

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)

ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY

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NOTICE

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The NUGGET has a regular carrier and express service covering Bonanza, Eldorado, Hunker, Sulphur and Dominion creeks and tributaries. Mail orders taken and prompt delivery guaranteed on all the above. Orders for delivery of papers, mail or express may be left at the Nugget Express office or given to creek agents.

THE FILIPINOS AND UNCLE SAM.

The attitude of the Filipinos towards the United States would be positively amusing were it not fraught with so much that is black and lowering. The situation just now as presented to us is the picture of a small force of ignorant Spanish and Malay half-breeds saying to a populous and mighty nation what it shall or shall not do with the fruits of victorious warfare. To thoroughly grasp the matter in hand we must go back to the first gunshot of the Spanish-American war. Dewey's great victory in Manila Bay was in some measure due to the disaffection of the natives who for years had been unsuccessfully trying to throw off the yoke of Spain. The Filipinos declared themselves at once the allies of America, and though the genuineness of that alliance was never put to the test, American sentiment was found to be much too strong to allow of the abandonment of those natives to the tender mercies of Spain in the peace settlements of either the protocol or the Paris commissioners. The outcome of it all was that the large-souled magnanimity of America was wasted like perfume on the desert air, and the United States paid—or agreed to pay—\$20,000,000 to Spain in consideration of the latter country abandoning all claim to that part of the Philippines not already lost in open warfare. And now the Filipinos are positively arming and strutting about like a turkey gobbler on parade protesting against anything like the American protectorate which the expenditure of \$20,000,000 would give the United States.

There is one very easy way for the American congress out of a dilemma. That she could crush all armed resistance no child doubts. That she is too magnanimous to force an unwelcome allegiance upon a turbulent and ignorant mass of half-breeds is to be expected. The terms of peace agreed upon in Paris between the late contestants have not yet been accepted by the United States congress, and since Uncle Sam's late allies are so extremely anxious to be left severely alone to work out their own destiny, let the offer of twenty millions be withdrawn, and let the United States simply retain the harbors and ports she secured through Dewey, and let the Filipinos settle with Spain as they declare they are well able to do. It will then not be a case of the United States deserting its allies, but simply a withdrawal of those allies from the best offer of assistance Uncle Sam can make.

THE ANTI-ALIEN LAW.

As will be seen in our local columns, the report brought in by recent arrivals of the passage in British Columbia of the anti-alien bill has been confirmed by the press. From letters received from persons at Skagway it is learned that there is much excitement and dissatisfaction at Athlun over the measure. As one correspondent graphically describes it "The people are wild over it."

However, there appears to be a hitch in the enforcement of the law, as the Dominion government has signified a

disapproval of the measure and there is a division amongst the bright minds of Canada as to whether British Columbia has not exceeded her powers in this instance. British Columbians maintain that they will not be dictated to in the framing of their internal policy, while Canadians are just as positive that the exclusion of aliens is a Dominion prerogative.

It is not at all impossible that the British Columbians are correct as to their powers, but there can be no doubt as to the impolicy of the moment. Until last year the United States has been almost Canada's best market for her every product. Last year, the unprecedented foreign demand for those products was very great on account of a shortage in Europe. But they are bound to resume their normal course once again, and while good sense gives an emphatic No! to a policy of recrimination upon the part of America, it will surely result from this anti-American move on Canada's part.

The liberality and justness of British Columbia's mining laws has long been the loadstone which has drawn from the northwestern states the very best mining men there. Crossing the boundary line, these American miners have for years devoted their strength and their means to the uncovering of British Columbia's wealth. That incidentally a proportion of them secured a competence for themselves was never considered unjust to Canadian interests, as the presence of the foreign population furnished a market for either Canadian products or for American products which had paid a large tariff tax. Besides this, the presence of each American added another taxable unit to the population. The liberality of the laws was interpreted as a standing invitation to come into the country with their capital and their labor and take a chance with British Columbians. The Athlun country was prospected and the gold discovered by Americans who had accepted this invitation in good faith. The thousands of dollars which have poured into that section for its development, here upon the reverse side the familiar spread-eagle of America. Unless Athlun proves an exception to the usual mining camp, there will be as many dollars spent there on Canadian products and Canadian taxed goods as there will be taken from the ground; hence Canada is destined to reap the greater share of the harvest even should there never be a Canadian present in the district to take up a single claim.

Then again, there is a still stronger argument to be found in the fact that by this very exclusion law, the British Columbians will be simply barring out the best class of Americans and encouraging the immigration of the worst class of citizens we have in the United States. We refer to the criminal element to whom the oath of allegiance to the queen would prove not even a momentary obstacle. Again, there is an undesirable class of Americans to whom the temporary laying down of their citizenship and the equally temporary taking up of allegiance to a foreign power for the problematical gain of a few hundreds of dollars, would be as naught; and this is the very class of people whom Canadian statesmen themselves have often argued against, saying that they had no desire to fill the ranks of Canadian citizenship with cheap opostates who had simply taken the oath for the consideration of a thousand dollar claim.

To sum up the situation, it is altogether probable, that while British Columbia may prove to have the power within herself to pass and enforce an anti-alien law, Canadian and American pressure will soon render it simply a curiosity of past history.

APPRECIATION.

