

TODAY

Wash Bolders—Copper Bottom. No. 7—60 Cents. No. 8—70 Cents. No. 9—75 Cents. Tea Kettles—Copper Bottom. No. 8—35 Cents. No. 9—40 Cents. Japanned Coal Hods. 15-inch, 16-inch, 17-inch, 18-inch, 14 Cents, 17 Cents, 20 Cents, 25 Cents.

LEMONS CHOICE STOCK, 7c Per Dozen.

We issue a large 64-page catalogue, quoting prices of Groceries, Tin and Hardware and Woodenware, which we will mail free to any address on application.

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BUCKSKIN UNDERCLOTHING FOR ALASKA.

Keeps the Cold Out and the Warm In. We have large sizes for big-lunged men and right fits for plucky women. Your examination invited.

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KLONDIKE

A Commodious and Fast Sailing Steamer Will LEAVE SEATTLE ON OR ABOUT JUNE 10, 1898.

And every ten days thereafter, taking freight and passengers.

For Fort Get There, St. Michaels Island, Alaska, mouth of the Yukon river, making connections with the river steamers Wear, Cudahy, Hamilton, Healy, Power and Klondike for Circle City, Minook Creek, Fort Cudahy and Klondike gold fields.

Reservations for passage or freight on steamers may now be secured by making a deposit.

Flour and grain, mines bought and sold. Investments in mining property made, saving expense of sending agents. Our agents and experts are on the ground, and have been for years.

We will issue letters of credit on our company at its posts—Circle City, Alaska, and Fort Cudahy, Dawson City and Klondike gold fields, Northwest Territory—at a charge of 1 per cent.

Large stocks of supplies of all kinds will be found at Fort Get There and Hamilton on the Lower Yukon. For particulars apply to

North American Transportation & Trading Co.

No. 618 First Avenue, Seattle, Wash.

Directors: Michael Cudahy, Chicago, Ill.; John Cudahy, Chicago, Ill.; Ernest A. Hamill, Chicago, Ill.; Charles A. Wear, Chicago, Ill.; Portus B. Wear, Chicago, Ill.

FOR DYEA AND SKAGUAY.

First-class steamer Noy will leave Seattle December 22, 1897, for above points. Arrangements for a limited number of passengers. For freight and passage apply to Telephone Pike 74.

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING FOR CHRISTMAS.

A Thoroughly First-Class Stock, Combining Novelty, Quality and Elegance, With Prices Strictly Fair.



Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Jewelry,

Manicure Sets, Brushes, Hand Mirrors, Combs, Purses, Umbrellas, All Kinds of Table Flatware in Sterling Silver, Plated and Pearl Handle. Tea Sets, Souvenir Spoons, Hat Pins, and an Endless Variety of Sterling Silver Novelties Suitable for All.

We solicit a comparison of goods and prices, knowing you will find our holiday line the best and cheapest.

FRISCH BROS.,

Watchmakers and Jewelers, 720 First Avenue, Seattle.

FOR EARLY ACTION ON FINANCIAL BILLS.

Gage Plan Not to Be Broken Into Parts.

OUTLOOK MUCH CLEARER

Banking Committee to Hold Meetings During the Holidays.

The Secretary of the Treasury Will Submit His Proposed Law Today, and Explain It at Length—A Bill Will Be Reported Embodying the Three Features Recommended by the President—Comprehensive Report to Congress Will Be Made Early in the Year—Understanding of Leaders Gives Satisfaction.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Secretary Gage will appear before the house committee on banking and currency Thursday and submit to them in the form of a general bill his recommendations recently made to congress.

The determination of Secretary Gage to submit one general financial bill instead of a number of separate bills brought out many expressions of satisfaction. It had the effect of clearing up a situation which was becoming strained and gave promise of an early report to congress on financial bills.

The understanding was reached as a result of a visit to the capitol of the solicitor of the treasury, Mr. Connell, representing Mr. Gage. He talked with a number of the republican leaders and it is understood was advised by Mr. Dingley and others that it would be desirable to embrace financial subjects in one general bill. Later the solicitor met Chairman Walker and other members of the committee on banking and currency and a general conference was held as to what should be done. It was made known that Mr. Gage preferred to let the subject go over until after the holiday recess. The committee urged, however, that it desired to take the Gage bill, and also that submitted by the monetary conference, under consideration during the holidays, in order to be in a position to report progress when the house reconvened after the recess.

