

# The Klondike Nugget

TELEPHONE NUMBER 12  
(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)  
ISSUED DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.  
ALLEN BROS., Publishers

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES.**

DAILY	
Yearly, in advance	\$40.00
Six months	22.00
Three months	11.00
Per month by carrier in city (in advance)	4.00
Single copies	.25
SEMI-WEEKLY	
Yearly, in advance	\$24.00
Six months	12.00
Three months	6.00
Per month by carrier in city (in advance)	2.00
Single copies	.25

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1900

## AN ASSAY OFFICE.

The intention of the government to establish an assay office in Dawson seems now to be settled beyond doubt. The advantages which will accrue from such action are many. Gold dust as a circulating medium is far from being satisfactory. The use of custom of mixing commercial dust with sand has become so prevalent that in accepting dust in exchange for his merchandise the vendor rarely gets value received. To equalize matters he must charge a proportionately higher rate for his goods. In the end the burden falls upon the consumer. If the town were on a currency basis, business generally could be estimated with far more accuracy and prices in many lines of trade would soon be lowered to where they properly belong. The present status of affairs is little less than deplorable. Currency is always at a premium and, following a law as well established as the force of gravity, is constantly being driven from circulation by the cheaper medium of exchange against which it is thrown in competition.

Anyone will naturally pay out gold dust when he has that option and place his currency in bank. This custom has become so firmly established that as a result currency gains circulation only through artificial means.

The volume of circulating medium should accommodate itself naturally to the amount of business transacted. This can never occur as long as the present makeshift arrangement is pursued. We welcome, therefore, the statement that the government intends establishing an assay office in Dawson as an indication that one unsatisfactory problem will soon be pretty well settled.

## INCORPORATE.

As soon as possible after the coming election for members of the Yukon council is held arrangements should be made for incorporating Dawson. If it is necessary to raise money for purposes of local improvement it should be done in the manner ordinarily followed by municipalities.

A legitimate amount of taxation assessed by a representative municipal assembly should not and probably will not meet with any considerable degree of opposition. The council's "turn over" basis of taxation was such a remarkable proposition as almost to pass beyond human comprehension. There is small wonder that it met with general remonstrance and that legal means have been sought to procure a stay of proceedings.

We do not apprehend that a representative body of local men would consider a measure of taxation along such lines as were proposed by the council. When the proper time arrives there should be no difficulty in framing a revenue ordinance which will meet all requirements and at the same time possess some measure of equity.

After the election for members of the council is held no further delay should ensue until incorporation becomes an accomplished fact. The government of the town will never be satisfactory to the public at large until it is vested in a representative body of citizens elected by popular vote.

Apparently there will be no bluffing about the approaching election. Every contestant must post a forfeit of \$100,

and unless he lasts the required number of rounds, he must bid the \$100 a fond and lasting farewell. One objection to the proceeding which we would make is the fact that the purse instead of being divided among the winners is—to make use of the language of the mining regulations—to revert to the crown. The election ordinance certainly furnishes a striking example of Legal Adviser Clement's well known thrift.

In the supplementary estimates provided for at the close of the last session of parliament the following Yukon provisions were included: Public buildings (revote), \$75,000; telegraph lines, Queenelle to Atlin, B. C. (revote), \$110,000, Dawson to Fort Cudahy, \$12,000; trails, roads and bridges (revote), \$50,000; rents, fuel, lighting, \$19,500; witness and jury fees in criminal trials, \$7000; law books, etc., \$6000; living expenses of sheriff and clerk, \$2400; working expenses Yukon telegraph lines, \$47,500; Queenelle-Atlin telegraph line, \$40,000.

The unusually heavy rains which have prevailed during the past 30 days have not added in any way to the attractions of the summer in town, but have proven a very important factor on the creeks. It is generally conceded that more summer work has been successfully carried out this year than during the three preceding years.

From the way in which the ordinance governing the coming election reads, we are inclined to think that Legal Adviser Clement had his mind on the rules laid down by the Marquis of Queensberry for the government of prize ring contests.

## When She Was Bored.

A characteristic story is told of the Prince of Wales and a shy lady, who was introduced to him at some function. The lady was presented as Miss Keyser.

