

THE ALASKA PROSPECTOR.

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 Published at Valdez, Alaska, every Thursday by the PROSPECTOR PUBLISHING CO. PHONE, MAIN 1.
 Entered at the Valdez postoffice as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
 One Year \$2.00
 Six Months \$1.00
 Three Months \$0.50
 Sample Copy 10 cents

ADVERTISING RATES.
 One dollar per month for one inch, single column.
 Locals, 10 cents per line for first insertion and five cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.
 The PROSPECTOR is on sale at the following news stands:
 P. O. News Stand, Seattle.
 Puget Sound News Co., Seattle.
 P. O. News Stand, Juneau.
 Eugene McCarthy News Stand, Skagway.
 P. O. News Stand, Eagle, Alaska.

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PRES. SCHOOL BOARD. JOHN GOODELL.

A final effort is to be made on next Friday night to reorganize the Chamber of Commerce and get it into working order again. This will be the last effort to induce the merchants, property owners and others to take some interest in an organization which was started and is in existence for the welfare of the town. There is no doubt whatever that a good, live Chamber of Commerce is an organization that can accomplish much good for any community. Its recommendations are worth more to law makers and those in authority than those of a city council or any other organization. Its members are supposed to be, and as a rule are, the business men and property owners of the community in which the body exists, and their recommendations, approval and opinions are of much weight, and are sought for by business men, writers, officials and others.

It certainly behooves the people of Valdez to take some interest in the matter, in this, the last effort to accomplish some good for the town, the community and the District.

There are at present a number of fraternal clubs in Valdez, and some of them we understand are organized for the immediate purpose of sociability and fraternity, but with the ultimate view of becoming regularly organized orders. This is a move in the right direction and will help in the building up of the town, as it will help to give it stability, and a substantial and permanent appearance that few other things will do. Valdez is a permanent town, and everyone who lives here should help to make it a city of happy and prosperous homes. Churches, schools, lodges and kindred organizations will do much toward the permanency and upbuilding of any community, and will give a homelike and contented appearance to any town or city. While many of us hesitate to sever the ties that bind us to our old home associations in the States, yet if we have come here to make Alaska our home it is our duty as good citizens of our new home and country to foster and encourage these young organizations. It is to be hoped that these various fraternal clubs may all become strong and thriving lodges.

The proposition of the Episcopal Church authorities to maintain and support a hospital in Valdez if the citizens will furnish a lot and building, is one that our citizens should accept without hesitation, and the small amount needed for the building should be readily subscribed. A good lot has been offered by one of our enterprising merchants, and we understand that \$500 will put up as large and comfortable a building as is needed at present. Most of the furnishings have already been promised, and friends in other places will donate what is still needed. Bishop Rowe has agreed to furnish a nurse, and his church will pay her salary. Medical assistance has been arranged for, and there is no reason why Valdez cannot have a hospital that will be a credit to the town.

and in a pecuniary way an advertisement for us, as well as, perhaps, a god-send to many in a short time.

This project has been in contemplation for some time, and while there has been no opposition to it whatever, yet many have thought that there was no need for it. But as to this we cannot knowingly say, as no one is sure "what a day may bring forth." Valdez, within a year or two, will no doubt be a city of from 5,000 to 10,000 people, and there is no telling what epidemic may break out or what accident may happen, and we should be prepared for these things, and here is an opportunity to do so at very small cost.

The wharf at this place is proving much too small to accommodate the fast increasing traffic that is coming to Valdez, and there is much dissatisfaction on the part of the merchants as to the way in which freight is handled. With only three steamers a month from Seattle the freight piles up so that it is several days before those having freight can get it. The teamsters claim that much favoritism is shown one certain transfer company to the detriment of the others. The P. P. & N. Company are now contemplating using their lighter for their freight.

Wickersham on Alaska.
 In an address before the Seattle Chamber of Commerce recently, Judge Wickersham gave the following as his idea of the prime needs of Alaska:

1. A public survey, so that land laws can be put in operation.
2. A delegate in congress, either elected or appointed.
3. A weather bureau, because the question of climate in Alaska is always agitated and never understood outside of the district.
4. An extension of the homestead laws, permitting a settler to take up 320 or 640 acres of land.
5. The establishment of fish hatcheries, to preserve and replenish one of the great resources of the country.
6. An all-American route from Copper River into the interior.
7. Coast surveys and light-houses along the entire coast, and especially about the Aleutian islands.

Notice.
 Every citizen of Valdez, interested in the growth and upbuilding of the town, is urged to attend a meeting called by the Valdez Chamber of Commerce, at Moose hall, on Friday evening, December 5, at 8 o'clock.

Matters of vital importance to the entire community will be discussed, and action taken thereon. A. W. Rochford, F. M. Brown, Sec'y. President.

