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De Keyser's Placer Amalgamator Manufacturing Company

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A HAZARDOUS VENTURE.

A man named Arthur Jordan, of Sandon, recently formed a party which he has contracted to guide from Ashcroft to Clondyke within 60 days, despite the stress of wintry weather that has already set in even to the south of the Yukon. As to the hazards of the venture, an experienced old Cariboo miner, one Jack Kavanagh, of Barkerville, however, writes to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer a most emphatic warning to the following effect:

"The trail is open and good most of the way from Quesnelle to Hazleton, but from Hazleton to Telegraph Creek the old telegraph trail has been unused for many years and is absolutely impassable for pack trains until thousands of dohars worth of work has been done upon it. No move has yet been made by the government or individuals to cut out this portion of the route, but it is supposed that the authorities will have the work done before the middle of next summer.

"Now, as to living on the country, it is not practicable for a party to do so, and it would be folly to attempt the trip without ample supplies. Fish are plentiful, but game is scarce; from Quesnelle north for 300 miles there is practically no game along the trail, not even grouse or rabbles. It is not possible for a large party starting now without dogs to get through to Clondyke before next August, and as a 'quick and easy ronte' it is simply idiotic to start this fall. Parties intending to take this route should start from Quesnelle not earlier than the latter part of May, as the grass will be too short for feed before that

"Most of this route is known to be through a mineral country, and there are large areas of very promising country to prospect. Omineca district, the borders of Cassiar, the Peace river comtry, the Testin lake region, and other places now unknown and unexplored, will yield plenty of dust when those sections have been prospected. I have spent the district of 1897 prospecting in the Omineca district and speak with a knowledge of the facts in these matters, and I can assure Arthur Jordan that if he takes a party on this 'quick and easy route' he will be very lucky if the tenderfeet don't stretch his neck as a mild hint to others of his kind. who have been interested in Jordan's scheme can inform themselves as to my credibility in Tacoma, where I lived some years ago."

ABOUT KAIILOOPS.

The Pole Star on the North Thompson has been bonded by Mr. T. C. Cotterill, of London, England, for an amount not stated. He has also bonded the Copper King for \$20,000, paying \$500 cash. A further sum of \$5,000 becomes payable in 30 days and the balance in 12 months.

OUR COKE SUPPLY.

The coke production of the Dunsmuir cofferies at Comox. Vancouver Island, is so steadily enlarging in response to the growing demands of the mme country, that Messrs. Dunsmoir are about to build a large ferry steamer to earry this smelter fuel from Comox to Vancouver. whence it is forwarded by the C. P. R. to mine country points. The sceam ferry boat now under construction will probably also be followed by a second designd also to carry passengers and plying between Nanaimo and Vancouver. Soon, too, the Crow's Nest coal measure will be utilized for coke production, which is certain in the early future to become a very important bye industry of the Province.

NOT FROM THE COLONIST.

The following suggestive note on the Clondyke comes from Mr. Burton F. Bennett, U. S. District Attorney at Alaska, who says:

"The world at large may not realize it, but there are men up north who are walking right into death. The snow is probably flying on White Pass and if not soon will be. Many propose to winter at Skagway, but from what I can learn hundreds do not propose to stop there, nor will they return to civilization. It is the most damnable rush I over heard or read of. These men do not know anything of the horrors of White Pass in the winter time, yet they keep on, and just about the time that winter is at its worst some of them will be caught on White Pass. They will never escape."

SPENDING MONEY LIKE WATER.

According to the Rossland Record, the Klondyke Mining, Trading & Transportation Co. Ld., of London, Eng., -a company on the directorate of which are Sir Charles Topper and Mr. C. Ashworth, both now in Rossland-Is prepared "to spend money like water when anything is in sight, having unlimited capital at its back." Under such circumstances spending money like water is easy enough, not so to get it back in return. Sir Charles states, by the bye, that in his opinion Rossland will be the greatest mine camp in the world. But there never was, is, nor will be anything small about Sir Charles' utterances, though in this case every man in B.C. should heartily welcome the fulfillment of his latest prediction.

HALL MINES.

The smelter at these mines has, during a period of 33 days, ending Sept. 30th, treated 6210 tons of ore long 522 tons of matte, containing tons of copper, 141,860 ounces of silver and 98 ounces of gold.