

"IS THAT YOU, CENTRAL?"

Bell Telephones Will Soon Be in Use in Dawson.

The Yukon Telephone Syndicate to Reduce Rates Nearly One-Half—Mr. Maxfield Returns.

Mr. A. Fuller, general manager of the Yukon Telephone Syndicate, announces the arrival from the outside of a new supply of telephones and telephone fixtures. The 'phones are the famous Bell telephones and this company has arranged for the exclusive right in this territory. The goods were brought in by Mr. Maxfield, who was sent out by the company for that purpose. He was detained in Skagway nearly four weeks by reason of a snow blockade on the White Pass R. R., and as the 'phones which were to arrive last fall met with disaster, great care was taken with this consignment, Mr. Maxfield having instructions to get them through at all hazards. The 'phones were rushed to Selkirk, accompanied by the agent of the company, at the earliest possible moment, here Mr. Maxfield leaving the consignment, as he met with a very painful accident, breaking two of the bones in one of his hands, but arranging for the through shipment of the telephones before coming on.

Active work and a vigorous overhauling of the whole system will commence immediately, which will result in making Dawson's telephonic communication equal to any under similar circumstances anywhere. In an interview with Manager Fuller he said:

"I have long been aware that our system was far from being perfect and immediately upon being elected to my present position I advocated the purchase of the O'Brien system, which was done. This left us a larger field to operate in as there is not room here for two telephone companies. The next move was the purchase of 50 new telephones, new switch boards, 50 miles of additional wire, which would have put the system in good working order.

"Unfortunately all this material was lost in Lake Bennett last fall, and upon receiving news of the disaster we immediately dispatched Mr. Maxfield to the outside with instructions to purchase for the company the necessary material. He is one of the best electricians in this country, and you can imagine how pleased we were to learn that he had secured for us the famous Bell long distance telephone. With this system in operation we can assure the public of a first-class service, not only in the city, but to all the principal creeks as well. We have a line now to Dominion, a distance of some 40 miles, including Bonanza and Eldorado creeks. We will extend this service to Gold Run, Sulphur and Hunker."

When asked what rate the company intended to charge, Mr. Fuller answered:

"You can quote me as saying that it is our intention to cut the telephone rate almost in two commencing May 1st. This will create a demand for 'phones, where under present conditions we could not place them. It will naturally increase the service and be a general benefit to all our subscribers."

"How about a competing company?" was asked Mr. Fuller.

"I know there has been considerable talk about a competing line, but you never heard me say anything about it, did you? I kept on sawing wood and saying nothing, as I knew that I could soon be able to have the laugh on these people, and I think I am in a position to do so at the present moment.

"Every business man and every professional man can now afford a telephone in their store or office, and you will see many in the homes of the people. As soon as another consignment of 'phones arrive—we expect 100 more—we will reduce the charges again."

"Don't you think telephone rates have been excessively high in the past?" was asked Mr. Fuller.

"Rates have been high," he answered. "Why? The cost of erecting and maintaining a telephone system here has been enormous. You cannot imagine the difference in cost between placing poles in a frozen country and in ground under ordinary circumstances. When the first telephone was put in at Grand Forks, making connection with Dawson, the charges for a messenger to accomplish the distance was \$30, the 'phone rate was \$10, then reduced to \$5 and now to \$2.50.

"The public can rest assured that this company will spare no expense to make the telephone system as perfect as it is possible to be, and you can add,"

said he, "that we were the first in the field and are here to stay."

Quartz Claim Recorded.

Charles B. French recorded yesterday the quartz property which is described as the Gold Run mineral claim, and which is located about three-fourths of a mile from Gold Run creek.

Where Moonshine is Made.

Imbibers of that which steals away the brain and blears the eye must not imagine that the vile stuff which is often sold in cheap grog shops all over the country is anything like the beverage that is known in the southern states as "moonshine" for it is not. The two compounds are as different as are any other two fluids. The former is made from Lord "only-knows-what," while the latter is the pure extract of cereal mash, be it corn, wheat, rye, barley, potatoes, sugar cane or pine mast.