The attitude of the Nugget upon all public questions is always emphatic and distinct. Our fight upon the tramless road was not dictated by any knowledge at our disposal of a flaw or flaws in the title, but by a sincere desire upon our part to rid the public of a monstrous wrong, a vampire company seeking to drain, from the indigent and wealthy

alike, the capital wherewith to buy rails and rolling stock and thus equip a profitable railroad at the expense of the miners themselves. Incidentally it may be mentioned that we did not quite anticipate the shower of congratulation which has poured in upon us from every creek in the district, from Eureka to Bonanza; but nevertheless it is a source of endless gratification and some excusable pride to us that our efforts have been so intensely appreciated. The hearty cheers given the Nugget on Thursday night at the Monte Carlo upon the appearance of Professor Parke's stereoscopic view of the "tramless tramroad" are not the first cheers the Nugget has been given since we commenced our crusade for right simultaneously with our first issue, yet we beg to assure you, gentlemen, that if any inspiration was needed to impel us onward in the good cause, it could not help but result from the enthusiastic appreciation you show us at every turn.

The time will never come when the public will not need the services of a fearless, courageous and outspoken newspaper to defend it from the encroachments of corporate greed and the machinations of insidious foes. There is much to be accomplished at this moment, and the Nugget does not anticipate a period when, like Othello, our occupation will be gone. It is altogether probable that at this moment our two representatives are aboard a steamer bound for Victoria, and we may expect shortly more or less news of their momentous doings at Ottawa. It goes without saying that we will, through those representatives, obtain a hearing for the righteous demands for this section. Only the future can show the results of our efforts at Ottawa, but from the information at our disposal, and as a result of our carefully laid plans, we anticipate a much larger measure of success than even our most sanguine friends concede for us. In the case of the tramroad we early discovered that our governor was proof against even the most scathing denunciation of that excuseless "graft," and immediately our tactics were changed to suit the occasion and we employed the brightest young barristers we could get with well-known results. Along the same line we may mention the self-evident fact that the Ottawa government has grown deaf and callous to our oft repeated written prayers and petitions for relief from existing unjust conditions. We think in our changed tactics of personal representation at Ottawa that problem is also largely solved.

TO USE GOLD DUST A CRIME.

It will surprise not a few of Dawson's good people to be seriously told that they are daily engaged in open violation of a Dominion law conspicuous in the revised statutes, the penalty for which is imprisonment for a term of two years. Yet this statement may be made in all seriousness and there are few, if any, who are not in the category, though we may say without further loss of time that the offenses are unwitting and there is not even a remote possibility of the law's heavy hand being laid upon them. The law in question is found on page 125 of the criminal code for 1892, and is in part as follows:

"Every one is guilty of an indictable offense, and liable to two years' imprisonment who, not being the owner or agent of the owners of mining claims then being worked, and not being thereunto authorized in writing by the proper officer in that behalf, named in any act relating to mines in force in any province of Canada * * * purchases any gold in quartz, or any unsmelted or smelted gold or silver, or otherwise unmanufactured gold or silver, of the value of one dollar or upward except from such owner or authorized person, and does not, at the same time, execute in triplicate an instrument in writing, stating the place and time of purchase, and the quantity, quality and value of gold and silver so purchased, and the name or names of the person or persons from whom the same was purchased and file the same with such proper officer within twenty days next after the date of such purchase."

Divested of its legal verbiage, the foregoing means that Dawson people who engage in the universal practice of using

gold dust as a medium of exchange, or who purchase dust in exchange for currency, are offenders and subject to the penalty proscribed.

Of course, as said above, there is not the remotest possibility of anyone coming to grief through the measure, for the necessities of the country compel the use of dust as a medium of exchange and the courts could not be induced to see anything criminal in the proceedings; but it is interesting to note the existence of laws which are either way behind the times or inapplicable because of circumstances, and reminds one of the law, still on the books, which prohibits one from smoking on the streets of Boston.

GIVE CORRECT NEWS.

It should be a newspaper's chief aim first, last and all the time to give the correct doings of the day. This is brought very forcibly to our minds by some alleged local news published at the length of several columns, and apparently with infinite relish, in the Miner-Sun combination the government organ without the backbone to earn its subsidy. The Nugget has absolutely no interest in the matter more than that its readers should be given the correct facts. The Miner-Sun, seeing that Messrs Geo. J. Armstrong and Percy McDougal are engaged before the investigating commissioner in an endeavor to uncover some of the multitudinous frauds of the gold commissioner's office, evidently sought to disparage those gentlemen by the false statement that those gentlemen were no longer officers of the Miner's Association as of yore. That our readers may have the truth of the matter the NUGGET publishes the statement that Mr. Armstrong is still president of the Association, and Mr. McDougal is yet a much a member of the executive committee as he ever was. The fact that by a vote of five to three, in an open meeting, Mr. McDougal's motion to remove Mr. Galpin from office was defeated, does not make the Miner-Sun any the less a purveyor of garbled news. That the voluntary tender of a resignation from Messrs. Armstrong and McDougal is before the association, to be voted on at the first general meeting—a resignation which may be voted for or against, as the association will—does not make it any the less a misstatement for the government organ to give out that the gentlemen in question are no longer connected with that association.

