

The Klondike Nugget

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1900

THE WAR SITUATION.

War news in today's dispatches indicates very plainly that Lord Roberts has entered upon an aggressive campaign. With 50,000 men at his immediate disposal, it may be expected that news will very shortly be received that will place quite a different color upon the situation from what we have recently become accustomed to.

How strong the Boers are in front of Roberts is left untold in the dispatches. It is not probable that they are very numerous owing to the extraordinary efforts which they have been making to prevent Buller's advance upon Ladysmith. The total Boer forces now in the field is estimated at 64,000 men, of whom a large proportion are engaged in operations around Ladysmith. With the forces now engaged around Kimberley and at other points, there is left but a comparatively small number to oppose Roberts, who is pressing up with a comparatively fresh army.

With Buller's moving in upon Ladysmith and Roberts turning the enemy's flank and splitting him in two, it looks very much as though a radical change will soon take place in the tone of the press dispatches.

COL. S. EELE.

A recent arrival from the outside informs the Nugget that not less than twenty ex members of the Northwest mounted police were met en route to the outside to join Lord Strathcona's horse. The desire which seems to have taken such general hold of the boys to secure service in the Strathcona contingent is due very largely to the feeling of loyalty to Col. Steele than whom no commander of men was ever more honored and respected by his subordinates.

Col. Steele during the time he was stationed at Dawson made for himself a record which will stand for all time as a bright spot in the history of the Yukon territory.

At a time when official influence was notoriously prostituted for purposes of personal gain, the staunch integrity and robust manhood of Col. Steele stood out as a rebuke to official wrong doing. With such a commander and such men as can be recruited from the ranks of the N. W. M. P., the Strathcona horse is destined in all probability to become the most effective body of men now in the British service in South Africa.

TELEPHONE SERVICE.

An application is now pending before the Yukon council for a telephone charter. A system such as is proposed by the promoters of the enterprise would greatly facilitate the transaction of local business and be of material aid to persons having interests to be looked after on the creeks. Dawson is large enough and certainly has the requisite number of progressive business enterprises to

justify the construction of a first-class modern telephone system. A telephone has come to be regarded as a necessary adjunct in the conduct of business affairs. Its value is so well known and so universally recognized that comment thereon is entirely unnecessary. One point, however, should not be overlooked. In order to serve the public properly the cost to the patron of the telephone must be made so low that general public use is possible. The mistake that has been made by the company now doing business in Dawson has been in the excessively high tariff charged. The monthly fee for the telephone service has been so high that very few have been able to afford the use of a 'phone, and for this very reason the utility of the service has been nominal. The service must have general patronage if it is to prove of any considerable value to the public.

We should consider that the rate to be charged ought to be a very important feature in determining what privileges it may be advisable to grant the applicants for the charter now pending before the council.

The plan to celebrate Washington's birthday by a public demonstration is very appropriate. The national American hero's birthday ranks almost with the Fourth of July in the minds of the average citizen of the United States. It is fitting that Americans, though far away from their own firesides should recognize the return of such occasions and the Nugget is pleased to see the patriotic spirit so manifest in Dawson. The object to which the committee proposes devoting the funds derived from the celebration is a most worthy one. In caring for the widows and orphans of war, and they are the ones upon whom the hand of war is most ruthlessly laid, considerations aside from the one broad consideration of humanity must disappear. A soldier's widow, be she the widow of Briton, Boer, American or Spaniard, will always command the sympathetic assistance of humane men. We are pleased to note that Canadian citizens and other British subjects are interesting themselves in the success of the entertainment.

Uncle Samuel is getting ready for Nome. Laws respecting the construction of bridges and roadways are now under consideration, and delegations from the beach diggings are already present in Washington working for the advancement of various interests. Congress would do well to leave the detail matters to men who are on the ground. The folly of long range government has been conclusively proven in the case of this territory.

If we were to make any suggestion regarding the stolen dispatch episode we should feel like saying that it is now up to the man who so narrowly escaped the title of major.

Application for Water Right.

Mike Bodioga has applied to the mining recorder for authority to use and divert for one year 60 inches of water of the stream entering Dominick creek on the left limit between Nos. 9 and 10 above lower discovery. It is the applicant's purpose to use the diverted water for mining purposes on claim No. 9 above lower discovery upon which property the applicant has a lay.

New Banks.

Two new banking institutions have opened their doors for business in Skagway within the past month, one of which is a branch of B. M. Behrend's

Juneau bank, the oldest financial institution in Alaskan. Upwards of a year ago the Canadian Bank of Commerce opened a branch in Skagway which has ever since enjoyed a fine business, and the new institutions will have to "show the people" before they will do much business. Skagway had some very costly experience with a Jim Crow bank a few months ago.

