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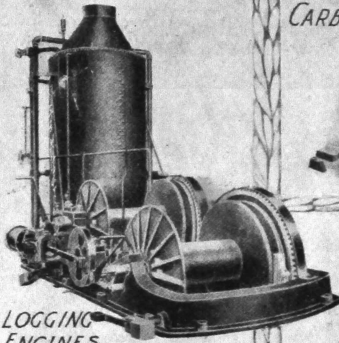
ALASKA-YUKON MAGAZINE



MARCH 1907

THE HARRISON PUBLISHING COMPANY
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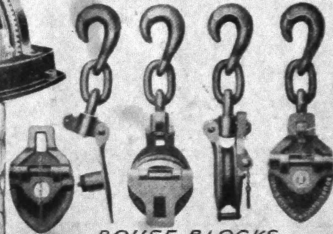
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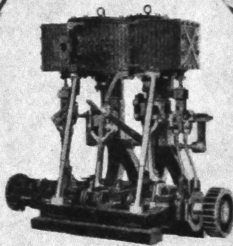
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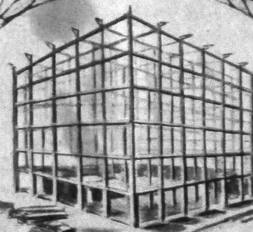
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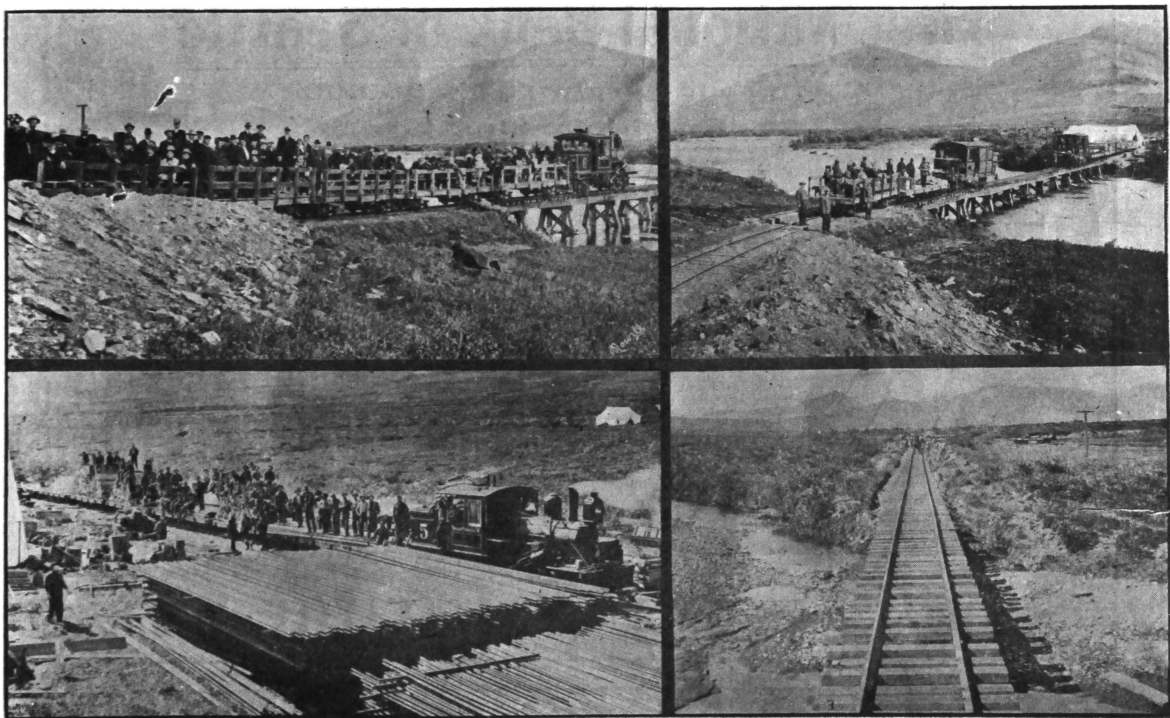
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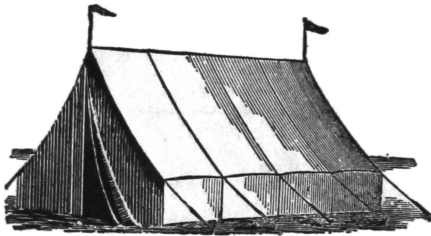
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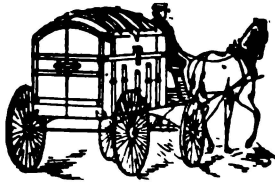
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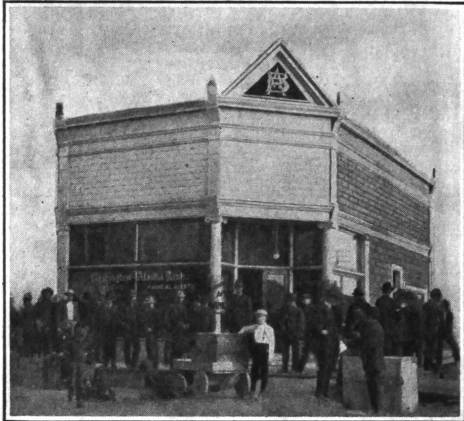
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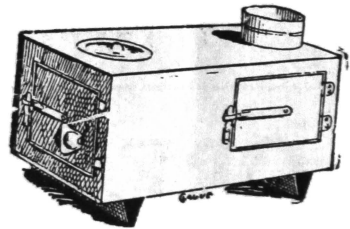
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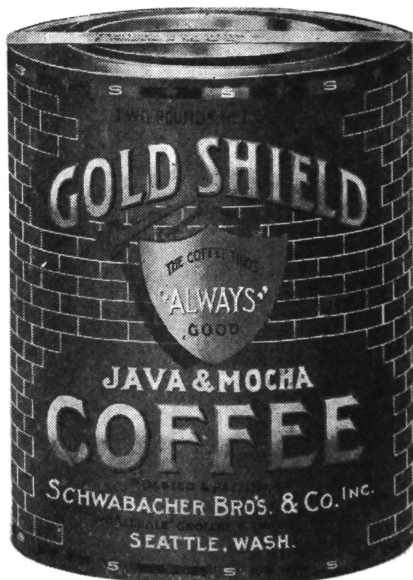


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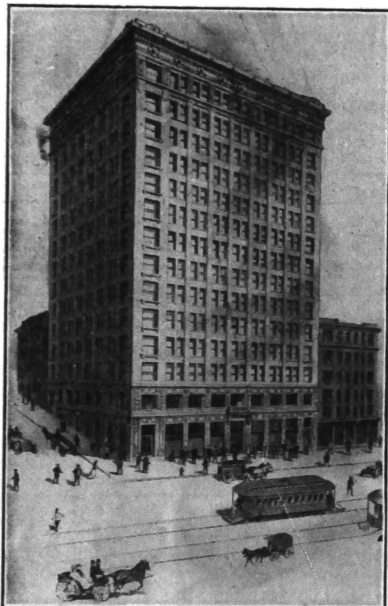
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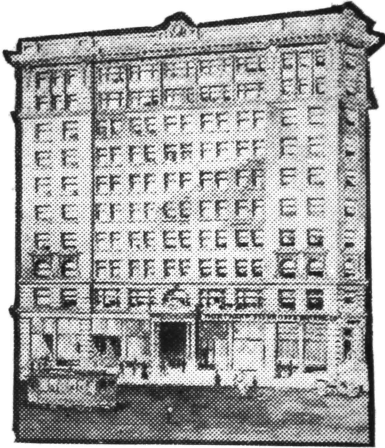
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First National Bank

Fairbanks, Alaska



Report of Condition, Close of Business September 4, 1906:

Resources	Dollars
Loans and discounts	\$88,496.20
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured ..	20,245.61
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation ..	50,000.00
Premiums on U. S. Bonds	1,172.79
Banking house, furniture & fixtures Due from National Banks (not re- serve agents)	17,745.77
Due from State Banks and Bankers	40,375.00
Due from approved reserve agents	664,725.13
Checks and other cash items	48,715.72
Notes of other National Banks	16,185.72
Specie	420.00
Legal tender notes	\$1,198.75
Redemption fund with U. S. treas- urer (5 per cent. circulation)	660.00
Gold Bullion on hand	1,858.75
	2,500.00
	171,712.09

Liabilities	Dollars
Capital stock paid in	\$50,000.00
Surplus fund	10,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	53,328.93
National Bank notes outstanding ..	49,500.00
Due to State Banks and Bankers ..	109,316.13
Individual deposits subject to check	806,340.78
Demand certificates of deposit	38,125.14
Certified checks	6,275.00
Liabilities other than those above stated	1,266.80

Total

Total

District of Alaska, ss:
I, D. N. Freeman, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief

D. N. FREEMAN,
Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of September, 1906.

LUTHER C. HESS,
Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:

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ALASKA-YUKON MAGAZINE

March 1907.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

"YUKON WINTER"—Drawing Illustrating Poem on Page 42.....	Frontispiece
COMMERCIAL ALASKA—E. S. Harrison	3
MINING IN THE NORTHLAND—"Sourdough"	11
WHEN NORTH WINDS BLOW (Verse)—E. S. Harrison	19
ROAD BUILDING IN ALASKA	20
Compiled from Major W. P. Richardson's Report.	
INDUSTRIAL CENTERS IN YUKON TERRITORY AND ALASKA	23
ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—Frank L. Merrick	30
"THE WITCH GLASS"—Stella Dunaway	35
How It Discovered a White Thlingit and Helped Him to a Higher Life.	
YUKON WINTER (Verse)—F. H. Anderson	42
A CASE OF PIZENING—A Pelly River Prospector	43
A WOMAN IN ALASKA—Sarah Solstice	47
AN INNUIT LEGEND	51
PALACE IN A SNOW-BANK—Piere Marchon	54
NOTED MEN OF THE NORTHLAND	57
CONFEDERATE CRUISER IN BERING SEA	61
THE NEW STRIKE ON THE CHANDLAR	63
A KLONDIKE DUET (Verse)—Leone Vaughan	65
HE IS A PELLY RIVER HUSKY, FINEST LEADER ON THE TRAIL (Cartoon)—T. Rosenthal	67
EDITORIAL, OPINION ABOUT ALASKA AND OTHER THINGS	68 to 83
YUKON YARNS	84
UNITED STATES CUSTOM SERVICE IN ALASKA	86
Report of Customs Collector Clarence L. Hobart.	
PUBLISHER'S ANNOUNCEMENT	94

ALASKA-YUKON MAGAZINE

Issued by

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ALASKA BUILDING, SEATTLE.

Subscription 25 cents the copy; \$3.00 the year.

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THE MUSER.



"YUKON WINTER."

Illustrating Poem in this number.

ALASKA-YUKON MAGAZINE

VOL. III

MARCH, 1907

No. 1

Commercial Alaska

By E. S. HARRISON



THIS is a money-making age. Not that other ages have failed to demonstrate the money-making propensity, although there probably never was a time when money exercised greater power than it does now. The world has more money now than it ever had, and the world needs more money than it has. Commerce has grown and expanded, methods of production and distribution have so improved and have become so complex that all the money which made the glittering pageants of Rome and subsequently gave the commercial supremacy to Constantinople, would not now be a drop in a bucketful compared to the ordinary requirements of the commercial and transportation interests of our country. Since the days of the transmutation of steam into energy, there has been an era of invention constantly increasing in magnitude and importance until today machinery of wonderful mechanism and capacity may be used in almost every department of industrial endeavor. And the first question now in regard to any phase of life of sufficient importance to attract attention, is "will it pay?" In other words, commercialism dominates the world.

Alaska was regarded as a very poor asset of the United States prior to the discovery of gold in the district. It was satirized in the earlier days as "Seward's Ice Chest," and described as the home of icebergs and polar bears. As late as 1881 Petroff, appointed by the United States Government to investigate Alaska and make

a report thereon, described the country from Bering Sea eastward as "a succession of rolling ice-bound moors and low mountain ranges, for seven hundred miles an unbroken waste, to the boundary line between us and British America. Then, again, from the crests of Cook Inlet and the flanks of Mt. St. Elias northward over that vast area of rugged mountain and lonely moor, to the east, near eight hundred miles, is a great expanse of country, by its position barred out from occupation and settlement by our own people. The climatic condition is such that this immense area will remain undisturbed in the possession of its savage occupants, man and beast." But the discovery of gold in this region has either changed the aspect of the country or the point of view of the observer. Not only has the country been found habitable, but many people who have spent a period of several years in this distant part of Alaska have learned to like the climate.

The discovery of gold in Alaska has led to the discovery of many other things of value. The adventurous prospector, penetrating the wilderness of the vast interior, has discovered fertile valleys where climatic conditions permit of agriculture and home making. He has found great forests of timber, and while it is not the very best quality of timber, still it will make lumber, and it comprises an almost inexhaustible fuel supply for the future generations that will inhabit this part of our domain. He has found scenic features which belong to the most rugged and picturesque in the world, comprising gigan-

tic glaciers, lofty snow-capped mountains, beautiful rivers, some with cataracts and waterfalls, and many other natural features that please the senses. He has found a sportsman's paradise where many kinds of big game may be seen in plenty; and he has found every stream in the country stocked with fish and furnishing sport for the angler that might call back to earth the spirit of Isaac Walton. He has found other minerals besides gold—copper, tin, coal, petroleum—and every one of these many features and other minerals are commercial assets. All of these things directly or indirectly may be converted into money, and this is why the world is inquiring about Alaska, this is why an interest in this country has developed at the commercial centers where money has accumulated in the United States, and this is one of the reasons why the Alaska-Yukon Magazine has been established.

During Russian occupation there was but one industry of any importance in Alaska. That industry was the business of securing the skins of the fur-bearing animals of the northern land and sea. At the time of the transfer of this country to the United States, the fur industry was decadent, but there was a time when the Russian-American Company, which was chartered June 8th, 1799, was one of the strongest and most affluent corporations in the world. It comprised among its stockholders many of the nobility at St. Petersburg. The dividends of this company made many people wealthy. Under its charter, the company was virtually owner of Alaska, and it and the Hudson Bay Company are historic because of the immense territory they explored and the pioneering character of their business.

After the United States secured possession of Alaska, the fur trade continued to be the only industry of any importance for many years. But after a couple of decades of American occupation, some men familiar with the fishing business, discovered that the waters of Alaskan bays and inlets were teeming with fish. The fishing industry was established, and it has steadily grown to great magnitude and importance. The Alaskan salmon canneries are the biggest

in the world and the Alaskan salmon pack is greater than the salmon pack of any other fishery. The value of the salmon caught in Alaskan waters last year is near \$9,000,000. Salmon fishing is the branch of the fishing industry that has been exploited to the greatest degree, but there are other kinds of food fishes in Alaskan waters, and there is a promise that the other branches of the Alaskan fishing industry will soon become prominent in the commercial activities of this country.

The straits and inlets of Southeastern Alaska are the favorite feeding ground of halibut, and during the last few years halibut fishing in these waters has grown rapidly, and the industry has become both profitable and promising. Alaskan halibut are sent to Seattle by the ship-load, and from this point are trans-shipped to the principal cities of the Eastern states. The cod industry in the waters of Bering Sea and the North Pacific Ocean has not been exploited to any great extent. Prof. Geo. Davidson estimates that there are 40,000 square miles of cod banks in these waters where cod fishing may be made the source of fair profit. The fast decreasing supply of cod from the banks of New Foundland will make these cod banks in our western and northern waters of great and unquestionable value.

This is but a brief reference to a wonderfully interesting and but partially explored field of commercial endeavor in the Northland. The facts pertaining to any source of food supply are valuable. There are many things in constant use and regarded by our civilization as necessities which in an exigency we might dispense with, but as long as man is constituted as he now is, it will be impossible for him to dispense with food. As salmon, halibut and cod are three of the leading food fishes of the sea, it follows that waters where they abound in great numbers have a value that cannot be estimated. In the streams of Alaska are several kinds of most excellent food fish, comprising trout and grayling. While they are not in sufficient quantity to possess the economic value of the sea fishes heretofore named, they are of a very great value as a source of food supply for the

explorer, prospector, and for the citizen of Alaska.

A hasty glance at the fur and fishing industries in Alaska will reveal one striking feature, that is, their magnitude. In the palmy days of the Russian-American Company, the Alaskan fur industry was the greatest in the world, and even later under American possession, including the furs from seals, the fur product of Alaska has yielded a very large revenue and immense profits.

als and more valuable minerals than any other mining region of the globe. This proof is to be found in the facts pertaining to recent developments, the great stride that the Alaskan mining industry has taken in the last seven or eight years. From an output of comparative insignificance Alaska has risen until it ranks next to the principal gold-producing states of the United States. It is the only part of the United States where tin has been found in commercial quan-

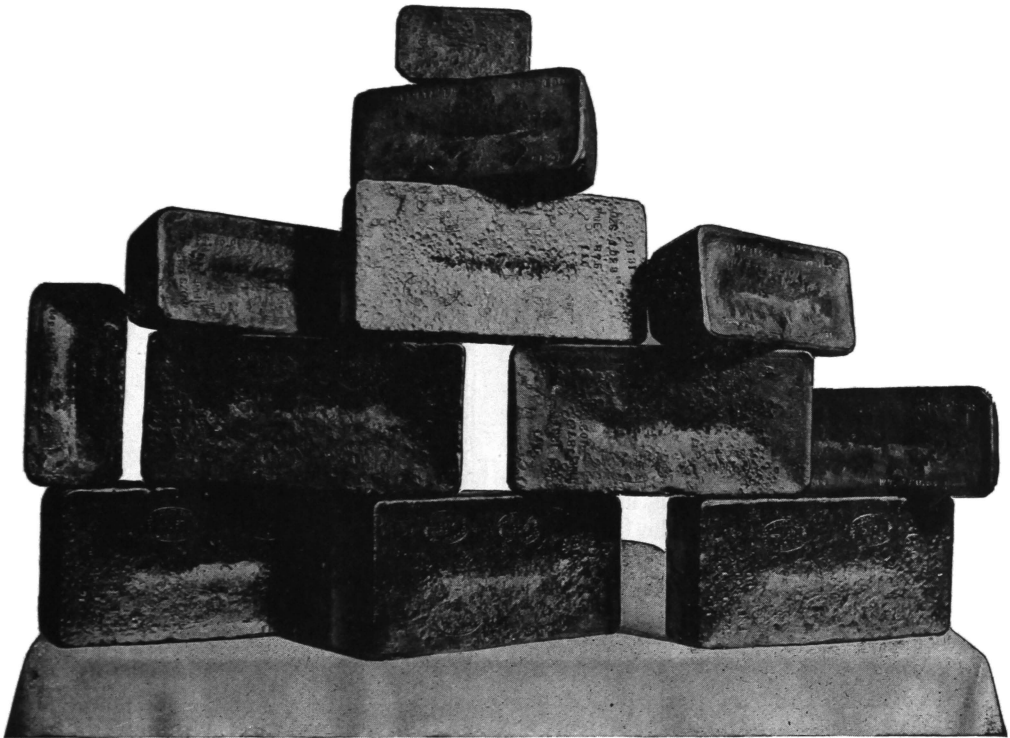


Photo by B. B. Dobbs.

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS OF GOLD BRICKS.

The fishing industry starting later, rapidly developed into a business of the first magnitude. The idea one gets from these suggestions is this, whatever Alaska yields, she yields prolifically. By analogy we may conclude that the mining industry, the most recent of the three principal industries of Alaska, will ere long take first rank in productiveness among the mining industries of other parts of the world. There is better proof, however, than analogy that Alaskan mines will soon be producing more precious met-

alities; and its copper mines, as yet only partially developed, most of them undeveloped, promise to be the richest in the world.

There is no way of ascertaining the exact total gold product of Alaska. The output of gold from the Nome country since 1898 is about \$42,000,00. The output of gold from the Fairbanks region since 1903 is about \$16,000,000. The great Treadwell Quartz Mine and other quartz mines near Juneau have produced about \$40,000,000. Gold has been mined in the

Yukon and its tributaries since the early eighties. The aggregate gold output from American tributaries of this big river is at least \$10,000,000. Southern Alaska and Southeastern Alaska placer mines have produced probably \$10,000,000 more. This makes a total of \$118,000,000, and this is a low estimate. The larger part of this output has been mined during the past six years. An estimate of the quantity of gold in sight in ground that has been prospected, or partially prospected so that some idea of values may be obtained, makes figures of such magnitude that one cannot fully comprehend them. A mining operator in the Nome country who is not afflicted with the dreaming habit, estimates the gold product of Seward Peninsula in sight at \$500,000,000. This is only a small part of Alaska, some 22,000 square miles in a territory of near 600,000 square miles. Vast areas of other parts of Alaska are mineralized, particularly Tanana Valley, a district much larger than the Nome country, where the possibilities of the gold mining industry offer a splendid opportunity for the imagination to run riot. I fully realize that this is strong talk; to some readers it may sound like boom talk, but the men who know will bear me out in this statement, that I am but telling the frozen truth. I do not believe that there is a country under the sun that offers the opportunity for mining that Alaska and the Yukon Territory present to the prospector and capitalist today.

A notation of the placer mining areas of Alaska which have been discovered, will give the reader an idea of the wide distribution of gold in the district. The Seward Peninsula country is pretty generally mineralized, and gold has been found in all parts of the peninsula from Golovin Bay to Kotzebue Sound. There are mining camps on the Bering Coast and the Arctic Slope and in the interior of Seward Peninsula, showing at this early day that the gold which has been discovered consists of more than prospects; it has been found in paying quantities. Northerly and easterly from Seward Peninsula, gold has been found on many streams and in a few places has been profitably extracted. But the great dis-

tance of these localities from a base of supplies makes it next to impossible to develop these properties, and they must lie fallow until better means of transportation have solved one of the greatest problems of the Northland. In this far northern country are the Noatak and Kobuk rivers with their tributaries, comprising a mineralized zone four hundred miles long and possibly one hundred miles wide. Good quartz prospects have been found, but there has not been enough prospecting and development work to ascertain the values that may be here awaiting the industry and ingenuity of man to become potent factors in the commercial life of the world.



THIS PYRAMID OF GOLD IS WORTH
\$780,000.

The headwaters of the Kobuk, Noatak and Colville Rivers are only a short distance from the headwaters of the Koyukuk and Chandlar. The first named rivers flow into Kotzebue Sound, the other two fall into the Yukon River. Rich diggings have been found on the Koyukuk, which were mined before the Nome country was discovered, and recently a promising strike has been made on the Chandlar. All this region is a mineralized country, rich in the promise of both placer and quartz mines, the quartz containing silver, copper and lead as well as gold. It is a big region and a long distance from any supply station, Bettles and Coldfoot mining camps on the Koy-

ukuk River being the nearest. As yet this region is only partially explored, and exploration must precede prospecting.

This is a glimpse of that part of Alaska lying north of the Yukon River, and while there is much of it that is still a terra incognita, the reader will observe that a very large mineralized area has been found, and that a very small part of this mineralized area has been partially prospected, and a very small part of the prospected ground is now in process of development.

Perhaps one-third of Alaska is north of

where farming is possible, and where ultimately several million American citizens will live contentedly in desirable homes, and secure the prosperity which provides for offspring and old age. In this region the most important mining camp is Fairbanks. Here is a town only about four years old, equal in size and accessories to Nome, builded as the result of the development of the wonderful Tanana mines. Last season these mines produced more gold than the mines of any other locality in Alaska. Tributary to Fairbanks are the new diggings

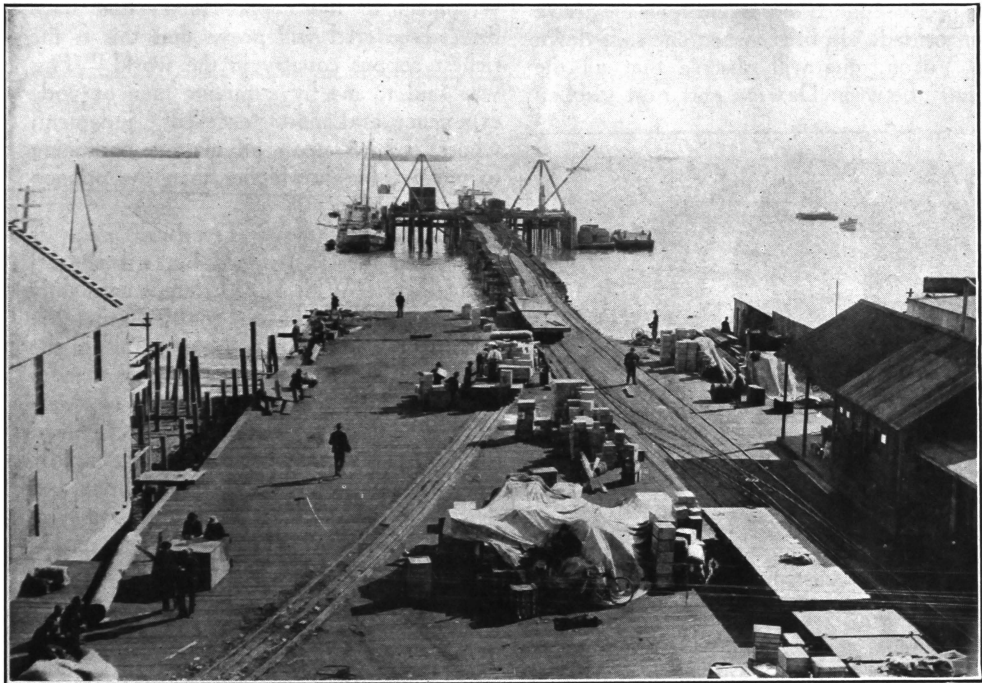


Photo by E. B. Dobbs.

COMMERCIAL CENTER OF NORTHWESTERN ALASKA.
Terminal and Wharf of Seward Peninsula Railroad, at Nome.

the Yukon River. The remaining two-thirds comprises the most desirable part of the district. There are no agricultural possibilities of any consequence in that part of Alaska north of the Yukon River. It can hardly be called a desirable place for home making. But in the great extent of country south of the Yukon River, there are many localities where the climate will compare favorably with many of the eastern and middle states,

that have been more recently discovered, the Tenderfoot mines one hundred miles further up the Tanana River, and the Kantishna and Bonfield countries, westerly from Fairbanks. The Tanana Valley is about six hundred miles long and one hundred miles wide. The most valuable gold mines that have been discovered in this region are very deep. Where the pay-streak is one hundred feet or sometimes two hundred feet below the surface, it takes lots of time

and lots of money to sink holes to bedrock, and as a result comparatively little prospecting has been done. The possibilities of this country are great, but it is going to take a long time to find all the pay-streaks which are hidden deep in the ground.

Between the Tanana Valley and the Dawson country are the Rampart diggings, Forty Mile River, Birch Creek, Sam's Creek, Coal Creek, Woodchopper Creek and Webber Creek. All of these streams are producing gold, and when worked by better methods than used at the present time, will produce much more gold than they have ever yielded. In brief, when one sails down the Yukon, one will observe that all the country between Dawson and Fort Gibbon



GARRET BUSCH'S STORE, NULATO.
Type of Yukon Trading Station.

is the kind of country that looks good to the prospector and miner. The gift of prophecy is not required to foresee many new diggings in this part of Alaska.

The Kenai Peninsula and Chistochina country possess a wide area of auriferous ground and the annual gold product from this region is about a quarter of a million dollars. There is a big territory of which but little is known adjacent to Cook Inlet, and this is a country in which there are some splendid possibilities. The western slope of the Alaska Range is another comparatively unexplored region where gold has been discovered, and where some very excellent mines may be developed. The Copper River country is known to be very

rich in minerals. Some placer diggings have been discovered in this region, and have produced gold valued at several hundred thousand dollars. But here again, the development of these mines waits the solution of the transportation problem. In fact, the prospecting of this region waits for better transportation facilities which will soon be at hand, as railroad building in this country has begun.

As the name would imply, the Copper River country is probably richer in copper deposits than any other mineral. "The development of the copper mines that have been discovered will prove that this is the richest copper country in the world." This was said to me by a mining man of wide experience and most excellent judgment, whose opinion upon all matters pertaining to mining, I value higher than the opinion of any one else.

The world-famous Treadwell mine is so well known as to need but a brief reference here. With 1,000 stamps constantly crushing the ore that is quarried from the mountain, it is the biggest stamp mill in the world, and its total product to date is more than five times the purchase price of Alaska. The quartz mines of the Ketchikan region have got a start that will rapidly bring this part of Alaska to the front and demonstrate its worth as a quartz mining district. There are also quartz mines on the Alaska Peninsula, but their commercial value is problematic as they are not as yet numbered among the productive and paying mines of the country.

This is a very hasty and imperfect review of some of the more important mining regions of Alaska, but it is comprehensive enough to show that a vast extent of territory contains gold and that a large number of producing camps have sprung up during the last few years. It must be apparent to the reader, as it is to the writer, that in this wide country, much of which is as yet a wilderness, there are many more opportunities for important discoveries to be made than have been made. The development of the gold resources of this part of the Northland means the infusion of much new blood into the commercial life of the world.

When Alaskan tin mines are producing

a large part of the tin used in the world, when her vast deposits of lignite, bituminous and anthracite coal are made the source of supply that will prevent a fuel shortage in the western part of the United States, when the Kayak and other petroleum districts of Alaska are derricked and tanked and provided with pipe lines leading to tide water, there will be other mining industries in Alaska that will vie in importance with gold and copper mining.

Furs, fish and minerals, these constitute the Alaskan commercial triumverate. Under American dominion these three Alaskan features of commerce have yielded

steam hoists, steam shovels, dredgers and many kinds of improved mining machinery show that the best mining methods are used in this far-away country for the purpose of minimizing the cost and maximizing productive results. One would see the Yukon River, the great natural highway to the interior of Alaska and the Yukon Territory, its waters churned by the stern wheels of many river steamers that carry the commerce of this infant empire. Not many years ago a steam vessel on this river was unknown; now it and some of its tributaries are traversed daily during the summer season by these carriers of commerce



DEPOT OF TANANA MINES RAILROAD, FAIRBANKS.

revenues not less than \$300,000,000; the gold product being something over \$100,000,000; and this is only the beginning, this is but the first vintage of a vineyard laden with fruit. If one would take a trip through Alaska today, one would appreciate the fact that commerce is rapidly improving, and that there is here an opportunity for almost boundless improvement. One would see a deal of industrial activity, towns with all the modern accessories of cities, the growth of but a few years, railroads connecting bases of supplies with hustling mining camps where

in their work of distributing supplies to the distant mining camps in this thinly populated country.

There is another aspect of commercial Alaska which will give the reader an insight into the status of commerce in the district of Alaska last year. This aspect is revealed in the report for 1906 of Clarence L. Hobart, collector of customs for Alaska. An analysis of this report shows a prosperous and progressive condition of affairs in the Northland. It shows that the business of 1906 is four times the business of 1903. An increase is noted in the total domestic

shipment inward over 1905 of more than 20 per cent and in gold production over 52 per cent. The increase in the gold production is greater than this, because the custom house did not get a memorandum of all the gold shipped out of Alaska. According to the custom house figures the gold product of Alaska last year was \$18,471,451. The mint returns show that the gold product of Alaska last year was \$21,250,000. The mint returns are more nearly correct, but even the mints do not get all the gold that comes out of Alaska, as a considerable quantity is used in the manufacture of jewelry. But the custom houses in Alaska have the means of ascertaining the exact value of all imports, and the report of the collector of customs for Alaska shows that in 1906 Alaska's total imports were valued at \$19,925,942. The exports for the corresponding period, according to the same report, amounted to \$31,534,392. The exports consisted of copper ore and matte, fish, fish guano, fish oil, furs, gypsum, tin ore and concentrates, whale bone, miscellaneous merchandise and gold. Next to gold the article of greatest commercial value and importance is canned salmon, valued at \$8,449,360. Third in the list is copper ore and matte, valued at \$1,785,016. The notable feature about this product is the increase in its value from \$258,302 in 1904.

It will be seen that the value of Alaskan exports are \$11,608,450 in excess of Alaskan imports. It is a law of trade and a principle of economics that whenever an individual is producing something of greater value than the value of the things he consumes and is finding a market for his products he is prospering. The principle applies to communities, as well as to individuals, and the balance of trade in favor of Alaska is one of the best evidences of the prosperity of the new Northland. That this prosperity is growing is shown by this report, the increase of business for the past year over 1905 being 38 per cent.

The collector has divided Alaska into four sections for convenience in making his report. Southeastern Alaska comprises Alaska from the southern boundary as far west as Sitka. Southern Alaska comprises

the country west of Sitka to and including Unalaska. The part of Alaska designated by the title Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean includes all ports on Bering Sea except St. Michael. This covers the Nome country. The other section is the Yukon River region, including St. Michael and Fairbanks. A comparative statement of the imports for these various sections shows that Southeastern Alaska received goods valued at \$4,451,203; Southern Alaska, \$3,205,913; the Nome country, \$6,051,185; the Yukon River region, \$4,659,844. A comparison of these values with the values of shipment in previous years shows a substantial and steady increase from all the different regions since 1903, indicating that the prosperity and growth of Alaska is not confined to any particular part of the district.

In order to transport the merchandise and various kinds of supplies to Alaska last year, 436 vessels were used in the domestic trade on the various lines of transportation. The ports to which they sailed are Ketchikan, Wrangell, Juneau, Skagway, Seward, St. Michael, Nome, Unalaska, Kodiak, Valdez and Sitka. The total entered tonnage of these vessels is 370,869. In the foreign trade 388 vessels were entered, having a total tonnage of 191,902. All these vessels combined would make a very imposing fleet. They represent an investment of millions of dollars and comprise the machinery of a transportation industry extensive and valuable and growing.

Another suggestive item in Collector Hobart's report is a statement of the cost of the service of the collector of customs in Alaska. This cost varies in different ports, the minimum expense being at Nome and the maximum expense at Seward. At Nome the expense of collecting \$1 is \$0.174, and in Seward the expense of collecting \$1 is \$10.415. But the average expense of the collector service in Alaska for each dollar collected is \$0.638. This shows that the collector of customs service in Alaska was conducted last year at a profit of a little more than 36 per cent. The total receipts from Alaska customs last year were \$112,111.

*The collector's report is printed in the last pages of this number. It is valuable as a record and for reference.

