

WHEN NAVIGATION OPENS

The Pulse of Dawson's Commerce Will Quicken.

Many Changes Will Take Place and New Residents Will Replace Old Ones.

As the prisoner serving a sentence looks forward to the day when, outraged justice having been propitiated, he will walk abroad a free man, just so with a degree of anxiety almost equally as great does the citizen of Dawson, after having seen an immovable boy of ice lie in undisturbed repose in the channel by which exists his only means of egress or ingress for nearly seven long months, look forward with blissful anticipation to the day when the last relief of the dark, cold winter shall depart by the going out of the ice and the opening of navigation. Then will the pulse of commerce quicken, and plans formulated long ago will be actively and decisively executed.

The first two months following the opening of navigation will see greater changes in Dawson than have transpired in the previous seven months. It is very probable that the months of June and July will witness the greatest transmigration of Dawson's population yet known in her history. That thousands on the outside are awaiting the opening of navigation to come here is confidently believed; that a large number here are awaiting the opening of navigation to get away is confidently known. Whether the influx will equal or be greater than the exodus is a question which will be solved at that time.

Nearly every resident of Dawson and vicinity has some plan or other which they hope to carry out with the opening of navigation. Many who have spent two and in some cases nearly three years here, have been taken with a sudden desire to see "the folks," and are consequently preparing for a trip to the outside. Others with the same desire are heard to remark: "I have sent for my family to come as soon as navigation opens."

The history of Skagway in the summer of '98 will be repeated in Dawson this summer. Previous to the summer of '98 there were very few wives and children in Skagway, but by the first of June every incoming steamer was laden to the guards with women and children. In those days it was not an uncommon sight when a steamer whistled to see a man hastily remove his coat, look carefully over it for lingering hairs, put it on again and rush off to the wharf to meet his wife and children. It is safe to say that the number of women and children now in Dawson will be more than doubled by the time navigation closes next fall.

Many are awaiting the opening of navigation for the receipt of articles which they left behind on coming in last fall, and of which they have since found they stand in need. One man afraid he will miss a link in the great chain of current events, had a friend on the outside save for him a copy of a paper every day since the close of navigation, and this consignment will be forwarded to him in this city by freight as soon as the steamers operate. He figures on taking a vacation from work for the purpose of posting up on the happenings of the world during the past half year as soon as his bale of papers arrives. As Dawson's population is cosmopolitan, there are those here who prefer not to see papers and arrivals from the outside, hence, they are dreading the opening of navigation.

Many who refuse to reason themselves or listen to the result of the reasoning of others are fully determined to start for Nome on the first opportunity and join the everlasting throng that will be there in taking chances on making a fortune.

There is but one element or class in the city on whom it is compulsory that they leave here on the opening of navigation, and that class is composed of a number of men who were "vagged" during the winter and who are now employed in the royal fuel factory. In sentencing them, the time for the probable opening of navigation, the judicial guess being May 10th, was invariably considered and a warning to leave town at that time was appended to each sentence. By the departure of this class the city will lose nothing.

One of the most pleasing results which will accompany the opening of navigation will be that employment will be provided for scores of men who have been idle since the fleet was laid up last fall, and on whose hands the long, cold winter has heavily hung. They are learning by actual experience

that "All things come to him who waits," but with them it is a long, impatient wait.

But the happy day is not now far distant. In four weeks—six, at the outside limit—the winter Dawson will have passed away with the last breath of Boreas and the summer Dawson will be doing business at the old stand. New life will pervade the atmosphere; the monotony of the recent past will be relegated and forgotten, and every day will bring with it something new, some departure from the routine of its predecessor.

Miners With a Grievance.

Reports of big successes by prospectors in Jack Wade creek, the new American camp, are brought by A. S. Shannon and J. H. McCourt, who arrived last evening direct from the district, says the Alaskan. Nearly every claim that has been prospected has yielded highly encouraging results. Out of 33 claims prospected this winter pay has been struck on all but two or three. They left there the latter part of February.

Shannon and McCourt speak in the highest terms of the country as a gold field, but do not have the most flattering reports to give in regard to the civil advantages of the district. In this regard Mr. McCourt last night said at the Golden North.

"We have a gold region in the American territory of Jack Wade, Fortymile and vicinity that will prove one of the best in the far north, and which has scarcely been touched by the prospector, but we are hampered in our attempts at development. It is hard to get what we would like, and on top of it all we have to pay duties for the privilege of developing the district."

