

## ANOTHER STEP IN ADVANCE.

### Giant Powder Proves a Great Improvement on the Pick

For Loosening the Gravel After Having Been Thawed by Steam—Work on Various Creeks.

Le Roy Pelletier has just returned from a short tour of inspection of the creeks, and brings very encouraging reports regarding the work now commencing, especially on Hunker, Dominion and Gold Run creeks. Owing to the fact that machinery is to be used in most cases where extensive work is to be prosecuted, the commencement of work has been delayed on account of the inability of owners getting heavy plants on the ground over the bad trails which have existed, they being flooded by water, rendering them almost impassable in places. Then the plants must be put in position, a task of no mean proportions, and it so happens that serious mining work is just commencing.

Hunker benches are showing up fine, big pay being taken out on those on the right limit of No. 11 below and on the left limit at No. 24, 32, 33, 35, and in the 60's and 70's below, as well as in several places on the left limit of the hydraulic reserve. Dominion hillsides on the left limit are showing up fine and of almost uniform richness as far down as No. 130 below lower discovery. Hillside on the right limit of Gold Run, from 30 down are also proving up well. Mr. Korbo of Gold Hill, is putting a saw mill in position at the mouth of Gold Run and expects to be able to supply the demand for sluice lumber in the spring.

Mr. Pelletier reports that another step in advancement has been made along the line of solving the problem of handling the frozen gravel. The experiments have been made on Dominion creek and on Monte Cristo hill, and with most gratifying results. The innovation consists in the scheme of utilizing giant powder to loosen the ground after it has been thawed by the steam "points." Half a stick of 40 per cent dynamite is inserted in the hole from which the steam point has been withdrawn and the explosion throws every bit of thawed gravel out and so thoroughly separates the particles that it is easily shoveled into the buckets or cars.

By the use of three sticks of dynamite the labor of three men is saved in the drift, and one miner who has tried it states that the cost is less in working the hard ground of the "white channel" than that of keeping the picks in order. Mr. Pelletier believes that the use of Judson powder such as is used in great quantities in California for the purpose of shaking up the immense deposits of cement gravel so as to render hydraulic possible, will prove even more successful than the giant powder, it being slower and therefore less liable to "pop out" or to cause the caving in of the drift, which might result from the explosion of the dynamite.

#### That Deadly Gas.

Editor Nugget—Dear Sir: As the subject is not only of general interest, but of vital importance to your numerous readers, the writer trusts that you will accord space to the following brief remarks which were called forth by its incomplete treatment in the News of the 17 ult. It would have been answered sooner but owing to the scarcity of that valuable publication in the writer's vicinity the article in question had not been brought to his attention before.

That article is misleading because there is just enough truth in it to make it appear reliable, and it is a well-known fact that a little truth is a dangerous thing. The writer would preface his remarks with the statements that he has studied carbonic acid and other noxious gases, both in the laboratory and the workings of mines; that he has been hoisted out of a shaft lashed in a bucket and dead to the world, and that since that time he has experimented in his studies of the gas problem as it exists here, until the danger line has been passed several times.

One of the results of his experiments and investigations has been the proving as nearly as can be, without actually dying, that a person can die from the effects of the wood gas as it is found in the workings of the Klondike, when

a candle is not only burning brightly but brilliantly.

It is true that carbonic acid gas, being a liquid, will collect in the lowest places, like water, which is the most familiar example of the liquid. But it is equally true that carbonic acid, under the proper conditions, will rise and float in the air in such quantities that no human being can venture into it and remain for more than a moment or two, and at the same time a candle will burn well.

This because when carbonic acid gas reaches a certain strength and is cooled below a certain temperature, it crystallizes into minute particles which rise and float around in the atmosphere and dissolve under the influences of warmth and moisture. In that condition there is sufficient oxygen between the particles to sustain combustion even when the inhalation of the particles of carbonic acid would knock a man in short metre.

These particles dissolve and inflame the mucous membranes of the eye, nose and throat when brought into contact with them. Every one who has worked down a shaft after a fire and nearly everyone who has been upon the creeks when burning is going on, knows the effect of the crystallized wood gas upon the eyes. As the candle is useless to detect carbonic acid in its crystallized form reliance must be placed upon its effect upon the eye and nasal passages, which are extremely sensitive to it.

The effect of carbonic acid mixed with oxygen upon the system is that of a cumulative poison. That is because what oxygen there is does not suffice to eliminate the carbonic acid produced by the combustion of the body and that absorbed from the atmosphere, from the system. In consequence the amount of carbonic acid in the system increases until the thickening blood moves so slowly that unconsciousness results, and then it is only a question of time until death supervenes.

One of the moments of greatest danger occurs when a person nearly overcome by gas reaches the fresh air, as almost as soon as it is inhaled a person either becomes extremely faint or else collapses, so when in that condition a person should be tied to the rope or bucket in order to prevent falling.

