

## MINERS MAKE MISTAKES

### In Not Operating the Largest Machinery Obtainable.

Many Mine Owners Will Profit by Costly Experience and Be Prepared for Next Season.

The coming spring cleanup will for the first time in the history of the world's mining afford an opportunity for a demonstration of the result of mining by the means of steam thawers. In no other section of the known world has the machinery thawing process been applied so generally, if indeed it has ever been elsewhere applied, as here, and previous to the present season the machine was used more as an experiment than as a permanent labor saving output increasing factor in the work of extracting from the bowels of the earth the precious metal. That the thawing machine is a successful factor in the work of mining has been thoroughly demonstrated. In comparison with the primitive method of building a fire to thaw the ground beneath where nine-tenths of the heat is wasted or spent on waste earth, the patent steam thawer is more of an improvement than is the Aultman & Taylor grain separator over the flail and threshing floor in vogue in Biblical days.

Now that the usefulness of mining machinery has been so clearly demonstrated in many hundred instances in this district, the question of how to most economically apply the new method in order that the best results may be obtained is one to which many of the most extensive mine owners and operators are now devoting considerable study, and on which question the writer has obtained a number of expressions within the past few weeks, and since the operation of thawers on the various creeks became general. A careful summing up of the various opinions of those who have carefully studied the situation shows the preponderance of opinion to be in favor of large machinery as against that of lesser capacity. The additional cost of operating a 20, 25 or even 30 horsepower machine over one of 6, 8 or 10 horse power is but trifling in comparison with the rapidity with which the size of the "dump" will increase. Two men, an engineer and assistant are required on the surface regardless of the size of the buckets, and one man will look after the dumping as easily as of one containing only half that amount; the amount of repair work on the heavy machinery is no greater than on the lesser; the mechanism is no more intricate and the total additional expense of operating the former as compared with the latter is but trifling. The use of the heavier machinery will, of course, necessitate the employment of more labor under ground for the reason that more dirt is hoisted, with the result that the claim is sooner worked out and the accompanying heavy expense incident to the working of a claim sooner ceases.

The object of employing machinery in mining is simply to increase the size of the "dump" as rapidly and as economically as possible and just how to combine the two factors, rapidity and economy, is the question for solution. Many mine owners and operators express themselves as having solved it to their entire satisfaction, and they are unanimous in the belief that with the employment and use of heavy machinery a claim can be worked at two thirds the outlay required by the use of machinery with only one half the capacity of the other.

In the meantime the amount of gold mined this winter and washed out in the early summer will be from one half to two-thirds larger than it would have been had not the means of machinery been employed as the most potent

agency by which the ground was thawed and the gravel hoisted to the surface.

#### Ogilvie's Opinion of Roads.

Governor Ogilvie is of the opinion that the government ridge road is a success. He thinks that the expectation of those responsible for its construction have been fully verified. Next spring and summer the trunk line will be continued to Stewart river. It may surprise many claim owners and freighters to learn that the ridge roads are even now being traversed daily—so the Yukon commissioner asserts.

Governor Ogilvie disagrees entirely with Mr. D. L. S. Barwell, Dominion land surveyor, who stated some few days ago that out of 40 miles of government trail only 12 miles are traversable.

When asked for his opinion regarding the ridge road, the governor replied:

"The government trails are all right. The recent storm drifted snow on them in several places; but this unavoidable damage is being repaired. Eight men are now engaged in keeping the roads in proper condition. It is idle to say that the government trails are not being used by the miners and freighters; and when Mr. Barwell asserts that only 12 miles out of 40 are traversable he is ignorant of the subject concerning which he speaks. I still adhere to the opinion that the ridges are the proper places on which to have the trails located. If situated in the gulches, it would be impossible to prevent miners from operating on and under them, and at the end of one season the government would have nothing to show for its expenditure. During the past three years, three trails have been built on Bonanza creek, and at the close of the cleanup seasons they became obliterated.

"We have now established a system of trunk roads on the ridges. Next season it will be continued to Stewart river. The government ridge roads are proving of incalculable benefit to travelers."

#### Why Is He Branded?

Among the prisoners who are very much in evidence in the neighborhood of the barracks during working hours is one to be seen with the letter "P" painted in yellow on the back of the overcoat he wears. The sight of this brand on the prisoner's coat always brings to the reportorial mind thoughts of Julian Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter;" but on reflection comes the two thoughts, namely, this is not Salem, Mass.; neither can the prisoner be wearing the mark for the same cause as did Julian's heroine. However, the prisoner thus branded is doing a "four months" sentence on the charge of vagrancy and the "P" may stand in his case for "Provisions Plenty."

#### Probst Obtains His Pay.

The fire commissioners concluded to continue Mat Probst, the injured fireman, on the department payroll, and on the first of the present month he received his full salary for January. This amounts to \$150, and the sum is exactly the same as that which he is required to pay for his treatment at the Good Samaritan hospital.

The boys of the fire department are thinking of giving a fireman's ball for the benefit of Probst and his dependent family.

#### Weather Report.

The minimum temperature registered last night at the government barracks was 4 degrees below zero.

At 9 o'clock this morning the thermometer registered 2 degrees above, and the weather was still moderating at noon.

Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

Carbon paper for sale at the Nugget office.

Same old price, 25 cents, for drinks at the Regina.

#### Safe From Fire.

A new building material is being introduced in Dawson which will very materially lessen the loss by fire if generally used. The A. B. Co. is offering to the public at a price very little in excess of the ordinary inflammable tar, a composition of asbestos which, it is said, is not only an absolute non-conductor of heat, but is as well absolutely indestructible by fire. When used in the construction of wooden buildings it renders them nearly fireproof as wood can be made.