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WHAT LONDON

The Chamber of Yukon Miners

Representatives of Contend for Conditions Prevailing

The London Chamber and representative mining district in province is to protect which means so much nation of England. panies are registered the Chamber of Miners consideration to the de lowing important l to the Canadian go

"We beg of tioned companies r ing in the British of British interests this chamber and ment of Northwest to the very on ing regulations no We refer more to royalty levied on t to the terms of the and abandon and 33 of t Yukon mining reg matters is; however at the present t me of working claims such that a charge yield—even after tions which are t profit from being o This regulation claims of inferior an ineffective man to keep the title total abandonment tions which at othe these prohibitive many forms in d tion and law-ensi instrumental in d to the neighborig ment of the Briti ese.

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WHAT LONDON THINKS OF ROYALTY

The Chamber of Mines Scores the Yukon Mining Regulations.

Representatives of the Mines of the Empire Contend for Amelioration of the Iniquitous Conditions Prevailing Here.

The London Chamber of Mines is a powerful and representative body of men from every mining district in the empire. Their special province is to protect and foster the industry which means so much to this great commercial nation of England. Some forty Klondike companies are registered in London and naturally the Chamber of Mines has devoted much consideration to the developments here. The following important letter is from the chamber to the Canadian government:

"Sir:—We beg on behalf of the undermentioned companies registered in London, operating in the British Yukon, and also on behalf of British interests generally represented in this chamber and concerned in the development of Northwestern Canada, to call attention to the very onerous character of the mining regulations now enforced in that district. We refer more especially to the 10 per cent royalty levied on the gross output of gold and silver, and to the government lien on abandoned claims (see clauses 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100). The first of these matters is, however, the more urgent question at the present time. The conditions and cost of working claims in the Klondike district are such that a charge of 10 per cent on the gross yield—even after the deduction of £500 before paying the royalty—will in many cases prevent profit from being obtained in these operations. This regulation will therefore cause many claims of inferior value to be either worked in an ineffective manner—viz. in a manner simply to keep the title alive, or will occasion the total abandonment of claims of this description. There are other evil effects arising out of these prohibitive impositions, such as the many forms in which they encourage deception and law-evasion, and that they are largely instrumental in diverting desirable enterprise to the neighboring fields of Alaska to the detriment of the British Yukon and its vested interests.

There is no occasion to expatiate here upon the grievous effect of clause 16 referring to the government reservation of alternate claims, and clause 39 referring to the drastic conditions upon which claims are deemed abandoned. We rely upon your own good sense of the restrictions which these conditions place upon investing enterprises to give these matters your prompt attention.

"It is not necessary for us to dwell upon the injurious effects of these measures and the consequences to which it is universally considered they will lead. It is sufficient to say that these results would be at variance with the general welfare of Canada, while they will discourage investors in Canadian enterprises resident in the United Kingdom, and will greatly hinder the action of persons who are seeking to promote the resources of Canada.

"On these grounds we beg to bring these grievances before you, with the request that such steps may be taken in order to secure early relief, as under the circumstances may seem to you to be right and proper.

"A copy of the regulations governing placer mining in the Yukon is enclosed with those clauses marked to which chief exception is taken."

Quickest On Record.

The full police reports of the mail which left here December 15th are now in and the most phenomenal time on record is shown to have been made. Starting from here on the 15th it was at Skaguay and aboard a steamer for Seattle in exactly ten days, a "feat on feet" which has never before been equalled in this country. Of course, everything must have been favorable or it could not have been done. However, thirty-mile was open, requiring a whole day to get past, or still quicker time would have been made. Last winter the trip took all the way from 27 to 45 days and any traveler was considered fortunate in being able to get out at all. Probably the latest record of 10 days will yet be lowered in good time. The Alaska-Yukon railroad company is declaring positively that it will reach Caribou Crossing early in the spring, which will lower the record next winter another day at least, besides overcoming that open lake which interferes with travel so much in the early season.

West Dawson Enterprise.

Brewer George Leon, of West Dawson, evidently has faith in his opinion that the coming season will see the population of the present village of 150 cabins greatly augmented, for he has perfected arrangements for running a cheap ferry between that place and this and conducting a hotel with popular summer resort accommodations. As a nucleus for the latter he last week purchased the large cabin built at West Dawson last summer by Miss Van Buren and Mrs. Hitchcock, which he will enlarge and fit with bar, club room and bowling alley.

OUTSIDE BREVITIES.

SEATTLE, Jan. 25.—Joseph Barrett, the Klondike mine owner, has just arrived from Ottawa, where he obtained an interview with Sir Wilfred Laurier. Mr. Barrett said yesterday, in describing his interview with Laurier:

"He asked me what I thought of the officials. I told him it was not the officials who were to blame for the injustice done miners, but the law. When I told him the royalty was wrong he agreed with me, but asked me how the government was to make expenses. I suggested that a tax of so much a foot be imposed on all claims. Then there could be no evasion of the tax by fraud and every miner would be equal.

"I told him there were 11,000 claims, averaging 300 feet each, which at 25

cents a foot would be \$325,000, or at 50 cents, \$1,650,000. He seemed to consider this a very good idea. If a tax of so much a foot were decided upon I proposed that the assessment be thrown off, since it is of no benefit to either the miner or the government.

