

DEMONS OF ILL-OMEN.

They Keep Prospectors From Leaving on Friday.

THREE BOATS LEFT YESTERDAY.

The Topoka, Gen. Canby and Schooner Bryant-Lakme and Utopia Delayed Until Saturday.

No vessel will leave for Cook Inlet today. This is Friday, and according to the gold hunters it is "hooedooed." The clocks will strike the hour of midnight Thursday and the "hooedoo" will be on. The graves of the dead spirits of ill-omen will yawn, and over land and sea the industrious demons will hover giving the evil eye to all who venture on new enterprises, and reserving a stony stare of particular rigidity for the luckless voyager to Cook Inlet.

The steam schooner Lakme, Capt. Anderson, was lying at the dock yesterday afternoon. She has taken on 60 tons of black diamond coal and will be ready to sail Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. She will have over 100 passengers, and each will be allowed 1,000 pounds of baggage, which is more than has been allowed by any vessel sailing heretofore. The Lakme has a hold fifty feet deep, her deck is nine feet deep and lower hold five feet deep. She has about sixty tons of general merchandise, besides the coal and outfit, for which the shippers are paying \$10 a ton.

The Lakme, being an old coaster which has stood many a hard blow, will take the outside passage, and will carry about a steam tug thirty to forty feet wide and drawing three feet of water, in which passengers will be landed. This is done as the Lakme's draught would prevent her getting up the creek. A halibut thirty feet by fourteen feet will also be taken.

The list of passengers includes lawyers, ex-preachers, experienced miners and all kinds of practical mechanics. W. M. Wheeler, who is going on her, will take in a stock of goods and will start a general store at Sunrise City, Turnagain arm.

Another party is starting a boarding house at the same place. The new pilot schooner W. J. Bryant, Capt. B. W. Whitney, got away on its long voyage to Cook Inlet yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock, during a rainstorm. She went out under a good spread of canvas and was very heavily loaded. About thirty-five prospectors stood on the deck, and drew away a last look at their friends on the dock. The boat will go as near Six-Mile creek as her draught will permit and will return as soon as her passengers are landed. In order to make another trip by the middle of May. Each passenger paid \$5 and was allowed from 50 to 60 pounds of baggage. Bunks, each provided with a mattress, had been built to accommodate fifty men. A galley had been built on deck for the cook and fitted up with a good range. The object was to keep the staterooms free from the smell of the cooking. Those who went up on the Bryant were J. O. Smith, H. A. Stetson, J. E. Gilpatrick, James D. Hyers, F. P. Sweeney, Frank Pierce, A. A. Pierce, Lawrence A. Dunning, H. Brockman, A. J. Case, James Tinto, John W. Coleman, H. Keyll, J. E. Vincent, O. R. Evans, N. Christensen, P. M. Shoop, W. D. Keller, C. C. Coon, Harry Potts, B. V. Wheelock, Charles L. Arey, John Alexander, Ben Yoss, Emil Meyer, T. Hurring, Walter Merritt, Charles Smith, H. L. Smith, James Merritt, H. C. Dimmock, G. Miller and James Horien.

Steamer General Canby got away at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and Capt. H. G. C. Thornton expects to make the voyage to Cook Inlet by the inside passage in eight days. He expressed great satisfaction with the work of the crew of refitting the vessel has been carried out here, many of the contracts being fulfilled.

"We started to refit the Canby thirteen days ago," said Thornton, yesterday. "I have put her in first class shape, practically rebuilding her machinery. Passengers are a secondary consideration with us, as the boat is intended for the use of the company, and we shall only take ten. It is my intention to call at Juneau and unload some coal there. This will make room for passengers to the number of fifty, which we are licensed to carry. When we arrive at Coal Bay, which is at the edge of the inlet, we hope to find the steamer Excelsior all unloaded and ready to have the effects of the company towed up the inlet in the snows we have there. The purchase and improvements on the Gen. Canby have cost \$20,000, and have an appreciation of the boat as a new stand of \$5,000 by F. J. Burns." The Canby was heavily loaded and lay very low in the water.

