

# THE ALASKA PROSPECTOR

VOLUME 1, NO. 10.

VALDEZ, ALASKA, THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1902.

OFFICIAL CITY PAPER.

## HERE THEY ARE!

Bargains for Everybody, in Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Groceries, Furniture, Wall Paper, Stoves, Hardware, Hay, Grain, Coal, Lumber, Doors and Windows, Frames, etc. You Will Save Time, Trouble and Expense and Get What You Want by Coming Here.

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W. C. STULL,

VALDEZ

Expert Watchmaker, Manufacturing Jeweler and Optician.

## They Want Land Surveyed

Copper Center People Want Land Opened to Emigration. Trail Notes.

COPPER CENTER, April 15.—Summer is coming fast and the prospects for a good seasons work was never brighter. The largest outfits since 1898 have gone through here this spring to the various gold and copper camps. People are coming from all directions to prospect in the copper country.

A large amount of farming will be done here this summer. Truck gardening will be extensively engaged in as it will take large quantities of vegetables to supply the demand at this place alone, to say nothing of the vast quantities that will be wanted at the mining camps. This will be a very remunerative business here some day. Large areas will also be planted to grain this spring and much wild grass will be cut for hay. The past winter has demonstrated the fact beyond a doubt that stock can be successfully wintered here with but little care and feed.

This great fertile valley should be surveyed immediately and emigration to this section encouraged. The country will furnish homes for thousands of families, who could live in comparative ease and comfort.

### Trail News.

COPPER CENTER, Apr. 17.—Dempsey, Zeipel and Heber Smith arrived here the evening of the 15th via the Glacier trail.

Todd, Kaher, Hendricks, Howell, Hollingsworth, Hunt and Meis are camped at Klutena Lake. Trail from Lake is now said to be in good condition.

Billy Soule and Stanley Parker are moving line material up the river for Capt. Burnell.

Levroos and Torgenson were reported to be at the Chestuchina on the 13th inst. They must be at the diggings by this time.

Hazlett & Meals lost a horse in the Gokona river a few days ago. Weather is clear and snow is going fast.

## WESTERN NEWS.

BROUGHT BY THE EXCELSIOR.

## RAILROAD TO NOME.

Musher Falls Dead on the Trail. Late Spring at the Inlet. Rough Weather.

On the last trip of the Excelsior, about a month ago, there were a number of men aboard bound for Iliamna and thence overland to the Mulchitna. They all reached the village on the bay in good season. Among them were two partners, Messrs. Karselen and Ringdahl. They had one sled and three dogs, and in their eagerness to push ahead, left early one morning expecting to reach the summit of the divide and get down the opposite side before night. There was no trail and their dogs soon began to give out. Mr. Ringdahl was at the gee pole and in order to help the dogs, Mr. Karselen hitched on a rope and pulled in the lead. He soon showed signs of weakness and complained of being dizzy, so they rested for a while and on starting changed places, Mr. Ringdahl taking the lead. After pulling this way for a while the leader

have a number of men at work in the timber cutting ties and sleepers for the railroad they are preparing to build from Iliamna to Nome. For next winter they are planning to keep a force of men at work on the trail and keep it open all season, and claim that by so doing, they can make the trip from Iliamna to St. Michaels in 6 days.

Through the earlier part of the winter they found it impracticable to use horses, owing as they claim, to having started too late, but now that they have a good trail, they make a round trip a day from the bay to the lake, fourteen miles distant.

Very good prospects are reported from Iliamna lake and tributary rivers. The gold running in sizes from a pin head to a pea. Samples of quartz from that vicinity have been sent to Seattle for assay. It is believed to be good.

Mr. King, of Iliamna, who was a passenger on the Excelsior, bound for Seattle, reports bad weather and heavy snowfall at Iliamna.

The weather at Cook's Inlet has been very bad and the indications that there will be a very late spring. Ice is plentiful and no sign of a break-up soon.

Three small cannery steamers are waiting at Saldovia for steamers from Seattle. The Salmo is waiting for the Harvester, the Jennie awaits the steamer Centennial of the A. P. A. Company and the

## MORE COPPER

THE CHITTINA IS NOT THE ONLY PLACE

## THERE ARE OTHERS

And the Tanana is One of Them. 500-foot Ledge Found at Head of Tanana.

Everyone is talking copper. Gold is a secondary consideration. There is no doubt in the mind of anyone who is informed on the subject that the Chittyna copper discoveries are the richest and most extensive ever found so far. But since last fall the few vague rumors which have been afloat in regard to rich bodies of copper on the Tanana, have resolved themselves into something more than the idle talk of garrulous natives.

Early in the winter a man named McCleary came to Valdez from the head of the Tanana, with the report that he had discovered a 500 foot ledge of very rich copper ore in that section, and that there was \$1,000,000 worth already exposed. He remained here for two or three months, and then returned for Mr. A. B. Hes, who furnished him with provisions and is paying him a salary for prospecting in the copper belt. Mr. Hes has also sent several men with horses and provisions, to that place, within the past few days.

According to McCleary, the copper deposits of the Tanana promise to compare favorably with the celebrated Bonanza property on Chittyna. The ground which he staked last summer is located in the Nutzotin mountains, northwest of the head of Tanana, and between that stream and the head of the Nabesna river. This copper belt is about 40 miles long and is thought to be a continuation of the deposits on Kletsan creek near the head of the White river.

