

SEWARD WEEKLY GATEWAY

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WORK 3000 MEN IN SPRING

Maj. Ballaine Announces That President Frost Has Made Extensive Plans.

WILL KEEP GOING THIS WINTER

Intention Is To Lay Rails Beyond Knik by End of Next Year and Get Tanana Trade.

By Cable to The Daily Gateway.

Seattle, Oct. 10—John E. Ballaine returned last night from Chicago, where he was in conference with President Frost of the Alaska Central Railway. He reports that Frost is completing arrangements to increase the construction forces of the railroad to 3000 men at the opening of spring. It is the intention to construct from 125 to 150 miles next year, which will place the terminus in the heart of the Susitna valley by the end of 1907.

It is planned to take from 10,000 to 20,000 settlers into the Susitna valley to homestead the agricultural lands there as soon as the railroad reaches Knik arm, and to handle all the Fairbanks winter freight. Maj. Ballaine states also that President Frost has wired instructions to Treasurer Stewart, the acting general manager of the road, to keep the present force of men at work through the winter.

Maj. Ballaine says President Frost authorized him to state that the Alaska Central will spend \$25,000 upon an exhibit at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition in 1907.

DR. FREDERIC A. COOK ARRIVES IN SEWARD

Man Who Scaled Mt. McKinley Over Long Slope of Ice and Snow Now on Way Outside.

Dr. Frederic A. Cook, the man who ascended Mt. McKinley last month and stood on its topmost pinnacle, 29,400 feet above sea level, in a temperature of 16 degrees below zero, arrived in Seward Sunday on the steamer Dora. He will sail for the outside tomorrow on the Bertha with the remainder of his party, who are awaiting the steamer in Seldovia.

Dr. Cook, as already told, reached the top of the mountain, the highest in North America, September 15, accompanied by Edward Barrill. The ascent was made from the northeast side, instead of the southeast, as was surmised when the news first came. He and his companions went up the Tokositna river to the head of one of its branches, where they found a huge glacier. Proceeding directly across it they found a long slope, which proved to be free from precipitous declivities. It was covered with deep ice and snow but Dr. Cook says no unusual obstacles to mountain climbing in frigid regions were encountered.

So far as Dr. Cook could observe from occasional projections of rock which were too sharp for snow to cling to the mountain seemed to be almost wholly composed of pink granite. Some observations of the altitude were taken, and these with triangulations made previously by the topographer of the expedition. Mr. Porter, indicate that the height calculated by government topographers and railroad engineers, 29,300 feet, is very accurate, although Mr. Porter's calculations may finally put it at 29,400. The easterly pinnacle, which Dr. Cook climbed, is 200 or 300 feet higher than the westerly one.

LIKES COOK INLET COAL

W. W. Atwood, Government Geologist, Makes Favorable Report

Cook inlet coal will receive a favorable report from W. W. Atwood, a government geologist working under the Alaska bureau of Alfred H. Brooks, who returned from the Inlet on the Bertha and went on through to Seattle. He had just spent a month around Kachemak bay and Tyonok, following an examination of the Kayak coal fields, and stated in Seward that he found the Inlet coal of very good quality, particularly that at Port Graham.

Prof. Atwood is connected with the geological department of the university of Chicago and also with the Brooks Alaska survey, spending about half of each year with each work.

The man who did not have a large shipment of goods on the Oregon is a rarity now.—Valdez Prospector.

NEW RESERVOIR NOW COMPLETE

Water From Fresh Source Will Be Turned Into City Mains Next Week.

Water will be turned into the city mains from the new reservoir on the Brownell homestead tomorrow. This water is from a constantly living spring and is of the purest quality. The reservoir is at an elevation of 330 feet and the water is carried to the town-site through a 10-inch pipe. The line is calculated to give a pressure of 100 pounds.

The distributing mains through the city are 6-inch and 4-inch, the larger ones being on the principal streets. The total length of mains in the city now is nearly 10,000 feet. The big pipe from the reservoir reaches from the reservoir nearly 1000 feet to the town-site at the corner of Madison street, at the foot of the hill.

The reservoir is 16x24 feet and 8 feet deep. Its capacity is 15,000 gallons. It was finished this week and is now full of water. The mains are all laid. The new reservoir and piping have been put in at great expense by the Seward Water & Power Company in order to give the city the best possible water supply. With the pressure now guaranteed a much larger town than Seward is now can be supplied, and an ample stream for fire fighting purposes is assured at all times. Water for the generation of power will also be furnished.

The reservoir built up Lowell creek canyon last year did not prove satisfactory as the pressure is sometimes too low and in very wet times the water is not quite clear. The new reservoir will remove both of these drawbacks.

