

The Douglas Island News

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COLD STORAGE PLANT

Next to getting a cold storage plant in our own city, the news that Juneau is to have one is the best news we have heard for a long time. An industry such as the one planned can not fail to benefit Douglas Island.

If the plant is established and the fleet of fishing boats follow the plant, there is no doubt in the world but that a large share of them will make their headquarters here. It is here they can find a place to moor their boats and cheap homes in which to house their families.

If the plant causes Juneau to grow in population to any perceptible extent, there is no place where the overflow can go except on Douglas Island.

Another feature of the matter may be considered if the plant planned upon becomes an actual reality. Other big fish companies now operating in Alaska will not see this new company come into the field and monopolize the fish market. They also will come to Gastineau Channel to have a say in the buying of fish as they come in from the fishing banks. They also will build plants on Gastineau Channel, for if they do not, their investments at points farther away from the banks will be dead loss. There will be no place on Gastineau Channel that they can come to except Douglas. Here they will be assured of plenty of waterfront on which to expand and a place for their workmen to live.

Yes, the big cold storage plant in Juneau will be a fine thing for Juneau, and we are of the opinion that it will be almost as fine for Douglas Island.

REDS STILL HERE

The irresolution that has characterized the policy of the Department of Labor in its dealings with radicals is strikingly indicated by the announcement that more than 500 Reds remain to be deported.

The deportation of these men has been ordered.

Their presence in the country is known to be a menace to the institutions of the United States, for conspiring against which they were refused the right to longer live in the republic.

Yet, all except 40 of them are at liberty on bail, presumably continuing the identical work that caused their arrest.

A lame excuse is given for the delay in shipping them out of the country. Scandinavian nations, it is pleaded, have refused to receive them and the frontier between Finland and Russia has been closed.

Nevertheless, Washington D. Vanderlip managed to get into Russia to lay before Lenin his preposterous scheme for the financing of Red Russia in return for a concession embracing tens of thousands of square miles of territory!

Innumerable observers, including newspaper men and writers, have journeyed to Russia and apparently have experienced no difficulty in bribing or cajoling the bolsheviks to admit them.

Yet, here are 500 anarchists, communists and what-not, subscribing to the same destructive doctrines as the followers of Lenin, and they cannot be transported to Russia by the rich, powerful and, presumably, sagacious government of the United States!

Even more amazing, they cannot even be kept in a safe place pending deportation, but are given their liberty on bail.

The Labor Department, as presently constituted, undoubtedly is unable to do what should be done, but it is a reasonable guess that the next secretary will find ways and means of getting these undesirable out of the country.—Seattle Times.

The Douglas High Schools girls' basket ball team, while as yet unable to score a victory over the Juneau team, is full of pep and is not discouraged. The players keep on trying with a spirit that is commendable.

The movement to provide a Christmas tree for the pioneers and gift for every one of them in the Pioneers' Home is a nice thing. It is right that these men—trail-blazers of the Northland—should be remembered at Christmas time by the people of Alaska. Just a tree and a gift for each to show them that, although they are temporarily resting in the home from the battle with the elements and from the competition of their fellow men, they are remembered; and thanks for the part they played in conquering Alaska from the wilderness will make for them a joyous Christmas time.

A quarter of a century is a long time to serve as Bishop of Alaska, with all the hardships and travels entailed with the position. Bishop P. T. Rowe, who this week rounded out that length of time as Episcopal Bishop of the Territory, is a history maker in Alaska and his name will ever be known and remembered. He has been a true pioneer and a staunch churchman, who has labored hard for the upbuilding of not only the missions of his faith but for the Territory as a whole.

President Wilson has accepted the invitation of the League of Nations to become mediator in Armenia. He takes the position after having given the league assurance that he has no way of backing his finding by a show of arms from the United States. He was accepted nevertheless, which shows that Europe and the statesmen of that part of the world still have confidence in our President.

There is a news writer on a Juneau paper that hates himself. In announcing a holiday special edition of his paper, he says that the influx of homeseekers and investors that will flock to this vicinity when they see that edition will be enormous. Such is the power of his magic pen and long may he wave.

The Red Cross roll call is still on and will be for a number of days yet. It is a privilege to belong to this organization, which, in every calamity, both national and sectional, has rendered prompt and efficient aid and has shown itself to be "The Greatest Mother in the World." Boost your home town roll call by joining now.