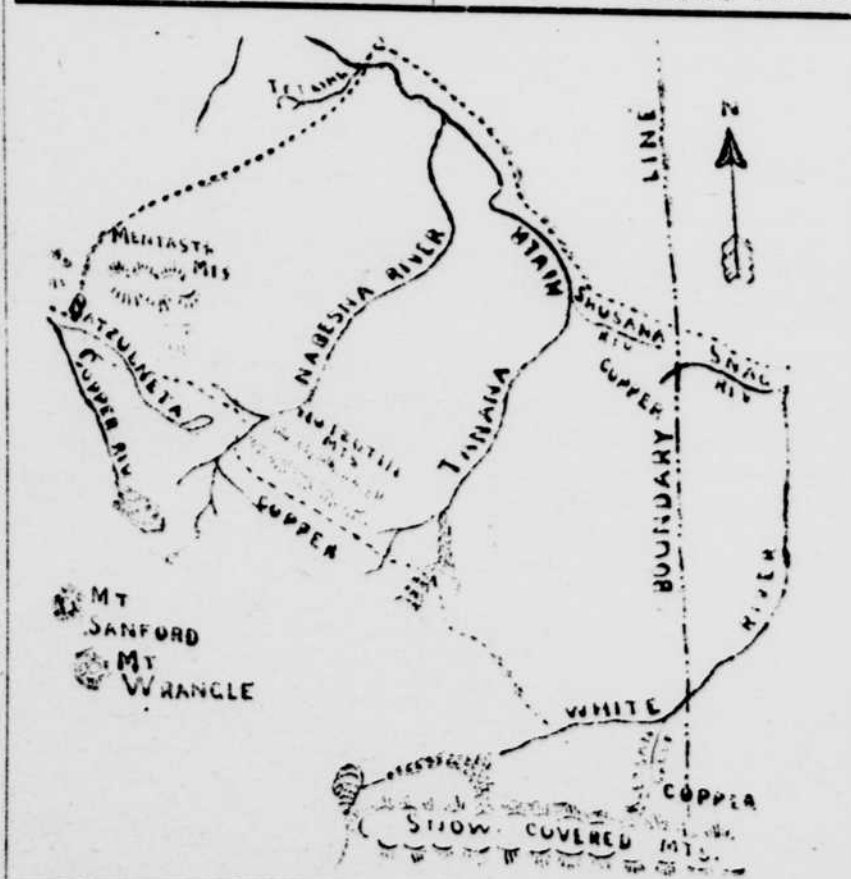
From all reports there does not seem to be much native copper in the Nabesna country. The ore is mostly pyrite, although colors of native copper are found in the streams.

On Kletsan creek the natives get many nuggets of pure copper, some being as much as 5 or 6 pounds in weight. This deposit was visited in 1891 by Dr. Hayes and Lieut. Schwatka, and in 1898 Jack Dalton and Henry Bratnaber made a trip to Kletsan creek and procured copper samples from the placer deposits.

In addition to the places already mentioned there is copper on the Shusana, a tributary of the Tanana, which it enters from the eastward. Very little is known of this except what the natives tell. They report hiyou chitty in that locality. The Cooper outfit which came to the country in 1898, searching for copper, crossed the Tanana and visited this section. His report was very favorable, but he has never returned.

The summer route to the Tanana copper country is by way of the Government trail from Valdez to the mouth of the Chistuchina, then up the Copper to Batzulneta, an Indian village, located on a creek of the same name tributary to the Copper river. From that point there are several trails across the divide to the Tanana waters. It is not a hard divide to cross being low and timbered most of the way.

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MAP OF THE TANANA COPPER DISTRICT.

felt something jerk and looking back saw Mr. Karselen hanging over the gee pole, apparently lifeless.

The sled was quickly unloaded and the stricken man taken back to the village. He was still conscious when they reached the camp and was made as comfortable as possible but died before night.

He was buried at the village, and Mr. Ringdahl, after remaining at the camp for about a week, again started for the interior.

### Iliamna Mail Route a Failure.

The latest mail brought up on the Excelsior for the Iliamna-St. Michaels route is now being taken back to Seattle as it reached Iliamna too late to be taken overland this season.

Six mails have been taken in over the trail this winter, but only one has been known to get through to St. Michaels. Notwithstanding these futile attempts, the men in charge have every faith in the ultimate success of the road. They have two small steamers, one of which they will put on Iliamna lake. At the present time they

Tyoonok of the Tyoonok Packing Co., awaits the Occidental.

The Newport after leaving the Inlet encountered some very rough weather, and was forced to put back for shelter. The Excelsior encountered the same storm, but got through all right, after some rather rough tossing.

### Wharf Will Soon be Completed.

The Perry returned from Virgin bay Wednesday morning with 250 piles for the new wharf. The boat was gone several days longer than was expected, as very rough weather was encountered and the vessel could not steam against it with the heavy raft.

The wharf will now be rushed to completion. The pile driver will be finished in a few days and then the music of its hammer will be heard in town. Every one here is anxiously awaiting the time when they can walk out to the steamers on a nice wharf instead of wading through the mud and water for a long distance to the waters edge, and then going out in a small boat and running the risk of being drowned as is the case at the present time.