DISCOVERY OF FAIRBANKS PLACER MINES

NARRATIVE OF DISCOVERY.

Felix Pedro discovered the Fairbanks placer mines in July, 1892. Pedro was an Italian, 42 years old. He was for many years a coal miner at Carbonado, Wash., and had been prospecting for three years in the Tanana hills before he made his rich discoveries on Pedro and Clear Creek. His adventures in the Ketchikan stock range, his long summer tours after his dogs from the goldfield, the bull moose and other animals, bow he was eaten by mosquitoes and how he ate his dogs, his travels through deep, wooded valleys, across snow-swept plains and over the high peaks of the Alaskan range, over in search of the yellow metal—these would fill a volume and equal the richest book of travels in interest. His nobility and daring in relating the stories of his wanderings, hairbreadth escapes and final success, are indicative of the man's character. He has found his fortune, and has the good sense to appreciate it.

In the summer of 1898 Pedro, in company with a guide, went up the Forty-Mile River, crossed the fields at Ketchikan, and followed the foothills down the Tanana, on a prospecting trip. They were the first white men to penetrate this district. Late in the season they lost their horses, and in consequence of growing short, they contrived to find the mouth of the Tanana, from which place they hoped to make their way to Circle City. A boat was constructed, and on their downstream trip Pedro prospected the bars at the months of all tributaries. On one of these bars he secured 35 cents to the gallon of coarse gold in the top gravel. Here the creek was mineless—no tools necessary for the homeward trip, the boat was moored in a convenient place to complete our248

spatiousness of the spot, and the discovery extended across the country, in an endeavor to reach the Yukon between Circle and Ramparts. This feat was accomplished, after many hardships and privations. Some time during the winter. For the next two years Circle City was the base of supplies, and yearly excursions were made by Pedro and his friends in the vain endeavor to reach the placer locations.

In the summer of 1900 Pedro and Frank Costa prospected Fish Creek, and found gold on Fairbanks and other tributaries, replenishing their exhausted stores by working in the mines in the Circle district.

In August, 1901, Barret and Smith were trying in vain to push the steamer Lavelle Young through Bates Rapids, intending to establish a trading post high up the Tanana. From his lookout on the dome at the head of Pedro and Clear Creek, Pedro first saw a smoke for across the same valley, and a close examination with that it was rising from a steamer. He watched the steamer descend the Chena River, which Pedro had before. Hastily informing his companions of the locality of the steamer, crossed the valley to the dome, looked to the bank and down the valley, and thus conveyed to the representatives of their class the news of gold in this new district.

The challenge that Pedro presented to the placer field was the discovery of the Chena River placer district. As soon as word of the discovery reached the miners in the Tanana Valley, they rushed to Pedro and Clear Creek. Their excitement was heightened when they learned that the steamer was a vessel from Circle City, and that the gold had been discovered by a man named Pedro, who had found it at the mouth of the Chena River. The miners immediately set out, and soon the once-sedate town of Circle City was transformed into a bustling mining camp.

Pedro's discovery caused a great excitement among the miners, and they rushed to the area to prospect for gold. The area was soon covered with tents and prospecting equipment, and the once-quiet town of Circle City became a bustling mining camp. The miners were eager to get their hands on the gold, and they worked long hours, often without rest, to prospect for it.

The miners were not the only ones who were excited by Pedro's discovery. The news quickly spread, and soon people from all over the world rushed to Circle City to prospect for gold. The area was soon covered with tents and prospecting equipment, and the once-quiet town of Circle City became a bustling mining camp. The miners were eager to get their hands on the gold, and they worked long hours, often without rest, to prospect for it.

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LOTS OF ROOM FOR PROSPECTORS.

More Good Creeks May Yet Be Opened Up.

Fairbanks News, October 21.

Mr. A. St. J. McKinley and partner, Dr. Overgaard, have just returned from a cross-country trip over a large part of the district. They think that the best part of the district has not been prospected as yet. That there are scores of more creeks which give as good surface prospects and general indications of being gold

The Tanana Gold Fields

ants, and 347 houses by actual count. An application has been made to the District Court for town organization, though this cannot be acted upon until the July term at Fairbanks. In the meantime Mr. Miner advises the citizens to perfect a permanent government by the election of a mayor, a council of seven, and a chief of police to enforce the regulations for sanitary purposes and fire protection.

As we go to press, May 2d, the Chena River in front of Fairbanks is breaking up, and the ice must go out in a few hours. Later—The ice went out at 5 p.m.

GRAVE SITUATION.

Shortage of Provisions Along the River.

Canned Goods About All That Is Left— Means $1.50—No Bread on Sale.

Fairbanks News, October 3.

Fairbanks has this week witnessed a struggle that reminds one very forcibly of the grub scare in Dawson in the fall of '97. Immediately upon the announcement being made by the Northern Commercial Company that the company was entirely out of flour, bacon, tea, ham and potatoes, a rush to the stores commenced.

The announcement was repeated with considerable surprise by many of the citizens of Fairbanks and many of the miners upon the creeks. Although both Captains Burnette and Mr. Turner notified many people several weeks ago that the company would not have provisions enough to last the camp throughout the winter.

Many people, well-to-do, had failed to purchase their winter outfits in time, and were compelled to join in the scramble to secure the few remaining staple articles of diet the company had yet to dispose of.

On Monday morning following the announcement published in last Saturday's paper, the Northern Commercial Company adopted an allowance system for the disposing of the provisions yet remaining on hand. The limit for each person of canned or rolled oats was two 20-pound sacks.

On Thursday the supply of canned meat was exhausted and only a limited amount of rolled oats remained. The supply of canned meats and canned fruits still hold fairly good. There still remains on sale some fresh potatoes and onions, limited to twenty pounds to the individual. There is yet considerable sugar and hard and dry and Wisconsin and pepper sauce still, and a fairly good supply of dried fruits.

The only other general merchandise store in Fairbanks is the one owned by Mr. St. George, and he is at least, if not entirely, out of salt and all the staple articles. He has still some tea and coffee on sale.

In Chena, the neighboring town, the supply of provisions at the present time is very little better. There are two stores here, owned by Hendricks & Boll, and Hendricks & Bell have by far the largest supply in the country, but they claim they will have very little more than enough to fill their winter outfit orders that are already on file.

There have been very few attempts by private boil-ers and stores at securing the staple articles, which fact is undoubtedly due to the precautions taken by the companies.

Following the announcement of the shortage of provisions all the restaurants in Fairbanks immediately raised the price of meat to $1.50, bread took a jump to 50 cents a loaf, and then it was finally taken off the market entirely. There is now no bread on sale in the city.

The Fairbanks Miner.

On May 1, 1919, the Fairbanks Miner made its appearance. The paper was typewritten, and the first six copies were published. The name of the publisher is not given, but the contributors included Judge Wickersham, the well-known jurist.

Among the many items of interest are the following:

Fairbanks has a population of more than 1,000 inhab-

GROUP OF FAIRBANKS MILLIONAIRES
THE TANANA VALLEY AND ITS RESOURCES

The Tanana Goldfield.

The district of Alaska is a vast domain lying in the extreme northwestern corner of the North American continent, on Bering Sea and the North Pacific. It comprises an area of about 577,200 statute square miles, with a coast line of 29,000 miles, or nearly two and one-half times the area of the balance of the United States. The district was acquired by purchase by the United States from Russia for $7,200,000.

The census for 1900 gives the population of Alaska as 79,002. When we consider the vast, difficult, and laborious work of a full and correct enumeration of population in so vast a territory with widely scattered towns, settlements and mining camps, isolated and separated, and without communication of any kind with the outside world, we are forced to believe that the enumeration is, to say the least, not overstated. It is not an extravagant estimate to place the present population of the territory at 100,000. The number of able-bodied people in the territory was less than 5000 in 1890.

The coal region of Southern Alaska, mining for coal, copper and silver has been profitably carried on for a number of years. The development of this industry has been especially rapid since 1900, and it promises to become one of the most important mining districts of the United States.

The coal of Alaska embraces lignites, bituminous coal, and some anthracite. The lignites are widely distributed, and have been largely prospected. Coal has been found in nearly every part of the district, both on the coast and in the interior. It has been mined at many localities, but up to the present time only for local consumption, and the aggregate output, of which there are no authentic data available, would not amount to more than a few thousand tons a year. The coal is so widely scattered that it must be regarded as one of the most important resources of the district. In fact, all the rocks of that part of the Coast range of mountains north of the Columbia are coal bearing in character, and are the source of known coal fields.

IMMRR.

Mathew Mehan

This growth is dense, and the number of large trees is ample for shelter lumber and building purposes. But as the higher altitudes are reached the growth becomes stunted, and the supply for mining purposes will not last many years. However, as machinery replaces the wood fires for thawing the ground, coal from a convenient bed will take the place of wood.

CEREALS.

All cereals of the hardy variety thrive here. Oats and barley, as well as wheat, are grown on the ground, and in some cases the crops are harvested by machine.

FISH AND GAME.

The salmon, trout, and other fish are abundant in the rivers and streams, and the trapping and fur hunting are of considerable importance.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION.

Aside from the dog team and sled, the only means of transportation is by means of the Northern Commercial Company, and the Great Northern and Transportation Co. They both operate regularly, and the rates of the steamship lines are sound.

Fairbanks.

Fairbanks at the present time (November 1) contains over five hundred houses, and is the home of about 1200 people. The city is the center of an extensive area of mining, and is the terminus of the great east-west railroad. The city is well supplied with hotels, stores, and other public buildings.

George Harrington

Pond of the Fairbanks Hotel

The city has a grammar and a high school, and is the seat of a newspaper. The climate is mild and agreeable, and the people are hospitable and friendly.

Frank H. McGurk
THE TANANA GOLD FIELDS

Wealth and importance of the town. With every advantage in its favor, Fairbanks has an assured future. The mines are steadily increasing, and the town will be the leading one in the territory.

ore and gravel banks are piled in some instance to a depth of hundreds of feet upon the bedrock, and are stocked solidly, reaching the impression that the forces of nature were suddenly arrested, the ancient channel drained into the creeks; and what was once a mighty river created by and having its source in the gigantic glaciers to the south, has divided into the petty proportions of small creeks.

ON THE CREEKS.
The great change in the paths of development has been the lack of provisions. In March, 1903, there were not a single pot of provisions in the market, and the supply in the hands of the miners was largely freighted from Circle City during the winter. When boats arrived late in June the season was so far advanced that provisions were in short supply on many creeks. In July, no work having been done, a few half interests in claims on Fairbanks were sold for $600 each. By the middle of September it had developed into the barren creek of the district. There are hundreds of creeks yet unprospectable.

REVENUES.
The revenues for the fiscal year 1900 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customs</td>
<td>$67,663.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public lands</td>
<td>$32,370.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax on seal skins</td>
<td>$204,476.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent of Fox Island</td>
<td>$1,200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>License fees</td>
<td>$187,938.69</td>
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Total: $484,011.35

EXPENDITURES:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Territorial Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries—Agents at seal fisheries</td>
<td>$11,413.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Marshall, etc</td>
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<td>Public buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refuge Station</td>
<td>$106.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boundary survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education of children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education of Indians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protection of property</td>
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<td>Steamboat expenses</td>
<td>$9,330.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies for natives, creeks</td>
<td>$3,381.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building for United States Courts</td>
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<td>Reindeer</td>
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<td>Expenditures Survey General</td>
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<td>Maps of Alaska</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey of Yukon River</td>
<td>$7,900.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relief—People in mining region</td>
<td>$629.48</td>
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</table>

Total: $60,904.90

FORMATION AND STRATIGRAPHY.
The gold fields of the Tanana have been spoken of throughout the civilized world. Until the past season that section lying in the Tanana valley was known as the Birch Creek District has been unexplored. But the Circle district on the Yukon slope, which comprises Birch, Marshon, Desford and other creeks, has passed millions into the lap of commerce. Very little concerning this section is known by the world, beyond the obvious fact that it is the most productive of them all.

The creeks of the district are coal bed in character. They are generally of a light colored, greenish, micaceous shale, interbedded occasionally with black, graphite colored, and white mica schist.

One very important feature occupies pre-eminance and attracts the attention of thoughtful minds, and that is the great extent of the gold-bearing ores. The precious metal is not confined to one creek or district, but is distributed over a vast extent of country. The capacity of some of the creeks to produce gold is surpassed in the history of mining, notwithstanding that the methods of exploitation were of the very crudest. The creeks were not pursued, provisions were not procurable, and transportation for machinery impossible, yet over forty miles of rich pay has been uncovered within the past few months on Fairbanks, Cherry, Wolf, Chatan, Pedro and Gold Stream creeks, with half a hundred creeks yet to be heard from, all lying within the same bedrock and within bounds of twenty-five miles.

Within this area are vast accumulations of auriferous gravels and many quartz veins, commonly following the strike and dip of the strata. That these veins contain gold in sufficient quantities to mine and will profitably be worked is unquestionable, but they all contribute to the value of the gravel. There will be found in this belt limited area some ounces of gold, which contain more than the average amount of gold, which will render some creeks more valuable than others.

Thus we find in the Tanana immense preserves of gravel, holding in an icy grasp vast treasures of gold, for whose great value banks are piled in some instance to a depth of hundreds of feet upon the bedrock, and are stocked solidly, reaching the impression that the forces of nature were suddenly arrested, the ancient channel drained into the creeks; and what was once a mighty river created by and having its source in the gigantic glaciers to the south, has divided into the petty proportions of small creeks.

FRED DEERING

A TANANA TALE.

(Related by Judge Wickersham.)

"Whoop!" Uncle Jim filled his cheeks with hot air, and everybody knew he was going to beat the king.

"That's nothing," says he. "I left Forty-Mile to go over head of the Tanana with a sled and my dog Dognuts, to strike the copper mines that I afterwards sold to Payley Creek.

Jim looked solemnly around and then proceeded.

"The thermometer was frozen up when I left Forty-Mile. We had to keep back in order to stay warm. Then we got to the Tanana and the temperature dropped to zero, and the Tanana was wide open. We built a raft and put Dognuts and my outfit on it, and started downstream. We went fine for a while, but in the afternoon we came around a sharp bend and into a big log jam. My raft tipped, sunk and went under. I jumped for the raft, but missed my hold, and I went under too. I swam a hundred yards or more under the raft, then climbed on to Tanana's tail, and came out below and swam ashore. Whoop!" and Jim pulled out some of the best and largest fish they ever saw.

"And there we were, Dognuts and me, five hundred miles from Upper; for I had lost my entire outfit—gun, provisions, blankets and all. We started back to Forty-Mile. Not a thing could we eat, and the thermometer stood below. Even rabbits had gone south, and I could not even catch a rod. For twenty days we traveled across the hills, and the snows at night, until I was

stared. I couldn't kill Dognuts, and Jim's eyes were filled with tears, but we just had to have something to eat. We finally got a man from Forty-Mile to take us back to the river. We had to travel over frozen country, and the river was frozen over, but we finally got to Forty-Mile and all was right."

The ex-champion quitt whittling, slipped off the counter, and went out.

Stampede Stories.

Frank Costas spent the winter of 1888-89 prospecting on the Seventy Mile River, something over a hundred miles up from its mouth. As warm weather approached in the spring his stock of provisions was so short that he was compelled to do something speedily, and that something meant to move down to the Yukon, for no supplies were to be had in the interior. Traveling overland was impossible, as the snow was very deep and soft, and the streams swollen bank full. In a few days the ice broke up in the river and commenced to move out. That same day Mr. Costas took one of the fine horses he had used the fall before and after nighting had passed into it and making his improvised boat, started down stream with the ice. As he reached the many jams encountered he paddled ashore and patiently waited until the force of the water broke the jam. But when about half-way down the river, at a point where the water was strong against a point of rock, his unavailing oar struck hard against the bank and capsized, and Mr. Costas found himself in a large whirlpool just below. He had on a pair of rubber hip belts and a heavy coat, but managed after making several circuits of the pool to gain the bank, where he hastily caught up with his runaway boat, which he recovered by swimming. The Yukon was finally reached without further mishap, where he was fortunate enough to fall in with another boat on its way to Circle City which was well stocked with provisions.