Miss Keyser had never been presented to royalty before, and felt like a girl receiving her first proposal of marriage. She was uncertain just what was expected of her, especially the length of time she ought to talk to a prince. After a moment's conversation she shyly asked the prince to tell her when she ought to leave him.

"On the contrary," gallantly replied the man nearest to England's throne, "it is for you to tell me when you are bored."

During the agreeable conversation that followed the prince asked her where she came from. She replied, naming the town, and adding, what he had not asked, that she had lived there all her life. The conversation drifted to other topics, but in a few moments the prince, thinking no doubt to start a new theme, asked her how long she had lived at this place, naming her home town.

Miss Keyser quickly thought that, considering her former answer, a direct reply would be to give her exact age. So, with a pretty courtesy, she said artlessly:

"I am bored, your highness."  
The prince saw the point, and quickly changed the subject.

## Something Must Be Done.

It may not be generally known, but all the same there is a business industry in Dawson that stands on anything but a sound financial basis and that industry is the dog pound. A batch of dogs, having been impounded for a period of 30 days, during which time they grew fat and "sassy," was sold yesterday at an actual loss to the poundmaster of \$169.50. As dogs have to be kept and fed for 30 days before being sold, it is not an unusual thing for a common cur, to use an agricultural expression, to "eat his head off" six or seven times. In order that a dog may pay all the expenses of his keep he must sell for at least \$25, and even at that price the contributions of the poundmaster to the cause of either home or foreign missions will be correspondingly meagre. But this is not all.

If the dog pound industry runs behind \$169.50 every 30 days, how long will it take the poundmaster to "salt down" a competency?

If the dog pound runs behind \$169.50 every 30 days, where is the poundmaster to get the \$100 necessary to file with his nomination as candidate for election to the Yukon council?

If the dog pound runs behind \$169.50 every 30 days how long will it be before the poundmaster says, in the language of North Carolina's immortal governor, "It is a — — long time between drinks!"

All these are questions of the present and not of the impenetrable depths of the misty future. These are living

issues that must be solved. No poundmaster can be expected to wear a sang froid and happy, smiling countenance when he is losing \$169.50 every 30 days. That is more cash than many Kansas farmers who raise their own potatoes see in five years.

The question of the day and hour is simply this: Is Dawson going to lie supinely on her back and hug the delusive phantom of hope while her dog pound goes down to perdition for lack of good legitimate patronage? If not, give the dog-catcher a chance; tear the muzzles from your household pets, your thoroughbred malamutes and full dress huskies and shove them under the eyes of his nibs; otherwise, weeds will grow rampant and owls will hoot at midnight where once flourished a proud and noble institution.

One hundred and sixty-nine dollars and fifty cents in 30 days! Think of it!

## New Boundary Line Theory.

As business at Skagway is quiet these times, the people there have considerable time to devote to such subjects as boundary lines, bonding privileges, etc. The latest on the boundary line subject has just been perpetrated by the Alaskan as follows:

Hon. Richard Mansfield White, of New York, an explorer, mine owner, and life member of the Historical Society of New Mexico and of the Historical Society of Alaska, who is in Skagway on his way to the interior, makes a new point in regard to the Alaskan boundary dispute. He maintains that the line ten marine leagues from the sea is crossed by numerous streams, and therefore cannot be the summit of a range of mountains, and therefore cannot be the boundary which it is sought to locate. Mr. White last evening said:

"Being the son of Richard Grant White, of New York, and having had at hand in earlier days large library, I looked into the matters of boundaries, and in particular that of Alaska. My father also studied the matter, and being a friend of William Seward, who bought Alaska, he naturally took an interest in the matter.

"Of late I have also looked into the matter, and I find that a line between Alaska and Canada at a distance of ten marine leagues from the winding of the coast is crossed by more than 13 rivers or streams emptying into the Pacific ocean, between Portland canal and the 141st meridian, and that from that fact alone there cannot be a summit or divide of drainage nearer than the said ten marine leagues, and therefore the contention of the British that the boundary should approach nearer to the coast than the said ten marine leagues is not tenable.

