

Bob Hughes, an old time Arizona miner, returned last week to Yuma from Klondike. He says the frozen north is all right for a man with plenty of money to pay the enormous expenses of prospecting and developing mines, but that the wage earner and poor prospector is a great deal better off in the land of perpetual sunshine. He says that the pay dirt was all located when he left there in November and unless new finds are made the many people now rushing to the new Eldorado will be disappointed.

The "Station Grounds."

The Santa Fe Pacific railroad claims under its charter a strip of land one mile long 300 feet on each side of its track at all stations for station purposes. At the majority of stations along their line but little of this ground is used by them, and in many instances stores and dwellings have been erected within the limits claimed by the railroad company. It is the case in Flagstaff.

Last year the railroad had surveys made of what is termed by them "station grounds" and the survey develops that the grounds are occupied by many people who have hitherto supposed that they owned all the right and title to their little plat of ground, but now that the railroad claims a prior right, they desire some kind of settlement.

Two representatives of the railroad company have been in Flagstaff this week endeavoring to effect some kind of a compromise between the railroad and the present owners. The situation is not a pleasant one to the gentlemen who have this work to perform, nor to the individuals who for years past have owned and occupied lands within the limits of the "station grounds."

Just what will be done in this matter has not yet been determined, but it is hoped that the matter can be amicably settled as between the railroad company and the property owners.

Now Open.

On January 16th the Johnson canyon tunnel was burned out and the Santa Fe Pacific railroad was blocked for traffic. The tunnel was retimbered and completed on January 27, but was almost immediately burned out again. The work of retimbering was commenced again and it was opened on Thursday night and traffic has again been resumed. The blockade was the most serious one that has ever occurred on the Santa Fe Pacific and all through freight and the limited passenger trains were sent by way of the Southern Pacific, the Maricopa and Phoenix and the Santa Fe, Prescott and Phoenix roads. The tunnel will probably be arched over with rock during the year, for as long as the timbers remain there is danger of it being burned out.

Suicide at Pine Springs.

Fred Ayer, son of J. E. Ayer, a cattleman living at Pine Springs, on the Hualpi reservation, committed suicide on Monday. He was deliberate in the matter, as he placed the loaded gun to his head and pulled the trigger with his toes. The charge blew the top of his head off. Young Ayer lived in a cabin alone and his body was found by a neighboring rancher, who reported the suicide to W. N. Hunter, justice of the peace of Williams precinct, and Mr. Hunter held an inquest, but the verdict is not as yet known.

Letter List.

Unclaimed letters remaining in the post office at Flagstaff for the week ending February 12, 1898:

Burrows, Addie	McAlester, Mrs.
Broyls, James A	Moon, J C
Cohvy, B	Meckell, Charley
Devine, Flo	Nelson, Dan
Hish, James	Ross, Elizabeth Mrs
Halford, J R	Stanley, J R
Jones, Mary	Wendover, W D (3)
Malard, Mrs John	

T. J. COALTER, P. M.