

The Alaska Prospector

Published at Valdez, Alaska, every Thursday by the PROSPECTOR PUBLISHING CO.
PHONE MAIN 1.
Entered at the Valdez Postoffice as second class matter.
Subscription \$3 per year. \$2 for six months.
Single copies 10 cents.

LITTLE GUGGENHEIMS.

Cordova, Alaska.

There are so many of us in this world who can not see ourselves as others see us.

The other day we met a man on the street and he soon commenced to curse the Guggenheims for being such hogs and declared that they were trying to corner all the wealth in Alaska. He declared that men who were so selfish and grasping after the dollar should be assassinated. We finally told him our business, that we wanted to rent a cabin that he had. It was a poor board shack of a thing and probably cost him \$100. He jumped the lot he had built it on. We asked him how much he wanted for it and when he said \$25 per month, we almost fell over in the swamp in which the house was built. He was a miniature Guggenheim but he could not see it so long as he was getting the money. We left him to hunt up a room and found a party with a rooming house. He too commenced to berate the railroad company for moving the town over out of the swamp and used strong language not eulogistic of the Guggenheims, said they were so grasping after the dollar. He finally showed us a little room seven by eight with a cot in one corner and a mirror seven by nine inches for a dresser and commode in another corner, a broken water pitcher, no carpet, no stove, and when he said \$6 a week we gasped, Guggenheim, Guggenheim, where art thou?

Wherever we have gone whichever way we have turned in Cordova we have found little Guggenheims cursing big Guggenheims, for they want all they can get and after you pay them they are offended if you don't say "thank you." "It is so all over the world, the louder you hear a little Guggenheim cursing the big Guggenheims the bigger Guggenheim the little Guggenheim is. The next time a man approaches you in Cordova to make a deal with you in which you set the price and are to receive the money watch closely and you'll feel the Guggenheim spirit—get all you can—crawling up your back.

We feel it every time we sell a Cordova Alaskan for ten cents, but we need the money.

John Noon tells Edmund Smith that John Ronan considers himself the richest man in the world. Noon says Mr. Ronan is worth about \$30,000, which is more than he can count, while he understands that every other rich man in the world can count his pile.

In discussing the passing of the American automobile first under the wire in the world's "race" the newspapers fail to give credit to American experience in catching trains and steamboats.

Judge Parker is whooping it up for Bryan, but even at that the democratic candidate might do well to remember the story of Abner and Joab.

A Seattle man dunned an acquaintance for the return of a \$2 loan and was knocked down so hard that he died. The debtor probably got the idea from the stern refusal of Seattle banks last winter to pay money on deposit.

Alaska exchanges for the Valdez News are still coming up. Maybe the papers that send them will hear some day that the News was absorbed by the Prospector more than a year ago.

Minnesota has a law providing that asylums for inebriates shall be maintained from the saloon license fund. This looks like an endless chain.

Mr. Bryan has joined a secret order but he has never made any secret of his willingness to be president.

The Seattle league base ball team hasn't enough of the spirit of fight out of the cellar.

The nomination of a candidate for president by Billheast's party seems to close out the remnant counter.

The copper trust has permitted the price to go up to 13 cents.

Maybe President Teddy will learn after awhile who's who in Alaska. It doesn't really make much difference as he will be out of the way so soon.

And John Corson also ran.

Some of the boys voted for John Ronan though he wasn't a candidate.

Dear Cordova, wasn't that Corson vote indecently swollen?

LOOKING BACKWARD.

For ninety days a small squad of industrious persons have been trying to tell everybody who would listen that the Hoggatt republican convention at Ketchikan was the real thing. Ill-natured critics who were on the ground said the Hoggatt people had only about thirty-five legitimate votes in a convention called to hold 150 and that they made up an apparent majority because the opposition in the interest of harmony agreed to a temporary chairman who packed the credentials committee against them and the committee voted in as many bogus proxies as the Hoggatt men needed.

The credentials committee seated the Hoggatt delegation from Ketchikan and Ketchikan answers with seventy-eight votes for Wickersham to seventeen for Corson.

