

The Klondike Nugget

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1900

UNITED BRITAIN.

The various factors which unite to form the British empire have never before been brought into such close relationship as during the past six months. The war with the Transvaal has brought forth an expression of British loyalty to British institutions in every hamlet on the globe where the sovereignty of the queen is recognized.

It required the lapse of some time after the declaration of war had been made and actual hostilities had been begun, before a full realization dawned upon the British dependencies as to the gravity of the war situation and the possible dangers which might arise to the empire therefrom. When that realization came, however, there was no hesitation. From every British colony, just as freely as from England herself, came offers of assistance, until the war office had only to make its wants known in order that its requirements should be promptly met.

The colonial troops have proven their valor on the field of war time and again. They have met the enemy in the very forefront of battle, and the severest tests have served only to demonstrate their splendid courage.

The Canadian troops at the surrender of Cronje had the distinguished honor of delivering the finishing blow upon the Boer entrenchments, and for that they were showered with the very highest encomiums from the British commander-in-chief.

Australia has come in for her share of glory, and, as stated in the dispatches today, will be the recipient of distinguished favors at the hands of the home government, and similar marks of recognition are ahead for Canada.

Britain always appreciates her heroes, and that fact has no little bearing upon the manifestations of loyalty that have been so general throughout the empire. It is doubtful if there ever was a time when a colonial power held such close and confidential relations with its dependencies as does Great Britain today.

No decadence in the power and prestige of the empire need be feared so long as these relations are maintained.

Another proposition is on foot looking toward the construction of an all-Canadian railway via the Teslin route into the Yukon valley. The scheme is not being very heartily supported on the outside, and, in fact, is being most bitterly opposed in British Columbia, although a good part of the line would extend through portions of that province. The fact of the matter is that the attempted MacKenzie-Mann steal has opened the eyes of parliament to such propositions, and the success of another such effort is extremely doubtful. Had the MacKenzie-Mann act become a law, practically the entire country would have been turned over to the control of the road. Railroads are a pretty good thing, but when their construction involves the surrender of thousands of miles of territory it is

just as well to try and get along without them. Meanwhile, the White Pass & Yukon is being pushed down the river as rapidly as possible by the only feasible route in the country. We are unable to see a field for another railway by any route. It will be many years before the capacity of the W. P. & Y. Ry. will be taxed to handle the business of this territory.

Indications are exceedingly good for a clean-up which will far exceed that of any previous year. In all probability, there are no more men engaged on the various creeks than last year, but the amount of machinery which is in operation has served to increase very materially the work done. Enormous dumps have been taken out on Gold Run and Dominion, while Sulphur has come to the front in a way that has surprised and delighted the most enthusiastic admirers of that creek. The older creeks have fully met expectations, and in consequence the clean-up upon them will be satisfactory. While figures can only be given as a matter of guess work, we believe it is safe to say that the output of the Klondike gold fields this year will be far in excess of previous years.

Ex-President Harrison is again being boomed for the presidency of the United States. Harrison has a full and complete knowledge of the joys and sorrows incident to official life, and it is altogether probable that he will not encourage the little boom which some few of his enthusiastic friends have launched in his behalf. Besides, Harrison is again deeply interested in the felicities of domestic life just at present, and he will hardly allow himself to be persuaded to abandon the tranquilities of his present life for the uncertainties of political strife. McKinley will undoubtedly head the Republican ticket this year, as he did four years ago, and with every prospect ahead of him for achieving success.

Inquiries from relatives of missing parties are still being received by the police. Hundreds and hundreds of letters have come into Dawson during the past two years, some of them being messages of the most pitiful nature, calling for news of missing loved ones swallowed up in the maelstrom of the great Klondike stampede. Not infrequently it has developed that failure to meet expectations has been the cause of men not writing to their homes and keeping their friends informed as to their whereabouts. There can be no excuse offered for such negligence. Successful or not, every man who has relatives on the outside should keep them posted as to his movements.

Suicides, like troubles of other classes, seem never to come singly. A year ago this winter it will be remembered that three attempts at suicide were made in close succession, two of which were successful. According to the superstition held by many people, the two efforts at self-destruction, made yesterday, should be followed by a third in the near future. Considering the fact that until yesterday there have been no cases of suicide in the town for nearly a year, there is something remarkable in the fact that two attempts should occur on the same day. The coincidence is a strange one, but not unprecedented.

