

AMATEUR DETECTIVE McCARTHY

Blacksmith Unearths an Alleged Gold-Brick Scheme.

Captain Bohem Will Investigate the Serious Charges Made.

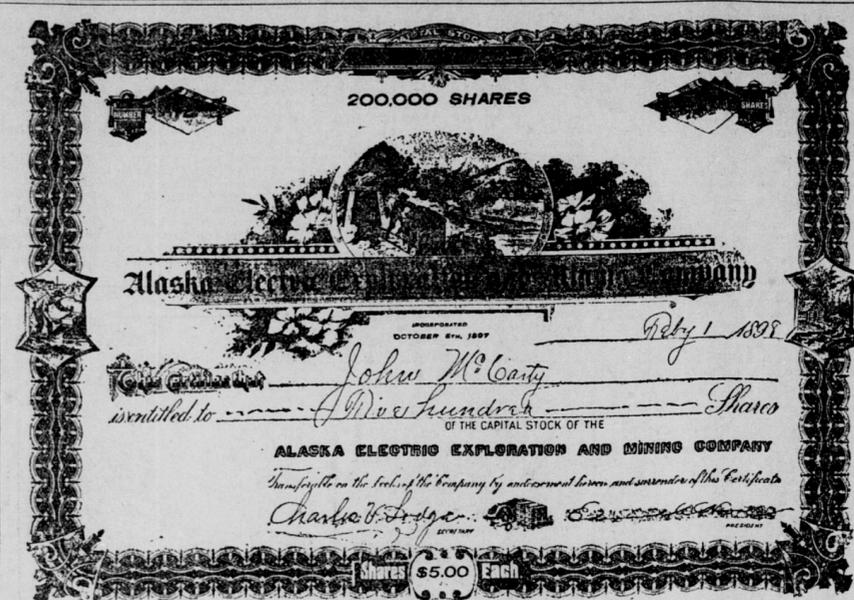
Patients With Klondike Fever Warned Against a Local Corporation.

A TELLTALE CERTIFICATE.

The First National Bank's Name Used Without Consent—Ten Men Now Happy.

John H. McCarthy, the blacksmith detective. That sounds well as a heading for a dime novel and would delight the average youth; but if subsequent developments justify the title there will be many whose minds are turned Klondikewise to whose ears the words will sound as a strain of the sweetest music.

As a consequence he asserts that the Alaska Electric Exploration and Mining Company, with offices on the third floor of the Mills building, is not a bona



The Certificate Presented to McCarthy and Expected to Lure Others Into a Klondike Mining Scheme.

claim forms one of the main features of the story. Eugene McGrath is the mining engineer. "Captain," declared McCarthy in an excited tone, as he walked into Bohem's office yesterday, "I have been offered a gold brick by a supposed Klondike company and I want to show them fellows up." He was told to go ahead, and related his story as follows: "A few days ago, as I was returning here from Los Gatos, I met a man named J. Withey, who says he is general agent for this Alaska Electric Exploration and Mining Company. He seemed to be a pretty nice man, and when he learned that I contemplated going to the Klondike he said I was the very man he had been looking for,

that it was probably a scheme. They said they had inquiries from all over the country about the company. Now Withey had told me they had \$100,000 in the First National Bank and that thirty-six men had paid up, but last Sunday when I was talking to Lodge alone he told me they had only \$1000 in the bank. So I pretended to Withey that the others would not come in unless they saw something substantial done. Then I wrote him a letter and sent it down by a boy saying that if he would let me have my five hundred shares the others would probably be induced to come in. Here is the reply I got," and McCarthy exhibited a letter reading as follows:

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1, 1898. Dear Friend Mack: Your note received and will do as I advise you. This is between you and I, of course. It is no one's biz how you get it. Now, Mack, do your best, and you will always find me your true friend. Yours very truly, HARRY J. WITHEY, General Agent.

Accompanying this letter was a certificate for 500 shares in the company, which McCarthy says he was expected to show the others in order to get them to "plank down the dough."