EXCELSIOR OUT OF COMMISSION

Sprung a Leak as Result of Rough Trip from North—Tug Equator Coming.

By Cable to The Daily Gateway.

Seattle, Oct. 8—The steamer Excelsior sprung a leak as a result of her rough trip down from the north and will go out of commission.

The Northwestern Steamship Company has chartered the tug Equator to carry the Seward-Valdez mail, in lieu of the Santa Ana and Excelsior, and she left this morning, via the outside route. The Equator has no freight or passengers.

When the Nome fleet is released the steamers Saratoga and Northwestern will join the Santa Clara on the Seattle-Seward-Valdez route.

President Rosene of the Northwestern Steamship Company has gone east to secure more steamers for the Alaska trade.

Santa Ana Off the Beach

Seattle, Oct. 8—Steamer Santa Ana has been pulled off the beach at Clallam bay and is expected here today.

Rich Gold Specimens

J. G. Marx brought with him from the Shumagin group of islands to the westward, the richest specimens of sylvanite ore and quartz ever found in this or any other part of Alaska. The quartz is sugar-grained, live-looking, impregnated with gold plainly discernible to the naked eye. The gold ore in the sylvanite form is even richer than the gold quartz, and when treated with acids the specimens look like nuggets of gold.

George Dutton Goes Outside

George W. Dutton, who is developing copper property at Iliamna, came to Seward on the Dora with fifteen men and eight horses, bound for the outside. He transferred both men and stock to the Santa Clara here. He left three men and two horses at the mine and expects to return in December for the winter.

Messrs. Sargent and Gardine, topographers of the geological survey north of Knik arm this summer, with their party of ten went through on the Santa Clara, and were joined here by the geologists, Messrs. Knopf and Paige, who had been in Seward about ten days.

TYONOK GETS WINTER MAIL

Contract Let to Anton Eide to Carry in January, February and March.

FIXES LIMIT AT 100 POUNDS

Chief Clerk Eames Finally Secures Service for Interior Points During Close of Inlet.

Mail will be carried from Seward to Knik and Tyonok by Anton Eide in the months of January, February and March, 1907. The weight limit is 100 pounds. Mr. Eide will receive \$1100 for the three trips.

An effort was made last year by Alvah Eames, chief clerk of the railway mail service for Southern Alaska, to obtain a monthly mail service from Seward to Knik and Tyonok, but it failed because the government would not accept the bids offered.

This service will give the people of the camps above Cook inlet a mail service which will be of great advantage to them, limited as it may seem. Heretofore in the winter these people have sometimes been cut off from all communication with the outside world for several months. Last winter they were a little more fortunate because of the frequent, though irregular travel between Seward and the Yentna district. Prospectors carried letters but the letters were often carried a long time before they were delivered.

The route necessarily traveled by the mail carrier from Seward to Tyonok is by way of Susitna Station. Below the Station the river is dangerous to cross and the ground on both sides is swampy and treacherous. A request has been made of Mr. Eames that he take up with the postal department the importance of creating a post office at Susitna Station, for the convenience of the miners in the Yentna district. A large number of them will winter on the creeks, or at the Station.

Before next summer a post office, perhaps several, will have to be established up in the Yentna district, but during the present winter Susitna Station will be the most convenient place for the miners to get their mail.

The overland service does not begin until January because many lakes and streams that have to be crossed on ice are not certain to be frozen as early as December 1.

RECEIVER GETS HEALY COMPANY

Affairs of Kuskokwim Venture Badly Tangled and Taken Into Court.

By Cable to The Daily Gateway.

Seattle, Oct. 8—The Central Alaska Company, organized by Capt. John J. Healy to explore the Kuskokwim and establish trading posts along its course, went into the hands of a receiver last week. Hugo Beyer was appointed receiver but Healy objected and had Beyer ousted. R. A. Wright was then appointed with instructions to close out the company. At last report the company had only sixty tons of provisions in the district and its employees have been hampered by a shortage of food all summer.

The stockholders charge that Healy spent too much money on himself. It was on the petition of men who put up most of the money that the receivership was granted and Healy ousted from all control. Today he sued the company for \$19,000 damages. The most valuable asset of the company is the steamer Nunivak, now in the Kuskokwim river, which will be sold.

NORTHWESTERN STEAMER TO BE CALLED SEWARD

The Seattle Times says: The new steamer to be built by the Moran Company for the Northwestern Steamship Company is to be called the Seward, after the town of Seward, on the southwestern coast of Alaska and the sea terminus of the Alaska Central railroad. The keel of the new ship is soon to be laid and the vessel will be ready for the northern trade next year.

