

The Klondike Nugget

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KLONDIKE NUGGET.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1903.

MUST PREVENT MONOPOLY.

The speeches delivered at the banquet tendered last night to Commissioner Congdon were remarkable for the hopeful tone assumed with respect to the immediate future of the district. A feeling of optimism based upon facts manifested itself throughout the toasts and responses, which augurs well for the mining and other industries of the territory. The main point to be noticed in this connection rests within the fact that the gentlemen who spoke upon the great subjects which concern the welfare of the people of this territory, were particularly well qualified by practical experience to deal with the matters in hand.

The speakers who dealt with mining matters were men who for years have been associated with the practical phases of the industry which brought the Yukon territory into existence. They have followed the development of placer mining in the camp from its infancy to the present day and their utterances carried with them the weight of authority.

Proficient among the sentiments expressed, we note the remarks of Mr. G. T. Coffey in connection with the water problem. The opinion was advanced by that gentleman—and certainly he is in a position to know whereof he speaks—that an abundant water supply would not alone serve vastly to increase the annual output of the district, but would guarantee the whole territory a period of prosperity of not less than half a century. The need of water is the paramount question before the mining community, and before that question all others must be regarded as of subsidiary importance.

As was forcibly brought out in the speaker's remarks, the future of the district is wrapped up very largely in the successful development of vast bodies of low grade gravel, and the water problem furnishes the key to the situation.

How best to obtain a satisfactory solution to this vexed problem is the important task which confronts the community. Obviously to place the control of the water supply of the district in the hands of any single individual or company would be an absolutely unsatisfactory procedure.

The man who held such control would have the mining operators of the territory at his mercy, and could dictate terms such as best pleased himself.

His powers would be no less than those exercised in feudal times by the great Sazran chiefs, and it is idle to suppose that such powers would be used for the public benefit.

The cry for water will grow louder and louder each year and to the same extent it will become more and more important to prevent a monopoly supply system from being established. Every influence in the territory should be brought to bear to secure the aid of the government in furnishing the district with this most necessary adjunct to continued prosperity, and in case success in that direction is not achieved, some other plan should be devised.

The main point at issue just now is to keep the mining industry out of the grasp of a giant, private monopoly. With co-operation on the part of all the community, it is not to be believed that failure will result.

RICHNESS OF THE CONCESSIONS.

Many persons who have not studied the matter are of opinion that, after all, the iniquitous concessions take but little ground that is really valuable. This would argue that the rich pay of the hundreds of claims now being worked in, notably, the Boyle, Matson and Bronson & Rao concessions, stops arbitrarily at their boundaries.

The plain fact is that the concessionaires, who are doing nothing with their ground, have no knowledge of what they own. Their ground is unprospected. Throw it open and hundreds of claims that will be staked in each concession will be working in rich pay at once. Many look forward for the concessions to succeed the individual miners. So far, the reverse has been the case. The Philp concession was deemed worthless by its holders, but on the ground staked within it when rich claims (value \$7,000 each) on opened are now found about 30 of the lower Bonanza.

The concession that covered lower Dominion from Gold Run down was abandoned as worthless, but there are scores of rich claims now working in this district with a large average value. The restaked claims on Henry Gulch and elsewhere in the late Milne concession, though of low grade, illustrates the same general fact. Nothing was found on the concession on lower Sulphur creek till it was thrown open for a few days and some claims were staked by miners who proved it rich. In fact the prosperity of Dawson today rests to no little extent on placer claims in abandoned concessions. How greatly this prosperity would be increased if all the concessions wrongfully obtained and held in spite of non-fulfillment of conditions were thrown open is at once apparent.

Dawson would enjoy a boom in commercial and industrial lines unprecedented since 1898—and hundreds of miners and prospectors who so long have been withheld from their own would enjoy a measure of well deserved prosperity.

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Communications for publication in this column are invited upon all questions of public interest. Correspondents are requested to be as brief as possible and to sign their names, which will be withheld if desired.

Editor Klondike Nugget:—

"Dear Sir,—I wish to make a few remarks in regard to the stationary engineer. I see by your paper of April 18th that the engineers are going to lay before the Yukon council a petition to protect them in keeping the engineers of the day from passing the so-called examination. Now let me ask the engineers that know it all and do nothing one of two questions: How many first-class engineers have there been employed in the Yukon since '97-'98 up to the present date? In my estimation there might be one present."

Just one more question: How many accidents have there been in the Yukon up to date compared with the outside world per capita? I should judge there has not been one accident in the Yukon for every 300 on the outside to the number of engineers employed.