McCarthy then wanted to have everybody connected with the company arrested, but upon the advice of an attorney that nothing could be done unless it could be proved that somebody had actually paid money in, this was considered premature and a detective was detailed on the case.

James K. Lynch, cashier of the First National Bank, asserts that the institution has never been notified of being elected treasurer for the Alaska Electric Exploration and Mining Company and has no account with them. He knew one or two of the men by reputation only and had always considered them good citizens.

"We have received two or three inquiries from local residents about them," he said, "and one came from Montana. They have inquired about our name on their billheads without first getting our consent. It appears to me to be done for the purpose of backing up their company with the name of a reputable institution. McCarthy, the complainant and amateur detective, is a brother of the famous "White Hat" McCarthy, and is engaged in blacksmithing at 22 Golden Gate avenue. He asserts that he had a "tough" job as a teacher of Denhey from joining without any investigation, and that if Denhey had not confidence in his friend on account of the fact that he had been elected to the Assembly in 1888 from the Thirty-ninth District, he would surely have lost his money.

BALLOT COUNTING TO BEGIN EARLY.

Another Innovation in the Proposed Charter Favored by Freeholders.

The Board of Freeholders met last evening at the Mills building and continued its consideration of the subject of precinct registration. Sections 6 to 8 inclusive of the report were adopted with little debate. They provide generally for the qualifications of an elector. The number of registration officers in each precinct is left to the judgment of the Board of Election Commissioners.

All sections of the report dealing with the board of registration were adopted with slight verbal amendments as were those relating to precinct registers. Mayor Gutte caused a long debate when the clauses treating of elections and the canvass of votes came up for consideration. The proposing amendment 10 by adding a provision that the counting of ballots begin as soon as forty votes were cast. The section was finally referred back to the committee with a recommendation that the clause be incorporated.

Will Breed Fine Horses.

Articles of incorporation were filed yesterday by the Rulnart Stock Farm, an organization composed of several prominent young attorneys of this city. For an object of incorporation the company has in view the development of a modern stock farm, at which fine blooded horses will be raised. The directors are H. H. McPike, Edward L. Rhoads, George E. Keane, William L. Ashe and R. Porter Ashe. The Bell ranch at Belmont, Sonoma county, has been leased for a term of years. A racetrack and paddocks will be constructed. The famous horse, Sonoma, has been purchased and a number of mares will be purchased during the summer for breeding purposes.

The Mercantile Library.

The recent election for officers for the Mercantile Library at which there was a vote for the office of president and a very close vote for a few of the directors has been set aside and a new election ordered to take place on the 24th inst. The cause which led up to this action grew out of the fact that a good many votes were cast by proxy which were considered as being illegal; also, that a greater number of votes were counted than the tally list showed had been voted by the voters.

Divorce Suits Filed.

Ellen Bachmann has commenced suit for divorce against Fred W. Bachmann on the ground of desertion. Lorela M. Johnson has applied for a divorce from William M. Johnson on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment.

Nathaniel I. Keith has applied to the courts for an annulment of his marriage to his wife Annie. As a cause of action he alleges desertion.

Sarah M. Connel has applied for a divorce from W. Connel on the ground of habitual intemperance.

Try the "Koh-I-Noor" lead pencil, and you will have no further use for others.

Libel Suit Withdrawn. As a result of an abject apology recently made to Colonel Trumbo in the Bulletin, Judge Low yesterday, on motion of Prosecuting Attorney Spindler, dismissed the libel suit brought against R. A. Crothers and Fremont Older by the colonel.

DESERTED BY THEIR WIVES

Two Husbands Ask the Assistance of the Police.

H. A. Mayor, a Butcher of Los Angeles, in a Sad Predicament.

Fred Pries, a Wool Sorter on Harriet Street, Also Mourns the Loss of His Children.

Cases of wives deserted by their husbands are not infrequent in the police courts, but the reverse side of the picture is seldom heard of, for the reason, perhaps, that men do not care to make their domestic troubles public property.