"It is maintained here, I understand, that we can take goods through from Skagway to Fortymile and Jack Wade in bond. That is well enough, but can we have them shipped into us? No, sir, we cannot. Then, can it be presumed that every American who goes into the American fields can afford to pay duties on goods from the Klondike trading centers?"

"If we go to Dawson for goods we have to pay duty to take them into our camp. When we reach the American boundary there stands an officer ready to collect and who does collect duty on what we bring in. That duty goes into the American treasury, yet we receive no benefits from those duties. Not even a postal service is furnished. A post-office was possible some time ago, but there was no provision for the delivery of the mail matter to the office, so what good would have been the office without the delivery and the sending out of mail. As it is, Jack Waders get their mail through the Canadian service, which carries them to Fort Cudahy, the nearest Canadian mail post."

A Hard Rain.

"It rains a great deal in the Puget sound country," said the man from that section, according to the Washington Star, "and I heard of a funny incident not long ago about it. Some chap had come from the Missouri valley to take up his residence at Whatcom, on Bellingham bay, where there are very high tides. When the boat landed him at the end of the long pier extending over the tide flats the water was low and the new man didn't notice anything but a wide stretch of sand beach between the boat and the town. It was in the evening about dark and was raining, and he went to the hotel on the front street and stayed there, going to bed without having gone out for a walk. The next morning when he got up he looked out and the tide was in, the water coming up close to the hotel. He gazed at the widespread water for an instant, and, throwing up his hands in astonishment he exclaimed: "Gee whiz, but it must have rained hard last night."

"Then he hurried downstairs to the office to find out if there was any danger from the flood, and the clerk smiled four or five times and gave him some much-needed information."

He Preferred Death.

Chicago, March 19.—Archibald Carle was sentenced to the penitentiary for 25 years for killing Hector Mackenzie. The judge asked the prisoner if he had anything to say before sentence was imposed? "Yes," replied Carle, "grant me a new trial so that I may plead guilty to murder and be hanged. I would much rather die on the gallows than go to prison for 25 years. If your honor will grant me a new trial I promise to plead guilty to murder so that I may get the rope."

Spring Styles Arrive.

The Star Clothing house has received today its first consignments of gent's furnishing goods over the ice. They comprise fancy shirts in swell patterns from the famous Neustadter Bros' factory, the very latest in neckwear, hats of the latest dack, and a full line of high-class clothing. A. S. Levine is the enterprising proprietor of the establishment.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

PORT OF ENTRY TO DAWSON

Effect Its Closing Would Have on Commercial Interests.

How the Port Residents View the Matter—Officer Bushby Is Interviewed.

The Port Townsend report appearing in the Post Intelligencer that probably the treasury department would be called upon to abolish Skagway as a subport, so as to completely shut out Canadian goods from going through here to the Klondike, has been the subject of some discussion in the city.

The report of such a movement for the abolition of Skagway as a subport originated with the order by the treasury department that it would not permit British steamers to land American goods for Nome without the payment of duties, the object being to prevent foreign bottoms engaging in American coastwise trade, either by evasion or directly.

Collector Andrews, of the port of Skagway, says there will likely be no application on the part of the ruling to this port, and that he has no idea there is anything in it to portend a change in affairs so far as the port of Skagway is concerned.

However, there remains the report from below that the Canadians protest against the Nome exclusion, and threaten retaliation by bringing pressure to bear upon the American government. They want this pressure exerted to prohibit American vessels carrying goods shipped through the United States in bond en route to Dawson.

The protesting Canadians claim that the American vessels should have no right to carry Canadian goods destined for Canadian ports. From Port Townsend, the headquarters of the Puget sound customs district, comes the story that it is hinted in Washington that should the Britishers hold out for the Canadian bonded goods for Canadian vessels, the treasury department of Uncle Sam will be called upon to abolish the subport of Skagway.

This port does not exist as a treaty port, but has been opened to the convenience of the Britishers through the extension of privileges upon the part of the American treasury department. A treasury ruling was issued a few days ago announcing the opening of this port for the shipment of British goods through to the Klondike in bond.

E. S. Bushby, supervising officer of Canadian customs at Skagway, says the Americans in enforcing the regulations spoken of are simply following the customary rule of keeping for ign vessels from coasting between American ports or the shipping of goods originating from America for America by British vessels. He says further:

"All this talk of retaliation is mere talk. The Americans will do nothing so radical as to exclude British traffic from the port of Skagway. The Americans now enjoy the privilege of passing through the waters of British Columbia in coasting between Skagway and Seattle and call at Canadian Sound ports, and that without even having to carry a Canadian customs officer. The British vessels running to Skagway from British Columbia do not have such freedom. Just as soon as a Canadian steamer reaches Ketchikan she has to take aboard an American customs officer and carry him until she goes out of these waters."

