

ASSAY OFFICE

Opened to the Public This Morning and Dust Will Bring Its Value.

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT ARE ISSUED

Against Gold Bricks on Assayed Values

AND HONORED AT THE BANKS.

The A. E. Co. Has Solved the Commercial Dust Problem for Itself and the Public.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)
The assay office so long waited for and so much talked of is today an established fact.

The A. E. Co. this morning opened the office to the public and will receive dust of any and all descriptions, for assay and melting, issuing certificates good at either of the local banks or any of the principal mercantile houses of the city.

Mr. Fulda said to a Nugget representative this morning: "Yes, we have done what we have contemplated doing for some time past. We have opened our assay office to the public both as a public measure of financial security and for our own protection.

"Things had come to such a pass through the unscrupulous manipulation of the dust in circulation as a medium of exchange that we simply had to do something in order to protect ourselves. In order to do this successfully it was necessary to afford a means of protection to the public as well, because of the extent and varied nature of our interests.

"No; so far there has been no steps taken by any of the other concerns looking towards any co operative measures between the A. E. and any of the other companies, though of course such a thing may quite possibly result, as this venture may be only in an embryonic condition at present, partaking largely of the nature of an experiment.

"Yesterday our assayer made two very large melts of commercial dust and the loss we find to be two per cent, and upon this test, and other made previously we base the present attempt to solve the problem of protection against adulteration, segregation and the thousand and one evils which arise from the presence of gold dust as a circulating medium.

"Our plan is this: We will receive dust for assay, and after burning away or otherwise removing the dross, melt the dust and run it into bricks. When a lot of dust so received has been run into a brick, it is allowed to cool, and a chip is taken from it, just as is done in the United States government assay offices, and this chip is assayed. After this the weight, in ounces, penny-weights and grains is stamped upon the brick, together with its assayed fineness and the owner may have it, or, if he prefers, we will issue him a certificate, showing that he has so much gold of such fineness on deposit with us, and that certificate will be honored at the banks or mercantile houses of the city.

"The charge for this will be nominal, only enough to cover the expense actually resulting from the work, as we are not doing this as a means of profit, otherwise than insofar as our interests are furthered and protected in general."

Information Wanted.
Inquiries have been received at the town police station for Joseph Eaves, of Wyrkshire, England; Edward Smithers, Denver, Col.; James V. Edgar, Nieldsdale, Wrexham, Wales. Of the above Edgar is known to have been in Dawson in '98 as he wrote to his people in Wales from this place that year.

For Late Traffic.
Within the past ten days there has been but little fall in the water of the Yukon river and boatmen assert that the river is now higher than at this time last year. With the belief, however, that the river will be too low for the navigation of steamers toward the close of navigation, reports came from up the river that snow building has

been given an impetus and that hundreds of tons of freight is expected to be forwarded in that manner between now and the middle of October. In the meantime the steamers are not losing any time, and if the water remains stationary a short time longer there will be little or no demand for scows.

Entertained at Skagway.
In the party of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Berry—and Frank is one of the well-known Klondike millionaires—there came down on the train yesterday afternoon George H. Byrne, who before leaving Dawson had united himself in wedlock with Miss Grace Gandolfo. They left for the Paris exposition and to see the Passion play in one of the most picturesque of the villages of the Alps, but in the brief time they had in this city before leaving on the Danube they were given a champagne supper. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Berry, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berry, Mrs. J. R. Gandolfo, Miss Pinola Gandolfo, of Dawson, and Mr. H. C. Levering, of Skagway, all old friends, made a merry party.—Alaskan.

High Priced Dogs.
At the auction sale of dogs at the pound yesterday several animals sold for good prices, one large, handsome malamute bringing \$80. Others brought as high as \$60, while a number who do not boast illustrious ancestry, did not bring enough to balance their expense accounts on the poundmaster's ledger. Two more auctions of dogs on hand when the law was declared off will be held, after which the pound will pass into a state of quietude until next dog catching season.

A Curious Case.
On August 5th, E. F. Strait swore out a summons and capias warrant against George Bethel, against whom he had a bill amounting to \$249.70. Bethel was served at Whitehorse and as he refused settlement was furnished with an escort for the return trip to Dawson.

This is perhaps one of the first cases of the kind on record here, and is somewhat curious inasmuch as the bill of cost and fees presented by the sheriff foot up \$302—just \$52.30 more than the bill for the collection of which the law was invoked.