Two cases of such desertion came to light yesterday and the assistance of the police has been asked in each case to find the erring wives and bring them back to their husbands.

H. A. Mayor, a butcher in Los Angeles, was deserted by his wife about two weeks ago. He learned that she had come to this city with Gracie, her 7-year-old daughter. He arrived in this city Monday and discovered that his wife had been living in the same house with a man named Rooney and the little girl had been boarding at the house of Miss Cunningham on Minna street, near Fourth. He went there and demanded the custody of the girl, but Miss Cunningham refused to deliver her up without the consent of Mrs. Mayor.

Mayor went to his wife and begged her for the sake of their three children to return with him to Los Angeles. She pretended to consent, but that night she packed her trunk during her husband's temporary absence and disappeared. Mayor has been unable to find her whereabouts and yesterday afternoon he called at police headquarters and asked the assistance of the police in tracing his wife. He also stated that Miss Cunningham refused to give up possession of the little girl and he was determined to have her. The mother had deserted the other two children, one older and one younger than Gracie.

He was advised to consult one of the prosecuting attorneys as to obtaining possession of the girl and also as to what action he should take in regard to his wife. The police will meantime use every effort to trace the wife.

The other case was that of Fred Pries, a wool sorter, living at 372 Harriet street. He had been confined to bed for a month with pleurisy and last Friday was the first time he had been able to leave the house for a short walk. When he returned he found that his wife had deserted him, taking with her her two young children. She left a note that she was tired of the life she had been living with him and he need not trouble looking for her or the children.

Pries, sick as he was, started on a hunt for his wife and Saturday night he found her in a saloon on Sixth street with Frank Malley, a bartender. He tried to get her to come with him, but Malley interfered and knocked him down. He had Malley arrested for battery and the case was called in Judge Joachimsen's court yesterday and was continued until Monday morning. Pries has asked the police to find his wife and two children.

ELIZABETH L. HAGER'S WILL. Relatives of the Deceased Bequeathed a Very Valuable Estate.

The will of Mrs. Elizabeth L. Hager, widow of the late John S. Hager, once Collector of the Port of San Francisco, who died on the 25th of last month, was filed for probate yesterday. The estate disposed of by the will is a large one, and will probably reach several hundred thousands of dollars in value.

The testatrix bequeaths her jewelry, silverware, pictures and wearing apparel to her daughters, Emily, Alice and Ethel Hager and her sons, Frank J. and William P. Hicks. The property left the testatrix by her husband is bequeathed to Frank S. Hicks, Warren B. English and Arthur Rodgers, to be held in trust by them for the use of the three daughters.

The residue is given in trust to Robert J. Lucas and Frank S. Hicks for the five children of the deceased. The executors of the will are Robert J. Lucas, a brother of the testatrix, who resides in St. Louis, Frank S. Hicks of Los Angeles, Warren B. English, who resides in Oakland, and Arthur Rodgers of this city.

Will Get the Limit.

The case of James Horrigan, the drunken shoemaker on Silver Heights, who drove his wife and three children from home Monday night, was heard by Judge Low yesterday. Mrs. Horrigan testified that Horrigan, when drunk, used to knock her down and kick her and beat the children. He had also threatened to kill her and she believed he would carry out his threat. The children corroborated their mother's testimony, and Horrigan was convicted and ordered to appear for sentence this morning.

Champagne Statistics. On account of its superior quality and natural dryness, without being heavy, G. H. Mumm & Co.'s Extra Dry leads the imports in 1897 with 72,775 cases, or 42,233 cases more than any other brand.

LURING BOYS TO BLIGHT THEIR LIVES

Pupils of the Public Schools Betting on the Pools.

Place Their Money in the Poolrooms Like Old Gamblers.

Their Conversation Tinged With the Slang of the Jockey and the Tout.

POLICE DO NOT CARE.

Lads Who Boast of Their Winnings or Lament the "Tips" Which Made Them Lose.

