

HE RISES TO EXPLAIN

Mr. Stansfield Takes Ex-ceptions

To Published Report of Meeting to Organize for Betterment of Conditions.

Dawson, Aug. 14, 1902.

Editor Nugget:—

Dear Sir,—Re proposed Mine Owners' Association meeting held Tuesday night, I notice a slight inaccuracy in some of the reports of the meeting so far as they refer to myself.

I would ask the favor of a little of your space to correct the same and to make some further comments.

I did not second Col. Reichenbach's motion that the name be "Miners' Association," but I did second his motion that it was desirable to form an association for the protection, etc., of mining interests as the paramount interests in this country, and I further suggested that the name be "Claim Owners' Association," as covering a wide range. On a discussion as to what the word "claim" really means, the secretary, Mr. Tozier, explained that "claim" and "mine" were really synonymous terms, so on Mr. Rutledge's suggestion the "Mine Owners' Association" was the title decided upon.

Further, I did not address the "chair" under a "type written copy of what I wished to see done." The papers I held were a few written sheets taken hastily with no time to condense them from three sets of notes prepared for other use, but from which I desired to and did read extracts. Doing this somewhat hurriedly, as I noticed the "chair" seemed somewhat bored by the slowly rounded periods of the previous speaker, I inadvertently read into a paragraph re gold commissioner's office officials which it was not my intention to refer to there, but as I promptly expressed my regret and asked that that be considered withdrawn, I think the reporter should not have made reference to it.

When I read the notice calling the meeting I understood that it was intended to form an organization which should deal with all matters calculated to bring about an improvement in the present unsatisfactory condition of the mining industry of this country. Had such been the desire of the parties calling the meeting my remarks would have been to the point, referring as I did to the desirability of speedily forming a "Claim Owners' Association" with branches at all populous centers on the creeks so as to ensure the sending to Ottawa of a man who shall represent the interests of those who should be paramount here—the claim owners, rich and poor—as against the really much smaller but better generalised section of the community by Mr. Clarke.

(b) The imperative need of an assay office and gold purchasing department here in Dawson.

(c) Many reforms necessary in gold commissioner's office procedure—general tone too autocratic, too wasteful of miner's time which means money, exceedingly unbusinesslike and behind the times in its methods; though improved far from perfect; a positive reply to query department is necessary as also telephone connection between creeks and office for reference department especially; the information department should have a lawyer in charge of it so that information given may be reliable; there should be a notarial department where agreements, etc., could be completed for a nominal fee; all books should be open for inspection; inspection hours increased; special books should be kept giving all possible information re concessions and ditto re quartz; copies of all records made at outlying record offices, as Stewart, Clear Creek, Fortymile, etc., should be sent to and entered at Dawson office at frequent intervals.

(d) Gold commissioner's court too complex and too expensive re simple cases.

(e) Arbitration board, formed chiefly of miners or claim owners, is very desirable.

(f) Placer mining regulations still capable of much improvement as to staking for instance—why should not the base line on any creek serve as an index to the staking of both creek and hillside claims by having the hillside stakes put right alongside the creek claim stakes to which they pertain? and in like manner as

to the benches beyond, where such exist; each cluster of stakes at 250 feet apart along the base line would at a glance show exactly what ground was staked and what not without a weary hunt for lost stakes in the brush. Much duplicate staking and much subsequent litigation would be saved, also many fractional claims eliminated.

(g) Fees for license, recording and renewal to be reduced as soon as there is a surplus after all necessary improvements in roadmaking, etc., have been completed. This Yukon country in its infancy at any rate should not be run to make a profit for the benefit of the more adult Canada proper.

(h) Concessions, hydraulic and other, I would grant over suitable location only but would in all grants insert a clause giving the government or the to be formed elective Yukon council option to resume possession after a fixed short period on repayment of all capital invested plus a stated percentage of profit, 20, 50 or more per cent. as might be arranged. This would not deter capitalists and would meet the unearned increment trouble which is agitating many minds as to land values and taxation back in England and elsewhere.

I might easily use up the alphabet in scoring off the items of reforms still necessary in this country.

It would appear, however, that my ideas of what a mine owners' association should do and be are not in accord with the ideas of the big operators and concessionaires who were present at the meeting referred to.