It was decided, therefore, that Mr. Gage should submit his measure on Thursday and appear in person to explain and argue its merits and answer questions from the committee. It was also made clear that the secretary would cover all his proposals in this general bill instead of cutting the subject up.

This arrangement gave general satisfaction, and having accomplished this much, the members of the committee canvassed the course they would take as to making an immediate report to the house on the currency questions. It was decided that the first thing to be done was to report a bill embodying the three features recommended by the president, viz:

A reduction of the tax on circulation to one-half of 1 per cent. The issuance of circulation up to the par value of bonds deposited. The establishment of small banks in rural communities.

While these will be embodied in the Gage plan, yet, as they were specially advised in the president's message, it was felt to be advisable to give the house the opportunity of acting on them at once without waiting for the report on the Gage bill. For these reasons the full committee will be asked to report on the president's plan at once.

The draft of a bill has been prepared by Mr. Brosius of Pennsylvania, and this was given to the solicitor of the treasury, who is to return it in time for action by the committee with such suggestions as the treasury authorities may wish to make. As to the comprehensive Gage bill, this and the monetary conference bill will be

gone over with care during the holidays, and as a result of the better feeling created today, members of the banking and currency committee say there is no further doubt that action will be reported to the house soon after the holidays.

OPponents of MERIT SYSTEM.

Special Congressional Committee Gives Its Plan of Action. WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The special committee of republican representatives in congress who are seeking to change the civil service law held its first meeting today and outlined its action. It was determined to divide the work between two sub-committees, one to draft a bill changing the law and another to gather evidence on the defects of the present law and its extension beyond the original purpose of the law, etc.

Chairman Grosvenor named as a sub-committee to frame a bill, Republic of Iowa, Pearson of North Carolina and Evans of Kentucky, and as the sub-committee to examine into the defects of the law, Tawney of Minnesota, O'Dell of New York and Steele of Indiana. Their work will begin at once.

Omnibus Bill Reported Favorably. WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The omnibus bill for the payment of an immense number of claims reported by the court of claims under what are known as the Bowring and Tucker acts was favorably reported to the house today from the committee on war claims. The bill appropriates the sum of \$1,333,000 for the payment of claims for stores and supplies furnished to the government during the civil war.

WILL NOT BY THE ROAD.

Union Pacific Finds Price for K. P. Too High. CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—A Post Washington special says: The report of the Union Pacific reorganization committee is given as authority for the statement that the Union Pacific will not buy the Kansas Pacific at the price the government will insist on being paid. Asked if it would be possible for the company to parallel the bid to the reorganization committee, it was stated that it was not possible, and the price could be done at a cost less than one-third that required to buy the Kansas Pacific.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Secretary Gage has issued a public notice to the effect that on Friday, December 24, 1897, the treasury department would be prepared to begin the redemption without rebate of interest of the bonds issued in aid of the Pacific railroads, commonly known as currency sixes, and maturing January 1, 1898; and that checks will be mailed on December 24 in payment of principal and interest to maturity of all bonds presented before that date.

The aggregate of the bonds maturing on January 1 is \$3,944,000, of which \$1,012,000 was issued in aid of the Central Pacific; \$1,929,512 Union Pacific; \$1,423,000 Kansas Pacific; \$229,000 the Central Pacific branch of the Union Pacific; and \$323,220 the Sioux City & Pacific. The net cash balance in the treasury will be decreased by these several amounts as paid. On January 1, next, however, the cash will be increased by about \$7,000,000 due to the reorganization committee of the Union Pacific, and during the first week in January by \$8,500,000 additional, making the net cash in the treasury about \$10,000,000.

PORTLAND, Dec. 14.—The Portland Chamber of Commerce today adopted a resolution asking congress to appropriate the necessary funds for the construction of the bond-aided railroads for the purpose of building the Nicaragua canal.

BRYAN ENJOYING HIMSELF.

He Makes a Speech to the Mexican Congress and is Applauded. CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 14.—Mr. Bryan had a busy and agreeable day today. He called to pay his respects to the new minister, Gen. Powell Clayton, at 10 o'clock and was cordially greeted, and after passing an hour with the minister he drove in the forest of Chapultepec with Thomas Brantiff, president of the Bank of London and Mexico, ex-Gov. Crittenden and Gen. John B. Frisbie, and in the afternoon he was a visitor with Mrs. Bryan at the chamber of deputies and was admitted to the floor, the congressmen all rising out of respect to the great leader of the Democratic party in the United States.

He was invited to speak, and talked of parliamentary institutions and of the progress which Mexico is making on all sides. His reception in the chamber was enthusiastic.