Sourdough Tales.

Fred Deering and William James, the discoverers of gold on Fairbanks Creek, were held by many difficulties. They well exhausted their supplies of money in the purchase of provisions, which they packed to the creek on their backs. After traveling all night under their heavy burden they arrived at their present home early in the morning. A temporary cable was constructed, a light tent was put up, and the two of them, in a most miserable rest. The mosquitoes were so numerous as to be almost unbearable, and as a high wind was blowing on this particular day, prospecting in the woods in different places, and early in the forenoon the sleepers were suddenly awakened by the fierce heat and roaring of a large fire just beyond them.

Their tent was nearly consumed by the fire, and they were compelled to seek safety on the steep hillside on the opposite bank of the creek. The place was reached with difficulty. From this position they watched the flames consume the last remnant of their stores. Nothing remained, they set out across the hills for Pedro Creek, where they had a small balance to their account for cutting house logs. With this in the treasury the town of Fairbanks was again visited, and the sum involved was paid out. Upon returning to the creek they sunk their first hole in the spot where their cache had stood, and at a depth of thirty-five feet found 25 cents in the pan. This was their first pay ground on the creek.

THE FAIRBANKS MINES.

FISH CREEK.

Jim Kirk in his canoe downhill 30 feet, in 40 feet of water, and he saw the bedrock in sight. The sediment is getting the pay better. Bedrock is probably is.

THE SHALLOW.

One boat has been sunk, no gravel is available, but bedrock has not been reached.

SOLD.

Four holes were started, but water drove the workmen out. No bedrock in sight. The gravel contains gold.
MINING NOTES

CLARRY CREEK.

Mat Mathiesen, John Roman and Charles Ostevi will work on 1 above, left limit, this winter. They have a good cabin and plenty of wood. They have one hole to bedrock, 13 feet deep. The mark is 20 feet deep, but the 13 feet of gravel contains good sediment, and carries some gold from the top down. They have three feet of 5-cent dirt near bedrock, which is good drifting pay, and expect to encounter a better pay streak as they work toward the creek.

Charles Willey will work two men on 2 above this winter. He has good pay, and would work a large force if provisions could be had.

Rein Austin and John Arguille have pay on 3 above, and will work there this winter.

Charles Columbus and Bill Anderson will prospect the bench on the left limit on 2 above this winter. A fair prospect has been found there.

Harry Bankhead and Ed Niederrman are prospecting the bench on the left limit of 3 and 2 above.

Al Columbus and Frank Allen will prospect the bench on 3 above this winter.

Jesse Noble has been working on Discovery some two weeks since. He worked seven men all summer and the cleanup was much in excess of expectations. Frank Mundy and Ben Boone have a lay on the property this winter and will work sixteen men. Mr. Noble will work seven men on 7 above this winter, and prospect 8 above with three men. Good pay has been found on both the latter claims, but the security of provisions prevents more extensive operations.

The largest nugget found so far on Discovery weighed 55.50.

On 1 below Clarry and Billy have the best pay yet located on the creek. The pay streak has been located near 100 feet in width. It is eight feet deep, and averages 10.3-5.5 per ton. A complete washing and sorting plant will be installed soon. S. R. Weiss, the engineer, has had a force of men at work all summer developing this ground, and it is the best prospected claim on the creek. Others will doubtless prove as good.

R. G. McCarty, Dave Casden and H. Buhro will develop 2 above this winter. They have good pay here, and are certain to have a big clean-up in the spring.

The above was written the last three claims above mentioned have been developed, and several licks left. The pay streak averages seven feet thick, and the average is 10 cents to the pan. Four below is equally as good.

The pay streak has been located down the creek to 12 below, and few holes have been sunk outside the limits of good drifting ground. The greatest drawback to the development of the creek is the fact that claim owners as a rule have more ground than they can develop. This, coupled with the short supply of provisions, has kept the camp in the fourth or fifth place as a producer, when it should head the list.

BEDROCK.

Very little work has been done on this tributary of Clarry. While the assessment last spring, one claim yielded $250.

BEAR.

Several holes have been put down to bedrock. The pay streak has not been located, though all the gravel conveys coarse gold.

GOLD STREAM.

Fair prospects have been found on 12, but from the point to 6 below little or no development work has been done.

On 5 below, fraction, Miller Thedford is taking out a winter dump. He is drifting in good pay—25 cents on bedrock.

Charles F. Sizer and Harry Hinks, laysmen on 5 below, have finished their work and located on Clarry, 1 below, right limit. Their clean-up was highly satisfactory. The last four and a half days two men inched over 875.30.

Frank McIlvain and partner are in good pay and are taking out a big dump on the fraction between 4 and 5 below.

Tom Jurack has a half of 5-cent dirt on 4 below, and fraction on right limit of the same claim. He is taking out a winter dump with the assistance of Wayl Nelson, the well-known digger.

Dr. Overgaard and also C. St. J. McKinley are working a lay on 5 below, creek claim, where they have located most of the songene.

Prospecting is being actively prosecuted on 5 below. C. Niedorf is working on the lower end of 2 below, where he has good pay in two holes. Four men will work a lay on the upper end this winter.

Dr. Elie, Billy Thomas, Charles Clark and Al Wissel will work a lay on 4 below this winter. They have good pay.

No. 1 and 2 above are owned by Peter and Ed Quinn. The assessment has been done, but no more.

GILMORE.

Only representation work has been done. Low grade pay has been found.

TWIN.

Big pay was found in one hole, but the creek was too wet to work.

PERDO.

From 9 below to 2 above good pay has been found everywhere. The creek will be a busy place this winter. A large number of men have been here, and the owners will also take out winter dumps. Some very rich ground was found this week, and a big spring cleanup is required.

Aug. 15, and Frank Jewett will work Discovery and 1 below.

Tom Gilmore, William Hunter, Ed Baker and Sherman Frazier will work 2 below.

Frank Costa has let a lay on 2 below to Louise Borso for five years.

Ed Quinn and partners will work 4 below.

Bill Smallwood, Harry Atwood, Jim Funcion and Charles Gwinn will work 5 below.

Al House made a big cleanup on 8 below in August, and will take out a dump this winter.

Mat Lair and Gue Eno are working on 7 below.

No. 9 will not be worked this winter, but Jack Gregory will prospect 10 below.

Six separate lays have been let on 1 below.

Jack Costa has let four separate lays on the lower end of 2 below.

Preparations are being made to thoroughly prospect the upper end of the creek this winter. Frank Chery, Charles Willey, O'Connor & Noble, Tom Jurack, Scott, Bennet & Danhar, Louise Lahuens and others are interested. Seven dollars per foot was offered for skaking this summer but water prevented.

Ed Quinn on 4 below in Perdo has found two feet of 5-cent dirt and is working.

Mike Burns has two turns of 5-cent sand.

WOLF CREEK.

Little prospecting has been done. Mr. Williamson shot up 8 below, threw it away, and closed down and took in the fall in good pay. On October 16 he sunk a hole about five feet below his old bedrock, where he found three feet of gravel averaging 25 cents to the pan. Wolf Creek property is now in big demand.

CHATHAM.

About seventy-five men will work on Chatham this winter. Very rich pay has been located from the month to 6 above, and the owners wishing to re-locate quickly, have let many lays. As high as on an hour an hour has been rocked out, but this of course was an exception.

S. K. ELLERS.

Pay has been found from 16 above to 14 below. The benches and side streams or feeders also contain pay. One or two holes on a claim 1200 feet long can hardly be termed good promising. When work done, the pay streak is found to be one of the finest in the district, and is over six feet thick, which averages 13-15 cents to the pan; the owners are elected to prospect a large extent and for a time. The pay streak on the unknown, but enough has been found to insure the future of the camp.

The above paragraph was prepared the first of November.

By December 1, eighty claims had been constructed and 175 men were taking out pay on this creek. The benches on the creek for the most part are very rich, the dumps averaging 15 cents to the pan. As high as $8 to the pan has been secured, and $25 of one pay streak factory was sold and the pressure is always more even. Less labor is required for driving, the cost of loading a ship is eliminated, the long and frequent stoppages for fuel are cut out in the journeys up and down the river, and no stops are required except for landing and receiving of freight and passengers. Time is a valuable factor in this creek.

The oil is brought from Buckner's Creek, Cal. It is carried to St. Michaels in the steamer Roseanne, formerly an American transport. The oil boat has a capacity of 50,000 barrels of oil. She is divided into compartments and the oil is run in her by oil, but the first trip she handled 25,000 barrels in St. Michaels for us. She is to bring us another carload this year.

The oil is carried up the river for distribution in the heavy barges equipped with large tanks made of redwood. Storage stations are maintained at St. Michaels, Andruski, Fort Gibson and Circle.

The main distributing tanks at St. Michaels hold 20,000 barrels; three at Andruski, 10,000; at Gibbon, 5000; at Circle, 10,000.

The steamers of the fleet equipped with oil burning apparatus are the steamers Sarah, Susan and the Hannah, the Louisa, the Bella, the Leith, and the Hermann. The company has other steamers not in commission which may be called upon at any time.

The packets, when in service, carry for their own use 200 barrels of oil. They have four huge tanks, two on each side and two afloat among the ship. This fuel, with the tanks, weighs 120 tons to the packet. The other steamers each are equipped with two tanks holding 200 barrels of oil each.

The oil is applied on steamers as fuel by conducting it through pipes from the tanks to the fire boxes. It emerges through jets, which are controlled by stop cocks, and as it burns or vaporizes the spray is capable of being reduced at will.—P.T.

Herb Wilson of 3 above on Chatham, says that on Tuesday he rocked out $30 from one hopper full of gravel, and on Monday he rocked out one ounce in fifty feet of gravel. He has a foot of gravel to bedrock, and three feet more of very good ground above it. Himself and partner, Jack Ross, will take out a large dump this winter.—News.
IN OTHER CIRCLES

Arctic Brotherhood Smoker.

Saturday night, November 7, 1900, will go on record in the annals of the history of Fairbanks as the greatest event toward the building of the city. Going far to show that the true American spirit of harmony and good fellowship is predominant in this infant camp.

The event was the initial entertainment given by the members of the Arctic Brotherhood in Fairbanks, who have organized a club of the same name. The Arctic Brotherhood bought the button which set the free up and raised for the benefit of the city.

Every corner was radiant with joy, and as the festive hour passed around many bright lights loomed up as good entertainment, there was a feeling of fellowship and brotherly love we can come to the most merrily and merrily.

At 8 o'clock, the doors of the new A. B. Hall were opened, with a committee in attendance to meet the guests with a welcome hand and a cheerfully song. By 6:45 the building was in a perfect state of excitement, the being present 250 or more guests and members.

A few numbers on a phonograph, selected by Mr. Howard Turner, and one by the Misses of the Northern Harmony Club, preceded the opening of the assembly to order by Mr. Abe Spring, who, with a few brief remarks, called for and introduced Dr. Hall as chairman of the master of ceremonies, who entered upon his duties with such zest that all were inspired with a feeling that a great treat was in store for them.

Dr. Hall got down to business admirably, by calling before him Captain Burnett and William H. Robertson, who both prominent merchants to preside, and bring the program of the assembly that the order was not to be allowed to pay the penalty of minuteness by song or story, both being installed with great pump and ceremony. Then followed a selection by the orchestra, consisting chiefly of women and girls, but the entire dance was handled with precision.

The contractor was then introduced, who was composed of Basin, Morgan, DeCamp, Burkhart, Lindig, and Campbell.

The great attraction was called to the overworked waiters, and thereupon ordered Messrs. Whalen, Lavin, Long and Noonan before him, and after considerable accostations to the effect that the waiters were overworked, were ordered to assist the waiters as waiters.

Seeing the need of more help in the mixed-nose operation, Dr. Hall called upon and assisted Mr. Noonan in dispensing the cheering fluids. Dr. Danforth pulled off his coat and displayed an extraordinary knowledge of the mysteries of the barroom.

A sextette composed of Morses, Noble, Walsh, Campbell, Bellum, Thomas and Sherman rendered the "Old Oaken Bucket" in such a masterly manner that an encomium brought forth "Farewell, My Own True Love!"

The orchestra again responded. By special request Judge Kellogg sang the following song, which made a decided hit: The SONG OF THE SALMON.

Time—"There is a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight." Now come all ye young charmers, and ye hairly sou'westers. There is going to be a "smoker" and hell 'll be poppin' too.

There will be music for everybody, and something good to eat. You can fill your hide with whiskey and cigars that makes you feel very good. When you have had your fill, your best friends will say good-bye to you, only they will not be in line.

For there will be a hot time in Fairbanks to-night, our neighbors.

Chorus:

When you hear those cots go click, click, click, you will not take your dress or your hat. When for the hooves of the horses are never known. Never there was a hot time in Fairbanks to-night.

You will hear some funny stories, and some will make you laugh and smile. Say it good for mumps and measles and will drive away the bile. For we will show you our best to please you all, and you will do the rest. For your banks can't fill, it will not be our fault. For there is a hot time at Fairbanks to-night, ye suckers.

Chorus:

There is a village near our city, and its nine miles there they say. Where they catch the wild salmon on a universal way, and they catch them while they're swimming and they catch them while they're drinking. There's all that's in this village and it stinks, and stinks, and stinks. But there's a hot time at Fairbanks to-night, poor salmon.

Chorus:

But if you want to go against it, just go there to buy your grub. You can get the marble heart and your name it will be bad, for they think they can outwit us and make us come up to them. But for that, they can outwit us and make us come up to them. But for that, they can outwit us and make us come up to them. But for that, they can outwit us and make us come up to them. But for that, they can outwit us and make us come up to them. But for that, they can outwit us and make us come up to them. But for that, they can outwit us and make us come up to them.

Chorus:

If our neighbors down the river will only come to us, If we can make the Arctic Brothers and stop this awful flux, We will gather in the gold dust and know what we are. When the miners come to town our hooves will knock him out, For we've always got our mit in sight, and we must pay the penalty. And if we don't have the money, you know, we'll have to go in the mines. For there is a hot time at Fairbanks to-night, poor miners.

Chorus:


R. C. McConnell has secured some valuable claims and also several good licks on Fairbanks and Pedro Creeks.

THE TANANA GOLD FIELDS

THIRTY-TWO MILES OF PAY.

When all the conditions are considered, probably no section of Alaska has made such a good showing in the same space of time as has Fairbanks district from May last to the present time.

In the first instance, the country was staked by men with limited means, and a few with exceptions, unable to even sink a hole to bedrock. Those were followed later by stonemasons who were generally better provided for the day.

Finally Pedro, Costa and one or two more succeeded in getting to bedrock, and thus inspired the owners of properties on other creeks to renewed efforts, with the result that early in the spring pay had been found on several of the creeks.

Some of those who rushed in over the job, departed down the Yukon, and those who remained subsided largely on moccasin meat. Prospectors on the creeks increased thousands of men employed to develop the pay, and little money to buy with if there had been. Several representing large capital in Dawson, made a big push for the country looking for business openings, and left for home as hastily without making the slightest examination into the conditions on the creeks. Their report was substantially to the effect that the Tanana was a good proposition, which would require the expenditure of immense capital to develop; but a few were noted that the mines could never be worked profitably.

But it was different with those who had done the prospecting. They knew the pay was there, and kept digging, the work. Some of the men were doing a little more, and at times the beams were up, until the present writing, when over thirty-two miles of pay had been found.

It should be borne in mind that in the compilation of the following facts, no allowances have been made for bench claims, many of which have been prospected and found to be immensely rich, nor of the width of the pay streak, which in one instance is known to cover three claims in width.

On Gold Stream the pay streak has been located, a distance of five miles, the full extent of the prospecting done.

Gold has three miles of pay in sight. At 3 below the pay so far uncovered is 1000 feet wide, while the limit has not been reached on either side.