Republican office seekers are multiplying each day. For every office in the territory there is on an average a dozen aspirants who have either filed their applications or will shortly do so. Shortly after President Harding is inaugurated, Donnybrook Fair will be a pink tea compared to Alaska among office seekers.

A quietness has come over the United States since the election has come and gone. No big news features are breaking lately, with the exception of stories of commodities going down in price. The country is marking time, waiting for the new administration to come in and fulfill its pledges upon which it was elected.

Judge Wickersham seems to be in a receptive mood as far as the governorship of Alaska is concerned. He would take it if he were asked and if it were offered to him. We rather think the Judge would even make a little fight for the job, even if it were not offered to him.

Jamaica Ginger has been put on the forbidden list under the national prohibition act. One by one our family standbys are being taken from us and we wonder when castor oil will be taboo.

It is not too late to warn holiday shoppers to shop early and at home. But three weeks remain until Christmas day is here. That time is all too short to get a choice of gifts that are on display at the various stores.

The people of the Island take great pride in the showing made by their boys' high school basket ball team and firmly believe that it is the best high school team ever on a basketball floor in the North.

The Stroller

—BY—
 E. J. White

To the trough, to the trough—
 Let the hungry be fed.
 To the fountain of sap
 Let the thirsty be led.

The Stroller shudders when he thinks of the ravenous appetites of officials "pup" that have been cultivated among the "ops" during the past eight years and he wots not but there will be considerable crowding around the trough in the near future by the hungry.

And why shouldn't there be?—The Democrats have waxed fat at the trough and they should now be crowded out by the lean—and they will be.

But there is trouble ahead. The trough is not sufficiently long to accommodate even a medium of those who will desire to feed at it, especially will it be insufficient if, as is generally the rule, those who reach it first insist on getting their feet in it. In other words, there are from ten to ten dozen aspirants for every job, hence trouble in the office.

The Stroller has a paucity for the difficulty and it is this: Create more jobs. It is the only way by which the hungry can be fed.

Besides, there are several new features and factors that must be considered when the pie is cut; otherwise friction within the ranks will be apparent. For example, the colored brother must be considered to insure his support at other and future elections. He will no longer be content with a janitorship or that of messenger and the Stroller don't blame him. He has been a menial long enough and is worthy of a fat plum such as surveyor general or chief of the bureau of publicity, and the Stroller takes this opportunity for playing before National Committeeman McBride the name of Mr. Holy Smoke for one of these positions.

Then there is also the brother true in spirit who delivered his tirade late that the majority of the victorious might mount higher and higher. It is time that the native brother is accorded recognition. He has been jibed by bootleggers and missionaries until the lining of his stomach is corroded and he is spiritually flabbergasted, but the day of his emancipation is at hand. Mr. McBride will, therefore, please note that Woodrow Wilson, of Kiska, is mentioned for a soft berth such as special agent of the customs department, chief deputy in the marshal's office or something equally remunerative and dignified. Sean-Paved John, of Ska, is also deserving of reward for the able and persistent manner in which he rallied support to the cause. Also, Maud-Mud-in-the-Hair, of Wrangell, should not be overlooked when the position of stenographer in some federal office is shined out.

Seventeen different time-stained stalwarts of the victorious party have taken the Stroller out behind the house where he confidently expected them to produce something that had been settled in bond only to tell him that they hope to land the customs collectorship; they have informed him that they have a clutch on Jay Bell's job, clerk of the court, and eighty-three (83) one white, the other thirty-two of either dark or mixed blood, have asked him to prepare application forms for them for deputy marshalships. And with the exception of Wake, Ska, and Wrangell, the Stroller has not yet heard from points outside of Gastineau Channel. Of the 147 Republican voters at Skagway it is not expected that to exceed 25 will expect rewards in the way of official recognition. At Haines the percentage will probably be a little higher. Up to date the Stroller's list of applicants for various positions is as follows:

- Judgeship, First Division 7
- Judgeship, any old Division 12
- U. S. Marshal, First Division 15
- Deputy Marshal, First Division 23
- Clerk of Court, First Division 9
- Collector of Customs 17
- Deputy collector of customs 24
- Surveyor General—all the present attaches of the office and eight others.
- District Attorney—the Alaska bar roster, except Democrats.
- Jail guards 49
- Bailiffs 71
- Groom of the back stairs 1
- Stenographers (male, female, white, black and brown) 107
- "Anything, Lord, so I get it" 419

Reckoning Alaska's white population at 27,000 and judging the other three divisions by the First, the Stroller opines that not to exceed 27 per cent of the people of the Territory are yearning for the official recognition. But this reckoning does not include the Fifth Division which is not within the metes and bounds of Alaska but in Seattle, where there are close to 1,500 superannuated hulks who, at one time or

another during the past quarter of a century, lived in Alaska and it is a safe bet that at least fifty of them will endeavor to line up at Alaska's trough. The majority of them will try for something that embodies but little work and no worry.