Mining In The Northland

By "SOURDOUGH"



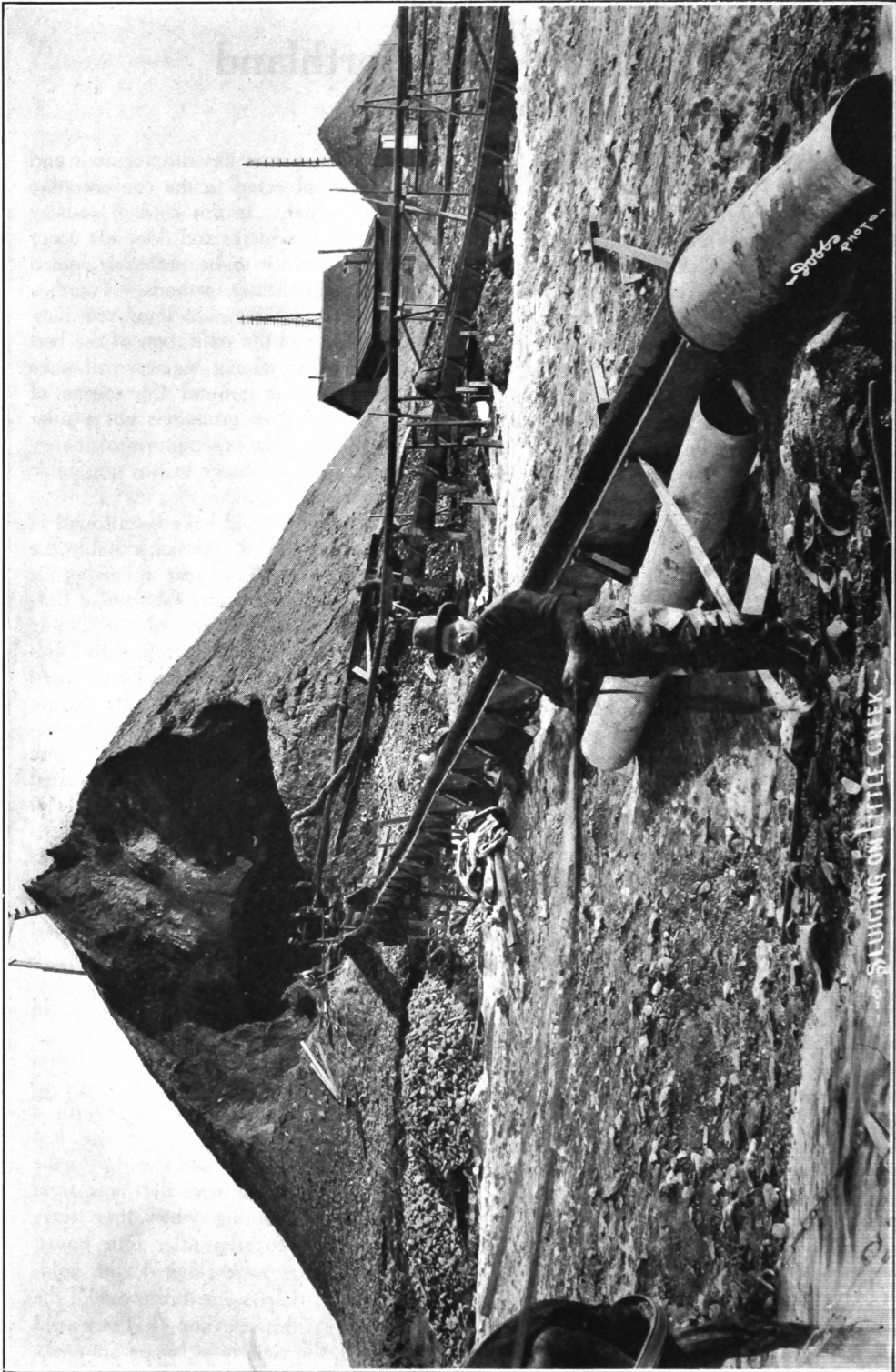
PLACER gold mining in Alaska and the Yukon Territory presents problems hitherto unencountered in any of the mining regions of North America. Chiefest among these problems is the frozen ground to be found in midsummer from a few feet below the surface to bedrock in many parts of the Northland. In fact, this is the distinguishing problem, this is wherein the placer mines of Alaska and Yukon Territory differ from other placer mines with which our miners are familiar.

Placer gold deposits in the north are not different from the placer gold deposits in the United States or elsewhere. They are an illustration of the generally accepted theory of the gold's pre-existence in quartz. Weathering influences which have caused ledges and bedrock to give up their values have been followed by water action which has concentrated the gold in the gravel beds of ancient streams. Creeks belonging to the present era cutting these old channels, or in places flowing along their course, have brought to light the precious metal hidden by nature ages ago. If by some psychological power a person could make a map of the ancient drainage system of Alaska and the Yukon Territory he would possess the key to the greatest deposit of wealth the world has ever known. There are some surface evidences in the north of these ancient channels, but they are not plain and readily discernible. In California the old channels have been traced for many miles, and have been followed in some places by tunneling under mountains of lava a thousand feet or more in depth. Lack of visual evidence of these channels in the North has prevented the prospector or miner from making the discoveries that he might have made could he have worked with more foresight.

There are vast areas of unconcentrated placers in this region of the world, thousands of square miles of country where bed-

rock containing values has disintegrated and has not been subjected to the concentrating influence of water. In this kind of country gold is scattered widely, and does not occur in sufficient quantity to be profitably mined by the old and ordinary methods. There is, however, a probability that improved mining machinery and the utilization of the best skill of the modern mining engineer will make this kind of placer ground the source of profit. This kind of ground is not a poor man's diggings. Big expenditures of money must be made preliminary to any profitable work that may be done.

Rich deposits of gold have been found in some of the beaches of Alaska, notably the beach at Nome. The year following its discovery the United States Geological Survey made a reconnaissance of the Nome country, and in its published report that followed suggested that old beach lines existed in this part of Alaska, escarpments due to wave action having been found in the mountains several miles from the present shore line and at an elevation of several hundred feet. The report intimated to the miners of this region that some of these old beach lines would be found as rich as the beach that was discovered in 1899. It took three years for the miners to come into a full realization of the value of the advice which might be read between the lines in the United States Geological Survey's report of the Nome country, 1900. But they finally found these old beach lines, where wave action had concentrated the gold, and found spots so rich that it was possible to get a pan of sand and gravel which contained gold dust worth a thousand dollars. From one of the first strikes made in this old beach line during the winter of 1904-5 four men shoveling from the dump in the spring when they were cleaning up had to stop after four hours' work, as the riffles were clogged with gold. Forty thousand dollars was taken out of the sluice-boxes at this cleanup. These old beach lines in the vicinity of Nome are prob-



SLUICING FROM A DUMP ON LITTLE CREEK, NEAR NOME.

ably the richest placer deposits ever discovered. Their extent is as yet unknown, and while they are probably not so extensive as the ancient channels of this region, they will produce a vast amount of gold.

A Swede who was asked the secret of his luck replied: "Yust digging holes." This kind of Swede luck is necessary to find these ancient beach deposits. Having discovered the old beach line, its general trend is indicated by the present shore line and the topography of the country. But the right kind of bedrock conditions must exist in order for wave action to concentrate the gold. A hole dug where these bedrock conditions do not exist is profitless work.

gings of this country are nothing like the bar diggings of California in the early fifties. The gold in the bars is usually fine, although frequently heavy pieces are found. But the general character of bar deposits and the large quantity of low grade gravel in the bars place this kind of ground in the same category with the unconcentrated placers. Machinery is necessary to profitably mine the bars of the Yukon and its principal tributaries.

It is most too early to discuss quartz, although some promising quartz prospects have been found in many parts of Alaska, and a few quartz mines have been developed. The outlook for quartz mining is en-

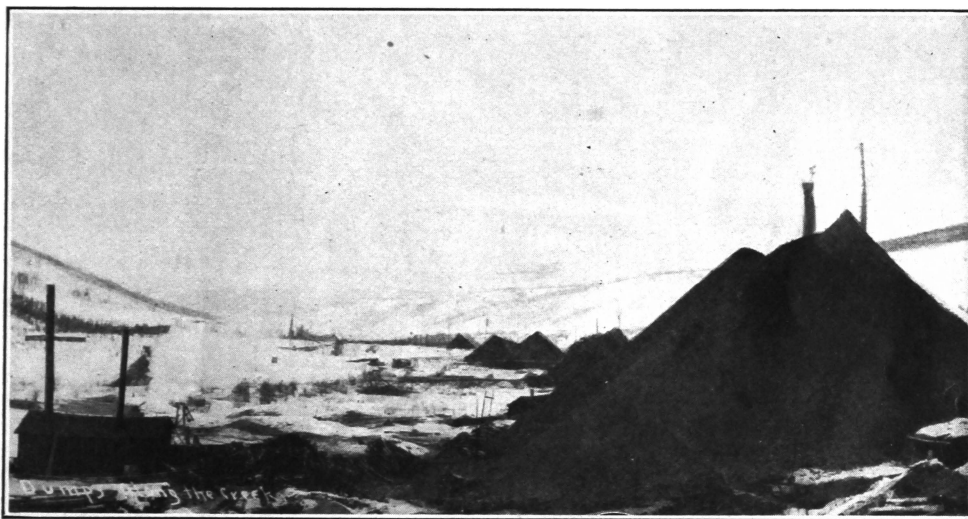


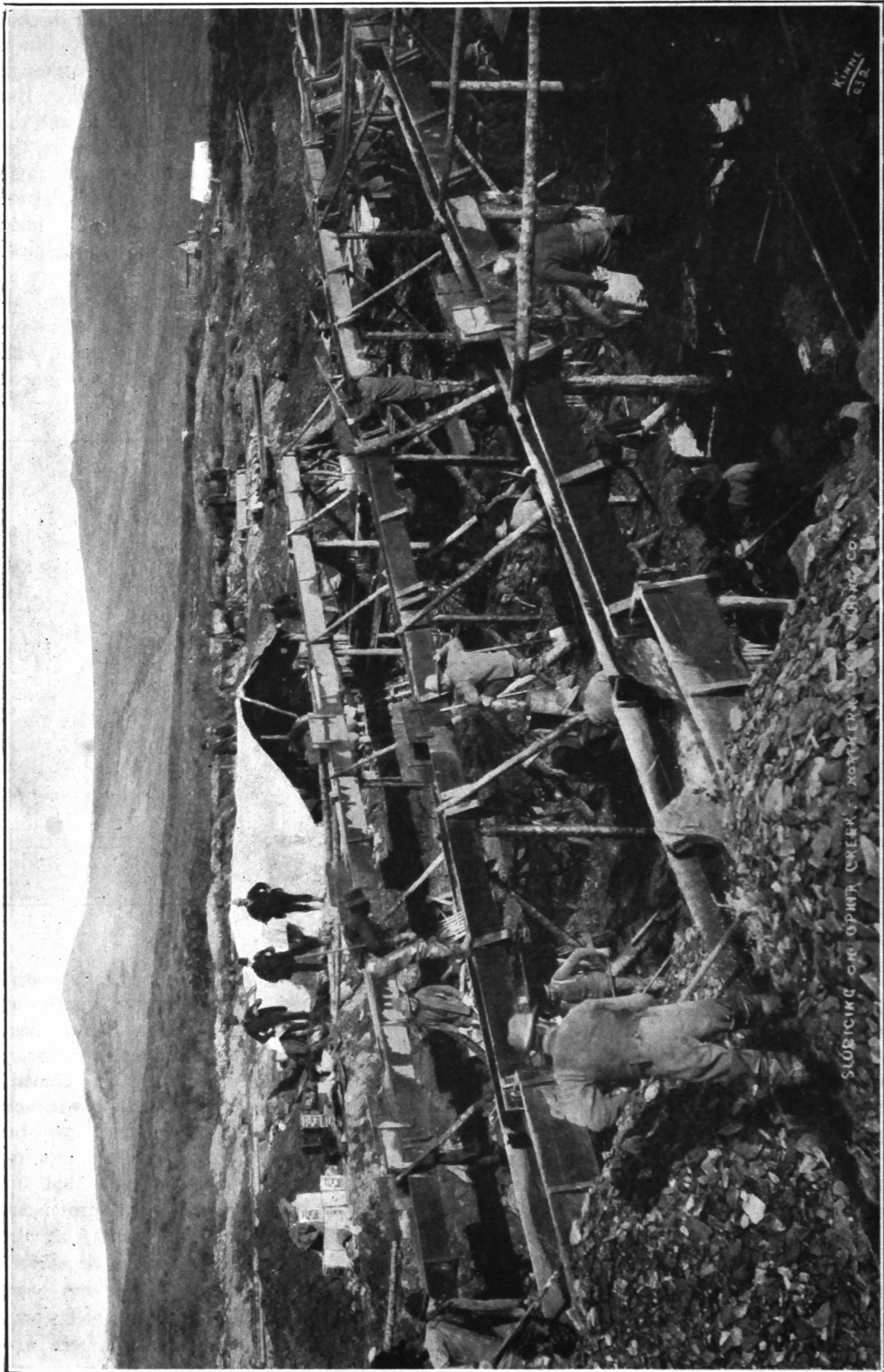
Photo by Johnson.

WINTER DUMPS ON CLEARY CREEK.

Drifts in rich beach mines encounter lean spots, sometimes barren spots, and the pay may "peter out." Although the pay is less uniform than in channels, the beach deposits are not what miners call spotted diggings, but the rich spots are rich enough for one spot to make a man a fortune.

The river bar diggings of Alaska and the Yukon Territory have never been the source of much profit. In the early days gold seekers with a knowledge of gold conditions in California prospected on the bars of the Yukon and its tributaries, and found a number of places where they could make a little money with a rocker. But the bar dig-

ging. Both in Southeastern Alaska, and in the extreme northern part of the country, where the Rocky Mountains, the great backbone of the North American continent, end near the Arctic Ocean, there are quartz ledges and surface evidence of quartz mines. Time and money will be required to develop the quartz mines of Alaska. There is a probability that tin mining will be a profitable and prominent industry of Northwestern Alaska, as tin from this region has already been developed in commercial quantities. There has been considerable prospecting for veins of tin ore, and a great deal of money has been ex-



KINNE
U.S.A.

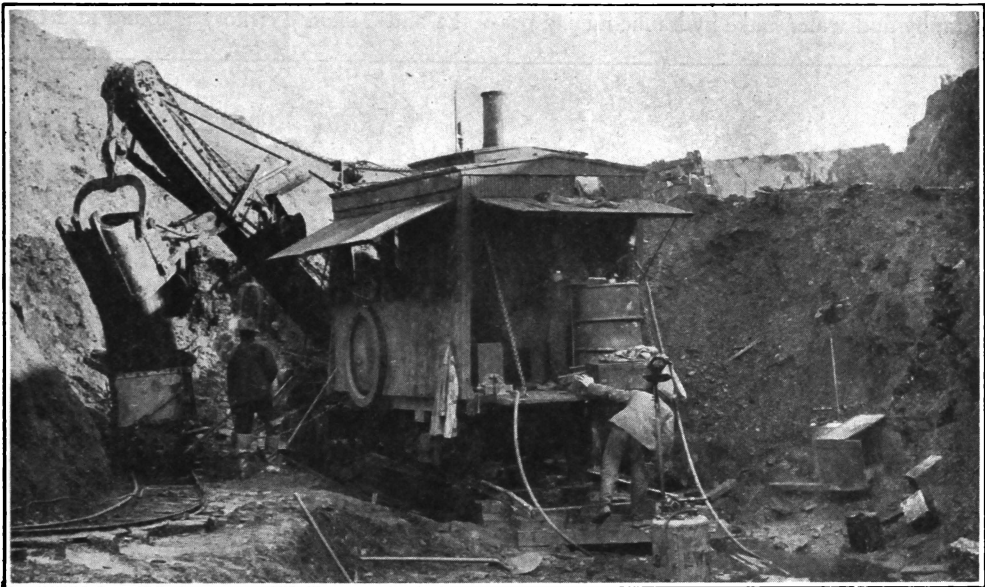
SULICING ON OPHIR CREEK, KONTAGAN, ALASKA

SULICING ON OPHIR CREEK, COUNCIL DISTRICT.

Photo by A. B. Kinne.

pended in the work of developing tin ledges. But aside from the Treadwell Mine and other mines near Juneau, and the Hurrah Quartz Mine on Seward Peninsula, and some of the quartz mines of Ketchikan, Alaska has not as yet made much of a showing in quartz mining. The wide areas of placer deposits as yet only partially developed, offer opportunities for money that may be obtained with less effort and at less expense than from quartz. According to the history of mining camps it will be several years before Alaska or Yukon quartz mines become prominent in the gold mining industry of the Northland.

thawing the gravel with fires was very slow, and a great stride was made in mining frozen ground when the steam thawer was first introduced. It is the method used today. Steam is forced through pipes, or hose, to a piece of tubular iron work with points that are driven into the ground. The steam forced into these tubes thaws the ground, which is then excavated, and the points again put in the ground for another thaw. By this process shafts 200 feet deep to bed-rock are sunk in prospecting for the precious metal. No better means than this have as yet been devised for mining rich frozen ground. Without going into the cost of

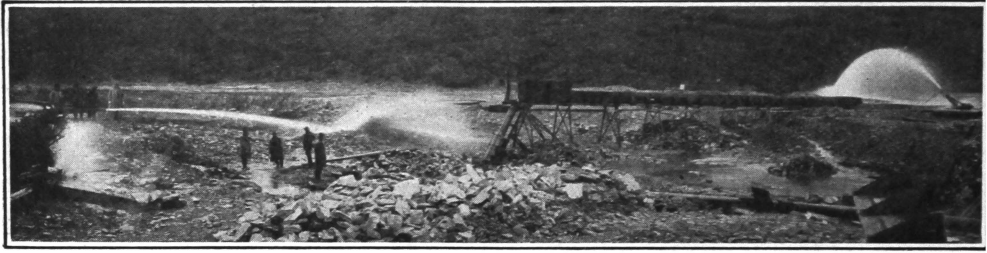


THE STEAM SHOVEL.

The methods used in placer mining have generally been the methods that were most available. In the summer season most of the creeks where shallow placers have been found are thawed, and the old sluice-box and shoveling-in method has been used to wash these auriferous gravels. There have been times and places when sluice-boxes were not easily obtained, owing to the absence of both lumber and timber. Pretty nearly all the diggings on the Yukon have been in frozen ground. Timber has always been available, and in the beginning it was used to thaw the ground. The process of

operating it is evident from the facts cited that low-grade gravels cannot be worked by this method.

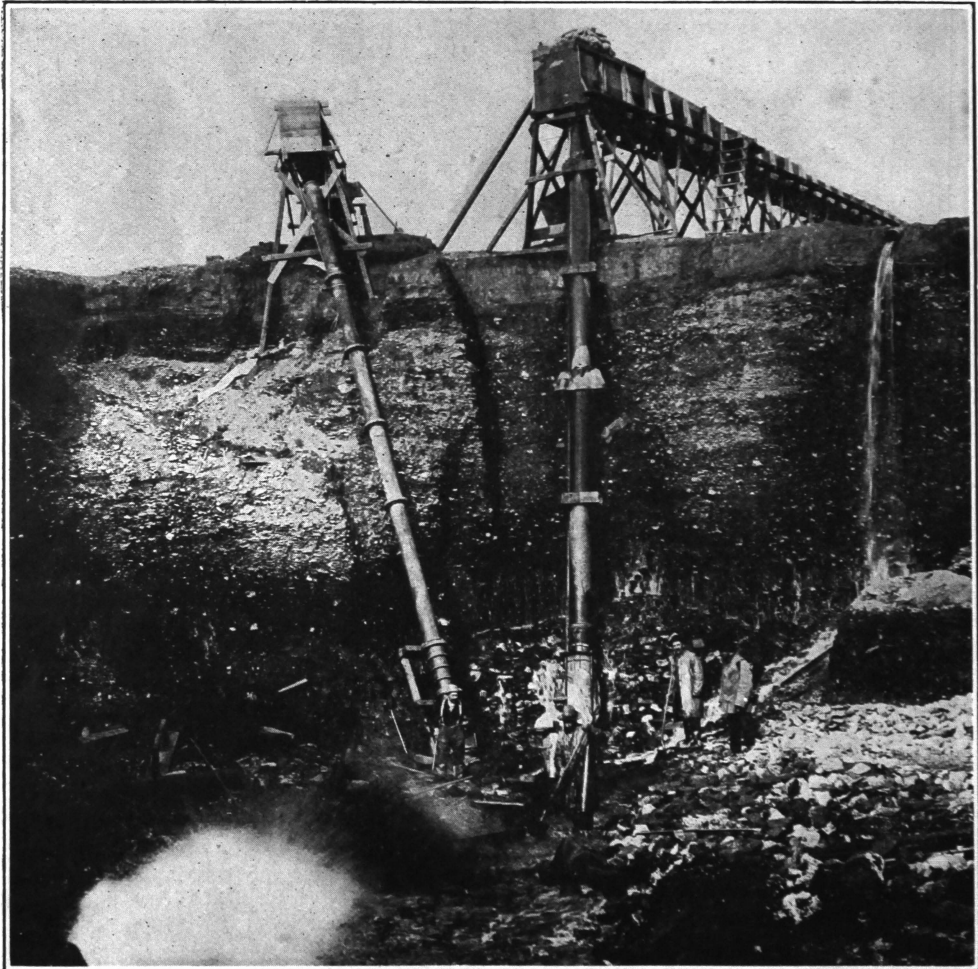
It has been proved that the combined action of sun, air and water will very rapidly thaw frozen ground. Pretty nearly all the surface of Alaska is carpeted with moss, and this moss protects the frost in the ground from the sun. The warm summer days thaw the surface from one to three feet. A plow will cut up this thawed surface, and a good sluice-head of water under favorable conditions will very quickly wash off the ground down to the frost. This surface



HYDRAULIC MINING.

exposed to the sun and air, with water flowing over it, thaws very rapidly. The ground-slucie is a wonderful factor in getting rid of the frost in the ground. In parts of Alaska and Yukon Territory where topography and water make hydraulic mining pos-

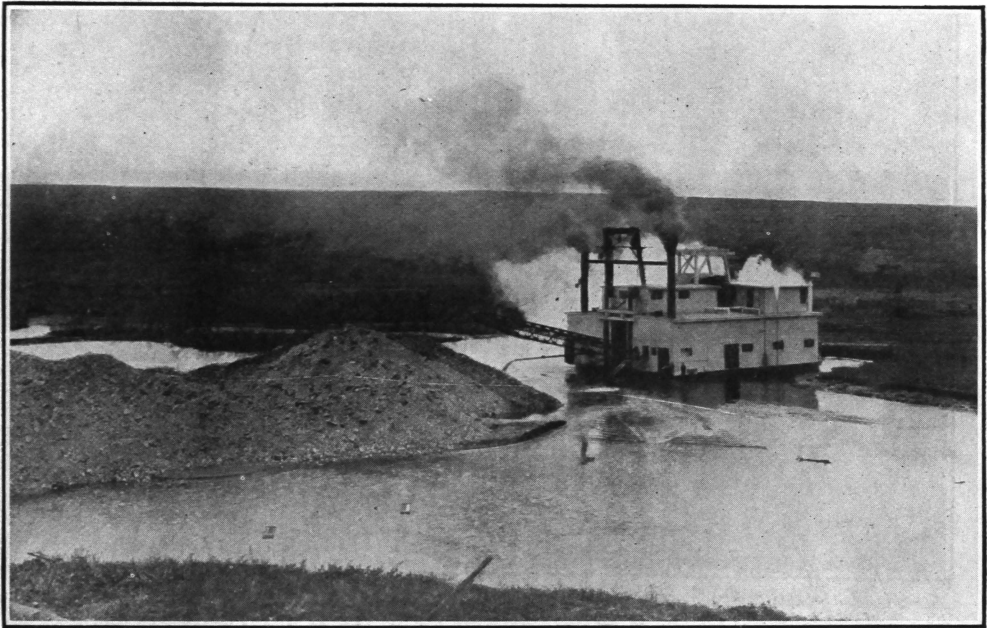
sible the ground-slucie and the giant should be the most effective and most economical method of working the placers. But a difficulty is encountered in lack of grade for disposing of tailings. Placer gold in Alaska and Yukon Territory is found in a coun-



HYDRAULIC ELEVATORS.

try that is neither precipitous nor rugged. A succession of rolling hills, round-topped mountains, and comparatively wide valleys through which the rivers flow are types of the Northland placer areas. In order to get sufficient pressure to tear down a hill-side with water it becomes necessary in this region to construct a great many miles of ditches. After pressure has been obtained at the cost of much ditch construction a miner is compelled to put in hydraulic elevators on account of lack of facilities for disposing of his tailings. Soon after he has solved the problem of frost by means

Nome country have proved very successful. In the Nome country the work has been done upon thawed ground. Throughout the northern country there are considerable areas of mineralized ground which thaw in the summer time and in which dredgers may operate unhindered. Dredge mining in this kind of ground is sure to greatly increase the gold output of the northern placer mines. When a method is devised whereby the frozen ground can be worked by dredgers this method of mining in the far north may produce more gold than all other methods combined.



TYPE OF SUCCESSFUL DREDGER IN ALASKA.

of the ground-slicing he is up against another mining problem in the disposition of tailings.

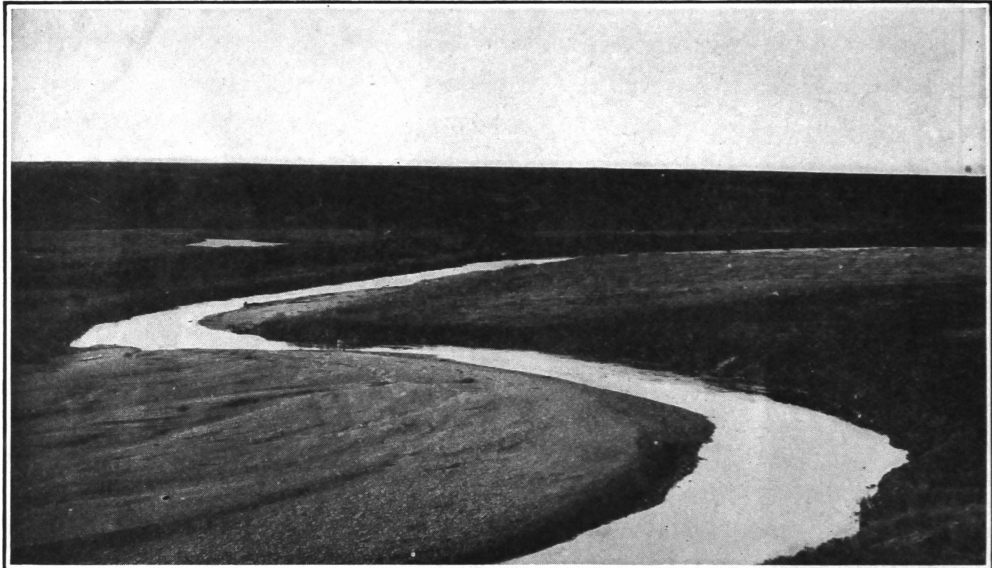
A solution of this new problem may be found in the dredger. Dredge mining has been very successfully conducted in many parts of the world, but frozen ground seemed to present an unsurmountable difficulty to this kind of mining. This difficulty has not as yet been overcome, but doubtless it will be, as dredge mining, in the Yukon Territory particularly, has received a great impetus during the past two years. Dredgers in the Klondike region and in the

The sea beaches where gold has been found and which have been worked by rockers and sluice-boxes, and in some cases reworked two or three times, still contain values that might make dredging operations profitable were it possible to operate a dredger on the beach. The natural conditions for dredge mining in sea beaches are the best that can be found, but the danger from the frequent storms that quickly arise, particularly in Bering sea, possibly less often in the North Pacific, makes it unsafe to install any ponderous machinery that cannot be easily moved on the beach.

The dredgers in use in the North are of modern type, and those that have been most successful are capable of handling from three thousand to five thousand cubic yards daily. The greatest expense in connection with the dredger is power, and there are some places where water power may be utilized. On the Upper Yukon there is enough wild power, racing madly through rocky canyons and leaping over huge boulders, to operate all the dredgers that may be established in this country for many years to come. Water power, where it is possible to obtain it, is a very important factor in

the reasons why the northern placer mines will not be speedily exhausted. Dredging ground in California that might be worked out in five years, by the same methods and by the same facilities, would last in Alaska fifteen years.

The deep diggings offer opportunities for winter work. These deep diggings are old channels from twenty to two hundred feet below the surface. Access is had to them by means of shafts, and mining is done by drifting. The thawer is used in all of these diggings, and most of the work is done in the winter season. The dumps that are



GOLD-BEARING STREAM, FLOWING INTO ARCTIC OCEAN.

securing economical methods of mining in this country.

Extensive mining by machinery can only be done during the summer season, and these seasons are very short. The frost goes out of the ground so as to permit mining operations in June, and in October the country freezes again so that the summer work is closed. In some parts of Alaska and Yukon Territory it closes late in September. One may safely calculate on four months as the open mining season of the Yukon. This is one-third of a year, and in estimating the productive value of property, proper allowance must be made for idleness of machinery two-thirds of the time. Herein is one of

taken out in the winter are washed up in the spring. Most of the mining in Dawson has been done by this method. A great deal of mining in Fairbanks has been done by this method. Less mining has been done by this method in the Nome camp than in either of the other two principal camps of the North. In the Nome country many of the creeks were shallow, and in the summer time the ground was thawed. This permitted the property to be mined by shoveling. Here more efficient work is done by horses and scrapers than by men with shovels, and a steam shovel approaching in degree the efficiency of the dredger has been successfully used in this part of the country.

The deep pay-streaks where the gravels are rich will be worked with a thawer and by drifting. After the cream of the values has been obtained by this method the dredger and hydraulic machinery will completely exhaust the gold values in this character of ground.

The new strike reported from the Chandler River is north of the Arctic Circle, and in a region where there is very little, if any, thawed ground even in midsummer. The first discoveries were shallow placers, ground that could be mined without much dead work. Very little is as yet known about

this strike, as it takes news a long time to come from this region; and the development work of last winter was necessary to prove whether this was a genuine strike of importance or just a small deposit of concentrated gravels, such as has been found in many streams of the northern country. The latest news from this region, however, indicates that the strike is of considerable magnitude, but it is not likely that these diggings will present any new problems, although they are probably the farthest north of any gold mines discovered in territory belonging to the United States.

When North Winds Blow

By E. S. HARRISON

The moon is bright, but veiled from sight
By drifting snow;
A cloudless sky, but stars are shy
When North Winds blow.
There's snow in air, snow ev'ry where
The snow can drift;
In tumult loud the hissing cloud,
Without a rift,
Is driven fast before the blast,
When North Winds blow—
A dreary grave, a tidal wave
Of wind and snow.

We hear them maul the cabin wall
And cabin door;
But let them boom, there is no room
Upon our floor;
No room we say for such as they,
From No Man's Land,
Where, I've been told, it is so cold
A frozen band
Of atmosphere, milk-white and sheer,
And tow'ring high,
With cryptic caves o'er pulseless waves,
Joins earth and sky.

A mystic maze was made by blaze
Of Northern Lights,
Which cleft the frost and seamed and
crossed
In myriad flights
From nadir to the zenith blue,
From Pole to where,

Majestic, grave, their banners wave
In subtile air.
The legends say, when North Winds lay
'Tis here they go;
Here North Winds brood in gentler mood
When South Winds blow.

But when they rage is when they wage
The conflict grand,
And hurl and tear the peaceful air,
At their command
The snow enshrouds the earth with clouds
Nor Flame, a king
Of earth, whose tongue has lapped among,
With with'ring sting,
The forest trees; and searing these,
He couched and leaped
To where afar men's dwellings are,
And ruin reaped:

Nor Flood, whose will is greater still,
King Flood who sways
The surging seas, and whose decrees
The Flame obeys,
Can stand the crush and shrieking rush
When all day long
The welkin rings and Tempest sings
His battle song;
And Demons fly athwart the sky,
Like savage foe,
O'er hill and lea, o'er Winter sea,
When North Winds blow.

Road Building In Alaska

Compiled from Major W. P. Richardson's Report.



THE report of Major W. P. Richardson, president of the Alaska Road Commissioners, is an interesting story. This is the Major's second annual report, and covers the work done last year and some of the plans for the immediate future.

The Alaska Road Commission is the result of an amendment to the Alaska Code. In the beginning, the Alaska Code provided that all money collected in Alaska for federal licenses should be converted into the treasury of the United States. At a later date amendments secured for municipal and school purposes all the federal license money collected within incorporated towns. There still remained the license money collected outside of incorporated towns, which, under the provisions of the Code, belonged to the Federal Government. In recognition of the equities in the case an amendment was enacted whereby this money collected for federal licenses outside of incorporated towns in Alaska should be used for the purpose of building roads in Alaska. The work was assigned to the War Department, and a road commission was appointed. The funds available under this act for road work were found inadequate, and the Secretary of War advised Congress that in view of the revenues received from Alaska and the need of military and post roads in the district it would be a wise and just measure to appropriate a million dollars for road building in this country. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars was appropriated last year for Alaska road work, and Congress this year has appropriated a quarter of a million dollars for the same work. The receipts from the tax fund last year were \$80,500, which, together with the \$150,000 special appropriation, made a total of \$230,500 available for road work in Alaska during the year 1906.

In a country as big as Alaska, where the expense of labor and supplies is very much

higher than in the states, \$230,000 will not go very far in building roads. But with this sum last year Major Richardson succeeded in constructing 47 miles of new wagon road and provided for the maintenance and betterment of 40 miles of road previously constructed. He cut 285 miles of new trail and improved about 200 miles of trail already in use; built a substantial bridge across the Tazlina River at a cost of \$19,000, and numerous small bridges, and flagged 247 miles of winter trail. In addition to this, a survey was made of a mail route between Fairbanks and Nome. Congress made a special appropriation of \$35,000 for this survey, the object being to secure a better and shorter winter route than the one following the tortuous windings of the Yukon River. This trail was surveyed through 600 miles of country and a feasible route secured.

When one considers that there are less than one hundred miles of highway in a country containing 590,000 square miles, an idea of the newness of the country, its undeveloped condition and sparseness of population may be obtained. Roads are essential to the development of any country. Without facilities to transport the products of a country to the markets of the world that country's wealth cannot be utilized. In Alaska, however, the most valuable product at present is gold, and as it is an illustration of "valuable articles in small packages," no great difficulty is experienced in transporting it to seaboard. But the difficulty lies in the lack of facilities for transporting supplies to the interior. Without roads the expense of developing interior mines is in some instances prohibitive. The usefulness and value of the work the Alaska Road Commission is doing cannot be overestimated.

Some of the individual instances of the economic value of Alaskan roads recently constructed are cited in the Road Commissioner's report. For instance, in the Fairbanks country the road from Summit to

Cleary, over which it is estimated 5,000 tons of freight were hauled last year at a reduction of \$10 the ton, has caused a saving of \$50,000 to the miners of Cleary Creek. This road is only 4.07 miles long and was constructed at a cost of \$2,439 the mile. The road from Summit to Fairbanks Creek is 9.22 miles long and cost \$1,300 the mile. Since the construction of the road the freight rate has been reduced \$20 the ton, and 2,000 tons were hauled over the

exceeds in each case the cost of construction of roads in the vicinity of Fairbanks."

Speaking of the Valdez trail Major Richardson says: "Probably 500 people went out from Fairbanks and vicinity during the winter and probably 1,500 people came in. Freight and express aggregated from 300 to 500 tons." This is an estimate of the traffic last winter between Fairbanks and the outside. There were days at a time when the thermometer was from 55 to 65 degrees below zero on the Valdez trail. There was a long period last winter when the thermometer was seldom higher than 40 degrees below. With such a temperature and such a comparatively large number of people moving over the trail the necessity of having the trail in good condition and the importance of the trail being provided with road-houses at suitable distances is obvious.

Major Richardson, as have all other men who have been in Alaska and have seen the conditions, nature of country to be traversed, etc., believes that railroads more than wagon roads are the solution of the transportation problem in Alaska. Commenting on railroad building in Alaska he says:

"There has been considerable railroad activity during the summer, especially in the way of preliminary survey and location work. About 100 miles of road—track laid—have been added to the mileage of Alaska railroads of a

year ago, making a total of about 240 miles for the whole territory. The Seward Peninsula Railroad (formerly the Nome-Arctic) has built 60 miles and the Solomon River and Council City about 16. The Copper River Railroad, starting from Cordova Bay, has built 20 miles, with 100 miles of definite location made, and the Alaska Central, from Resurrection Bay, has added several miles, I understand, to its track, with

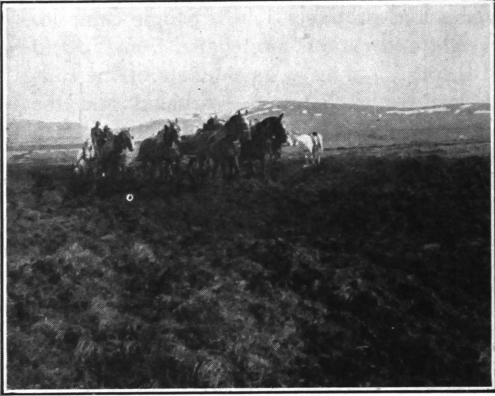


MAJOR W. P. RICHARDSON
President Alaska Road Commission

road last year. According to these figures this road has enabled the miners of Fairbanks Creek to save \$40,000 in one year on the transportation of their supplies. These facts and figures substantiate the assertion of the chief engineer of the road commission, who says:

"An examination of the figures given shows that the direct saving to the community in the cost of freight in a single summer,

grade completed to Mile 70, and with considerable work beyond, but not continuous. I visited these roads early in the summer, at which time the track was laid to Mile 46



ROAD BUILDING ON THE NOME TUNDRA.

