

# The Klondike Nugget

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MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1900.

## AT LAST.

As was published in Saturday's issue of the Nugget, the Yukon council, in spite of some opposition, has finally determined to hold its sessions in public and admit representatives of the press thereto. The only criticism we have to offer upon this action is the fact that it did not take place twelve months ago. Whatever may have been the intentions of the council in determining matters of policy affecting the welfare of the people of this territory, the latter have questioned the motives behind the council's actions, for the simple reason that as a legislative body their sessions were held behind closed doors.

This fact has served, for the most part, to neutralize, in so far as public opinion has been concerned, the effect of measures really designed for the public good. The council made the mistake of refusing to take the people into their confidence, and, most naturally, the people have held to the belief that behind this refusal lurked motives which would not stand the strong light of public inspection. An effort has been made to show that the demand made by the local press for admission to the council's meetings has been animated by a desire to oppose and misrepresent the council on all possible occasions. A refutation of this silly and groundless talk is not required.

There is a principle involved in the case which a reputable newspaper could not overlook, and the Yukon council, in failing to recognize this principle hitherto, has acted in direct opposition to the accepted usages of similar bodies the world over. Their decision has been reached rather late, but, like everything else in the world worth the having, it is better late than not at all.

That mining edition of the News proved to be a decided boomerang. If there was a single claim in the whole list whose owner authorized the News to give the figures as published, he has thus far not shown up in evidence. The absurdity of the thing is apparent on its face. It would be in every way as fitting to take the business houses on First avenue, one after the other, and inquire as to the amount of cash they have taken in during the past six months, as to ask the claim owners the value of their dumps. Either the News was given a tremendous "fill" by someone, or extremely versatile powers of imagination were brought to bear in the case. In any case, our contemporary was about as far away from the mark as it was possible to get.

The mystery surrounding the disappearance of the Clayson-Relfe party is rapidly clearing away. The finding of two of the

bodies of the dead men has demonstrated that the theory that murder was committed is correct. It remains now that the perpetrators be properly punished. According to the circumstances, as they now appear, nothing more cold-blooded could possibly be imagined than the manner in which these men were killed. Shot down in their tracks, in all probability by men whom they had never seen, and certainly had never wronged, and all for the sake of a trifling amount of spoil—this seems to be the explanation which will prove the correct one. If so, the thing must have been done by desperate and hardened criminals, for whom, when their guilt is proven, no punishment could possibly be too severe.

Uncle Sam has a problem on his hands, which in some respects resembles the scandals which have arisen in connection with the government of the Yukon. Gross misconduct is alleged against numerous officials, one of whom is charged with misappropriation of funds to the amount of \$400,000. Congress has taken the matter up, and will sift it to the bottom immediately. The guilty men will be punished with the utmost severity, owing to the fact that the administration has been making a strong effort to give the people of Cuba just and equitable government.

The report published elsewhere concerning the abolishment of the royalty tax will, we hope, prove to be founded on fact. It has been known for some time that action to this effect might be taken before the adjournment of parliament, for the possible effects of the Nome excitement have been laid so strongly before the government that it seemed almost certain that some remedial action should be taken. We hope to receive early confirmation of the report.

Newspapers reached Dawson last night which were published in Seattle on the Queen's birthday. This serves to remind us very forcibly of the fact that the season of quick trips between Dawson and the Sound is now at hand. The time will probably be cut down to about six days before the summer is over.

### The Best Laid Plans.

"When I was a young fellow, I was a dreamer," said a benevolent citizen. "I thought that my greatest pleasure would be to give money to the poor and live a life of simple, unworldly devotion and gentleness. That was when I was about 20.

"At 25 I came into some money rather unexpectedly. The first thing I did was to give a dinner. I got tipsy—the first time in my life. I had a fight with a waiter and nearly punched his eye out. I was arrested and had to be bailed out by my lawyer. The waiter sued me for damages, and I was so angry with him and myself and the downfall of my great ideals that I refused to compromise as my lawyer advised. The waiter lost most of his savings in fees and expenses, and his family came waiting to ask me to pay his doctor's bills and help him get a position and they would drop the suit.