Steamer City of Topoka sailed for Juneau and Sitka yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, carrying the passengers whose names were published yesterday morning, and about 40 tons of freight. The dock was black with people when the boat left, who stood about ready to laugh or shout at the least provocation. At such a social party for their diversion, one of the chicken coops with which the vessel was being loaded, broke open and let out a number of excited fowls. The chickens, excited about the dock, pursued by shouting men, women and children. All joined in the chase, and several of the chickens in striving to escape ran off the wharf and were drowned. When all had been either drowned, captured or lost, the crowd found a new fund of amusement in the arrival of a number of city rats and six cats, and then as a crowning satisfaction all had an opportunity to cheer lustily when the steamer left.

The employees of the steamboat office deal with characters of all varieties, but they say an old man who came in while they were all busy yesterday and bought a ticket for Sitka, next to be crowned with an interrogation. He wanted to know where he should go after arriving at Sitka, where all the gold was, how it grew, which was the best country to plant, etc.

The steamer Wilkes will sail for Juneau this morning at 10 o'clock. She is well filled up with passengers and freight.

LATE ALASKA NEWS.

The Hard Trip of Jimmie Jackson, the Indian mail carrier, is having a hard time. The third party to reach Juneau from the Yukon is composed of Bob Insley, Tom Haggert, a stick Indian and a native girl, and the Alaska News in describing their trip down says:

"The trip could well be made without incident, several stops being made, however, caused by one reason or another. Forty miles were left February 14, and when Fifty Mile was reached a heavy snow storm while on Lake LeBarge on account of stormy weather. Time was also lost when the Jackson party was met, and a few hours were spent with Thompson and his partner when they were encountered."

"Jackson, the mail carrier, was found to be in a most deplorable condition. Since he was met by the McDonald and McDonald parties he had evidently traveled very slowly. His provisions had dwindled to a mere handful of flour, and both he and his half-brother nephew were at the point of succumbing. The miners at Traveler's bar, from whom he had expected to get enough supplies to carry him to Sixty Mile, were found to be very short themselves and could only spare a very small amount. The third Indian of Jackson's party, known as Chikat Bob, was met two days after Jackson and his nephew were met at a greater speed. At the time Bob was met he had caught the mail, sled and everything else he could possibly dispense with, and was making heroic efforts to carry them to the Indian village. Jackson was met about a day's journey above Pelly river, and with what Mr. Insley gave him, he can easily reach Harper's post. Two men were also met who had been wintering in the Yukon. At the time the grub had run very low at their winter quarters, they were compelled to set out for Forty Mile."

"A party of Indians were found encamped a day's travel below Cassiar bar. At the latter point Thompson and his partner, who succeeded in crossing the divide between the Yukon and the Stikine, were encountered. They were making good time, considering the difficulties they were laboring under, and had enough supplies to carry them to Forty Mile. But one dog was left out of their original party, the others having died from exposure and over-exertion. By means of some generous trading, they hoped to increase their pack at the Indian village a short distance below, and were confident of reaching Forty Mile in a short time and in good shape. Should they be kept away from their destination, no trouble will be experienced in reaching their destination safely, but should they be unable to get the dogs they will be left in a very bad way. It is a serious time before getting to the village. When Lake Linderman was left on the last stage of their long tramp about thirty men had succeeded in getting over the summit and were encamped at the lake. Mr. Insley's dogs, six in number, all landed at Dyea in good shape."

A letter has been received from Joe Westerholer, dated Circle City, January 10. It contains the following rare bits of information from that district: "It requires from \$300 to \$500 to outfit a person in the district here for one year. There are many claims which have been paid well. The largest output from any one claim was \$60,000 in one season, and several other single claims yielded \$20,000. There still remain chances of striking new gulches, as the gold belt covers quite a width of country. Many are now starting out prospecting, as the early spring is the time to take advantage of the extreme low waters."