It surely cannot be to insure against loss of life that the so-called

stationary engineers want to protect the public. If a mine operator has an engineer that suits him, why should the law interfere between them? If the same engineer breaks and destroys the employer's engine, and if it cost a thousand dollar note the employer don't go to the Yukon council to pay for the engine. He simply goes and buys a new one, and if the engineer is to blame he discharges him and hires another. The so-called engineer puts up the argument that he is more economical than the other fellow. That is the employer's lookout and not the employer's.

The employer of an engineer is out on the creeks, it is a good many miles to Dawson, he is slushing his pay ground, he has a large force of men working, his machinery is going full blast—the first thing he knows the so-called first engineer is sulky. The employer goes up to him and says, the men in the hole are kept back, you are not hoisting enough dirt. The engineer quits and the whole force of men have to suffer at the hands of monopoly engineering. The water is getting low on the creeks, the season is short, but we must wait until we get a first-class engineer. The employer and mine operators in the Yukon today need all the assistance they can get to keep the good work going, but if the Yukon council want to retard the progress of the country then let them pass all the protection bills that come up.

Thanking you for the valuable space in your paper.

A MINE OPERATOR.

What is Expected.

London, April 6.—Immense significance is attached to the forthcoming visit of the King to Rome and Paris. One paper goes so far as to declare that "the King's tour spells annihilation of the German Emperor's ambitious dream of risking a quarrel either with Britain or the United States unless the connivance of Italy and the neutrality of France were secured."

FOR IRELAND'S BENEFIT.
Since the union there has been nothing like the present feeling of mutual esteem between the Protestants and Catholics in Ireland. The splendid scheme which Lord Iveagh and Mr. W. J. Pirrie are, with the approval of Mr. Wyndham, about to put into working order for the development of the country's agricultural industry, has been undertaken by them owing entirely to the changed attitude of all classes in Ireland to one another. A company, private in the sense that the public will not be asked to subscribe, is to be formed. The capital has all been guaranteed by Lord Iveagh and Mr. Pirrie. These wealthy Irishmen are prepared to put at least \$250,000 into the business, although the initial capital is not likely to exceed a quarter of a million pounds. The scope of the undertaking will at the outset be confined to the agricultural communities of Ireland.

OUTLINE OF THE SCHEME.
The scheme, as drafted, proposes to establish central depots for the receipt of all kinds of Irish produce in various parts of the country. These depots will be situated as near as possible to the existing means of transit, and where no rail ways exist produce will be conveyed by means of an extensive carrier service to the nearest depots. It is intended to build a number of motor cars which will be introduced gradually in the more outlying districts. Ordinary horse-drawn vehicles will also be utilized to start with, at any rate. Later on, probably with the assistance of the government, additional light railways will be built.

Two things are claimed for the system. It will enable the Irish farmers to get their produce earlier to the markets, and the produce will be carried at lower rates. In carrying out the scheme Lord Iveagh and Mr. Pirrie will have the assistance of a number of experienced agriculturalists, but they have no desire to make profit out of the concern, and are even prepared to lose money over it for the first few years.

Power of Attorney Blanks for the Tanana-Nugget Office.

Stroller's Column.

To many people is given the franchise to dream dreams and see visions. Some dreams are much more lurid than others, so much so, in fact, that the dreamer on awakening can scarcely convince himself that the recent enactment was only a dream.

For example, a short time ago a Dawson business man learned that a debtor had "quietly departed for Tanana." The former lost no time in giving pursuit. Mounted on a horse he touched only the high places. Down the Yukon he passed like a phantom. Like young Lohmeyer who came out from the West he stopped not for breaker and stayed not for stone until he overtook the delinquent and effected a settlement. Then it was that on returning he sought rest and repose at a Forty-mile hostelry.

It may have been owing to the mattress which was stuffed with limbs of the forest or it may have been due to the underdone beans or dried apple pie that he encompassed for his evening meal, but at any rate he had a most vivid and exciting dream that night. Being himself in the debtor-chasing business he found that he also was pursued by creditors, his pursuers in turn being pursued by other creditors until he beheld the long serpentine trail as it stretched along the broad bosom of the Yukon black with people all the way from Dawson to the boundary line, each one in hot pursuit of the one immediately in front. Every profession, calling, avocation, trade and business was represented in the long line of rapidly-moving humanity.

Miners, merchants, mushers, marks, something men and bunco sharks—Everyone in hot pursuit of some one else and all headed toward the international boundary line. Every one carried something in his hand emblematic of his calling. The miner carried a pick with which he was vainly reaching to strike down the object of his pursuit. The merchant was vainly striving to mow down with a yardstick the dancin' girl who was just keeping beyond his reach with a few loud-colored waists and dress patterns under her arm. The butcher was frantically wielding a cleaver in a vain effort to carve a joint from the "man in front."