"I asked him how much the government had so far received from the collection of royalty, and he estimated it at about \$400,000. The expenses of government in the Northwest territory so far had been, he said, about \$1,500,000. I then told him that the output of the Klondike had been, in round figures, \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000, and the 10 per cent royalty, if all collected, should have been \$1,300,000. The government had received only \$400,000; where, then, was the rest of it?"

Mr. Barrett is confident from the expressions of Premier Laurier that the royalty will either be done away with entirely and a tax on claims of so much per foot substituted or else the per cent of royalty will be materially reduced. He is now awaiting anxiously, as are many others, the action of the Canadian parliament on this point.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 24.—Attorney General Martin's speech last night, indicating his expectation of a disallowance of the alien exclusion law by the Dominion government, was the subject of general comment here today. He said that although the present federal government was made up of friends of his, British Columbians would submit to no dictation as to the management of local affairs. He asked for a return of the supporters of the government for the city. If the government's opponents were returned, it would be taken as an indication in the east that British Columbians were not in favor of the alien exclusion act.

The audience received the announcement well, the meeting, which was one of the largest ever held here, vociferously cheering every allusion to keeping aliens out of the gold yielding districts.

In the legislature this afternoon the alteration between Attorney General Martin and Ellison, of East Yale, came up again on the question of the leader of the opposition, if the speaker had found any precedent for dealing with it. The speaker had not, and ruled that the matter must drop unless the house wished to appoint a commission of inquiry. The matter was then dropped.

The opponents of the anti-alien law are making a vigorous fight for re-election. J. H. Turner, Richard Hall and A. E. McPhillips, nominees of the opposition, have issued an address to the electors of the Victoria city electoral district.

HONGKONG, Jan. 24.—The Filipino junta here has just issued a statement, saying that the congress at Malolos has unanimously vetoed annexation. The statement continues as follows:

"The purchase by the American authorities at Hongkong of a number of steam launches for river work in the Philippine islands is high handed, unnecessary and vexatious. Domiciliary visits throughout Manila are exasperating the Filipinos. Their suspicions are aroused by such actions. The dispatch of reinforcements is incompatible with peace, and the appointment of a commission is only a pretext to gain time. The American secret police is acting offensively toward the Filipinos at Hongkong, who are British subjects."

CARSON, Jan. 24.—William M. Stewart was elected United States senator today on a joint ballot, receiving nine votes in the senate and sixteen in the assembly.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 24.—Two more ballots in joint session were taken today for senator without material change. The fifteenth ballot stood: Wilson 28, Foster 25, Humes 20, Ankeny 8, and Lewis 25.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The debate on the army reorganization bill opened in the house today. Practically three propositions are before the house: The house bill provides for a standing army of 100,000 men; the minority substitute increasing the standing army to 30,000

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men, and lodging with the president discretionary power to call out 50,000 volunteers for emergency service; a proposition to continue temporarily the regular army at its present war strength of 62,000 men.

SEATTLE, Jan. 25.—The Moran Bros. concern has been awarded the contract of building the flagship for the Puget Sound Tugboat company, which boat will be named "Seattle," and will be entirely of steel, 128 feet long, 14 feet 6 inches depth of hold, with engines which will carry the total cost up to \$100,000.

SEATTLE, Jan. 25.—An international race between warships is not a common occurrence, but it is understood that such a contest is to take place on the Sound to-day. The British gunboat Pheasant and the United States revenue cutters Grant and Bear are all scheduled to leave port this morning; the Englishman going to Esquimalt, the Bear to San Francisco, and the Grant for a tour of the Sound.

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Capt. Laughlin McLean, of the British sailing schooner Favorite, has received a valuable recognition of his services in rescuing the survivors of the schooner Jane Grey last spring. President McKinley has sent him a pair of magnificent binocular glasses, which were bestowed upon him with much ceremony.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 24.—The State of Washington Paris Exposition commission have decided today to ask for an appropriation of at least \$50,000 to properly represent the state in Paris. It is claimed that California, Montana and other Western states will appropriate as much as \$250,000 to \$350,000 each.

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—"Mysterious" Billy Smith cleverly and successfully defeated Billy Edwards, of Australia, before the Lenox Athletic club to-night. Up to the fourteenth round the men took very few breathing spells, and when the American rushed with a hard left in the wind and a right across the jaw, he ended one of the hardest and fiercest contests that ever took place in this or any other arena.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The navy department has finally decided to remove the Merrimac from the mouth of Havana harbor by means of explosives, as a much cheaper method than to raise her and restore her to usefulness.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Orders have been given for the Twenty-Second regiment, regular infantry, at Fort Crook, Neb., to leave there on the 27th for San Francisco, preparatory to embarking for Manila.

THE FAIRVIEW DAWSON'S FINEST HOTEL. Miss B. A. MULRONEY, Prop. L. E. COOKE, Mgr. American and European Plan. Strictly First Class. All Modern Improvements.

ELDORADO SALOON HALL, MCKINNEY & YOUNG, Proprietors. KLONDIKE CITY. Finest Brands of Wines, Liquors and Cigars

THE PIONEER DINSMORE, SPENCER & McPHEE, Proprietors. BEST GRADES OF SCOTCH AND CANADIAN WHISKIES. And the Old Favorite Brand of JACK McQUESTIAN CIGARS

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THE NORTHERN HARRY ANN & CO. Choicest Wines, Liquors and Cigars. Expert Mixologists. MINING HEADQUARTERS. FRONT STREET DAWSON

Alaska Exploration Co. Operating the elegant river steamers LEON, LINDA AND ARNOLD. Connecting with Palatial Ocean Steamers. At St. Michael, Direct for San Francisco, Cal. We are in the field for business. Our stores and warehouses are now in course of construction at Dawson and other points along the Yukon river. I. R. FULDA, Agent.

