

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
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NOTICE.

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

WILL HARDLY MAKE IT.

It is extremely doubtful if parties leaving for Nome over the ice from this time on will be able to reach their destination before the opening of navigation. The two men who came up from Nome recently, according to their own statements, were 57 days on the road. Both were old time travelers, and doubtless made a record which few if any who are now starting down the river will be able to equal. It can be seen, therefore, that parties starting for Nome at the present time cannot expect to arrive before the middle of April. It must be borne in mind, however, that the river in many places will be open before that time, and will be practically impassable for dog teams. Last spring on the upper river the ice, excepting along the shore, was not safe after the 5th of April, and numerous places occurred where travelers were compelled to leave the river and take to the shores as early as the first of April. On April 10 there was ten inches of water on Lake Bennett, and Fifty-mile river from the foot of Marsh lake to Whitehorse was almost entirely free of ice. While the upper branches of the Yukon system naturally begins breaking earlier than the lower river, it is safe to say that after April 1st our homeward bound mushers will find ice travel impracticable.

HOW IT WILL COME.

Some very pointed questions are asked by a correspondent in another column of this issue of the Nugget in reference to the manner in which existing laws become placed upon the statutes for the government of the Yukon territory.

Our correspondent asks if the local representatives of the federal authorities have anything to do with framing the laws which govern this district. In so far as the mining regulations are concerned they have no authority, and other laws passed by the local council are subject to review and not infrequently are vetoed by the Ottawa authorities.

Undoubtedly it is within the province of the Yukon council to make recommendations to the home government and should a statement be sent to Ottawa now, signed by the full membership of the council setting forth the conditions now existing in the territory and the disastrous results which have attained from the legislation with which the country has been inflicted, the same doubtless would carry weight. Whether it would result in immediate redress is doubtful. We are of the opinion that one of two things must occur before any substantial change in the government's attitude is made, viz., Sifton's political death, or an alarming decrease in Yukon revenues. From present indi-

cations we incline to the belief that one or both of these is quite likely to occur within a very short time.

WANTS TO KNOW.

Editor Daily Klondike Nugget.

Dear Sir: In your issue of the 10th inst, I notice an item regarding the legal standing of Dr. Everette as a commissioner of deeds for the Alaskan territory, and note that his commission as such has been recalled. Permit me to ask what legal standing has the present acting consul, Mr. John Q. Adams? Being an American who is somewhat familiar with the manner of my government in appointing subjects to consular positions and knowing that a consul cannot delegate powers conferred upon himself, am at loss to know the way Mr. Adams became a consular representative without appointment from the department at Washington City. By answer the above you will favor a large number of American citizens residing at and about Dawson who have executed documents for the Alaskan territory and the states, and acknowledged by Mr. Adams, the legality of which is in doubt. Very truly, READER.

We understand that Mr. Adams is acting by virtue of authority given him by Consul McCook and that the United States statutes authorize the consul so to delegate his authority.

The work now being undertaken at Five Finger rapids and Thirtymile river is along the line of progressive public improvements which should have been undertaken long ago. The delays in landing freight in Dawson and the direct losses which resulted from obstruction in the river during last season alone involved many times over the amount which the work now undertaken will cost. However, we should be thankful that the government has vouchsafed even at this somewhat late date to consider the requirements of the country sufficiently to undertake the clearing of the river from dangers to navigation. When the railroad is completed to Whitehorse, and steamers can go straight through from Dawson to the first named point without hindrance, a very long step will have been taken in cutting down the distance between Dawson and the outside.

If the entire British army now in South Africa were made up of men such as the few who are going from the Klondike, we opine that the war would be finished much earlier than now appears will be the case. When the Boer ranger comes to do battle with the Northwest mounted policeman, then a tug of war will result well worth the seeing.

The fact that a charter is being applied for for the construction of a railroad from Chilcoot Pass to Lake Bennett, proves very conclusively that capital is not afraid to place dependence upon the future of the Yukon country.

It looks very much as though Dawson will have a new postoffice after all.

Livingstone on the Boers.