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

STROLLER'S COLUMN

The employees of the Alaska Commercial Company are enjoying a joke which was recently perpetrated on Arthur Smith and the managers of the Palace Grand theatre. Smith is collector for the company; he possesses a jovial disposition, and is well known at the various resorts of amusement. When the Palace Grand reopened under its present management he was tendered the gratuitous use of a balcony box for the first night's performance. In consideration for this favor he was requested by the theatrical managers to invite several friends, of liberal inclinations, to accompany him as guests. Smith extended his invitations to six of the employees of the A. C. Co. The boys accepted, but before they repaired to the theater they were informed of the agreement between their host and the opera house management. They realized that they would be expected to purchase innumerable bottles of liquor for the incidental purpose of quenching the thirst of pretty soubrettes; but the important portion of the scheme was to enrich the coffers of the proprietors, and thus repay them for their friendly favors to Smith and his acquaintances. The guests concluded that times were too hard to warrant an outlay of coin at the playhouse; and though they agreed to grace the performance with their presence, a compact was formed, unknown to Smith, by which each invited gentleman pledged himself not to spend a cent. During the early part of the entertainment, Smith was assiduous in his attentions to his friends, but as the evening progressed, without the service of a single libation, he became somewhat uneasy. His state of mind was not relieved by the fact that he was earnestly importuned several times respecting proposed purchases at the bar. Finally Smith and his friends were requested to vacate the box. The host was profuse in excuses to his guests, but soon after they made their exit he ascertained, somewhat to his chagrin, that no explanations were necessary. The boys are laughing at Smith, their courteous host, and he consoles himself with the thought that the position of the proprietors of the playhouse is more ludicrous than his own.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather on last Sunday afternoon the regular meeting of the Hogans occurred in the C. D. Co.'s warehouse. Jim Wilson enlivened proceedings by introducing the following resolution: "Whereas, It has come to pass that the government of Canada is levying a tax on beer and all alcoholic beverages, without granting to consumers the right of representation, therefore, be it resolved, that we boycott the said government by declining henceforth to purchase any kind of intoxicating liquor." Gussie Lamore vigorously seconded the resolution. Tom Chisholm declared most vehemently that the whole affair was nothing more nor less than a covert attempt to job him, and to ruin the business of the Aurora. Mr. Wilson endeavored to explain that the motion, if carried, would only inhibit the Hogans from purchasing liquors, and that no reasonable interpretation of the resolution would restrict them from drinking as much as they could induce other people to buy. Further discussion of the question was prevented by Lord Highraism, the presiding officer, who decided the motion to be out of order. Immediately before adjournment, Jacqueline, a new member, essayed the rendition of a popular song. Several Hogans were seriously affected, and the "Seven up Kid" became dangerously ill. Fortunately, Dr. Strong, the veterinary surgeon was present, and instant relief was given to afflicted members. The chair severely censured Jacqueline for her inconsiderate conduct, and on motion of Goggins the meeting adjourned.

"Excuse me, sir, but I can not stop to talk with you now," said a staid, light running domestic sort of a man yesterday evening who was rushing towards his home with a big beef steak in his hand.

"I am anxious," continued the family man, "to get home and get this steak cooked and eaten before there is any further decline in the price of meat. You see, it is this way: as long as meat was selling very high and at a price which did not fluctuate, I could afford to eat it; but since the price has begun to come down I find I must be very careful. Only three days ago I went about the middle of the afternoon and bought a steak for which I paid six bits a pound. But when I was ready to go home two hours later, I learned that beef was down to four bits. What could I do? I could not possibly afford to eat meat at 75 cents per pound when just as good could be had at 50 cents, so I threw away what I had and went and got some fully as good for 50 cents. So now you will please excuse me and I will run on home and get this steak in the skillet as soon as possible. S'long."

And the light running domestic man hugged the little package of tenderloin closely to his heart and passed on up the street at a four minute gait.

Billy Gorham

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STEAMER MERWIN is now in Winter quarters at Dawson, and will be ready to leave on opening of navigation, sailing direct to Nome, without delay or transfer at St. Michael. Tickets and berths can now be secured at

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