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SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Nugget Envoys Again in Good Shape and Pass Selkirk.

Much Interesting Matter Obtainable Here—No Particularly Good Feeling Towards Government Regulations—The Soldier Question.

FORT SELKIRK, Y. T., Feb. 5, 1899. After a run from Holbrook's twenty-five miles to this point, over a siding trail most of the way, we find ourselves at the old trading post of Fort Selkirk, and both in excellent condition. The vigorous treatment of Mr. Allen's injury produced the desired result, so that the use of his foot has returned, and much better time is being made. It was a perfect day for travelling, rather warm than otherwise, so that our shirt sleeves were about right for comfort.

REVENUE AT ALL HAZARDS. The Nugget must be very much in evidence in this particular neck of the world, although as you are aware the facilities for reaching this and other up river points have not been of a character permitting the spreading of the gospel of truth in these localities, but scarcely had the sleigh bearing the sign on either side the "Klondike Nugget" made its appearance on the high river banks, before word was passed along the line that the Nugget was here, and now there would be a— to pay. Why is this now? What is the reason for this scurrying around and whispering? The time is not far away in the past when the people went about in whispers under the shadow of authority and awe of official power.

Shortly after arrival here a social call was made upon Mr. Dufferin Pattullo, formerly private secretary to Major Walsh, and now timber and land agent for the upper Yukon district, a gentleman who appears to be suffering personally because of miserable little penny grafts established by a big government's regulations. And there are terrible murmurings and grumbings here over the matters in question. It seems that with the advent of Mr. Pattullo into Selkirk came the enforcement of regulations of the timber office. Men who had been away up the Pelly, Mica, McMillan and other rivers prospecting, ran out of grub and returned to Selkirk for supplies. Winter with its ice came along, and those who were from one to four hundred miles away could not return. Cabins were built outside the "government reservation" and occupied by the miners. By notice issued January 7th, 1899, all were required to appear at the Crown Land and Timber office and "settle up" for the logs used in the cabins at the rate of one per cent per lineal foot, on or before February 1st or have their cabins confiscated. Of course there was nothing left for them to do but walk up to the captain's office and settle. On doing this the charge of 50 cents is added for "office fees." Now it is not to be implied that this "office fee" of 50 cents is any personal fee. It goes to the Crown, not to the official. But can any little pettifogging fishmonger conceive of the brain that could evolve such a gigantic revenue producing problem as that petty larceny graft of 50 cents for office fees? Think of what dire financial disaster would follow the Dominion government if they failed to collect that 50 cents! It's terrible to contemplate it!

Now, again, a little more. As nearly all will remember who came down the river, there is lots of drift wood piled upon the sand bars of the Yukon and Pelly rivers. The high waters and ice brought it from God knows where, and it is really the only dry wood hereabouts for the poor devil's to use in their cabins. They go out and lay in a supply of it, when along comes the vigilant timber agent and assesses them 50 cents a cord for firewood and 50 cents for "office fees." In heaven's name! and this is the great government of the Dominion of Canada! Is there a Shylock anywhere with nose so Roman as to form a basket handle that would be so mercenary? Fifty cents a cord for pulling drift wood from the river beds, and 50 cents for office fees! And these are government regulations! Is there a British subject anywhere on earth, with such knowledge, who would not hang his head in very shame over such a small, plebeian transaction? If there is not, then we blush for him. We interviewed Mr. Pattullo upon the subject, and are informed that it is the "regulations."

And think of it! The exchequer through this office has been enriched to the enormous extent, since its opening, of about \$70 or \$80! Not enough to buy Her Gracious Majesty the Queen an ordinary night cap, unless trimmed in imitation lace. The only way we can see to increase the above amount to \$70 and 25 cents, is to tax the miner for his breath in blowing the embers into flames as he starts his drift-wood fire in his Yukon stove at so much per blow. The people are naturally, but unthinkingly, incensed towards Mr. Pattullo, an unjust feeling 'tis true, because of the "regulations." Beats the world that word "regulations."

WHAT ABOUT THE SOLDIERS? The Nugget some time ago editorially, under the caption of "Why are they here?" referred to the soldiery sent in and taxed upon the opulent people and territory of the Yukon. Two hundred of them, and by a master stroke of wisdom sent in over the "all Canadian route," that dear little route called the Stikine. Four months were used in having them reach here and they do say, although of course we believe this statement is somewhat exaggerated, that they are still checking them up, to see if they're all in yet. Probably that did not cost less for transportation alone than one million dollars, a pretty sum of itself for a useless appendage. Then the erection of the spacious barracks at this point cost probably not less than \$125,000.