"I came to my senses and did more than that for them. My old ideas, modified and modernized, took hold of me again, and while I am a hard-headed business man today, most of my friends are poor people. But my first use of money shows how flimsy the pedestals of most ideals are and how foolish it is to say what we would do if we could."—New York Commercial Advertiser.

### For Sale at a Bargain.

The Popular lodging house and Popular restaurant, situated on Second street, opposite Aurora, doing a fine business; proprietor unable to attend to the business, owing to sickness; will sell cheap. Apply on the premises.

R. J. HILTS, Proprietor.

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

## POPULAR OPINION.

### Lay System a Failure.

Editor Klondike Nugget.  
Dear Sir: Another winter will see a great change in mining on the outer creeks and all hillside claims. In fact the day of lay letting is past. There are today more miners busted and walking the streets with empty purses, dodging their creditors and trying to get away quietly, than ever before in the history of the Klondike.

It was thought early last winter and last fall that all that was necessary to make money out of a lay was machinery, and Dominion, Sulphur, Hunker creek claims and Bonanza and Eldorado hill-sides and tributaries were covered with thawers and great were the expectations of the laymen most of whom had a 50 per cent lay.

The winter's work has shown without a doubt that machinery is not a success on a small proposition, the dead work is greater, the number of men who must be employed is larger if the machinery is to be labor-saving, than would be needed in old style mining, for two or three men can drift when pay is short, but with machinery a full force must be employed. Hence grub bills, freight bills, wood bills and various other items of expense pile up until the laymen have been snowed under. Who suffers? Not the laymen alone, but his laborers, his creditors in general who bear the brunt of the failure.

Claim after claim have paid from ten to sixty cents on the dollar and many laymen have been unscrupulous enough to defraud their employees as well as other creditors—canoe, a little grub and a stampede to Nome is the result.

Sulphur had more machinery and more lays and is the scene of more woe and gnashing of teeth; Dominion has many, and numerous hill-sides on Bonanza have their tales of woe.

The only conclusion that is to be reached is a 50 per cent lay is a failure on the general Klondike claim. The ground cannot be worked for 50 per cent on a small scale and where the worker has suffered this winter, the claim owner must be responsible hereafter.

LAYMAN.

### Comparison of Losses.

Washington, May 10.—In comparison with the casualties suffered by the British troops in South Africa, those sustained by the American forces in the Philippines seem very small. A statement just compiled by the war department shows that from July 1, 1898, when the American troops reached Manila, until April 27, 1900, these deaths have occurred:

Killed and died of wounds, 43 officers, 552 men; died of disease, 26 officers, 1635 men; total, 69 officers, 2187 men; grand total, 2256.

Several thousand men have been wounded, but only a small percentage have died of wounds and most of them have returned to duty.

The war department has just issued a complete table of the casualties in the Fifth army corps, in the operation against Santiago, from June 22 until July 17, 1898. The losses are given: Killed, 21 officers, 222 enlisted men; wounded, 101 officers, 1344 enlisted men; total, 1688 officers and enlisted men.

\*The total strength of the forces operating against Santiago is given as 869 officers and 17,349 men. The Seventh regular infantry lost the greatest number of men, its killed and wounded numbering 132. The Sixteenth regular infantry lost 129 men, and Gov. Roosevelt's regiment and the Sixth regular infantry each lost 127 men.

### Caribou Drawbridge.

Forty tons of material for the big steel draw bridge which the railroad is to put in at Caribou Crossing, arrived yesterday on the Dirigo. The material is all steel, and includes some of the heaviest pieces ever brought to this port.

The bridge, when completed, will be one of the finest, if not the finest, in the north, and will have the distinction, without a doubt of being the only railroad draw bridge in the north, and at the same time the most northerly structure of the kind on the American continent.