Here are a startling series of facts. Boys of San Francisco not only have the privilege of betting on races, but they are encouraged to do so. Men who must be devoid of all conscience accept the money of the youngsters and make returns sufficient to keep the gambling spirit alive among children. Lads wager their money freely. No matter how they obtain it, they have no right to thus waste it, and they should be protected even against the knowledge which enables them to invest in chance.

Probably the information will come with a shock to parents and cause them to wonder why such a state of affairs is permitted. There can be no answer unless that the police are blind.

There is no question but it should be stopped at once. Any man who receives the money of a boy in this way is a criminal, a menace to the community, debaucher of morals, a creator of thieves, in a word, a dangerous character. Yet the unholy system is not interfered with although there is a police force supposed to regulate such matters and even now a Grand Jury in session.

"Say, fellows, I've got to be put next or I blow the whole show. You chumps haven't been touting me worth a cent, and last week I put \$10 out. It don't go. You fellows got on the inside and you are jingling dough by the fist full and I am broke."

Nearly a dozen boys ranging in ages from fourteen to eighteen years were talking in the yard of the Adams Cosmopolitan School on Eddy street yesterday telling of their luck with the race horses the week before, and one of them was lamenting his losses.

"I told you to get down good and hard on O'Connell," one of the group cried, "but you thought you knew it all. You don't deserve to travel in our set if you can't take a hint without having a house fall on you. Next time just watch us and you will wear diamonds."

"I am not kicking about that, but you told me to play Buck Massie. All you fellows said he was a hot favorite and sure to win, and I dropped another dollar on that tip. Then you gave me the Dog for a good thing, but he blew up in the stretch and where did I get off? There is no jingle in that pocket now. I will go it alone after this and see what luck I will have. I would rather take Cohen's tips than your's."

Cohen conducts a poolroom in a room of the lodging-house at 35 1/2 Geary street. Boys are his particular patrons and a crowd of the pupils of the Adams Cosmopolitan School are frequent visitors of the place.

According to reports of many of the pupils of the school playing the races is a common pastime among a number of the scholars. It is reported that last week Ed Conroy won \$35. Bert Spring also made a good winning, but how much he is too well versed in the practices of the track to tell.

Arthur Scher came out of the week's betting \$5 ahead, and Fred Benson also claims to be a winner. Paul Fitzmorris lost a small sum and then quit for the week. Harold Spring, it is reported by the pupils, also made a winning. A number of other boys, it is claimed, join these lads in their ventures making pools of a few nickels each and placing their money on favorites picked by those who claim to be better posted on the ways of the horses.

Most of the money, the boys say, is handled by Cohen, who keeps a commission place at 35 1/2 Geary street. There they buy the pool, sending one by number to the place at noon recess to put up the money and calling for their winnings if there should be any after school closes.

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AMUSEMENTS.

California Theatre. Beginning Sunday, Feb. 6, First Appearance in San Francisco of the World-Famous and Unrivaled Black Patti Troubadours!

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Every Evening—All this and next week. A Host of Pretty Girls—Catchy Music!—A Delightful Production!—Monday, Feb. 14—"THE BOSTONIANS."

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BUSH-ST. THEATRE. The Thalia German Hebrew Opera Company. Wednesday and Sunday Nights, February 2 and 5, the Side-splitting, Roaring Comedy, "THE SLEEP-WALKER" ("Die Nachtwandlerin"). Box office open daily from 10 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.

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SAN FRANCISCO ORATORIO SOCIETY. JAMES HAMILTON HOWE, Conductor. Ninth Concert, Metropolitan Hall, Thursday, February 2, 7:30 p. m. "CREATION." Soloists, Mrs. Priest-Fine, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Campbell. Reserved Seats, 50c, at Byron Laury's, 308 Post street.



JOHN McCARTHY, THE BLACKSMITH DETECTIVE.

ade organization so far as integrity of purpose is concerned, and after hearing his tale Captain Bohem, the head of the local detective force, agrees with him. The officers of the company are: E. B. Hore, president; C. G. Cleary, vice-president; C. V. Lodge, secretary; F. A. Berlin, attorney. The First National Bank is represented in its circulars as the treasurer, although this

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