GETS GOLD ON TONSINA CREEK

Alfred Lowell Shelves \$19.23 in Eleven Hours Shoveling by Himself.

CLAIMS JUST ABOVE FALLS

Will Build Wing Dam and Prepare to Work the Property by Systematic Method.

Eleven hours shoveling by Alfred Lowell on his placer ground on Tonsina creek five miles from Seward, produced \$19.23 in gold. Mr. Lowell was simply doing assessment work on two claims which he located on the creek two years ago. He put in sluice boxes and then shoveled a day to see what would happen.

The claims are a short distance above the falls of Tonsina creek, which are a mile and a half from the bay. The creek is very short above the falls. Both ground and creek were partially frozen, the ground about six inches deep.

Mr. Lowell is so well pleased with the result of his shoveling experiment that he will go back to the property and work as long as he can. He will put in a wing dam and prepare to work the ground on a larger scale.

TWO CONVICTS MAKE ESCAPE

Thornton and Hendrickson Cut Through Stateroom Wall of Yukon Steamer.

By Cable to The Daily Gateway.

Dawson, Y. T., Oct. 10—Thornton and Hendrickson, desperadoes and hold-ups under sentence to prison, escaped from the Yukon river steamer Lavelle Young last Saturday near Eagle, as they were being taken out to serve their penitentiary terms, by cutting the wall of their stateroom and jumping overboard.

Today all wires are down beyond Eagle and it is believed that they have been cut by the fleeing convicts, who are supposed to be traveling westward. Several posses are scouring the country in search of the men.

Fugitive Convicts Recaptured

Dawson, Oct. 12—Hendrickson and Thornton, the convicts who escaped from custody on the river steamer Lavelle Young last Saturday, were captured today near Eagle. They had been wandering through the woods several days without food and submitted when covered with guns.

FREIGHT FOR INTERIOR PILES UP AT TYONOK

Such Quantities of Miners' Supplies Sent in that Part Will Fail to Get in this Fall.

Kahiltna, Sept. 21—Correspondence of the Gateway—It is reported here by Mr. Wolsey of the launch Bat that considerable freight is likely to be left at Tyonok because of his inability to carry it in before the close of navigation on the river. Large quantities of miners' supplies are coming in from the outside on the late steamers and the Bat is the only boat on the river now.

A light frost was visible here the morning of September 15, the first of the season. It has been very dry and pleasant for several weeks and the Yentna is running low.

A. Wanberg and four other men came up on the last trip of the Bat with a year's outfit. They immediately built a cache and began whipsawing lumber for a boat to go up the river. They are going above the rapids to work until the freeze-up and will then come back here and wait for the snow, after which they will go up near the mountains.

Gallagher's roadhouse is now open for business. It is well supplied with provisions, and has ample accommodations for man and beast. He has also arranged to have ten tons of miners' supplies in stock when navigation closes on the river, which will be about the middle of October.

Copper ore from Beatson's Latouche mine averages 11 per cent.

BRING \$20,000 IN GOLD DUST

Steamer Dora Carries to Seward First Large Exhibit From Kahiltna Creeks.

INFORMATION HARD TO REACH

Results of Season's Work Obtained by Compilation of Reports by Reliable Men.

The steamer Dora brought to Seward about \$20,000 in gold dust from the creeks of the upper Kahiltna. As nearly as can be learned this belongs to three men and is less than half the total production of the group of creeks which produced something this year. The owners of the dust deny that they brought out so large an amount but a man on board the Dora saw between \$19,000 and \$20,000 in Purser Spring-stun's safe. He was not told to whom it belonged but so far as can be learned the only men who have any dust on the Dora were L. H. Herndon, C. H. Jacobs and William Morris.

"Doc" Herndon says the three brought out only \$11,000 and that was their entire production for the season but other men say they exhibited \$14,000 at Susitna Station and they were known to have several thousand dollars besides. The yield of the claims worked by Herndon, Jacobs and Morris on Nugget creek is estimated by comparison of information received from various sources at \$21,000. Mr. Jacobs told an acquaintance yesterday that they put in only about sixty days of actual productive work.

Mr. Herndon is very conservative in his statements. He puts the total output of the district at \$25,000. As he admits only \$11,000 for Nugget that would leave \$14,000 for other Kahiltna creeks. Mr. Herndon deprecates any attempt to "boom" the district and says he sees little to induce the prospector to go in there. He says bedrock is shallow and has been struck wherever actual mining work has been done.

T. J. Jeter says several miners figured the creeks at \$35,000 before he left. This does not include Lake creek. Other miners who spent the summer in the district stick to the previous estimate of \$50,000. Not more than half of this will come to Seward as Frank Churchill is buying large amounts at Susitna Station.