"Also the summits of the White pass and Chilkoot pass cannot be taken as the summit of a range of mountains which extend in a direction parallel to the coast from the 56th degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude, for those summits are not continuous for that length but are only the summits of passes between mountains, locally, and not the summit of such an extensive range of mountains as the treaty contemplates. If there are any ranges of mountains at all lie between and separate the rivers running into the Pacific ocean, and are not parallel to the coast, but at almost right angles to the coast."

When in town, stop at the Regina.

Good meat weighs no more than bad. The former at Klondike Market.

Try a juicy steak from Klondike Market.

Fine tweed tailor-made suits. McCandless Bros., opp. S. Y. T. dock.

Short orders served right. The Holborn.

Best imported wines and liquors at the Regina.

## HOTEL DONOVAN.

A FIRST-CLASS HOUSE  
AT MODERATE PRICES  
American and European Plans  
THIRD AVENUE AND SECOND STREET  
GIBSON & JEWELL, Props.

## New Skirts

Silk Skirts,  
Satin Skirts,  
Crepon Skirts,  
Tweed Skirts,  
Etc., Etc.

A FULL LINE OF CARPETS, LINOLEUMS, OILCLOTHS

## J. P. McLENNAN

FRONT STREET,  
Next to Holborn Cafe. Dawson

# Alaska Commercial Company

## NEW GOODS

...In All...

## Departments

**RIVER STEAMERS**  
Sarah, Hannah, Susie, Louise, Leah, Alice

**OCEAN STEAMERS**  
San Francisco to St. Michael and Nome, St. Paul, Portland, Ranier, St. Michael to Golovin Bay, Nome, and Cape York, Dora, Sadie, Fay

**TRADING POSTS**

ALASKA  
St. Michael, Andreofsky, Anvik, Nulato, Tanana, Minook (Rampart), Fort Hamilton, Circle City, Eagle City  
KORYUK DISTRICT  
Koyukuk, Bergman  
YUKON TERRITORY  
Fortymile, Dawson

Dawson Post Is Fitted With Public Safe Deposit Vaults.

THE KLONDIKE CORPORATION, LTD.

## SHIPPERS AND MERCHANTS

Who have freight at White Horse which they wish brought down at once should call on The Klondike Corp. Agent at Lancaster & Calderhead's wharf and reserve space on the...

## ORA, NORA OR FLORA

The fall rush will soon begin and unless this freight is moved soon there will, no doubt, be a repetition of last year's blockade, resulting in enormous losses.

R. W. CALDERHEAD, Agent

## LATEST ARRIVALS

NEW SUIT DEPARTMENT, SECOND FLOOR

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suits and Separate Skirts,  
Underskirts in Silk Moreen or Satin,  
Muslin Underwear and Wrappers,

A. E. CO.

American Made, New Styles

## YUKON DOCK CO.

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Special Arrangements Made for Storage of Goods

IN LARGE OR SMALL QUANTITIES.

FOR RATES APPLY AT OFFICE...

Goods Insured Against Fire

## Dawson Warehouse Co., Ltd.

THE ONLY BRICK WAREHOUSE IN DAWSON

## WARM STORAGE

For the Winter Months.

Special Rates for Large Consignments.

Goods Stored in Our Warehouse Insured at a Low Rate. Competent Men in Charge.

## SARGENT & PINSKA

Just Received 200 Cases of

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From Philadelphia—Stetson's Hats, Heid's Caps

Boston—Keith's Shoes

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New York—Wales' Goodyear Rubber

Chicago—Elsendrath's Asbestos Gloves

All kinds of RUBBER GOODS, from ZEPHYR RUBBERS to HIP BOOTS

Boys' Overalls, Caps, Shoes, Suits

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## Electric Light Quick Action By Phone

Steady Satisfactory Safe  
Dawson Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.  
Donald B. Olson, Manager.  
City Office Joslyn Building, Power House near Klondike. Tel. No. 1

FULL LINE CHOICE BRANDS

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Leaves Yukon Dock, Making Regular Trips to Whitehorse.

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Office Telephone Exchange Next to A. C. Office Building.

Donald B. Olson General Manager

## Hay and Feed

500 TONS.

We will receive about September 1st 500 tons of Hay and Feed. Contracts taken for future delivery. The same stored and insured free of charge.

LANCASTER & CALDERHEAD, WAREHOUSEMEN.