

Tomorrow the Seattle-Alaska General Supply Co., Inc., will open at 106-108-110 Washington St. West. The stock comprises miners' necessities only, and is the largest and most complete of its kind on the Pacific Coast. Members of this firm are the pioneer Yukon outfitters of Seattle.

Donald had been the Alaska Commercial Company at St. Michael. Mr. Wilson was agent for the company there, and during his absence a Mr. Ling was acting agent.

"Any bank in Seattle," it is stated, had been given by Macdonald as reference. But officials of several banks stated that they did not know Macdonald.

Down the line went Macdonald and his Scotch castles, taming after each other, until finally the Richmond officials were posted as to his character. This was done during the past few days, and it is probable that Macdonald has been given the solar plexus by this time, and hundreds of well-meaning people in the South will be in their hard-earned dollars instead of having them jingling in Macdonald's pockets.

**HARRY FAIRCHILD WRITES HOME.**  
The Well-Known Whatcom Lawyer is Wintering in Dawson.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer. TACOMA, Jan. 1.—Harry W. Fairchild, the well-known politician and lawyer of this city, wrote from Dawson to his wife under date of November 15. He had been there for some time, and the price of necessities, but says nothing of a scarcity of provisions.

He says there are probably 700 or 800 buildings in the city of Dawson, and that the weather has been cold there usual at that time of year, so that underground drifting was difficult on account of the ground being frozen, and there was little demand for labor. The general impression was, however, that when the ground became thoroughly frozen there would be a demand for all labor at \$15 per day.

Four was selling at \$250 per barrel; bacon at \$1.50 to \$2 per pound; tallow candles, \$1 each; rice, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per pound; butter, \$1 to \$1.50 per pound. Clothing could be returned home. A small sled-train stove bought by himself and partner cost \$50.

He thinks Dawson a wonderfully rich mining camp, but liable to be overdone in a few years. There are a few rich mines, but the majority are either unprospected or have made reasonable showings.

Mr. Fairchild was about to form a brokerage partnership with ex-Collector Wasson, of Port Townsend, and expected to get permission to practice law on the Yukon. A small sled-train stove bought by himself and partner cost \$50.

He and his partner, George Moore, had just finished a sixty-mile trip, with the thermometer 25 degrees below zero. Both of his cheeks had frozen on the journey, and he knew nothing of it till his companion told him. They took up two claims on the Yukon river, from which they have high expectations.

**POPULIST PRIMARIES SET.**

**TACOMA COMMITTEES HOLD ANOTHER MEETING.**

They Are Strongly Favorable to Fusion and Profess Not to Care Which Party Gets the Mayoralty Nomination if He is a Good Man.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer. TACOMA, Jan. 1.—The Populist city committee has agreed that the primaries for the ensuing spring election shall be held February 25. Further than this nothing whatever of a public nature was done at its second meeting held in the office of Fish Commissioner Little last night. Inquiry developed that the session was at first devoted to informal discussion of plans for the coming fight and that fusion is almost sure to result if the recommendations of the committee are endorsed.

The three months yet to elapse before the election is the reason given by the committee for not at this time attempting to form definite plans or outline a policy. The members say that all kinds of unexpected developments may arise before April 5, the day of election, and they therefore prefer to wait until the time is ripe before officially showing their castor in the ring. When questioned as to the majority candidate, all they will say is that they will recommend the candidacy of the man who they feel certain will make the strongest fight, regardless of his politics, so long as he is one of the combined element.

In illustration of how this committee now looks upon Mayor Fawcett's aspiration for renomination, if he possesses any such, one of the committee this morning said in a familiar tone, and he was:

"We are not making a fight against Fawcett any more than any other man. We will select the best man, as a voter, so far as we are concerned, and we will not be making a fight for him, either, are you?"

"Sure not! Why should we? We don't seem to even be worthy of attention by him, so why should we take any pains to think of his personal interests? But this is true: If it is shown before the time of the convention that he is the strongest possible candidate we will recommend his nomination."

"Do you know of anything happening that might make him the strongest man to head the ticket?"