CHARGE CABLE OFFICE LEAKS

Valdez Men Say Their Messages Are on the Street Before They Get Them.

By Cable to The Daily Gateway.

Seattle, Oct. 11—Numerous heavy mining operators, steamship company representatives, railroad contractors and business men arriving here from Valdez charge a leak in the cable service at that port. They assert that the contents of private messages are known on the street before the messages are delivered to the addressees.

Complaints have been sent direct to Washington and informal complaints have been filed with Col. Glassford, which he says he forwarded to Washington several weeks ago. The men making the complaints say that private information contained in the messages is given to outside parties resulting in the destruction of negotiations for property sales. Other complaints are made.

Story Reaches Capital

Washington, D. C., Oct. 11—Informal complaints of leaks in the Valdez cable office have been coming here. The department has been waiting for the filing of direct charges before ordering an investigation.

Photographs Nugget Gold

"Doc" Herndon consented before he left town on the Bertha to have samples of gold from Nugget gulch photographed, and several pictures were taken by Robert Evans. A poke containing \$3600 was emptied into a gold pan and \$200 in nuggets piled on top of the heap for one picture, which looks good to sore eyes. Another photograph was taken of the gold extract from three of the best pans taken out on the Herndon and Jacobs claims. These contained \$53.75, \$47.50 and \$18 respectively. Each is shown in a separate pan. A large number of fine nuggets are included in the production of Nugget gulch, the biggest containing \$21.

YENTNA OUTPUT TOTALS \$50,000

Earlier Estimates Corroborated by Late Arrivals From Gold District.

INFORMATION HARD TO REACH

Results of Season's Work Obtained by Compilation of Reports by Reliable Men.

Later reports from the Kahiltna creeks confirm the estimate which has been made for several months of a season's output of \$50,000. Accurate returns are unobtainable because many miners who took out a few hundred dollars each have not come farther than Susitna Station, where they have invested their grubstake in new outfits.

The amount which all these small pokes total can only be approximated but all the well-informed miners from the region who are candid enough to talk say that the aggregate for the producing creeks will not fall far short of \$50,000 and may have been fully that. Lake creek is estimated at from \$5000 to \$7000, so that the total of the Yentna district undoubtedly exceeds \$50,000. Small quantities have been taken out also the Skwentna creeks.

George Eberhardt went through on the Bertha this week with a fat poke, which he declined to exhibit, but he and his partner, Anderson, are credited with several thousand dollars. Anderson is not coming out. Eberhardt displayed the queer reluctance about talking shown by some other men who have done well in the district, but finally admitted that the general estimate of the output is about the real thing. He was one of the first men in the district, having spent the 1905 season on Peters creek where the first discoveries were made, taking out a grubstake then. He worked mostly on Bird creek, a tributary of Peters, this year.

Another through passenger on the Bertha was M. Schaufen, who had been working the Millar bar claim on Lake creek. He had a poke weighed by Harry Ellsworth which contained \$1300. Other men who came in on the boat say he had about \$2000 altogether.

Several of the men who were the most fortunate in the season's work have exhibited reluctance in giving information which has aroused criticism. It is felt by people who live here that the public at large is entitled to accurate information regarding the district and that the best way to obtain a truthful statement of the situation is for those who know most about it to tell what they know.

The statements which have been published in the Gateway have been secured by a good deal of unnecessary labor, a few facts being picked up from each of many sources. The authority for all of these statements has always been given and as the general results tally closely it is believed by well-informed men in Seward that the published estimates of the yield are very accurate.

PIONEER MINER TO LEAVE

W. C. Girdwood, Discoverer of Crow Creek Placers, Going Outside.

Girdwood, Oct. 2—Correspondence of the Gateway—William C. Girdwood will leave for the states on the Bertha after a visit of one month to his Crow creek property. Mr. Girdwood, for whom the new town at mile 75 on the Alaska Central is named, was one of the early prospectors in the Cook inlet country.

In the spring of 1895 Mr. Girdwood began prospecting upper Crow creek and soon foresaw the value of the property. Andrew Williamson, Lidburn Arthur, Oliver Skoyen and William Ellis were with Mr. Girdwood when the original locations were made. Since that time Mr. Girdwood has spent three years on the claims. He is a civil and mining engineer, and has done extensive prospecting in Nome and the Tanana. During his absence from Crow creek the property has been in control of his brother, James Girdwood of New York.

H. H. Hicks and Mrs. Hicks came up on the Bertha and will sail for Iliamna on the first boat that goes to that port. Mr. Hicks is interested in copper there.