Inquiry Postponed Until Spring.

VICTORIA, Dec. 14.—Nothing will be done this winter to investigate the alleged murder of Isaac Jones, a contractor, whom his late partner, William Adam Gordon, now waiting trial on the charge of theft at the provincial jail, is alleged to have killed in Omnesima district. The work of investigating the circumstances will be pushed in the spring. The general impression is that Gordon made away with his partner. He had a bad character in Omnesima district.

CANADIANS TRYING TO CORNER TRADE.

They Talk of Retaliation on Americans.

IF DYEA SHALL BE CLOSED.

Dominion Government Asked to Make a Vigorous Protest.

Recommendation for Abandonment of the Customs House at Tagish, in the Hope of Forcing All Miners to Take the Stickeen Route—Victoria Board of Trade Wires Sir Richard Cartwright at Ottawa—Secretary Gage Will Make an Investigation and Place the Matter Before the Senate Committee.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 14.—The British Columbia Board of Trade held a special meeting this evening at which the following telegram was ordered forwarded immediately to Sir Richard Cartwright at Ottawa:

"At a special meeting of the British Columbia Board of Trade the following resolution was carried unanimously: 'Whereas, the chambers of commerce of San Francisco, Portland, Tacoma and Seattle have combined to force their government to close Dyea as a sub-port of entry; be it

Resolved, That the dominion government make immediate representations at Ottawa.

WHY CANADA IS HAPPY.

Uncle Sam Has Made Their Fortune—Vague Talk of Returns—Size of Claims to Be Changed.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 14.—A meeting of the Yukon committee of the cabinet was held last night. Although no report has been adopted by the committee, it is said that customs regulations to foreigners entering the Klondike will be made as liberal as possible.

The members of the committee, as well as members of the cabinet, recognize and appreciate the handsome way in which the United States government met the wishes of the Canadian government in establishing customs ports at Dyea and Skaguay, to the great convenience of all parties going to the interior. In many other ways the kindness of the United States government is being mentioned in this connection as the work of the committee is progressing.

The committee will recommend a change in the size of the claims, and also the grouping of the alternate claims.

Washington protesting against such closing of Dyea, and in the event of negotiations being unsuccessful, that this Board of Trade strongly urge upon the dominion government to close the customs house at Tagish lake and prevent the importation of goods and outfits via Lynn canal routes. In view of the great importance of this question the favor of the earliest information of any decision is requested."

Mr. Gage to Investigate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Senator Perkins, of California, and Senator Wilson, of Washington, have had a consultation with Secretary Gage, in which they recommended that the sub-port entry of Dyea be abolished. They presented numerous petitions to this effect, which represented that Dyea as a sub-port now furnishes advantages to persons from British Columbia which are not given to United States citizens going through the passes and to the Klondike country. British subjects now ship goods to Dyea in bond, and they pass on to the Northwest Territory unhampered by customs of any kind.

and enterprising merchants? Don't they want to share the Alaska trade? Speaking here in England, as I frequently do, of the great possibilities of Alaska, I am asked, how long does it take to go up there from Seattle or Victoria. Most people think San Francisco is about 1000 miles further off, and no one would dream of giving San Francisco a thought.

Seattle's Seattle's business men are far more enterprising and liberal than San Francisco people. The city of Seattle no doubt gives better water front facilities than San Francisco does. Ship owners there are not subjected to outrageous harbor, dock and pilot charges. Ship owners have not to deal in Seattle with water front monopolies, who charge the commodity as much as they can possibly collect. For this and other reasons steamship owners make the Northwest seaport their starting point."

Survey of the Hootalinqua.

VICTORIA, Dec. 14.—The survey of the Hootalinqua river has been completed by S. Cyr, the government engineer, who reports that it is navigable for the whole length from Teslin lake to Lewis river. Other parties who could not get to Dawson are wintering on this river.

Wholesale druggists from the cities of the West are in session in Chicago, considering the cut rates at which drugs and patent medicines are sold by department stores.

RELIEF NEEDED QUICKLY.

E. P. Ash Says Supplies Must Be Sent to Dawson to Arrest Threatened Starvation.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Senator McBride, of Oregon, has received the following from E. P. Ash, who arrived at Portland on November 30, direct from Dawson: "I know that the supply of provisions in Dawson cannot last longer than the middle of March. No supplies can reach the interior by ordinary conveyance until next June, and I believe it will require the resources of the United States government to equip an expedition strong enough to overcome the obstacles of a midwinter journey. This expedition should be authorized at once, as it will take from forty to fifty days to reach Dawson from Skaguay and Dyea. I am certain that there will be intense suffering unless relief is at once provided for."

