken through the soft snow all the way up river until Fort Yukon was reached, where a fairly good trail was made by men who were deserting Dawson on account of the scarcity of provisions. Fresh provisions were taken here by the travelers and Dawson was safely reached, where a ready sale was effected for the surplus supplies carried and the voyagers resumed their weary journey to the coast. At last the summit was reached, not, however, until March 25th, after 120 days of weary traveling, and passage was taken to Seattle.

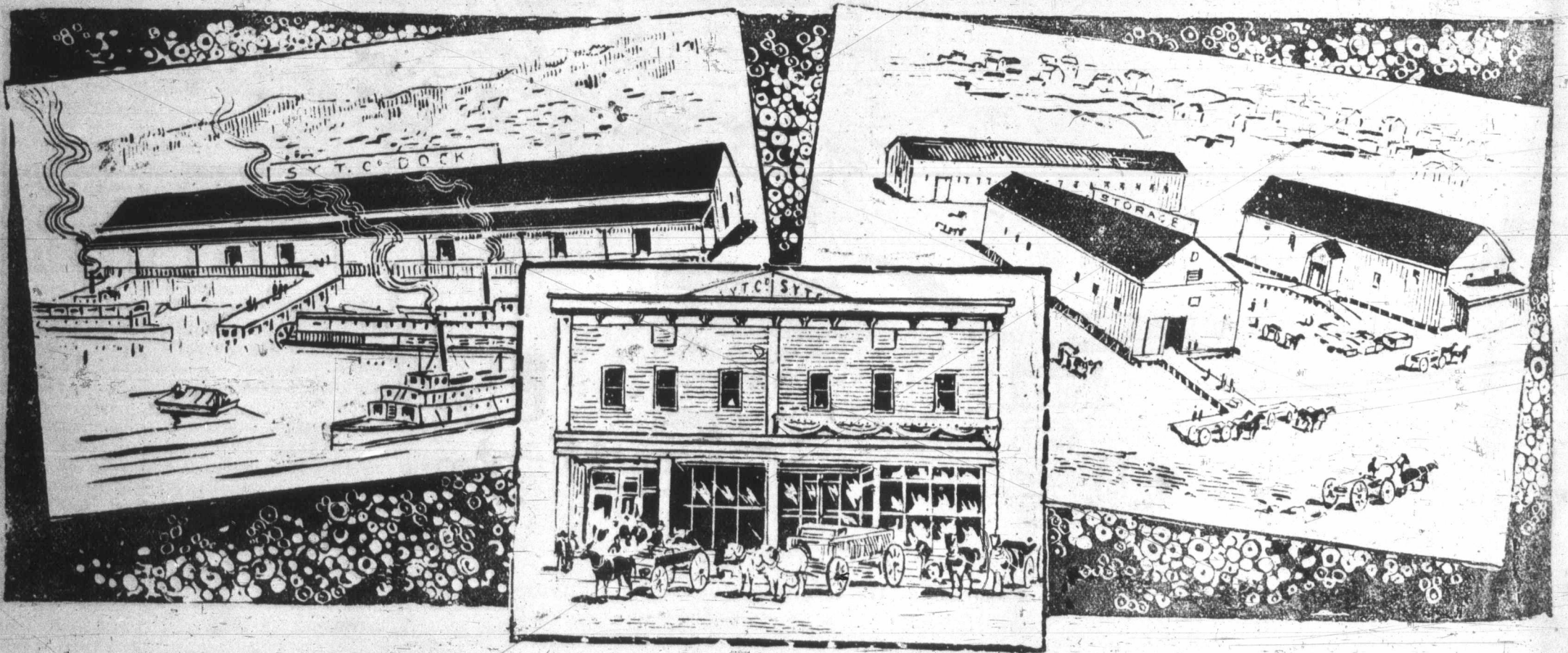
permanently established with large warehouses and water front facilities. The transportation interests of the company consists at present in ocean and river boats as follows:

Ocean Fleet—Santa Ana and Lakme, River Fleet—Seattle No. 3, 300 tons carrying capacity; Rock Island, 225 tons; D. R. Campbell, 350 tons; Katie Hemrich; Barge No. 1, Barge No. 4 and the Admiral, as well as six lighters owned by the company. The complete tonnage of the company's boats amount to 3025.

While writing this article word has been received that another boat has been purchased, the Milwaukee, which

affairs, taking a prominent part in all measures tending toward the development of the country and the improvement of local conditions. He is at the present writing acting United States Consul, president of the board of directors of the Good Samaritan hospital, an active member of the Board of Trade and a prominent figure in all public enterprises.