Lost Fifteen Dollars.
A prominent government official while speaking of the evils and prevalence of gambling in Dawson a short time since related an evening's experience which, from the way the matter seems to have impressed him, shows him to be from a standpoint of Dawson experience, unimpaired.

"I was invited out to dinner one evening not long since," he said, "and found upon arrival that like myself most of the guests were government officials. I supposed when I went there that the affair was to be, as I had been told, simply a dinner party.

"After dinner it developed that cards were to play in the entertainment of the evening, and a game of whist was proposed, and, as some one said 'just to make it interesting,' points were to be 25 cents.

"When the others agreed to this, I said: 'Gentlemen, this is gambling. I have never gambled and I do not propose to commence now. Please excuse me.'"

"Oh, that's all right," said the gentleman who was my partner, 'I will take the risk and winnings or losses whatever they are, and you need have no more interest in the game than if you were simply playing a purely social game.'"

"With that understanding I took the hand and played it because I did not see how to get out of it.

"Just to show to what length men will go when they get to gambling, I will say that my partner lost \$15 during the evening.

"Yes, sir; I am opposed to gambling in all forms."

Indians Not Dying Out.

"The Indian is by no means an extinct portion of civilization," explained an Indian bureau official to a Washington Star reporter, "as the coming census will very clearly demonstrate. Indeed, instead of running out, the last ten years will show that he has got almost as good a hold on life as the most favored of our people. The poems regretting his passing away will have to be stored for some years. The Indian of late years has been generally engaged in minding his own business. He is not much improved morally from what he was, but he has not fallen behind to any noticeable extent. It is a case of the survival of the fittest, and, while eventually the Indian will have to go, he is not gathering up his traps and getting ready to start as yet. Those who regard the Indian as a scattered race, existing in small camps in the far west, will be considerably informed when I can tell them that there is today a record of 250,000 Indians in the western states. There are many kinds, there.

The Chetaws number over 15,000; the Creeks even more; the Seminoles about 3500; the Cherokees about 30,000; Chickasaws about 8500. There are over 10,000 Indians in the six nations of New York state alone. The Indian is still in it, and will be in it for many years yet, and I would not be surprised if the coming census will show that there are over 300,000 of them."

A Lost Sourdough Diary.
A diary, evidently the property of a sour dough miner, has been found, and although its contents are fragmentary in the extreme, still they throw a strong side light on a romance not wholly of the Klondike, and only connected with the writer's experience as a miner by the golden link which held him here when it is only too evident that his "heart was over the sea."

After a detailed account of the trip from Seattle to Dyea, and the difficulties encountered in getting over the Chilcoot, the writer explains, probably for the benefit of the future generations of gold-seekers, how he sailed, down the lakes in a scow and floated from one sand bar to another in the Yukon, and in connection with the Whitehorse rapids and his trip through them, remarks: "It's a snap when you know how."

The touching and mysterious part of the matter comes when he writes of striking good pay, evidently on Dominion creek, and remarks in connection therewith, "Looks as if I might sell out next summer." A little further on he speaks of finding better pay yet, and naively remarks, "I'll see Em next year."

He speaks of a glacier threatening his cabin with destruction and intimates that when he is through with it, Muir will be nowhere compared with him as an authority on glaciers. In the same paragraph he says he has just returned from a 20-mile walk to get a letter from Em, and boldly declares his willingness to walk 120 to get another.

Who the writer is, together with whether he ever saw Em are matters altogether shrouded in mysterious gloom, as he did not put his name in the book and wrote no further.

The Campaign Opens.

The executive committee as appointed by the convention on Saturday is now complete and is composed as follows:

Chairman, Jefferson Davidson; secretary-treasurer, Dr. Thompson; assistant secretary, Joseph A. Clarke; Messrs. Arthur Wilson, Alex J. Prudhomme, John F. Sugrue, Rev. Dr. Grant, Dan. McGilivray, C. M. Woodworth, Michael Thibert, Dr. Duncan, A. D. Williams, F. L. Gwillim.

The committee met last evening and appointed the following subcommittees at once take hold of the campaign work.

Finance committee—Dr. Thompson, Dr. Duncan, Dan McGilivray, and Michael Thibert.

Committee on public meetings—Jefferson Davidson, C. M. Woodworth and John F. Sugrue.