* * * The Copper River, Northwestern Railroad and the Valdez and Yukon Road have done some grading and terminal work about Valdez. Also one or two en-

terprises have been busy in the vicinity of Katalla, Controller Bay. * * * What Alaska needs is a trunk line for the development of the country."

The work planned for the ensuing year will add materially to the substantial roads in the parts of Alaska where there is the greatest industrial activity. With a larger fund available, resulting from an increase of \$100,000 in the special appropriation by Congress, it will be possible to accomplish more of the good work than heretofore. This matter of road building in Alaska is of such vital importance that all Alaskans are anxious for the consummation of the work planned. At Nome the citizens raised more than \$7,000 to assist the road commission in building a road from Nome to the second beach line, three miles back of town, across the tundra. This is the prevailing spirit in Alaska, and the United States Government would not err if it recognized this spirit by doubling the appropriation that has been made.



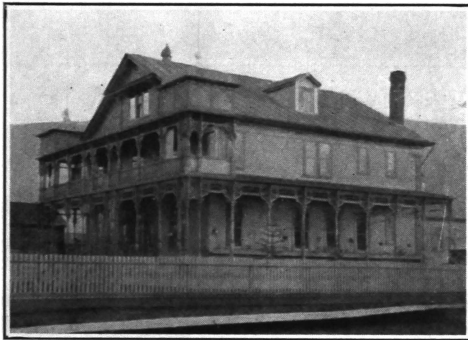
Starting Point Route No. 3

AN ALASKAN HIGHWAY.

Prominent Industrial Centers In Yukon Territory and Alaska

Dawson

UNTIL 1897 there were no commercial centers in Yukon Territory and Northern Alaska. The country was an Arctic wilderness. But today, Dawson, in the famous Klondike region, is the town resulting from the first important gold discovery in the Northland. This discovery was made in 1896 by Skookum Jim Tagish and Charley, Indians, and their white brother-in-law, George Cormack. The rapid development of the Dawson camp that followed this discovery, the great bonanza days of '97 and '98, the many fortunes that were made, and the general history of this wonderful camp, are well known



EXECUTIVE MANSION, DAWSON.

to the public. It is sufficient to say here that the Klondike gold fields have produced \$125,000,000, and the very rich properties have been pretty well worked out. But it does not follow that the mines are exhausted; on the contrary, the Klondike region is still producing considerable gold. But what is more important, preparations are making to mine this country with improved machinery and by modern methods. Vast expenditures are being made, and when the ditches are finished and the dredgers are installed the output of the Klondike, in all

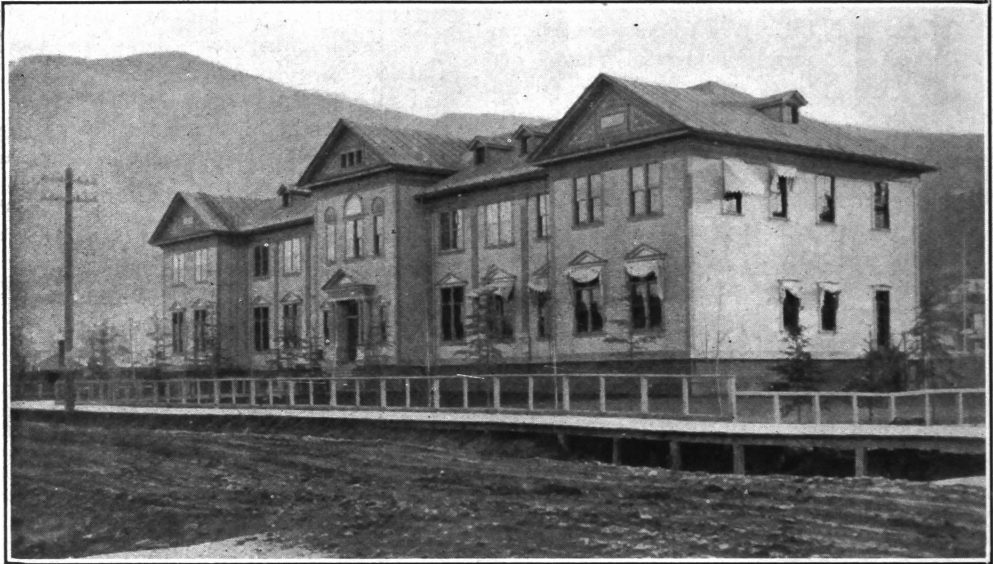
probability, will be greater than it was at any time during the bonanza days.

Notwithstanding the large production (\$125,000,000) of the country, competent mining experts estimate that not more than one-fourth of the golden wealth has been extracted from the known auriferous ground. The early miners were looking for very rich pay-streaks. The methods they used were comparatively crude. The ground was mostly frozen, and to begin with, fires were used to thaw. With the introduction of thawing machines greater progress was made in the actual work of extracting the precious metal. But at its best, that is a slow and tedious process; but when it was possible to find gravel that yielded \$100 the pan, fortunes were washed out of small dumps. A person unfamiliar with mining methods can readily see how mining under such conditions would be extravagant and wasteful. Lean spots were left untouched, and in many excavations pillars of very rich gravel were left as supports. The usual rule by which diggings were estimated on the Yukon required the ground to yield at least an ounce a day to the shovel. Anything less than this was not considered as good as wages. As five or six cubic yards constitute the quantity of gravel that a miner will shovel on an average into a sluice-box in a day, it will be seen that ground carrying as much as two dollars the cubic yard was not considered worth working.

The leavings, the tailings, and the low-grade gravels of the Klondike gold fields are the things that have attracted the attention of capitalists, particularly the biggest mining corporation in the world, the Guggenheims. By the aid of water from ditches the overburden, or non-pay stratum covering the gravel, may be sluiced off. The action of sun and water rapidly thaws frozen ground, and modern mining machinery expeditiously does the rest of the work.

Dawson has been a town of 20,000 inhabitants; it is not so big now, but it is still Dawson, possessing the individuality that made it unique among the mining camps of the world. It is substantially constructed. The government buildings are commodious and of pleasing architecture. The leading

of the conditions that have been and the conditions as they now exist. During the ensuing year, stories of the Klondike mines and stories of industrial endeavor in the Yukon Territory will give the readers of this magazine a complete view of industrial conditions.



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, DAWSON.

business houses will compare favorably in general appearance with the business houses in cities of similar size in the states. The ensemble of Dawson is a surprise to the tourist and traveler, and withal there is about Dawson an undefinable atmosphere which one never expects to find in a mining camp, but associates with older cities where civic progress, educational institutions, culture and refinement are expected to be found.

Dawson is the seat of the Yukon Government. It is situated on the Yukon at the mouth of the Klondike River, 1,600 miles from St. Michael and 460 miles below White Horse. The most direct method of reaching Dawson is by steamer from Seattle to Skagway, 1,000 miles, thence via White Pass and Yukon Railroad across wild and picturesque mountains a distance of 110 miles to White Horse, and thence by steamer down the river.

This hasty picture of the Klondike mines and Dawson will give the reader a glimpse

Nome



OME has the distinction of being the town where the first great gold strike was made in Alaska. In the fall of 1898 Jafet Lindberg, Erik O. Lindblom and John Brynteson discovered gold on Anvil Creek. This proved to be a wonderful strike, and in the following season there was a big stampede to Nome, then called Anvil City. The name was changed during the season of '99 by the Postoffice Department, on account of the liability of conflict with Anvil City, a station on the Yukon. Besides the stamperders from the Yukon and other parts of Alaska, several vessels arrived in the roadstead from United States ports during this season. All of the steamers brought gold seekers, and by mid-summer there was a bustling, thriving, active camp of probably a thousand people in

the town. At this date Nome consisted mostly of tents, and a few cabins built of drift wood.

During this season gold was discovered in the beach sands, and the miners on Anvil Creek, and nearby streams that had been found to be gold bearing, were left short-handed in their work, as pretty nearly everybody that did not have a rich creek claim hastened to the beach, where, with shovel and rocker, it was possible to make \$200 or \$300 the day. The Nome beach was the most accessible and most easily worked placer diggings ever discovered. The beach produced about \$1,500,000 this season, and the creek claims several hundred thousand—and this was the beginning of gold mining at Nome.

The following year is memorable on account of the great stampede. With the

sand people came back next spring, and at no time since then has the passenger list of the first steamers arriving in Nome contained more than 5,000 names.

Nome today is a city of 3,500 people in the winter season and probably 5,000 in the summer time. During the past few years some very substantial buildings have been constructed, the principal streets are planked and sidewalks are constructed throughout the town. There are three church edifices in Nome and two school buildings; the town is lighted by electricity and provided with an excellent telephone system, which includes long distance lines reaching to every important part of the peninsula and as far as Candle Creek on the Arctic Slope. Nome is self-governed, having a council and a mayor, and other municipal officers necessary for the perform-



NOME, FROM WHERE THE STEAMERS LIE AT ANCHOR.

opening of navigation in the spring of 1900 a big fleet of steamers carrying 20,000 people and 100,000 tons of freight landed their passengers and cargo on the beach at Nome. This was the year of great disappointment. Impractical people who knew nothing about mining, returned from this stampede and reported the gold discovery in this part of Alaska as a fake. They admitted there was some gold there, but it was in the hands of early stakers—"and there wasn't much of it, anyway." When the shorter days and frosty nights that marked the close of the open season in this latitude gave warning to the people who were not prepared to remain over winter that they must get out, the camp dwindled to a population of not more than four thousand. Only a few thou-

ance of the functions of city government.

During the open season a fleet of twenty-five steamers and as many sailing vessels are used in the commerce with Nome. Last season 150,000 tons of freight were shipped to this northern metropolis. Of course all these goods and wares were not used in Nome, but the town is the base of supplies and the distributing center for Seward Peninsula, where there are a number of smaller towns of from a few hundred inhabitants to a thousand, like Solomon City, Candle City and Council City. A railroad runs from Nome to Kougarok, a distance of seventy-three miles. There is another road from Solomon City to Council City, not completed, but has been finished to the Casadepaga district, a distance of thirty-five miles.

From the initial work on Anvil Creek mining has extended to more than one hundred streams and a number of ancient beach deposits of Seward Peninsula. Gold has been found widely distributed in this district and is being profitably mined at Bluff, near Golovin Bay, and on Candle Creek and the Inmachuk River, on the Arctic Slope; on the streams in the vicinity of Nome, and in many streams between Nome and Golovin Bay; in the Kougarok, the great interior district, and in the Council City district. Then there are the tin mines near Cape Prince of Wales, and a very rich gold placer deposit in tributaries of the Serpentine River, notably in Dick Creek, in the vicinity of the tin region. In brief, there are very few places in this wonderful country where gold can not be found. Last year a great strike was made in an old beach line, a couple of miles back of Nome. This old beach line was the principal factor in the gold product of this region last season. This gold product was in the neighborhood of \$9,000,000, larger by several millions than in any previous season.

During the past few years a great deal of preparatory work has been done in this part of Alaska. This work consists principally of ditches, more than three hundred miles of which have been constructed. All work of this kind is "dead work," but it is useful and necessary in order that the auriferous ground may be worked to the best advantage. When the anticipated volume of water flows through all these ditches and is turned onto the ground containing gold which these ditches cover, the annual product of the precious metal from the Nome country will climb into still higher figures.

The total output of gold from this part of Alaska is \$42,000,000. Less than one-tenth of the estimated values in the ground that has been discovered, prospected and partially developed has been taken out.

The foregoing is the briefest outline of the most important facts about this part of Alaska, and it is intended simply as an introductory to the stories of the industrial endeavor and resources of this region which are to be published in this magazine.

Fairbanks



IN the year 1902 a trader and prospector by the name of Barnette took a large stock of goods and ascended the Tanana River on one of the Alaska Commercial Company's boats. A small trading post had been established by Belt & Hendricks at Chena, about 300 miles above Fort Gibbon. At Chena the little steamer entered one of the smaller channels of the Tanana, which the residents of this country call sloughs and ascended it for several miles. Shallow and falling water warned the captain that there was danger of his vessel being hung up on a bar, and he started to retrace his course. Barnette and his cargo were landed in a dense forest about ten miles above Chena, and this was the beginning of the town of Fairbanks.

Some gold had been found in this region, but sufficient work had not been done to demonstrate the value or extent of the pay. Subsequent prospecting, however, revealed a very valuable gold deposit, and last season the Fairbanks District, or the Tanana mines, produced more gold than any other district of Alaska, about \$9,500,000.

The mines are situated several miles from the town, a narrow-gauge railroad being used as a means of transportation between the mines and the town. The gold in these mines is usually very deep under the surface, in some places two hundred feet; consequently most of the mining is what is known as deep diggings. Work in this kind of mines can be prosecuted in the winter as well as in the summer time. Bed-rock has usually been found very rich, and while the cost of prospecting is much greater than it is in the Nome country, wherever the pay-streak has been located miners have been able to operate very successfully. There is one feature of the Tanana mines that is worth more than passing notice. Very little if any outside capital has assisted in their development. Most of the mines have been located and prospected by poor people. Instead of money being used, pluck, industry and brawn have been the principal factors

in the development of these magnificent properties.

Several miles east of Fairbanks is a mountain of considerable altitude known as Pedro Dome. From the Dome a number of streams flow in various directions, looking something like the legs of a spider, the Dome being the spider's body; and all of these streams have been found auriferous, Cleary being the biggest producer of all the creeks. The product of this stream last year was about \$5,000,000, and advices from Fairbanks this winter bring the information that several new important strikes have been made on the lower part of Cleary Creek, so it may be reckoned among the producers for years to come. But all these streams carry gold, although, as remarked in a previous paragraph, some of this gold is on bedrock two hundred feet below the surface. To a layman with a smattering of geology there is evidence that the Dome has been a high mountain. During the ages that have passed weathering influences have gradually reduced its altitude, and the mineralized rocks have given up their values. In another very long process of time these values, after having been concentrated by water in the streams, have been covered over with detritus to a depth of from twenty to two hundred feet.

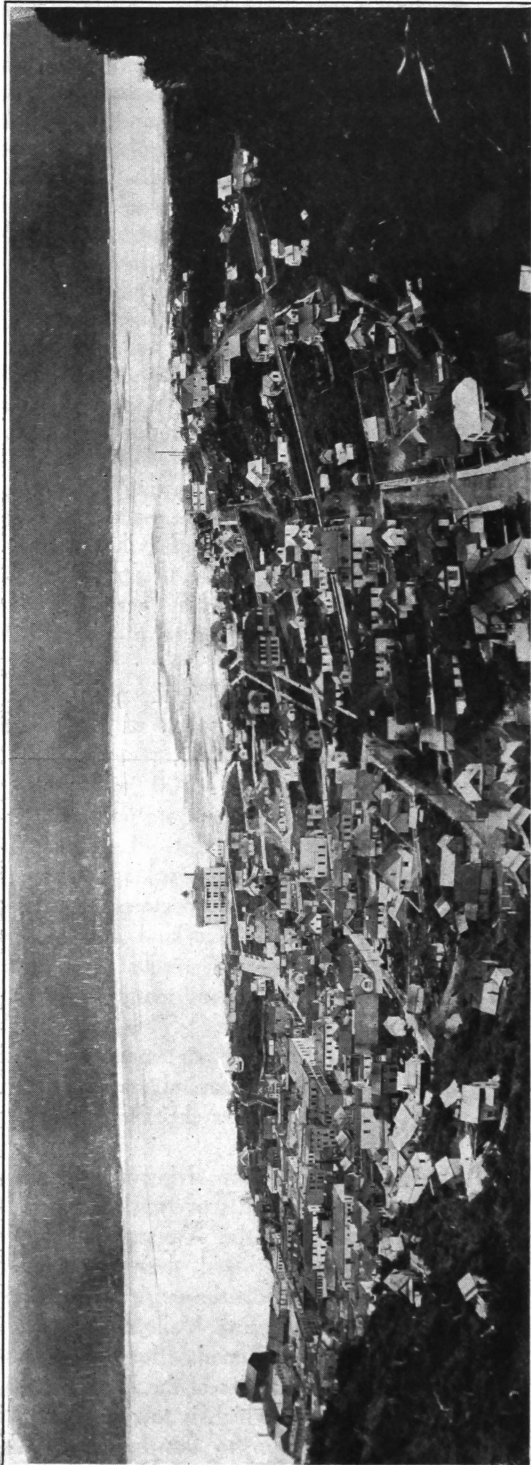
The combined length of the pay-streaks in the streams around Pedro Dome is about 100 miles. This is the length of pay-streaks that have been actually discovered; how much more there may be future prospecting will determine. The total gold product of this region is about \$16,000,000, and there is no doubt there is four times as much in sight in the ground as has been taken out. This should not be construed as an estimate of the total gold product of the Tanana mines. The newness of the country and the difficulty of prospecting in this region make it impossible to form any conception of what may be the total product of these mines. New discoveries are constantly adding to the list of producing properties, and new contiguous or nearby districts are also being located. The Tenderfoot country and the Bonfield and the Kantishna diggings all are camps of prospective value.

The Tanana Valley is a hundred miles wide and several hundred miles long, and pretty near all of it is a mineralized country. Comparatively little prospecting has been done in this valley, and the public may be prepared to hear of many new strikes in this part of Alaska.

The town of Fairbanks, like the other towns of the far-north country, has all the accessories of a town in an older community. Electric lights, schools, churches, telephones, and mercantile institutions that carry all things necessary for sustenance and for the comfort of the people who live in the town, make Fairbanks a growing, prosperous and attractive commonwealth, notwithstanding its isolation. Other towns of some importance have sprung up out on the creeks. Cleary is a place containing a thousand people, and Chena, which might have been the base of supplies for this community, as it is more accessible than Fairbanks, has a population of several hundred.

I think "prodigious" is the proper adjective to qualify the prospects of the Tanana mines. In the Fairbanks recording office there are between 13,000 and 14,000 claims on record. There are not 1,000 association claims in this list. Less than five per cent of the total are working. Property is mostly owned by prospectors and original locators, and there is a kind of prosperity in this community that results from a distribution of wealth among many people who theretofore were poor. This fact is obvious in view of the statement previously made that outside capital had not been used to any extent in the development of these mines.

The Alaska-Yukon Magazine has arranged for material covering many interesting features of the Tanana mines and the work connected with their development. Also for stories of the agricultural possibilities of the Tanana Valley; the gardens of Fairbanks and Tanana Hot Springs; and also the scenic features of the Alaska Range of mountains, in which is towering majestic McKinley—known to the Indian as Denalee, high mountain.



Juneau, Capital of Alaska



ALASKA'S capital is Juneau, the oldest mining town in the district, and is situated in one of the most prominent mining

regions of the world. It was established in 1880 on account of the discovery of the placer mines immediately joining the town in Last Chance and Silver Bow basins.

Juneau is a natural distributing point for Southeastern Alaska and a port of call for all boats operating between Seattle and northern coast towns and cities on the inside route and in Western Alaska. The United States land office, Customs House, Government headquarters, Surveyor General's office and the Alaska Library and Museum are located at Juneau. The town is also the seat of the district court for the first judicial district of Alaska.

Mining and fishing are the industries contributing to the growth and progress of Juneau. The annual product of the adjacent gold mines is about \$2,500,000. Among these mines are the Alaska-Treadwell and associated mines with 1000 stamps; Alaska-Perseverance, 200 stamps; Alaska Treasure, thirty stamps; Ebner Gold Mining Company, fifteen stamps; Alaska-Juneau, thirty-five stamps; Eagle River Mining Company, twenty stamps; Sheep Creek mines, twenty stamps; Jualin mine, ten stamps.

Juneau has a first-class graded school, national bank and a private bank, three department stores carrying stocks aggregating \$200,000 in value; two hardware stores with stocks aggregating \$140,000; ten other stores, and a herring packing plant, saw mills, two large iron works, machine shops and boiler works, and a number of smaller industries; two daily newspapers and one weekly and three large hotels. Pretty near a score of traveling sales-

JUNEAU, THE CAPITAL OF ALASKA.

men in Alaska make Juneau their headquarters where they have large sample rooms. The town is supplied with excellent water and equipped with electric light and telephone systems, and a company has recently

the desirable publicity to which it is entitled.

Other towns in Southeastern and Southern Alaska, among them Skagway, Ketchikan, Sitka, Treadwell, Wrangell, Douglas and



KETCHIKAN.

been organized to erect a large powder plant there at once.

This magazine has arranged for stories covering the resources and industries of this part of Alaska, and for other material pertaining to this region which will give Juneau

Haines, Valdez, Seward, Cordova, Orca and Karluk will be subjects for special mention in future numbers. This magazine will have contributors in every important industrial center of Alaska and Yukon Territory.



Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition

By FRANK L. MERRICK



At the present writing, work on the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition is far advanced, and the outlook is bright for making it one of the most successful world's fairs ever held.

The past four months have been spent by the management in strenuous exploitation work, which has resulted in the attention of the United States and other countries being attracted toward the exposition. One of the first steps taken by Henry E. Reed, director of exploitation, was the sending of Major T. S. Clarkson, special commissioner, on a long and arduous trip to present the exposition officially before the governors of every state in the Union. Major Clarkson's journey was successful in every respect, and upon his report the work of the special commissioners was based. There are now a dozen of the latter in the field working hard to secure appropriations for state participation by the legislatures that are meeting this winter. The results accomplished so far are very satisfactory.

Director General Ira A. Nadeau made a successful trip for the exposition through Canada before the holidays to present the official invitation to the Dominion Government to take part in the exposition. No action can be taken by Canada, however, until after the United States government has taken some steps toward being represented.

When the State of Washington stood sponsor for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition by appropriating \$1,000,000 it helped the work of creating the enterprise more than any other action could do. The exposition state had to authorize the world's fair before Congress and the different states would take any further steps toward making appropriations. Now this work can be carried on rapidly. Washington's appropriation, although considered a very liberal one from the young but sturdy state, is commensurate with the magnitude of the exposition. An average of \$1 was appropriated for every man, woman and child of Wash-

ington's estimated population of 1,000,000. The bills passed by the Legislature provide for \$600,000 of the appropriation to be devoted to the erection of three permanent buildings for the University of Washington, on the campus of which the exposition will be held. These structures will be used as exhibit palaces during the world's fair and after its close will be used for educational purposes. The remaining \$400,000 of the sum Washington will expend will be used for the erection of a handsome Washington building and for the collection and maintenance of a representative exhibit. A commission will be appointed by the Governor of Washington, which will have entire charge of the participation of the Evergreen State. None of the money will be expended by the exposition management.

From the reports of the commissioners visiting the capitals of the different commonwealths, it is predicted that at least twenty-five states will have buildings and exhibits at the exposition, and that many of them will have decided to take part by spring. Oregon, Washington's sister state, has decided on the extent of her representation and will pass a bill in time to be the second state to come into line. It is the plan of Oregon to make an appropriation of \$100,000 at the present session of the legislature for the erection of a building and the gathering of a display and at the 1909 meeting supplement this amount by \$75,000 to be used for maintenance and entertainment.

It is of vital importance that the United States Government make an appropriation to provide for Alaska's participation in the exposition at this session of Congress, because if it is put off until next year it will not give the commissioners time to collect a comprehensive display from the different sections of the Northland. All Alaskan exhibits have to be at tidewater by the fall of 1908 in order to get them installed by June 1, 1909, the opening day of the exposition. Every effort is now being made

by the exposition management to get the bill making provision for exhibits and buildings for Alaska, Hawaii and the Philippines at a cost of \$700,000 passed before the present session of Congress closes. Former Governor of Washington John H. McGraw, who is vice president of the exposition, has been working in Washington, D. C., in conjunction with the Washington delegation in Congress for some time. Now President J. E. Chilberg has taken command of the campaign, which will be carried on in earnest since the State of Washington has stood sponsor for the exposition.



FRANK P. ALLEN, JR.
Director of Works Alaska-Yukon-Pacific
Exposition.

Work on the exposition proper is being started. Frank P. Allen, Jr., of Seattle, has been appointed director of works, and he is mapping out the work of clearing the site and grading the hills and filling up the hollows, called for by the general plans drawn by John C. Olmsted, of the well-known firm of Olmsted Bros., of Brookline, Mass.

The director of works is the second division director appointed, Henry E. Reed, di-

rector of exploitation, being the first. It is his duty to supervise all work done on the grounds and after the exposition opens superintend the maintenance of the grounds and buildings. Mr. Allen, who is manager of the General Engineering and Contracting company, of Seattle and Portland, which has erected several large structures in both cities, is an architect and engineer of wide experience. He gained much knowledge of exposition work at Portland, Oregon, where he had charge of the structural work. Before coming West he spent six years in Chicago specializing on structural work for bridges, railroads and large buildings.

If present plans do not fail, one piece of statuary at the exposition will be entirely different from any ever displayed at previous world's fairs. This piece de resistance will be a huge, complete specimen of the ancient mammoth that roamed the wilds of Alaska centuries before Columbus discovered America.

The remains of the prehistoric monster will decorate the plaza in front of the Alaska building and will be protected from the elements by a specially constructed shelter. Skeletons of the mastodon have been reconstructed from scattered bones and exhibited at former fairs, but no exposition has had the big beast just as he looked when alive.

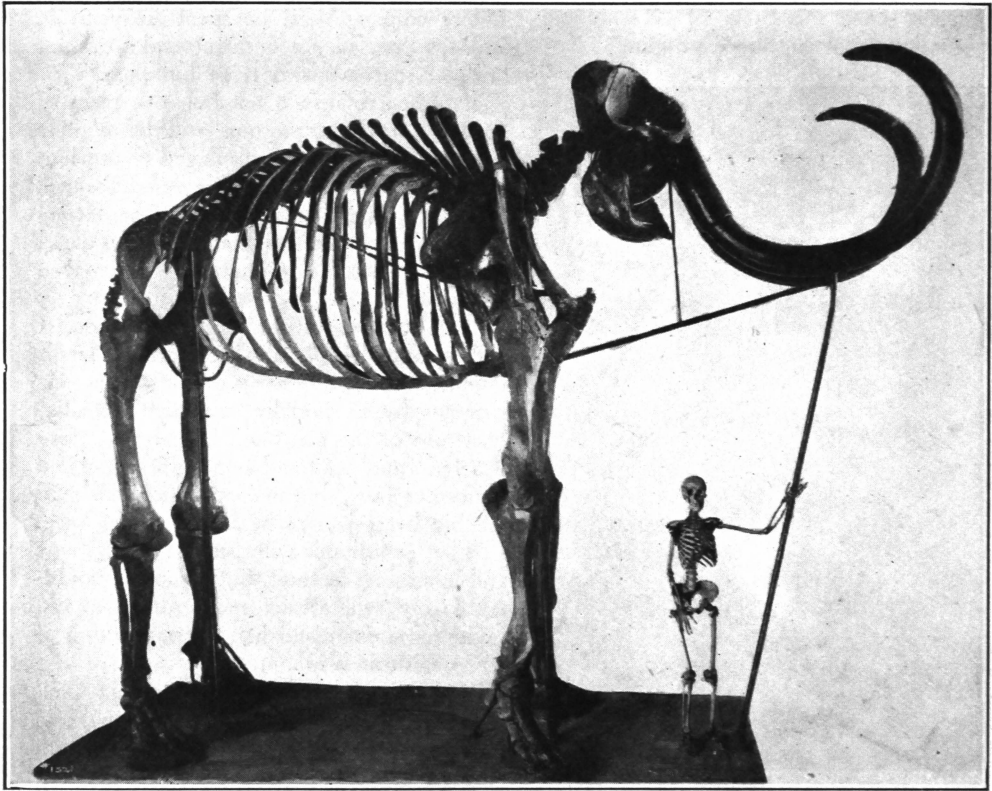
The exposition will present many new and interesting features, but it is to be doubted if any will attract more attention and excite more comment than the entire form of the prehistoric elephant.

Late Last summer, while President Chilberg was at Nome, word was brought in that a complete specimen of a mammoth encased in ice had been discovered by W. F. Thomas on Cleary Creek. Mr. Chilberg investigated and learned that the specimen was practically perfect, the flesh and hide being intact, except in one small place, which the melting ice had exposed, where some animal had eaten away a portion of the flesh. Aside from the small hole in its back the animal was in excellent shape. It is probably the finest example of the preservative powers of cold storage extant, for the animal got caught long before people knew even how to keep ice during the summer months.

President Chilberg learned also that the mastodon could be removed from the ice, preserved and shipped to Seattle at comparatively small cost. It was too late then to send a crew of men to preserve the specimen, but there was present the consolation that the approaching cold weather would freeze it solidly and no harm could come to it until next summer. Early next season Professor Trevor Kincaid, the zoologist of the University of Washington, will be sent into the

President of the United States no ordinary banner will be used. In fact, the flag whose stars and stripes first cast a shadow over the massive and beautiful buildings by Lake Washington will be the original American flag that was hoisted first over the district of Alaska when that empire was purchased by the United States.

Recently the discovery was made that the original flag with thirty-six stars was reposing in a vault at the offices of Dexter



SKELETON OF THE MAMMOTH, SHOWING SIZE COMPARED TO MAN.
A Skeleton of this Species Found in Alaska Will be Exhibited at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.

interior of the Northland to save every particle of the creature that will be so valuable and interesting to the scientific world. The job of preserving the monster will be a big one for some taxidermist.

When the American flag is hoisted to the topmost tower of the Alaska building at the completed exposition on opening day, June 1st, 1909, and the great ten million dollar world's fair is declared open by the

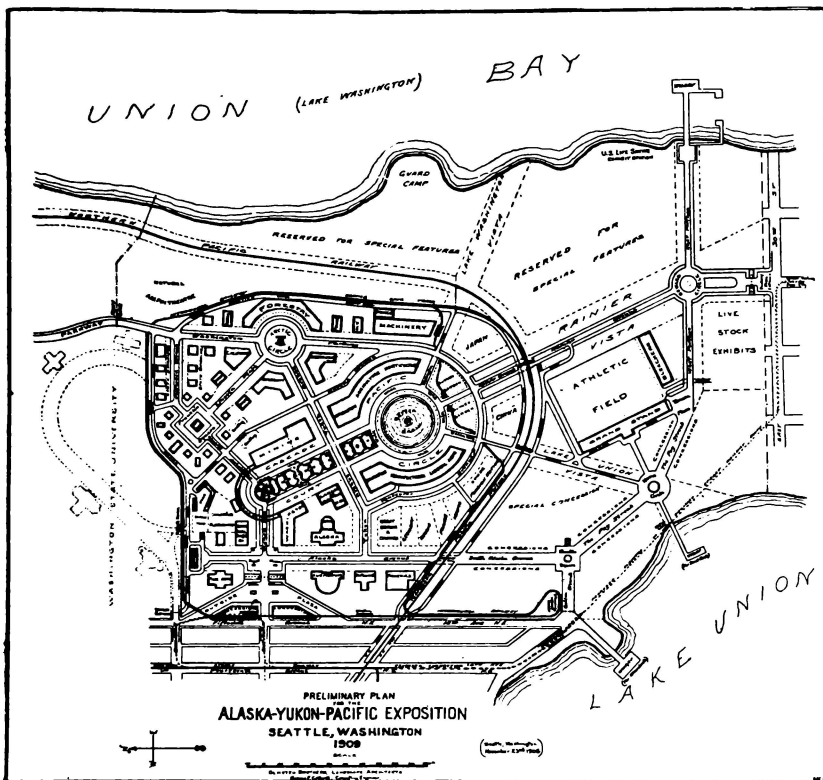
Horton & Co., of Seattle. It is the property of Edward Leudecke, of Wrangel.

The history of this flag is most interesting and is wrapped intimately with the history of Alaska, which country it is the purpose of the exposition to exploit. The treaty ceding Alaska to the United States was signed by Russia on March 30, 1867, and was ratified by the Senate May 27 the same year. Owing to the opposition in the coun-

try to the purchase, the House refused to pass the bill appropriating \$7,200,000 for its payment and the matter hung over till July 14, 1868, when a compromise was reached whereby the appropriation was passed. However, the United States, in the meantime, had gone ahead and ordered possession taken of the country and a body of American troops on a warship left San Francisco in the fall of 1867 for Sitka. They proceeded by the inside channel first to Wrangell. At that point there were living

then the capital, and on October 18, 1867, the Russian flag was pulled down and the American flag raised before the barracks and in the presence of a detachment of both American and Russian troops.

The flag of Leudecke floated till 1868, when the news of the admission of Nebraska to the Union was announced and then the flag with thirty-six stars was pulled down and another one with thirty-seven stars was raised in its place. Leudecke, however, clung carefully to his flag, and in 1905



GROUND PLAN ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC EXPOSITION.

a few Americans engaged in pioneer work. One of these was Edward Leudecke, who, after forty years, is still a resident of Wrangell. Leudecke, when the troops touched at that point, heard for the first time of the American purchase. Although the country was not then formally taken over by the United States, he ran to the flagpole there and hoisted the American flag, and there it flew for many months. In the meantime the troops proceeded to Sitka,

turned the banner over to G. E. Rodman, an attorney of Wrangell, who sent it on to its present destination for safe keeping.

Leudecke is now seventy-two years of age, and is strong and hearty. He remembers perfectly the first arrival of American troops in the North and the amazement and joy of the few Americans there on being told that Alaska had been purchased from the Russians.

The flag will be used at the opening

day ceremonies at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, and after that will be exhibited in the Alaska building.

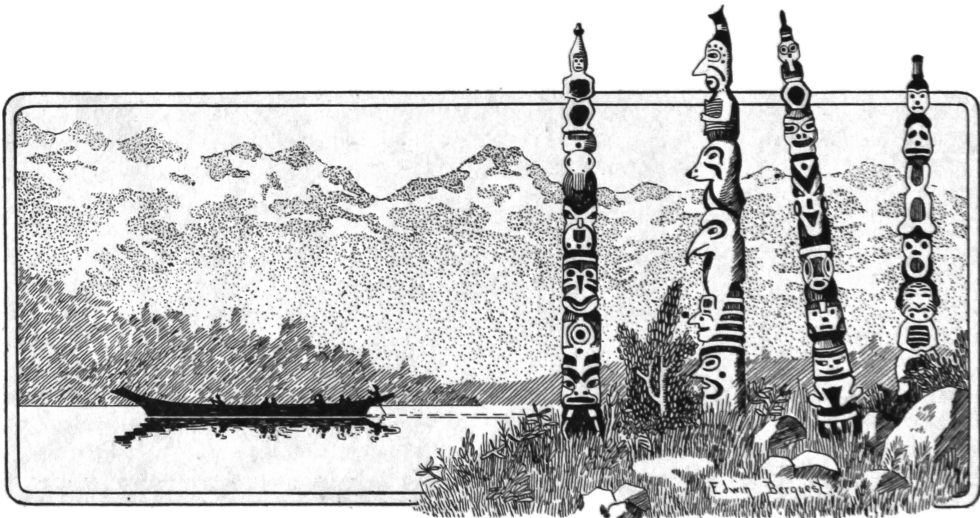
A visitor from Mars, or some other distant region or planet, a massive meteorite, the largest ever found in the western hemisphere, will be on exhibition at the exposition.

The meteoric stone fell recently on a farm in Linn county, Oregon. It is fifteen feet in diameter, which makes it the largest in existence. When it fell it sank ten feet into the ground. The Dutch farmer, on whose land it dropped, did not realize that the stone possessed any peculiar interest or value and, as it was in his barnyard, he filled up the hole so his cattle would not fall into it. Arrangements are now being made to take care of the huge stone until it is time to exhibit it at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, which, although held primarily for the purpose of exploiting Alaska and Yukon and the countries bordering upon the Pacific Ocean, will not decline to accept exhibits from other planets.