"No, I can't say I do. But you can't tell what might happen before April. The mayor might have occasion to make an actual appointment," concluded the committee in a familiar tone, and he was actually guilty of winking at the reporter as he said it.

His latter reference was to the naming of a clerk of the municipal court, a choice as has already been noted having been in opposition to the recommendation of the city committee. Despite the fact that members say nothing was done at the meeting, it was a very interesting little episode in the meeting in this connection. One member of the committee insisted the mayor's appointment of Frank J. Baker, but the balance of the committee thought differently, whatever their feeling in the matter may be, and successfully opposed a vote to this effect.

Another feature of the meeting worthy of note is its place of meeting. It was distinctly understood that this point of the meeting was to be held at the Populist headquarters—or what is generally called the banquet hall of the Populist. Local newspaper men were told that the meeting place would not be divulged, but it was learned by a Post-Intelligencer reporter today that the gathering was held at the office of Fish Commissioner Little, and that the same reasons which led the committee to decline to meet at the headquarters in the first instance are still operative. The speaker in this connection was of the faction represented by Messrs. Hogan and Metcalf, lessees of the headquarters, are still distasteful to the committee, and that whatever the committee has existed between the committee and this following it has not yet been patched up.

**IMPORTANT LINK IN GROOMS CASE.**

**A Razor Found, Which May Implicate Burns in the Crime.**  
Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer. TACOMA, Jan. 1.—Although the Grooms murder case is not on today attorneys for the defense are at work in the interest of their client. Further information has been gathered concerning the finding of the razor with which the murder is supposed to have been committed. It seems that an Italian water front man was told by his young child that a razor was hidden in the Grooms case, as was reported in today's Post-Intelligencer. The Italian found the razor, but instead of picking it up, reported the circumstance to a policeman. This officer is the one who has worked to gather evidence for the prosecution, and upon hearing of the razor at once started out to recover it. The policeman, it turned out, was the prosecuting attorney.

The spot where it was picked up is no where near the route taken by Grooms to gain the dock from which he fell into the bay, and if the theory of the prosecution is to be maintained attorneys on that side will not desire to admit the razor as being wrapped around the neck of the tragedy. Their view is that by cutting Grooms' throat, Grooms ran to the dock and slashed his own throat, jumping into the bay afterward, probably dropping the razor into the water as he descended.

The defense, however, will make an effort to have the razor identified as the one used by Burns. Burns, it is alleged to have been found by Grooms, and should they succeed in this the whole case of the opposition will be toppled over. It is his own razor, it is contended, that Burns is no easy one, and Burns, who has been the star witness for the prosecution, will in all likelihood be given the razor, and it has already been shown by the defense that Burns kept the razor hidden under the mattress on his bed, and that Grooms had seldom if ever seen it, and did not know where it was. This precludes any hope of Grooms helping to identify the razor, and whether the defense will be able to find any one who can identify it remains to be seen. The only fact yet known to show the razor to belong to Burns is that it was the empty sheath found in the room after the killing, and hundreds of other persons would fit the sheath equally as well.

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**THERE HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR.**

Puget Sound and British Columbia Show the Largest Percentage of Improvement, and the Oregon Rivers and Bays the Only Loss.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—The Herald of Trade and Finance prints the following review of the Pacific coast salmon pack for the season just closed:

The total pack of canned salmon on this coast was, according to the estimates made by it, but it comes up to the early estimates. While the Alaska pack is not up to last year's, those of British Columbia, Puget sound, of the Fraser river and Sacramento river are larger, but those of the outside streams and bays in Oregon are not up to 1896. The Alaska pack is somewhat of a surprise, for it was generally expected with considerable confidence that it would aggregate fully 1,000,000 cases. It is stated that the run of fish did not come up to expectations. This also explains why the British Columbia pack fell below estimates before the season opened. While the runs on Fraser river were fairly large, there were light runs on northern rivers and inlets. The Puget sound pack of sockeyes came fully up to expectations, but the run of silver sides, a little later, was a disappointment, and cut the estimated pack quite materially. The Columbia river pack, it was thought, would be not over 400,000 cases, but the exceptional sizes of the Chinook salmon made a much larger pack than had been estimated even during the fishing season. It is rather singular that the pack of this river was in 1893 and 1894 over 800,000 cases, and in 1895, 500,000 cases, but from 1893 to 1895, inclusive, the pack was over 325,000 cases to 475,000 cases, with one year, 1892, 228,000. Since 1893, the pack has been over 500,000 cases each year. This is convincing evidence that the Oregon state hatcheries have proven a success.