Up to a few years ago the manufacturing of illicit whisky was very extensively carried on in the mountainous countries of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and Georgia; as prior to that time officers of the law did not care to venture on spying out into the mountains for the reason that the few who ventured seldom returned. But of later years the government has been willing to expend more money to suppress the practice which defrauded it out of a large amount of revenue, with the result that its officers have been empowered to locate and destroy stills and arrest their operators regardless of expense. In the mountains of Tennessee revenue officers have been known to outfit a large party with surveying instruments and tools and spend weeks in the wildest parts of the country on pretense of surveying mineral land for northern syndicates, when in reality the whole thing is a ruse to spy out the land for illicit stills. This persistent hunting down has almost driven from business many families which for generations have earned scant livings by the manufacture of their own grown products into whisky, a business which they believe to be a God-given right and with which they can not understand that any government or law has a right to interfere.

A number of years ago the writer was detained for an entire night by a wreck on the Cincinnati Southern road in the mountains 100 miles north from Chattanooga, Tenn. Shortly after night began an old mountaineer and his two sons visited the train. For an hour they circulated among the passengers asking all manner of questions, such as "What yo gwine?" "What's yore business when yo air to hum?" and so on until they finally concluded that there were no revenue officers aboard; then came the question: "Wouldn't yuse all like snupin to drink?" "We's all" did, for the reason that we were all hungry, and also mad at the thought that we could not reach Chattanooga that night and would be forced to go supperless.

The old man and his sons disappeared into the night and the mountains for perhaps an hour when they returned, each one carrying a gallon jug of whisky. While there were not over two dozen passengers on the train the three gallons of moonshine was retailed at 10 cents per drink—as much as a man cared to pour into a pint cup—before daylight and in time to allow the trio of mountaineers to fade away unseen to their still. The few dollars taken away by the family for that night's business was probably more ready money than they had handled before in years, or have handled at one time since. Those men knew they were violating the law, but it was the law they deemed in the wrong, and not themselves, and they were ready to defend their beliefs with their guns and their lives.

In the mountains of Northeast Georgia and over the boundary line in North Carolina an illicit still is yet occasionally located by some persistent officer of the law, but they have become very scarce, the distillers having been dogged out of business, or shot and killed in conflicts with officers' posses.

I once spent a few days at a hotel at White Sulphur Springs, a point on the Santa Fe river near where that stream empties into the song-tamed Suwanee. One day while down the former stream on a fishing expedition I came upon as complete a still in a small way as I had ever seen. Bamboo, which grows in swamps all over that section of Florida, was hollowed out and used for the worm which was coiled and trained around in such an ingenious way as to make over 100 feet of worm on an area not over 10 feet square. The capacity of the little still could have not been greater than five gallons per day. As I had been fishing for several hours my refreshment bottle which was taken along, snakes being numerous in that country, had run very low, so I replenished it and went away. Ten days later a man whom I had never before seen entered my sanctum carrying something in a

gunny sack. After looking me over for a full minute he said: "Thar yo air, the sgit same feller/I-seed out to my place week afore last. I seed yo, but yo never seed me; I was back in the brush fohty yands an' had a bead on ye wid me old flint lock; but when I seed yo take' not less than fo' fingahs at a swaller, I says to meself he's all righte, so as I was bringin' in a few orders today, I jist fetched a extra gallon. It won't cost yo but two dollahs, an' I'll call safternoon for the jug."

I willingly paid the \$2 and on inspiration superinduced by the contents of that jug wrote many editorials, the reading of which I have every reason to believe caused that county to be carried for local option at an election a few days later.

PERSONAL MENTION.

M. W. Farrell is visiting the city. A. H. Noble is in town on business. P. J. Ryan is making a brief visit to Dawson. Herbert Cole is spending a few days in town. Dr. Macfarlane is registered at the Fairview. R. Wilson came to Dawson from the creeks yesterday. W. E. Brownell is enjoying a short vacation in the city. G. B. White is a recent arrival in town from the creeks.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Peterson are among the guests at the Fairview. U. S. Consul J. C. McCook will leave town tomorrow on a visit to Sulphur creek. Messrs. Joseph McGillivray, Hay, Packwood and Anderson, are expected to arrive from the outside today.

Chris Anderson was admitted to the Good Samaritan hospital yesterday. He is suffering with an injured eye. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Skipper are making a short visit in the city. They are stopping at the Fairview.

Mr. and Mrs. John Manning of 60 below on Bonanza are visiting friends in the city. They are at the Fairview. Phil Holland arrived from the outside yesterday. He is a well known Hogan who received his initial degrees at the mother lodge in Mulberry bend, New York.