The bridge will rest on concrete pillars and will be in place and ready for use by the latter part of July. It is necessary to have a draw bridge at Caribou to make it possible for steamers to pass out and into Lake Bennett.—Alaskan

### The New Woman.

James McNamee is the owner of claim No. 26b above on Bonanza, and Miss Mulrooney has a lay on it. This being the season of the cleanup, Mr. McNamee's interests on the claim are being looked after by J. B. Fields. In some way or other, Fields has not en-

deared himself to the men employed by Miss Mulrooney, neither has he endeared himself to that lady herself. Last Friday morning Miss Mulrooney and Fields had a dispute which ended in the latter being utterly vanquished for the time, the woman striking him over the head with a club, knocking him out in the first round and causing bright red blood to freely flow.

### Fourth of July Meeting.

All members of the executive committee having in charge the celebration for the Fourth of July are requested to meet tonight at the Board of Trade rooms at 8:30. Business of importance will be transacted and a full meeting is requested.

### A Serious Case.

Thos Kains, C. E., who has been attached to the Yukon government as consulting engineer, received a stroke of paralysis yesterday and is now in a serious condition in the Good Samaritan hospital, where he is being given all the care possible, Dr. Duncau being his attendant physician.

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

## Hammocks

Get ready for the warm weather and get one of our hammocks. There are only a few.

## Parasols

They are hot weather articles, too, but we have too many of these. Come and get one at cost.

## J. P. McLENNAN

FRONT STREET,  
Next to Holborn Cafe Dawson

## Electric Light

Steady Satisfactory Safe  
Dawson Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.  
Donald B. Olson, Manager.  
City Office Joslyn Building.  
Power House near Klondike. Tel. No. 1

# Alaska Commercial Company

<b>RIVER STEAMERS</b> Sarah Bella Hannah Margaret Susie Victoria Leah Yukon Alice Florence	<b>THE STEAMER</b> <b>'Hannah'</b> Will leave Dawson in a few days with Passengers and Freight for	<b>TRADING POSTS</b> ALASKA St. Michael Anvik Nulato Tanana Minook (Rampart) Fort Hamlin Circle City Eagle City
<b>OCEAN STEAMERS</b> San Francisco to St. Michael and Nome St. Paul Portland Ranter St. Michael to Golovin Bay, Nome, and Cape York Dora Sadie Fay	<b>...ST. MICHAEL...</b> Connecting with Company's Steamer for	<b>KOYUKUK DISTRICT</b> Koyukuk Bergman <b>YUKON TERRITORY</b> Fortymile Dawson

Dawson Post Is Fitted With Public Safe Deposit Vaults.

# ORA, NORA, FLORA

BETWEEN DAWSON AND BENNETT  
These Steamers Hold the Record for Three Successive Years for  
**...SPEED and REGULARITY**

Clean and comfortable staterooms. No expense spared in supplying the table with all the delicacies possible to procure. Experienced captain in charge. No delay. Courteous treatment to all.

Office at Calderhead & Lancaster's Dock R. W. CALDERHEAD, Agent

S-Y.T. Co. **NOME** S-Y. T. Co's Steamer **ROCK ISLAND**  
Will positively leave for St. Michael **MONDAY, JUNE 4th**  
And the "SEATTLE No. 3"  
A Few Days Later.  
S-Y. T. Ticket Office S-Y. T. Dock, Dawson

## TRADING & EXPLORING CO. LTD.



**Str. Yukoner**  
THE FASTEST AND MOST ELEGANTLY APPOINTED STEAMER ON THE YUKON WILL SAIL SATURDAY JUNE 9 FOR  
For Rates Apply to T. & E. Co., First Ave.

**N. A. T. & T. Company**  
**Steamer "John C. Barr"**  
Will Sail for Nome  
ON OR ABOUT JUNE 7  
Connecting at St. Michael with the first class S. S. ROANOKE for SEATTLE and all Outside Points. Accommodations Unsurpassed.

**Are You Going to Nome or Koyukuk?**  
If so, get your outfit from us. All our goods are of the best quality and will give you satisfaction.  
**A. E. CO. A. E. CO.**