Platinum rarely occurs in nuggets, though once in a while a lump of it is found; the biggest on record, about the size of a tumbler, being now preserved in the Dresden Museum. Some time ago John M. Davidson, of Rochester, New York found the metal in two meteorites, an interesting discovery, inasmuch as it proves that platinum exists in other worlds than ours.

The financial year of the government ends June 30. Ellis H. Roberts, treasurer, gives some interesting facts in his last report. The total receipts for the year amounted to \$1,062,124,037, and the disbursements \$969,627,041. Owing to the repeal of the war tax the revenue fell off \$25,207,104 and the disbursements fell off \$38,776,459. The cost of the war department decreased \$32,343,481, while the naval expenditures increased \$7,269,149. The available cash in the treasury July 1 was the largest in our history, being \$862,187,361. The national debt decreased during the year \$42,340,888. Of the total circulation of money in the country 40.73 per cent is in gold. This is an increase of 1.43 per cent over a year previous. The amount of money in circulation per capita increased from \$27.98 to \$28.43. The amount of gold certificates now issued against gold in the treasury is considerably larger than the total of treasury notes in circulation. The number of banks increased 268 during the year. All these figures indicate wonderful prosperity.

The total length of the star, steamboat, railroad and mail message routes in Alaska is 19,789 miles, for which the annual pay is \$291,933.

Probate Notice.
 In the United States Commissioner's Court for the District of Alaska, Valdez Precinct, in the Matter of the Estate of Joseph Thomey, Deceased.
 Notice is hereby given that the undersigned Henry W. Miller was on the 20th day of Oct. for 1902, duly appointed administrator of the Estate of said Joseph Thomey, deceased.
 Notice is hereby further given by the undersigned administrator of said estate to the creditors of and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit them with the necessary vouchers, within six months after the first publication of this notice, to the said administrator, at his place of business on the Northwest corner of Keystone Avenue and Hobart Street, in Valdez, Alaska, the same being the place for the transaction of business of said estate, in the Precinct of Valdez.
 Dated at Valdez, this 11th day of November, A. D. 1902.
 HENRY W. MILLER, Administrator of the Estate of Joseph Thomey, deceased.
 Wm. H. Whittell, Attorney for the Administrator.
 First publication, Nov. 6, 1902.
 Last publication, Dec. 4, 1902.

Market Price List.

Flour	\$2.50 per 100
Corn Meal	\$1.25 " 100
Butter	30c " lb
Eggs	30c " doz
Sugar	\$7.00 " 100
Rice	\$4.00 to \$7.10 " 100
Potatoes	35c " lb
Beef and Ham	\$15.00 to \$17.00 " 100
Coffee	20 to 30c " lb
Milk	12 1/2 to 20 " can
Unsalted Potatoes	20 to 25c " lb
Dried Fruit	8 to 12c " lb
Syrup	41 to 45.00 " gal
Beans, small white	30.00 " 100
Beans, Lima	20 to 30c " lb
Roller Oats	5c " lb
Tobacco	50 to 75 " lb
Tobacco, smoking	20 to 30c " lb
Tobacco, chewing	50 to 75c " lb
E. Wash, double comb, 100 lb	\$42.50 ton
Best Whitman Oats	\$15.00 ton
Coal	\$15.00 ton
Wood	\$8.00 cord

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Complete abstracts of title to all mineral and other claims in the Valdez Mining district, including the Prince William Sound, Copper River, Chistuchina and the Chisna districts.

Abstracts Furnished to Valdez Town Lots, Valdez, Alaska

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F. M. BOYLE, M. D. Physician and Surgeon. VALDEZ. Offices: ALASKA Swan Building, McKinley St.

DR. W. G. ALEXANDER, Dentist. McKINLEY ST. VALDEZ.

W. A. RYSTROM, Dentist. Swan Building. VALDEZ.

GOODELL & EDWARDS, Lawyers. VALDEZ. ALASKA

FRED M. BROWN, Lawyer. Mining and Land Laws, Specialties. VALDEZ, ALASKA

LEEDY & KELSEY, Attorneys and Counselors. KEYSTONE AVE. VALDEZ.

ORLAN CLYDE CULLEN, Counsellor-at-Law. U. S. Supreme Court, Registered Attorney U. S. Patent Office, United States and Foreign Patents, Caveats, Trade Marks and copyrights. No. 700 7th Street. N. W., Opp. U. S. Patent Office. WASHINGTON, D. C.

A. JUDSON ADAMS, Civil Engineer and Surveyor. U. S. DEPUTY MINERAL AND LAND SURVEYOR. Next door to Merchants Cafe.

JOHN F. RICE, Lawyer. McKINLEY ST. VALDEZ.

H. H. HILDRETH, Notary Public and Conveyancer. PROSPECTOR Office.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE CO. WRITES THE BEST POLICIES. G. Sponberg, Agent.

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