The very low prices that ruled for salmon this year must have caused outside packers to reduce their output, for by no other cause could the falling off be accounted for. The pack in the Sacramento river was largely in excess of last year, notwithstanding a strike of fishermen lessened the total pack. The total cases for the Pacific coast:

Table with 2 columns: Location and Cases. Includes Alaska, Puget sound, Columbia river, Sacramento river, and Grand total.

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BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 1.—The estimate of the mineral production of Idaho made by the United States assay office gives the following figures: Gold, \$1,100,000; silver, \$1,100,000; lead, \$2,500,000; total, \$3,100,000. Increase over 1896, \$1,358,153.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—The report of the local branch mint will show an increase of the cologne for the year 1897 of nearly \$4,000,000, and the largest business, with an exception of two years, since the mint was established in 1852. The following figures are given: Gold, \$2,322,500, of which \$2,045,000 was double eagles, \$2,347,500 eagles and \$1,770,000 half eagles. The total silver cologne was \$5,511,751.

**CHENEY IN PROSPEROUS.**

**Business Conditions Show Great Improvement Over Last Year.**  
Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer. CHENEY, Jan. 1.—The editor of the Free Press has interviewed the business men of Cheney in regard to the business of the past few months of this year in comparison with that done one year ago. In every case a substantial increase is reported. Several who gave figures reported a gain of 15 per cent; some even claim to have doubled their business. The agents of the Northern Pacific railway reported that the increase in freight and passenger traffic for the year 1897 was 18 per cent, greater than for the year 1896. A year ago 1,000 cars were sealed at this station a month; this year it takes 3,000 seals. These figures are gratifying to the business men, for it proves that the town has grown in a business way despite the closing of the state normal school.

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**ORE CONTAINS TELLURIUM.**

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Advertisement for Newhall's clothing and boots. Text: "We intend to talk Klondike Clothing in about a week." "In about a week we shall talk about Klondike Clothing & Boots."

**AT NEWHALL'S.**  
THE PIONEER OF LARGE TRADE AND LOW PRICES ON SECOND AVENUE.

**Great Special Sale**

**OF BLANKETS, COMFORTS and BEDDING SUPPLIES**

**This Week, Commencing Tomorrow—Monday.**

This sale will be an agreeable surprise and a record-breaker on LOW PRICES.

To the hotelkeeper, the lodging house proprietor, and the thrifty housekeeper, this SPECIAL SALE OF BLANKETS and BEDDING SUPPLIES will be a genuine wealth producer, simply because equal values will cost 20 per cent. more elsewhere.

- BLANKETS, COMFORTS, SHEETINGS, PILLOW CASINGS, and TOWELS.

As cheap to our patrons as other merchants buy them at. Commencing tomorrow (Monday).

**NOTE—**  
All Wool Fancy Dress Goods, in mixtures of green, tan, brown, garnet, navy blue, warp and welt, chain and filling, every fiber fine, 30 inches wide. Remember the width, 36 inches; regular price 50c; Monday morning you can buy them

**At 23c a Yard.**

Maintaining our record for LOWEST PRICES ON DESIRABLE GOODS.

**Country Order Department.**

We solicit mail orders and guarantee to fill them as satisfactorily as if selected personally. Samples free. We pay expressage on purchases of \$5.00 and upwards except on domestic staples.

**E. W. NEWHALL & CO.**

Cor. Second Av. and Madison St.

ly went into the water. He sank and was not missed for awhile. His parents live in Bellevue, Ia., where the body will be taken.

**Australian Miners Arrive.**  
VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 1.—The steamship Mowara brought forty Australian miners bound for the Yukon. She saw nothing of the Pelican. She encountered much rough weather.