Pedro has been prospected for five miles, and not a blank has been struck.

Shanghai has one mile of pay while the same claims or benches from 10 below to 2 above, are very rich.

On Cleary four miles have been prospected, with the result, very limited finds on paywall.

Bedrock, one mile; Gashawn, one mile and one half miles, and Wolf two miles of pay in sight. These streams are tributaries of the Chena.

Fairbanks has eight miles of pay in sight, with pay on two more tributaries. Pay has also been found on the upper course of the Chena by John and Alex Two.

This showing was made without capital, and may be without provision: and the graving on all the creeks is by the thousand dollars.

Very little has been found yet, when we consider the adverse conditions and the short time devoted to the work it seems incredible. With all the pay that has been found the country is, the resources of the famous Klondike, not more than fifty miles of pay streak has been uncovered.

Half the gold in the country is confined in a narrow channel, not one of them but what would rival Diskoana or Bostana.

The gold is found in the gravel, and bedrock as a rule is not excessively rich. Five to six feet above bedrock a heavy sediment is found, and in this the gold is contained.

Old Prospect Holes.

P. W. Lloyd and John Rice last fall discovered some very old prospect holes on the mouth of the Little Chena.

At this point there is a small rocky mountain, which in a few years has divided the mouth of that stream. Well up the sides of this mountain, near the summit, they discovered several old holes that time and the elements had not removed one stone from either side of the holes marked their presence. These holes were overgrown with trees and brush and in one place had a small diameter, then growing. At first it was thought that these holes had once been used as a dwelling by the natives, but the place was unoccupied, as it was well known that the natives in this country always build their homes on large creeks.
FRED WOITKE ARRIVES FROM UPPER TANANA.

Fred E. Woitke of Seattle arrived in Fairbanks last fall on the Isabella, after a hard and varied prospecting trip on the headwaters of the Tanana. He left Valdez March 23 with two pack horses and ample provisions for the entire season. The season was far advanced, and by the time Tanana Crossing was reached traveling was quite impossible. Part of the outfit was cached here, and a tedious journey to the source of the stream commenced.

In a short time traveling became comparatively easy on the ridges, and an immense lake country dividing the Tanana and White Rivers was reached, without serious delay. In this section the summer was spent in prospects, which resulted in promise of ultimate success.

FRED WOITKE.

At least Mr. Woitke intends to return there at some future time and continue his search.

By the middle of August the supply of provisions was nearly exhausted and Mr. Woitke started for White River, hoping to make an easy descent of that stream on a raft. After several days of weary wandering the stream was reached. The horses were turned loose and a cache made of everything but his blankets. He had then been out of provisions for several days. A raft was soon made, and on August 24 the homeward journey was continued down one of the most tortuous streams in the territory.

At Stewiaw River Mr. Woitke was fortunate enough to fall in with two men in a small boat, Dawson bound, and he completed his trip with them. He had subsisted for some time on short rations, and for two weeks was entirely without food. It is scarcely necessary to add that he was in a starving condition when Dawson was reached.

Two days after his arrival there he took passage on the Seattle No. 3 for Fairbanks.

There is no doubt of the existence of gold in the region visited by Mr. Woitke, as he secured fair prospects in several places. And while it is accessible to the prospector, it is very doubtful whether supplies can be shipped in there cheap enough at the present day to make mining profitable.

An abundance of float quartz was found in one section, some of it showing unmistakable signs of copper, and, to some extent, highly mineralized. But quartz properties inadmissible to transportation facilities for both machinery and supplies are hardly calculated to inspire a prospector.

Immediately upon his arrival here Mr. Woitke purchased the Board of Trade—a fine business block—which he refitted and renamed the Hub, and embarked in business. Since then he has acquired interests on some of the creeks, and intends to make Fairbanks his home until such time as he has acquired a competency and retire from business.

CHARLES OSTERLE.

In the spring of 1908 the United States Mining Deed- ing & Survey Co. was organized in Cincinnati, Ohio, for the purpose of mining and deeding on some of the tributaries of the Yukon in Alaska. The capitalization of the company was $110,000, the shares being $10.00 each. Mr. Charles Osterle was one of the stockholders in the concern and formed one of the party of fourteen who left early in the season for the scene of operations, acting as treasurer. A large dredge was purchased at Cincinnati and shipped to St. Michael, where the center little steam shovel A. R. Roy was constructed to take the gravel, with machinery and supplies, to the location on the creek.

The first winter was spent at Fish Creek, where Rampart. The next season the boat was forced up Birch Creek a distance of 350 miles, the first steamer to ascend that stream. In August the water was so low that further progress was impossible, and the steamers and machinery were sold to Barnette & Smith, the obligations discharged, the money disbursed and the company dissolved. All of the party excepting Mr. Osterle returning to their homes in Ohio. A few days later the full minus raised the stream several feet.

Mr. Osterle started up the Piktah River, the former objective point of the expedition. Here he decided to locate in business for the winter, and accordingly purchased the Jump-Off road house, where he continued for two years.

In the meantime he had secured large mining interests on the creeks and in H. and I. established himself on his ground on Independence, which, with Masiddon, forms Manmouth. While operating his claim he secured 47, 48 and 49 above, a group of claims near the head of the stream, Masiddon; also Discovery and 1, 2 and 3 above on Independence. Discovery and 1 below on Miller, and a group of eight claims on lower end of Deadwood—44 to 50 and two side claims.

These properties are considered by mining men to be the best in the district for companies with sufficient capital to properly develop them up and install the necessary machinery. Deadwood and Masiddon have been the best producers of the district since its discovery.

When Mr. Osterle became convinced of the richness of the Fairbanks district he placed his other property on the market, merely keeping up his assessments, and located here, where the ground is richer and better adapted to the requirements of poor men. Since his arrival he has staked and purchased interests in several claims on the B. O. R. River, 4 above on Big Edrome, 2 above on Little Edrom, and 2 above on Big Edrone, 2 above on Solo, 2 above and 9 below on Miller, the Kentucky claim at the mouth of Fairbanks, and the left limits of 1 below on Gold Creek, 2 below on Gilmore and a fraction on Komeko.

This winter, with his partners, Mat. Mathisen and John Roman, he will take out a dump on the Guary Creek property, where good pay has been found. His other properties will also be exploited during the winter, pay having been located on most of the creeks. Discovery

THIRD AVENUE HOTEL.

On Cherry, the adjoining ground on the lower end, is so far the largest producer in the district, the pay strike, 203 feet wide and 7 feet deep, averaging $1.26 to the bucket of 7 pans.

SHIRLEY'S ROAD HOUSE.

One of the largest and best roadhouses in the Tanana Valley is the Shirley Road House at the forks of Pedro and Gilmour creeks near the present center of the Fairbanks Mining district. Mr. and Mrs. Shirley operated the Jump-Off Road House at the mouth of Crooked Creek in the Creek district for three years but disposed of the place and joined the stampede to the Tanana, arriving at their present location in March, 1902. Here both the summer and winter trails to the creeks meet, and it is also just a convenient day's travel from Fairbanks. A good garden was raised this season which produced sufficient vegetables to supply the table. All the roads and trails in the vicinity are kept in excellent condition and Mr. Shirley enjoys an excellent trade from the miners.

GEORGE FORCHES.

Senator Nelson on Alaska.

For a brief and comprehensive summary of the situation in the great northern country, which has just been investigated by the senatorial committee, the statement by Senator Knut Nelson, a member of that committee, to a Washington Star man is a timely one.

He said: "Two things that I marvelled over more than anything else, are the unlimited vastness of that country, and the untold possibilities of its gold fields.

"Alaska has been held back in development for two reasons. First, the lack of good wagon roads for transportation facilities, and second, because of the unfortunate monopoly of two companies which control the transportation in that country. These companies keep rates at prohibitive figures, and Alaska will never see its proper development and its monopoly has been broken, and open competition substituted. With good and a sufficient number of wagon roads, the future of Alaska will be greater than any one now dreams of."

Mr. Howard Turner, manager for the N. C. Company at Fairbanks, is well known throughout Alaska, having been stationed at Circle City, Nome and Koyukuk as manager of the company's stores during those previous to his arrival in Fairbanks. The strictest ethics which the N. C. Company has established at these places, together with the extreme shortage of provisions, has made Mr. Turner's position during the past winter a very trying one. He has been equal to the occasion, however, and by his straightforward manner of doing business has retained the friendship and good will of his patrons.

Charley Waldheim, who has been a successful restaurant man in Grand Forks and Dawson, and an old-timer in the country, has become a partner with Lindstrom in the China restaurant and lodging-house.
MINING ITEMS

Finding Pay on Fairbanks.

Early in the spring of '92 the Dawson stampedes contingent began to arrive. Pedro and Costa were diligently working their ground on Pedro—the only creek on which pay had been located. In passing by, many of the travelers would inquire, "Which is going to be the best town—Fairbanks or Chena?" The answers of course were never very reassuring. But inquiry was seldom made as to the pay found on the creek, and no one paused on the dumps. Upon arriving in town, the first duty was to stake a lot, and the next to plan ditches and drainage systems with the fingers on the wet bar top, but few thought of going to the creeks. As the season gradually advanced and little dust made its appearance in town a spirit of restlessness settled over the town. The stampedes left for other parts— principally for Dawson—declaring that they had tested the ground, and while there was gold here, it was too far away to be worked profitably except on a large scale with expensive machinery. Of a certainty, the pay streak was shallow in town.

Costa, their benefactor, was lastly apprised of the find. The four men staked on the bench and on Crane Creek property, which has proved to be very rich, $600 to the bucket being taken out this fall.

The freight bill on Mr. Costa's provisions last season amounted to $1302.35, aside from his fresh meat, which consisted of seven hundred pounds of duck.

SEARCH FOR PEDRO'S CREEK.

Birch Creek Joe is an Indian well known by his countrymen throughout the length and breadth of the Territory. He is a miner of some ability, and is believed by the Indians to possess a superior knowledge and certain charm which appeals well to those who are not fortunate enough to become interested with him in any venture. Thus in the winter of 1892 a Salish Indian sent Joe a $10 nugget of fine looking gold, with the information that it came from a certain stream near the Kittichoomack Hills, and gave detailed directions of the route to the place. Accordingly, early in the spring Joe, accompanied by George Harrington and Al Morency, set out for the discovery. All the landmarks were found exactly as described in a point well up a tributary of the Goodpasture, where a journey of several miles into the interior was to lead them to a blazed trail that had its beginning at Fairbanks Creek. This trail was blazed in 1892 by a team of men who had discovered a rich lode on the creek, and had since been continually used. Joe, however, had reason to believe that the source of the lode was a few miles up the creek, and accordingly he set out to find it.

IT IS SAID THAT IT TAKES AN EXCEPTION TO PROVE A RULE.

Why this is so I am unable to explain. But nevertheless there was an exception in this case, and a most fortunate one. Ed Crane, Charles Marks and George Ashelford, being short of provisions and far from long on cash, left one morning for the creeks in quest of work. Arriving at Jack Costa's hospitable door they stated their situation and desire. Mr. Costa had no room for them to work in his days, but he "staked" them to a burn of gold, and advised them to take across the high hills toward Fairbanks Creek, where they were certain to find some money. This advice was followed, and a few days later a large moose was killed on 2 above on Fairbanks Creek. The moose could not be moved to town, but it was an easy task to bring their tent and belongings to the moose, so they at once established themselves where they were.

Whether it was fate or an unmatched ambition that spurred these gentlemen to action is an unsolved problem. But so soon as their quarters had been comfortably arranged they set diligently to work sinking a hole on the bench to the left of their home. Early in April bedrock was reached, and good pay discovered. Mr. McArthur was the first to strike it, and he sent word of it to the company. The men then went to work and did not stop until they had sunk a hole twenty feet deep, and had won their first big strike.

1893 three men spent the summer there, and returned the same winter. But in 1895 one of them seemed to have an interest in the Bonanza and returned with a fortune out of it.

The discovery of gold in the Fairbanks district was made by Felix Pedro and others in 1898, but diligent prospecting failed to develop paying properties until late in the fall of 1892. Since that time many creeks have come into prominence as heavy producers, notable among which are Fairbanks, Pedro, Gold Stream, Chena, Boulders and Waia, the last of which produced over $1,000,000 next spring. There are many streams in the district which look fully as promising as the best of these, but development work has been retarded—practically stopped—by the shortage of the supply of provisions.

To illustrate the vastness of the district or rather the extent of the streams, it is safe to say that the water courses within its confines are fully 2,000 miles in extent. Ten thousand men could not thoroughly prospect these streams in ten years.

SCEA S HISTORY.

In 1897 two men spent the summer in prospecting on the Klondike, and pronounced it worthless, and again in
FROM DAWSON PAPERS

DAWSON, January 29—Captain Barnett, who arrived yesterday from Fairbanks, is on the way to the coast. Says thawing with steam plants, so the same as used in the Klondike, will be the future method of work there. Claims are held so high now, he says, that even undeveloped properties are almost out of the market, and intending purchasers are turning away. Says:

"Discounts are an absent element in the Tanana camp this winter; good strikes are making the men hopeful and many are realizing hopes.

"I should say that the future method of development and operation of Tanana claims will be by the use of steam boiler plants and steam thawing plants, the same as is most commonly employed in the Klondike. The pay of Tanana lies in big bodies, with perhaps an average depth of eighteen to thirty feet. The stratum of pay overlying bedrock on the average runs from four to nine feet thick, and pay on most of the streams is in unbroken channels.

"Tanana property is valued so high by its owners that they are refusing to sell at anything like tempting prices to men who have gone there to buy. Claims without improvements are held for $30,000 to $75,000 each. Ronald Morrison, a Sulphur operator, and Harry Warren, are returning from Fairbanks. Morrison went there to buy, and I understand he found prices too high.

"The extent of pay thus far located on the best creeks is as follows:

- Chetnul Creek—Between 25 above and 9 below Discovery.
- Fairbanks—Between 16 above and 11 below.
- Chatham—Discovery to 7 below.
- Pedros—No. 2 above to 9 below.
- Gold Streak—Discovery to 10 below.
- Bedrock—Possibly a mile of pay.
- A dozen other streams are being prospected under encouraging conditions.

"On No. 4 below on Chetnul the outside holes indicate the pay is three hundred feet wide at least. I know the dirt runs $1.00 to $1.25 to the bucket of seven pays.

"No. 3 below on Fairbanks and a bench opposite, on the left bank, are among the most promising properties in the camp. On the lower one is owned by J. J. Costello, and worked by Bill Cheseaux. I did some sampling. From a pan taken on the deck I got 81.48, and from a pan two feet above, 80.93.

"DAWSON, January 29—Captain Barnett, the pioneer trader of the Tanana country, and the irrepressible Billy Thomas, formerly of West Dawson, arrived by dog team to-day direct from Fairbanks. They left Fairbanks January 8. Thomas will be here a few days, and then return to Fairbanks. Barnett will go to San Francisco.

"Thomas is highly pleased with the outlook in the Tanana. He says that rich pay is being taken out on several streams, and that the camp will make a fine showing next summer.

"The great and crying need of the Tanana camp this winter," says Thomas, "has been the need of grub. As fast as men have been able to get supplies they have gone to work with a will, and the greater number have had splendid success.

"And the community been well supplied with grub it would have progressed much more rapidly this winter. As it is, many of the prospectors finally have obtained supplies by freighting from Circle and are now doing work on their claims with good results. I believe $100,000 worth of supplies have been handled over the trail from Circle to Fairbanks this winter.

"The best creeks in the camp so far are Fairbanks, Chetnul, Pedros and Chatham. Gold is found nearly if not everywhere along these creeks. Fairbanks is the banner creek. On a long stretch of the creek, men are working and cold gold just as was done on Bonanza and Billy Dehite in early days, and the creek is like a beehive. From four and a half to eight cents to the pan is obtained in the Fairbanks claims. The pay is three and a half to eight feet deep. Seven below is one of the best either at the expense of their friends or at the expense of the government. The mining district of the Tanana is a large one, and there is a very great area of unprospected placer ground to be had. If you are considering coming to the Tanana, you should possess at least sufficient money to purchase your first year's outfit after you land at Fairbanks.