The saloon keeper had a cyphon bottle aimed at the back of the neck of the man who had drank his whisky all winter "on bedrock." The lodging house woman carried a bed stick, the baker a bread knife, the printer an iron sidestick, the grocer a sandbag, the cigar dealer a cabbagehead—in fact, each and everyone carried something suggestive of his line of business. Each druggist essayed to spray chloroform on the object of his pursuit and the doctors all carried rapid-firing syringes.

The dreamer gazed for hours on the long line of rapidly moving humanity and withered as he realized that he himself had started the entire movement. He had followed a dentist and had himself been followed. His pursuer was pursued and so on until all Dawson was on the trail pursuing and pursued toward the international boundary line. As soon as a person crossed the line he was enveloped in fog and was no longer visible. Ten minutes after the last man in the long single line had entered the fog there was a loud noise of puffing and blowing such as comes from a camel-back freight engine that is overloaded on an up-grade. The dreamer looked in the direction from whence came the noise and there, traveling abreast, he beheld the managers of the local banks, Waterfront Brown and Uncle Holloman. With a shriek the dreamer sprang from his bed and started to flee. When he awoke the landlord had him down on the floor and was sitting on him, and saying, "You had better settle your bill and put on your clothes before you start."

It was a late Monday morning and the big snow of the previous night was the subject of discussion. The pioneer of 1898 had the floor and was relating some Yukon experiences. Among other things he said: "Eleven years ago there was a fall of several inches of snow the 2nd day of April and fourteen years ago a heavy snow fell on the 8th, but never in the history of the country has there been such a snowfall as occurred last night as late as the 12th of April."

"You are a liar," said the youngest of all dogs who had entered while the man of the village of 1898 was speaking. "You tenderheads think," continued the veteran, "that what ain't happened in the past sixteen or eighteen years never did happen, 's gosh! I'll tell you sustain 'bout April snow as if cause you to go way back and sot down."

"On the 29th day of April, 1883, two foot of snow fell in this country in just six hours and seventeen minutes. The snow of the previous winter had all been gone for six weeks. These fellows as is called pocuses was in bloom an' Limpin' Grouse had clump, th' hill beyond Lounsetown tet got some flowers ter trim her bunnet, havin' laid off the squirrel tails till th' next winter. Half a hour arter she put out, it began snowin' an' as she wasn't home by th' time I had th' dog worn

stew cooked I put out ter find her. Arter blunderin' round through th' snow fer a hour or more I heerd Limpin' Grouse singin'. I follered up th' sound an' when I reached her th' pore thing, fearin' her goose was cooked, had temperarily gone hog-house an' was singin' "Ich tu kluy tik nua glu klo spot tiea ich," which meant:

"Come, birdie, come and live with me."

"You shall be happy, gay and free." "I rescued her and took her home an' by mornin' she was ne plus ultra an' herself agin."

"As for that two foot of snow, th' sun shone th' nex' day with sich bilin' effect that it burned a brown crust on top which remained intact till th' grass an' weeds grew up from beneath an' punctured it, then it bruk up but lay round on th' ground all summer like bruk glass."

"But howsever (apologies to Arthur Wilson) this late snow greatly helped me out, fer I have it banked up an' packed on Limpin' Grouse's grave till I reckon I won't have ter use no green paint yit fer high on a month. I promised her that, in th' absence of snow, I'd keep it green an' I'll do it, 'b' gosh, if I have to carve up a pass of you cheecharkers an' scatter over."

Since the great sacrifice shirt sale by the N. C. Co. recently fewer men are met with their coat collars turned up and pinned over. They are now wearing shirts.

The Stroller is astonished at the number of his friends in this country who are developing what Mr. Dooley calls "the cradle foot." Fair weather signals are unfurled to the breeze all over Dawson and along the creeks.

Every few days—stories of "corners" are circulated in Dawson. One day it is of sugar, next day of milk, eggs or some other necessity. Now it is reported that an enterprising druggist is about to effect a corner of all the Castoria in town.

There are various opinions as to what constitutes a furnished house, one man in Dawson being sufficiently ruralized in his belief as to suppose that the term "furnished house" means that it is one all ready for going to housekeeping in.

The gentleman in question rented a "furnished house" a few days ago on the statement of an agent and without going to see it. That day he gave up his former home, carried the grip containing his worldly assets to his place of business and at 10 o'clock that night repaired to his new home—having been assured by the agent that everything was ready for his reception. Not knowing the exact location of the house he tried the key in several front doors until he found one it would open. He entered, lighted a match and looked around. The furniture consisted of two window shades, three kitchen chairs and a double-bitted ax. Four minutes later the new tenant was wending his way wearily down town in quest of a lodging house.