They evidently do not wish the present state of affairs altered. They doubtless think they cannot be better. As Mr. Ritchie suggested, they were there to form a mine owners' association to mutually protect the owners' or operators' interests against the workers (their employees) with their miners' union.

It is, therefore, still up to those who desire to secure the greatest good for the greatest number to form a "claim owners' association," open to all who hold claims, whether working or not, rich or poor, and leave to Mr. Ritchie and his colleagues the perfectly legitimate formation of their "Employers' Mutual Protective Association," which it ought to be styled, with its altogether different basis to that suggested by the name chosen.

Yours respectfully,

J. W. STANSFIELD.

Still Closing Schools

Special to the Daily Nugget.

Paris, Aug. 14.—The closing of religious schools in France is still done amid difficulty and soldiery have to be present. Three schools were closed this morning despite the protests of peasants, sisters and priests. At Ploudaniel pointed stakes, barricades and carts barred the way to school. A moat was dug by the school door and filled with filth. The French cabinet met today to consider the troubles over schools. The ministers decided to keep right ahead, stating the trouble was merely a royalist movement.

Rich Strike.

Special to the Daily Nugget.

Denver, Aug. 13.—A special from Cripple Creek, Colo., says a strike of sulphur ore carrying 4,000 ounces of silver and a large percentage of copper has been made on Bull Hill, the very centre of Cripple Creek district, at a depth of 1,365 feet.

A Close Game

Special to the Daily Nugget.

London, Aug. 13.—The English cricket team won from the Australian team in the game here by one wicket.

Will Leave This Week

Mrs. F. T. Congdon, accompanied by her son Guy and her two little daughters, will leave for the outside this week, going direct to Toronto. Master Guy will enter a preparatory school preliminary to taking a collegiate course. Mrs. Congdon's affable personality will be greatly missed in social circles this winter.

Again in the City

Councilman Arthur Wilson is again in the city and will remain until the arrival of Deputy Minister of the Interior Smart, who is expected tomorrow or next day. As soon after Mr. Smart's arrival as it is practicable a meeting of the Yukon council will be called for the purpose of dealing with a number of subjects that have been held in abeyance since the illness of Commissioner Ross. Foremost in the matters to be legislated upon is the passage of the ordinance providing for the election of five members to the Yukon council. The bill will probably be but the re-enactment of the old ordinance after which the date of the election will be fixed by a proclamation issued by the acting commissioner. The bill providing for the division of the territory into districts will also come up at the first sitting of the council.

REINDEER FOR ALASKA

Rev. Jackson Still Riding His Hobby

Animals Grown in Alaska Larger Than Their Parents From Siberia.

Rev. Sheldon Jackson, United States general agent of education, who reached Fort Davis last Saturday on the transport Warren, says the government has undertaken to stock Alaska ultimately with 15,000 Siberian reindeer.

"I'm on my annual tour of inspection with reference to the reindeer and educational work," he said. "I take a revenue cutter and make the rounds of the government reindeer stations and schools. Then I go to Siberia, hoping to make satisfactory contracts with the traders and merchants along the Siberian Bering sea coast for supplying our government with what reindeer we wish for next year and the years to come."

"If possible I want to arrange for from 1,000 to 2,000 each year until we have secured about 15,000, which, with the 5,000 now in Alaska and the natural increase, will keep the northland supplied with this noble animal forever."

"It has been demonstrated that the climate of Alaska is admirably adapted to reindeer. Fine as are the specimens we are procuring from Siberia, their fawns born in Alaska grow to greater size than the parent animal."—Nome News, July 22.

Seattle-Tacoma Line

Seattle, Aug. 4.—The management of the Seattle-Tacoma interurban electric line, for the opening of which its local promoters have been straining every energy for the past six weeks, has finally determined upon the schedules on which the cars will run and the fare which will be charged between Seattle and Tacoma.

The single trip fare on all trains, including the limited, will be 60 cents with a round trip rate of \$1. Eleven cars will constitute equipment at the start, consisting of five motor cars and six trailers. The motor cars will, besides furnishing the power for the coaches, be divided into two compartments, a smoking room and space for light express.

The cars will run upon a schedule requiring that a train leave both Seattle and Tacoma at intervals of one hour and a half. Three of the trains will be limited, making but two stops outside the corporate limits of the two cities. These trains will make the run in one hour and fifteen minutes. Inside the city limits the trains will care for local business in a manner identical with that which local cars and suburban lines do. The limited trains will stop at Auburn and Kent only, leaving the intermediate traffic for the regular or accommodation trains, which will stop for passengers at any crossing where a signal is displayed.