"Southeastern Alaska from Dixon's entrance to Muir Glacier is a network of straits, bays, coves, narrow inlets and islands interlacing the larger islands and mainland with almost continuous highways for ships of all classes. These straits, coves and islands afford openings and harbors behind rocks and rocks and thereby safe and cheap transportation. These inland waters in Southeastern Alaska total not less than 5,000 miles of safe navigable waters for large and small boats.

"THE PIONEERS!

P. McLennan is working a claim 2 above on Fairbanks Creek. He is familiar with a good clean-up in the spring.

"James White and William G. Morrison, two well-known men of Dawson, are in the machinery business in Fairbanks. They have all kinds of mining machinery for sale.

"Sharpe & Kirkpatrick have a general mercantile store at Chena. They own and operate the steamers Jimmy M., on the Tanana River, handling all of their own supplies from the mouth of the river to Chena.

The Tanana House at Tanana is one of the best places along the Yukon to spend a few days. The beds are exceptionally clean, and the table fare is as good as the market can provide. Passengers bound for Fairbanks who are delayed at the mouth of the river will make no mistake by stopping with Mr. and Mrs. Black, the proprietors.

LOCAL NOTES

Joe Hoffner, of the Chena Creek roadhouse, is doing some extensive building.

Harry Spill is the owner of a valuable tract adjoining 4 below on Fairbanks.

One of the swellest-looking establishments in town is the opera house, under the direction of Ben Sherman.

Billie Robertson is the proud possessor of the first and only piano in town. And it is a fine instrument.

J. A. Henry, formerly with the N. C. Company of Dawson, is now in the company's store in Fairbanks.

George Harrington of the Fairbanks has a large turnip that was grown in his garden last summer. The turnip weights 17 pounds, and measures 32 inches in circumference.

"The miners of the Fairbanks district have petitioned government for a wagon road from Fairbanks to Yakutat. The distance by the present river route is 400 miles and twenty miles. A wagon road crossing the country at certain points instead of following along the river, would reduce the distance to about three hundred miles.

"The N. C. Company will do considerable building in Fairbanks during the coming summer.

Mr. Abe Spring, well known in Dawson and Circle, has been appointed City Attorney for Fairbanks.

The sawmill of the Tanana Improvement Company in Fairbanks is probably the largest in Alaska.

An Illinois woman is said to have confessed that she stole a box of panel cigarettes twenty years ago and has just paid the owner of the store for it.

And yet there can be no doubt that she meant to do the right thing when she took it.

"THE PIONEERS!"
TRIALS OF THE UPPER TANANA.

The hardships and privations endured by prospectors on Upper Tanana.

Harry Behrends of San Francisco had a hard experience while prospecting on the headwaters of the Tanana last summer, and narrowly escaped with his life. The dangers, hardships, and privations endured were amply corroborated by his appearance when he reached Fairbanks.

Mr. Behrends left Nana on June 10th for a cruise to the headwaters of the Tanana and its tributaries. He had six dogs and 150 pounds of provisions, expecting to cover a plodding supply of meat and game, which would make his stores ample. Traveling was easy, and the source of the river was reached without difficulty. But little game had been seen, however, all of the available time had been spent in prospecting the banks on the immemorial streams. Finally, as he descended the point of the river, the dog bed, he saw P. A. Redlich and Kainan Krum, both of whom had just finished the construction of a boat in which to descend the river. When they had finished their provisions were completely exhausted. They had relied upon making Tanana Crossing in three days, travel with a boat that was ready to be loaded, and the party started down stream, the party started down stream, the party started down stream, with a considerable amount of ammunition and provisions. They had reached the point where the river was reduced to 10 pounds. The river was high and turbulent, and the raft and dogs were soon lost. The second day out the boat was lost, together with everything but an ax and a 30-pound rifle and thirty rounds of ammunition.

The boat was soon made out of the dogs, and the party started down stream, the party started down stream, the party started down stream, with a considerable amount of ammunition and provisions. They had reached the point where the river was reduced to 10 pounds. The river was high and turbulent, and the raft and dogs were soon lost. The second day out the boat was lost, together with everything but an ax and a 30-pound rifle and thirty rounds of ammunition. The boat was soon made out of the dogs, and the party started down stream, the party started down stream, the party started down stream, with a considerable amount of ammunition and provisions.

Boats along the Yukon.

Fred Lundenberg, chief engineer of Sauna, arrived in Fairbanks in February. He reports the steamer Lisette, bound for the Yukon, with the news that a large barge, 200 tons of ballast, 150 tons of coal, 50 tons of coal, and 300 tons of provisions, has been delivered to Fort Yukon. The barge belongs to the Northern Navigation Company and is now proceeding up the river. The Lisette is due to reach Fort Yukon in about ten days.

FRANK J. CLARKY

Reported Strike on the Chena.

G. Goss, who has been in the Mount McKinley area for several weeks, has learned that a large strike has been discovered near the source of the Chena river. The strike is located near the source of the Chena river and is said to be of considerable size. The strike was discovered by a prospector who was exploring the area.

The society is divided into two classes, the outcasts and the parasites—the one existing and the other dying, as it were, not actively destroying, but simply existing on the labor of others. The world grows ever more populous, and the old adage, "They that have all will of them to make a world," is true. The society is divided into two classes, the outcasts and the parasites—the one existing and the other dying, as it were, not actively destroying, but simply existing on the labor of others. The world grows ever more populous, and the old adage, "They that have all will of them to make a world," is true.
ADJOINING TOWN

CHENA.

Chena is the name of our neighboring town, at the junction of the Chena and Tanana Rivers. It was started last winter, and the influx of miners from Rampart especially has rapidly built a generous rival to Fairbanks. Hendricks & Holt have moved their post across the Tanana to Chena, other business houses are being erected, and the restless Americans are building a town worthy of its name. They are also making preparations for a railroad out to the mines.

CIRCUIT CITY ROUTE.

Table of distances from Fairbanks to Dawson, over winter mail trail:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fairbanks</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circle</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circle</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CIRCUIT TO FAIRBANKS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circle</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Road</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circle</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller Road</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saw Pit</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller Road</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saw Pit</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No Provisions.

Moral of Wickersham to-day sent the following telegram to Marshal Booth, at Eagle City: "People are leaving the camp on account of the shortage in grub. No grub to be had. Please notify everyone coming in that they must bring their own supplies. No oil or candles can be bought.

Valdez in Alaska.

There is evidently some little unsteadiness prevailing in regard to this country over in the Valdez section, as well as along the Yukon. Mr. Howard Torner, manager of the Northern Commercial Company, received a telegram from several of his friends, asking him to wire immediately the condition of the camps.

R. J. McChesney of Dawson, who is now at Fairbanks, wrote to McChesney, left here in August, to Dawson, with the intention of returning before the winter sets in, as he says the camp has always looked good to him.

Mr. Willson, formerly timber agent at Dawson, is located on Fairbanks Creek. Mr. Willson is very enthusiastic about the country. He is working a gang of men on 4 above discovery this winter.

Edgar Wickersham is the deputy United States Marshal for the Tanana district. Mr. Wickersham is a conscientious and capable officer, and an enthusiastic worker for the upbuilding of the country. He is the owner of the little steam-boat which plies between Chena and Fairbanks in the summer time carrying passengers to and fro.

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The headwaters of the Chenin River were stumped and all the timber cut off from it, but no prospecting was done and the claims were allowed to lapse. Many of the old-timers, however, kept an eye on the country, and were there or there abouts after they closed the country. The number of claims there are on the river. Nominated to the American Legion. The E. D. Davie, Paterson's, the Pioneer, and George Harrison's claims at Fairbanks. They had such faith in the country that they gave away what they could not sell of their interests in other places, and came here to stay.

MINING NOTES

Movers, White & Morrison of the Tanana Machinery Co., are well supplied for present needs with boring, milling, and finishing machinery and fixtures.

The workmen on H above on Fairbanks Creek scooped out 51 seven-ton buckets of dirt this week, to test the ground, and scored $2,312.50. This is some of the few good property turned down by people last spring. There are a large lot of such propositions in this district, which will be developed this winter. News.

John Bonifacio, who led the vanguard of the rush to Tanana last spring, is still at Fairbanks, which he says in a letter, is destined to be the largest city in Alaska within four years. He says the country is unquestionably very rich, and that by another year several millions of dollars worth of gold will be taken out from the creeks on which only sufficient work has yet been done to demonstrate their value.

Charley Pipe arrived in town from Pike Creek. He reports that considerable work has been done there this summer, and the showing made was good. The pay was found in many places along the creek bed, and some distance to the north, the gold all being coarse and showing but little wash. The pay streak was not located, however, and ten men are now there prospecting for it. All those interested in the region of ultimate success. The best gold discovered so far runs about 10 cents to the pan.

The capability of men will naturally attract them to the richer creeks and claims. This operates as a bar to the development of claims of lesser value. Natural laws, however, provide for this state of things. When the first excitement which follows a great discovery of gold fades away, a normal condition of affairs prevails. Transportation facilities between the mines and bases of supplies are furnished. Improved methods of mining are introduced, and claims, previously regarded as being "less grade," and not susceptible of profitable working, come to the front and are recognized by capital as providing a safe opportunity for investment.
THE TANANA GOLD FIELDS

MASON & HILL, Publishers

FRANK MASON, Editor

All communications intended for publication must bear the name and address of the writer; not necessary for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The manager will not be responsible for money unless remitted in the ordinary manner, by registered letter, postage order or draft.

FRANK MASON, Manager.

FEDERAL OFFICIALS.

Third Judicial Division.

JAMES WICK, Judge of the District Court.

A. E. HIELIG, Clerk of Court.


GEO. G. BURGESS, U. S. Marshal.

EDGAR WICKERSHAM, Deputy Commissioner.

T. C. COWLES, Postmaster.

J. N. LONG, City Attorney.

TOWN OFFICIALS.

E. T. Barnett, Mayor.

W. A. Robertson, Assessor.

Dave Potts, Clerk.

James H. Austin, Sheriff.

INTRODUCTION.

That a far-flung city of 50,000 population should spring into existence as if by magic from the face of a barren and marshy wilderness, where the vegetation is limited to a few species of grass and the trees are stunted, is an astonishing fact. The town of Fairbanks is the result of the discovery of gold on the Tanana River.

The discovery of gold in the Tanana River region was made in 1896, and the town of Fairbanks was founded in 1897. The town grew rapidly, and by 1900 it had a population of 10,000. The town is located on the Tanana River, which is a tributary of the Yukon River. The river is about 700 miles long and is one of the principal rivers of Alaska.

The town of Fairbanks is situated on the right bank of the Tanana River, about 10 miles from its mouth. The town is about 12 miles from the Yukon River.

The town is a center of trade and commerce for the surrounding country, and is a point of departure for the Yukon River, which is one of the principal rivers of Alaska.

By the late 19th century, the Tanana River region was a hub of mining activity, with many gold mining camps located along the river. The town of Fairbanks was founded in 1897, and by the early 1900s, it had become a major center of gold mining in the region.

The town of Fairbanks is a hub of commerce and industry, and is a major center of transportation.

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DESIRE PORT OF ENTRY FOR THE TANANA

The following clipping from a San Francisco newspaper has been widely circulated throughout the country. The letter itself is not very long, except perhaps in one or two instances. The comparative size of the two towns is very small, but the desire for the establishment of a port of entry has only two opponents — the two great trading companies.

The goods that are apt to be drawn from the letter are misleading. The writer of the letter does not say that the companies are at the present time selling flour for $1.50 per fifty-pound sack, butter at $1.00 per hook, and sugar at 40 cents a pound. He does not say that the two great trading companies of the north have inaugurated the price of provisions as soon as navigation closes. He says that the present price of flour is $1.50 per fifty-pound sack, and sugar at 40 cents a pound.

Chena is situated on the upper waters of the Tanana River, near the foot of the McKinley Mountains in Alaska. The Territory of the Tanana mining district is the property of the Secretary of the Treasury at Washington to have that port declared a port of entry and to take the necessary steps, with the aid of the proper authorities, to establish a port of entry.

The growth of the country has been retarded by reason of the fact that the transportation companies refuse to bring sufficient provisions for the district for the miners to live on while they work, and as a consequence, the inhabitants have been compelled to provide for their needs from their own resources. The steamer companies refuse to transport supplies and outfits purchased by miners elsewhere to be shipped to the miners, and compelled to purchase them from their own resources. The miners desire that the United States government declare Chena, the city at the head of navigation, a port of entry and that a customs officer be stationed there so that the Canadian vessels trading on the upper Yukon may compete with the two companies that now control that port of entry.

The following extract is from a report by the Secretary of the Alaska Association of Mining Companies, that the city of this city, set forth their grievances and tells something of the country that they are desirous of being opened to mining and agriculture.

Conditions exist here, which have no parallel in the placer mining history of the world. We have but two seasons, short summer and long winter, and to prospect and develop the mineral resources, hardships and privations must be endured a thousand times greater than in placer mining districts.

To aid and make possible further and more extensive developments in this land we need vastly greater supplies of machinery. We have a large number of the river steamers that can navigate the shallow waters of the Tanana River. The two big companies to whom we belong look to the river as the means of supply, but we are not able to keep the field, charge such excess prices and provide such a small amount of supplies that it is impossible for the average miner to live, and this has long been the chief obstacle.

New Steamer for Tanana

The Northern Commercial Company is running a second boat on the Tanana, which will make two trips a month between Fairbanks and Dawson. The new steamer is named the “Koyukon,” and will arrive at Fairbanks with her first load of passengers and freight on the 1st of August.

The vessel was named the Tanana. She is modeled on the same lines as the “Koyukon,” but is built for the Tanana River. The “Koyukon” is a steam ship of 140 feet over all and 40 feet beam. Her carrying capacity will include comfortable quarters for thirty passengers.

The “Tanana” will be towed by a tugboat, and will have a bimini roof over the deck. The steamer is expected to arrive in Dawson in two weeks, and will proceed up the river to make her first trip. The steamers will draw not to exceed ten and a half inches of water, and when loaded with 200 tons of freight she will draw not to exceed twenty-six feet. The “Tanana” will have the very best machinery and will have more power than the steamer “Rock Island.”

Fairbanks Prices

The following list contains a few of the prevailing prices for goods sold by the two great trading companies when they have the articles for sale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Condensed milk</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condensed cream</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>$0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn meal</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>$1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soda</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baking powder</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh onions</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>$0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcestershire sauce</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Judge Miller has moved into his new office building, next door to the telegraph office.

Charlie Columbe and Jack McGregor of Circle have some good ground on Fairbanks Creek. They will both have a good spring clearing.

J. C. Patterson wishes to say to the miners who are about to start to Circle City for provisions that they should investigate the trail by way of Baker Creek and Rampart. Mr. Patterson says Rampart is only a three days’ trip from the mouth of Glany Creek. That there is a good level trail all the way, with the exception of a small divide between Glany Hill and Rampart. He says there is no reason why miners should leave the country on account of the shortage of grub, as it can be ferried to the creeks in two to three days after the trail is broken.

Not long ago a Western Kansas politician was asked by his wife to lay aside politics long enough one day to dig the potatoes in the garden. He consented, and after digging for a few minutes went into the house and said he had found a coin. He washed it off, and it proved to be a silver dollar. He put it in his jeans and went back to work. Presently he went to the house again, and said he had found another coin. He washed the dirt off, and this time it was also a silver half dollar. He put it in his jeas. “I have worked pretty hard,” he said to his wife, “I guess I’ll take a short nap.” When he awoke he found that his wife had dug all the rest of the potatoes. But she found no coins. It then dawned upon her that she had been “worked.”