As the gentleman in question is single his name is withheld to prevent the remark, "What business has he with a furnished house, anyway?"

Bonanza, April 15.—Dear Sir,—I am considerably past thirty years of age and am in love with a girl of seventeen. I have not told her of my love, which is sufficiently strong to melt the point of a lightning rod, neither have I asked to call on her. I frequently meet her at roadhouse dances when she treats me as though I was an old man. She does not suspect my feelings toward her. Please advise me as to what course to pursue in the matter and greatly oblige.

WILLIAM.

It is wrong, William, to love a lady without her knowledge or consent. As the object of your affections is very young, William, you had better not crowd her. Give her twelve or fifteen years, and at the expiration of

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that time she may recognize your suit. At any rate she will be through teething and in the meantime you may win eternal fame and a deathless name by being elected a member of the Yukon council.

You must refrain, William, from marrying people who do not wish to marry you. Besides, I doubt if you would be a dazzling success as a husband, for a man of your age who seeks advice from a "stranger" regarding matters of the heart has a soft spot somewhere on his head. There is hope for the man who is "green," but a "softie" never improves.

For the benefit of a number of my correspondents, William, I have sent outside for a general assortment of brains that were left over by a high school and with your consent I will put you on the list of "needies."

From the finger marks on your letter, I infer that you are working in black-muck and that you have not washed your hands since the gusher was capped.

A drunken man reeling along First avenue the other day recalled to mind a story Bill Nye used to tell on himself. The great humorist was standing idly on a busy street when a drunken man reeled against him, knocked him down and walked all over him. Nye recovered himself as quickly as possible, and indignantly asked:

"Can't you look where you are walking?"

"Betcherlife I can look where I see so trouble ish I can't walk with walkin'!" answered the drunk, "but I see lookin'!"

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BANQUET LAST E

(Continued from page 1)

United States Consul Sayre, of the chairman sat Mr. Craig, Mr. Justice Macaulay, Consul Tureman and Mr. We for the guests arrived the moved to the buffet by his Mr. T. Dufferin Pattullo, Mr. McGowan, and there were removed through the a Manhattan Martini or the goods. The guest of the on hand promptly at the pointed and as he entered was given a mighty ova. Save the King" was played orchestra and a moment later themselves at the to them.

The menu was not intended elaborate, simply, a collation occupy the time guests were waiting for se follow. There were but a few—though the number everything was of the best follows:

Cocktail.
Caviar on Toast.
Bouillon.
Sauterne.
Fresh Grouse.
Shrimp salad.
Claret.

Roast beef with brown sauce with asparagus.
Champagne.
Charlotte russe.
Fruited Apples.
Oranges.
Nuts.
Cafe noir.
Crepe de menthe.

During the repast the of some of the latest popular selections and w of the black coffee hosts. The first propos "The King," which was and the playing of album.

The next was to "Comas" proposed by a of a brilliant and a the referred most pleasant of the evening by a have the pleasure tonight a man who embodies characters of all races—relatives are here this.

has the energy of the A of the French people quality of the English strength of the Norwetic people.

The conclusion of his last was greeted with place and as Mr. H. S. to reply on behalf of States "Star Spangled of the air until the from the volume of song reputation as a dinner speaker did not in effort last night. P. elegance his response can so smoothly that were sorry "back to, soon Mr. R. A. Ture half of France remain like glad to be as the best blood of coming through the ve Canadian. "Le Mars played as Mr. Turemo the conclusion of his Mr. Walter Wensky let "The Wacht am Rhine tantly. He spoke bri point and as the crow rather jolly by that letter "Augustine" was the latest and most a but one of the consuls heard from and that w Mrs. Pattullo, the rep the kingdom of Norwa The orchestra, and not pretty not knowing Norwegian national at and thing by playing jolly good fellow." a

was particularly appropriate. Mr. Pattullo was approved of Mr. Cong last for he had had a in the afternoon to the As the conclusion of effort a diversion was chairman who comman Napoleon to entertain me. Always in o particularly so after located every time Napoleon, favored me. "The Snake W giving "Soldiers of the music.

The host of the "our Guest," and w Mayor McLennan is was characteristic of being short, crisp, b with Mr. Congdon. ly was as follows:

"Mr. chairman, my remarks and remarks made of ad reception, you have to be overwhelmed evening. The first i was to be appointed the Yukon territory the people of the Y more, this news an interest when I k "I knew then and now that I s been and courtesy to this territory and I given the opportunity whether I had the not their desires so posed on me by the of public affairs. most language most pers such treatment the moment I lande and I hope the Am