The effect of gas when there is enough oxygen to enable a candle to burn, is to cause a burning sensation in the eyes and nasal passages and a sensation of closeness which gives rise to a desire to emigrate. Next, a peculiar bewildered feeling steals over the brain, bringing a sensation of utter helplessness, while there is a flush of fever and the heart beats with more rapidity than strength, as the veins of ones temples swell and throb. Next a feeling of death-like faintness and nausea brings an almost irresistible desire to sit or lie down. This stage is followed by unconsciousness, though there is some times a brief interval during which the brain is remarkably clear and cool.

The lapsing into unconsciousness is accompanied by a most delightful sensation of utter peace and rest, while a person does not care whether school keeps or not.

The means used to revive a person overcome by gas are the same as those used for the resuscitation of a drowned person—the two most successful expedients, which alternate, being to lay a person on his face, stand astride of him, clasp him around the body just below the breast bone and jounce him up and down, and then holding him in a sitting position, raising his arms above his head and lowering them at rates varying from ten to twenty times a minute. The treatment should be kept up until either consciousness is restored or else all hope is lost.

ASA THURSTON HEYDON, M.E.

#### Regarding the Mail.

When asked if it is not possible to send and receive other than first class letter mail and registered packages through the Dawson postoffice during what is known as the closed season, the period when mail matter is transported over the ice by dog teams, Postmaster Hartman replied that it is the direct order from both the United States and Canadian mail departments that none other than the class of mail above mentioned be carried to and from this place during the winter months. He further stated, however, that the government contract calls for the transportation of 700 pounds of mail each trip and that thus far the amounts received and dispatched have at all times fallen far short of that allowed weight. Mr. Hartman says he believes that any and all paper and other second-class mail can be handled by the present service provided such second-class matter carry stamps sufficient to place it in the first-class.

Mr. Hartman will be asked by the Board of Trade to present a view of the needs and desires of the people to the proper Canadian officials who will assuredly receive the hearty co-operation

# The Nugget Express

## NEXT DOG TEAM

...Leaves for the Coast...

# Monday, December 11th,

AND

Every Monday Thereafter

...CARRYING...

## Mail, Express and Passengers.

Passenger Reservations must be made at least a week in advance of date of leaving.

The Nugget Express is the direct connection of the Wells, Fargo company at Seattle. Instruct your correspondents to deliver to Wells, Fargo & Co., any package you desire sent to Dawson.

## Office, BOYLE'S WHARF,

DAWSON.

Dominion Office, 27 Below Upper Dominion Creek.

Forks Office, Near Sale & Co's Jewelry Store.

# White Pass & Yukon RAILWAY.

For rates and all information call at office in A. C. Company's Office Building, on Third street.

S. E. ADAIR,

Commercial Agent.

## DR. BOURKE'S HOSPITAL.

Construction, equipment and staff equal to any hospital outside. Scientifically heated, especially to maintain an equable temperature. Trained nurses in attendance. Inspection invited. Terms from \$10 a day, including medical attendance. Cow's milk and other delicacies required by patients administered. Separate room for each patient. Medical and surgical advice at hospital, \$5. Medicines and stimulants extra. Yearly tickets, \$50.00.

#### LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Monday, between Hunker creek and Dawson, money belt containing \$125. Leave at this office; \$25 reward.

FOUND—A yellow female Siwash dog; owner can have same after paying expenses. Apply 35a below discovery on Sulphur.

#### FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Steam thawer. Apply at office of Nugget Express.

FOR SALE—Webster's complete unabridged dictionary. Apply Nugget office.

#### FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Two-story galvanized iron building near Klondike bridge; will rent cheap to proper parties. Call on M. I. Stevens, room 14, A. C. Co. office building.

#### PROFESSIONAL CARDS

##### MINING ENGINEERS.

TYRRELL & GREEN, Mining Engineers and Dominion Land Surveyors. Office, Harper st., Dawson.

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.

##### PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

J. H. KOONS, M. D.; A. C. Building.

##### OYSTER PARLORS.

OYSTERS! OYSTERS! Every style. Eastern coast and cove oysters, prepared by scientific oyster chefs at "The Kozy," Second avenue, between Second and Third streets. Turkey dinner Sunday, \$2.00. Wm. S. Hawley, Prop.

of the United States mail department in any steps taken to alleviate present conditions in this place. And on the other hand, the Board of Trade may be assured that Postmaster Hartman will endeavor to the utmost of his ability to bring about the desired results.

#### Promising Beginning.

The grand opening of Villa de Lion skating rink in West Dawson Wednesday night was a most successful and enjoyable affair. Excellent music was furnished by Sergeant McKinnon's military band until a late hour and the merry skaters enjoyed that most exhilarating of all sports. The rink is in the very best possible condition, and being illuminated by electric light, is in every respect the skaters' paradise. The Nugget bespeaks for Proprietor de Lion a successful season.

Our best ads are our pleased customers. Cribbs & Rogers, druggists.

#### LAWYERS

WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Office, Bonfield Building, opposite A. C. Store, Dawson.

BURRITT & MCKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building, Safety deposit box in A. C. vaults.

TABOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors; Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers. Offices, Green Tree Bldg.

PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Offices, First Avenue.

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VOL. 3 No. 47  
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