New Trading Post for Tanana

The Northern Commercial Company announce that they will establish an opening of navigation a trading post, to be located on the Tanana River at the mouth of the Koyukon. This point is known as Tanana crossing and is 140 miles above Fairbanks.
AMONG THE MINES

CREEK NOTES.

The Gilmore roadhouse is doing a good business.

John Rupp and Al Wissel are skidding a hole on a lunch claim on the left limit of Uley, opposite 1 below. They expect to reach bedrock in a few days.

On Nos. 2 and 3 above on Uley there are four holes going down.

On 3 above on Fairbanks W. A. Ross was drowned out, representing 6, 7, and 8 above. They have a small boiler on the creek.

Dr. Hipworth and others passed the creek recently on a hunting expedition.

An offer of $100 on a bedrock is made to the successful party sending an acceptable name for the metropolis now building on 1 below.

Frank McGraw has returned from the creeks this week; he reports everywhere he visited the creeks are showing up in great shape.

On 5 above on Chatham, Louie Mays has three men working; they are on big pay, and have a depth of six feet, and a pay streak that they already know is ninety feet wide. On the claim above Bob Fleming has the same pay.

There are six claims on the creek, and already twenty-five cabins have been built.

There are about eighty men working on Chatham creek. The most of them are working on two-thirds days.

On Fairbanks there are eighty-five cabins and about 200 men working. Some of the men have enough provisions to last until spring. But the most of them will be short.

On Gold Stream Wilson has three years of pay on No. 1, No. 3 Gold Stream. Don McCarthy’s claim is all let out on days. J. G. Massman, P. R. Kittell and J. Donnell have a two years’ lay on 200 feet of this ground.

The big sawmill plant that was in operation on No. 4 is now moving over to No. 4 Gold Stream.

E. G. Noyes and brother of the Tanana Lumber Co. are preparing for extensive mining operations. They have a large sawmill plant, which will soon be installed on one of their claims, where a large force will be employed in taking out big timber. They also have a small boiler and equipment that can be handled easily on oars, which will be used in prospecting on other creeks and benches.

RAMPART NOTES.

Frank McGraw returned from a trip to Rampart this week. He reports everything very quiet over in that country. There are about 200 people located upon the creeks and in the town, and a good many of these are already making preparations to come to Fairbanks.

Quite a few people will leave Rampart about the end of March for this camp. One saloon in Rampart is selling drinks for two for fifty. There seems to be plenty of provisions of all kinds for sale in Rampart. All kinds of canned goods are sold at 25 cents a can. Joe Cooper will probably move his saloon up into the mining camp. The Eagle Mining Company is not working men this winter. There are one or two places on

BMAN’S ROAD HOUSE

& Above on Chatham Creek

and he is now starting several new claims. About 200 feet of this is gold pay.

H. Waldridge is operating his boiler on his claim opposite 4 below on Fairbanks. He expects to reach bedrock in his first hole in a few days.

Joe Hoffman of the Cleary Creek roadhouse, is now enjoying a big trade from the travel between Fairbanks and Circle.

W. Stephens, on 10 above, on the left limit of his claim on Fairbanks has got down to gravel, and has already got a fair prospect. In a few days he will get one color worth about eight cents, and about four cents in fine gold. He is about seven or eight feet above bedrock.

R. H. Fleming, on 4 above, on Chatham, has commenced operations. He is building a rocker house, and has two holes nearly to bedrock.

Jim Eagle made a transfer of a number of claims to Mr. Turner of the N. C. Company. The consideration is not stated.

Two or three parties who have been hunting goods from Circle have complained of missing things along the Chena on places where they put up for the night.

Hunt, the freighter, has started back for Circle for grub. He is coming back right away, and intends working a lay on 8 below Pedro.

A. W. Bennett, formerly of the Golden City roadhouse, has taken a lay on 1 below Pedro.

Howell & Porter’s ground on Chatham is showing up well. The claims are now working on ground that will go nine cents to the pan, with about four feet of gravel. The first lay is no more abandoned this week, after sinking one hole to bedrock.

Fine, Stewarts and Nelson have just completed their claim on 3 below on Chatham.

George Light and George Wilcox have taken a lay on 2 above on Fairbanks.

Frank Baranoff is in from Aanaconda Creek. He says it has not been cold enough to sink yet.

A. E. St. George received a big lot of freight from Circle such as junk, flour, salt, candles, lye and many other articles.

Mr. W. Swanson has returned from Circle City with some of the necessities in the grub line.

Harry Amul on 2 below has gone to Circle City after some of the necessities of life.

Don McCarthy has two shafts to bedrock on 2 below on Uley, but good pay.

Carley Copeland came in from Kokomo, where good pay has been found. Ed Quinn is representing Discovery on this creek, and Melvin, Larson and McHale are

Geo. L. BINGHAM

Little Minnoch where there is quite a little gold being taken out. E. M. McAllister and hold that Frank McGraw went to Rampart after he was now working in good pay on Little Minnoch, and that it may be several months before it will be brought over here—Nows.

D. W. Tutt has two holes to bedrock on Chatham, the holes being eighty-five feet apart, and in each has four feet of 10-cent dirt.

PERTAINING TO MINES

QUERY COLUMN.

All questions addressed to this paper pertaining to mining law will be answered through this column by Mr. J. C. Kellum of Fairbanks. Send communications to the News.

Editor News—

Q.–Suppose I stake a mining claim on January 1, 1900, and do not record with the commissioner until, say,

Fairbanks in the spring of 1901.

April 15, more than ninety days after staking, could I hold my claim by recording at that time?

A.–Yes, you could hold the mining claim at any time, if you record at the proper place before any intervening rights have been made perfect.

Editor News–

Q.–Is a power of attorney good for staking a claim if it is not recorded, or is it good if one gives another a power of attorney to stake by word of mouth?

A.–Yes, a power of attorney is good if not recorded, but it is always safer to do so, if possible. A power of attorney is good by word of mouth, or as the lawyers say, it is good if given by parcel, or even verbal. If you stake a claim for John Jones, who lives in Seattle, and even if he was never in this country, and you notify Jones that you have staked a claim for him, saying where it was done, if Jones accepts your staking and ratifies your act of staking it is a good and valid location.

Editor News–

Q.–How many claims can I hold by location on the same creek?

A.–One creek claim, also one bench claim, of not more than twenty acres each.

Editor News–

Q.–How many stakes are required in staking a group of eight claims?

A.–Eight stakes are considered as but one claim, and four stakes will hold it, or even less number, if location is properly described.

Editor News–

Q.–Does a mortgage come before wages?

A.–If the mortgage comes before wages, the mortgagee begins work, on the mortgagee premises the mortgage holds title before any lien for wages.

Editor News–

Q.–Is a layman responsible for wages due for labor on a claim or is the claim good for it?

A.–The layman or lessor is alone responsible for wages for work performed on the leased property, unless the lessor or layman holds more than a household interest.

These coming in from the creeks are a unit in declaring that standing at the head of Fairbanks one is reminded of Benham, Dawson.

Napoleon Bipes has a fine saloon on Front street.
NEW DISCOVERY.

Big Quarts District Found Across the Tanana.

The Cowlitz, Jack Pomroy and Sam Barber returned lately from an extended visit to the new quartz district discovered by them last summer. The district is on the headwaters of the Black River, in the Alaskan range of mountains, and is distant from Fairbanks in a direct line, almost due south, about 100 miles, but by the route traveled is nearly 200 miles.

They located two monster lodes, one of which is 100 feet between walls and 100 feet high for fully half a mile. There are many lodes there, and float quartz can be found everywhere. They were not able to judge the character or probable value of the mineral, but think it to be a high grade silver ore, carrying a large per cent of copper. A number of samples were brought out for assaying. Some members of the party will return before spring to spend the summer in developing the property. But few locations have been made there yet.

FAIRBANKS' FIRST SOCIAL FUNCTION.

The first social function given in Fairbanks took place Thanksgiving night in the form of an invitation ball given under the auspices of the Arctic Brotherhood. The event was greatly enjoyed by all who were the party participants. The dancing was in the A. F. Hall, which was decorated tastefully and festooned in drapery style. At eleven o'clock there was a grand supper served, and the party repaired to a ball-room opposite, which had been specially fitted up for the occasion. The banquet hall was tastefully decorated with large American flags and bunting. There were two long tables the full length of the room, and one along the end. The tables were neatly spread and fitted with all the good things which go in keeping with a Thanksgiving dinner. The following were among those present: Mr. and Mrs. Kelton; Mr. and Mrs. Turner; Mr. Charles Hill, Mrs. Falcon, Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Frank Wilson; Mrs. Essie Evans, Mr. and Mrs. C. Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. Dupras, Mrs. Mitchel, Mrs. Leonard, Mrs. Werner, Mrs. Gibson; Mrs. Davis; John Ropp, Mrs. Delaney, Messrs. Dodge, Condon, Spring, Spalding, Overgard, Newman, Hall, W. H. Smith, R. D. Smith, St. George, Meenach, McMillan, Fox, Dupras, Long, Karadin, McFingel, Bennett, Wilson, John L. Long, Wiedman, Gamble, Bellows, Carter, Lindsey, Sherman, Hodges, Wood, Peterson, Benson, Rain, Parker, Weisker, Mosto, Don, Hall, Cassely, Harrington, Robertson, Miller, Judge Cowles, Crede, Weisker, Siebe, Hoffman, Taylor, Peterson, Rockwell, Wibler, Deane, Kinney, Parker, Shaw, George Matcheur, Purchase, Dr. Eise, Dr. Danforth, Oldfield, Sergeant Murphy, Sergeant Smith, and Corporal Martin.

The Fairbanks News office is prepared to fill any order for fine job printing.

Telephone for Fairbanks.

The Yukon Telephone Syndicate, with Mr. N. A. Fuller, president, will establish a telephone system at Fairbanks. The material is now on the way. The capital of the company is $50,000, according to the Daily News.

EXPRESS FOR THE CREEKS.

The Arrow Express leaves Fairbanks for the creeks on Tuesday. Some mail, goods, and small packages. The rate is 25 cents for letters and packages, 10 cents for small packages up to 5 pounds. From 1 to 10 pounds, 25 cents. Above that, 7 cents per pound. Terms cash. Leave orders at News office.

TANANA TURNS.

George Harrington of the Fairbanks has a fine garden at Chena. Though the growing season is not yet over he has turnips which will weigh 30 pounds, cabbages as large as water bottles, beets as good as can be grown anywhere, potatoes fit for the gobs, lettuce in abundance, and kale in high as Beacon Jones's fence. There is little reason why our vegetable supply can not be home grown.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

In the commissioners court Judge Cowles decided the trespass case of E. J. Jewett vs. Johnson & Meredith in favor of the plaintiffs. The gist of Judge Cowles' decision was as follows: Every man has a right to operate mining ground in the manner of his own choosing or in any other manner, excepting an original locator's right to mining ground, but such subsequent locator must stop here and he before takes possession of the ground and proceeds to work same must establish his right to mining ground in the district court until that time he is a trespasser.

AL MOCRENY ARRIVES.

Mr. Mocreney, one of the best-known miners in Alaska, arrived lately from Circle, and he intends putting in the winter here, which is sufficient evidence of his good opinion of this part of the country. Mr. Mocreney has been mining on Mastodon, and on other creeks in the Brich Creek country, since 70, and was also a heavy operator in the Kondlocke country. It is roughly estimated that Mr. Mocreney has taken enough gold out of the ground to load a mine pack-train forty miles long. If the gold had been coined into gold pieces, and were placed edge on edge they would make a string long enough to reach within a very few miles of the moon. Mr. Mocreney has a reputation as a prospector; he is never known to work a piece of ground that would not pay. It is said of him that he can tell whether ground will pay to work before ever a pick has been stuck into it.

Those who know him best say that it takes just $14,000 to make a comfortable gold stake to last him through an Arctic winter, and even then he has been known to do a little working early in the season before the ground had thawed sufficiently to get a string of boxes in operation. In order to paint a parting stroke of caricature among the rough edges of old Circle.

MINING NOTES.

H. L. Meyers of 3 Chatham rooked out 8000 in five days.

On 3 above on Fairbanks Creek they have been getting 82 to the pan.

Tom Rockwell and Sam Barber have taken a 100 foot lay on No. 9 below Fairbanks. They will take out a big dump this winter.

Two new roadhouses have opened up lately. One is the Owl House, about nine miles out of town, and the other one is on No. 5 Gold Stream.

The Gold City roadhouse, built by H. Howard, contains all the accommodations for travelers and wayfarers. There is in connection a good stable and doghouse.

Louis Lafflume, well-known the country wide as the owner of large mining interests on Mastodon and other creeks, arrived from the Circle district. He is the owner of 6 and 7 above on Pedro, where he will take out large dumps this winter.

Sam Blackburn, James and Jack McFie of Independence Creek arrived in town Monday. Those gentlemen are the owners of the creeks in 1 below on Fairbanks, where they will take out a large dump this winter.

TELEGRAPH FACILITIES.

Fairbanks is in direct communication with all the rest of the world. The United States government telegraph line extending from there to Dawson connects with the telegraph line of the Canadian government; from there the telegraph travels by way of Assarat, R. C., and from thence the messages are mostly handled by the Western Union Telegraph Company. The rates for messages from Fairbanks to cities along the coast is about $5.00 for ten words.

The Marconi system has been installed along the Tanana River from Fort Gibson to Chena. So far the workmen engaged in adjusting the wireless system of telegraph have been unable to accomplish anything like satisfactory results. The uneven nature of the country is a serious bar to the successful working of the system, especially where powerful machinery has not been installed to generate sufficient electric energy to attract the desired wave.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

A 25-horsepower boiler, a 4 and a 6-inch centrifugal pump, and a steam saw have been installed on 3 below Fairbanks.

John L. Long is the mining recorder for Fairbanks district. Mr. Long is also the check of the court for Fairbanks, and a member of the city council, having received the largest number of votes cast in the recent election.

Mears, Rossland, Marcum and Deschamps, who have been working a lode on Discovery, Chatham Creek, arrived in town Thursday with a fine cleanup. The last ten days, from September 5 to 15, with one man shoveling in, 54 ounces was cleaned up.

A contract has been let for the erection of a two-story hotel on the Butler & Gibson lot, just above the Commissioners' office, on First Avenue. The dimensions of the structure will be 50x100 feet, and it is the intention of the owners to have a first-class hotelery in every particular.

Between forty and fifty buildings are now in course of construction, and others are being started daily. Fairbanks is the largest log cabin town in the world to-day, and the number of buildings will soon be doubled. There are but few vacant buildings there now under construction, are not for rent, and the population of the town is rapidly increasing.

DICK MORRIS.
NEWS CLIPPINGS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The Goldspatere Strike.

There is every reason to believe that the reported rich strike made late last fall somewhere in the Goldspatere region is proving good, although nothing definite is known about it yet. Five men on their way from Dawson to the southern slope of the Tanana, are supposed to have made the discovery. One of the party returned to Dawson early in the summer, with $2,000 in dust, and after securing a supply of provisions the party, with one intimate friend, returned to the hills.

The discovery was made by accident. While boiling down some stream—supposed to be the Goldspatere—good looking wash was discovered on the rim of a high bluff. A stop was made for dinner, and while the preparations were in progress, a wash-dish of the top gravel was tried, which yielded 24 cents. Camp was pitched, and further prospecting developed an extensive deposit of fabulous red gravel.

Mining operations were at once commenced. Some of the men carried the gravel down from the bluff in panniers, while others washed it at the river bank with a rocker. In this crude way several thousand dollars were cleaned up before winter, when development work was vigorously prosecuted.

Dr. Molitor was indirectly interested in the discovery, and was invited to join the miner on his return to the find; but as all arrangements had been completed to

Stampede Now On.

A party of three men from Chena, composed of Messrs. Sullivan, Smith and Harry Kato, a Jap, returned from an extended prospecting trip in the foothills of the Alaskan range of mountains, which forms the southern wall of the Tanana. On the eve of their departure for home they discovered an unexplored section that they have every reason to believe will prove on further investigation to be rich. Their own research was prolonged to the limit of their supply of provisions, which was nearly exhausted when the locality was reached.