The above list does not include the office of governor, Territorial secretary, treasurer, school commissioner and a number of others. But the fact that they are not included in the list does not signify that they are not all being sought after—very much so. At present the Stroller knows of only six aspirants for the position of governor and they are all residents of Alaska. But before the position is awarded the number of outside applicants will no doubt be just equal to the total number of Republican members of both houses of congress, for each of the latter will no doubt have some pensioner whom he desires to reward for fence repair work in his riding (the word "riding" was swept by the Stroller during a recent visit to Canada), and the office of governor of Alaska will appeal to all such. The Stroller, however, has all kinds of confidence in his Republican friends — as individuals — and he opines that they will insist on following the worthy example of the "late" Democrats and see to it that the governor of Alaska is an Alaskan—not some congressman's pensioner or resident of the Fifth Division.

Another thing: Every brown bear in Alaska should have a personal attendant. By this means the list of game wardens could be increased by several thousand and the feeding capacity of the trough would be largely augmented. (The Stroller thought of this last idea himself. He submits that it is worthy of more than passing thought on the part of the powers that be.)

It has been suggested that there be a bureau of publicity in each of the four divisions and the Stroller seconds the motion. It is a brilliant thought and will furnish chow to a number of stalwarts that might otherwise be required to work for a living.

Also, there should be a deputy commissioner of education in each of the divisions at, say, \$1,500 per annum. This would likewise double the trough and multiply the number of official possebags. The fee system of U. S. commissioners should be ditched and every neighborhood of a dozen residents could have a commissioner on a stated salary of \$200. He could be ex-officio time-keeper for the bear attendants and, if so inclined, might read the lesson every Sunday.

Again, there is a whole lot of weather getting by in this broad northland without being properly observed. How the Stroller would like to know, can one man observe all the weather within a radius of 200 miles and do justice to it? He can't do it with justice either to himself or the weather. Now, if the weather is properly exploited, a broad field for political sap will be created. Every mountain peak in Alaska should have a man with a pair of field glasses observing the weather. As such observers would necessarily be far removed from the busy marts of cold storage and other business activities, they would have ample time, not only for their work of observing, but also for thought, rumination and reflection, and it is possible that some of them might study out some way by which summer weather could be preserved for winter use. Just think how such a discovery would embalm Alaska in the hall of fame and otherwise add to the gaiety of the nation.

Likewise, a bureau for the investigation of the matter of crossing malamutes with dog salmon would supply positions for a number of deserving and needy stalwarts. This would be a good place to plant the muddly one from Wrangell with her little typewriter.

The foregoing suggestions and information are imparted by the

Free Floats

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PLENTY OF ROOM TO TIE UP

DOUGLAS MERCHANTS GIVE YOU A SQUARE DEAL

LAND AT THE CITY DOCK

Stroller in good faith and he hopes they will be received in the spirit in which they are given. That is one thing the Stroller likes about himself—he can give advice and admonition without feeling uppish about it and without hope of reward. He gives advice to politicians in the same spirit that he conducts his heart to heart talks with young mothers.

In the event that either National Committeeman McBride, "Our Delegate" or any of the sleek should at any time desire to get anything from the Stroller—even in his private still—it can be had for the asking. While the Stroller did not vote for more than half the victors, he is strong for all of them now. Even as a child, he never required sugar when taking a pill.

Still serving millions. The American Red Cross.

Reindeer mulligan was served at a Seattle Chamber of Commerce banquet a short time ago and it is said that the novelty was enjoyed by all the members present. The meat was from reindeer carcasses brought to Seattle on the last trip of the Victoria. It is planned by the promoters of the reindeer industry in the north to ship 5,000 carcasses south next year. The meat is quoted at 25 cents a pound wholesale.

Drilling on the ground of the Chitkat Oil Company in western Alaska has been discontinued for the winter, but will be resumed in the spring as soon as weather will permit. The refinery will be in constant operation and some improvements made to the plant. The company is now producing a high grade of kerosene oil in addition to other products.

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