David Livingstone, missionary and explorer, has been dead long enough to preclude the suggestion that he was an emissary of Mr. Chamberlain. His opinions of the Boers will, therefore, be accepted as at least unbiased by recent events in South Africa. We give some extracts, says the Victoria Colonist, from his writings, which we commend to the few people who bewail because "their brother Boer" is likely to be smashed in the very near future. After speaking of the trek of the Boers to get rid of British rule, which they boasted was to enable them to accord

proper treatment to the Hotentots, he says: "It is almost needless to add that proper treatment has always contained in it the essential element of slavery, namely, compulsory, unpaid labor." He tells that "the Boers hate missionaries," and that one of their leaders declared their intention to "attack any tribe that would receive them." He affirms that "their church is, and always has been, the great bulwark of cattle-lifting and kaffirmaurading." He says in another place: "The Boers kill the blacks without compunction and without provocation, because they believe they have no souls." He tells us: "When at war, the Boers forced the natives to assist them, and sent them before them into battle to encounter the battle axes of their opponents, while the Dutch fired in safety over the heads of their native allies." This is quite in keeping with Kruger's message directing that the Free State should be placed in the front. Such are the people who aimed at erecting a Dutch republic to include all South Africa. The plot has been checked none too soon. Well may the Illinois Methodist Journal declare the war to be "sunrise for the children of Ham."

Good Boys Together.

A fluent writer thus describes the Canadian force as it exists today:

"There is amongst them officers and men, a fine spirit of comradeship. They know they are under discipline, and they obey orders. But there is no uppishness among the officers, and no subserviency among the men. After the parade today a group of troopers stood in the Russell House rotunda. To them approached a subaltern. The cigar came out of every mouth, the salute was given and the cigars were puffed again. "I'm sorry, old man," said this officer to one of the knot of plainmen, "but I believe I'm to be shifted from your squadron. I'd a mighty sight rather have stayed with you. You see the gang know each other so well; but what the Colonel says goes, you know." The men in the group expressed their regret. "Of course what the colonel says goes," replied one of them between puffs of his cigar. "but—well, I'll tell you, I'll bet you're not half as sorry as we are." The officer saluted, out came the cigars, every hand went to the brim of the cowboy hats, and the conversation went on. Two years ago I saw a lieutenant in the permanent corps go up to three soldiers of the Yukon force who had come into the Russell rotunda and say something to them in a low tone. The men saluted, turned on their heels and marched out of the rotunda. When the lieutenant came back to me I asked him, curiously, and perhaps not pertinently, what he had said to his men. "Oh," he replied with an easy smile, "I just told them that there were lots of places in Ottawa to loaf in without coming into this rotunda, where their officers are." Perhaps both plainmen today and regular two years ago were quite right, but had the regular officer said to the cowboys what he said to his own men, there would have been trouble perhaps, and if the cowboy lieutenant had addressed the regular privates as he did his own fellows what would have happened? Probably the red-coats would have collapsed with astonishment.

in Memory of Lord Ava.

The following is from the Toronto Globe of January 20th:

"An Ottawa correspondent writes: Expressions of regret are heard on all sides over the death of Lord Ava. On Monday the city council of Ottawa passed the following resolution of condolence to Lord and Lady Dufferin: "That the corporation of the city of Ottawa has heard with deepest regret of the death at Ladysmith from the effects of wounds received in the cause of liberty, humanity and civilization of their former fellow townsman, the Right Honorable the Earl of Ava. That this council cannot withhold its admiration of the lamented nobleman's conduct in volunteering, with others,

for active service at the commencement of the present war and of his gallant and intrepid behavior in the field throughout the struggle. That as a mark of respect to his memory and of sympathy with his bereaved parents, who hold so warm a place in the hearts of the Canadian people, the national ensign be displayed at half-mast at the City hall for the period of one week, and that a copy of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be forwarded to the most Honorable the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, K. P., G. C. B., G. C. M. G., by his worship the mayor."

Off for Nome.

People are still leaving every day for the Nome mining district, though not in such great numbers as they did a week ago.

On Saturday morning, Fred Gilbert and D. Moon started down the river; they had a team of five dogs.

On the afternoon of the same day, Messrs. John Harmon and Michael O'Keefe started on the trip over the ice.

This morning, Fred Gadda, Charles Paulson, John Bagge and Albert Blum, formed a party which expects to reach the Alaskan camp during the next 50 days. They started with nine dogs and enough money to purchase supplies for themselves and animals en route.

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