The story of the strike, so far as the News has been able to learn, is as follows: About seventy miles southeast of Fairbanks, on an unnamed creek tributary to the Tanana, the prospectors found wash that yielded six cents to the pan in the gravel. As a result of the prospecting, $200 was brought to town. Bill Chamberlain of Fairbanks, who grub-staked the party, returned at once with them to the locality for the purpose of making further investigation.

Even the meager news that found its way to the public created considerable excitement, and several stampede parties were formed, only to meet an untimely end in the incident stage, for want of information.

A party of about twenty, however, composed of men

from both Fairbanks and Chena, took the trail in the hope that they might follow it in. The prospectors only left the claim area for themselves and one for Mr. Chamberlain on each of the creeks discovered.

The first discovery was christened Japan Creek. Chena Creek and Golden Gulch were staked and named next in their order, and no further search was made. The gold exhibited was coarse, and showed but little wash.

D. Ryan of Skagway has opened a cigar store on Front street.

William Prendergast, John McNeill and Mike Wendell, who have been working a tree-thrirds lay of 2 above on Pedro, made a good clean-up last week. After a three days' run, with five men shoveling in, $1,500 was taken out of the boxes. News.

Carry Large Pokes.

While on his way to San Francisco for machinery, G. C. West was interviewed by a Sinking guide reporter, with the following result:

Mr. C. L. West arrived direct from Tanana, for which place he left Dawson last March.

Mr. West, when met by a guide correspondent, was somewhat reluctant about speaking of the Tanana, as he does not desire to pose as a booster. Pressed for information, however, he said that the past two months had wrought a wonderful change in the Tanana country, as he has no occasion to do so; that the country is being opened up and is showing good pay on all the creeks worked. Every man carries a good pole, and many of them are well filled.

On claim 2 above on Pedro, Costa Brothers are working from twenty-five to thirty men, and their cleanup will compare favorably with those of some of the best paying claims in the Klondike. Within the past two months prospecting throughout the country has been extensively carried on, new creeks have been found in many places, giving to the Tanana what Mr. West considers the basis for a prosperous mining camp for many years to come.


DARE CASCADEN

Burn Cabin for Signal.

As the steamer Koyuktuk was preparing to leave her wharf at Batts on her trip to Fairbanks, her captain was approached by a party who requested him to delay departure for a while, as they were waiting for a party of two on the creeks who were desirous of leaving for Fairbanks. The captain said it was impossible to delay, but that he expected to be hung up on a bar four miles below town, and suggested that if the parties came in they would see the smoke from the steamer, and they could signal him by setting fire to a cabin and he would await their coming. The incident is suggestive of the feeling of all who are leaving the Koyuktuk. The working out of a placer district is always sure to place the district town along the number of deserted towns, such as are found in Nevada and Idaho. Battery is now among the "has beens."
MEN WHO HAVE MADE THE COUNTRY

Miller Thossteen.

One of the most energetic and enterprising of the old-time miners in the district is Miller Thossteen. He was born in Decatur, Ill., December 6, 1872. At the age of 7 years his father moved to Keeney County, Neb., where the young man attended school until the spring of 1890, when he went to Oklahoma to try his ability to build up a fortune for himself. There he gained much experience, but profited but little. The next year he moved to Lyons, Colo., where he spent one season. The following year he returned to his old home in Nebraska, where he tried farming and stockraising, but with poor success. In 1897 he went to Montana, to try his fortune at mining, but shortly after his arrival there he was attacked with the Klondike gold fever, and went to California in winter, on his way to the Yukon.

Upon his arrival at Dawson Mr. Thossteen took a lay on the famous Poverty Bar, 12 below on Bonanza Creek, where he made a handsome sum of money. In 1899 he joined the stampede to Nome, found nothing, and went to his home in Nebraska to spend the winter.

In the spring of 1901 he came to Fairbanks, in the Circle district, and finally settled in the fall, on Deadwood, in the Birch Creek section. In December of the same year he landed, with others from that region, on Cherry Creek, near Fairbanks.

Here he acquired title to an undivided half interest in 9 below on Gold Stream for doing the representation work, and found flattering prospects. He also staked a fraction of 175 feet on the right limit of 8 below on the same stream, where he has constructed a comfortable home and has good ground. He also has an undivided half interest in 20 below, 10 above, and 6 below, and in 6 below, left limit, Picot, which is also very promising property. Other interests acquired by Mr. Thossteen are 9 below Eldorado; 1 above, right half, Dome Creek; the Bluebird, half interest in three claims on Engineer Creek; bench 5 below, right limit, Spruce; Elsie, below, left limit, Miller, and a twenty-year lease of hydraulic ground on Fourth of July Hill.

Development work this winter will undoubtedly prove many of these claims to be rich.

Edward M. Crain.

Edward M. Crain left Yukon City, Chl, in the spring of 1899, to try his luck in the far North West. He was a passenger on the ill-fated "Corona," and saved practically nothing of his outfit when the vessel went down.

But with Mr. Crain, as with the class of men by whom this northern country was settled, the loss of an outfit was only an incident, and didn't in any way affect his determination to "see what was up there." Mr. Crain prospected in the Indian River country, after arriving in the Klondike, and with the prospector's usual luck. When the Faith Creek stampede took place in 1899 he was one of the number to come down river from Dawson. Not finding anything to his liking, he returned to the Dawson country, where he stayed until the reports of the finding of gold in the Tanana basin again hired him, with hundreds of others, to the new diggings.

Mr. Crain will always be intimately identified with the early history of this camp, for it was due to the efforts of himself and his partners, Charles Mack and George Aschenfelder, that gold in paying quantities was first discovered on Fairbanks Creek. After arriving in this camp—in March, 1903—the three partners went over to Fairbanks Creek to hunt in some meat that had been explored there, and while the other two were hunting in the meat Mr. Crain commenced sinking a hole adjoining the left limit of No. 3 above Discovery, at the mouth of a tributary which was named "Crain Gulch," in honor of him.

On the 16th of April bedrock was reached and a good bedrock gravel shown. Then with the help of some neighbors and the partners' secretary on Fairbanks and its tributaries, they smelted a sample and found almost 200 of the available property on the creek and benches, and thus was found a creek which so far has proved to be one of the best producers in the district.

Judge J. C. P. Kellem.

One of the oldest and most talented legal advisers in Alaska to-day is Judge J. C. P. Kellem. Judge Kellem was born in Kansas City, Mo., in 1831. After graduating from the high school of that city he entered Harvard, where he received the degree of B.A. in 1857. He then entered the law school of the University of Missouri, where he earned the degree of B.L. in 1879, and took a post-graduate course in Columbia Law School of New York in 1886. He then practiced law in Kansas City until 1896, when he was appointed United States District Attorney of Arizona by President Cleveland. Upon Mr. Cleveland's re-election he was again appointed to the same office, and distinguished himself in several notable instances.

In 1888 Judge Kellem came to Dawson, where he accepted a lucrative position as legal advisor with one of the leading law firms of that city, not being allowed to practice in the Canadian courts, on account of his nationality. In 1899 he moved to Circle City, where he enjoyed a good practice for two years, but finally turned his attention to mining, which occupation he has followed profitably since. In January, 1903, he visited the Fairbanks district, and being greatly impressed with the showing made and the outlook for the future, he established himself here. Besides till valuable city property acquired by Judge Kellem, he has interests in 17 below, a side claim off 6 above, and fractions of 400 feet between 13 and 14 and 15 and 16 above on Fairbanks Creek; a one-fourth interest in 4 above on Chaly; three eight-claim groups on Fish Creek, which are considered very valuable, besides a large number of other claims in different sections of the district, which have not been prospected.

Commissioner James T. Cowles.

One of the progressive spirits of the country is United States Commissioner James T. Cowles. Judge Cowles is a native son of the State of Washington, having been born at Olympia on January 10, 1876. He graduated with high honors from the high school of that city, after which he entered the engineering department of the United States Army, civil service branch, employed in the construction of the jetty at Gray's Harbor, Wash. Studied law one year under Claypool & Grinage at Tacoma, and in the year 1899 he entered the law school of the University of the State of Washington and was in the first class to graduate from that institution. In 1901, when he received the degree of LL.B., in the spring of the same year he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State of Washington, and left in June, 1901, for Circle City, Alaska, where he practiced his chosen profession for eighteen months.

In the beginning of the early summer of this discovery and arrived at the present site of Fairbanks in Febru-
The TANA Gold Fields

ary, 1866. Shortly after his arrival here the miners petitioned the District Court to appoint Mr. Cowles Commissioner of the new district, and in April official notification of the appointment was received.

Aside from the other interests acquired by Judge Cowles here, he is the owner of an undivided one-half interest in claim No. 8 on Little Minkon Creek, the first place where pay was found on that creek. Discovery on Cowles Creek, as well as interests on a large number of other creeks and claims to other mines, are the property of Mr. Cowles, the profits arising therefrom being the result of his business men in well known in Alaska as well as in the Yukon.

Mr. Fred B. Parker, the enterprising junior member of the firm of Cowles & Parker, is now (1866) in the full swing of his mining generation. He is a native of Seattle, Wash., and is the son of F. A. Parker, the well-known Fugit Sound sawmill owner and prospector of the old time. His abilities as a land speculator are so well known that he is in a position to do business, and his name and reputation are known on the coast.

He spent two profitable seasons mining at Nome just prior to coming here, and the information gained will be of great aid in his future operations.

David Petree

One of the most resourceful and popular business men in the community is David Petree. Mr. Petree was born in Sweden on January 31, 1866. After receiving a college education he entered the Royal Custom House at Stockholm, where he remained three years, and in 1899 came to America, landing at New York in June of that year. In 1868 he became the permanent secretary of the Custom House, Seattle, Wash., and in 1899 he came to Alaska.

Mr. Petree has been active in mining operations in Alaska, and has been successful in all of his undertakings. He is a man of enterprise and ability, and is well known in the mining world for his successful operations.

Carroll & Parker Lumber Co.

The establishment of Carroll & Parker Lumber Co. in Fairbanks was fraught with many difficulties. The enterprise and industrious owners started from Dawson with the mule team on March 1st, 1867, and arrived in Fairbanks on March 14th, after a journey of over 400 miles. The first five horses and ten sleds, via the Ketchikan route. The trail to the summit of that lofty range was all that could be described as a thoroughfare. The trip was a blizzard, and the loads were left until a new trail could be made. Meanwhile the party pushed on to the military station, across the divide. Besides the hardships endured, they all from their faces, and none of the party suffered from frostbites on various limbs. The storm abated after two days, when the weather started to moderate, and traveling became comparatively easy. The journey was resumed without serious mishap, and many obstacles were endured. The cut from Ketchikan to the Goodpasture is covered with glaciers many miles across and hundreds of miles in length. All the streams having their source in this glacial field are food. The expedition was a successful experiment, and proved that an independent, self-sustaining, and travelable on the ice all but impossible. But the trail over the glaciers was excellent and good roads were made.

About 80 miles from the mouth of the Goodpasture river was wiped out. The snow 3-4 feet deep was cut, constituting the interior water in the cut, cut, but 10 inches of water. From this point the trail to Fairbanks was made in seven days, the large coming through the town on April 1st, 1867. The month of the Goodpasture is a broad, lake-like country, unsurpassed in scenery and natural beauty. Arriving at the location of the establishment, the first mill in operation was wrecked, and the mill in operation were kept busy the entire season. The price of lumber dropped from $3000 to $1000 per thousand feet, and the profits realized were $5000. The owners also secured some valuable mining ground in the country, which they intend to develop.

Mr. Charles Carroll, the senior partner of the firm, is a resident of San Francisco, Cal. He is a broker by trade, and prior to his departure for the Tana was the owner of some of the leading restaurants of Dawson and prospector of the Goodpasture.

Jack Walsh

Jack Walsh was born in Youngstown, O., in 1865. He graduated from the high school of that place, and at an early age, having developed a strong taste for mechanics, entered the employ of Mr. J. A. Campbell of the Republic Lumber Co., where his ideas were so favorable that he was made foreman, and was soon the best known in camp. His ambition was so great that advancement followed in rapid succession, until he gained the position of chief mechanic, with which position he held his for the Klondike in 1897. In 1899 he was married to Isabella, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Wilkinson, of Youngstown, the playmate of his childhood and companion of his youth. Isabella, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Wilkinson, of Youngstown, the playmate of his childhood and companion of his youth.

Recently Jack Walsh went to the Yukon in 1899, where he spent three years mining. He then came to Fairbanks, where he became one of the most successful prospectors in the district, and undoubtedly has some good property. He will develop some of the best work in the district.

George Harrington

Fairbanks has many business men. Among the most successful is Mr. George Harrington. Mr. Harrington is one of the heavy operators on the creeks, and owes his reputation in part to his ability as a prospector. His success is due to his ability as a prospector. His success is due to his success in the discovery of the old Buck Hill mine, which he opened and worked for several weeks last summer. He has been a successful prospector in the Klondike, and undoubtedly has some good property. He will develop some of the best work in the district.
THE TANANA GOLD FIELDS

Frank J. Cloury.

Frank J. Cloury was born in Minnesota, in the year 1877, and is, therefore, 20 years old. Early in life he moved with his father to Montana, where he entered the State University. Having undertaken his studies, he took a general course in civil engineering. On the eve of his graduation he left that noted institution of learning to accept a post in the engineering department of the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1899, after a faithful and meritorious career of five years, he was transferred to the flag department of the same railroad, and was sent to the position of Examiner of Lands. In the winter of 1901, he resigned this position to come to the Tanana, to take part in the rush of gold mining which was just then beginning. In March following he was appointed to the position of Examiner of Lands, and has been engaged in this work ever since, and has been employed in various capacities in connection with the Tanana mining district.

Mr. Cloury is a native of Michigan, where he was born in 1873.

Jack Costa.

As a conservative business man, miner, and prospector, Jack Costa is known throughout the Yukon valley. In his youth he followed mining and prospecting, drifted to many regions, and finally settled in the state of Washington, where he engaged in his chosen profession. Thrifty and frugal by nature, he has saved a handsome sum of money, and is now the owner of a large mining claim, which he has done nothing to the state of Washington, where he is engaged in his chosen profession. Thrifty and frugal by nature, he has saved a handsome sum of money, and is now the owner of a large mining claim, which he has done nothing to improve or develop. He has purchased a large store of supplies at Fort Yukon, and in the summer of 1907, freighted the outfit to Circle City and Dawson, where it was received and loaded with at prices that left a handsome profit. The venture having been so profitable, he continued until five trips had been made, when he took contracts to haul furs and skins to Dawson from the creeks for 40 cents per foot, and in this manner secured a good "grub stock" for some time to come. He then retired to Circle City over the ice and resumed mining.

The winter of 1889 was spent in prospecting on his own claim, and in the summer of the following year, Mr. Costa visited his old home in the "States." On his return over the ice in the fall of 1890 he spent most of his time at the mouth of the Tesoro, and made considerable money out of the venture. The summer of 1890 was consumed in the stampede to Fairbanks, where he remained until the fall of 1891, when he again replenished his fortunes by operating in Dawson, and spent the winter prospecting on the Saha, Beaver, and the headwaters of the China.

Here he had the hardest experience of his whole career as a prospector. The storms for the winter were so severe that time was made up to Captain Barnet. His trading post was on the edge of a 600-foot valley, and was 30 miles from the nearest railroad station. He was served by a small steamer, which was 10 miles from the trading post. The provisions were not good, and the weather was very bad. He managed to keep himself warm, but his goods were frozen. His camp was finally reached, and the winter was spent with great difficulty. The provisions were nearly exhausted, and as there was no place to go in the summer of 1892, he remained until late in the summer of 1892. This circumstance is narrated to give the readers an idea of the hardships endured by the pioneers of the country.