**Cotton Mills Reduce Wages.**  
TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 1.—Notice has been posted in the Curt cotton mills in this city, that on and after January 1 a reduction of about 11 per cent will be made in the wage scale. The mills employ 400 hands, who, it is thought, will accept the reduction.

**MANCHESTER, N. H., Jan. 1.**—Manufacturing and Amory cotton manufacturing corporation will put the notices of a 10 per cent. cut, which were posted about two weeks ago, into effect Monday. The 12,000 operatives employed there printed notices that they would accept the reduction, and there will be no strike in this city.

**FALL RIVER, Mass., Jan. 1.**—The spinners tonight voted to accept the wage reduction, consequently there will be no strike in any mill.

**BUSINESS MEN'S BANQUET.**  
Assistant Secretary Davis Addresses Them on Bosses in Politics.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 1.—Assistant Secretary of the Interior Webster Davis was the guest of the city at the ninth annual banquet given by the Rhode Island Business Men's Association tonight.

Davis has been invited to attend the banquet as a representative of the national administration, and in the beginning of his address he paid a high compliment to the president and Secretary Bliss, with whom he is associated in the interior department.

Discussing politics, Mr. Davis declared his belief that the day of bosses was drawing to a close, and he strongly advocated the active interest of young men in political matters.

**No Ore for Cardiff.**  
CLEVELAND, Jan. 1.—Warner Stuart & Co., of this city, who were mentioned in a Pittsburgh dispatch as having received an order from Cardiff, Wales, for 4,000,000 tons of iron ore, deny the truth of the report in the most emphatic way. They say there is no foundation whatever for the statement, either that they had received an order for ore, or that they were about to construct vessels to carry it.

**FELL HEIR TO A BARONETCY**  
Penniless Young Englishman at Portland Has a Stroke of Good Fortune.

PORTLAND, Jan. 1.—Clarence Danvers Davenport, a young Englishman who has been leading a hand-to-mouth existence in Portland since August, has become a baronet by receiving a cable from London announcing the death of his uncle, Sir Richard Danvers, of Danvers Court, Lincolnshire, England, and informing him that he had succeeded to the estate and title.

Money for the trip to England was telegraphed him by American agents of the estate and he left tonight to take possession of his inheritance. Davenport had been in Chicago, San Francisco and a number of other American cities.

**Drowned While Bathing.**  
BUTTE, Jan. 1.—Frank Swenson, aged 23, was drowned in the big plunge at Oregon's Springs, near here, today. He had been to the springs with a party of friends, and after dancing for several hours ate a hearty dinner and immediately

stating himself into the confidence of the railroad people there seems to be little doubt, and that he also managed to work himself into the esteem of very reputable people in Richmond and other points in the South seems evident.

The first inquiry that was sent out concerning Macdonald was directed to certain railroad officials in the West. It came from the men with whom Macdonald had connected himself in Richmond. There he proposed to the officials of the Chesapeake & Ohio, it has been learned, the formation of a party of not more than 500, which would be carried through Dawson, via Victoria or Seattle, for the low figure of \$150. The route included a steamer line from Puget sound to Juneau and thence by railroad and the Taku river to Lake Teslin. From this point, according to his scheme, Macdonald was to "personally conduct" the expedition to Dawson by steamer, down the Hootalinqua and Yukon rivers.

**Macdonald's Great Circular.**

Circulars, announcing the organization of the company for the purposes named, and defining the route, as indicated, were printed and, it is said, distributed widely throughout the South. They awakened great interest and soon after they were disseminated, inquiries for passage and particulars as to the route began to pour in on the officials of the railroad companies. So plausible were Macdonald's representations and so complete as to details was his scheme, that many people with dreams of untold riches floating before them, took up with the plan. No small part of Macdonald's alleged "graffiti" was the offer to take people to Dawson for \$150, a ridiculous figure. Indeed, it was this fact, it is stated, that first led suspicion to fall on him; which led to investigations, resulting in the exposure. Had Macdonald placed the figure at \$100 or \$50, with a liberal "divvy" to the railroad people in the East and to the men with whom he sought to ally himself, it is possible that he might have secured a neat sum in the way of advance payments and made away with a fortune before his mask was taken from him and he was exposed as a common swindler.