"Expectations are good in the camp for at least five years, and many claims will be good for the next ten years. The camp, Circle City, is building up rapidly, and has a great future. "I would not advise any person to bring beef cattle to this country. It is a hard place the task would be a hard one bringing them in, mosquitos would be a great pest to them, and as caribou meat is quite plentiful in season, and retails at from 10 to 25 cents per pound, the profits on beef would not be very great."

"Beef sells here at \$2 per gallon and 25 cents a beer glass." "The little steamer J. R. Roberts, which left Seattle for Alaska February 19, arrived at Juneau March 17, after a very stormy trip. The Alaska News says: "Their craft, though a small one, is a staunch, seaworthy vessel, as was evidenced by the way in which she succeeded in weathering the storm in which they were caught while crossing Queen Charlotte sound. During a great many days while en route they were compelled to beat to windward, and several days were spent at Sun Dum. While waiting for the snow to melt the mountains the boat will in all probability be temporarily placed on the Dyea run."

Parties arriving in Juneau from Forty-mile creek report a fine coal in that district. It is said to be of good quality, and with wood at \$12 to \$14 a cord, it will be quite a paying investment to mine coal instead of gold.

Comparative Rail Shipments. The following tables, compiled by the Pacific Lumber Trade Journal, show the shipments of lumber and shingles from the states of Washington, Oregon, Northern California, Great Northern and Canadian Pacific roads, to Eastern states to date, as compared with the same period last year:

Table with columns for Lumber, Shingles, and Total for various months (January, February, etc.) comparing current year with last year.

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"Then I could not get out of the house for two months, and at that time I did not look where I was going. Yes, I am settled down in Santa Clara valley. My two boys are with me, and they are going into the raising of fruit, and planting a railway. In the summer of putting eighty or ninety acres in fruit, and the trees are now doing well. In our valley the fruit is already set, and is being put in the ground. The indications are for a very heavy fruit crop. There are only two things against this. Sometimes we have a frost between the first and the tenth of April, and it has been very dry this winter. We have only had ten inches of rain, while we should have had sixteen. So, unless we have more rain, our fruit will be small, but it will be abundant."

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Gen. Banks was appointed timekeeper, and James Rickard was appointed janitor of the city hall, temporarily. Philip Little having resigned, and appointments of suitable boss, blacksmith, and wagonmaker were postponed until Monday. All of the appointments are temporary in the sense that no report has yet been made, and the appointments will be subject to civil service examinations.

The report on park improvements for the past three months was received from Park superintendent F. F. Bathurst, which will be laid before the board on Monday. Under the new charter F. N. Little fills that position. Mr. Bathurst goes back to his rank as foreman. His report shows that the work in the park has been principally one of maintenance, and he recommends that the keeper be given an assistant after May 1, one man being paid for three months, and the park duty during the summer months. In the city park the work had been devoted to the improvement of existing clearings, seeding down the park with grass, and planting a roadway. In the nursery Mr. Bathurst reports great injury done to plants by the recent frosts, nearly one-third of the hardy perennials having been killed.

Streets to Have Name Signs. The committee on streets of the council yesterday held a joint meeting with the board of public works to pass upon signs giving the names of streets. A large number of designs had been submitted, out of which three were yesterday chosen, and the board of public works was instructed to advertise for bids for 2,000 signs of the designs chosen.

The Free Labor Bureau. The labor bureau did not do very much business in its new quarters at City hall, and Commissioner Grout said the bureau had undoubtedly missed several orders for help for want of a telephone, which will be put in today. Four women servants were given employment, one man on a ranch, and one man as gardener in the city.

City Hall Notes.

Frank Olsen yesterday filed his oath of office as clerk of the board of public works. The dog owners are not trying very hard to get ahead of the dog catcher, who will start out in a day or two. The two hardy dogs for license, yesterday and Wednesday, the number of tags taken out was only 161, of which eleven were for females.

"Wingy" Wallace in Jail. "Wingy" Wallace, the foot racer, was arrested last night in the southern part of the city by Detective Phillips. No charge was placed against him and it was said by the police that there was not any special significance in the arrest. Wallace was arrested a year or so ago with Bob Cash, the fighter, and William Williams, a variety theater performer, on the charge of holding up Joseph Little, of Ballard, on Third avenue south between Washington and Main streets. Williams and Cash told Chief Rogers the whole story, pleaded guilty and were sent up for eight years each. Wallace fought his case, and finally beat it.