WHOLESALE BUT BITTER TALK.

Herman Liebes Tells Why Seattle Is Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14.—Herman Liebes, president of the great Alaska fur and trading company which bears his name, writes from London to the Merchants' Association, of this city, giving valuable information regarding Seattle's prominence in the race for the Klondike trade. The letter is full of good advice to the business men of San Francisco, and is as follows:

"It is very gratifying to me to see that at last the San Francisco merchants and manufacturers are waking up, and that they see the necessity of doing something in order to secure a slice of the valuable trade which Alaska offers. It is almost impossible to believe that they have been sleeping so long and neglected such an enormous field, and that poor little Seattle, with all its surrounding country and all its contents not worth as much as five or six of our leading citizens and merchants, should carry away this great plum and do almost the entire business of the country."

"What has become of our young men

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Investigation at the customs house, however, showed that the men had nothing to complain of. They were told by Collector Floyd that their goods would be passed through to the international boundary under customs supervision, as provided by the treasury department, but Harrison, Ryan and Turner chose to pay duty rather than pay a customs official \$8 per day to watch the goods while in transit. The men made no objection to paying the duties, and it was only after they had left the customs house that objections were made, and some friends of the men immediately wrote to Collector Milne, stating, it is alleged, that a customs inspector to watch the goods while in transit was denied them.

When Collector Floyd was seen by a representative of the Post-Intelligencer Alaska News Syndicate he said: "This objection to paying duties on goods intended for the Klondike country and bought in Canada is parallel to the objections made this season to paying duties on horses purchased in Canada and landed here. In that case I was instructed to pass the horses through to the international boundary under customs supervision. Now, a customs inspector must work about eight hours a day in discharging his ordinary duties, but on the trail he must work at least sixteen hours a day, and the compensation was placed at \$8 per day. Many of the men bringing in horses and goods chose to pay duties rather than pay the customs inspector's per diem. I have no choice in the matter. Goods purchased in foreign countries must either pay duty here or be passed through to the international boundary under the supervision of United States customs officials. That is plain. Where the international boundary is located is another question which bears upon that of passing goods through to the boundary. We claim that the boundary is ten leagues from tide water here; the Canadians claim that the initial point is on the coast and not on Lynn canal, and thus distance and time cut quite a figure in the payment of a customs official while guarding goods in transit. I have absolutely no authority to permit any person to land foreign goods here without their going through to Canadian territory without paying duty, and I propose to enforce the law and collect the duties which it designates."

"I have been as lenient as possible in enforcing customs duties. In the case of two outfits recently appraised the value was placed at \$28, but the duties paid amounted to \$100. The owners were to pay the duty rather than pay for customs supervision."

Burns and McCouly, of Victoria, had an outfit passed through last week over the Dyea trail. Customs Inspector McLean, who was in charge, was absent nine days, and he only went with the party as far as Crater lake. The trail was so deep that he felt there was no danger of the party attempting to bring their goods back to American territory.

The Skaguay Election.

The election on Saturday last to elect seven "constables" was an exciting one. The contest was spirited between the two factions which suddenly sprang into existence as soon as an election was mentioned. An independent citizen, who was nominated in opposition to the regular citizens' municipal ticket, and the opposition succeeded in electing one man. The total number of votes polled was 56, of which 12 were cast by ladies. Nothing like a full vote was polled, many of the citizens taking little or no interest in the election. Following is the vote, the seven men receiving the highest votes being declared elected:

H. E. Battin, 41; H. R. Littlefield, 35; F. H. Clayton, 36; J. Allen Hornsby, 36; Frank E. Burns, 32; J. Henry Foster, 21; Charles Sperry, 24; F. P. Clark, 20; J. E. Lilly, 20; W. F. Sportas, 21; J. H. McCourt, 17; John Kalem, 17; T. M. Wood, 16.

Forty Tons for Dawson.

W. M. Brooks has secured a contract to transport forty tons of freight from this place to Lake Bennett for the Canadian government.

Inspector of Mines James McGregor and a party of seven men left today for Tagish on their way to Dawson.

News has been received at the headquarters of the Canadian mounted police here that Major Walsh, administrator of the Yukon district, and party reached Tagish house on November 9. Judge McGuire, the new justice of the district, reached Tagish on November 6. Major Walsh left Skaguay on October 15, and Judge McGuire a few days earlier.