"What Americans and Canadians want is a better feeling. There is already a close bond of kinship. Some say the salvation of Skagway will be a free port. They do not know of what they are talking. A free port would mean the free entry of foreign goods to Skagway and American territory alone. What they are thinking of is a free zone to include the whole of the vast north in the possession of the British and the Americans. That would be well enough. That would be the salvation of Skagway unless she should be found to be in British territory."

"As it stands the Canadians and Americans are dealing more largely with each other than in the past and as the alien act in the British Columbia legislature is likely to be much modified, and as many Americans have large interests both in that district and in Dawson, also many friends living there, I cannot see but that both the kindly feeling and business relations will improve and steadily increase as time goes by."—Alaskan.

Chewing tobacco \$1 per pound. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

The Holborn Cafe for delicacies.

Get your eyesight fixed at the Pioneer drug store.

N. A. C. & C. Co.

Ladies Attention

Do you want a new pair of...

Dress Shoes, or High Top Walking Shoes, or Heavy Crail Shoes, or Rubber Boots or Storm Rubbers?

If so we have them and at prices to suit you. We have also a complete line of...

Children's and Misses' Boys' and Youths' Shoes and Rubber Boots.

Quality Best
Prices Lowest

John McDonald...
Merchant Tailor
Full Line of New Suitings.
FIRST AVE. OPP. S. Y. T. WAREHOUSE

Fresh Beef
The Only Fresh Beef in Dawson.
Pat Galvin..
Market...
Sold at Reasonable Prices.

Wholesale and Retail
Depot, First Avenue
T. & E. Co. Building
H. I. MILLER, Prop.
NOTE—This beef has been brought in over the ice from Selkirk, where 119 head of choice stall-fed cattle were slaughtered.

MOHR & WILKENS,
DEALERS IN
The Finest Select Groceries
IN DAWSON
S. E. Cor. Third Street and Third Avenue AND Opposite Klondike Bridge

Electric... Light
Steady
Satisfactory
Safe
Dawson Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.
Donald B. Olson, Manager.
City Office Joslyn Building.
Power House near Klondike. Tel. No.

Full Line Choice Brands
Wines, Liquors and Cigars
Chisholm's Saloon
TOM CHISHOLM Proprietor

Special Sale
Jams and Jellies
At The YUKON STORE For a Few Days
J. E. Broge, Mgr.

Mitchell, Lewis & Stover Co.
OF SEATTLE, WASH.
Mining Machinery
Of all Descriptions.
Pumping Plants a Specialty
Orders Taken For Early Spring Delivery
Chas. E. Severance, Gen. Agt.
Room 15 A. C. Building

Seattle St. Michael Dawson
Empire Transportation Co.
Empire Line
TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE
Yemans & Chisholm...
....Dawson Agents.
Seattle Office - 607 First Ave.

Health Is More Than Wealth
Cry the Sanitarium Baths...
For All Physical Ailments
AT
Ford's Club Baths The Only Health Resort in Dawson
Third Ave. Bet. 3rd & 4th Sts.
BERT FORD - Proprietor

A New Name
The Business Known as the Juneau Hardware Co. Will in the Future Be Known as the
Dawson Hardware Co.
And When Buying Hardware Come and See Us.
One 10-inch Centrifugal Pump
Complete With Pipe and Two Engines, 10x12 Cylinders, at a Bargain. Also a Large Quantity of 1 1/2 inch Pipe.
M. H. JONES & CO. Proprietors

THEATRES.
Palace Grand
THIS WEEK
"Lynwood"
PRECEDED BY
The Sculptor's Dream.
NEW MANAGEMENT
NEW FACES....
Return of the Great
O'Brien-Jennings-O'Brien
NEW SPECIALTIES.

Buy Your Meat From
The City Market
And Get the Best in Town
Largest Wholesalers
Miners Call and See Us. We Will Meet all Competition and Give the Best. Orders Promptly Filled.

C. J. Dumbolton & Co.
Second Ave. Opp. S. Y. T. Co.
Received Over The Ice
Full Line of
Globe Valves
and Steamfitters' Supplies
McLennan, McFeely & Co. Ltd.
DAWSON, Y. T.