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EDITAROD STARTS ROW BETWEEN MAIL ROUTES Postmaster T. L. Thurston is experimenting with a view to securing government action in having Iditarod Innoko and Seward peninsula mails routed via Seward next winter, if possible. The test is being made in the following manner: Duplicate letters dealing with the proposed change have been sent to the postmaster-general and to Delegate Wickersham. Of these one set was forwarded by the regular mail route, while the duplicates were given into the care of H. H. Porter, who left for the Outside over the Seward trail last Saturday morning. Mr. Porter will post the letters when he reaches Seattle. —Iditarod Pioneer.

WILD HORSES ROAM IN B. C. VALLEYS Three thousand or more wild horses in herds from 30 to 100 are roaming over the hills and valleys in the interior of British Columbia, according to a report by James Bradley, who, with Gustav Relland, a veteran prospector and miner known throughout the bonanza gold camps, has just returned from an extended exploration tour of the coast, says the Prince Rupert Empire. "Indians and white prospectors and pack train freighters value these animals more than high-bred horses," said Mr. Bradley. "They are the progeny of horses turned loose on the trail by discouraged or dying men during the famous gold rush in the Caribou country. Thousands of the best 'tenderfeet' stamped out the new fields in the early 60's. Many of them were incompetent, and, in fact, utterly helpless in that wild country, and the horses either broke away or were abandoned when the fortune-hunter gave up on the long trail. "The horses made their feeding grounds in the vicinity of Barkerville for several years afterward, and their offspring wandered northward as the bands increased. They are wild and make trails on the mountains and timbered country much after the fashion of buffalo in the early days, and deer at present. "The Indians and freighters, working in the timbered districts, catch them with snares, such as are used for lynx. In most cases the animals are easily broken and they are better for the rough country than highgrade horses, on account of their stamina and sureness of foot on the mountain trails. We lost horses from our train from time to time, and replaced them with wild animals."

HELEN S. CLAIM IS SHIPPING GOLD ORE FAIRBANKS, April 2.—According to Rex W. Ford, who is in the city from Fairbanks creek, Crites & Feldman, the owners of, and operators on, the rich lead on the Helen S. claim, commenced to ship ore yesterday morning to the Willis mill on Chatham. The Helen S. claim lies between Moose gulch and Too Much Gold creek, on the left limit of Fairbanks creek. Crites & Feldman have been driving a tunnel on their ledge this winter, and are now in to the hill for a distance of 280 feet. They have been running in very rich ore all the way and think that their mill run will show things that it may go even as high values of \$100 to the ton. Mr. Ford as \$150 to the ton.

LANDLOCK BAY WILL RESUME OPERATION SEATTLE, April 19.—Because he believes the present administration is going to deal liberally with Alaska, and that within a very short time the resources of that territory will be open to development, John L. Steele, a pioneer Alaskan and president of the Standard Copper Mines Co., which has its mines at Landlock, Alaska, announced yesterday that his company's mines will be again in active operation about June 1. He expects to begin shipping ore, which will be sent to the smelter at Tacoma, Aug. 1. Twenty men will be employed and 1,000 tons of highgrade ore will be sent south each month. When the coal lands of Alaska again are opened for development, Steele says his company will install a large matting plant. At the present time, coke, which has to be brought to Alaska, is too expensive to use, and it will not be profitable to operate a matting plant on his company's property until the Alaska coal, which is suitable for the purpose, is released by the government.

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Relation With the Police. "How often have been arrested?" asked the Judge. "Oh, lots of times," replied the pretty offender. "You see, I used to be in better circumstances and ran my own car."