Oregon seems destined to supply expositions with displays from other worlds. The second largest meteorite known to be in existence previous to this was found three years ago in Clackamas county, near Oregon City, by a farmer named Ellis Hughes, on land owned by the Oregon Iron and Steel Company. It was entirely above ground, and is composed of malleable iron with a trace of cobalt and nickel.

Hughes kept his find a secret until he had moved the meteorite onto his own land, when the Oregon Iron and Steel Company learned that the stone was discovered on their property. The company enjoined him in the circuit court and won the case, claiming the property, as it was found on land belonging to the company.

The meteorite was placed on a flatboat and floated down the Willamette River to Portland, where it was an exhibit of great interest at the Lewis and Clark Exposition. It weighs about twenty tons and it takes twelve horses to move it.



“The Witch Glass”

How It Discovered a White Thlingit and Helped Him to a Higher Life.

By STELLA DUNAWAY



LITTLE Petrof, had he known what he was about, would have been a Deutcher to begin with; but he was very young at first and made the mistake of being born in Russia. He showed signs of youthful repentance and remarkable discretion though, for at the tender age of four he left the land of revolution and anarchy to cast his lot with the first white settlers in Alaska, where he found a home of freedom and icicles. Both features were very effective palliatives for that peculiar disease known as Heimweh; the ice supplied to Petrof the only beauty with which he had been wont to feast his little blue eyes when he lived in Russia, and the freedom relieved his family from that most galling servitude, serfdom. This newly acquired independence tasted so delightfully sweet that it was indulged in to excess. The cidevant Russian citizens degenerated into aimless wanderers. They became as care free as the natives, likewise family free; if a woman found her children a burden she simply gave them away, and divested herself of all thought and responsibility concerning their future welfare.

Petrof lost his identity, and with it his Russian citizenship, before he had been here two years; and at the age of six became a member of a native tribe. The fact that his mother had deserted him proved his eligibility to the tribal “citizenship,” because that which is otherwise unclaimed naturally belongs to the Indians. According to this, there are many things rightfully belonging to them of which they have not yet possessed themselves, but just be patient, they will get around to it in due time.

As Petrof grew to be a man he discovered that the most liesurely and honorable

men in the tribe were married; therefore, he took unto himself a helpmeet, or, rather, let us say, he betook himself to the home of proud old Shahwah and was accepted as son-in-law. His dwelling place had something to remind him of the czar’s castle—numerical similarity. The castle has many rooms for one czar, and Petrof’s new home had many people for one room. E pluribus unum in an Alaska village applies to the home, and means one room full of many. The absolute sovereignty of the head of the house might have reminded him of the theoretical power of the czar, but he had turned his back forever upon the tyranny and oppression of that sin-cursed land, and revelled in the squalor of this densely-peopled house without troubling about the comparisons.

In fact, not being supplied with a looking glass, he was unconscious of being a “pale face,” but talked, thought, ate and drank in the regular native way. He might have remained in ignorance until this day, but his wife died, and that saved him. Old Shahwah decreed that his daughter should have a box to be buried in, like he had seen the white people use over at Waco, and his command was law. Some people might consider it an inconvenience to entertain a corpse three weeks awaiting the arrival of the “dead box,” but Petrof’s “in-laws” just huddled their beds a little closer together in order to allow the extra space which the dignity of death demands, and they cheerfully shifted the dinner circle toward the corner of the room lest some hapless feaster might heedlessly disturb the slumbers of the dead.

Finally their patience was rewarded by the safe return of the young brave who had undertaken the long journey for the coffin; and the interest aroused by this imposing piece of furniture mitigated their sorrow for

the lost one. Petrof felt justly proud of his distinction, and as he carefully fastened the lid over the earthly remains of his beloved dead, a triumphant sadness filled his breast, while his downcast countenance was illumined by a flush of excitement. He turned the last screw with a caressing touch and cast his eye approvingly about to survey the completeness of the task, when behold! on the top of the lid he saw the face of a white man looking up at him. Base deceivers! They had put a man into the beautiful coffin intended for his wife! Cruel wretches! Quaking with anger and excitement he unscrewed the lid to cast out the vile intruder, but found only the helpless body of his deceased wife. Again he adjusted the lid, and again he saw the face of a man, haggard and white. Oh, horrors! It moved! Yes—moved! What could it mean? Was it a spirit come to haunt him? Perhaps it was the evil spirit, which had taken his loved one away. He threw his hands over his face and dashed from the room with an unearthly yell, and the family thought that his grief had driven him insane. It became the duty of the father-in-law to continue the preparation for burial, and as he stepped to the head of the coffin he remarked that Petrof must not be allowed to go to the grave unless he recovered——

“Oh, oh, the witch!” he shouted, breaking off short in his sentence; and he, too, ran from the room, and continued to run until he drew up at the chief’s house, where that worthy dignitary sat on the doorstep, calmly smoking his pipe. His tranquility was ruthlessly destroyed by a recital of all the startling things going on at Shahwah’s house. Before pa-in-law had reached safety in flight from the house of mourning, another of the family, sister-in-law, had espied the horrible image of a scowling woman; and being too astonished to shout or run she fainted dead away.

It is so comfortable to be able to faint when disagreeable things confront one; it relieves one of all responsibility and precludes the idea of further dealing with the situation.

Others in turn advanced, beheld and were disposed of in different directions and with varying degrees of swiftness, according to

age and the amount of “firewater” imbibed at the funeral feast. Soon the room contained only two, and they were unable, under the circumstances, to escape—the corpse and the youngest of the corpse’s orphans. Little two-year-old Toto, finding herself alone, pulled up by the pretty bright handles of the coffin and chattered and gurgled as only an Indian baby can, patting the shining bit of brightness, and cooing to the baby she saw in the glass. It looked so friendly that she wanted to kiss it, only when she put her fat little face down to the pretty baby she felt its lips cold and unresponsive. This troubled her somewhat, but babies are not easily rebuffed when they undertake to caress the objects of their admiration, and Toto kept up a sputtering and cooing in true baby enthusiasm until she was interrupted in her love making by the entrance of pa-in-law, who, with the chief and the witch doctor, had come to rescue the grief-stricken house.

It took some persuasion to get Toto away, and in disengaging her little hand the chief found himself confronted by an ugly demon whose eyes scorched his very soul. He fled in a panic equal to the terror of the brave sorcerer, who, in passing by the coffin, espied the face of a monster leering up at him, whereupon he gave vent to the most heart-rending, ear-splitting screeches and only stopped running when he reached the beach, the momentum gained in the race soon landing him safe on the opposite side of the river.

Little Toto might have been left alone indefinitely with her gruesome companion but her grandfather felt not prone to expose one of so little experience to the witchery of the ferocious creature and, tearing her hands loose by force, he carried her, screaming, back to the chief’s house. One by one the family gathered there to recount their nerve-racking experiences, and counsel together. As is proper in such meetings, the chief presided, for that which concerns one of his tribe is of great moment to himself; and this was an especially near and dangerous evil. The first thing to do is to determine the nature of the creature, the object of his devilry, and the method of his mischief;

upon this depend ways and means of his punishment.

By virtue of being head of the house, Shahwah was first witness; and in answer to the wise and searching questions of the chief he testified that the apparition had black eyes, black hair, an ugly face, broken teeth, a scowling mouth and a dirty shirt. The victim of the pending wrath he declared to be himself. Yes, he was sure that the scowl was for him only, because the demon looked straight at him. Here he was interrupted by ma-in-law, who declared that the spirit had cast his fiery darts directly into her own eyes and that he had long hair and wore ear rings. She denied the scraggy beard, which the eldest son presumed to place upon the face of ill omen, and Petrof swore that it had blue eyes and white skin.

This was vehemently contradicted by sister-in-law—that didn't faint—for she had carefully observed the color of his skin and it was dark, very dark, with only a faint tinge of redness in the cheeks.

Brother-in-law averred that the creature had no earrings, and that it was young and strong, fierce and handsome, and that it had gazed threateningly at him, while its mouth opened and shut with a savage biting noise as if in warning of an intention to devour him alive.

After much disputing and contending among themselves they agreed to invest the chief with authority to describe the character of their deadly enemy; and, to their amazement he said that they were all mistaken, as the demon was bald headed, blind in one eye, and adorned with a ring in his nose. He furthermore designated himself to be the target at which the menacing glances had been cast, and announced his intention of returning to the haunted house alone.

Strange to relate, this wise and upright judge heard not one dissenting voice; and arming himself with his trusty club he advanced toward the house with all the importance of a British admiral, and with as great rapidity as his somewhat depleted strength would allow. He was beginning to realize the feebleness of old age, and in order to keep up a showing of the vigor of former days he was particular to act especial-

ly buoyant after any exhaustive exercise, such as his run an hour ago. When he reached the house of mourning and mystery he was short of breath and fagged out, but stalked in boldly and, standing for an instant near the door, gazed defiantly about just daring a ghost to show its head.

As he towered above the coffin in his aged strength, scanning the walls with his single eye in a fruitless search of whom he might annihilate his face was a study of power and weakness, courage and fear; powerful in the hardy manhood of Indian life, yet weak from the burden of years; brave in the boldness of his race, yet cowering and shrinking from the loathsome dread of a witch. Something within him courted danger, yet he hated mystery with all the fervor of his superstitious, ignorant soul. Deep down in his heart there lurked a treacherous hope that the phantom had escaped, but look! He caught a glimpse of something which moved about on the coffin lid! It was the top of a bald head, receding, then advancing, again receding, still again coming toward him. Presently an entire face was visible, remaining fixed and immovable one brief interval. Yes, he was right, it had only one eye and there was a ring in its nose. Step by step he was drawn closer to the hated image, but suddenly, raising his club, he struck one mighty blow and smote the creature full in the face. There was a resounding crash of breaking glass and the spirit vanished from the room. The conqueror shut his lonesome eye that he might see no more of the hideous scene, then opened it to find the coffin lid crushed in and the corpse staring at him in stolid indifference; but he had vanquished the enemy and proven himself the dauntless leader of a noble race.

Close upon this event came the arrival of Petrof with the numerous Indians, and the formerly fainting one awoke to the echo of shattering glass. The floor was strewn with pieces of something black on one side and, on the other—oh, horrors! there was a witch in each piece. Instead of one goblin of chameleon-like visage there were now dozens of them, and the world was instantly peopled anew, with a fantastic horde of troublers. The most intense excitement

reigned during the ensuing interval; but Little Toto picked up a piece of the "witch glass," as it was dubbed by pa-in-law in his frenzied fear, and in that solicitous gentleman's attempt to take it from her innocent hand, he descried the reflection of a chubby face which he recognized as not belonging to the witch or any of his angeles.

Thus was the fear and power of witchcraft dispelled; thus were the natives led into the revealing light of "witch glass," which they afterward learned to regard as an adjunct to beauty; and thus was Petrof apprised of the fact that he was a handsome white man.

II.

The news of this strange experience spread rapidly over the village, and the family returned from the "Isle of the Blessed" to find their door surrounded by a throng of chattering natives eager to behold and to be beheld in the wonderful revealer of faces. Some of the older braves attributed the phenomenon to the wiles and snares of Satan, who had tried so many times to devise some mechanism for the destruction of their glorious race. But their remonstrances fell upon deaf ears and soon they, themselves, yielded to the seductive charm of their own images. How fascinating it was to an old man to watch the workings of his face as he talked, and with what delight did he peer into the little piece of mirror as he aimlessly wiggled his jaws and twisted his features into a masterpiece of ugliness. When the men had attained a satisfactory familiarity with their benign grotesqueness, and had gazed and grimaced to their hearts' content, the women were permitted to a share of the sport. The room became a sort of "mystic maze," in which each explorer found nothing so alluring as his own reflection; and when the party dissembled at nightfall one hope predominated in each breast—the one word "coffin" expressed the sum total of their immediate desires.

It seems rather heartless to long for a death in the family, but the end perhaps justified the means, and it was obvious that without a death there could be no burial, and without a burial there was no demand for a "dead box."

The announcement of the next death in the village was given with unconcealed exultation, and received with an interest not unmixed with envy. That Dlusá would send for a dead box for the interment of his deceased mother was not questioned for one moment, and the natives vied with one another in their manifestations of sympathy for the bereaved family in the frankly expressed desire of obtaining an invitation to the ceremony. This time the smashing of the "witch glass" became a solemn formality and was incorporated in the funeral proceedings. At the appointed time the chief, arrayed in his gala robes, raised his club high in air and prepared to discharge his grave but joyous function with deftness and dignity. A breathless silence held the room and seemed to grip the hand of the honored leader as he paused for an instant to survey with placid countenance the effect of such a spectacular scene. Only for the moment did he hesitate, then, with swift, steady aim, his hand descended and with the rattling of splintered glass a sigh of relief and satisfaction breathed throughout the assemblage. The immediate members of the family were allowed to select pieces first, next in line came the remote relatives, while the guests were invited to help themselves to the remaining fragments.

But something seemed the matter. When the good old lady Nika modestly smiled at her glass, she found herself smiling into the face of the chief himself, and young Sam Dakon saw only his big brawny hand as he glanced surreptitiously into a small piece of glass in the long-suppressed desire of beholding his own image. Miss Betty, the beauty of the village, held a piece proudly, almost disdainfully, in midair and gave one rapturous look into the eyes of wry-faced Nancy, who stood near. With a sniff of disgust she threw the ugly thing away and left the house, with her nose elevated in the danger angle. Poor Nancy, elated at the prospect of possessing the coveted mystery eagerly snatched up the rejected glass and peered into it cautiously, perhaps with the modern fear of breaking it; but bitter disappointment! it revealed to her nothing but the bare wall, toward which she had turned her timorous, apologetic face, fearful of the

ridicule she had grown to expect but never learned to ignore.

Unmistakable signs of fear were in evidence, each face bore traces of abject bewilderment. It had been the cherished dream of each heart to own a real "witch glass," and to find after this long suspense that the glass was clear seemed hollow mockery. Many dark forebodings were uttered, and some there were among them who accused Petrof of trickery; but the chief prevailed upon them to disperse and leave the matter to his wise management.

Being too old for such a difficult task, he decided to send Petrof back to the city to bring a genuine "dead box" with real "witch glass," under penalty of death. At the circulation of this stern judgment the excitement abated and the village lay dormant in the sanguine expectation of the erstwhile favorite who would surely return with the genuine treasure.

Petrof was painfully embarrassed when the measurements for the coffin were demanded by the undertaker, it never having occurred to him that it would be regarded an extraordinary thing to order a coffin, when, as he tried to make the clerk understand, there was nobody ready to use it yet. His English vocabulary being sadly limited, and the clerk's knowledge of Thlingit amounting to zero, both were reduced to the verge of despair, when Petrof happened to see a small mirror above the desk, and astonished the entire force of clerks by jumping straight up and clapping his hands as he shouted for joy.

"Witch glass! Good! Good!" he exclaimed with all the enthusiasm and happiness of a newly escaped convict. "Witch glass!"

The clerks were nonplussed at his ejaculations, but when they got him calmed down to normal temperature he made his wants understood in substantial and unmistakable terms. Producing his bearskins, which he had brought for the purchase of the coffin, he gave them to understand that he wanted their full value in small mirrors. The sale was quickly made. The two bearskins were valued at fifty dollars and the mirrors selected were one dollar the dozen, Petrof having established the fact that quantity rather than

quality were necessary for a bargain with him.

"Ah," sighed the chief, when the full significance of the transaction dawned upon him.

"Ugh," assented his squaw.

"Humph!" grunted Dlusa when he received his share of the treasure, and it flashed through his depraved mind that his old mother might still have been alive if he had only learned about "witch glass" without a "dead box" sooner.

Thus, through the prank of an undertaker's clerk, who put the mirror in the coffin for Petrof's wife, did the natives come to possess the facility by which they may see their faces which others see, and, likewise, Petrof, by his successful venture, come to realize that he was not only handsome but shrewd. In each case this was a good thing, but especially for Petrof, for if he had only found out that he was handsome and stopped there he would, no doubt, have died as he most certainly would have lived thenceforth, a creature of mental weakness and moral obliquity.

To be handsome and nothing more is like a piece of machinery perfect in its parts, perhaps, but useless for lack of a motive power, a mainspring. But to be handsome and energetic is at least a fair beginning, and the rest depends upon circumstances. Energy, if allowed to do its work, will start any man in some direction, to some form of activity, and it sent Petrof from his native home. Shrewdness led him into prosperity and good luck brought him home again.

III.

During the first years of his absence the little daughters at home occupied a very small place in Petrof's thoughts, but Fortune knocked at the door of his little hut up in the mountains and, basking in the sunshine of her effulgent brightness, his heart grew warm and tender toward the tiny tots he had left behind.

There came a day when he could return to the dear ones, but his glad surprise at finding them so attractive and happy was accompanied by a bitter regret that they had been abandoned so long and allowed to grow up in the midst of ignorance and super-

stition. Petrof had been with white men long enough to learn the rudiments of order and cleanliness, and it became his first care to provide the little girls with the common necessities of civilized childhood.

The introduction of the looking glass had ameliorated such conditions as pertained to the appearance, but household sanitation is an element of domestic economy which the mirror has no power to inculcate in the mind of a native. As the art of using two glasses at a time had not been acquired by the villagers it was a common thing to see a little girl with a clean face, and an unwashed neck; the front hair smooth and the back hair a tangled mat.

The transition stage furnishes many incidents amusing to a casual observer, but pathetic to one who loves children as Petrof loved his.

Another forward step was the establishment of a government school and the advent of a teacher from the East. Poor little Miss Kitty Wheaton! Often during that first month, when the sights and sounds of the schoolroom seemed beyond human endurance, when the very filthiness of the children's clothes made their presence disgusting, she would wonder what had ever possessed her to leave dear old Vermont, with its polished hearthstones and clean-scrubbed children.

One afternoon at the close of a particularly hard day, when she felt that five minutes longer in the school room would have thrown her nervous system entirely out of gear, her heart suddenly melted at the sight of little Kara, Petrof's daughter, bending over her slate and spelling out the curiously constructed word cat. The other youngsters had scampered off home, glad to be released from the unaccustomed restraints of school, but Kara tried to explain that her "partner" had gone to another village to live and had learned to read and write. She wanted to learn, also, and to send a letter to this friend. Her brown eyes filled with tears as she sought to impress upon her sympathetic listener the dire necessity of the ability to read and write.

What is weariness when a child needs help? Miss Kitty forgot the trials of the day, forgot that but a moment ago she had

been disgusted with Alaska in general and native children in particular, as she tried kindly and patiently to guide Kara's hand into the glorious realm of penmanship.

The next day the little maiden lingered behind and requested her teacher to write a letter for her to the far-away friend, and the glow of ineffable delight upon her innocent young face as she trotted away holding the precious missive tight in the rusty little fist, more than repaid the long, tedious half hour consumed in writing it.

"What got?" questioned her father when she reached home.

"Letter," proudly announced the owner, her face still wreathed in smiles. "Letter on Lizzy," she said, eagerly displaying the beautifully rounded letters of the "good teacher's" words.

"When I get more big, I write," she explained to Petrof, but her words were unheeded; losing himself to the world he sat buried in thought.

On a Friday in March Miss Kitty was interrupted in the midst of a chart lesson, by the entrance of an uncouth looking prospector, attired in a rickety suit of brown and a shackling beard of sunburned red.

"You make letter?" he asked.

"Write a letter?" suggested Miss Wheaton.

"Yes, write letter at me?"

"You mean to ask if I will write a letter for you to send away?" continued Kitty.

"Yes, that him," agreed the visitor. "Write him and I send him off."

"You mean that you will send 'it' off," corrected Miss Kitty. "Wait until school is dismissed and I will write for you."

Then came the chart lesson, during which the eyes of Petrof followed every word, look or gesture of the teacher.

"Now, what do you want to say in your letter?" she asked when the children had dispersed and left her free for a new duty.

Dropping his head upon one hand, he sat motionless, resting the elbow on a low desk as he dictated the words of his first letter.

"Good friend," he began, "I been in mountains. White man found strike. Paid me money. I goed work him."

"You mean that you went to work for him," corrected the scribe.

"Yes. I work for him, heap plenty days. Strike more gold, good gold. Man sick, him sick much days. Him go home and died while he go. I take him to town. Take him by my back."

"You mean that you carried him on your back to town."

"Yes, to town. I take claim, but not take claim. I live with Indians, not talk English, not take claim. Man at town, I live with one summer and one summer more. I talk English, I stake claim. One summer I sell claim. Much money. Bag of gold same big as my house, all on bank at me."

"You mean in the bank for you," but the suggestion received no reply. Her guest had arisen and was putting on his hat to go.

"Is this all?" she ventured. "To whom shall I send it? Don't you want your name at the last?"

"No. I come more. I make more letter. I make the last. This one on you."

"Do you mean that this is for me? Shall I keep it until you come to finish?"

"Yes," he assented, as he departed, leaving her in possession of his queerly worded document.

True to his word, he did come more, and that sooner than she had expected. Early Monday morning the rickety suit of brown and the shaggy beard of red gave a touch of local color to the opening exercises, and by their presence added one more straw to the load that seemed about to break the camel's back.

"I make more letter," he offered when the regiment of young Americans had been disbanded for the noon hour. "I put my name today."

"All right," sighed Miss Kitty, glad to know that she would soon be rid of him.

"I got have to go off, go not at Indians," he began, "and be a white man. I American. I citizen. Got learn English. My two girls got go not at Indians. I give him at school."

"You mean that you expect to leave the native village and put your girls in school."

"Got have squaw white; got to have you. You come me and you have money. I do, you say."

You mean that you want a white wife,

and that she may spend your money while you will do whatever she says?"

"Yes, I want you. My girls want you. We have you. You want money, you have money. All go. You say. All do."

The speaker paused. There seemed no way to close, yet he had finished. What should he say at the last? Kara's letter had one short line and then her name. He wanted his letter to measure right, but how could it be done?

"What will you say next?" questioned Miss Kitty.

"I say, I say—what Kara's letter say at end?"

"It said: 'Your friend Kara.'"

"I say: 'Your friend Petrof Morgan, a citizen.'"

After a brief pause he blurted out: "Now, what you say at end?"

"What do I say at the end? Why, I say: 'Your friend Kitty Wheaton,' at the close of my letters."

"What you say back on me, you read this letter?"

"Do you mean what name will I put on the back of the letter? I don't know. You haven't told me whom it is for."

"Don't put name on back. I take it. I give it to him," and he bowed himself out.

"Half-past twelve," grumbled Miss Kitty, as she closed the school room and hastened away to luncheon. "I hope I'll not be called upon to write any more letters. This means a cold lunch, or none at all," but she was interrupted in her cogitation by a rattling knock at the door.

"There, I wonder why people can't leave me alone a minute. Looks like they might know that the noon recess is my own and that I need a little time to eat." As the door opened the letter that she had just written was thrust into her hand.

"Here, this at you. Now what you say?"

"I say that I am tired and hungry," snapped the unwilling recipient of an informal proposal. "I am busy just now."

"What do you say at the end? Do you take me, my girls, my money? My gold same big as a house, do as you say."

Seeing no hope of an answer on so short notice he diplomatically closed the door and

retreated, with the remark that he would call again, and see what she said at the end.

In the end she said that he needed to shave his face, which was indeed a very discreet and practical suggestion; but she learned that no answer is final with a man unless it be favorable to his desires. He insisted each time that he would come again to see what she said at the end.

In conclusion she wrote this request to the dean of her alma mater: "Please procure

for me the services of a cultured young lady, able to speak German fluently, but not Polish, and who can go to Heidelberg with me as governess to two little Polish-speaking girls. A good salary and opportunity for study and travel."

Thus did a Russian peasant pass from Indian life through American citizenship, into the beginning of a European education, into the privileges of a glorious manhood.



YUKON WINTER

By F. H. ANDERSON

(Illustrated by Frontispiece in this number.)

Silence and frost! A landscape still
As depths of deepest sea.
Steel-bright stars and a moon as chill
As moon of ice would be.

Silence such as you feel and see
In presence of the dead;
Silence that leaves the soul not free
From something like to dread.

And cold! Like that of Arctic caves
Which ope on frozen seas,
Where never hint of sunlight braves
The deep eternal freeze.

Like spellbound specters silent stand
The spruce trees draped in white,
As they by some magician's wand
Were frozen with affright.

No faintest zephyr stirs the air—
The winds far south have fled,
Leaving the landscape whitely fair
And pulseless as the dead.

The solemn solitudes are bare
Of aught that moves with breath,
Unless it be a hungry hare
That slowly starves to death.

From out the north pale flashes rise
And dim, mysterious haze,
Auroral fires quoth the wise—
The phantoms of a blaze.

Dawn comes to warn pale Arctic Night
That from his southern bed
The Day god cometh in his might
Upon her skirts to tread.

With shud'ring steps toward the north
She drags her shining throng.
Dawn follows, and the sun comes forth,
But not to tarry long.

For in this grewsome time of cold
Short is the sunlight's sway,
And cold its gleam as is the gold
That lures men's minds away.

Wierd land! upon my soul is grav'd
Thy beauty pale and cold.
And comes the wish I had not crav'd
Thy dearly purchas'd gold.

In far off lands are weeping eyes
For those whom thou wilt keep—
From thy cold bosom ne'er to rise—
In an eternal sleep.

Dominion Creek, Yukon Territory,
Jan. 2, 1899.

A Case of Pizening

By A PELLY RIVER PROSPECTOR



YOU have to mush, sick or well, or the Injuns will have you before you're another day older. They're on the war path and they're comin' down this way; they've cleaned out every prospector's camp on the head-waters of the Stewart, and they're just as nasty and mean as any low-down Piute ever was. I saw my pardner's body stark and stiff and horribly mutilated, lying in front of the door of the cabin where they had killed him while I was out huntin'. That huntin' trip was the only thing that saved my life. Tracks in the snow showed that there must have been about twenty of the brutes. Soon as I saw the situation I struck out for Old Man's Creek 'cross the divide, but before I got there I met Bill Whaley, and he told me that the Injuns had gone through their camp, killed two white men, burned the cabins and that he and two others were the only ones that were left. The other two had hitched up their dog team, got together a few supplies and hit the trail for Edmonton. I knowed that you and Pete were over here, so I thought I would come down the river and give you warning, so that you could get out and save your lives."

It was the latter part of March, and the weather was getting pretty nice. The sun was beginning to come out for a stretch long enough during the daytime to enable one to get acquainted with him, and for him to diffuse some warmth in a land that, frigid and snow-covered, had been torpid since the middle of the preceding November. Bob English and his partner, Pete Jedkins, were living in a cabin on the Stewart River pretty well up toward the source of the stream. During the preceding summer they had been mining on the bars of the Stewart, and having found an encouraging prospect, they had built a cabin and gone into winter quarters. This was away back in the eighties, and while the food supply, from the prospector's point of view, was adequate for the winter,

it was pretty slim, both in quantity and variety. They had their guns, however, and with the optimism of the prospector and the courage of the frontiersmen, they expected that they would be able to kill enough game to piece out their meager supplies and enable them to live comfortably until the following spring.

Luck was against them from the start. The caribou failed to come to this part of the country during this winter; even the grouse emigrated to some other part of this bleak and frigid land. To a cursory observer there doesn't seem to be any choice of locality during the winter season in this part of the Yukon Territory, but it is evident that the wild game have reasons for their migrations, probably finding the food supply better in some places than it is in others. January and February had been very cold, in fact, so cold that it was hardly safe and very uncomfortable for a man to leave his cabin. The confinement and lack of variety in the food had brought to Bob English's partner that most dreaded of visitors to the early prospector in the Northland. Early in February Pete was stricken with scurvy. Fortunately the attack was not malignant. The victim did everything that his environment and opportunity would permit him to do to check the advance of the disease, but there were weeks in which the struggle for life seemed hopeless. He was just beginning to improve, and was able to hobble around the house with the aid of crutches, when Limpy Adams arrived with one dog, traveling light, bringing the cheerful news that there had been an outbreak of natives only a few miles above them, and at any hour they might strike a blow at the little lonely cabin on the Stewart, where lived the sick man and his partner. Limpy's reputation was not as savory as frying bacon, but he seemed terribly earnest over the story he told, and very much perturbed.

Pete listened to the news and without a moment's hesitation, before his partner had an opportunity to speak, said:

"Bob, hitch up the dog, take what stuff you need to get to the Yukon, and you and Limpy hit the trail without any unnecessary delay. I can't travel and I guess I'm about done for anyway. In my present shape the Injuns won't get much when they get my old carcass. But Bob, you're strong and have good health, and to you life is wholesome, and there is no reason why you should stay back here to die with me, for death is inevitable, if what Limpy says is true. Now you needn't protest nor say that you won't do it; I mean this, and I don't want you to go wasting words and argument. I just want you to get ready and mush."

"Well, I'll be durned, Pete Jedkins, if you ain't the bossiest sick man I ever had anything to do with. Why, don't you know there ain't any boss in this camp? Do you think you're goin' to scare me away from you by this report of Injuns on the war path? Well, I guess not. Old Bob English ain't built that way. Haven't I nursed you, taken care of you and pulled you pretty nigh through the scurvy when it looked at times like that old chap who rides the white horse was right at the door waitin' for you? Haven't we cabined together for years up here on the Yukon when there wasn't another soul within several hundred miles of us? Haven't we stampeded together, and haven't I heard your shout when you struck a lucky place in the bar and raised a pan that showed a fine prospect? And haven't you heard me under the same circumstances, and haven't we always felt that we were partners in the full sense of the word, what was mine was yours and what was yours was mine? And do you think that I'm goin' to desert you and leave you here alone and sick in this cabin for a pesky lot of varmints of redskins to swoop down on and butcher? No sir, you just dry up that talk and let me hear no more of it, by gum, or I'll put a gag in your mouth if it's necessary to stop it."

Limpy was an interested listener of this outburst and, perceiving the situation, said:

"I don't see that it's any use for me to tarry, and if you boys can spare me a little grub I guess me and the old dog will be hikin' out."

From the scant supplies of the two pros-

pectors he was given food enough to last him several days, and with a hasty farewell he continued his journey down the river.

When he had gone the two partners discussed the situation, and they concluded that if the Indians came they wouldn't offer aggressive resistance. But they put fresh loads into all of their shooting irons, determined in case of attack to sell their lives as dearly as possible.

"Pete," said Bob, "that fellow may be telling the truth, and his story corresponds with the rumor that we heard last fall about the natives being restless and in a bad mood over the disappearance of the game from this section of the country, and attributing the disappearance to the arrival of the white men who have recently come into this region. It's too bad they killed those boys over there on Old Man's Creek, but I don't believe that they'll pester us, even if they come this way. I know enough of their lingo to be able to talk to them, and if they come I am going out without any arms on me, and if they give me a chance to talk to them I'll bet you there'll be no trouble between us and the Injuns."

"I wish I could take as cheerful a view of the matter as you do," said his companion. "I think you're seventeen kinds of a fool to stay here when you've got legs long enough to carry you away, but as I don't dare to argue this question on pain of bein' gagged, I'll let you do the bossin', and I hope if they're comin' that they'll come along pretty soon so as to give you a chance to get out among them with your hypnotic eye. I promise you this, old pard, if your hypnotism and native eloquence don't work, I'll be watching the ceremony with my old winchester, and the first malamute that offers you violence will get a stomach full of cold lead."

The day passed without incident and night came with a glorious moon in the heavens, which lighted up the snowscape almost brilliantly. The partners sat in their cabin and watched and listened until near midnight, when they barricaded the door and lay down to rest. But Bob English didn't sleep. As soon as he was satisfied that his partner was asleep he propped him-

self in his bunk and lay wide awake, with all his senses alert, listening for a sound that might indicate the approach of the savages. But day dawned and they had been spared the visitation. Pete Jedkins slept late and his considerate partner did not move nor disturb him. It was broad day light when a fire was kindled in the Yukon stove, and Bob set the sour dough can close beside the fire to warm.

Pete was still in his bunk when there came from the distance the sound of crunching snow and the noises that indicate the approach of someone over the trail. A hasty glance up the river revealed fifteen or twenty Indians. There were several dog teams in the party, but the absence of any women gave strength to the report that Limpy had brought the day before.

Of course, there was a few moments of a very intense and highly keyed situation. But it did not last long. The Indians were soon at the door of the cabin and Bob English stepped out to meet them. His keen eye failed to detect any sign of blood-thirstiness or disposition on the part of the Indians to do him any harm. But Pete, inside of the cabin was alert, resting on his crutches, rifle in hand and ready to do business at the first indication of hostility. Bob addressed them in Chinook and one of their number, who understood the jargon, replied, saying they would like to trade; that they had fresh moose meat, but were short of ammunition. Fresh moose meat! What visions of a feast arose before him! Nourishment and medicine for his scorbutic partner! He forgot all about Limpy's sanguinary story, and inviting the spokesman into the cabin measured out for him the amount of powder and lead requested, adding to the quantity the desired number of percussion caps. Before entering the cabin the Indian had instructed his companions, two of whom immediately unlashd one of the sleds and took therefrom about fifty pounds of frozen moose meat, which was brought to the cabin door and placed upon a log. Before the trade was consummated half a dozen or more stalwart Indians were in the cabin examining the surroundings with that curiosity noticeable in the aborigine of all uncivilized lands. They imparted the information that

they had started on a hunting trip, and the scarcity of game in their part of the country made it necessary for them to take a long journey; and being short of ammunition they had brought from their scant supply of fresh meat the quantity that had been used for the purpose of trading with some of the prospectors whom they might find in the country.

They didn't stay long, but they were not out of sight before Bob English had cut a pieze of frozen meat and had started to trim the outside from it before cooking it. Indian meat is not scrupulously clean, hence the wisdom of paring off some of the outside before preparing it for use. The hungry, half-famished dog of the partners stood wistfully by, catching every little morsel of the frozen waste before it hit the snow. Before the meat was ready for the fire, the dog tumbled over in a fit, frothing at the mouth and quivering through every muscle as though suffering intense agony.

"What do you think of that, Bob?" said Pete. "I thought those pesky devils were too suave and polite. Seems to me they have learned some of the refined cussedness of the white man. They're on the war path sure enough, but they ain't takin' any chances. Instead of comin' up here and showin' fight, and givin' us a chance to pick off a few of them before they got us, they come up and pow-wow and make a trade and then leave us some pizen meat. It's a good thing we tried it on the dog first. I suppose they'll be stalking back here in a few hours expecting to find our carcasses and appropriate the few little things we have. You bet they'll meet with a warm reception."

Bob was speechless. He explained afterward that he was "completely flabbergasted," and the suffering of the poor dog for the moment drove other features of the situation out of his mind. He succeeded in pouring some hot water down the dog's throat, and in a short time the animal came to and seemed to be very much better. In the course of fifteen or twenty minutes he was on his haunches looking for more scraps.

"Pete, I'll be blamed if I believe that meat's very badly poisoned or it would kill that dog. I'm going to tackle some of it,

anyway. I'll eat a little just to note the effect."

Notwithstanding the protests of his partner, Bob cut a slice of the moose meat and spitting it on a skewer lifted the lid of the Yukon stove and broiled it over the blaze. He ate it with a relish, the while Pete was admonishing him to "take a bite and wait and see if there's any bad effects." This broiled moose meat tasted so good he skewered another piece and cooked it in the same way, and it was eaten without any bad effects being experienced. Seeing Bob's immunity, Pete's courage returned, and without further urging a splendid meal of fresh meat was cooked for both of them and eaten without experiencing any bad results whatever.

With full stomachs and satisfied appetites it was more easy to philosophize than it was when the dog fell over in a fit. The application of a little philosophy to the case led to the conclusion that the dog had swallowed bits of frozen meat and it was this frozen mass in his stomach, and not poison,

which had so nearly called him to the happy hunting ground.