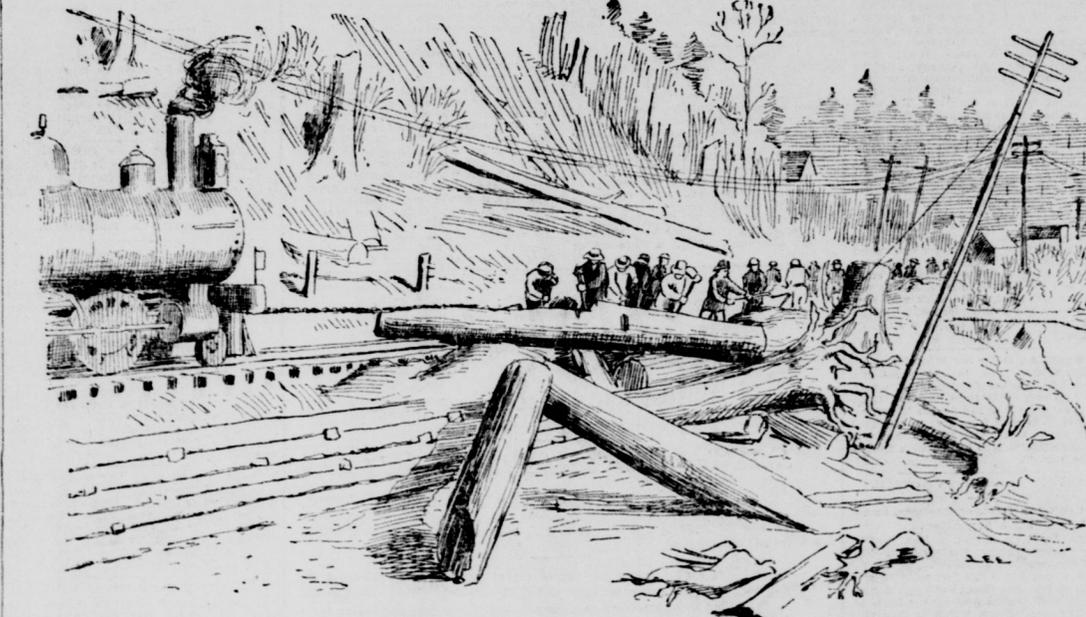
Skaguay's First Church.

The new Union church, the first in Skaguay, will be dedicated on Sunday next. The church building will also be used for school purposes. The building of the first church in this town is due largely to the efforts of Rev. R. M. Dickey, a young Presbyterian clergyman, formerly of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

W. H. Hughes, formerly a well-known citizen of Seattle, but now a full-fledged Klondiker, came in from "Log Cabin" to about eight miles from Lake Bennett, this week. Mr. Hughes has been absent three months on the trail, and succeeded in getting his outfit to "Log Cabin," where he went into winter quarters.

The cold, heavy wind which prevailed

CLEARING THE N. P. OF A SLIDE AT SOUTH SEATTLE.



The local railroad situation showed a marked improvement yesterday, the repairs to the Northern Pacific road in South Seattle having been made during Monday night. At 1 o'clock yesterday morning the repair and construction train was employed in clearing away the logs and debris that had come down in the slide, and this work was carried on during the day. All trains on both the Northern Pacific and Columbia & Puget Sound railroads moved regularly according to schedule, and traffic was in no way interrupted by the operations of the repair gang. The repairs to the Great Northern road between Intarbay and Edmonds were carried on uninterruptedly. It was stated yesterday morning that the Great Northern trains were to be taken out of the city by the Seattle & International and delivered to the Everett & Monte Cristo, by which connection with the Great Northern main line could be made at Lowell. A report of a snow slide at Index, however, prevented the carrying out of the plan, which may be made effective today. Other mud slides on the Great Northern coast line north of Edmonds were reported, said to have occurred about 10 o'clock in the morning. The rotary plows in the mountains will soon clean out the snow, and it is believed at the local offices that traffic on the Great Northern will move regularly tomorrow.

EVERETT, Dec. 13.—This portion of Puget sound is revealing in record-breaking storms this winter. The heavy rainfall of Sunday night, which continued during Monday forenoon, surpassed all others. The result is Everett has been without train service on any of the roads today. People went to the postoffice as usual for their mail, but found a portion of the clerks taking a holiday, as there was no incoming mail to handle.

Several slides are reported on the coast line of the Great Northern between Muk-