POLICE COURT.

The courtroom was crowded this morning, wage cases being the attraction. The first thing on the docket was a charge against Chas. Wallace of violating the street section of the Yukon health ordinance. As Wallace was not in court the case was continued until this afternoon.

John Collins was out for a high old time last night and he got it. John filled up on hooch and started out to paint the town a brilliant vermilion. He began at the Bank saloon, where he was prepared to "lick" any and every man in the house. A policeman thought differently and arrested him. Collins objected to the indignity of arrest with the result that he was handcuffed and hauled to the guard room on a sleigh. This morning he had the usual seal brown taste in his mouth and was looking as meek as the little lamb that Mary is alleged to have had, but which is not generally believed. He had no recollection of his actions of last night, but was fined \$20 and trimmings or 14 days on the royal wood pile.

The case of Saml. Bell, who put an "h" in front of his vowels, against Ido Ramsdale for labor performed on a Last Chance claim to the amount of \$188 was a long drawn out affair. A great deal of counter testimony was introduced which upon being assayed by the court showed traces of a bedrock contract and a verdict was so rendered, the costs being charged to the plaintiff.

Ed Latham instituted suit against McGinnis, Smith & Sutherland mine owners, for pay for labor performed.

W. H. Shwartz, the big German who was sentenced to 30 days labor on Saturday for picking up a letter with gold nuggets, the property of J. U. Nicol, has been released on the payment of a fine of \$50.

The case of Patrick Whalen vs. Dr. Thompson for \$288 labor performed on the latter's claim, is on trial.

A Bad One From Nome.

Much has been published respecting the wealth and richness of Cape Nome; and it is only occasionally that one hears of a bad report concerning the new camp. Bill Carter, a well known Dawson sport, stampeded to the famous district before the river froze. He wrote a letter to James O'Neil and sent it to Dawson with Carl Knobelsdorff and C. D. Campbell, the two men who arrived here on February 4th. This letter has been given to the Daily Nugget, and reads as follows:

Nome, Alaska, Dec 9th, 1899.

Friend Jim: The mail goes out in the morning, so I thought I would write you; but I hardly know what to say. This town is rotten, and has been since I arrived. They tell me that it was good for a while. Everyone expects the big boom in the spring. Stampedes are on in great shape. I have seven claims, but don't want any more. I tried to get a town lot but could not stand off the chief of police and was written up as a lot jumper.

I have the crap game in Bill Tierney's house; but it is mighty quiet. Give my regards to all the boys. Hoping this may find you well, I remain, respectfully yours,

C. W. CARTER.

Buller Retreats to Chievely.

London, Feb. 15, via Skagway, Feb. 20.—The most intense interest is now centered in Field Marshal Roberts, and more particularly in this the case since Buller's withdrawal from Valkrantz. It is now supposed that Buller has retreated to Chievely and his losses are reported to be very heavy, as during the retreat his command was constantly harassed by the enemy. If he left a portion of his command at Springfield it was very small.

A Boon to Miners.

The greatest saving for steam thawing plants is effected by the applying to all steam pipe a covering of corrugated asbestos. The air chamber made by the corrugations acts as a perfect non-conductor and full 50 per cent less fuel

is needed to keep up the required head of steam. It is in use on all the large plants on Bonanza. The A. E. Co. is introducing the corrugated asbestos—a great improvement over all other styles of pipe covering.

Weather Report.

The minimum temperature last night was 41 degrees below zero.

At 9 o'clock this morning, the thermometer registered 39.5 degrees below, since which time there have been no material variations.

One double engine noist, 8-horse power, friction brake, for sale at Shindler's.

The most glorious liquor that ever tickled the lips of man at the Rochester bar.

The most popular house in town, the Fairview; new management.

J. L. Sale & Co., jewelers, at their old stand, Front street, next to the Dominion.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

For Sale at a Bargain.

Complete steam thawing plant. Four horse power boiler in splendid condition. Apply Nugget office.

Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

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AS YOU GO
IT WILL
Pay..
YOU TO TRADE WITH US
IT WILL
Pay..
Us to Treat You Right and You Will Come Again
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Mining Machinery of all Descriptions, Pump in Plants a Specialty. Orders Taken for Early Spring Delivery.
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FREIGHTERS
Teams Leave Every Week for
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and Intermediate Points.
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Why Buy Meat in Town
When you can get Fresh Meat at Dawson Prices at the

Grand Forks
Meat Market
FRED GEISMAN, Proprietor.
.....Opposite Gold Hill Hotel.

Seattle St. Michael Dawson
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TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE
Yemans & Chisholm.....
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