The Indians did not return, but later in the spring, when the ice broke and some of the men from the upper part of the river came down the stream, the partners learned that Limpy had been arrested for thieving, had been tried at a miner's meeting, found guilty and sentenced to banishment. He was given twenty-four hours to leave the country, the penalty being hanging if he were found in the camp after the expiration of the twenty-four hours. He left the camp with very little preparation, and no doubt had concocted the story of the Indian outbreak to induce English and Jedkins to accompany him. The illness of Jedkins had prevented the consummation of his plan; but the story was the means of securing some of the prospectors' scanty food supply to assist him in making his escape from a little community of offended miners, who have never failed in the history of any mining camp to make good their threats.



A Woman In Aalska

By SARAH SOLSTICE



THE Editor has asked me to write about "A Woman in Alaska." I have lived in Alaska summers and winters a number of years, but have never had any exciting adventures nor tragic experiences. I fear that if I should keep within the domain of my own experience and tell only the things that happened to this particular woman, the story would be very dry and uninteresting. In order that I may perform my work acceptably I will venture into the field of fiction to the extent of imagining myself a composite of the women I have known in Alaska.

Some of these women have had experiences of intense and absorbing interest, but they have all been women and womanly. They brought to this frontier Northland the atmosphere of home life. After they came here they created the environment which is indispensable to refined women, and which has been a potent influence in helping mankind to the higher levels in all the epochs of the world. The pessimistic, the intensely practical and the uncultured may sneer and laugh at the social caste which women establish, but these social conditions are the very best drill guards of society. And if it were not for woman with her love of the home, her regard for social caste and her natural religious instinct, man might become a savage. This composite Alaskan woman believes he would.

There is a very great difference in the frontier today and the frontier a hundred years ago, or even fifty years ago. When the Virginia and Massachusetts colonies were the frontier of our country the environment was very different from the surroundings of the pioneer families who first came over the broad and billowy western plains and settled on the Pacific shore. They were the same people, moved by the same impulses and animated by the same hopes and desires. The difference in the surroundings is due to the different periods. And the frontier of Alaska is even more radically

different from any of the other early settlements of our country than any of its predecessors were different from the settlements that preceded them. Our great-grandmothers spun and wove. They did their difficult needlework in the evenings by the feeble light of a candle. They rode to church upon a pillion behind their husbands, brothers, fathers or sweethearts. Friends or relatives who resided a few hundred miles away were at a great distance, and they heard from them infrequently.

The pioneer women in Alaska, those that went to the district after the discovery of gold at Nome, did not have to contend with the primitive methods of earlier days. I know that these women are not the "truly" pioneers, as there were a few women on the Yukon in earlier days who may resent my assumption to the appellation of pioneer. This, however, is merely a question of terminology, and my discussion of the subject in hand will not antedate the time of my arrival in the country, nor will it refer to any other part of Alaska than the Yukon and Arctic regions.

When these women reached the Nome mining camp they found railroads building, and telephone lines going up, habitable houses in process of construction, and even found that fore-handed people had taken with them to the northern mining camp many things to adorn and decorate their homes. Steamship lines placed us in direct communication with the great throbbing, pulsing world we had left, so that inside of a fortnight we received news and fresh cargoes of supplies from the principal ports of the Pacific. There was a newness of the country, with its long stretch of moss-brown tundra swamps that lay between the sea and the foothills. Beyond was a succession of rolling, treeless hills, and away in the distance granite peaks darkly silhouetted against the sky. Over all there brooded the spirit of the wilderness, the primeval solemnity. In the few little spots in creeks where gold had been found, the solitude was bro-

ken by the first murmurs of civilization.

This indeed was a frontier, in fact the most distant outpost in our country's northern possessions. A person could go to the hills and breathe the atmosphere of the frontier and feel that he was one of the pioneers, but he could not remain in the town and have any other conception than that he was in a wide-awake hustling community, such as he had known in the older commonwealths of our country.

I went to Alaska in the spring of 1900 with my husband. After an eventful voyage of twenty-five days, which included a stop of pretty near two weeks in Dutch Harbor where we lay waiting for the ice to go out of Bering Sea, we arrived in Nome on the 15th day of June. The beach was covered for miles with thousands of tons of supplies which had been landed and piled in many places in a heterogeneous mass. Thousands of people were busy like ants around ant hills hunting for their consignment of goods and when they found them, endeavoring to move them to a place of safety. There were only a few teams in the new town, so that most of the freight had to be moved by hand. It was a common sight to see men making pack animals out of themselves, struggling through the sands of the beach or over the mud holes of the tundra streets of Nome, bowed under the weight of great boxes and bales. Some of the more fortunate had hand carts, and if they were lucky enough to own one or two dogs, these animals were hitched up and made to do service.

In this motley throng of twenty thousand people, hopeful, expectant people, burning and parched with the gold fever, there were several hundred women. Most of them were accompanied by husbands, fathers or brothers, but there were a number who, with the independence characteristic of the American woman had come to Nome unchaperoned. Some were prepared to work like men, and dressed in sweater, bloomers and gum boots, set up rockers on the beach, and had a try at the life of a miner. As one person cannot operate a rocker to the best advantage, a woman who owned a rocker offered me half of the clean-up to assist her, and together we began the work

of washing the Pactolian sands of the Nome beach. I did not tell my husband anything about my mining prospects, as he had gone to the creeks. Visions of nuggets and of a great quantity of gold dust floated before me, and I planned how I would surprise him when he returned. Accoutered in a miner's garb, I worked faithfully over the rocker for one whole day, sometimes shoveling the sand into it and sometimes rocking and pouring the water from a big dipper that we used. At the close of the long day, for it was near ten o'clock when the sun went down, we cleaned up and took our dust home. That was my first and last clean-up. A neighbor weighed the dust for us and informed us that we had succeeded in obtaining the munificent sum of thirty-six cents.

The first night that we landed in Nome we failed to get our outfit from the steamer, and as there were nothing like adequate hotel accommodations, most of the town being housed in tents, the outlook for a place to sleep was very discouraging. But my husband was a resourceful man and as this was not his first experience in the frontier, he converted a large dry goods box into a bed chamber. We had blankets, and with the straw from some of the unpacked boxes on the beach a bed was made, and my first night in Nome was spent in this crude and temporary habitation. I hope I may never be less comfortable than I was that night. The following day when our tent was erected and we were inside of it just in time to escape a rain storm and a snow squall we felt like we were housed in a palace.

I met many of the women who went to Nome on this memorable trip and, without a single exception, they had gone upon the same errand, all had been impelled by the same motive. The lure of gold had attracted them, and they had gone to this far-away part of the earth, some with matured plans and others with very hazy and indefinite ideas of making money. One would not look for very much culture and refinement among such a class of women, but in most cases culture and refinement were not lacking. It seemed pitiful, almost tragic, that they should be here in the profession of bread winners and striv-



MINING ON THE NOME BEACH IN 1900.

ing by honest effort to secure that competence which now seems to be the chief aim and object of life. Some of them had stocks of goods, groceries, provisions, dry goods, fancy goods, general supplies—most everything in the merchandise line that was salable, and some things that were not salable in that part of the world, but always in small quantities. The capital of these women was limited; their investments had been made on a small scale. I fear they did not succeed very well, as I never learned of any woman that realized the dreams which caused her to go to Alaska.

In the early days of Nome, streets were in horrible condition. They were full of mud holes. The few wagons that were in the town had cut gullies through the moss-covering of the tundra so that there were spots in the streets that were absolutely impassable for foot passengers. A few boards made a sidewalk in what might be called the central business part of town, but any person walking the streets needed gum boots for footwear. Consequently the street boots, at this date, of most of the women of Nome bore the mark of the Good-year Rubber Company, and in most cases reached to the hip. Short skirts were fashionable, and sometimes while crossing the street a woman would get into a bog where she would have fared much better if she hadn't had any skirts at all.

There was no such thing as society. It was the busy season of the year, and of course there was no opportunity for social doings, and until this opportunity arrives the social lines are not drawn. With few exceptions women were treated chivalrously by the men, and in this respect Nome preserved the reputation of the western mining camp.

There may have been women in Alaska who thought that their isolation and long distance from home and friends gave them a license to do things which they would not do in the ordinary social environment. I have known of cases that made me think of the oft-quoted lines of Kipling:

"There is neither law of God nor man north of fifty-three."

But I do not believe that any inherently honest man or woman ever retrograded in Alaska. Alaska is a new country, and in all new countries vice is more daring and insolent than in older communities. But notwithstanding the visual evidence of the under world which no one in a new mining camp can help seeing, and notwithstanding the contaminating influences of dance-halls and gambling places, there is in Alaska an indefinable something which gives people confidence in themselves, and confidence in one's self is the first stepping stone to success. In Alaska one experiences a broad sense of freedom. Restrictive conventions are not there. The country is big and there are only a few people in it. It is a country in which a person may find himself. There are many sea-worthy craft on the great sea of time buffeted by wind and wave—craft that have lost their bearings and are sailing on and on, they know not whither, except they go where wind and tide may take them. In Alaskan waters these craft might get their bearings, and become serviceable vessels in the great fleet of the world.

I have written this to give the reader a glimpse at the women in the early days of Nome and believe that this is a fair view of the women in the early days of every mining camp of Alaska. This is all preliminary and preparatory to what I am going to say about "A Woman in Alaska." In less than seven years that have elapsed since the great stampede to Nome wonderful changes have taken place in this country, and I shall avail myself of the editor's invitation to tell of how important a factor women have been in the making of many of these changes for the better. In all the older mining camps of Alaska one will find now pretty nearly all of the home comforts that one can get in the states. In the town of Fairbanks, for instance, it is difficult for one to realize that this community is only about four years old.

(Continued next month.)

An InnuIt Legend

As Told by the Historian of the Kaviagmutes



THE Eskimo is a great story teller. A person listening to the historian of the tribe will be impressed with the natural eloquence of this dusky hyperborean dweller.

Even without any knowledge of the Eskimo tongue, the observer will know by the modulation of the voice and by the wonderful gestures and remarkable genuflections of the body, that the story teller is eloquently portraying the fact or incident that he is describing. The absorbed attention of his listeners shows how completely he dominates his hearers, and indicates the indelible impression that he is making on their minds.

The historian of a tribe of Eskimo is a hereditary position transmitted through the countless generations that reach back into the mists of antiquity. He does not belong to the cult of the shamans. The shaman is the spiritual adviser of the InnuIt—if by a stretch of the imagination his work can be deemed of a spiritual character. He professes to communicate with the invisible, and by these communications pull aside the veil that hangs over the future. He forecasts the results of hunting and fishing expeditions, advises those in trouble, and heals the sick by a means of incantations. In the eyes of the ordinary observer he is a first-class fakir. But the historian is an entirely different personage. He is the custodian of all the historical knowledge of the tribe, and most always a man of keen perceptions, native ingenuity and good judgment.

Among the many stories which these historians tell of iparni (long ago) is an account of the creation. The similarity of this story to the Bible story of creation, and also the similarity of other Eskimo stories to other Bible stories, one of Elugunuk, the strong man, and the story of the big fish in a lake at the head-waters of the Kobuk River, which swallowed a man and his kyak, may indicate a common origin of the Bible stories, a disbelief in which until

recently placed civilized man outside the pale of salvation.

The Eskimo creation story introduces the characters of Tongnuk, the good spirit; Tunrak, the bad spirit; Toolookakh, the raven, and the first man, an Eskimo, who was created perfect. According to this story, the world was made beautiful, was warm and nice —azeaktuk—which means perfection. This perfection, however, was not immediate. At first the world was in a vaporous or liquid state; it gradually solidified, and, through the process of many ages, reached the conditions which they describe by the word azeaktuk. After it reached this stage man was created, and he was made double-faced, so that he could walk backward or forward at will. The Creator told him what he must do, the kind of life he must lead, and left him to enjoy all the beautiful things that were in the world. After he had gone, Toolookakh flew over the country and dropped something from his beak, which proved to be Tunrak. Tunrak, like the serpent in the Garden of Eden, was a respectable appearing individual, and a very insinuating person, and he persuaded the perfect man that the advice he had received from Tongnuk was not wise. He also told him that Tongnuk could not do the things that he said he could. The final result was the InnuIt's disobedience of Tongnuk. When the good spirit came back he was angry, and caused the InnuIt to fall into a heavy sleep, and while asleep he cut him apart, so that the Eskimo was no longer a double man, but instead there were two people, and one was man and the other woman.

After this incident Tongnuk had a long heart-to-heart talk with his people. They promised to obey him, and the good spirit agreed to forgive and permit them a continued enjoyment of all the good things of the perfect world. But old Tunrak came back again at the first opportunity. Tunrak was worldly-wise. He told the man



Photo by B. B. Dobbs
TYPE OF ESKIMO.

and woman many things which they did not know and to which they listened. Before the last coming of Tunrak they knew nothing about sex. When the good spirit returned again and discovered that his children had lied to him, he abandoned them to their fate. He told them that he would no longer protect them or care for them, and they could follow their own will and do whatever they chose. Their conduct, without the guidance of Tongnuk, caused a change in the conditions of the earth. The country grew colder, vegetation disappeared, and the descendants of the first man became very wicked and bad.

Away back in those early days the people were giants, and the animals that inhabited the earth were very large. On account of the original disobedience and the subsequent wickedness of the human family, the earth settled and the water came up and swept over it, submerging the highest land. This condition lasted for forty sleeps, and it seems that everything that possessed

warm blood must have perished. The whale survived because he was half fish and half animal, and is the only survivor of big animals of this antedeluvian day.

When the waters began to subside, Tooolookakh flew over the land. Tooolookakh in all their legends is a messenger, and even unto this day the Eskimo have a superstitious respect for the crow; so that he is a bird which they never molest. Tooolookakh saw something in a part of exposed land and picked it up, and was surprised to discover that it was a little Eskimo from whom life was not entirely extinct. He took charge of him and cared for him until he fully recovered. Seeing that the little Eskimo was lonesome, he flew away and brought back to him a partner; and from this new beginning the Innuite family have multiplied since this great cataclysm. But man, in physical form, no longer has life eternal.



Photo by B. B. Dobbs
TYPES OF ESKIMO WOMEN.

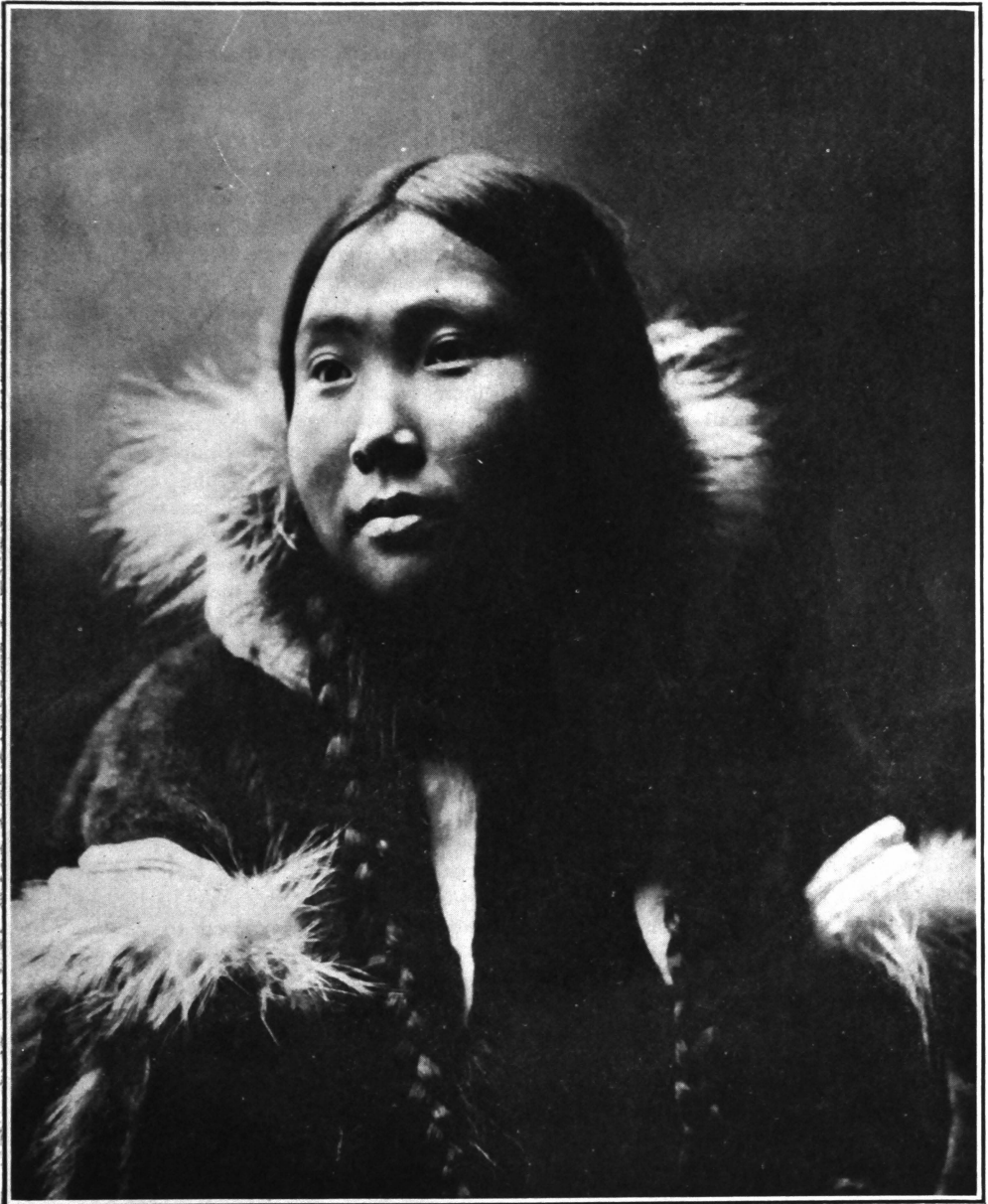


Photo by B. B. Dobbs

AN ESKIMO BELLE.

Palace In a Snow-Bank

An Incident of The Trail In Northwestern Alaska

By PIERE MARCHON



ME speak! Byemby plenty blow. Azeruk!" (Bad.) My Eskimo guide was in front of the team, and halting had waited for me to come up with the dogs, when he delivered this message. We were somewhere in the interior of Seward Peninsula, then a wilderness without a trail, possibly 125 miles from the Arctic Ocean. The weather had been intensely cold, but I felt that the thermometer had risen considerably in the last few hours, as the exertion of following the team made me glow with heat and beaded my brow with perspiration.

I saw no evidences of an approaching blizzard, and was congratulating myself that the weather had moderated. My objective point was Candle Creek, on the Kewalik River, and we expected to reach the place the following day.

The Eskimo's prediction made me uneasy. We had left a camp on the Kougarok two days before, and had not seen habitation or human sign since. There is something awesome about the loneliness and dreariness of the arctic wilderness, and Joe's prediction of a storm did not mend my spirits. In my perplexity I removed my cap and mopped my moist brow with a mittened hand. But I did not remain long uncovered. The cold air bit my ears and cooled my head warningly. Hastily readjusting the beaver skin I said:

"What shall we do, Joe?"

"White man, Eskimo unlega (wife), igloo," and he pointed to the eastward. "Maybe we findem ooblema." (today.)"

The direction was at right angle to my course, but I unhesitatingly said:

"All right, you go ketchem igloo plenty quick."

The snow was crusted hard as ice, and if the dogs had been fresh and we had not been weary, we would have made rapid progress. Joe started in a trot, and I grasped the guide pole of the sled and urged the team after him. I had time for reflection now. Here I was following an Eskimo miles away from the course I wanted to pursue, and to my unpracticed senses there was not a single sign of a blizzard. It was past noon of the short winter day. In every direction the snow-covered, treeless hills presented the same aspect. The white landscape stretched away toward the blue sky, and at the top of a far-away range of mountains seemed to merge into it.

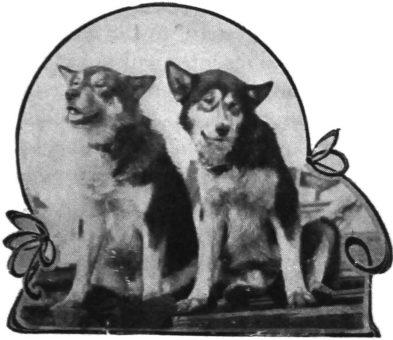
The idea came to me that Joe wanted to visit some friends, and had devised the blizzard scare to deflect me from my course. I was minded to call to him and resume our journey in the direction I wanted to go, but a gust of wind that swept down the canyon we were crossing kept me silent.

In less than an hour we were in a furious blizzard. The air was filled with flying snow, driven by a north wind that threatened to take us off our feet and hurl us along with the blast. We had reached a summit and were exposed to all the fury of the storm, when Joe shouted in my ear: "Ketchum wood pukmummy." (quick).

He turned his face to the wind and plunged down the gulch. I followed, but found it difficult to breathe facing such a wind.

In less than half an hour we were in a spruce forest, where many of the measly little trees were only able to stick their tops through the snow, but there was enough tall timber to give some protection. Joe stopped by a big drift, and unhitching the sled took the shovel and began to dig vigorously into the snow. I knew he was going to camp, as I had heard of Eskimo snow-houses for protection during a bliz-

zard. In an exigency a man can work very fast, and in an incredibly short time Joe was hidden in the tunnel he had made in the drift, but the way the snow was flying out of that tunnel was evidence that his industry had not flagged, and that he was excavating a room. Emerging from the tunnel he gave me the shovel, and taking the ax from the sled started to cut spruce boughs. I was not loath to take some ex-



ercise in the shelter of a snow-bank, but was so numb from cold that I could not work fast, and learned afterward that both my cheeks and nose were partially frozen.

By the time I had excavated a room big enough for the accommodation of ourselves and dogs, Joe had it partially filled with spruce boughs. Taking from the camp box a lump of camphor he touched it with the flame of a match, and the blaze lasted long enough to set the little brush heap on fire. The flame and smoke drove us temporarily out of our house, much to the satisfaction of the dogs that had been vainly trying to get in since the tunnel was first started. Joe was cutting more boughs, which he brought to the door of the igloo, and I stood on them to prevent the wind from blowing them away. When the fire died men and dogs found a refuge from the storm. The fire had made a wonderful change in the room. The heat had done as much work as two men with a shovel, but had been so suddenly dissipated and absorbed that the interior of our habitation was a crust of ice. I discovered later, on the walls, the most fantastic fresco work I ever saw, and that the ceiling was decorated with numerous little stalactites.

The tired dogs were glad to lie down in their harness and curl up, with their noses

between their hind legs, and rest. Joe lighted the lantern, scattered the boughs over the floor, and spread the robes. Then he dug into his kit on the sled and brought out an Eskimo seal oil lamp. This one was a light wooden tray, but a seal oil lamp in a permanent native habitation is a stone hollowed out. The oil is poured into the hollow, and a wick placed in the oil and lighted, in the same manner that our ancestors used lard and a wick. This crude lamp has supplied both light and heat in many Eskimo villages for centuries. Joe produced a baby seal skin partially filled with oil. I did not know he had these things with him, and would have remonstrated if I had known at the start. On trips of this character no surplus baggage is carried. Our equipment consisted of robes, sleeping bags, a tent, a light Yukon stove, meager cooking utensils and food. It is impossible to pitch a tent in a severe blizzard, and if we had camped where the native had first smelled the approaching storm, the tent would have blown away, as there was not a tree or shrub in that part of the country to tie it to.

Joe filled the tea kettle with snow and began the slow task of heating water over the seal oil lamp. I had rolled a fur robe around me, and returning warmth had induced an irresistible drowsiness. I was fast asleep when the Eskimo shouted:

"Hey, ketchum kow kow!" (food.)

The water was bubbling in the tea ket-



tle. We filled our tin cups and made tea. Putting slices of frozen bacon on a spruce stick we broiled them over the flame of the lamp, and with slices of bread from a frozen loaf we ate a dinner with a zest seldom inspired by a "large cold bottle and a small hot bird."

I doubt if Vitellius, when he feasted on bird tongues, enjoyed the repast as we did ours. Each dog was given a dried salmon,

which was swallowed in chunks without mastication.

After dinner, pipes and tobacco. Next to whisky, the Eskimo likes his smoke. I can see now the look of peace in Joe's face as he lay with his left elbow on a spruce bough, his hand propping his head, and he contentedly drawing at a pipe that would have been a curio in a museum. The wooden stem had a greater circumference than the bowl of the pipe, which was made from a pebble, and held only a pinch of tobacco. With him the weed was a luxury, not to be puffed away without obtaining the full benefit of the narcotic. He inhaled the smoke, saturated his lungs with



it, and then slowly exhaled it as though he were loath to part with it.

I had now an opportunity of examining our habitation, which was very irregularly shaped, but probably had the dimensions of 600 or 700 cubic feet. It was not a palace, but it might have been a fit abiding place for a hyperborean fairy. In contrast with the warm, luxurious apartments of a first-class hotel, it was only a cold, miserable den, but in contrast with the trail and fighting the blizzard during the long watches of an arctic night, it was a luxurious abode. After all, comfort in this life is, to a great extent, a matter of education and a product of environment. The dark-skinned native at my side was enjoying a soothing tobacco dream. His belly was full and his body was warm. He had all the creature comforts his undeveloped mind desired. I

was thankful and happy that I had escaped death. I could faintly hear the ferocious wind sweeping past our snow-cavern home, and I thought of what might have happened to me if I had not had some one with me learned in the lore of the land. I could picture the desperate struggle, bewilderment, fatigue, exhaustion—and one more prospector added to the list of frozen to death in the merciless blizzard of the Northland.

I surely was grateful to the Eskimo, who now showed signs of awakening from his lethargy. Joe grunted and, sitting up, surveyed the surroundings. After contemplating the freakish frescoing, the funnel-shaped holes in the wall and the icicles on the ceiling, he said:

"Igloo azeaktuk!" (Pretty house.)

My Eskimo vocabulary was not very extensive, but Joe's knowledge of English was more limited, and our conversation was usually in a jargon, but mostly Eskimo. In response to inquiries he told me he knew the storm was coming, because the temperature became warmer so suddenly, and that the blizzard might last three or four days. He said we were not far from the white man's cabin, but that he feared I would not be able to reach it in the face of the storm, so he had made the snow-house for shelter until the blizzard abated. He had made many snow-houses under similar circumstances, and during a prolonged storm had lived in one for nine days.

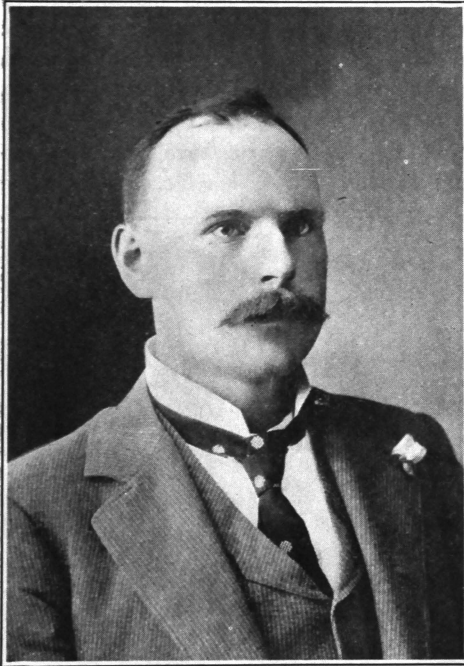
Drifting snow had sealed the entrance to our house, and two men, four dogs and a seal oil lamp had noticeably vitiated the air, but the Eskimo, who all winter long violates the cubic air law, experienced no discomfort. I knew it would be only a temporary benefit to dig out the tunnel, as it would fill with snow in a few minutes, so I took two lengths of stove pipe, and poked a hole at an angle of forty-five degrees through the wall with the shovel handle, at a place where the partition protecting us from the blizzard was comparatively thin. By placing the pipe in the hole our house was provided with a ventilator. Crawling into sleeping bags we slept the sleep of weariness.

The next day the storm abated and we resumed our journey.

Noted Men Of The Northland

Dr. Alfred Thompson

Dawson, Nov. 20, 1906.—Accompanying this is a splendid likeness of Dr. Alfred Thompson, member of the Canadian Parliament for Yukon Territory. Dr. Thompson is the sole member of the Dominion legislative body for the vast region extending from the northern boundary of British Columbia to the Arctic Ocean, and from the eastern border of Alaska, which is formed chiefly by the hundred and forty-first meridian, to the summit of the Rocky Mountains. This great domain contains



DR. ALFRED THOMPSON

more square miles than many of the greatest European powers can boast within their home borders, and is a land of untold mineral wealth. The portion that has brought the British Yukon to the attention of the world is the little central patch known as the Klondike. The Klondike camp proper has a radius of only 25 miles, yet has produced in the ten years of its life \$125,000,000 or more in gold. In the southern part

of Yukon Territory and in other places splendid prospects of gold, silver and other minerals have been discovered, and a great future is predicted for the country.

Dr. Thompson is but 35 years of age. He is a native of Nova Scotia. The doctor is one of the representative business and professional as well as political men of the Yukon, and a strong believer in the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. He hopes to visit Seattle before many months.

—SETTLEMEYER.

Frank H. Waskey

Frank H. Waskey is the first "gentleman from Alaska" in the halls of congress. The law creating a delegate from Alaska provided that at the first election the electors of Alaska should choose two delegates, one to fill the short term in the present session of congress and the other to fill the regular term of two years, beginning with the next session, and bi-annual elections to be held thereafter. Mr. Waskey was nominated by the miners on the ticket with Thomas Cale as a candidate for the short term. The decisiveness of the election, his large majority over all other candidates combined, is not only an evidence of the popularity of the principles which he represented, but is a testimonial by his friends of his worth as a citizen and a man. He is an honest man and a worker. He is full of nerve energy, which, during his days in Alaska, found vent in the work of mining, in which he was engaged. Mr. Waskey is among the most successful operators in the Nome country, and his success is due to good judgment and tireless industry. He is the possessor of that most desired quality, good common sense. And his many friends believe that as the representative of Alaska in the House of Representatives he will use the same cool, unerring judgment in matters of legislation for the benefit of Alaska which has placed him among the leading mining operators of Seward Peninsula.

Mr. Waskey has been in Alaska since 1898 and in the Nome country since 1900.



FRANK H. WASKEY.

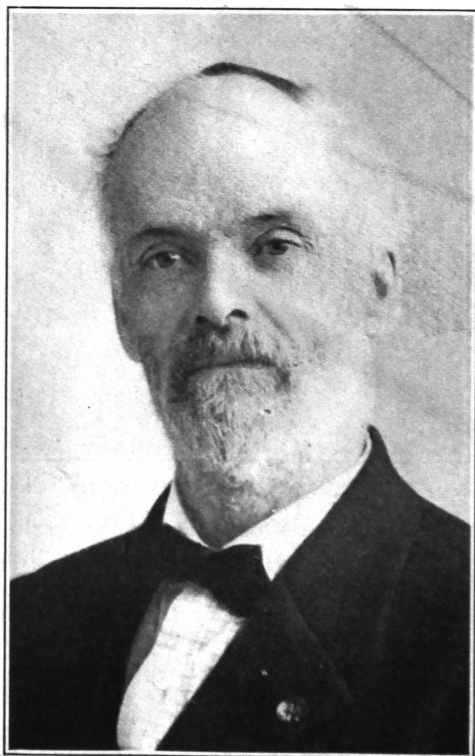
He is a young man, not more than thirty-five years old, tall and slender, possessing what phrenologists would call the mental-motive temperament. I have noted his distinguishing qualities as honesty, industry and native intelligence. That is a pretty good combination. As the first delegate at Washington, Mr. Waskey will not be able to accomplish as much as he desires, but none of his friends doubt for an instant that he will fail to accomplish all that he can, or all that any man might accomplish under the same circumstances. It will be his initiative at this session of congress which will be productive of good results in the future.

Thomas Cale

Thomas Cale, elected at the first election in Alaska to fill the long term as delegate to congress, is a native of Wisconsin, and of Irish ancestry. He is tall, a man of pleasing appearance, democratic ideas and demeanor, interested in socialistic and economic questions, a proletarian student and thinker, interesting to talk to, a man without veneer or varnish, with whom you quickly

become well acquainted, optimistic, a fluent and magnetic public speaker, has worked at manual labor all his life, and is fifty-three years old. He did not want to become a candidate for delegate to congress. He had been ten years in the Northland and had never made a strike of any consequence. He had a prospect out on Vault Creek in the Fairbanks region that looked good to him, and he wanted to stay with his partners and find bedrock and, if possible, a pay-streak. But the miners of the country would not listen to his objections. They offered to put a man in his place, to pay his expenses, and upon these conditions he accepted the nomination unanimously given him, and made a canvass of the district. The overwhelming majority he received at the hands of the voters showed the democracy of the men of the Northland; that they believed a miner should represent a mining community.

This date seems to have been the turning point in Tom Cale's life. With honors



THOMAS CALE.

heaped upon him, the pay-streak was located on his properties, and he was able to sell an interest, for which he received several thousand dollars, more money than he had ever had before. After ten years in the Arctic wilderness, a decade of privation and toil, he was able to return to his home and family and friends as the Honorable Thomas Cale of Alaska, taking with him a sufficient sum of money to make a competence for the wife in her declining days, who had waited and hoped through all these long years of his struggle in the Northland.

I have no doubt that back of everything there is law, immutable and unchangeable, but many things happen and we don't understand, because we don't know the law. We express our hazy and indefinite ideas with such terms as fate and luck. And here seems to be a case where the indefinite terms are used. A man suddenly emerges from comparative obscurity and has honors thrust upon him. He has been a poor man, and he suddenly acquires wealth. But Tom Cale deserves it all, every bit of it, and any more good fortune that the Fates may have in store for him.

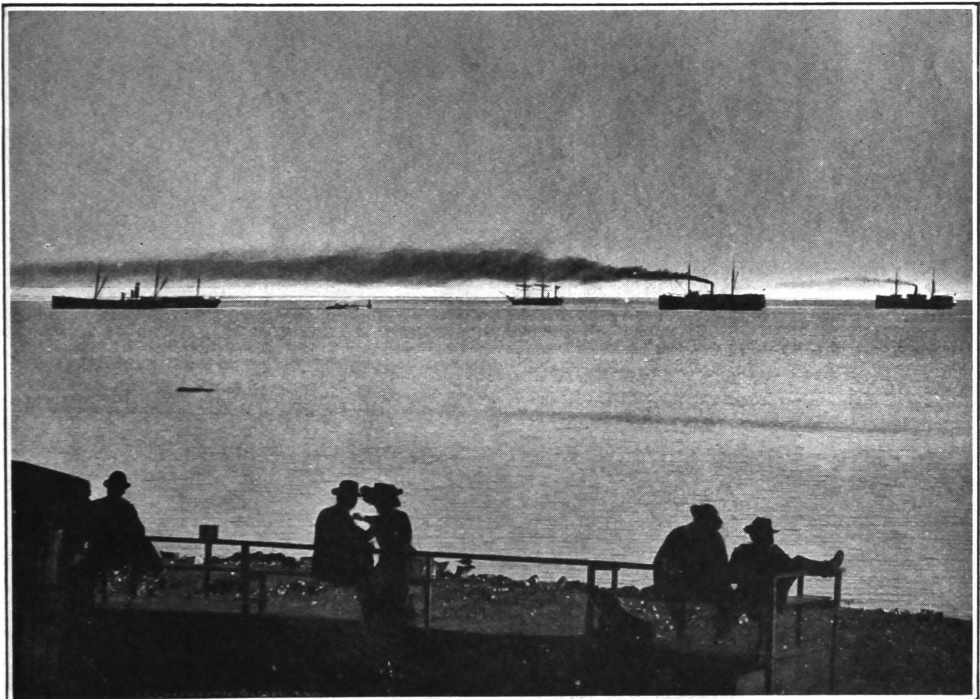


Photo by B. B. Dobbs
MIDNIGHT VIEW OF THE ROADSTEAD AT NOME.