The last car will leave Tacoma at 11:30 o'clock and the Seattle terminus at midnight, though in view of an intermediate service it would be possible for residents of Kent and Auburn to leave Seattle as late as 1:30 o'clock and Tacoma up to 1:40 a.m. The company expects to operate its cars to the race track, beginning August 15, and a sufficient number of coaches will be placed on the line to accommodate a large number of people. To meet the exigencies of the occasion the Grant street road will be temporarily pressed into service for use as one-half of a double track system.

No freight will be carried on the interurban line during the hours when the passenger trains run. All traffic of this nature will be done between midnight and 6 o'clock a.m.

May Visit the East

Legal Adviser H. W. Newlands, who left on the Selkirk for Whitehorse, hopes to visit the outside before returning to Dawson. He will confer with Commissioner Ross at Whitehorse and if the commissioner does not consider it an inopportune time for the legal adviser to go outside Mr. Newlands will continue his journey as far east as Montreal, spending some time with his family and returning to his labors here about October 1. He may be accompanied by his family on his return.

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EDITOR

McADAMS

Finds Champion In Toronto Globe

Says No Good Purposes Will Be Served by Such Vindictiveness of Judiciary

In referring to the McAdams case, the Toronto Globe says:

"William McAdams, the versatile and original editor of the Sandon Paystreak, has received a distressing reminder that animal adversities which seem casual and commonplace upon the cedar-clad slopes about Carpenter Creek, where land slides and avalanches seem trivialities, are shocking and outrageous when viewed in the white light that beats upon the judicial tribunals at Victoria on the Island. William treated the highest court of the province in the same manner as he treats all things mundane, or at least all things British Columbian. In his western impatience he could not understand why a man should be more than a year trying to break into court. Justice did not seem to jar loose from the hanging-wall in the judicial stope according to his liking, and he said so in his inimitable fashion. The result is a sentence of nine months in prison for contempt, and an additional year in jail unless he can find bondsmen willing to stake their money that he will maintain a deferential attitude toward the court, outwardly, for that length of time. When he was summoned to appear in Victoria a contemporary, the New Denver Ledger, remarked on the long distance from Sandon to Victoria, the bad condition of the walking, the possible endurance of the sples of William's boots and the many difficulties of the water stretch between the Island and the Mainland."

"Had the court possessed the saving grace of a sense of humor the affair would have ended with the apology which he made, and it is to be regretted that it did not end there. Courts are not expected to be vindictive on their own account, and an apology and retraction are almost invariably regarded as sufficient to absolve those charged with contempt. McAdams is a young man of good parts, one of many from Ontario who have gone to seek their fortunes in the freer atmosphere of the mining

Action by Employees

Nanaimo, July 30.—The case undertaken by the employees of the Van Anda property in order to recover the amount of the wages due them was commenced in the county court yesterday before Judge Harrison. The principal witness examined was Mr. Price, a carpenter at Van Anda. In his evidence he said he looked to the property to get his wages. He did not pretend to hold Treat or Goodacre personally responsible. The change from the Van Anda Copper Company to the Northwest Copper & Mining Company was made so gradually that it was impossible, he said, to say just where one ceased and another commenced. When in February of this year the workmen refused to work owing to their wages not being forthcoming, a meeting of the workmen was called, and they were given the privilege of selling some matte which was there and using it among them. They got a copy of the pay roll from Fowler, the accountant of the Northwest Copper Company, and on that basis the division was made. Mr. Wilson, K. C., of Vancouver, who represents the men, asked for a personal judgment against Dunn and the Northwest Company, and a lien on the property. Mr. Marshall, who represents the defendants, contends that all the parties concerned owe the debt. Mr. Wilson, on the contrary, held that they may be liable though. Judge Harrison then gave the further duty of taking evidence establishing the validity of the workmen's claims into the hands of Registrar Stanton, as he was leaving for Cumberland to hold court. This is now in progress.

The Strathcona made the trip from Sidney to Nanaimo last evening in about four hours and a half, leaving at 3 o'clock. She reached here 7:30.

Store building in good locality, rented, for exchange for outside property. Will trade for equity.—T. A. DAVIES, Yukon Dock.

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