Organization committee—Dr. Thompson, A. D. Williams, Michael Thibert and Dan McGilivray.

Printing committee—Dr. Thompson, A. D. Williams, Michael Thibert and Daniel McGilivray.

The assistant secretary was appointed secretary of all committees. The treasury was reported in flourishing condition, and it was at once decided to open campaign committee rooms. The five rooms over McCandless' store have already been secured and will be opened today. The entrance to these rooms is between Ryan & Clark's and McCandless' stores on First avenue.

It was decided to arrange for a series of public meetings throughout the territory, a list of which will be announced as soon as completed.

The committee rooms of the Yukon party will be open to all friends of Mr. Alex J. Prudhomme and Arthur Wilson from tonight until the close of the campaign.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

Several days ago a simple child of nature in the person of an Indian who exults in the suggestive name of Jimmie Buckskin managed to cultivate a bright and lurid jag. He was arrested, but in court refused to state in what paint store he had traded. In order to convince Mr. Buckskin that the matter was not a joke he was remanded to jail until such time as he would reveal the identity of the man who furnished him the booze. That time came this morning when the name of D. Wenzelle, a bartender at the old Aurora, was given. The latter will be heard this afternoon on the charge of furnishing whisky to an Indian.

W. T. Boone was given a preliminary hearing this morning on the charge of having discharged a revolver in the Holborn Cafe Saturday evening. A number of witnesses testified to having heard the report and seen smoke and afterwards seen a revolver taken from Boone's hand. The defendant was held over for trial before the territorial court.

FROM TEXAS

Came the Woman Who Brought Claude Staton to Time at Circle City

WHEN SHE OVERTOOK HIM THERE

Last June and Read Him a Chapter From Smith & Wesson

WHEN HE HANDED OVER \$400.

May Staton Returns From Nome and Learns That She Has Inherited a Fortune in Money and Land.

May Staton, who left here under circumstances somewhat sensational on June 10th last, returned from Nome on the steamer Seattle a day or two since, having, she says, accomplished the object of her visit to the city builded upon the sands.

It will be remembered by Nugget readers that when Mrs. Staton arrived here about the middle of June she found, as she told friends at the time, her husband, Claude Staton, living with one Frankie Evans, both at the time being employed at the Orpheum theater. Owing to these unlawful relations and the fact that the gay Claude refused to yield up certain moneys then in his possession which the irate wife demanded as her lawful property, she became wroth to such an extent that she threatened him with all sorts of dire vengeance.

In order to relieve her feelings, prevent a scene and incidentally preserve for his own use and that of the offending Evans person the disputed moneys, Claude, the deceiver, departed early one morning in a small boat down the river, taking with him Frankie and the treasure.

Although married to the fair May, Claude, as subsequent events proved was either not well acquainted with her or else had not profited by experience. News travels fast, or not at all, in Dawson, and it was not long after the sailing of Claude that the wife who felt she had been injured, and worse, robbed, procured a small boat and also consigned her person and household goods to the great Yukon, and bided her in relentless chase. She followed him to Circle City, where the pursuit ended. She had caught up, and anyone who knows her would not require more than an hour or two to arrive at the conclusion that something dropped. It did. It was \$400 in money of the realm that fell, and Claude was glad to let it fall, and thankful that nothing heavier came down at the same time.

Among the few necessities which went to make up the light traveling outfit of Mrs. Staton was one of Smith & Wesson's ready reckoners, and when she met Claude on the streets of Circle City she read him a line or two from that very accurate little work and against such clear and concise argument Claude felt that he could no longer continue the argument and lay claim to being a logical being. He yielded up the dollars numbering four hundred, and was very generously allowed to retain \$76 dollars, which he happened to have over and above that amount.

After this little incident which left Claude and Frankie poorer but much wiser (for they had had experience), all of the parties journeyed homewards and stopped at times at the same places overnight. Where the couple now are is not known, but it is believed that Staton at least has gone on to San Francisco.

Mrs. Staton, as has been stated, returned here after having seen her husband and Nome, and on her arrival here finds herself confronted with news which she admits to be very pleasant, if true, and on this point has little doubt. She finds that she came into a very comfortable fortune some time since, but only received news of it upon her return a few days ago.