Today the S.-Y. T. Co. has one of the finest and best equipped stores in Dawson and its present location on Second avenue is becoming more valuable with each recurrent season and is a practical illustration of the foresight of its managers who purchased the property long



the position it now occupies solely by the enterprise and sound business methods of its managers. The concern was founded in '97 by W. D. Wood, formerly mayor of Seattle, in the years '96-'97, a man of most untiring energy and one who has been ever just in all his dealings with his fellow man.

Judge Wood was in San Francisco enjoying a needed rest from the many cares incident to the position he held as mayor of the flourishing city of Seattle, when the steamer Portland arrived in the former city carrying her first treasure from the Klondike. The excitement consequent upon her arrival was intense and immediately company after company was formed all bound for the golden mecca of the north. Every available craft being chartered by speculators to carry passengers and freight to the land of promise. At that time the magnificent steamer Humbolt was plying between San Francisco and Eureka, California, one of the finest steamers on the Pacific coast. This boat was chartered by Mr. Wood, an investment which cost \$2000 a day for each day the boat was in service.

bound for the upper Yukon. Owing to the lateness of the season, however, the boat did not get farther up the river than a point below Rampart city.

The river closed remarkably early that year, it being but September 30th when further progress was made impossible by the flowing ice. Cabins were built here and all possible efforts were made by the promoter of the enterprise to make the passengers comfortable, Mr. Wood having accompanied the expedition. This was a serious blow to the plans of the company, as the expedition was now over 700 miles from its destination, between which points an icy barrier obstructed further progress.

On Thanksgiving day, Judge Wood, accompanied by H. Willis Carr, started on a perilous trip to the outside world over the ice, going up the Yukon, the first men to make the attempt. This step was necessary to arrange for the succeeding year's business. The undertaking was a remarkable one as the distance to be traveled was over 1200 miles through a country entirely unknown to the two adventurers, and

Prior to the arrival of Mr. Wood, A. L. Hawley, vice-president of the company, and E. Shorrock, treasurer, had chartered two ocean steamers, and on them were placed the materials for building two more river boats, Seattle No. 3 and Seattle No. 4. They were subsequently put together at Dutch Harbor, giving the company three river boats to operate with on the Yukon.

During this year, '98, a flourishing business was enjoyed carrying passengers and freight, but it remained for the following year to see the S.-Y. T. Co. branch out as a merchandising and trading company.

In '99 posts were established at Rampart, Eagle City and Dawson, and the powerful river steamer Rock Island was added to the fleet of the company's river boats. In the following year the Admiral was secured and anchored at St. Michael; this boat is used as a floating wharf and has a capacity of 1800 tons, where are received the cargoes of the ocean steamers which are reloaded to the river boats. The steamers Campbell and Katie Hemrich were also secured, and a station at St. Michael

craft will be added to the Yukon fleet for the season of 1901.

At Nome the S.-Y. T. Co. has been the pioneer in the lighterage and storage business, having introduced specially built lighters which were towed from Seattle to that city and which proved to be the right thing in the right place for that stormy beach, and from which a most remunerative business was enjoyed in the past season.

This company has a more extensive system of warehouses in Nome than any other concern and while not operating a store at that point, enjoys a fine income from that source.

The Dawson branch of the business is now in its second year, as no complete stock of goods was sent to this point until late in the summer of '99. The affairs of the company here are in the hands of H. Te Roller, who for the past three years has ably guided the destinies of the concern and through whom the company has flourished even beyond the expectation of its promoters.

Mr. Te Roller is a hard worker and is a painstaking and energetic man of

before the locality was recognized as a possible trade center. In Dawson the S.-Y. T. Co. has 200 feet of water front property on which is located an immense warehouse and dock, as well as other large warehouses.

The stores on Second avenue are strikingly handsome and are arranged in a manner to give the most room and the best display possible. Every effort is made by the manager to please the purchasing public and the policy pursued is that of handling nothing but "High Grade Goods," in fact that is the principle upon which all goods are sold—that they are in fact high grade and the term has now become accepted as particularly applicable to the merchandise carried by this concern.

The main office of the company is in Seattle with the following officers:

W. D. Wood, president.
A. L. Hawley, vice-president.
E. Shorrock, treasurer.
E. G. Shorrock, auditor and assistant manager.
Mr. H. Te Roller is manager of the Dawson branch, with F. J. Wood, a brother of Judge Wood, assistant manager and auditor.