Next, they have moved 75 of them down to Dawson, and if your correspondents are correctly informed, it is the impression at headquarters with the minister of militia, that they are all in Dawson, and that orders are extant ordering the whole battalion to Dawson. Why this has not been already done we are not positively aware. That it will be done we have no reason to doubt. The personnel of the military force are all well liked, and the "boys" have made friends everywhere. Particularly is this so among officers and men, who, living in a state of quiet solitude, with nothing more severe than an occasional game of "hockey," they have expressed a willingness generally to be employed in carrying the mails, or in building government trails or in relieving the efficient N. W. M. police in their patrol duty on the trails. Either of these three things would relieve the everlasting monotony of their pent up condition in Selkirk. But then these things can hardly be expected, because a government trail might benefit the miners, employ the soldiers, assist the country, but injure the "Tramways without Traction."

We are advised that a representative of the Nugget Express was abused personally at this point by an official occupying a prominent position. But until we see him and ascertain the facts in the case, comment upon this government representative is restrained until such time, when he will find the Nugget, which, if true he billingsgated attacked, is amply prepared to attend to his special case, as he will discover.

LITTLE SALMON, Y. T., Feb. 9, 1899. Seventy-five miles reeled off the past two days is fairly good traveling, although Nigger Jim made Hootalingua from Five Fingers in two days, the last day making 60 miles, so that his party is making remarkably good time. The trail to this point is in very good condition except at one place at Five Fingers where the ice is very soft, our sled breaking through into two feet of water. The farther we go towards the coast, the more we are convinced that the proper way to travel at this season of the year is to go without a single thing, pack, dogs or anything else. The roadhouse accommodations are, as a general rule, with the exceptions noted previously, most excellent in their fare in only some three or four have fresh meats not been furnished. It was our pleasure last evening to have punished the choicest moose steaks imaginable, and this morning fresh fish for breakfast with butter sauce. We mention these matters quite fully because we are aware that many will be desirous of knowing the exact conditions existing upon the trail.

We are meeting quite a large number of parties on their way in from Skagway, and the advance guards report a number behind them. No conditions of weather could possibly improve those we are enjoying at present, the sunrise of this morning being one of the most beautiful within our recollection, and the days pleasant beyond any anticipation. The air, and exhilaration experienced as dog train conductors is conducive to the most hearty appetites, and the most glowing health, and while 600 miles of a jaunt is no small walking, none can ever know the real pleasure, however, of a trip to the coast unless they experience a winter excursion over the ice. Of this we hope to speak at greater length at the earliest opportunity. There is no good reason why under favorable weather conditions the trip to Bennett should not be made easily in 12 days, and not to exceed 14.

A Scotch Verdict. Joseph Schwartz had the closest call of his romantic career on Monday, when Judge Dugas came to pass judgment upon the case in which he was charged with attempting to exchange gold dust largely impregnated with brass filings. The story of the affair leading up to Schwartz's arrest on complaint of Adair has been twice told in these columns and the trial of the action failed to develop anything sensational. Attorneys Robertson and de Journal, who defended Schwartz, had as good a case as the material available would permit, but at best they were unable to convince the court of their client's innocence.

Judge Dugas referred to the fact that on a previous occasion Schwartz had attempted to exchange gold dust in which appeared pyrites of iron in such a large quantity as to incite witnesses to serious criticisms of it, and that when Adair, on the last occasion, lodged complaint against him for attempting to pass gold dust with brass filings in it, the police found a large sack of similarly treated gold at the prisoner's house. Still, the court held that no evidence had been introduced to show that Schwartz had introduced the brass filings into the gold dust or that he had a guilty knowledge of its presence, though it is true that a man who handles gold dust as much as he does should know what he is taking and giving out. He would therefore discharge the prisoner, not because he was innocent, but because the prosecution had failed to prove him guilty.

In his address accompanying the decision Judge Dugas complimented the action of Mr. Adair in giving the police information of the spurious dust, and declared it to be the duty of every good citizen to do likewise whenever they detected an effort to perpetrate a fraud, of which there is entirely too much here. When the judge had finally concluded his remarks a wrangle ensued over the possession of the bag of gold dust which the police had seized at Schwartz's house, and which contained about \$2000, less the brass filings in it. Attorney Robertson asked the court for an order turning it over to his client, and was being told that he could have it when Attorney Gwilliam interrupted to say that he was just going to ask that the dust be continued in the possession of the court, as he was interested in a civil action against Schwartz and felt that

his client's interests would be jeopardized if the gold dust was returned to Schwartz.

The judge replied that he had no right to retain the money while sitting as a criminal court, but that he would accommodate the attorney by withholding the order turning it over to Schwartz for a half hour, during which a writ of attachment against it could be sworn out. This appeared to satisfy Mr. Gwilliam and he started off to carry out that plan, but returned in a few minutes to say that he could not get out the writ in so short a space of time. So, the court told Schwartz's attorney to take the stuff away, adding, but you must take the brass filings out of it.

The gold dust, however, was not destined to all be taken away, for while it was in the custody of the court, or rather of the bank awaiting a decision of the court, it was garnished at the instance of Attorney Pattullo on a debt of \$807. Schwartz's attorneys argued for the release of the dust, but his lordship thought otherwise and directed that \$1000 of it be retained in its present custody pending a decision of the garnishee suit.

The Case Appealed. The celebrated tramroad suit has taken another turn through attorney Tabor moving to appeal to Ottawa. Attorney Pattullo argued that Mr. Tabor did not require the permission of the judge to appeal to Ottawa, but simply were required to file the necessary security for the costs. However, his lordship was disposed to give the appellants every opportunity of testing the validity of his recent most important decision, so that he gave his permission readily.