It appears that within two or three days after her departure down stream a man from Texas arrived in Dawson whose express business it was to find Mrs. Claude Staton, nee Miss May

Blocker, formerly of Brownwood, Texas. He wanted to find her so badly that he had followed her from place to place for a couple of years or more, and in following her from here to Nome he once more missed her, presumably passing her on the way as he traveled by steamer.

Briefly his business with her was to inform her that as the sole heir of Col. A. P. Blocker, of Brownwood, Texas, she was entitled to receive \$200,000, the estate of the deceased uncle. Now she is waiting to receive confirmation of the very pleasant news.

And so, like a good and proper play, or a well written conventional novel, the story ends with the heroine triumphant and wealthy, and the villain discomfited and on his uppers.

"Truth is stranger than fiction."

Yukon Lawn Tennis Club.

At a meeting held on Wednesday, the 5th of September, at 8:30 p. m. at the residence of Capt. Starnes of those interested in the formation of a lawn tennis club in Dawson, the following ladies and gentlemen attended: Messrs. Starnes, Pattulla, Bruce, McLennan, Miss Hannah, Capt. Starnes, Dr. A. G. McDonald, Dr. W. E. Thompson, Messrs. T. A. R. Purchas, H. G. Herbert, R. Cowan, F. E. G. Berry, P. R. Ritchie, H. P. Curtis, Jeff Davidson, P. McLennan, F. G. C. Kelly, Wm. Galpin, A. Keith, D. S. Tinnie, Montague Martin, — Hall, W. M. McKay. Capt. Starnes was voted to the chair. Mr. H. G. Herbert was asked to act as interim secretary. It was proposed by Mr. Herbert, seconded by Mr. McLennan and carried unanimously that a lawn tennis club should be formed in Dawson, of which those persons present and those invited to attend the meeting should be members; further members to be elected by ballot.

Proposed by Mr. McLennan and seconded by Dr. McDonald, that the club be called "The Yukon Lawn Tennis Club." Carried unanimously.

Resolved after discussion that the officers of the club should consist of: honorary president, president, two vice-presidents, executive committee of six persons, three ladies and three gentlemen, secretary, treasurer, auditor. The election of officers resulted as follows:

Honorary president, Major Wood, proposed by Mr. Herbert and seconded by Mr. Berry and elected unanimously, president, Capt. Starnes, proposed by Dr. McDonald and seconded by Mr. Davidson and elected unanimously, vice-presidents, T. A. R. Purchas and P. R. Ritchie; executive secretary-treasurer, H. G. Herbert; auditor, J. T. Lithgow. executive committee, a ballot for the election of three ladies and three gentlemen resulted as follows: Messrs. Starnes, Thompson and McLennan, Messrs. A. F. Nichol, R. Cowan and Dufferin Pattulla.

Proposed by Dr. McDonald and seconded by Mr. McLennan that the executive committee be requested to draft forthwith a set of club rules and submit the same to a future meeting. Carried.

Proposed by Mr. Herbert and seconded by Mr. Nichol that the sum of \$50 be collected from the gentlemen members of the club to defray current expenses and that the question of entrance fees and subscriptions be left for the consideration of the committee. Carried.

A committee of two, Messrs. Ritchie and Nichol, was appointed to confer with the trustees of St. Andrew's church and to arrange, if possible, for permission to play upon the court at present in use.

Resolved, That the treasurer be authorized to purchase from the Rev. Mr. Wright the tennis outfit kindly lent by him. Carried.

Proposed by Mr. Herbert and seconded by Dr. McDonald that the Yukon Lawn Tennis Club acknowledge its deep obligations to the Rev. Mr. Wright for his services to the cause of tennis and for his enterprise in introducing the game and in building the first tennis court in the far north. Carried with acclamation. The secretary was instructed to convey in a letter to Mr. Wright the resolution of the meeting.

A vote of thanks to the chair concluded the meeting and all of those present adjourned, upon invitation of Dr. Grant, to a farewell social tendered to the Rev. Mr. Wright.

Nome Mining Notes.

L. S. Burrell has returned from Ferry river. Mr. Burrell says that the high surf of the past few days has seriously interfered with beach mining and has played havoc with dredgers and other machinery, one dredger being washed ashore by the waves. Good pay is being found in some places on the beach. Hungry and Oregon creeks, Cripple river district, are showing of better each day.

There is now plenty of water on Anvil and other creeks in the vicinity of Nome, and sluicing is being pushed with a vim. On No. 3 above on Anvil there is more water than can be used.

—Nome News.