STORM ON BERING SEA.

Courtesy of E. G. McMicken

Confederate Cruiser In Bering Sea

In The Spring of 1865 The Shenandoah Destroyed the Yankee Whaling Fleet



VERY few people know that a scene in the National tragedy, in earlier days called the Rebellion and more recently designated as the Civil War, was enacted in Bering Sea. Before Alaska passed into the possession of the United States and before we exercised any sovereignty over these waters the Yankee whaling fleet was partially destroyed by the Rebel Cruiser Shenandoah. This historical incident happened in the early part of the open season of 1865.

Since the date of the capture of the first Bowhead whale in Bering Sea in 1843 the whaling industry in northern waters has attracted the attention of the commercial world, and has been actively pursued by a fleet of vessels varying in number from a dozen to a hundred. Many of the captains of these whalers have been typical products of Marthas Vineyard, and a record of their exploits and experiences would make volumes of absorbing interest.

In 1865 the Yankee whaling fleet was early in Bering Sea bucking the ice and following the floes on their spring journey to the Arctic Ocean. The story of Appomattox had been written, and peace had come to the warring factions of a great nation. But up in Bering Sea many thousands of miles from post office or telegraph station the incident of the close of the war was unknown. So when Captain Waddell, commanding the Rebel Cruiser Shenandoah, sailed up through the North Pacific and into the Okhotsk Sea with an old Australian whaler on board as pilot, he no doubt felt that he was serving his country by the privateering work in which he was engaged. There was no loot to be obtained by the capture of the whalers, and no purpose to be subserved except the injury inflicted upon the merchant marine of the enemy.

Captain Waddell captured and burned thirty whaling vessels. Taking 250 whalers from the destroyed fleet, he placed them on board four vessels and sent them to the states. The value of the vessels destroyed on this occasion is estimated at one million dollars, and the loss of the season's whale catch is estimated at another million dollars, making two million dollars of damage inflicted by the Shenandoah after peace had been declared.

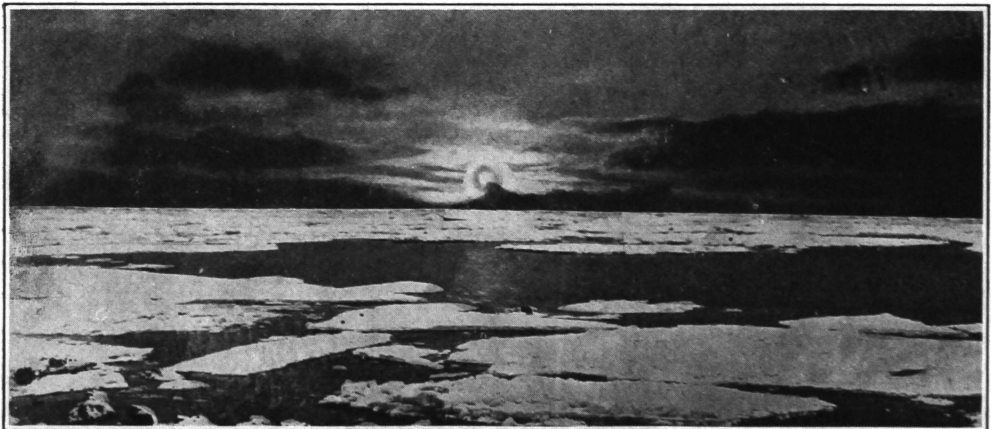
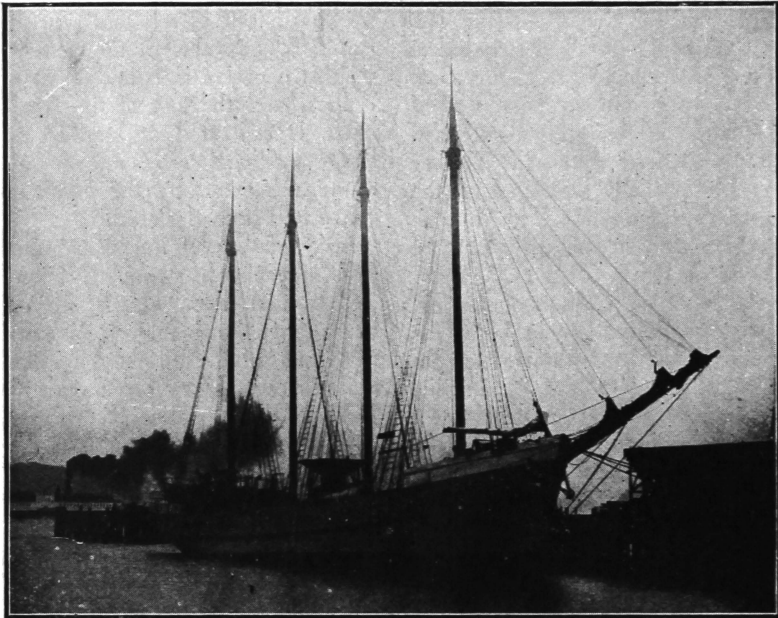
Old whalers tell interesting stories of how the Shenandoah swooped down on them and burned their vessels. Their reminiscences give local color to a story of some historical value even though it be not generally known. One old captain with whom I talked had a native boy from the South Sea Islands on his ship. One day the boy declared that he smelled burning tar, and it was afterward ascertained that on that day Captain Waddell had burned three whalers twenty miles to the windward. That boy had a great smeller. Possibly the captain had him aboard to locate "stinkers" or dead whales. Another captain got word of the Shenandoah from some men who had escaped in a whale boat. He said that he would rather have been caught in an ice-pack that circled the north pole than to have fallen into the hands of Captain Waddell. He described his narrow escape by saying that he "skooted for the ice-pack in the Arctic. I jammed into the ice 150 miles and took all kinds of chances of getting crushed. Between being crushed and being burned I preferred to be crushed, but I got out all right and made the biggest 'ketch' that season that I ever made in my life."

The name Shenandoah was sufficient to inspire terror in the minds of non-combatants, and as the whalers were not provided with any weapons, except those for the capture of whales, all that Captain Waddell had

to do was to signal a whaler to stop. If she failed to obey the signal a shot across her bow brought her quickly to a realizing sense of the gravity of the situation. But it must have been tame work for the Confederates. If one of the whalers had resented and had fired a whale-bomb at the cruiser, and for her temerity had been pierced by cannon balls from the guns of the cruiser the comparatively unknown incident of the war which was enacted in Bering Sea would

not now need to be resurrected from whalers' yarns.

Captain Waddell boarded one of the whalers that flew a foreign flag. The captain of this vessel had left port later than the Yankee fleet, and he had in his cabin a copy of a newspaper containing an account of Lee's surrender. This was shown to Captain Waddell. He immediately put about and set a course for a foreign port.



The New Strike On The Chandlar

The Yukon Valley News, published at Rampart, under date of December 19th, contains the latest authentic information in regard to the new strike at Chandlar. Chandlar is a tributary of the Yukon, and its source is not more than one hundred miles east of the source of the Koyukuk River. Last fall there was a stampede to these new diggings from Fairbanks and from some Yukon River stations, the strike having been made last summer.

The information published in the Rampart paper was conveyed by a letter to M. R. Donaldson, bookkeeper of the Northern Commercial Company at Rampart, from a cousin at Coldfoot on the Koyukuk. The news features of the letter are as follows:

"There has been nothing much done as yet, as it was almost impossible to get grub over there until the past few weeks.

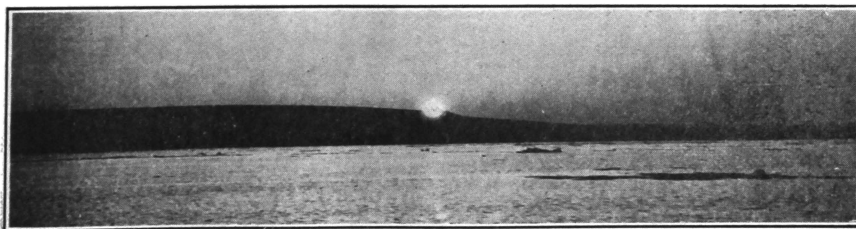
"Last fall on the head of Big creek (one of the largest creeks in the district, being forty miles or more long), Newton, Bolds and Jones were panning and raised good prospects. Newton went out one morning and panned \$52 out of the gravel in two hours—all fine money. They afterward set up boxes, and owing to the shortage of water were only able to shovel about five minutes at a time. Their shoveling paid them about a dollar a minute the man. This creek has many small ones entering it nearly its whole length on which good prospects have been found. There are also many more creeks which have prospected very well, namely, Big Squaw, Little Squaw, Tobin, Woodchuck, Big McClellan, Little

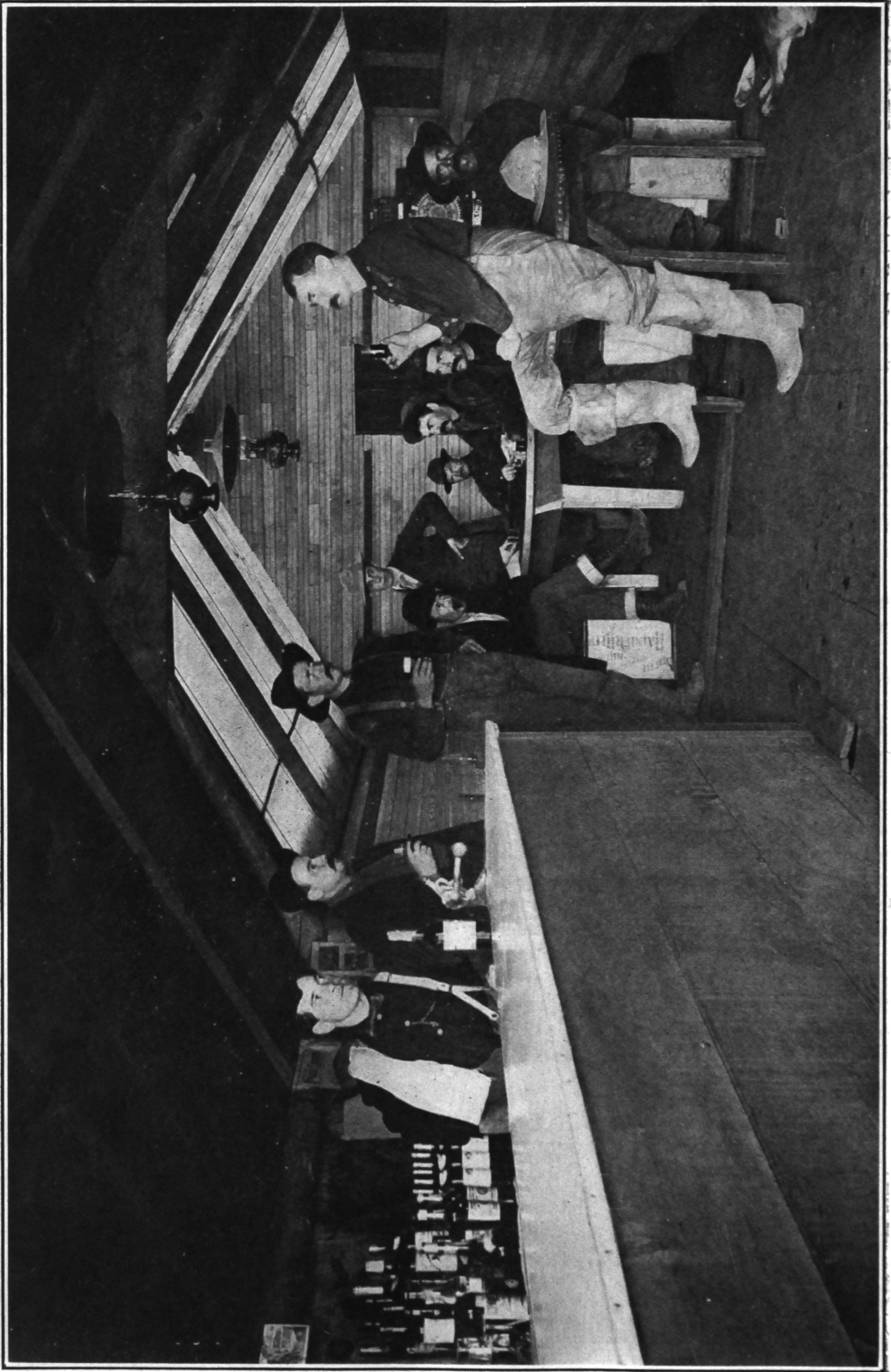
McClellan, Rock, Dictator, Grave, Slate and numerous others.

"The formation of the country shows that it has had a run of gold through it for a number of miles. Many think the best ground is still to be found.

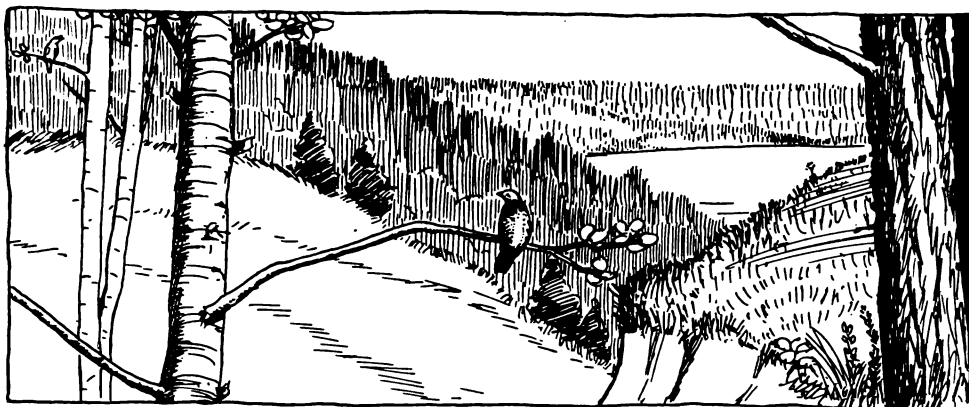
"It looks more like a placer country than any in this section, the hills being worn down smooth, the creeks mostly large but well confined between the hills, making prospecting much easier. In most places when you get well to the head of the creeks there is very little timber, and in many places they have to haul it ten or twelve miles.

"There is quite a number of newcomers in the section already and many more they report on the way. But I think, myself, that the best trail would be from Tanana, as there is a trail which the mail carrier has to Bettles; also one to Coldfoot, and a good trail cut to the diggings from this point. The distance is about the same from Fairbanks via Circle and Fort Yukon as it is from Fairbanks via Tanana, Bettles and Coldfoot, the latter route being the better one owing to the grub supplies, as a man can travel from Fairbanks to Tanana light and from there to Bettles light, and through to Coldfoot, where he can get his supplies, have them freighted or haul them himself the balance of the trip, about sixty or sixty-five miles, there being cabins up all along the line. Coming the other way they will have to take sufficient supplies to carry them to Circle, then to Fort Yukon; from there they have a haul of about 170 miles to take their provisions."





INTERIOR OF A ROAD-HOUSE ON AN ALASKAN TRAIL.



Hear Alaska's Merry Songster from His Splendid Mossy Knoll.

A Klondike Duet

By LEONE VAUGHAN

(At Deep Lake on Chilkoot Trail, Spring of 1898.)



"La, me, sol! La, me, sol, sol!"
 Hear Alaska's merry songster from his splendid mossy knoll.
 See him turn his head so archly, as he glances shy above,
 Pleading gently for an answer from his haughty lady-love!

See, the tiny lady warbler sits upon a swinging spray!
 While the ardent little wooer trills another merry lay,
 Of his song of love so tender in his most enchanting way.
 But, alas! no word in answer does that little lady say!

But she hops about quite gaily, with the most bewitching grace
 Quickly smooths a ruffled feather right into its proper place;
 Then she cocks her head so coyly and, as if by merest chance,
 Darts straight at her anxious suitor such a saucy, daring glance.

"La-a-a, me, s-o-o-l! La-a-a, me sol, s-o-l!"
 Hear! again the song arises from that gorgeous mossy knoll.
 Ever louder, ever sweeter, now the little song doth grow,
 Oh, my dearest, fairest lady, do not, do not, mock me so!

Ah! at last there is a quiver in that dainty, little throat.
Hark! now hear the gentle warble! hear that half-sad minor note,



Oh, so modestly she answers: "Hear me now!"
While she faster, and yet faster, sways the brilliant cedar bough.

"La-a, me, fa-a!" she repeats the tender strain,
And the proud and handsome songster feels his wooing not in vain.
"La-a, me, s-o-o-l! Darling, may I with you swing?"
"La-a, me, fa-a! You may sit by me and sing!"

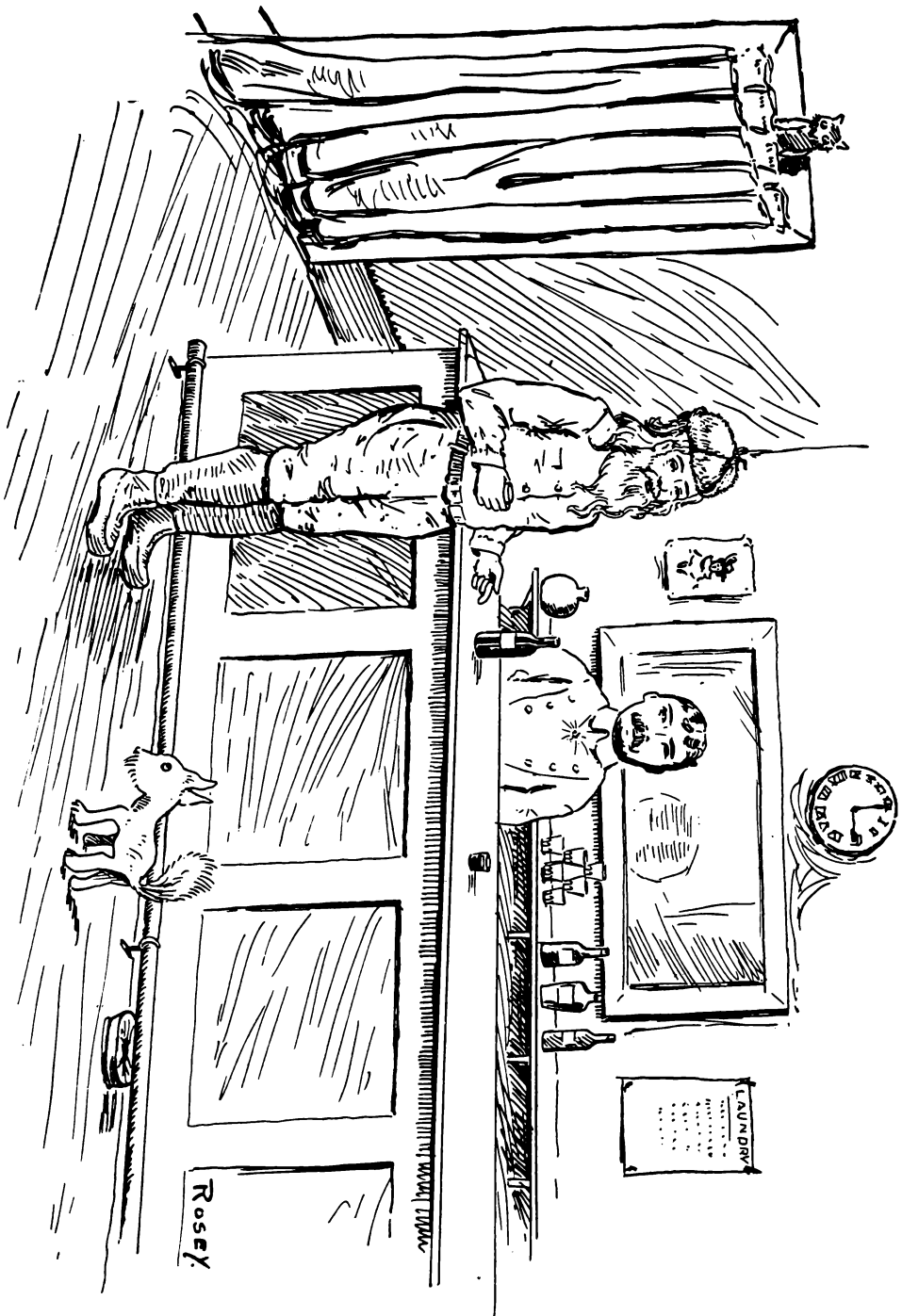
Then my lady, fair, grows frightened after this shy sweet advance,
So she hops away right quickly with a backward, longing glance.
But the eager, joyous lover now flies boldly to her side,
"La-a-a, me, s-o-o-l! Sweet, you cannot from me hide."

"La-a, me, s-o-o-l! May I sing with you alway?"
"La-a, me, fa-a! Dear, how can I say you nay?"
Lovely stars come twinkling, twinkling, and the saucy bird is won.
Hear their mingled voices swelling. Their betrothal has begun.

Though it is the olden story, it doth ever sweeter grow,
Whether song to gentle maidens, or to birdies in the snow.
So sing on wee, dainty warblers, sing your love song o'er and o'er,
Here among Alaska's mountains by the blue lake evermore!



Whether song to gentle maidens, or to birdies in the snow.



T. Rosenthal, Valdez, Alaska.
"HE IS A PEELLY RIVER HUSKY, FINEST LEADER ON THE TRAIL."

Alaska-Yukon Magazine

—Published by—

The Harrison Publishing Company

Alaska Building, Seattle

Edited by E. S. Harrison

VOL. III

MARCH, 1907.

No. 1

Story of the Northland

The mission of the Alaska-Yukon Magazine is to tell the story of the Northland. This is a wonderfully interesting story, if rightly told; it has a great many features, and every feature is a story of itself. The commercial feature will be of great interest to the commercial world because Alaska is destined to inject into the blood of commerce that which greatly enriches the commercial blood, viz., gold. In the dim future the historian who writes a history of Alaska will note the wonderful effect that Alaska's gold product had upon the social and economic world. A retrospect of history now will show that the ages of commercial activity, the eras of prosperity and plenty, have been very closely linked with plenty of money. It is an axiom in political economy that the price of products which money buys is dear when money is plentiful and cheap when money is scarce. It follows, that when money is plentiful the products of labor are dear and the common people are prosperous. Gold being the world's monetary basis of values, it is obvious that any country capable of supplying a considerable amount of gold is not only a very important factor in the commercial world, per se, but is an important factor in the social world, as it is a contributor to the welfare and happiness of the great mass of people.

Alaska and the Yukon Territory com-

prise a big country. A great many years will be required to thoroughly explore and prospect it, and the gold product of this country will gradually flow into the channels of commerce for a century or more. But gold is not the only mineral of economic value in this part of the world. Copper, tin, coal, silver, gypsum, sulphur, bismuth, and possibly many other minerals will add very interesting and important chapters to the commercial story of Alaska and Yukon Territory.

Some of the readers of this magazine may think that undue prominence is given to matters of a purely commercial nature; that the commercial instinct is killing art, and that in the mad rush for money people are overlooking some of the most important duties of life, forgetting many of the amenities of civilization and making life so materialistic that the idealism which has been behind every altruistic movement and which has been the prime factor in all the truly great work of every epoch, is moribund, if not dead beyond resuscitation. But the editor of this magazine is an optimist, and notwithstanding the baleful influence of commercialism on art in the ages agone, he believes that the commercialism of the present century will be the hand-maid of art. The prosperity of our country is unprecedented, and prosperity gives men opportunity to devote time to their ideals. The very rich men of the United States have manifested their desire to be helpful by endowing schools and universities and establishing libraries; and when great fortunes are used for such beneficent purposes there is little room left for materialistic pessimism. But, to quote Kipling, "this is another story."

The history of Alaska is filled with thrilling instances of strenuous human endeavor. The regime of Russian occupation from the viewpoint of today is queer

and quaint, and coming down to us through the mists of a century or more is tinged with romance. But by far the most interesting part of Alaska's history has been made in recent years; it is the story of the prospectors, the many strange and varied experiences of the early Yukon goldseekers. This part of the history is filled with tragedy, pathos and humor, with perhaps a preponderance of tragedy. The Northland is stern and merciless. It is not a fit country for weaklings, but it is a country where, if there be any inherent or latent strength in a man, that strength will be developed. The summers are congenial, but the winters are the periods that develop the resistant vines. The Alaska-Yukon Magazine hopes to print much of this recent history, and believes that these stories are of human interest:

Alaska has a natural history that differs in some essentials from the natural history of temperate zones; not that the animals are different except those that are indigenous and live only in the Northland, but their habits and their modes of life are different, probably due largely to environment. The natives of Northern Alaska are not a part of the race of North American Indians. The difference in physical appearance is not so striking as the difference in character. They have an interesting folk-lore, comprising many stories which indicate a common origin of the myths of humanity. The information that public schools have imparted about the Eskimo is in some respects erroneous and often misleading; such ideas as snow-houses, and blocks of ice for windows are the result of whalers' yarns. In Northern Alaska and Yukon Territory are fossil remains of the mastodon and of other animals that inhabited warmer zones than the arctic region. So the natural history, the ethnology and the paleontology of this

country should prove both instructive and interesting.

The scenic feature of Alaska, from a commercial viewpoint, is no mean asset. When the picturesqueness and grandeur of Alaska scenery is properly advertised and widely known, the tourist travel to the land of the midnight sun will be very gratifying to the transportation companies. The glaciers of Alaska are the biggest in the world. In comparison, the glaciers of Europe are as insignificant as the fire that Gulliver extinguished in the palace of Lilliput. The Alaska Range of mountains comprise more than a dozen peaks which are over 10,000 feet in height, the highest being Mt. McKinley, whose summit is 20,00 feet above the sea level.

Alaskan streams are numerous and they abound with fish. Thousands of square miles of rugged mountains and primeval forests are filled with big game. There is a natural history item, which might have been more appropriately noted in a preceding paragraph, that will interest and please tourists. There are no snakes nor poisonous insects in Alaska. Mosquitoes and gnats are the meanest pests, and they are bad enough. A trip to Southeastern Alaska is a delightful voyage, as it is almost entirely over inland waters which are as smooth as a pond. A voyage down the great Yukon is a memorable experience, and a trip that never will be forgotten. The Alaska-Yukon Magazine plans at an early date to issue a tourist number, which will partially exploit this very interesting feature.

Industrial endeavor belongs to the commercial feature of the Northland. It comprises the work that is being done to develop this wilderness. Many readers will be astonished to learn of the towns that have been builded during the last six or eight years; to learn of the railroads that

have been constructed, some of them north of the Yukon, almost up to the Arctic Circle; to learn of the railroads that are projected, some of them financed, upon which work will begin early next spring, and others upon which work has started; to learn of hundreds of miles of ditches that have been dug to bring water from distant lakes and rivers to the auriferous gravels of this country; to learn of the great dredgers large as the biggest river steamboats, their strong chains of linked buckets lipped with manganese steel, digging three and four thousand cubic yards of gold-bearing gravel every twenty-four hours; to learn a thousand things about this new and interesting country which is destined to play a leading role in the drama of future generations.

The story of the Northland is voluminous, and a long time will be required to tell it. At the beginning of this story the teller and the hearer are like travelers at the base of a great mountain. The nearness of the mountain prevents them from seeing it. They can see only the trail before them and the spurs and canyons within the radii of their vision. But as we progress and climb upward we will have a wider range of vision, will see more of the mountain, and find it much more interesting than it is at the beginning of our journey. We are not going to attempt to reach its summit by the most direct route or over a blazed trail. There will be numerous detours and many side journeys for the purpose of exploring an isolated or a sequestered wilderness. Our trail will zig-zag across spurs and meander through deep, dark canyons. We will circumtour the mountain and see what of interest lies on the other side. This journey from month to month should be fraught with interest, filled with pleasant surprises and altogether enjoyable.

Seattle and Northern Commerce Seattle's commercial relations with Alaska and the Yukon Territory should be nurtured and assiduously cultivated. The benefit that these regions have been, are and will be to Seattle is not fully realized, nor properly appreciated. This is not a reflection on the honesty or judgment of the business men of Seattle. Up to this date the most important and valuable product of Alaska has been placer gold, and heretofore placer gold fields have been speedily exhausted. It is a natural assumption that business developed by placer mining camps is not permanent. But the conditions in Alaska and Yukon Territory are different from the conditions in any other gold fields heretofore discovered. Up in this Northland there is perpetual frost and many other impediments to speedy work that will quickly exhaust the values in the ground. There is gold scattered through a wide area, for a million square miles, extending from Lynn Canal to the Arctic Ocean, a thousand miles, from the McKenzie River to the western seas, another thousand miles. The men who know most about this vast country realize how inadequate their conception is of the possibilities of its mineral product. But they know enough to know that mining has just begun—that a hundred years will scarcely serve to exhaust the gold deposits that are now known and are in process of development. The Dawson country has produced \$125,000,000, and this is only one-fourth of the estimated product of the famous Klondike gold mines. Alaska has produced more than \$100,000,000, and there are thousands of square miles of mineral ground still lying fallow, and vast areas as yet undiscovered. Seward Peninsula, which is the Nome country, comprising an area of about 22,000 square miles in the northwestern part of Alaska, has placer

mines and prospects in which the gold values are estimated at \$500,000,000. I believe this estimate is low rather than high. Fairbanks is a new camp, but the Tanana mines have already developed pay-streaks of an aggregate length of one hundred miles. Last season one creek in this region (Cleary) produced \$5,000,000. This length of pay-streak is in a region not more than twenty miles square, and comprises the rich diggings east of the town and which have made this camp famous. The Tanana Valley is one hundred miles wide and six or seven hundred miles long. It is a mineralized country; gold has been found in many parts of it, new strikes are being made, the latest being in the Tenderfoot country, one hundred miles north of Fairbanks; and when this region is as old as the Nome camp, in all probability there will be as much gold in sight here as there is in the Nome country. Then, when we consider the Klondike diggings, the newly discovered Chandlar camp, the many gold producing streams on the Yukon between Eagle and the Tanana, the mineralized area of the Cook Inlet country, the prospects of the Copper River region, we have placer deposits in sight that will produce a fabulous sum of gold; if I were requested to guess I would say at least two thousand million dollars.

When the business men of Seattle realize this, and fully appreciate the fact that during their lifetime and the lifetime of their successors a constantly augmenting stream of golden wealth will pour into Seattle from this northern empire; when they realize that geographically Seattle is the base of supplies and distributing center for all this northern country, they will be able to properly estimate the value of the commercial relations between this city and the Northland.

The far-seeing business man of Seattle will take the very best care of his business in Alaska and the Yukon Territory. That business is destined to grow, and it is of a character that is desirable. Trade relations with people who have money and are willing to pay a fair price is always desirable, and the residents of Alaska and Yukon Territory are a people of this character; but there is one requirement upon which they will insist—they want the very best. Price is not so much an object with them as quality; the merchant who sends inferior goods to these northern countries will not be able to retain his business. The reason why the miner in the Northland demands the best of everything is obvious. In many instances his supplies must be carried on pack animals or on freight wagons a great distance to the interior, and the cost of transportation is greater than the original cost of the goods. In a case of this kind the reason is apparent why the miner should want the very best quality to be had. The people of Alaska are making money, and any community where prosperity reigns is a good market for the choicest products of the world.

The mines of the Klondike and Alaska have had a marked influence upon the development of Seattle. The many important properties owned in Seattle by men who have made their fortunes in the northern mines in indubitable evidence of this assertion. Assuming the preceding statement of the gold production of Alaska to be correct, it is a simple problem in proportion to estimate the advantages to be derived by Seattle from Alaska and Yukon Territory. Nothing has herein been said of the many other resources of the Northland, consideration being given only to the one that is considered of most importance, but in the development of the country, there are a great

many other resources than gold from which Seattle will receive the first and most direct benefits.

Revise The Mining Laws

The present mining laws are wholly inadequate for the needs of Alaska. This fact is very apparent to Alaskans, or any person that will take the trouble to inquire about the enormous litigation that has burdened the calendars of Alaskan courts, resulting from the inefficiency of our present mining laws. The great number of expensive law suits does not tell all the story, as many disputes over title to mining claims in Alaska have been settled out of courts. Alaska's needs in this respect are mining laws that will protect the original locator as long as he complies with the law—that will prevent the jumper from levying tribute or blackmail on any man who has legitimately and honestly acquired a mining claim.

Precedent to the enactment of any new mining laws, careful inquiry should be made so as to ascertain wherein our present laws are inadequate and inefficient. The greatest complaints throughout Alaska are caused by the wholesale staking of association claims, the unlimited use of power of attorney and failure to comply with the assessment law. The records of the Nome Mining District show that one man has staked between thirteen thousand and fourteen thousand acres of ground. He has been there since 1900, and with powers of attorney and the power vested in him as agent for many people whom he knew, he staked large areas in 160-acre groups. Instead of doing the assessment work as required by law on these claims the following year he would permit them to lapse and on the day they lapsed he would restake them, using different names. By this method he was able

to beat the law, and maintain constant possession of a large area of mineralized ground. Some of this ground during the past year has come to the front, in most cases as the result of prospecting on contiguous property, and has placed this pencil miner among the successful operators of the Nome country. Now here is an evil; this is an abuse of the law; and all honest prospectors and miners who strive to faithfully comply with the laws are placed at a disadvantage when such methods are permitted. Reference is here made of an individual case to illustrate a general fact.

The law requires \$100 worth of assessment work to be done on each mining claim every year. A mining claim may consist of a fraction of an acre, or it may consist of eight full claims of twenty acres each combined in a group. The law makes no distinction, the \$100 worth of work must be done on the acre just the same as it is done on the 160 acres. Of course this is an incentive for the staker to segregate the association claim. The seven other names used by a person staking the association claim are most frequently the names of dummies or persons who without any consideration will deed their interests, or anyhow a part of their interests, to the man who makes the location. There is nothing in the law to prevent a man from staking a township, and by devious methods he can maintain a possessory right to the entire township even without compliance with the assessment provision of the mining laws as they now appear upon the statutes.

The power of attorney is a second cousin of the association mining claim. The power of attorney enables a few people to locate an entire mining district. It is right and just that the discoverer of gold in any region should have some privileges that

would enable him to hold more property than the ordinary staker, or the miner who comes after him, but it is contrary to public policy for a few men to monopolize an entire district. Consequently the power of attorney should be abolished or so restricted as to make it innocuous.

The assessment provision of our mining laws is, in the opinion of the writer, the feature that is most in need of revision. The requirement of \$100 worth of work to be done annually is so simple and plain that it seems difficult or even impossible to avoid it. But reference has already been made to one way of avoiding it. And there is another way, and the frequency with which it has been followed shows that this provision of the law places a premium on dishonesty and is an incentive to perjury. A great many people in the mining districts of Alaska, near the close of the mining season, go out to their undeveloped mining claims and do a few days' work of a character that will show the most visual evidence of work having been done, and file an affidavit that they have done \$100 worth of assessment work on their properties. There is a standard for determining the daily labor charge for assessment work, and that standard is the going wages of the camp where the property is situated. In the early days of Nome the going wages were \$10 the day, and a miner's meeting fixed that as the scale by which assessment work was to be measured. Since the early days wages have been reduced one-half.

Of course, the honest miner now puts in twenty days' assessment work upon a claim, but I suspect that there are a lot of claim owners who do not do twenty days or fifteen days assessment work who would be insulted if you insinuated that they are not honest. Failure to do the proper amount of assessment work would cause the property

to revert to the government, and in Alaska there are many relocations upon the allegation that the assessment law has not been properly observed. If good pay is found on one of these claims the question to the title of the property is brought before the court, causing expensive litigation, ill feeling, wicked thoughts, and the possible contingency of bloodshed.