It is the prevailing opinion that it is not a genuine appeal—that the appellants have little or no hope of reversing the decision and are simply taking advantage of a legal trick to avoid litigation. While the appeal is pending, it appears there can be no judgments enforced against the tramroad. The public will not be very likely to sue for the moneys illegally extorted from them if they know that it may be six months or a year before collections can be made. Fortunately, the appeal does not give the appellants the privilege of continuing to collect illegal toll, and if any effort is made to do so, there will probably be one of the biggest storms ever witnessed on the Klondike. The public need not fear this, however, for though an illegal concern like the tramroad company will go to any extreme to perpetuate its existence, the laws of the land, outside of the mining regulations, are both equitable and calculated to jealously conserve the rights of the people.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Charles Fiehl left Monday for the Atlin country. James Weed left Monday for his home in Seattle. Dr. Bourke had the misfortune on Monday to lose a valuable diamond solitaire from his finger ring.

The largest crowd of the series saw the ski run on Sunday. Jumps of 75 feet were made by Adolph Moshelm and Leif Holte.

Jack Cavanaugh reopened the Oakley Sisters' dance hall under the name of the Horseshoe on Monday night with a crowded house.

J. L. Edgren raffled off a valuable dog team at the Aurora on Saturday night, the lucky winner being A. H. Kelly, who held No. 598. The team is valued at over \$300.

Mrs. Johnson gave a dancing party Saturday night at her home near the mouth of Bohanza. The company was entertained with a number of vocal recitations by Mrs. Simons.

Mrs. Butler, proprietress of "The Butler" at Grand Forks, cut her left thumb very severely with an ax a few days ago, the wound requiring the attentions of a surgeon.

The hospitals are making very cheap rates to the government's indigent sick nowadays, the charge of \$3.50 per day including nursing, medicine and medical attendance.

Wolves put in frequent appearance on the river these days, according to reports by travelers. Last week a pack of them attacked and killed a dog at the Sixty-Mile road house.

Considerable speculation is being indulged in over the action of the police who went among the merchants one day last week and secured from each a statement of all the ammunition they had in stock. What purpose the information is to serve is what is now agitating the public mind.

Edward Jones and J. A. Segber, proprietors of the Sixty-Mile road house, arrived in the city Saturday and were guests at the Yukon hotel for a few days. They report that a Dawson man, on route out, fell through an air-hole into the river near their place one day last week and narrowly escaped drowning.

Henry Henricks left Thursday for Circle city to bring up a steam boiler for use in thawing the amount of frozen "below on Bonanza. That Mr. Henricks is a long-headed representative of the land of vikings is demonstrated by the fact that he compelled O'Brien to give him a receipt for \$6.40 paid in toll to his tramway without a charter.

The initial song service given by the Salvation Army Sunday night at Levy's ball, formerly the Gaitley Sisters, was a great success in point of attendance, the audience comprising nearly 400 persons. The exercises were apparently appreciated by all, as evidenced by the close attention paid, and this will serve to encourage the army in their future efforts. The Monte Carlo was the scene of a little fire scare on Saturday morning. An overheated lamp in Manager Cavanaugh's room was found to be in flames and Lloyd Wynkoop courageously picking it up, attempted to throw it from a window. The window proved to be barred and the lamp fell back, setting fire to the casing. Nellie LaMore and others then went to the rescue with blankets and succeeded in smothering the blaze.

Yukon Council. At the meeting of the Council last Wednesday a public health ordinance was introduced and partly adopted, the balance being held in abeyance pending a report from the public health officer.

The Council discussed a letter from an intending importer of malt and decided not to impose any special tax upon it. An appropriation was set apart for digging a deep ditch from the river to the hill back of town, it being the intention to drain the town

with transverse ditches emptying into the larger one. It is the intention to advertise for bids for the construction of the main ditch.

Col. Word's letter, applying for a water service permit, was referred to the commissioner as were all the applications a week ago. The dentists of town applied for an association charter similar to the medical association but no action was taken in the matter.

The Hockey Match. On Saturday afternoon the two hockey clubs of Dawson competed at the rink for the second game of the season. The clubs are The Canadian Permanent Force Hockey Club, and the Dawson Hockey Club.

The match was hotly contested and after an hour's play resulted in a victory for the Dawson club by a score of six to five. The following were the players: Dawson club, Forwards, Norway, Stevenson and Hardiste; cover point, Captain Nourse; point, R. Fortage; goal, D. McMurray.

The military was represented as follows: Forwards, Captain Bennett and Privates Cooper and Bealer; cover point, Private Wakefield; point, Private Prestor; goal, Private Baker. Captain Ogilvie refereed the game; official time-keeper, Dr. Richardson; goal-judges, Stevenson and Private Ivor.

The Contest Not Stopped. A report gained currency on the streets on Tuesday that the glove contest between Frank Raphael and Dick Agnew scheduled for Wednesday night had been forbidden by the police and declared off. Some grounds for belief in the report was found in the fact that Mr. Joe Hoyle, who had been sanctioned during the afternoon to the office of Colonel Steele in order to learn what truth, if any, existed in the story, a "Nugget" man presented himself to the colonel and solicited enlightenment.