R. Duzier Turanne, vice-consul of France, stationed at Dawson, returned from the outside yesterday. During his absence, he visited his native country in connection with official business.

Incoming Mail.

The consignment of mail on its way to Dawson passed Ogilvie last night; and it will undoubtedly arrive here this evening. The carriers have been delayed by the dangerous condition of the trail below Selwyn.

Filipino Gin.

The sale of native gin in the Philippines has been abolished by the army officers, because of its deadly character. Three or four drinks of the abominable stuff have been known to send a man crazy, and there are several instances of death resulting from taking only a few drinks of it. But how much better is the stuff that is being sent out to the soldiers from their home country. It may take a larger number of drinks to effect, the same result; but the end is the same, it drives men crazy and sends them to an horrible death. Alcoholic drinks ought to have no part in the life of any man in the service of our country.—Ex.

More Meat Arrives.

The Peel river Indians who arrived this afternoon brought with them about a dozen moose in the hope of striking a good market in Dawson. When they learn that moose is on the tabooed list their disappointment will probably be great, as they have sledged the stuff several hundred miles. It is not prepossessing to gaze upon.

A Shooting Scrape.

North Vernon, Ind., March 18.—At Brewersville in front of Stearns' store Al Fuller and Isaac Powers, a school teacher, met and began shooting. The trouble was over the correction of Fuller's child by the teacher. Powers was shot once through the lung and Fuller received three balls. Both men will probably die.

Rudyard Kipling.

New York, March 14.—The first word from Rudyard Kipling since he went to South Africa will be printed in this week's issue of Harper's Weekly. Mr. Kipling cables a long account of British disloyalty, which he calls "The sin of witchcraft." The burden of his complaint is that British civil officials in Cape Town wink at semi-trasonable acts and, to quote his own words, "The government will take care it does not pay any one to be loyal." He says: "The Loyalist on the border has his house ripped inside out by the Boers, or rebels, or both; the disloyalist farm is respected, and in return he supplies the enemy with food, horses and information. His risk is small. He may possibly—but not if his friends can stop it—be arrested on a charge of treason. He may then be sent down country to be tried by a sympathetic jury. He hopes, and not without reason, to have his farm restored to him. He has

undergone some absurdly inadequate punishment.

Early Boat Models.

Although boats have been in use by man from the earliest ages, it is only recently that the original boat has been found in use and it is, among the savages of the South Sea islands. There the natives take the stump of a tree whose roots offer a good seat and, launching this primitive craft, they paddle around as contentedly as if there was no such thing as a European steamer, and, to tell the truth, they do not suspect its existence. There can be no doubt whatever that in this stump boat we have the only original method of transportation by water. Accident certainly contributed to this discovery. A tired swimming savage found a log near him, he grasped it and to his joy found that it held him above the water. He mounted his log and used a floating branch to propel the log. It was but a step from the log to the more comfortable root of a tree, and another step from the branch propeller to a shaped paddle. We little think how much we owe to the savage for preserving these traces of primitive development and thereby helping us to trace out the long line of human progress.—Ex.

More Pieces.

The ordinary shell which was manufactured 30 years ago only broke into from 20 to 25 pieces when it burst. At the present time it bursts into 240, while shrapnel shell, which only used to scatter 37 missiles, now scatters 340. A present-day bomb, when charged with peroxylene, breaks up into 1200 pieces, and it is estimated that it would effectively kill anyone standing within 220 yards of the explosion.

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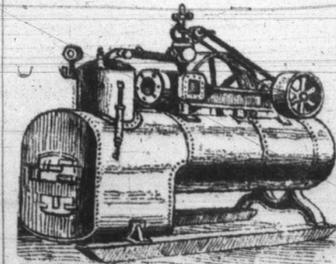
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PATULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Offices, First Ave.

DOMINION LAND SURVEYORS TYRRELL & GREEN, Mining Engineers and Dominion Land Surveyors. Office, Harper St., Dawson.

ASSAYERS. JOHN B. WARDEN, F. I. C.—Assayer for Bank of British North America—gold dust melted and assayed. Assays made of quartz and black sand. Analyses of ores and coal.

MINING ENGINEERS. RUFFS BUCK—Plans and surveys of underground workings. Third avenue, opposite Dr. Bourke's Hospital.

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