One roll of asbestos paper will cover about 800 square feet of surface nearly double as much as the ordinary inflammable qualities of paper. For further particulars visit the A. E. Co., Front street.

#### For Sale at a Bargain.

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

Sour Dough Letter Heads for sale at the Nugget office.

Next Sunday night's concert will be the best of the series. A splendid program has been arranged. Tickets at Reid's drug store, opposite the Pavilion.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

When in town, stop at the Regina.

M. McDermott, please call at this office. Important.

#### PROFESSIONAL CARDS

**DOMINION LAND SURVEYORS.**  
CHAS. S. W. BARWELL, D. L. S. C. E.—Surveyor, mining and civil engineer. Room 16, Alaska Commercial Company's Office Building.

TYRRELL & GREEN, Mining Engineers and Dominion Land Surveyors. Office, Harper st., Dawson.

#### ASSAYERS.

JOHN B. WARDEN, F. I. C.—Assayer for Bank of British North America. Gold dust melted and assayed. Assays made of quartz and black sand. Analyses of ores and coal.

#### LAWYERS

WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Office, A. C. office Building, Dawson.

BURRITT & MCKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building. Safety deposit box in A. C. vaults.

BELCOURT & McDOUGAL—Barristers, solicitors and notaries, Ottawa and Dawson. Special attention given to parliament work. N. A. Belcourt, M. P., Q. C.; Frank McDougal.

TABOR & HULME—Barristers and solicitors. Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers. Offices, Green Tree Bldg.

ALEX HOWDEN—Barrister, Solicitor, Advocate, etc. Criminal & Mining Law, Room 21 A. C. Co's office Block.

PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries Conveyancers etc. Offices, First Avenue.

#### PHYSICIANS.

J. W. GOOD, M. D.—Removed to Third street, opposite the Pavilion, in Mrs. West's building.

#### DRESSMAKING AND SUPPLIES

THE LONDON—Dry goods and Millinery. Fancy Dress Goods, Trimmings, Laces, Passmentries, etc. Silk Waists and Under-skirts. 3rd St., Opposite Nugget office.

#### FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Sewing machine. Apply at Nugget office.

FOR SALE—Team of five dogs, cheap. Address Malamute, this office.

#### WANTED.

POSITION as stenographer, cashier, book-keeper or housekeeper; city references. Apply Nugget office.

WOMAN to work in laundry. Apply White Swan laundry, Grand Forks.

#### LOST AND FOUND

LOST—yellow dog, long hair; part St Bernard; white stripe from forehead to point of nose; named Fido. Return to Klondike Hotel.

**ROYAL** THE BEST IS NONE TOO GOOD

A METROPOLITAN STORE

**GROCERY**

J. L. TIMMINS 2ND AVE.

NOTICE CHANGE IN CHARGES.

**DR. BOURKE'S HOSPITAL.**

3rd AVENUE. BEST IN DAWSON.

Separate Rooms for Patients. Hot and Cold Water Baths Each Floor.  
Charges Five Dollars a Day, Medical Attendance Extra.

ADVISE AT HOSPITAL, \$5.00

Less than 24 Hours, Skaguay to Whitehorse

**The White Pass** AND YUKON RAILWAY will be completed to White Horse by June 1st, 1900, after which date only one handling of all freight will be necessary between Skaguay and Dawson. For rates and all information apply to **S. E. ADAIR,** Commercial Agent, Dawson. **A. C. Co. Office Building.**

**ANY OLD THING FOR SALE**  
From a Needle to a Steamboat  
**ARTHUR LEWIN**  
Finest Liquors, Our Cigars are famous for their excellency. Front St., nr. the Dominion.

**Ogilvie Blue Label Flour** For Sale At **New Brick Warehouse**

**S-Y-T. Co.** We carry only the **Best Brands of Goods**  
And We Guarantee Them to be Strictly Fresh.  
Give us a Trial Order.  
Money Refunded if goods are not as Represented.  
H. TE ROLLER, Resident Manager, Seattle-Yukon Transportation Co.

## The Best Cup of Coffee

In the City, With a QUICK LUNCH, Well Cooked and Properly Served.

...Melbourne Annex  
Next to Hotel

BROWN & BERTON, Prop.

## Mitchell, Lewis & Slaver Co.

OF SEATTLE, WASH.  
Mining Machinery of all Descriptions. Pump in Plants a Specialty. Orders Taken for Early Spring Delivery

Chas. E. Severance, Gen. Agt.  
Room 15 A. C. Building

NEW IDEAS NEW LOCATION

**Stanley & Mainville**

**BLACKSMITHS.**

Mining Work a Specialty

THE STANLEY POINT

3d St., Near Palace Grand.

## Yukon Hotel.

THE PIONEER HOUSE

Have a Few Rooms to Rent by the Month. Warm, Clean Beds 50c and up

J. E. BOOGE Proprietor

## For Hardware See Shindler.

J. H. HOLME & CO.  
Airtight Heaters, Stoves and Tinware

Pipe, Globe Valves and Fittings.  
ROCKER PLATES, Tin and Sheet Metal Work  
Orders from the Creeks Given Prompt Attention.

FIRST STREET OPP. FAIRVIEW

## MOHR & WILKENS,

DEALERS IN  
The Finest Select Groceries

IN DAWSON  
S. E. Cor. Third Street AND Klondike Bridge  
and Third Avenue. Opposite

## Electric Light

Dawson Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.

Donald B. Olson, Manager.  
City Office Joslyn Building  
Power House near Klondike. Tel. No. 1