All the Hoggatt proxies from the Tanana creeks—fifteen votes—were seated, but these creeks vote 722 for Wickersham and 128 for Corson.

Two-thirds of the anti-Hoggatt votes of Seward peninsula were delivered to their opponents and the Second division votes 917 for Wickersham to 374 for Corson.

Even Juneau voted 184 for Wickersham to 117 for Corson.

Did somebody inquire how many delegates are allotted to the towns which gave Corson a majority? There are seven, brethren—four from Cordova and three from Treadwell.

Dearly beloved, the anti-Hoggatt men at Ketchikan offered to split political representation evenly with the faction which is able to carry two towns in the territory and the offer was rejected in the apparent belief that the sandbag in the hands of a few men is mightier than the ballot wielded by thousands.

SAD FATE OF A BACKSLIDER

John W. Corson fits into the body politic as an awful example—a victim of misguided ambition hooked up with the wrong crowd. Less than a year ago John was one of the very chiefest apostles of the anti-Hoggatt wing of Alaska republicans but before the last winter moon faded he was baptized into the Hoggatt church. That is what put John on the toboggan and after his old comrades gave it a shove he never could dig his heels in far enough to anchor.

It seems risky to look backward when you remember Lot's wife but people will do it, and looking backward they see a beautiful political combination in the junk heap because it wouldn't work. Too sad for contemplation is the collapse of the Corson flying machine, which clung to earth because it carried excess baggage with the Juneau tag.

CHEAP STATE PRICES

The Ketchikan Miner tells of the purchase of a necktie for \$1.50 at Marshall Field's in Chicago and the later discovery that the same tie could be bought in Ketchikan for \$1.

The writer of this last May in Seattle picked out a tie that looked like the kind sold in Valdez for 75 cents. He was somewhat surprised that no change was given him and supposed it was because he looked like a jay or a man from Alaska, but later the \$1 cost mark was noticed on the tie, showing that the clerk was not guilty of extortion but the house was charging more than Alaska prices for small articles.

Seems like a shame that Alaska won't take orders from Terrible Teddy's agent.

Perkins To Succeed Allison

Washington, Aug. 12—Senator Perkins of California has been named to succeed the late Senator Allison on the naval committee. Senator Perkins was chosen because of his knowledge of the naval necessities of the Pacific coast.

JURY DECIDES CASE IN

MRS. OLSON'S FAVOR

A jury in Commissioner Lyons' court yesterday afternoon decided that Mrs. Matilda Olson was not guilty of trespass when she settled herself in a house formerly owned by her husband, Arthur P. Olson, but recently sold by him to S. J. Mills. When he found Mrs. Olson in his house Mills had her arrested and in court it was admitted that Mrs. Olson had taken possession of the house, but she explained by saying that she had never signed the deed transferring the property and therefore believed that the sale was not legal.

The law in Alaska does not make the wife's signature necessary to establish the legality of a deed but the jury held that there was no unlawful intent on the part of Mrs. Olson and found her not guilty. The further status of the case will be determined by a civil action.

Mr. and Mrs. Olson have not lived together for a number of years and she recently came to Valdez to prosecute an action for separate maintenance.

COAL — COAL
Valdez Dock Co. or Valdez Transfer Co.

CHEAP COAL PLAN UP TO CONSUMER

Chamber of Commerce Arrangements Require United Support of Public

BIG SAVING WILL RESULT

President Brown Appoints Committees to Take Charge of Several Important Matters

Upon the people of Valdez depends whether or not they shall reap the benefits of cheaper coal. The chamber of commerce at a meeting last night perfected plans whereby this long talked of and long desired relief from present conditions as regards the fuel may be obtained, but it will require united action on the part of users of fuel to make the plan bear fruit.

A committee composed of Harry Whitley, Dr. F. M. Boyle, Samuel Blum, J. G. Snyder and Prof. Bunnell was appointed by President Brown and will canvass the town for the purpose of obtaining orders for the first shipment of coal. It is necessary for the success of the plan that a certain quantity of coal be purchased at \$16 a ton in order that a fund may be obtained with which to purchase or construct facilities for handling the coal. The price quoted by Mackenzie Bros. of Vancouver is \$8.67 a ton, duty paid and laid down at Valdez.