Upon his arrival in the Fairbanks District in the fall of 1890, Mr. Costa entered No. 5, 6, 7, and 8 on Cloury, 7 above on Gilmore, 16 below and a bench on the left limit of 6 above on Fairbanks, 1 above on Treadwell, and 2 below on Doane.

After securing what ground he wanted, Mr. Costa began at once to develop his property. Two above on Treadwell, was opened first, and up to this writing remains the banner claim in the district for "quicksilver." Cloury and Fairbanks were also very rich, and most of those, as well as several hundred feet on Pedro, were left out on their claims, securing a good cleanup in the spring. These claims, as well as his faithful old dog Jocko, are not for sale.

Frank Costa.

The old townsite, that there was no country on earth where a man could find a better place than in the Tanana, can no longer be written. Mr. Frank Costa, a typical "swinging," and one of the most energetic and persistent stakers of the district, on his return to the bush, he was followed by his friends and admirers, having at the age of 37 years, 6 months, and 5 days in the spring of 1897, at the age of 37 years, he outlived the old stampede to the Klondike. A few days in Dawson saw the last of the bush, but he was not the place for him, and he took a boat for Circle City, from which place good reports had been received. At Circle City he exhibited and turned at once to the Seventy Mile, where he opened up some ground, but 38 per day was the best pay found after diligently prospecting the ground, and the camp was abandoned. On his return down the river he prospected Washington and Fourth of July Creeks, with no better results, and finally returned to Circle in 1898. The same year in company with Felix Pedro, he crossed the divide at the head of Malcolm and came down the Chetine some distance. The prospects not being very promising, they crossed over to the country to the Little and Big Chena, the Selah, and the Goodpasture. Many of the streams in the Fairbanks district were crossed over by them, and a map was made of the country, with the intention of ultimately returning. Good surface prospects were obtained on Fish Creek, but no holes were sunk, as they were trying to develop Pedro's lost gold.

In 1901 Mr. Costa and Ed Quinn returned to this district, visiting Willow, Fish, Bear, and other creeks. Later in the summer they visited Barnette's trading post, where Pedro was now located, and they replenished their supplies, built a boat, and went up the Chena River to the mouth of the north fork. Here they spent the winter prospecting on Beaver, Em, and other creeks, returning to Circle City early in the spring.

In August, 1902, Mr. Costa returned to Pine Creek to complete some work he had started the previous winter, and in the fall came down to Pedro Creek, arriving about August 15th, a large deposit was discovered.

From the date of his arrival in the country until the discovery of gold, he was either working or in the bush, and he kept among the best in the country. Most of his gold is opened up, and many men are working on the same. Mr. Costa's knowledge of the country, his quickness of judgment, and his ability to get along with the men, make him a great aid to him in determining the property's value of a location, for he was one of the first to stake on many of the creeks. His property ranks among the very best.
THE TANANA GOLD FIELDS

William H. Himes.

William H. Himes was born in Pennsylvania in 1863. In early life he followed farming, and then mining as a trade. He later took up the mining business, and the gold rush of 1899 led him to combine lumbering with his duties during the dull winter months. In 1893 he visited the lumber woods of Michigan, where he spent a profitable year, finally drifting to Chicago, where he engaged in sawmilling and the wholesale furnishing of freight cars for the lumber dealers.

He went to Montana for the purpose of engaging in stock raising. Here he spent nine years, but not meeting with success with his hogs, he moved to Dakota, where he engaged in farming. A life spent in the heavily wooded hills of his former home had wholly untaught him to the habits of the larger number or men employed. The property was well opened up, pay having been located over 100 feet in width, the entire value of the claim being in the two horses. He did not have to dump himself this winter, and has five haysmen working besides. The other properties will be diligently prospected, and it is feared that he will ultimately become producing, as gold has been found in the gravel bars of all streams.

S. R. Weiss.

S. R. Weiss left his home in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in 1872, for Dawson, where he secured some valuable property, notable among which was a claim on Monte Cristo hill, which for years has been a big producer and a bench on lower Dominon, where good pay was found in the fall of 1892. During the summer of 1893, Weiss was always busy making a claim on the lower limit of his claim, but not having been located, he returned to Dawson, where he was working his property. While in Dawson, he met Mr. Weiss, who was working on the claim, and they decided to go to Circle City with a friend to come at once to Fairbanks. Leaving his interests there in charge of a trusted agent, he left to return to Dawson, where he was employed in the business of the Northway, and was a well known and respected citizen.

Michael Burns.

Another miner in this galaxy of typical "four dollar" miners was born in Pennsylvania and educated in Chicago. Being of an energetic and restless spirit, at the age of 16 he left for the boundless West, finally settling on the Yukon. In 1899 he located and worked on the famous Silver Creek, which was not worked at when news was received of the discovery of gold across the divide near the center or on the most favorable sites of the different tracts of land which then were not fully assessed. After a hard and varied experience in the country, he has finally secured a sufficient fortune to place him in a position where he can afford to retire and enjoy the fruits of his labors.

Unlike many of the stampers from the south, Mr. McCarty passed Isabella and Engineer Creeks, and pushed on over the mine of Elrodine, where he staked Discovery. He next staked 5 below on Gold Stream, 1 above on Fairbanks, Discovery and 2 above on Cold Creek, all on Fox Creek. Though he could have looked on many streams, he contented himself with his holdings, and at once set about to develop them. This is Gold Stream, Fairbanks, Cold Creek, and Circle City, which are among the big producers of the district.

Mr. McCarty is taking out a big dump on 2 below on Circle City this winter, where a large force of men is employed. The pay streak has been located 100 feet in depth, six feet wide, and averages 32 cents in the pound. The limit has not been reached on either side. Four lines have been let on this claim for the winter. The spring clean-up here should be as large as that on Circle City. Two lines have been let on 5 below Gold Stream. Both are also in good pay, but owing to the latter being at the late date, the spring clean-up will not be so large. However, the ground is very rich, and the pay streak extends. The pay streaks on both the mine of Fairbanks and Circle City have not yet been developed, they will be thoroughly explored as soon as provisions can be had in the spring.

John McCarty.

John McCarty, known as "Al," as he is known by his numerous friends, is one of the wealthy men of the district. He is a native of Indiana, and is 34 years old. In 1889, he joined in the rush to Dawson, where he spent a profitable year at mining. The year following he went down the Yukon to Circle City, and went to the mines on Eagle Creek, which became his future headquarters and fountain of supplies, but most of the time was devoted to prospecting the various mineral tracts of the Tanana. In the fall of 1899 he visited the headwaters of the Independence, and the following year went with Felix Pedro to the Tanana, where a pay streak was discovered by working under present conditions, and that stream was abandoned.

The summer of 1902 was well spent when Mr. Hilly, while on his return from a long trip through the mountains, reached Captain Barnett's trading post, just as the discovery of gold made by Pedro was reported. He started at once for the creeks, and as the country was well known to him by reason of his former trips up and down the river, he was one of the first to reach what is now the present best part of the district. He staked 3 below and a bench on the right limit of 2 below on Circle City, 1 below on Cold Creek, 8 below on Gold Stream, and Discovery on Nugget. He could have staked on Fairbanks, but did not, as he was entirely satisfied with the country, and he being thoroughly convinced that he had pay on his other claims, which would occupy all of his attention. The present season's work has been staking 1, 2 below Circle City, and 1, 2 below on Wolf, on Peary and Discovery on Glimore. The work completed in 1899 was employed in opening up 1 below on Circle City, where a large plant of machinery has been installed. The pay streak has been the best on Circle City this year, and the limit has not yet been reached. The thickness of the pay streak is now three inches, the average value of the pay streak is 12 1/2 cents in the pound. The spring clean-up will amount to at least $100,000.
THE TANANA GOLD FIELDS

Mr. Meekin.

One of the most enterprising and active business men in the country, as well as one of the wealthiest property holders, is Mathew Meekin. Mr. Meekin was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1848. After receiving a thorough education in the schools of his native city, he entered upon an apprenticeship at ship carpentering in one of the best yards of Montreal. Here he learned the business of wood work naturally fitted him for bridge building, and after a preliminary course of instruction in this line he followed contracting and building for several years, with both profit and credit to himself. In 1872 he changed the scenes of his operations from Canada, and took up mining in Idaho. Here he followed his vocation for many years. He became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1883.

In 1897 he came to the Tanana, where he followed mining for three years, and in 1900 he visited Nome to try his fortune there. Not meeting with flattering success, he went to Fairbanks in 1902 and accepted a position in the shipyard of the N. C. Co., his traveling expenses having been paid. In July of the same year he added in the construction of the Isabella, then being built for Captain Guitiere, and came on that staunch little craft to Fairbanks, arriving here on September 8th of that year. When the Isabella arrived fairly, many of the creeks had been swept, and former men now gone, Meekin and Dan A. McCarty set out in quest of something new, and after laboriously working their way across the divide, finally discovered Fairbanks Creek, where they both staked themselves and their friends.

By the time winter set in and Mr. Meekin had time to take an inventory of his holdings consisted of the following properties, some of which are yet untraveled in richness in the district, if not in Alaska: N. 3 4 and 4 above, 1 claim on Fairbanks; 1, 2, 3 and 4 of 4 on Gold Stream; 6 above, 1 claim on Bear Creek; 5 above, 1 claim on South Fork; 2 above, 1 claim on Ananusa, 4 below on McCarty, 2 below, 1 below on West Creek, 1 claim on Flying Fish Creek. Beside these he has many other claims that were staked for him by friends.

Since that time his has been fully occupied in developing his properties, many of which have been found to be rich. He will spend the winter drifting on a fraction at the mouth of Chatham Creek, where he has some very rich ground.

++

Thomas M. Gilmore.

Thomas M. Gilmore, the subject of the above photograph, is a typical "sourdough." He was born in the thriving village of Morning Sun, Iowa, in 1860, and is therefore 37 years old.

At the age of 15 he left his home in Iowa for Aspen, Colorado, where he engaged in mining. Not meeting with the success he thought his energy, as well as his ambition and merits warranted, he visited, other sections of the state, where he met with varying success.

By practicing rigid economy, untrusting energy and frugality he had saved a tidy sum by the year 1891, when he moved to California, where for two years he engaged in fruit raising and farming. But his experience of ten years in the richest mineral regions of that most wonderful of states, Colorado, had wholly uninfected him for either a farmer or fruit raiser, and as the yearly output was not in proportion to his ideas, he gave up the business in the fall of 1893, sold his interests and returned to Colorado, where he engaged in mining.

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During the winter of 1897 the reports of the fabulous riches of the Klondike and Alaska were generally circulated throughout the mining regions of the Pacific States, and Mr. Gilmore was among the first to take the fever. Accordingly, he purchased an extensive outfit of provisions, clothing, tools, and all the necessities pertaining to the trip, and left early in the year for the frozen North. He was among the first to cross Chilkoot Pass, and taking the old Dalton trail, reached the Yukon River at Fort Selkirk just as the ice commenced to move in the spring. The trip down the river was easily accomplished, and Mr. Gilmore and his party were among the first to reach Dawson from the outside world.

Soon after arriving here he joined a stampede to Dominion Creek, where he staked claim No. 5 above Upper Discovery. During the summer he was unable to locate anything of value, and as his prospects seemed insufficient for his needs for another year, Dawson was visited, with the intention of replenishing. But upon his arrival the Chena on August 24th of the same year. Mr. Eagen left the winter of ’97 and spent the winter of ’98 on Upper Discovery, a claim of over one hundred and fifty men. He then moved to Dawson and, with a capital of $10,000, proceeded to take stock in the claim, and took a new float for Circle City, where provisions were to be had in plenty.

From here he went to the Chena District, where he literally drifted to the Birch Creek district, where he engaged in mining. After three years of hard work here, Mr. Gilmore, in company with Felix Pedro, Charles Colburn, Bert Johnson, Tom Jarack and Perry Bartlett, started on a long and fruitless search for a creek which had once been discovered by Mr. Pedro, in 1896, while on his way down the Tanana, and could not be found. The party came down Pedro Creek and Gold Stream, then crossed to Fish Creek and the Little Chena, where their provisions gave out, and they returned by way of Captain Barmette’s trading post, which had but just been established. The journey was the most difficult to the hills, but the credit in question was not discovered. However, gold was found on Gold Stream, and good prospects were located at the mouth of Fish Creek Pastures, which were visited and part of the party, with the exception of Mr. Pedro, returned to their homes near Circle City. Considerable work had been done on Bear Creek, and Mr. Pedro returned below to continue prospecting. The other party, with an agreement having been made for him to keep what provisions could be spared, and to send word to his companions what discoveries they had made.

Accordingly, in the latter part of August of the year 1902, Mr. Gilmore received word from Mr. Ed Ginn that Pedro had found pay and was opening up the ground. (Bear Creek was deep and wet, so he had crossed the divide to Pedro Creek, located discovery, and found pay. He had difficulty in locating the creek.) Mr. Gilmore, at once disposed of his holdings and departed for the new discovery, where he arrived on September 1st. His stake is located on a claim where he has good pay, and 3 above on Gilmore, which creek bears his name.

During the spring and summer of 1893 Mr. Gilmore built a warm and roomy roadhouse at the forks of Pedro and Gilmore Creeks, where he cordially expected a long bright little winter. The roadhouse was built and opened for business in the near future. At least, it provides a comfortable home for himself at present, and a pleasant rendezvous for his hosts of friends who are passing to and fro over the trail between Fairbanks and Circle City. The location, besides being in the direct line of travel, is also near the present center of the district.

J. H. Patten.

J. H. Patten is a bustling Alaskan pioneer, who has achieved success through his ability to make things move whether they would or no. He has been a resident of Fairbanks for many years. In 1907 he located at Skagway, and at one time embarking in the freighting business over the White Pass. Here he saved sufficient capital to enter the mercantile business, and forming a partnership with Mr. Bishop, a general store was opened at Atlin. After a short but successful career here Mr. Patten returned to Fairbanks, where he has since been engaged in the business of Fairbanks Bank, 1 on Calder, limit 10 below, limit 10 below, limit 10, bear, and interests on several other creeks which have not yet been prospected. As additional note a fair reputation of Fairbanks located a sightly piece of property on which he has erected the Third Avenue Hotel, the best and largest hotel in the city. The place is modern in both appointment and equipment, being supplied with baths, a large furnace in the basement and warm stables for both horses and dogs. No provision is made for a dance hall, but Patten declares that no liquor will be dispensed in the house so long as he remains its host. It is located on the corner opposite the courthouse square and commands a good view of the river and surrounding country.
The discovery of gold in the Fairbanks district was received with great enthusiasm. Preparations to invite the large number of prospectors were soon completed, and the trip was made over the ice and snow to Fairbanks.

Arriving at Fairbanks, Mr. Decemng soon formed a partnership with Mr. William James, and together they commenced mining operations. They secured a 500-foot fraction of the lower end of 7 below. No pay had been discovered on the creek, but they had faith in the country, and were determined to pursue their efforts on other streams, in the hope that one of them would develop into a producer. They also secured 14 below, both on the lower and middle forks of 7 below, and a fraction of 4 above and 4 below, on the left limit, below, on the same creek; 3 below on Pilot 1, and 4 on Pilot 3, in the Fairbanks, 4 on a claim, No. 1, and a fraction off 1 above on Cottage, 1 on Kanmat, 1 on Evans Gulch, a tributary of Fairbanks, and 4 on Walton.

Early in the spring an arrangement was made with Commissioner Cowles for sinking three holes to bedrock on Fairbanks property—8 below for 200 feet of ground off the upper end of his claim, which adjusted their fraction. This task was completed by the end of June, the shafts being from 3 to 5 feet in diameter, and from 5 to 20 cents to the pan. The pay streak was 7 feet thick and over 100 feet broad, the limit not being reached on either side of the shafts. The results of this work were reported in July, and the news of this discovery made a glorious Fourth of July in town, where the value of creek claims was on the increase, and the best claims on Fairbanks Creek could be purchased at prices ranging from $600 to $2500.