The circular, which was distributed through the South and East, announced the organization of the British Yukon Transportation and Trading Company and contained a description of the new route, via Lake Teslin and the Hootalinqua river to Dawson. Passengers were to be booked to the Big Salmon, McMillan post, for points on the river of that name, Stewart river, Bonanza camp, Klondike river, Forty-Mile, Fort Cudahy and Circle City.

The details of the route were set forth with great elaboration. It was stated that the company's boats could not accommodate more than 500 persons and that the sale of tickets would be restricted to that number.

Here was where Macdonald, it is believed by those who have investigated the matter, hoped to reap a small fortune. He stated in his circular that of the principal sum of \$150, \$10 was to be deposited on making application for passage. His arrangement with the railroad people was, it is learned, to retain the advance payment and give the other half to the company.

**Hundreds Prepared to Bite.**

As if to stampede the gold-crazy people of the country into his net, Macdonald wound up with the statement that after the departure of the special party from Richmond, rates would be advanced to \$300 and no tickets sold for any less amount. The final statement was to the effect that the party would be under the supervision of Macdonald himself as "general agent of the company at Juneau." For full information as to the statement, etc., Macdonald, it is said, referred prospective victims to the officials of the passenger department of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Company. This gave the impression of responsibility to the circular, and it is no wonder that hundreds were prepared to bite at the attractive bait, when, to the good fortune of the country, the gold-seekers, Macdonald and his nefarious scheme were exposed.

Representations, made personally by the officials to the Eastern men whom he hoped to involve in his plans, were to the effect that his company had absorbed all of the important steamship and transportation companies operating between Puget sound and Alaska, and that the British Yukon Transportation and Trading Company was another name for the North American Transportation and Trading Company, which was the name of the steamers from Seattle to St. Michael, the new organization to be effective January 1, 1898. He also represented that his company controlled all of the boats and piers on the Yukon river. Macdonald's statements went so far as to arrange for the transportation of the passage money between the company and the company making the chain to Seattle, and the steamship line to Alaska.

Macdonald arrived in Richmond, Va., early in November, and at once began operations. It is stated that he had prospects to the railroad officials and secured a hearing. Then he set about printing his circulars and getting ready to reap a harvest of souls. He was aided by a wealthy steamship-broker, and added no little to the attractiveness of his scheme by setting in motion a party to lead the expedition to the gold fields.

**Some Representations Exposed.**  
It can well be supposed that this part of his undertaking appealed to the uninitiated gold-seekers, who foolishly imagined that Macdonald was a man of business, and would lead them to the promised land and bid them lay hold of rich gold-bearing properties right and left. Nothing would seem to have led them to doubt the honesty of the Yukon into ease and plenty for their remaining days.

Then followed inquiries of Western men by the Eastern men, and the principal said that telegrams were sent and that were written. Macdonald had stated that the Seattle office of his company was located in the order which, investigation showed that no such office at the place named was to be found. He gave the address of the Victoria office as No. 10 Government street, the Post-Intelligencer correspondent at that city reported that no such number existed and that the man whom Macdonald said was the general agent of his company was unknown in Victoria.

Inquiry was made at the Chicago and Seattle offices of the North American Transportation and Trading Company, and the denial was emphatically made that any company had absorbed it. The officials of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Company had also been asked. The officials of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Company had also been asked. The officials of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Company had also been asked.

Next came an inquiry of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, which Macdonald represented was to be absorbed in the organization of the expedition. The company gave a negative answer, and the details of the story that it was to be taken into the files of the Macdonald concern. It was stated that no such man as Macdonald was known to the company.

**EMPEROR WILLIAM AFFABLE.**

**Discourses in Various Languages to Ambassadors at His Reception.**

BERLIN, Jan. 1.—At the court reception today, Emperor William was most pleasant and affable. He spoke in English to the British ambassador, Mr. Andrew D. White, and to the British ambassador, Sir Frank Cavendish Lasselles, in German to the Austrian ambassador, Count von Salm-Reifferscheidt, and in French to the other ambassadors.