The plan as proposed is to purchase the barge Talbot and to also construct a slip at which the barge may be stationed. The barge will serve the purpose of bunkers. To do this it will perhaps require that 1,500 tons of coal must be paid for at the rate of \$16 a ton. This will give a profit of \$11,000 which will defray all necessary expense. After this coal can be delivered for not to exceed \$12 a ton and it is believed for \$11.

The coal to be delivered is the best quality of screened Ladysmith coal and it is estimated that once the landing facilities are paid for the annual saving to coal consumers in Valdez will be close to \$25,000 a year.

Another important matter discussed by the chamber is that concerning the question of getting a patent for the town proper and for the Reservation. This was taken up at a previous meeting and letters concerning the method of procedure were sent to the surveyor general for the district of Alaska, stationed at Juneau. The letter stated that upon receipt of the application accompanied by a description of the land to be patented the land office will take steps to have the survey made. This, so far as the boundary lines are concerned will be done at the expense of the government but the survey of lots and blocks will be made under the supervision of the townsite trustees and the expense must be paid by the property holders.

It is the sense of those present that the value of all property will be greatly increased once it is possible to give a guarantee deed and President Brown appointed S. A. Hemple, Dr. F. M. Boyle, and C. C. Rudolph as a committee to take the matter in charge.

The chamber also decided to begin a publicity campaign on a small plan and to this effect a committee consisting of W. H. Crary and E. B. Spiers was appointed to take up the matter of having printed postal cards on one side of which will be an outline map of Alaska showing the location of Valdez. In this connection Messrs. Hemple and Whitley told of receiving letters of recent date advising haste in certain business transactions so that they might be completed before the "close of navigation to Valdez." L. V. Ray told of an instance where a member of the attorney general's office in Washington advised that "If Judge Harlan cannot be found in Valdez he can be found in Fairbanks, a distance of a half day's travel." This was in the summer time.

President Brown announced that he has had made a number of photographs typical of a Valdez summer and that these photographs accompanied by descriptive matter have been sent to New York newspapers under arrangements that will, it is believed, assure their publication.

The chamber will meet again next Friday night to receive the report of the committee having the coal question in charge.

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CHILDREN PERISH IN TENEMENT FIRE

Conflagration in New York Proves Fatal to Six and Threatens Many.

New York, Aug. 11—Four children and two women were burned to death in a tenement house fire this morning. Starting in one of the most thickly settled portions of the tenement district the fire shut off all escape by way of the stairs in the building in which it originated and proved very difficult for the firemen to contend with.

Those who lost their lives perished in full sight of the onlookers, the two women and the children being out on a fire escape the lower portion of which had broken off three stories from the sidewalk. The firemen made brave efforts to reach the helpless six but were unable to do so before the flames swept over them.

RACE TRACK GAMBLERS CONSIDER BIG SCHEME

New York, Aug. 8—Realizing that it is only a matter of a very brief period before their activities in New York, and in other eastern states as well, will be stopped by the law, big race track owners and bookmakers are seriously considering a scheme to make of the Island of Jamaica a great racing center. There is every prospect that the scheme will go through. Jamaica is not far from New York and a line of fast steamboats will make it easily accessible. The climate is such as to make racing profitable all the year round and there will be no anti-race track gambling law to interfere with those who find this end of the game the only thing of interest on a race track.

SHAH IS PRISONER IN HANDS OF PROTECTORS

Teheran, Aug. 11—Persia, so lately torn by internal conflict, is again facing a serious situation. After the revolt led by several of the members of parliament had been suppressed the Shah surrounded himself with a body guard of wild tribesmen, summoned from the interior to protect the throne, and now the Shah is virtually a prisoner in the hands of those called to protect him.

It is reported that the tribesmen have fallen under the dominance of several courtiers, favored by the Shah but who have designs against the ruler, and that it is because of this that the Shah has his liberties curtailed to the will of his protectors.

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