Alaska needs a revision of the mining laws which will prevent all these things. The object of law is to protect society, to protect the honest man from his designing neighbor. Laws are not intended to burden an honest man. He will do right and observe the equities in all things and on all occasions. If the law permit the unconscionable schemer to impose upon the honest member of society, that law should be repealed or revised. It is indubitable that the mining law as enforced in Alaska should be changed. To the Alaskan the only question is, what changes should be made? The evil that has been developed under these laws should suggest the remedy. Restrict the power of attorney. Restrict the number of locations that one man may make in any district, and provide that possessory right to a mining claim may be maintained only by the payment to the United States Commissioner of the district a stipulated sum in cash for every mining claim owned by the miner; or in lieu of cash provide for the specific performance of a certain amount of labor upon the roads of the district, said work to be done under the supervision of a road overseer. This would give the miner who did not have the money to pay the amount of his assessment work an opportunity to perform a certain amount of labor in a way that would be of public benefit, and this labor would enable him to maintain title to his property. The ordinary assessment work done on a mining claim at pres-

ent does not in any way assist in the development of the property. Such work is perfectly valueless. But work done upon a road, and in a country where there are no roads and where roads are so badly needed, would be of great value to the community, and indirectly would contribute to the development of the mining properties made accessible by these roads.

Stock Gambling and Mining

Alaska has been cursed with the fake promoter and dishonest schemer. The object of fake promoters was to get the money out of the people's pockets instead of out of the ground. You may tell the people who have been buncoed by him that they cannot blame the country and quote to them P. T. Barnum's overworked expression that "the American people like to be humbugged;" but that does not restore their money nor re-establish their confidence in the country. It is unfortunate that a part of the human family is dishonest, but since it is, the other part of the race should exercise prudence in all business transactions.

But all the failures in the northern country have not been due to dishonesty. More failures have resulted from mismanagement than from any other cause. In the earlier days the judgment of many persons was turned awry by the reports of the wonderful wealth discovered in the Klondike and Alaskan gold fields. They trusted impractical persons, men without experience in mining, with large sums of money for investment in gold mines and for the purpose of developing the same. Mining is a business, and it is a distinctive business requiring specific knowledge and skill. If the mine-investing public would recognize this fact, and place miners in charge of mining operations there would be fewer mining investments that fail to pay.

A mining promoter usually succeeds by offering glittering inducements. If the buyer of mining stock would apply any ordinary business test to the transaction there would be fewer people holding worthless mining stocks. Perhaps all the blame should not attach to the promoter. The "sucker" is blamable for expecting to make a thousand dollars on a ten-cent investment. If the public were not thoroughly imbued with the gambling instinct the fake mining promoter would not find a fertile field of exploitation. This leads to the thought that inspired this screed.

So far the stocks of Alaskan mines have not been listed and offered for sale by any mining exchange or stock board. The people of Alaska have confined their gambling to bucking the tiger and playing the American games of poker and solo. I do not believe any considerable number of them would be in favor of a stock board, in Seattle or elsewhere, for the purpose of gambling in Alaska mines.

The fake mining promoter may be able to go out and bleed a few people, but a stock board has got the capacity to bleed very many people. Gambling in mining stock is no worse than gambling in other stocks, although possibly the mining stock gambling offers a better opportunity for manipulation by the insiders at the expense of the outsiders. Or to use a term applied by Thomas Lawson, mining stock gambling offers the very best opportunity for the development of "the system." Stock gambling has been the most potent factor in the concentration of wealth. It has enabled a few people to make gigantic fortunes in a day. In the making of these fortunes thousands of people were made poorer and some were reduced to poverty. Stock gambling is pernicious. It is the worst form of gambling because it usually makes or breaks

a man, and the percentage of rich men to the paupers made by gambling

"Are as grains of gold to the sands of the sea."

Mining is the cleanest business in the world. You take that from mother earth which enriches you, but makes no one else poorer. The honest miner injures no one by accumulating a fortune. The money he gets has not cost a sorrow, a heartache nor a sigh. It is not drenched with the tears of widows and orphans, nor haunted by the pinched, wizened faces of sweatshop children. It is clean money, enriching the owner, and by augmenting the world's supply of money contributing to the welfare and happiness of the entire human family. There is much of this kind of money in Alaska and Yukon Territory, and I hope that it will be dug from the ground and poured into the channels of commerce without a stock exchange or an organized band of stock gamblers to bemsirch it, and fleece the feverish speculative public.

Guggenheims In Alaska

There has been a deal of newspaper comment recently about the Guggenheims attempting to monopolize Alaska. The specific charge is they are trying to prevent railroads from entering or getting a foot-hold in the Copper River country, as they intend to build a road into this region for the purpose of monopolizing and controlling the product of the copper mines to be developed in this part of Alaska. Of course, the mere intimation that a rich company is making an effort to throttle competition in the transportation business of a rich part of Alaska is sufficient to arouse indignant protests from the press of the country, particularly that part of the press which believes in a conservation of the rights of the

people. As a result of the specific charge, the Guggenheims have received much favorable publicity.

If the allegation be true, they deserve all the unfavorable publicity and drastic comment they have received at the hands of the newspapers, but I don't believe the charge. Until these charges are supported by some evidence, criticism should be predicated on the truth of the charges. All this publicity is advertising Alaska. In fact, it is one of the greatest advertisements Alaska has ever had. All at once the press of the land frantically announces that the greatest deposits of copper ever found in the world are in the Copper River country of Alaska, and that a big corporation is trying to shut the public out of this country and control all the mines in this region. "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good," and Alaska will be benefited even if the fair fame of the Guggenheims be injured.

I said I didn't believe the truth of these charges against the Guggenheims. I confess, however, that I am not fully advised in the matter. I don't know the Guggenheims, but I do know something about their methods and the way they are dealing with the miners of Alaska and Yukon Territory. I know some of their engineers, and I know Henry Bratnober who is associated with them in the Copper River enterprise; and it is because of the things that I know that I don't believe there is any truth in the charges that the Guggenheims are using any methods that are not honorable, are resorting to any practices that are not fair, or are trying to kill competition so as to give them a monopoly of the transportation business to the copper mines of Alaska. The main reason for my belief in this assertion is my faith in the absolute ethical honesty of Henry Bratnober. He is a plain miner who has made a fortune out of mining, and first,

last and all the time he is the friend of the prospector and the poor miner who is striving to better his own condition by increasing the world's supply of money. I don't believe he would be a party to any monopoly that would tend to injure the people for whom he has the greatest affection and the most ardent desire to assist. I learned while in Alaska and Yukon Territory last summer that the Guggenheims in their transactions with the miners of the north had been very fair, and did not resort to any subterfuges or devious methods. Their engineers investigated properties, and if they found values that permitted them to make a favorable report, deals were consummated by the payment of prices which the miners asked. Wealth is always the target of certain classes. I question the wisdom of concentration of wealth and its accumulation in the hands of a few, but I hope that I am not so myopic that I cannot see justice when the issue concerns the rich man.

The Washington correspondents tell us that the Guggenheims are opposing subsidies to Alaskan railways, and inferentially this is the basis of the charge that they are trying to monopolize the Copper River country. The Guggenheims are rich, and are able to build a railroad without government aid; and because they are opposed to government aid for railroads in Alaska, forsooth they are trying to monopolize the transportation business of the Northland. Surely the United States has learned a lesson from the great area of the public domain given away to railroads. Conditions have greatly changed since the beginning of trans-continental railroad construction. Meager capital and the great importance and value of the development of the West might have been justification for the government's action in subsidizing the trans-continental lines. But in this day of abundance of money,

when millions are lying idle, just waiting for the opportunity of exploiting such enterprises as Alaskan mines and proposed transportation lines present, there is no reason belonging to any public policy why the government should aid Alaskan railroads, or any other railroads. I say this because I believe there is private capital to build all the railroads that Alaska will require, and because I don't believe in the principle of government aids to railroads. If I were the Guggenheims, and if I were building a railroad into the Copper River country and asking no favors of the government excepting the franchise and right of way; and if some other person or corporation were to approach the government and solicit a subsidy for building a competing line, I would oppose the measure. Who wouldn't? I do not know that this is exactly the situation, but I suspect that it is.

**Alaska-
Yukon-
Pacific Fair** The Alaska - Yukon - Pacific Exposition will mark the beginning of an epoch in the Northwest. The San Francisco Mid-winter Fair was the aftermath of the great exposition at Chicago. The Portland Fair celebrated a historic event most conspicuous in the annals of the West but the fair was restricted in its scope, although in its character and beneficial effects upon the West it is entitled to rank among the biggest fairs of our Nation. The Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition will not be the aftermath of any world's fair. It will not be the celebration of any historical event, but it will be a fair having for its primary object an exhibition of resources and industries of the new Northland empire under the dominion of the United States and Canada. This empire reaches from the McKenzie River westward to Bering Sea and the North Pacific Ocean.

with a sea of floating ice and the inscrutable mystery which surrounds the north pole as its northern boundary. The primary object of this fair is to gather from this wide and comparatively unknown region the various products which are destined in the near future to make this country conspicuous in the economic world. Starting out with this idea the subject grew, as the foundation and plans of the fair were such that it might be made to include the entire West and Northwest of the North American continent.

Today the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition is a measure of international importance, claiming the attention of the Canadian government as well as the government of the United States. There are many indications and reasons now that this fair will be the greatest ever held in the West. It will possess features that will be unique. It will be an education to the greater number of the thousands of people who are expected to attend it. It will bring, as other fairs have done, the products and industries of the West to Seattle and place them on exhibition. No doubt there will be many things of interest and value from pretty nearly every state in the Union, but when the visitor to this fair sees Alaska and Yukon Territory, he will see the unique features, and he will wonder at the misinformation he has absorbed during his lifetime about the Northland.

The Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition is sure to be a splendid success. It is started right; the right men are managing it, and it is undertaken at a time when the people are hopeful, happy and prosperous, and willing to contribute the financial support that is necessary to make such an undertaking successful. Seattle spirit and Northland pluck should make an invincible combination, insuring success.

Farming In Tanana Valley I questioned the agricultural resources of Northern Alaska until I visited the Tanana Valley last summer. The gardens in the vicinity of Fairbanks and the farming that has begun there, have given a practical demonstration that all the hardier vegetables may be successfully grown in this region, and there is strong evidence, but not conclusive as yet, that the ordinary cereals will develop and mature here. The Fairbanks gardens are very prolific. Such vegetables as lettuce, radishes, beets, and turnips seem to reach a degree of perfection here attained in but few localities. The celery grown in the Fairbanks gardens is splendid. Fields of turnips were seen comprising several acres, and a better crop of turnips could not be grown in any other part of the world. In this high latitude all kinds of vegetation grow very rapidly, as during the summer months the sun shines almost continually. Garden vegetables reach maturity very much quicker here than they do in any of the states. Potatoes are grown in every town and mining camp on the Yukon River, but they do not possess the quality of choice varieties from favored localities in the United States. It may be that the low lands, which usually are selected for potato patches, are not suitable for this tuber in the far north; as it is reported that potatoes grown in the dry soil of an Alaskan hillside are much superior in quality to the Yukon potatoes.

One day in Fairbanks last summer I saw a small steamer, the *Dusty Diamond*, arrive at the wharf from the Tanana Hot Springs. She was loaded with vegetables shipped to the Fairbanks market from the vicinity of the Hot Springs, where there are gardens that yield prolifically. One crate of these vegetables contained ten cabbages that weighed 150 pounds. I have since

learned that the farm where these vegetables grew sold recently for \$30,000.

It was a surprise to learn that the gardens of the Tanana Valley supplied the markets of Fairbanks and the surrounding mining camps with most of the vegetables used. The consumer preferred the vegetables grown in the local market because they possessed a decided advantage of freshness, a quality that could not belong to vegetables shipped from the states. But there are some kinds of vegetables, notably turnips, that are superior in quality to the same variety that may be shipped from the Puget Sound region.

Last September I saw a field of barley near Fairbanks. The barley had been cut and bound into sheaves, but it had not thoroughly ripened. The grain had filled and was plump, but it was soft and would inevitably shrink. The evidence, however, was pretty conclusive that barley may be raised here and matured. There is no question of growing almost any kind of grain and cutting it for hay; for that matter, there are thousands upon thousands of acres of wild grasses in the Tanana Valley which would make very good hay. This idea leads to a thought of the business of stock raising which, I believe, can be made an industry of the Tanana Valley.

Reindeer In Alaska

Domestic reindeer may be a solution of the live stock question of the northern part of Alaska. That part of Alaska lying north of the Yukon River is not very prepossessing. It is not a country where "every prospect pleases." The flat tundra and the barren hills make a dreary landscape. The summers are woefully short and the winters are just as woefully long. The only kind of vegetation that matures is the kind that attains its growth quickly. During the

summer all kinds of grasses and vegetation grow very rapidly, and in isolated places there is a quantity of grass sufficient for hay to be mown, but generally speaking, the natural conditions for stockraising are not favorable.

There is, however, in this country many thousand acres of reindeer moss, a nutritious herbage growing on tundra and hill side, which is the natural food for reindeer. During the summer season, reindeer forage on the succulent grasses that grow on hill and in vale, and like any other herbivorous animal that may be in this land at this season of the year, become sleek and fat. But the time when the reindeer demonstrates his adaptability to this climate and his environment, is during the winter season. When the ground is covered by three or four feet of snow, crusted hard, and the temperature is away below zero, the reindeer has the ability to forage for his food and obtain a very good living. Digging through the hard snow with his sharp hoofs, he finds the edible moss on the ground beneath. The quality and quantity of this food does not make what might be designated in the language of the butcher, "stuffed meat," but it is enough to carry herds of reindeer through the long winters and leave them in the spring when the young grasses come, in a fair condition of avoirdupois.

The reindeer can be used as a draft animal and in other countries has been very serviceable for transportation purposes, but either through prejudice or inadaptability it does not take first rank in Alaska. If old Santa Claus were an Alaskan he never would be seen driving a reindeer team; his sled would be drawn by a half-dozen or more big huskies or malamutes. But the reindeer is a food animal par excellence. He is adapted to the Alaskan environment, and from the present point of view there

certainly are plenty of possibilities in reindeer stock-raising in the country north of the Yukon River. This country is destined to contain a large population; it has an area larger than any state in the Union, with the possible exception of Texas, and the development of its mineral resources means that ultimately it will have a population of several hundred thousand people, possibly of several millions. When this time comes, herds of reindeer browsing on the moss growing on a thousand hills may partially solve the question of food supply.

**St. Michael
To the
Aphoon**

A United States Government engineer has reported that \$240,000 will construct a canal between St. Michael and Aphoon, the mouth of the Yukon River used by all steamboats in the traffic between St. Michael and Yukon ports. At the present time it is necessary for steamboats leaving St. Michael for the Yukon to traverse 80 miles of Bering Sea before entering the river. The course follows the shore line of Bering Sea, but this does not greatly lessen the danger that all river steamers are in when laden or pushing heavy cargoes and making this trip. Bering Sea is a treacherous body of water. It is so shallow that when a storm comes up the sea gets rough in a short time. During stress of weather steamers lay in St. Michael Bay and wait for the sea to calm before venturing on this trip. This delays commerce, and sometimes storms continue for a week or more at a time. But the greatest danger is from storms arising while a vessel is somewhere on Bering Sea between the mouth of the Aphoon and St. Michael.

The proposed canal will obviate all of this danger and delay. There is a slough connecting St. Michael with the Aphoon, and there always has been enough water

in it for a small craft to make a trip over this course. The measure proposed is to dredge this slough and make it navigable for river steamers. The committee on appropriations have incorporated the recommendation of the government engineer in regard to this matter in the budget of appropriations. Its passage will be a just recognition of one of Alaska's claims to federal recognition. Last summer there were 32,000 tons of freight shipped into the Yukon Valley by the way of St. Michael. Thirty steamers and forty barges were used to move this freight. The magnitude of this business alone is sufficient to cause the government to construct this canal, but these figures are not a marker to what they will be a few years hence. The development of the resources of the Yukon Valley will cause a prodigious increase in the transportation business on the Yukon River.

**Room for
Workers
in Alaska**

Alaska has an area of near 600,000 square miles, and a white population that does not exceed 40,000. There may be a greater number of people in Alaska in the summer season, but I do not believe that a census of the actual white residents of the district would show more than 40,000. The result of a little sum in division shows that there is in Alaska one white person for every fifteen square miles of country. This is a very sparse settlement. There is plenty of room for the population to grow without encroaching upon the real estate holdings or property rights of others. This population is confined to coast towns and interior mining camps. There are great stretches of country where there is no sign of habitation nor evidence that white men have been there. Often the prospector is several hundred miles from a base of supplies or a neighbor.

These are primitive conditions, and whatever there is here of natural resources is waiting for the opportunity to be of service to man.

The young man starting out in life, and the older man who has acquired some experience, may succeed in gathering gear more easily in some of the many kinds of business in the populous cities of the world. I would not advise every young man to go to Alaska or the Yukon Territory, because there are many people who are not adapted to live and work in this kind of an environment. But if I were a young man, and if I knew what I now know about the Northland, I do not believe that any commercial reasons could prevent me from going into this part of the country and contributing my mite toward the development of its resources. There is a great difference between working in the ordinary channels of trade and the exploitation of new fields of industry and endeavor. Comparatively few people work with an object. The great army of workers is most intimately concerned with that strong appeal in our Lord's prayer: "Give us this day our daily bread." This bread-and-butter question prevents many people from planning for the future. And it has been so since history began. The toiler has worked, and hoped for a time when he would be able with his accumulated savings to rest a while and carry out a cherished plan for the realization of some of his ideals. But death usually finds these people in the harness. Comparatively few reach the goal of their ambition. Many lives are spent in the grind of unceasing work, but in the doldrum of existence. How many millions are there who never get away from the routine exactions of the great commercial juggernaut? There is not much in life for these people. But in a new country

like Alaska or Yukon Territory there are many opportunities for one to work unrestricted by the hampering influences of the more populous world. Up here there is a wilderness to conquer. There are lands to be wrested from the Frost King and converted into arable farms. There are places where stock may graze upon a thousand hills. There are many minerals of commercial value hidden in the rocks and soil, which the magic touch of industry will convert to the use of the world. Of course the world must have its army wherever there is commercial activity. But there is so much satisfaction for one to work for one's self or for one to feel that one is doing something or assisting to do something that will infuse new blood into the world, impart new energy and exert greater activity in the human race. There are opportunities for all these things in the Northland, and if a man be strong physically, courageous and hopeful, he will find the opportunity to grow and accomplish something in almost any part of Alaska and Yukon Territory.

While Alaska offers the inducements that most new countries offer to explorers and settlers, it is obvious at this early date that capital will be required for the development of a large part of the mineral resources of this region. Any person familiar with existing conditions in Alaska and Yukon Territory will tell you that the older mining camps have a ready arrived at the place where capital is necessary for the performance of expeditious and profitable mining operations. Railroads are necessary in this country, and money is required for railroad building. And while there is no doubt that capital will play the most important part in the future work of the Northland, there nevertheless remains much for the individual to do. There are many opportunities for

the worker, and if the Fates be willing he may find the pay-streak and a fortune.

Try to do a Little Good The mystery of death is the great unsolved mystery, but it is no greater mystery than the mystery of life. There are a great many things with which we are familiar and about which we know very little or nothing. Life is one of them. We know that we unconsciously enter this world and after a few years acquire knowledge of which we have memory, exist a brief spell in the hey-day of childhood, dwell a short time in the dreamland of youth, and, finding ourselves at the portal of maturity, take up the burdens which we carry to the grave. In childhood and youth the glamor of life hides all the hideous features of existence; the burdens of mature years prevent us from seeing beyond our immediate environment. So when the time comes to die the thoughtful person is like Sir Isaac Newton who said that he had been all of his life like a boy playing upon the sea-shore gathering the pretty pebbles when the great fathomless ocean of truth washed at his feet. But while we know little or nothing of life we should know much about living. Man has been on the earth a long time, and in this period he should have learned how to live.

Whether we believe man is the physical substance that we see with our eyes and feel with our hands, or whether we believe he is a part of divinity temporarily in these earthly habilaments should not affect us in our conduct toward our fellowman, nor alter in any respect the duty that every man owes to his brother. No person deserves to live who does not every day try to do something that will be helpful to the human family. Ella Wheeler Wilcox has very prettily said

that when death shall bar your path and inform you that you have reached the end, the only question that he will ask is:

“From your life’s first beginning
How many burdens have you helped to
bear?”

If every human being could be imbued with an altruistic sentiment, and be made to realize that his greatest happiness can be obtained only by making other people happy and in proportion to the extent of happiness that he was able to impart to others, this would be a dear old world. Any man dominated by the commercial instinct, who believes that “everything is fish that comes to his net,” has not learned how to live. Any man who derives satisfaction from besting his neighbor in a trade or a deal, has not learned the primary lesson of how to live. In order to live, it is not necessary to make protest against vice or profession of great virtue. Talk is cheap, often indolent, and sometimes deceptive; but action requires energy, and “acts speak louder than words.” A profession of piety is not always an evidence of it. But the man who lives right, in his conduct and work is a daily sermon.

Find Some Work to do “Idleness is the devil’s workshop,” and “Satan finds something for idle hands to do” are trite old sayings, but not less true because they are old. We get so well acquainted with the old things that they cease to impress us or have the influence on us that they would have if they came to us in a new garb or illumined by a new light. The person who does not work is failing to accomplish the object of his life. The person who does not work cannot be happy. In work we find surcease of sorrow. The heart of man may be bruised and crushed

and torn and bleeding, but work will bind the parts together and heal the heart. Nothing is accomplished without work. "All things come to him who waits" should be paraphrased to read "all things come to him who works." No matter what your vocation or profession is, you perform your duty by striving to do the work allotted to you to the very best of your ability. The humble artisan who does his work well is a better piece of handiwork of the Creator than the pretentious artist who does his work slovenly. The most noted men of this age are the captains of finance. I speak of contemporaneous notoriety, because there have been few rich men in history who have outlived their generation, and the greater number of these few have lived to point a moral, like the rich man who implored Lazarus to send him a drop of water to quench his terrible thirst. Our present day captains of finance are workers. It was said of Sir Walter Raleigh that he had the capacity to "toil terribly," and the men today who are directing the affairs of the world are similarly gifted. Nobody ever made a fortune "by the sweat of his brow," but these men who have builded gigantic commercial concerns may usually be found at their desks early and late. They do not observe union hours. And one of the secrets of their success is their industry, their capacity and willingness to work. Nor does work shorten one's life. Man will rust out quicker than he will wear out. Reasoning by analogy the conclusion is inevitable that work is the destiny of this life. If we were placed here to work labor should be wholesome and healthful; and it is. Divertisement and amusement are all right; they are necessary and helpful. They are not only restful, but a kind of tonic that exhilarates and imparts a renewed zest for work. The suc-

cession of days and nights is the analogy of the succession of periods of activity and rest. The period of nature's activity is the time for mortals to work; and he who neglects any opportunity to accomplish something by labor, he who shirks any of the toil that comes daily to all of us fails to that extent to perform the life work that he was placed here to accomplish. Henry Van Dyke saw the truth when he said:

"Let me but do my work from day to day,
 In field or forest, at the desk or loom,
 In roaring market place or tranquil
 room;
 Let me but find it in my heart to say
 When vagrant wishes beckon me astray:
 'This is my work; my blessing, not my
 doom;
 Of all who live I am the one by whom
 This work can best be done, in the right
 way.'"

Alaskans Want Home Rule

Of course Alaskans want territorial government. Was there ever a community of American citizens any where beneath the folds of the flag that did not desire to govern itself? This idea of self government has been the inspiration of our nation. It is one of our inherited ideals. The people of Alaska cherish this idea just as zealously as any of the American citizens in the halls of congress. If a vote could be taken upon the subject of territorial government I believe that four-fifths and possibly nine-tenths of the population would support it; but Alaska is not yet at the threshold of a territory. In the judgment of the statesmen who make the laws it is not expedient at the present time to give Alaska a territorial form of government. But the people who want territorial government should not abate one jot or tittle their agitation of the question. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and unceasing agitation is the only method of securing desired reforms. It will not be many years before

Alaska is a state, possibly two or three states, but she must first become a territory. With a delegate in congress to voice the needs of this new country Alaska should receive at least a partial recognition of her rights. The rights of the people, the common people, will always be espoused by this magazine. Self government is a heritage to the common folk as well as to the classes, and Alaska will have made substantial progress when she acquires the dignity imparted by a territorial form of government.

Alaska is a good place for people who are poor and proud. In a mining camp one does not have to dress expensively, entertain elaborately or live beyond one's means.

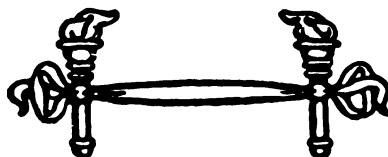
If the whaling industry in northern waters should be reckoned as a part of the resources of Alaska there would be more than \$100,000,000 added to the value of the products of this country.

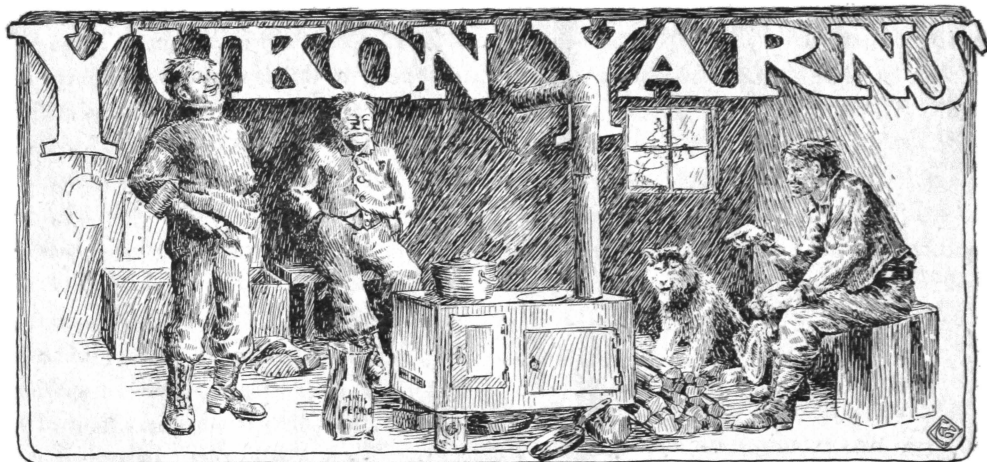
Some parts of Alaska would greatly please sportsmen. The biggest and most ferocious bears in North America are to be found in Alaska. Moose, caribou, mountain sheep and goats and wolves constitute some of the big game of this country. Grouse are to be found in myriads of flocks, and in season the greatest number and variety of water fowl. If sportsmen only knew about this country they would want to secure it and make a big game preserve of it.

"Alaska for Alaskans," was a shibboleth of my friend, Major Strong, when he was a newspaper editor in Nome, but without home rule it's a dream. Alaska is the kind of country to develop some strong men, and the time will come when "the gentleman from Alaska" gets the floor, the other solons of the nation will sit up and take notice.

Ages ago there was a big active volcano on Pelly River. The Yukon flows for miles along a bluff of lava that came from this old volcano, and an area of hundreds of square miles was covered by volcanic ash. In the banks on the right limit of the Yukon River this ash can be traced from the Pelly to Whitehorse. It is a stratum from a few inches to several feet in thickness, and covered with a slight overburden of soil. This ash is said to be the most superior metal polish in the world. Here is an opportunity for a commercial spirit.

The government school teachers in Alaska, God bless them, are doing a splendid work. The natives of Northwestern Alaska are Eskimo. They are not sluggards either in mind or body. They are apt pupils and learn quickly. Of course the difficulty of opening up a new world to the uncivilized and untutored mind is stupendous. This is a work not easily accomplished in one generation. But the government school teachers and the missionaries have taught the natives many things about cleanliness and sanitation which is very helpful to them.





Charley Bremer was a Nome butcher in the early days, and a jolly good fellow. Charley is German, and speaks with an accent and a drawl which immediately attracts your attention. He is a capital storyteller, and in an hour's session can furnish more fun than a box of monkeys. He tells a story about one of the first cows killed for beef in Nome in 1899. Everybody had been living upon canned meats and refrigerated meats so long that the prospects of fresh meat was hailed with delight. Charley had numerous orders from the Nome residents for the various tid-bits of the cow. George Murphy early filed an order with him for the heart. No man is better and more favorably known north of the Yukon than George Murphy. His work at Washington in behalf of Alaska, whereby many desirable amendments were made to the Alaska Code, makes him the friend of every Alaskan. But at the time of the incident of this story Mr. Murphy was not so widely known, and even if he had been it wouldn't have made any difference in the action of Charley Bremer. Bremer tells the story as follows:

"George Murphy comes my shop ofer und to me says: 'Charley Bremer, dam you, I vant de hearts from dot cow ouid. Ven you dot cow kill, you vill right away off quvick me tell. I don't drust you so far

ouid as I can dro ofer Bering Sea a bull mit his tail. I vant der hearts from dot cow, but I vant to see you cut der hearts from dot cow ouid.' Vell, ven dot cow vas in der shop I vent ofer und I said: 'George, you bedder come now,' und he come mit me to der shop, und I takes der hearts from dot cow und I give it to George for fife tollars, und he vas satisfied. George Murphy saw me take der hearts ouid of dot cow, but George Murphy didn't see me put der hearts in dot cow.'"

* * *

Charley Bremer tells another story of his attempt to skin a dog. Mrs. _____, a pioneer of Nome and the owner of a splendid dog team, hired Charley to chloroform one of her big malamutes, that had become useless, and skin him. As a malamute is not far removed from a wolf, the tanned skin of one of these animals will easily pass for a wolf skin, and makes a splendid rug. In telling this story Charley says:

"I make dot dog schmell enuf chloroform to kill a valrus, und ven he vas laid ouid und lookt to me as ded as enytings could be, I makes my knife sharp on der shteel und starts to skin 'im. Vel, I split der skin down der dog's belly und down his legs, und I get down to vork alright, und ven I get der skin off of a purty big piece of dot dog, by yemminy crickets! der first ting I

knows dot dog vake up und mit a yelp run away so fast I can't ketch 'im. I tink somebody shoots 'im, but I gif up dot chob of skinning dot dog."

* * *

Chief Isaacs is the big mogul of the Moose Hide tribe of Indians at Dawson. The Moose Hide village is situated on the bank of the Yukon River, a short distance below Dawson. The homes of members of the tribe are substantial, well-built log houses, but the observer needs not be told that the community is an Indian village. Chief Isaacs is a distinguished person. Several years ago he made a trip to the outside and returned duly impressed with the many wonderful new things that he saw in the white man's civilization. Chief Isaacs lays claim to all the attainments of the uncivilized man, is a hunter and a fisherman, and has strength, endurance, and fortitude. He also professes to have power over the elements. At least, not long ago, when Dawson was in the throes of a dry season and the miners were praying for rain, and there could be heard frequent expressions of a large bounty that would be given for a down-pour of water, Chief Isaacs appeared before the government authorities and for a consideration offered to make rain. The contract was duly entered into and ratified, whereby the Moose Hide tyee agreed on a certain day to make rain. Everybody was enjoying the humor of the occasion, as there had been a long dry spell and there was no evidence in winds or clouds that any rain would soon fall. But the old chief went at the business seriously and faithfully made his rain medicine, and to the surprise of everybody on the day designated the rain fell. The coincidence was remarkable, and in the eyes of his tribe, and possibly in the estimation of some superstitious whites, the old chief became a person of increased dignity and power.

* * *

The early population of the Nome country had a mania for staking. For that matter, some of the early population who still reside there have never gotten over the mania. One may not infrequently see half a dozen or more location notices posted on the same claim, and there was a time in the history of the Nome diggings when the origi-

nal stakers or first owners of a mining claim were afraid to prospect their ground. They knew that if they found pay there would be numerous claimants of the property. This condition of affairs burdened the country, and has been the cause of almost interminable litigation. It has been the cause of tragedies, and the wonder is that it has not caused more tragedies. It is pleasant, therefore, to note the humorous phase of this "burning question."

In the Kougarok district there is a location of a claim of 160 acres. The location notice contains eight signatures. On the opposite side of the stake some wag has posted a notice which reads something like the following:

"I hereby give notice that I have located this hill for a mill site to be run by hot air for the purpose of grinding out gold for the Kougarok. I give further notice that I have jumped the eight fellows on the other side of this stake because they have had their assessment work done by gophers, which is contrary to the laws of the United States."

* * *

"Talking about weather," said a well-known Yukon pioneer, "in the early days in Alaska, Perry Davis' Pain Killer was the only thermometer that we had. It froze at 70 degrees below zero. Whenever Perry Davis' Pain Killer froze we knew enough to stay indoors. Days of this kind were not very many, but they were days that one will always remember. The air was still and seemed to be filled with frost. When a man breathed in this atmosphere his breathing made a queer popping sound. When a man's breath pops or Perry Davis' Pain Killer freezes, he had better stay indoors, feed the stove and swap yarns with his partner, if he have one, and if he have not, talk to his dog."

"O, I don't know that you old Yukoners had so much the worst of it," said a newly-made sour-dough of the Nome country. "The winter that I spent on Gold Run was so cold that our coal-oil froze, and we cut off chunks of it to kindle our fires with."

* * *

Did you ever hear the story of the Fort Wrangell doctor who discovered a quartz

vein of fabulous richness? The vein cropped at the water's edge overlooking the bay, and it was literally streaked with gold. Letting a friend into the secret of his discovery he procured some dynamite and with a drill started to do some prospecting work. Drilling down in the face of the rock he put in a good heavy charge of dynamite and lighted the fuse. Retreating to a safe spot he and his companion waited until after the explosion. When they returned to the scene of operations they made the astonishing discovery that their gold mine had vanished. What they mistook for croppings was a boulder, and the charge of dynamite had blown it into the sea.

* * *

In the early days of the Yukon there were many interesting happenings at Circle and at Rampart. As a general thing, whisky is a plentiful article in any mining camp, but there were times in Circle when it was regarded as a luxury. During one of these periods, a well-known citizen was arrested for selling liquor to Indians. A jury was duly impaneled to hear the evidence, and the trial proceeded before the United States Commissioner. The bottle of whisky in question was introduced in evidence, and marked as exhibit "A." After the jury had retired they sent for exhibit "A" as part of the evidence, and to satisfy themselves that the bottle contained real whisky they pulled the cork and tasted of the contents. By the time they all got through tasting there was nothing left in the bottle, and as the evidence against the prisoner had been destroyed, they properly acquitted him.

* * *

When the first white man came to the Yukon the best of everything in any Indian village was his to command. But it did not take many years for the Indian to learn the white man's ways and methods, and when road-houses were established on the trail some of the thrifty Indians concluded that they would better make a charge for the accommodation of white men in their cabins. Accordingly, an Indian on the Lower Yukon, who had been at the mission long enough to learn a little English and had acquired a sufficient education to be able to

print, wrote this placard and posted it on the door of his domicile:

"Four bits sleep."

* * *

The discovery of gold in the Nome country was the means of introducing to the Eskimo in that region many kinds of white man's food, with which he was not previously acquainted. He soon became familiar with all the canned foods that formed so important a part of the food supply of every distant mining camp. When the first graphophones were received at Nome, the little coterie of Eskimo listened with wide mouth and staring eyes. At the conclusion of a tune an Eskimo who spoke some English smiled as his eyes lighted with a brilliant thought, and he exclaimed:

"White man's canned music."

* * *

The Yukon Indians, while not particularly noted for their industry, are wonderfully adaptive, and learn quickly by experience and observation, as the following will indicate:

A Yukon steamer partially loaded with lumber was discharging its cargo at one of the stations on the river. Among the deck hands was a native who was new to the business; he was strong and did not find it difficult to carry out two or three boards at a time, but he noticed that each of the white crew carried only one board. Addressing one of them he said:

"What's the matter, you no strong?"

"O yes," said the white man, "I plenty strong, but I much strong here," tapping his forehead.

The next trip from the hold the Indian was seen carrying one board. Meeting the man with whom he had just held the conversation, he smiled and tapping his forehead said: "Me plenty strong here too."