GLEANINGS FROM GREAT NORTHERN EMPIRE That the ground in the Bonfield section is being restaked by men who are willing to work and that prospectors are starting to dig with renewed interest there, is the report brought to Fairbanks by William Lloyd, the game warden, who reached that town from a trip of inspection over the trail to Bonfield creek. Dirt running fifty cents to the pan has been discovered on Eva creek in the Tanana Valley. The pay dirt is coming from the tunnel 25 feet from the shaft, and is getting richer the farther they drive the tunnel. Eighteen inches in the bedrock the dirt pays 12 cents to the pan. A dozen outfits are taking good pay out of Little Eldorado creek in the Fairbanks district according to reports from Fairbanks. The Dan McCarty cabin at Little Delta on the Fairbanks-Valdez trail was burned early this winter. The occupants of the cabin were unable to save any of its contents. The loss was \$2,000, of which \$500 was in currency and \$100 in furs. On April 7th it was said at Fairbanks that the staking of claims on Twenty-mile creek in the Salcha country was still in progress. The staking was the result of the strike already reported on that creek by Pearson, which was reported in these columns. Smallwood creek in the Fairbanks district is being worked this year by a half-dozen or more outfits. Some of them are taking out pay dirt according to the Fairbanks Times.

James H. Russell, of Fairbanks, formerly a pioneer of the Adin country and afterward an operator in the Dawson district, and Mrs. Russell have just become the parents of their twelfth child. Eleven of the even dozen are alive and well. Seven of them were born in the North. The linotype operator on the Skagway Alaskan is a lady, and recently she celebrated her eighteenth birthday. The staff of the paper decided that the occasion should be celebrated, so they all brought candy to the office for the girl that presides over the machine. The Alaskan says "candy was selected as a token of remembrance to Miss Bernice, because of its sweetness, it being emblematic of her temperament and habits."

Various measures looking to the government construction of railroads in Alaska will be urged upon Congress in the present and the next session. There is general belief, moreover, that the policy will be adopted, and Alaskan development started on a basis utterly different from that of the other parts of the public domain. It has been made reasonably apparent that if the Government does not provide transportation in Alaska, it cannot prevent the substantial monopolization of the resources of the country. Transportation there is the instrument of control to an extent unparalleled in any other part of the country. Therefore Government monopoly of transportation is the only assurance against monopoly of the chief resources. A program of Government railroad ownership in Alaska would presumably begin with the acquisition of present lines there. That is all right, if it is all right; not otherwise. The new policy must not open the way to unloading a lot of dogs and cats on the Government at unreasonable prices. Some of the figures that have been given on cost of Alaskan railroads have strongly suggested such a plan.—Washington Times.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—A hospital in Washington for the treatment of sick horses, dogs, cats, and all other domestic animals, is being planned by the leaders in the Washington Cat Club, an organization which has heretofore been interested only in breeding thoroughbred cats. Animals belonging to people of means will be treated in the institution at a fixed price, and those belonging to people unable to pay will be treated free.

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FAIRBANKS RECEIVER AFTER MONEY After considering the petition of Receiver F. G. Noyes, of the Washington-Alaska bank, to Judge Fuller, asking for permission to make a demand on R. C. Wood for the return of the sum of \$13,000, the court signed an order yesterday authorizing the receiver of the defunct Washington-Alaska bank to make the demand through his attorney and institute suit in the district court if deemed necessary. The petition recites that E. T. Barnette, J. W. Hill and R. C. Wood originally formed the co-partnership known as the Fairbanks Banking Company, which was later absorbed by the Washington-Alaska bank. The latter institution, the petition says, is now in a state of insolvency, and has been so for a period of over two years. The assets of the institution at this time are insufficient to pay the debts by the sum of about \$200,000. The petition recites that on June 30, 1908, the certificate of R. C. Wood in the banking company was cancelled the certificate of deposit issued to him in the sum of \$13,000. The number of shares held by Mr. Wood was 130. This sum, the receiver goes on to say in the petition, has all been drawn out. Permission is asked of the court to demand that R. C. Wood return the \$13,000, which, the petitioner claims, belongs to the banking company's successors. The petition and order were drawn up by O. L. Rider, the new attorney for the receiver, and represent the first steps taken by him to bring an end to the receivership. The Daily Empire delivered in Juneau, Douglas and Treadwell for \$1.00 a month. Forced out of business by owner of building. Sale to run only 10 more days. J. J. SHARRICK.

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