"I have not forbidden the contest being held," the affable officer replied, "but we have taken some steps to regulate these things in the future. Mr. Hoyle was here this afternoon, and I told him we would require that the affair be conducted in a decorous way—that is, without disturbances and unseemly conduct, and that upon requiring the attendance of more than one of my men."

"I also told him that in the future these contests could only be held after a permit had been secured; and before that stage has been reached we will require that the proposed contestants present themselves to us, so that we may look them over and see that they are fit. We must have some steps to regulate these things in the future. Mr. Hoyle was here this afternoon, and I told him we would require that the affair be conducted in a decorous way—that is, without disturbances and unseemly conduct, and that upon requiring the attendance of more than one of my men."

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Another report prevailed some weeks ago that the police epidemic book with "disfavor upon the frequent" with which the contests were being pulled off, and when this was mentioned to the colonel he allowed the band to push to a quiet close, and when the band came back, any disposition on the part of the police to be held under proper control.

Large contracts for freighting and other specialties—Albert W. Williams, 17 above Bonanza or the White House.

A nice line of stationery, time, pass and memo books, tablets, paper and envelopes at Pioneer drug store.

The best meals served in the city are at the Regina Club Hotel.

The Dining Room Service of the Regina Club Hotel is such as to lay you back again.

Commencing February 13th, Bartlett Bros' four-horse, covered stages will run on the following schedule: Stage No. 1 will leave Grand Forks at 9 a. m. Returning, leave Dawson at 4 p. m. Stage No. 2 will leave Dawson at 9 a. m. Returning, leave Grand Forks at 4 p. m. Making the trip each way in 1 hour and 50 minutes—giving round-trip passengers 5 hours for the transaction of business at each end of the line. Sixteen horses used in this service.

Special Rates for room and board by the month at the Regina Club Hotel.

Give your contracts for freight and packing to Albert W. Williams, 17 above Bonanza, or leave orders at the White House.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

LAWYERS. C. M. WOODWORTH, M. A., LL. B., Advocate, Solicitor, Commissioner, Notary, etc. Five years' practice in Northwest Territory. Room 3, A. C. Office Building.

TABOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors, Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers, Offices, opposite Monte Carlo, Front Street.

BURKITT & McRAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, Commissioners, etc. Office, the A. C. Office Building, 3rd St., Dawson.

CLEMENT, PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Barristers, Notaries, Conveyancers, &c. Money to loan. Offices, Adeback building, opp. Opera House saloon.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS. DR. J. WILFRED GOOD, M. B., B. S., R. C. P., Edinburgh. Late Surgeon to Winnipeg General Hospital. Office, Klondike Hotel, 1st Avenue, Dawson. Telephone No. 16.

DR. J. H. KOONS, Physician and Surgeon, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., proprietor Miners Hospital, Eldorado City.

DR. J. O. LACHAPPELLE—Montreal University Physician & Surgeon. Victoria House.

DENTISTS. DRS. BROWN & LEE—Crown and Bridge work. Gold, Aluminum or Rubber Plates. Fine gold and alloy fillings. All work absolutely guaranteed. Room 15, A. C. office building. H. AMUNDSON, souvenir jewelry and diamond setting.

T. G. ALBIN, D. D. S.—All work guaranteed. Office with Nugget Express Co., Eldorado City.

WANTED. To purchase a good horse, harness and set bob sleighs. Must be in good condition. Inquire, manager Fairview.

PERSONAL. \$5.00 reward will be paid for positive information as to the present location of S. Runkling. Apply NUGGET office.

LOST AND FOUND. FOUND—Gold badge, owner can have same by calling at this office and paying for ad.

FOR SALE. First-class Thawing and Hoisting Plant. Thirty horse power boiler and engine, with traction hoist. Fairview, 111 2nd Street.

TH... VOL. 2 No 16 TRUM... An Invest... 10 THE LETTERS Cannot Pre... The "Nugget's" are Ruled Out Some Intention and a Success—No Out... At last the thunder... the "Nugget" in the... head. At last the... royal investigation... When first the... cal shakes of the... reputable citizens... to take it up and... Ogilvie's invitations... ing it made their... rals from the Yuko... which, with every... promised witnesses... making charges were... those they wanted... administered. At... shall they know... in an interview... after wards pur... commissioner assured... this matter to the... assurances, charges... sub-joined. Just... being properly started... straight from the... heard upon a mutua... lawyers discover... inquiry is limited... chicken stealing... three arisen—which... mentioned in their... latter last summer... stantly ruled the... out of court, and... me yet unfiled thou... holed in our office... an investigation of... people. It's simply... trial of ward politi... a sops the simple;... plausible picture fo... childish-minded; a... honest people of the... encouragement of m... accused officials; a... of the world. Fair... "Letters Patent,"... to a newspaperless... present population... had been made fan... Dawson officials;... leaving in thousan... their secrets with... in" with the ring... official secrets and... possession at the... of which cannot be... the investigation... relegate. The govern... decision which pu... could not well deci... Clement and Judge... talent of the city... of investigation w... of August 25. Bee... out and how the p... 24 hours before our... to be heard. On Wednesday m... commissioner recov... house in Dawson... of the public payin... gold commissioner... gall, who with Mr... sent the miners'... memorial to Sir W... this investigation... for the committee... some ruling where... off the cracks cou... during the investi... have neither cabin... The commissione... thority to do that... held personally, res...