* * *

Among the Nome pioneers were Heiny and Eddie Beecher, perhaps better known as the Gobooble brothers. They were always doing queer things and saying such queer things that a mere mention of the Gobooble brothers was sufficient to cause a ripple of laughter. During the winter of '99 and 1900 they were in the Council re-

gron. Cutting down a tree, it fell on Eddie, apparently crushing him to death. There was probably four feet of snow on the ground. If it had not been for this snow the life would have been crushed out of him. Heiny witnessed the catastrophe, but did not stay to see whether his brother was dead or injured, but ran about four miles to the nearest camp and brought help. When he returned with assistance Eddie was in the cabin cooking flap-jacks.

"Mine Got, Eddie," said Heiny, "how did you get ould?"

"Oh," said Eddie, "I yust digged ould."

* * *

The Gobooble brothers had been grub-staked, and half of all they acquired under the grub-stake agreement went to their partners. After being in the country some time, experiencing its hardships, they concluded that they had the worst of the agreement, and that it would be legitimate to beat the syndicate they represented in some sort of an honest way; so one day Heiny came to a friend and said:

"I got a vay now dot I can fix dot skindicate, und I fix it so dot I still am square, alright. I stake me a claim in der creek, und I stake der skindicate a claim on der hill."

* * *

In 1899 Nome was a type of a new mining camp. Gold was first discovered late in the fall of 1898 and the news traveling over Alaska by dog teams during the succeeding winter, caused a stampede from Dawson and other Yukon River camps. In the spring of '99 a few steamers arrived in Nome (or Anvil City, as it was then called) from Seattle, but the chechakos, or newcomers, were not numerous. Most of the population of

the camp were old Alaskans and Yukoners, and among the contingent from Dawson was William Elliott, better known by the sobriquet of "Billy the Horse." He was the first man to bring horses to the Yukon, hence the appellation. "The Horse" was a man of slight physique, mild blue eyes, modest demeanor and the possessor of an enviable reputation for industry and honesty, but he had a failing. At times an unquenchable thirst possessed him and drove him to violent excesses. During one of Elliott's sprees in 1899, which had been unusually prolonged, his friends became alarmed and resorted to drastic measures to get him sober. Word was passed down the line to all the saloons, and his request for drink met with refusal. At the Pioneer he was among his friends, and when he was told that he could not have any more liquor he seemed to be particularly crestfallen. He left the place talking to himself, and went to his cabin. Half an hour later he reappeared at the saloon and, striking a match, lighted a fuse. Drawing a glistening object, to which the fuse was attached, from under his coat, he threw the sputtering thing under the billiard table, exclaiming:

"I'll teach you to refuse me whisky!"

There was a wild rush for the door, and in an instant Elliott was the only occupant of the building. Going behind the counter he put a large black bottle in his pocket and, like Peter Pyramus, he "leisurely strolled out some minutes behind."

After waiting an undue length of time for the bomb to explode, the frightened habitues of the place cautiously returned. Under the billiard table lay a big sausage, white and glistening.



United States Customs Service In Alaska

Port of Juneau, Alaska, January 19, 1907.

Following will be found a statement of the total amount of merchandise shipped to Alaska, and the products of Alaska shipped out, compiled from the manifests of all ships plying to and from Alaska. The Customs Regulations require that a copy of every ship's manifest so entering or clearing shall be filed in this office, and from these has been obtained much authentic information regarding Alaska's business. Numerous inquiries from the public for information and data which these manifests show brought about the compiling of such information in the form of an annual report for those interested. The first report was issued in 1903, and comparisons for the past four years are given. Totals for each place of consignment of incoming freight are given subdivided to show coal, lumber, hardware, provisions, liquors, and all other commodities.

All figures are values in dollars, for the calendar year 1906.

An increase is noted in the total domestic shipments inward over last year of more than twenty-four per cent., and in gold production over fifty-two per cent. Total business more than doubled in four years.

For convenience the district was divided into four sections:

Southeastern Alaska—from southern boundary as far west as Sitka.

Southern Alaska—west of Sitka to and including Unalaska.

Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean—all ports on Bering Sea, except St. Michael.

Yukon River—including St. Michael and all interior places.

Each section shows a great increase, Bering Sea coast and the interior leading, however. The towns showing greatest growth are Nome, Fairbanks, Valdez, and Ketchikan. The report also shows duties collected and other customs data.

CLARENCE L. HOBART,
Collector of Customs for Alaska.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE REGULAR BUSINESS OF ALASKA INCLUDING FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION AND THE NATURAL PRODUCTS OF ALASKA EXPORTED TO UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Total Shipments of Alaskan Products to the United States.

	1904	1905	1906
Copper ore and matte	\$ 258,302	\$ 663,506	\$ 1,785,016
Fish—			
Fresh, other than salmon	136,494	189,056	236,065
Cured, other than salmon	203,516	428,348	199,157
Salmon, canned	8,569,698	6,736,693	8,449,360
All other salmon	145,149	205,038	273,756
Fish guano	9,752	904	32,615
Fish oil	48,505	4,099	32,408
Furs	461,449	480,805	644,936
Gypsum			17,400
Tin ore and concentrates	4,112	480	22,125
Whalebone	245,256	189,648	367,852
Other merchandise	472,220	398,023	506,941
Gold	9,101,458	12,131,003	18,471,451
Total Gold and Merchandise to United States.....	\$19,655,911	\$21,427,603	\$31,039,082
Exports of Alaskan products to foreign countries.....	49,997	134,103	495,310
Total Alaskan products shipped	\$19,705,908	\$21,561,706	\$31,534,392
Merchandise Received for Consumption.			
Domestic merchandise received	\$11,053,997	\$14,761,252	\$18,368,145
Foreign merchandise received	1,601,275	1,382,428	1,557,797
Total to Alaska	\$12,655,272	\$16,143,680	\$19,925,942
Total imports and exports	\$32,361,180	\$37,705,386	\$51,460,334

Percentage of increase of 1906 over 1904—16%.

Percentage of increase of 1906 over 1905—33%.

CANADIAN GOLD IMPORTED FROM DAWSON, ATLIN, &c., INTO ALASKA AND SHIPPED TO THE UNITED STATES.

	1904	1905	1906
	\$ 9,950,520	\$ 8,116,265	\$ 7,085,425

VALUE OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE SHIPPED FROM THE UNITED STATES TO SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA.

	Coal	Lumber	Hdwre	Prov.	Liquor	A. O.	Total
Amalga			\$ 193	\$ 1,646		\$ 158	\$ 1,997
Baldwin			6,271	1,485		946	8,702
Berner's Bay	80		2,148			456	2,682
Blind Point				33		66	99
Chatham Straits		5,000	16,668	5,177	27	7,720	34,592
Chilkat	2,830	463	30,985	14,022	9	38,238	86,547
Chilkoot	470	112	20,486	4,184	40	4,514	29,806
Chomley			767	1,194	53	429	2,443
Copper City			1,209	1,015		422	2,646
Copper Mount	3,310	542	13,209	10,234	1,582	13,178	42,055
Dolomi	66		15,68	4,545	54	2,292	8,525
Douglas	459	1,491	16,112	95,384	29,277	116,102	258,825
Dundas Bay	973		15,237	3,984	90	8,601	28,885
Funter Bay	75	676	45,406	3,931	108	7,134	57,330
Gypsum	175	70	665	869		267	2,046
Hadley	12,005	390	25,317	35,674	4,414	35,609	113,409
Haines	9,681	18,605	35,445	77,909	11,115	108,236	260,991
Hattie Camp				293			293
Helm Bay			718	498		711	1,927
Holbrook				900			900
Hoonah			580	4,226	47	3,423	8,276
Howkan	259	70	7,787	4,706		9,257	22,079
Juneau	11,477	5,302	98,937	219,741	44,244	283,586	653,287
Kake			3,665	2,178		4,060	9,903
Kasaan	600	214	12,992	5,228		10,793	29,827
Ketchikan	659	5,292	128,408	231,149	45,019	313,843	724,370
Killsnoo	679	510	5,649	10,601	839	10,354	28,632
Klawak		167	1,174	4,325	100	5,467	11,238
Klinquan			138	445		475	1,058
Lake Bay			98	174		803	1,175
Loring	3,100	39	54,505	5,948	128	7,693	71,413
Metlakahtla	150	24	8,190	8,020	29	12,154	28,567
Murder Cove			6,897			1,791	8,688
Niblack	139		3,004	3,725		2,957	9,825
Petersburg	385	967	29,038	29,862	1,692	27,962	89,906
Pleasant Bay	285	2,800	2,185			1,000	6,270
Pt. Astley				162		13	175
Pt. Ellis		74	18,471	3,978	13	5,327	27,863
Pyramid Harbor	3,603	560	37,050	5,118		4,476	50,807
Santa Ana	300		57	1,916	10	18,846	21,129
St. John Harbor				233		64	297
Scow Bay	108	253		1,917		79	2,357
Shakan	486	43	14,823	6,518		25,450	47,320
Sitka	1,280	1,893	16,629	54,550	7,656	43,556	125,564
Sitka Bay	2,446		4,732	34		387	7,599
Skagway	828	24,265	58,869	207,895	34,489	230,920	557,266
Sulzer	44		6,628	6,584	56	4,478	17,790
Taku	270	300	4,277	2,197	195	6,342	13,581
Taku Harbor	90		5,063	5,702	27	2,758	13,640
Tee Harbor		50		1,600			1,650
Tenakee			13	2,929	442	464	3,848
Theadwell	66,779	1,610	148,062	182,725	11	313,603	712,790
Tyee	30	4,128	581	266		2,528	7,533
Wrangell	37	6,086	39,313	59,797	12,661	56,563	174,457
Wyndham May			112	102		111	325
Yes Bay	112		11,288	2,241		2,362	16,003
Total	\$124,270	\$81,996	\$951,619	\$1,339,769	\$194,427	\$1,791,122	\$4,451,203

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL PLACES IN SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA.

	1903	1904	1905	1906
Douglas	272,368	241,625	261,758	258,825
Haines	170,808	203,901	178,375	260,991
Juneau	346,616	558,977	711,248	653,387
Ketchikan	360,856	413,048	469,905	724,370
Loring	190,669	133,165	74,235	71,413
Pyramid Harbor	139,332	66,573		50,807
Skagway	543,741	557,543	555,544	557,266
Sitka	107,486	128,236	99,360	125,564
Treadwell	239,077	625,770	740,822	712,790
Wrangell	86,265	148,339	137,022	174,457
All other places	719,301	697,325	819,715	861,433
Total	\$3,176,619	\$3,774,502	\$4,048,034	\$4,451,203

TO SOUTHERN ALASKA FROM YAKUTAT TO UNALASKA AND DUTCH HARBOR.

	Coal	Lumber	Hdwre	Prov.	Liquor	A. O.	Total
Afognak			649	4,216	175	2,669	7,709
Alitak	1,800	880	9,045	750		2,047	14,522
Apollo				265		174	439
Boulder Bay	1,091	1,706	19,041	3,126		4,745	29,709
Cape Elizabeth			6	112		46	164
Catella	85	632	3,887	17,194	7,635	12,599	42,032
Chignik	5,658	2,929	106,670	16,959	219	35,292	167,727
Coal Harbor			100	551		110	761
Cold Bay			280	280	169	1,344	2,073
Cook's Inlet	3,000	4,066	21,344	1,122		2,184	31,716
Copper Center				52	1,095	140	1,287
Cordova	1,816	634	121,010	57,392	12,191	46,949	239,992
Dutch Harbor		5,000	2,797	13,476	330	7,693	29,296
Ellamar	1,622	2,865	17,541	29,835	7,281	39,601	98,745
Fort Lisicum	7,691	783	6,415	26,890	104	18,133	60,016
Glacier Creek		1,321	1,701	5,470	8,570	4,195	21,257
Homer		21	97	756		1,636	2,510
Hope	33	320	1,459	11,298	5,234	3,563	21,907
Horseshoe Bay	35	1,122	2,955	2,130		2,845	9,087
Icy Point	264	496	902	440		220	2,332
Illiamna		37	1,348	3,248	121	1,130	5,884
Innerskin				949		615	1,564
Karluk	50	19,045	94,122	7,154	57	16,763	137,191
Kayak	63	17	4,194	9,693	1,326	5,851	21,144
Kenai			8,405	12,086	475	2,611	23,577
Knik		170	5,061	12,269	1,002	11,111	29,613
Kodiak		2,016	3,881	30,304	3,494	15,008	54,703
Kussloff	12,031	846	6,625	2,436	62	11,340	33,340
Landlock Bay	37	1,382	5,847	1,674	84	1,565	10,589
Latouche	380	3,056	9,314	17,378	5,426	11,300	46,854
Mouse Point			4,621	1,668		5,795	12,084
Orca	2,267	12,538	34,584	27,640	2,385	31,670	111,084
Palmer Station			123			660	783
Pirate Cove	452	556	355	4,853	1,698	2,351	10,265
Sanak	98	792	89	1,158		872	3,009
Sand Point			1,079	1,950	1,441	2,640	7,110
Seldovia	300	446	8,582	22,647	9,539	15,195	56,709
Seward	9,527	24,921	143,591	202,316	67,866	352,697	800,918
Sunrise	32	285	3,805	9,701	4,630	5,519	23,972
Sushitna			960	4,273	148	822	6,203
Turnagain Arm			72	383		247	702
Tyonok		59	953	10,748	604	2,787	15,151
Unalaska		1,205	1,735	15,146	1,077	11,302	30,465
Unga		762	1,324	4,082	2,785	5,824	15,101
Uyak	2,558	8,755	18,410	13,697	977	6,164	50,561
Valdez	10,328	15,784	116,757	312,690	47,452	360,381	863,392
Yakataga		84	1,118	4,024	116	1,672	7,014
Yakutat		1,165	15,018	16,422	687	10,368	43,660
Total	\$61,542	\$116,696	\$807,872	\$642,903	\$196,455	\$1,080,445	\$3,205,913

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL PLACES IN SOUTHERN ALASKA

	1903	1904	1905	1906
Catella	\$16,213	\$29,826	\$11,748	\$42,032
Chignik	1,226	144,373	70,253	167,727
Cordova	289	2,176	368	239,992
Ellamar	31,640	47,289	57,719	98,745
Ft. Lisicum	(Included with Valdez)		76,524	60,016
Karluk		139	115,221	137,191
Kodiak	65,553	59,950	65,817	54,703
Latouche	3,695	12,004	16,017	46,854
Orca	56,253	51,065	40,375	111,084
Seldovia	13,879	23,656	87,921	56,709
Seward	7,741	281,690	994,623	800,918
Uyak	3,862	37,805	114,483	50,561
Valdez	496,707	371,957	435,145	863,392
Yakutat	46,590	65,424	57,038	43,660
All other places	750,254	640,065	616,224	432,329
Total	\$1,493,402	\$1,767,418	\$2,759,476	\$3,205,913

TO BERING SEA AND ARCTIC OCEAN, EXCEPT ST. MICHAEL.

	Coal	Lumber	Hdwre	Prov.	Liquor	A. O.	Total
Bluff	\$ 60	\$	\$	\$ 4,371	\$	\$ 182	\$ 4,613
Bristol Bay	64,407	61,664	670,060	85,816	18	103,845	985,810
Candle City	15	50	2,396	4,819	1,728	.....	9,008
Cape Prince of Wales .....	.....	212	1,748	2,678	.....	420	5,058
Corwin	18	.....	50	588	.....	100	756
Council	559	365	7,309	153,652	691	26,800	189,376
Deering .....	.....	49	581	1,815	.....	262	2,707
Dickson	9,712	12,164	53,113	76,608	2,866	46,281	200,744
Golovin	540	644	57,891	29,667	2,190	17,555	108,487
Kewalik	1,157	4,685	23,175	74,211	7,313	41,017	151,558
Kotzebue .....	.....	.....	1,419	7,968	.....	1,009	10,396
Kugarok .....	.....	625	3,154	4,499	.....	1,350	9,628
Kuskokwim .....	.....	368	10,771	9,120	92	6,674	27,025
Lelaska Bay	5	.....	45,737	220	.....	2,503	48,460
Lost River .....	.....	388	505	1,669	.....	134	2,646
Nome	42,541	168,042	855,862	1,179,850	301,702	1,192,191	3,740,188
Nushagak	9,843	13,621	195,494	46,431	631	44,921	310,941
Pauloff	277	773	269	3,334	.....	388	5,541
Point Hope .....	.....	10	271	1,357	145	500	2,233
Point Barrow	85	741	3,380	9,375	61	15,981	29,623
St. Paul and St. George .....	.....	65	820	2,718	30	3,211	6,844
Solomon	2,531	.....	15,851	19,615	.....	18,161	56,158
Teller and Clarence	4,325	8,994	22,445	50,825	2,296	37,018	125,903
Tin City	708	2,829	3,853	4,194	.....	5,313	16,897
Wainwright .....	.....	.....	.....	485	.....	50	535
Total	\$136,778	\$276,239	\$1,976,154	\$1,775,885	\$319,763	\$1,566,366	\$6,051,185

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL PLACES, BERING SEA AND ARCTIC OCEAN.

	1903	1904	1905	1906
All Bristol places	\$1,568,324	\$1,780,431	\$1,191,348	\$1,296,751
Council .....	.....	31,808	56,952	189,376
Dickson .....	.....	9,180	42,937	200,744
Golovin	135,833	96,709	58,210	108,487
Kewalik	1,507	18,708	21,496	151,558
Nome	1,726,242	1,988,520	2,922,082	3,740,188
Solomon	89,926	126,468	153,530	56,158
Teller and Clarence	38,854	95,715	104,306	125,903
All other places	81,049	161,646	130,470	182,020
Total	\$3,641,735	\$4,309,185	\$4,681,331	\$6,051,185

ST. MICHAEL, YUKON AND TRIBUTARY VALLEYS.

	Coal	Lumber	Hdwre	Prov.	Liquor	A. O.	Total
Anvik	\$	\$	\$ 626	\$ 1,686	\$	\$ 1,213	\$ 3,525
Bettles .....	.....	.....	2,881	14,042	2,050	4,017	22,990
Chena	1,103	1,677	38,543	233,062	83,231	110,863	468,479
Circle City	46	12	3,896	24,682	8,374	12,347	49,357
Eagle .....	.....	.....	5,965	10,197	2,431	9,458	28,051
Fairbanks	2,122	4,184	300,414	818,493	110,387	892,792	2,128,392
Fort Egbert .....	.....	.....	2,964	14,866	.....	33,107	50,937
Fort Hamlin .....	.....	.....	133	18	.....	255	406
Fort Yukon .....	.....	30	1,233	2,097	62	587	4,009
Koyukuk .....	.....	.....	843	5,046	.....	3,084	13,973
Novakaket .....	.....	.....	.....	1,608	.....	2,654	4,262
Nulato .....	.....	.....	8,891	3,556	.....	11,613	24,060
Rampart .....	.....	117	5,263	17,972	2,373	15,534	41,259
St. Michael	14,999	35,337	246,469	855,818	87,948	436,006	1,676,577
Tanana: (Ft. Gibbon	68	444	13,064	39,639	18,011	72,344	143,567
(Weare .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	\$18,338	\$41,801	\$631,185	\$2,042,779	\$314,867	\$1,610,874	\$4,659,844

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL PLACES IN YUKON DISTRICT.

	1903	1904	1905	1906
Chena	\$28,139	\$74,114	\$219,699	\$468,479
Circle City	41,531	21,849	51,495	49,357
Fairbanks	53,859	367,591	1,569,613	2,128,392
Fort Egbert	52,217	37,545	38,740	50,937
Rampart	71,305	38,489	127,053	41,259
St. Michael	215,371	502,820	1,025,011	1,676,577
Tanana	68,279	36,861	77,943	143,567
All other places	158,748	123,623	162,857	101,276
Total	\$689,449	\$1,202,892	\$3,272,411	\$4,659,844

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE SHIPPED FROM THE UNITED STATES TO ALASKA.

	Coal	Lumber	Hdwe	Prov	Liquor	A. O.	Total
Southeastern Alaska..	\$124,270	\$81,996	\$951,619	\$1,339,769	\$194,427	\$1,759,122	\$4,451,203
Southern Alaska	61,542	116,696	807,872	942,903	196,455	1,080,445	3,205,913
Bering Sea, &c.....	136,778	276,239	1,976,154	1,775,885	319,763	1,566,366	6,051,185
Yukon River, &c.....	18,338	41,801	631,185	2,042,779	314,867	1,610,874	4,659,844
Total 1906	\$340,928	\$516,732	\$4,366,830	\$6,101,336	\$1,025,512	\$6,016,807	\$18,368,145
Total 1905	\$293,599	\$344,858	\$3,155,272	\$5,065,067	\$691,971	\$5,210,485	\$14,761,252
Total 1904	\$169,030	\$437,843	\$1,770,192	\$3,528,515	\$465,076	\$4,683,341	\$11,053,997
Total 1903	\$219,694	\$304,765	\$980,195	\$2,461,492	\$389,083	\$4,645,976	\$ 9,001,205

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL VALUES.

	1903	1904	1905	1906
Southeastern Alaska	\$3,176,619	\$3,774,502	\$4,048,034	\$4,451,203
Southern Alaska	1,493,402	1,767,418	2,759,476	3,205,913
Bering Sea, &c.....	3,641,735	4,309,185	4,681,331	6,051,185
St. Michael and Yukon River	689,449	1,202,892	3,272,411	4,659,844
Total	\$9,001,205	\$11,053,997	\$14,761,252	\$18,368,145

STATEMENT OF NUMBER AND TONNAGE OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31.

Domestic Trade.

PORT.	Entered		Cleared		Entered		Cleared	
	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage
Ketchikan	231	154,677	222	147,436	270	155,553	251	156,401
Wrangell			4	76	2	3,170	4	3,078
Juneau	61	49,210	65	57,686	42	35,479	49	43,400
Skagway	2	400			4	3,629		
Seward					6	5,375	7	6,495
St. Michael	8	7,377	13	16,601	15	13,992	22	28,576
Nome	54	79,079	40	66,762	58	104,556	52	91,484
Unalaska	6	1,412	8	6,039	6	3,446	8	3,021
Kodiak	3	1,079	4	728	2	343	2	70
Valdez	19	21,865	23	24,139	30	45,297	31	41,947
Sitka	4	1,488	3	129	1	29		
Total	388	316,587	382	319,596	436	370,869	426	374,472

Foreign Trade.

PORT.	Entered		Cleared		Entered		Cleared	
	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage
Ketchikan	193	117,685	135	76,661	271	135,757	191	70,720
Wrangell	5	1,475	9	4,643	8	1,940	12	3,994
Juneau	6	5,022	9	6,619	6	7,296	5	6,993
Skagway	1	1,377	7	3,604	.....	.....	10	9,214
Eagle	85	23,416	43	13,293	62	19,719	48	18,712
St. Michael	.....	.....	22	15,068	.....	.....	4	2,174
Nome	18	12,942	15	6,213	35	20,959	30	15,060
Unalaska	3	4,391	3	101	4	1,691	4	206
Valdez	3	3,519	.....	.....	2	4,540	.....	.....
Total	314	169,827	243	126,202	388	191,902	304	127,073

RECEIPTS BY SUBPORTS, CALENDAR YEAR 1906.

PORT.	Imports	Tonnage Tax	Fines	Fees	All other Collections	Total			
						1906	1905	1904	1903
Nome	\$24,979	\$594	\$1,100	\$193	\$1,193	\$28,059	\$10,462	\$10,505	\$834
Eagle	22,084	560	1,250	433	432	24,759	39,244	62,263	12,756
Ketchikan	16,854	1,604	60	1,553	1,182	21,258	9,373	10,307	4,210
Juneau	15,445	178	250	77	432	16,382	12,338	30,211	7,561
Skagway	8,259	.....	.....	112	954	9,325	8,781	9,477	6,185
Forty Mile	2,939	.....	.....	.....	41	2,980	4,342	4,169	7,738
Sitka	121	.....	.....	.....	2,297	2,418	2,300	5,444	4,179
St. Michael	952	.....	570	20	470	2,012	2,349	605	2,518
Unalaska	1,588	49	.....	32	.....	1,669	4,565	1,319	120
Valdez	1,066	136	410	11	17	1,640	945	681	411
Wrangell	765	37	250	75	102	1,229	1,064	1,284	1,909
Kodiak	188	.....	.....	.....	.....	167	204	481	115
Seward	50	7	.....	3	.....	213	.....	.....	.....
Total	\$95,270	\$3,165	\$3,890	\$2,514	\$7,120	\$112,111	\$95,967	\$138,027	\$48,536

RECAPITULATION OF CUSTOMS BUSINESS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1906.

PORT.	Vessels Entered		Vessels Cleared		Entries taken	Vessels Documented	Total Receipts	Expenses	Cost to Collect \$1
	Foreign	Coastwise	Foreign	Coastwise					
Nome	35	58	30	52	39	81	\$28,059	\$4,894	\$0.174
Ketchikan	271	270	191	251	166	66	21,258	5,595	.263
Eagle	62	.....	48	.....	654	8	24,759	9,956	.402
Sitka	.....	1	.....	.....	5	2	2,418	1,486	.615
Juneau	6	42	5	49	84	68	16,382	15,967	.974
Valdez	2	30	.....	31	8	20	1,640	1,922	1.172
Skagway	.....	4	10	.....	780	2	9,325	12,003	1.287
Unalaska	4	6	4	8	1	3	1,669	2,445	1.405
Wrangell	8	2	4	.....	132	30	1,229	2,021	1.644
Forty Mile	.....	.....	.....	.....	115	.....	2,980	5,735	1.924
St. Michael	.....	15	4	22	7	16	2,012	5,646	2.806
Kodiak	.....	2	.....	2	1	7	167	1,670	10.000
Seward	.....	6	.....	7	3	2	213	2,218	10.415
Total	388	436	304	426	1,996	305	\$112,111	\$71,558	*

* Cost to collect \$1 in District\$0.638

Publisher's Announcement

The publisher of the Alaska-Yukon Magazine takes this method of extending a cordial greeting to all friends and patrons of this publication.

Having purchased the Alaska-Yukon Magazine and the Alaska Monthly Magazine, of Juneau, The Harrison Publishing Company will serve the patrons of both of these publications, and by unifying the Alaska magazine interests, hopes to be able to issue a journal that will be acceptable to all the people of the Northland, entertaining and instructive to everybody interested in this new country, and profitable to the publisher.

We want to make the Alaska-Yukon Magazine the organ of the Northland. We want to faithfully represent every legitimate interest and every commendable feature of this great Northern empire, about which so little is known, even by those who are most familiar with the country. In order that this magazine may be in touch with every part of Alaska and Yukon Territory, correspondence from every field of endeavor in the North is earnestly solicited. We want the news of the country, the work that is doing and the work that is planned for the future. We want authentic information in regard to new discoveries and strikes. We want stories about Alaska. We want the stories of the Yukon pioneers, their experiences, the hardships and privations they endured, the difficulties they overcame, the tragic, pathetic and humorous phases of their life on the Yukon—in short, every story of an early Alaskan experience will be of interest to us. You may never have attempted to write a story and you may think that you can't write one. But you can tell the story—you have told it, and you can write it

just as you have told it. If the story is good enough to print we will make it presentable, if it need fixing.

We can use a limited quantity of poetry. If you know how to scan verse after you have written it, and if your lines have got the atmosphere and color of the Northland in them, and if you are able to paint a picture in every stanza, the editor will be glad to receive your verse, and if it is of sufficient merit, the Alaska-Yukon Magazine artist will assist you with illustrations to convey your thought and make the lines more impressive. Poetry is the one form of literary contribution that comes into newspaper and magazine offices of all kinds at all times in sufficient quantity to meet the demand. Quality, not quantity, is the desideratum regarding poetry in a magazine office.

But we do want Alaska and Yukon stories, stories of fact particularly, because they are the basis of the best fiction stories. Arrangements have already been made whereby a staff of capable correspondents has been secured in Nome, Fairbanks, Dawson and Juneau. We want contributions from every principal business center in Alaska and Yukon Territory, and this notice is printed in the hope that it may meet the eye of somebody in every town and camp who will be willing to undertake the work herein suggested.

We want subscribers. If you are interested in Alaska and the Yukon Territory directly or indirectly, and if you believe from this initial effort that the Alaska-Yukon Magazine will be helpful to the country and interesting to the general public, lend us your aid. There are a lot of ways in which you can assist us. You can mention the magazine to your friends; you might send us a list of names of people to whom we

would send sample copies, the list to comprise persons who are interested in the northern country; and other methods may suggest themselves to you whereby you can help this enterprise without expense to yourself.

To the advertiser who desires to reach the people of Alaska and the Yukon Territory we can offer the best medium that he can find. If an advertiser wants to reach the people of Dawson, a Dawson newspaper is the best medium; if he wants to reach the people of Fairbanks, he should select a Fairbanks newspaper; or if he wants to reach the people of Nome, a Nome newspaper; of Juneau, a Juneau newspaper; and the same reference may be made to all the different localities of Alaska and Yukon Territory. But if he wants to reach all of these places this magazine offers him the only advertising medium whereby he can accomplish his desires. Advertising rates furnished on application.

Some of our friends think we have made a mistake in fixing the price of the Alaska-Yukon Magazine at twenty-five cents the copy. Their opinion is based on the assumption that this is an age of cheap magazines, and that the ten-cent magazine, because of price, is more popular than the twenty-five-cent magazine. Without attempting to discuss the merits of this question, we will say to our friends in behalf of our judgment in this matter, that the Alaska-Yukon Magazine occupies a unique field. It is not a story magazine, depending largely on news stand sales, nor does it assume to possess a fine quality of literary merit. This magazine is an organ of publicity for the Northland. Its work is primarily educational. Alaska and Yukon Territory are expensive countries to live in or travel through. In many camps of the Northland this magazine will sell for seventy-five cents the copy. In the Yukon Territory and the northern part of Alaska the

subscription price of daily newspapers is two dollars the month. Alaskans and citizens of the Yukon Territory would pay six dollars for an annual subscription to this magazine, and not think the price too much. But the publisher can't make "fish of one and foul of another," so the uniform price is twenty-five cents the copy. Where greater charge is made in the northern country, the extra profit goes to the agent and carriers.

Most of our patrons outside of Alaska and Yukon Territory will be people who are interested in these countries, people who desire to learn something about a region where recently developed resources promise to largely increase the world's wealth. There are people who will be interested in Alaska and Yukon Territory for other than commercial reasons. They will be glad to know how people live during the long winters in this region, to know about the natives and their manner of life, to know the natural history of this country, to learn of its scenic features, and to know many other things that this magazine will discuss. All of these people will pay twenty-five cents for the magazine as readily as ten cents, provided of course that the magazine is worth the price.

No apologies are offered for this number, but the matter in it has been hurriedly prepared, and the editor has had very little assistance. While his long residence in the Northland has enabled him to accumulate material enough for several volumes of this magazine, he hopes that a greater number of writers for future numbers will give a greater variety of thought, and possibly of fact, concerning this country.

If you are pleased with this number we will be glad to receive your subscription for a month, two months, six months, or a year as you may elect.

The subscription price is \$3.00 the year, but if you remit \$2.50 now we will send

the magazine to you for one year, and will send you a copy of an interesting book, "Nome and Seward Peninsula," a volume of information about Northwestern Alaska.

Under the new management Mrs. Edna B. Jones, former publisher of this magazine, has charge of the advertising. We want all the advertisements of legitimate lines of business that can be obtained. The term "legitimate lines of business" is used because the advertising pages of the Alaska-Yukon Magazine shall not be used by any schemers to fleece the public, or for publicity of any enterprise, merchandise or method that is

questionable, or in violation of the common rules of decency and propriety. Advertisers will be given actual facts in regard to circulation. We possess only average honesty, but from our point of view truth is a valuable business asset. When the Democratic National Committee telegraphed to Grover Cleveland asking him what they should say in answer to the Halpin letters that had been just published, he replied: "Tell the truth." This message got him many Republican votes. We believe that we will get business by telling the truth. We are going to try.





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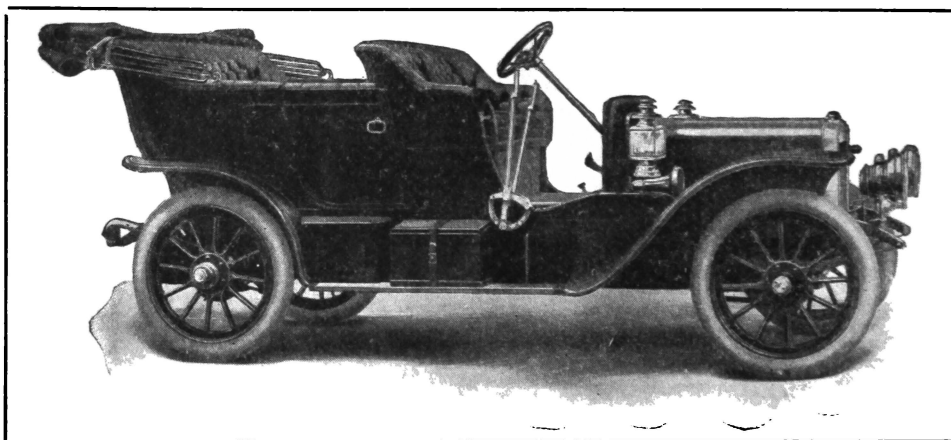
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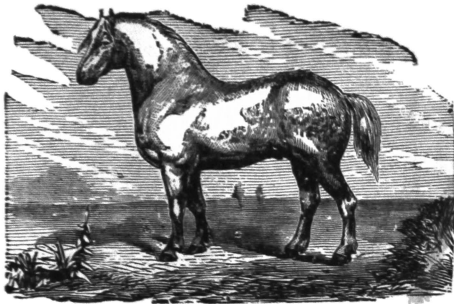
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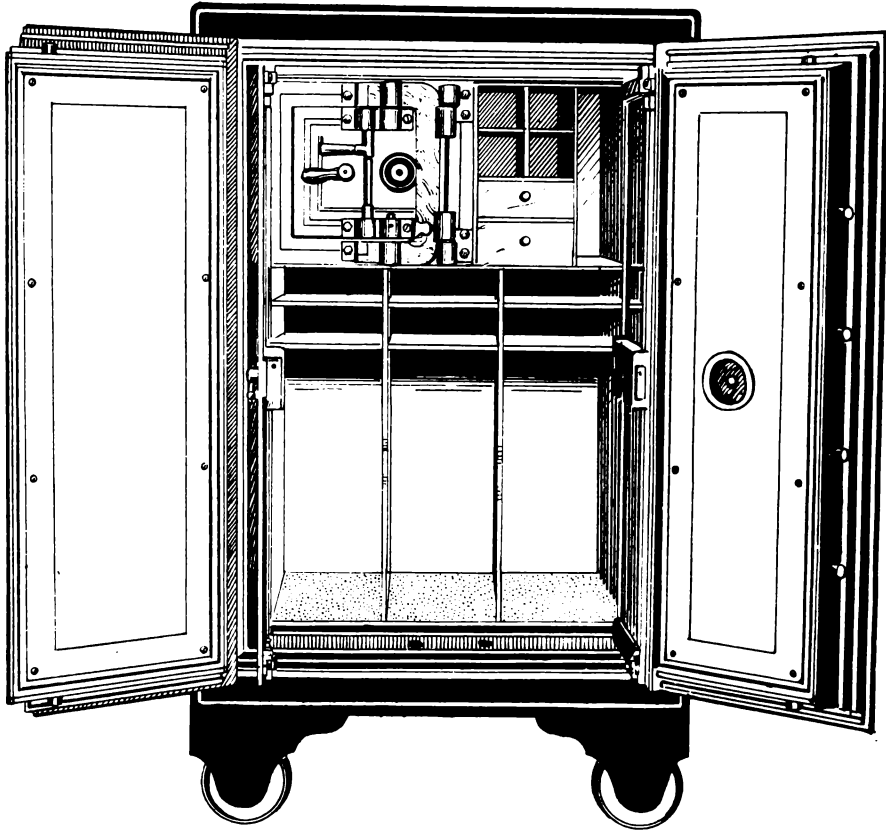
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