One of those who joined the Decemng Brothers, who for six years were the champions bicycle riders of British Columbia, both on the track and for all distances.

William James.

William James was born in Berks., Pa., in 1874. At the age of 6 years he moved with his parents to Amador County, Cal., where he attended the public schools until 1886, when he went to Carbondale, Washington. Having won first prize in a mine which was located in the town of Fairbanks, he engaged in mining on this famous claim to learn the trade, and continued there until 1894, when he took up a residence in Cumber-land, B. C., where he soon found profitable employment in the mines of that district. In 1895, having laid by a considerable sum of money, he joined the rush to Dawson, where he engaged in mining and joined in many of the stampedes that followed.

In 1900 Mr. James decided to visit Kuskokwim, and after lying in a large lot of supplies, started down the Yukon close behind the moving ice in a small boat. He was in the lead in the rush for gold that summer. Upon his arrival there he was induced to join a stampede that was then being inaugurated at Fairbanks, and he engaged in mining on this new district. Soon after he left the lead, his claims were purchased by Mr. Decemng, and one of the prominent mining men in the district.

Fred Deeming.

Fred Deeming was born in England in 1875, where he received a practical education. In 1897 he crossed the Atlantic to British Columbia, where he followed mining and prospecting during the most favorable seasons. He was one of the first mining men to see the possibilities of the Fairbanks district, and he immediately formed a partnership with Mr. William James, and together they commenced mining operations at Fairbanks. They secured a 500-foot fraction of the lower end of 7 below. No pay had been discovered on the creek, but they had faith in the country, and were determined to pursue their efforts on other streams, in the hope that one of them would develop into a producer. They also secured 14 below, both on the lower and middle forks of 7 below, and a fraction of 4 above and 4 below, on the left limit, below, on the same creek; 3 below on Pilot 1, and 4 on Pilot 3, in the Fairbanks, 4 on a claim, No. 1, and a fraction off 1 above on Cottage, 1 on Kanmat, 1 on Evans Gulch, a tributary of Fairbanks, and 4 on Walton.

The discovery of gold in the Fairbanks district was received with great enthusiasm. Preparations to invite the large number of prospectors were soon completed, and the trip was made over the ice and snow to Fairbanks.
THE TANANA GOLD FIELDS

HISTORICAL

When Alexander Mackenzie descended the mighty river which bears his name, in 1790, he did not dream of another mighty river between himself and the Pacific Ocean. Still later (in 1800), when he made his renowned journey from the heart of the continent up Peace River and across New Caledonia (now British Columbia) to the Pacific, he knew not that a new route was being sought for the drift of the vast territory to the north of him drained by the Yukon. The Russian, Mal'kof, who in 1838 explored its lower course and ascended it to its junction with the Koyukuk, knew nothing of the extent nor the direction of the river above him, and his successor, Zagoskin, who built Fort Malato in 1848, had not been able to trace it. The name Yukon appears to have come from the term applied by the Indians on the lower river, “Yuk-on-air,” which means the Great Water.

Two years after Mal'kof ascended what he called the Kechika, in 1840, young Sethonchuck, in the employ of the Hudson’s Bay Company, made his way by arduous labor from the Mackenzie to the headwaters of the Swan, which its present name resounded not until 1809, and in 1843 he ascended this stream to its confluence with the Lewis , which stream he also named. This journey of 1,500 miles was made in a birch bark canoe. He was accompanied by a half-bred interpreter, two French Canadians, and three Indians. The report on the journey published induced Sethonchuck to establish a post near the mouth of the river, which he named Fort Selkirk. This fort was established in 1849, and was continued until 1858. In 1859, however, the name of the post was changed, and it was named Fort Yukon. In 1859 another Scotch clerk of the company made an exploration of part of the Peel River and the region around the site of the present town of Fort Yukon, which was followed by the establishment of Fort Yukon in 1859. Space forbids a detailed account of the labor, danger and hardships incident to the transportation of a trading outfit from London to these posts, covering besides the long voyage a journey of about 4,000 miles. Sufficient to say that the natives were often three months in transit, and the return of the force the same. The pioneers of today are but pioneers in the sense that they were the first to make mining profitable, and blessed a shorter pathway into the Indian posts posts and the able leadership of the McIntosh, who, in the interior more than a century ago, when Canada contained only two or three towns, and the west coast was unknown, boldly took his stand and made Yukon a land of promise.

During the 1870s, the region was visited by a number of prospectors, and the area that would become known as the Yukon was explored and claimed. The discovery of gold in the area in 1900 led to a gold rush, and the city of Dawson was established. The gold rush continued through the 1910s, and the area became a popular destination for prospectors and adventurers. The gold rush ended in the 1920s, but the area remained a part of the growing United States until 1958, when it was officially admitted as a state.

HOMESTEAD ACT

The act provides that "no indemnity, deficiency, or lieu land selections pertaining to land granted outside of the district of Alaska shall be made, and no land script or land warrant of any kind whatsoever shall be located within or exercised upon any lands in said district; except to the extent and in the manner described further on. That no more than 160 acres shall be entered in any single body by such script, lieu selection, or soldier's additional homestead right." Therefore, the homestead area whereas indemnity, deficiency or lieu land selections pertaining to any land grant, or script or warrants, may be located upon any lands in Alaska.

No such locations will, therefore, be allowed. Full instructions with reference to the general homestead law will be found in the general circulation of July 11, 1909, as well as special instructions under the act of May 15, 1909, concerning homesteads, etc., in Alaska, and will, so far as possible, govern the making of claims and grants under this act, except as modified herein.

The act of 1909, supra, is amended so as to provide that any lands which shall be located within more than 160 acres along the shore of any navigable water and to provide that no homestead entry shall be allowed for more than 160 acres.

In executing surveys for homestead applications the instructions now prevailing will be followed, and the limit of 160 acres as to frontage will be measured along the meandered line of said tracts.

The form of the tract to be entered, if upon unsurveyed land, is prescribed in the act following the boundary lines of the claim. "If any of the land * * * is unsurveyed, then the land * * * must be of rectangular form, not more than one square mile in area, and the west and south lines run according to the true meridian." The above is continued to mean that the boundary lines of the claim form part of the boundary lines of the claim, and that all boundary lines of the claim will be true east and west and north and south directions, thus forming rectangular survey. It shall be the true north and west and east and west lines by reference to the true meridian, not magnitude, with the exception of the meandered lines on meandering streams and navigable waters forming a part of the boundary lines of the claim. Thus a frontage meander line and other meander lines which form part of the boundary of a claim, will run according to the true east, west and north and south directions, thus forming rectangular survey.

The limit of one mile for each entry is held to be 80 chains in aggregate easting or westing, or 80 chains in aggregate northings or southings. In other respects the rules previously adopted by government surveyors of claims under the act of May 15, 1898, will apply. In making surveys in any case, taking into consideration the limitations as to the area of claims.

Each person who is qualified under existing laws to make a homestead entry of the public lands of the United States, and who has heretofore settled upon any of the unsurveyed public lands of the United States in the district of Alaska, with the intention of taking the same under the homestead law, shall, within ninety days from the date hereof, or prior to the intervention of an adverse claim, file the record of his location for record in the recording district in which the land is situated as provided by sections 12 to 16 of the act of June 30, 1900, 30 Stat. 350 to 356.

Every such person who hereafter settles upon any of said unsurveyed land shall, within ninety days from the settlement, or when the necessity of recording an adverse claim, file the record of his location for record in the recording district in which the land is situated, in the manner hereinafter specified.

Said record shall contain the name of the settler, the date of settlement, and such a description of the land settled upon as will enable any person or permanent monument, as shall identify the same.

It is at the expiration of the time required under sections 2291 to 2299, R. S., as modified by section 2300, T. S., that the right to claim such lands shall be lost. The lands described under sections 2291 to 2299, R. S., the public surveys have not been extended over the land located, the locator may secure payment in the manner provided.
 Appeal to Government.

At a meeting of the town council held on November 12, a letter was ordered drafted and sent to the Senate Committee on Territories, to be presented to the Secretary of War. It is as follows:

Fairbanks, Alaska, November 12, 1893.

Hon. R. M. Nelson, Chairman of Committee on Territories—

Senators—The undersigned were instructed by the common council of the Town of Fairbanks, and by every miner and prospector of the Fairbanks Recording District, to appeal to the Government of the United States to come to the rescue of the more than one thousand persons who are now in this region without food.

In carrying out our instructions we decided to address ourselves to your committee and plead with you to act as our sponsors. We will first respectfully draw your attention to the actual conditions confronting us and then point out how, by doing away with a little red tape, the War Department could materially alleviate our dire necessities.

There are now between 3000 and 3900 persons in this district, and at the close of navigation about October 15, it was found that, at the utmost, not more than 1000 persons succeeded in providing themselves with sufficient provisions to last them until navigation opened. Not a pound of flour, cereals, rice, salt, ham, bacon, butter or hard can be bought in this entire Tanana Valley. To add to our grievous condition the run of salmon last season was very hard. The sudden influx of miners has called for more supplies. The market is crowded. Supplies are sold high, and for the other necessities of life, such as flour and bread, the price is much higher. The meat supply is very scarce this winter.

The distances are too great, men and animals will eat more than they can haul. Circle is about 220 miles from here, with three mountains ranges to cross, which makes double and triple trip very necessary and many wet, plankier creeks to travel over. Randarp is about 250 miles from here, but that camp has already sold all the supplies it could get, and no further supplies can be had from there. As soon as the snow begins to form, men run in every direction to make up their winter's outfit. Randarp is already sold out, and by the time this reaches you, it is questionable whether Circle will have any more to spare for us. This brings us to our only remaining point, Fort Gibson, which can be reached by river from here with neither mountain nor hill to cross. The company stores there are but small affairs, hardly ever carrying more stock than they expect to sell during the season. The only supplies available are those at the military post at Fort Gibson.

It is useless to theorize as to whom, if any one, is to blame for the deplorable shortage. The actual fact remains that here are over 1000 American citizens unable to obtain the necessary bread and meat stuffs to sustain life.

This brings us to the point as to how you can help us. The military posts are usually well stocked. The commander at Fort Gibson should be instructed by wire to set aside for his own company just so many supplies as he actually needs until June, 1893. By that time the government can lay down a system of supplies by the river route. All the remaining supplies should be sold at army ration prices.

Extreme care should be taken that the furloughs who operate in human necessities shall have no chance toatten the government. And, therefore, no supplies should be sold at the post unless the intender brings a written request from the common council of this town.

You may rest assured that we shall be very careful that your aid shall not be abused. No degree of any kind will receive orders for supplies from us.

Realizing how busy you are, we shall confine ourselves to last one pertinent statement. We do not ask for luxuries. We ask for staple food. We do not ask that it be given us. We ask that it be sold us. We know that the government of the United States is not in the mercantile business. But the staples we ask for cannot be bought anywhere else.

For humanity's sake we beseech you to come to our rescue. Should you decide to help us, go to the Secretary of War at once, and let all future steps be taken by wire.

We would have wired you were it feasible to explain ourselves thoroughly by wire.

As soon as this reaches you, we ask that you wire us your decision. Many human lives depend upon your favorable and prompt action. Very respectfully,

E. T. BARNETT, Mayor.

This letter is reproduced merely to emphasize the peculiar conditions under which this district has been developed. Since the first discovery of gold here, provisions sufficient to supply one half the prospectors were not procurable, the hungry though unfortunate miners being compelled to freight their supplies across the mountains from Circle City.

The output of the camp this winter will reach $1,000,000. Had the miners been able to procure sufficient provisions to enable them to employ help, the spring cleanup would have been double that amount.

Early in the fall—before navigation closed—the allowance system was adopted by the stores. No man could secure more than one sack of flour and two seven pound sacks of corn meal. Other staples were also short.

From Mr. McKinley.

John McCleod, who was with Judge Wickes and the present writer, had a pleasant trip to Mount McKinley this summer, is in Fairbanks. He reports a very pleasant trip, barring a few hardships. They traveled up the Cantatina about 60 miles on the Tanana Chief, after which their outfit was transferred to pack mules, and the journey continued 100 miles up into the foothills, where a permanent camp was struck.

On the way one creek was found that gave some promise and it was staked. Game was plentiful at all times.

Judge Wickes says of the trip that he had "a most delightful and interesting trip and having been entirely successful in every particular, except that we did not get on top of the mountain on account of snow troubles. We made the mistake of getting there on the longest, hottest days, instead of when it was cold and freezing of nights. I obtained many fine photographs, maps and much geographical information."

Judge Wickes will write up and publish the results of his journey for the Century magazine.
White Pass & Yukon Route

Through Line—SKAGWAY TO DAWSON
DIRECT ROUTE TO
. . . TANANA AND FAIRBANKS . . .

Via. White Horse is the ONLY WAY to Reach the BULLION and RUBY MINING DISTRICTS...

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VANCOUVER, B. C., and SKAGWAY, ALASKA.
S. P. BROWN, General Agent, 35 Dexter Bunker Building, Seattle, Wash.

At Skagway, the southern terminus of the Rail Line, connections are made with the Ocean steamers of the following Lines: Alaska S. S. Co., Thurnhardt S. S. Co., Pacific Coast S. S. Co., and the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. (British Columbia Coast Service). The trans-continental trains in turn connect with the ocean lines at all Pacific Coast terminal ports.

WINTER SERVICE.

During the winter season extending from the close to the opening of navigation, the company's lines of mail, passenger and freight sleighs will operate over the ice. This year a special fast freight service has been arranged, and special equipment provided, regular stage relays of horses being used in addition to the Mail, Passenger and Express service. During the past season the trail has been greatly improved, making smoother running and faster time possible.

The passenger sleighs (all upholstered) are of the newest design, and being built expressly for the Northern traffic, they are exceedingly comfortable. Each sleigh has accommodations for ten passengers, 1,000 pounds of passenger baggage, and 1,000 pounds of mail and express. Passengers will stop at Roadhouses every night, and travel only during the day. No team will travel more than an average of 20 miles, and a fresh team will be in readiness at each station along the route. Ampule robes will be supplied to passengers.

Shippers' attention should be called to the fact that freight, express and baggage can be bonded through to Dawson during the winter on any of the stages operated by the White Pass & Yukon Route. The Company will start operating its mail and passenger sleighs on a tri-weekly schedule from Whitehorse and, at any time, if necessary, connecting with the all-year daily trains at Whitehorse.

The White Pass and Yukon Route Bulletin No. 11 furnishes full information relative to the handling of mail, passenger, express, baggage and freight, passenger fares, freight rates, etc., and conditions under which shipments are received.

TRAIN SERVICE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Station</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Skagway</td>
<td>Leave</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>White Pass</td>
<td>11:15</td>
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<td>Log Cabin</td>
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<td><strong>Bennett</strong></td>
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<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Caribou</td>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Atlin</td>
<td>4:30 m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>White Horse</td>
<td>Leave 9:30 a.m.</td>
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Daily Except Sunday. **Mail Stations. Standard—Alaska Time—One hour slower than Pacific Time.**

SUMMER SERVICE.

During the open season of navigation on the Yukon River, which extends from the middle of May to the middle of October, the British Yukon Navigation Company's river steamers connect directly with trains at Whitehorse, giving daily service to Stewart River, Dawson, Tanana, etc.

Connections made at Dawson for all Lower Yukon River points, including St. Michael, Tanana and Nicola.

Through connections made at Caribou with the Company's Lake steamer for Atlin, Telkwa and Golden Gate Mining Camps.

The Alaska Pacific Express Co. operates over this line.

During the open season of navigation on Yukon River baggage can be checked through to Dawson, on through tickets, via the White Pass and Yukon Route without undergoing inspection by the Customs Officers at Skagway.

Freight and baggage, if routed via White Pass & Yukon Route Destination, may be bonded through Yukon territory to Alaska points on lower Yukon River; also through Alaska, via Skagway, from British Columbia and Yukon Territory and vice versa, without payment of duty.

**THE AUTHORIZED UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN BONDED CARRIERS.**