Three Hours' Service Today. There will be a solemn three hours' service today at St. Mark's church, commencing at 12 noon, in commemoration of the three hours' agony of our Savior on the cross.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair. DR. WEBER BABY GRAND

DR. RATCLIFFE. HE IS ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE THE most successful Specialist of Children's Diseases, the treatment of both sexes. Private residence of Dr. Ratcliffe, 1118 Commercial St., Seattle, Wash. D. C. Young, Middle-aged and Old. Impediment and all kinds of ailments. A life-long study and practice. Permanent cures guaranteed. Thousands of grateful testimonials on file. Write for literature. E. M. RATCLIFFE, M. D., 1118 COMMERCIAL ST., SEATTLE, WASH.

Sherman, Clay & Co. 715 SECOND AVENUE. N. B.—All sheet music sold at half price. BONNEY & STEWART, Undertakers. B. Parsons, corner of Third and Columbia streets, Seattle, Washington. Telephone No. 13.

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The lucky man of the unlucky number, thirteen, though, as shown above, luck had nothing whatever to do with it, was Frank Olsen, at present employed in the office of the city engineer. He is a native of Norway, where he was a good citizen, and has been connected with the public works department since its organization in 1880, principally as computer and bookkeeper.

Gen. Banks was appointed timekeeper, and James Rickard was appointed janitor of the city hall, temporarily. Philip Little having resigned, and appointments of suitable boss, blacksmith, and wagonmaker were postponed until Monday. All of the appointments are temporary in the sense that no report has yet been made, and the appointments will be subject to civil service examinations.

The report on park improvements for the past three months was received from Park superintendent F. F. Bathurst, which will be laid before the board on Monday. Under the new charter F. N. Little fills that position. Mr. Bathurst goes back to his rank as foreman. His report shows that the work in the park has been principally one of maintenance, and he recommends that the keeper be given an assistant after May 1, one man being paid for three months, and the park duty during the summer months. In the city park the work had been devoted to the improvement of existing clearings, seeding down the park with grass, and planting a roadway. In the nursery Mr. Bathurst reports great injury done to plants by the recent frosts, nearly one-third of the hardy perennials having been killed.

Streets to Have Name Signs. The committee on streets of the council yesterday held a joint meeting with the board of public works to pass upon signs giving the names of streets. A large number of designs had been submitted, out of which three were yesterday chosen, and the board of public works was instructed to advertise for bids for 2,000 signs of the designs chosen.

The Free Labor Bureau. The labor bureau did not do very much business in its new quarters at City hall, and Commissioner Grout said the bureau had undoubtedly missed several orders for help for want of a telephone, which will be put in today. Four women servants were given employment, one man on a ranch, and one man as gardener in the city.

City Hall Notes.

Frank Olsen yesterday filed his oath of office as clerk of the board of public works. The dog owners are not trying very hard to get ahead of the dog catcher, who will start out in a day or two. The two hardy dogs for license, yesterday and Wednesday, the number of tags taken out was only 161, of which eleven were for females.

"Wingy" Wallace in Jail. "Wingy" Wallace, the foot racer, was arrested last night in the southern part of the city by Detective Phillips. No charge was placed against him and it was said by the police that there was not any special significance in the arrest. Wallace was arrested a year or so ago with Bob Cash, the fighter, and William Williams, a variety theater performer, on the charge of holding up Joseph Little, of Ballard, on Third avenue south between Washington and Main streets. Williams and Cash told Chief Rogers the whole story, pleaded guilty and were sent up for eight years each. Wallace fought his case, and finally beat it.

Three Hours' Service Today. There will be a solemn three hours' service today at St. Mark's church, commencing at 12 noon, in commemoration of the three hours' agony of our Savior on the cross.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair. DR. WEBER BABY GRAND

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Sherman,