JUNEAU CENTER OF ALASKA'S ACTIVITY

Millions Spent Opening New Mines—Lumber, Fishing, Mercantile Trade Booms.

CITY FINANCE METROPOLIS

Capitol Building Costing $200,000 Planned—Great Possibilities for Future Are Described by Addison Bennett.

BY ADDISON BENNETT.

JUNEAU, Alaska, April 5.—(Staff correspondence.)—This has been an eventful day for most of the passengers and some of the crew of the Stetson, for not only have we seen several glaciers, but quite a number of icebergs and we have had a school of porpoises following us most of the day, much to our amusement. The porpoises swam along near the top of the water, close to the ship, jumping partially or entirely out of the water about every 30 or 40 feet. Is it true the porpoise is a fish only by name, like his cousin, the whale? Anyhow, we were told so. Perhaps they were "stringing" the landlubbers about them in various ways, particularly as to their suckling their young.

It has rained some during the day, a warm sort of a mist perhaps would describe it better than rain. It was not unpleasant but was fatal to taking pictures from the vessel. But it certainly is wonderful how warm it is! Those of us who brought heavy clothing may need such apparel if we go over the pass beyond Skagway, but so far, palmleaf fans and linen dusters are about as necessary.

From Wrangell we came through Stikine Straits, thence north through Wrangell Narrows, between Mitkoff and Kupreanof Islands, to Petersburg, which lies practically in the narrows, which place lies on the west end of the latter isle. Here we stopped a few minutes, long enough to unload a few tons of freight and for some of us to go ashore and see that the town is rather an old one, but quite a bustling place. No doubt we could have spent a day or more there to good advantage, but Captain MacGregor gave us all the time he could spare without getting tied up by the tide and stuck in the narrows for 12 hours. This we could not consistently ask him to do as it would have been imposing upon his good nature.

Treadwell Mine Described.

From Petersburg the good ship came through Stephens' Passage, Gastineaux Channel and thence to Douglas, which lies in the latter channel nearly opposite Juneau and adjoining Treadwell, the two places being dovetailed together.

Everybody who knows the first whit about Alaska knows about the great Treadwell mine on Douglas Island. It has been worked for a great many years and has produced millions of dollars in gold. The ore is of a low grade, running about $2.50 a ton, but, it is said, it costs about $1.35 only to mill it. As they handle about 25,000 tons a day it will be seen that here is some money in it. The tunnels and stopes now being worked are down nearly 2000 feet, and some of them run out under the channel nearly half a mile.

One of the questions confronting the owners is the disposal of the tailings, the earth left after the gold is extracted. This is becoming an aggravated problem, for if thrown into the waters the channel would soon be filled up, and Uncle Sam would not permit that. They are restoring a good deal of the so-called tailings to the worked-out tunnels, but this system, it seems, cannot be applied to the full amount produced.

The Treadwell Company has three mines, adjoining each other, and employs something like 1800 men. This number and their families has built up the town of Treadwell to something like the same number. The overflow built the adjoining town of Douglas.

Landing at Juneau, opposite Douglas, we stepped upon the mainland for the first time since leaving Astoria, all of the other places visited being on islands, from Nanaimo north. It being Sunday when we arrived, we had to do some hustling to gather what information we needed. We were successful in getting in touch quickly with the president and also the secretary of the Juneau Commercial Club, John Rick and Isaac Sowerby, also with Mr. Russell, of the Juneau Daily Dispatch, and other leading citizens. As soon as anybody found we were from Portland we met with a warm reception and soon felt quite at home.

Congressmen Travel 3000 Miles.

Juneau is the capital of Alaska and perhaps always will be of this portion of it. If there is anything in precedent the territory will perhaps some day be divided, as it is a big tract of land, being almost five times as large as the State of Oregon. It is inconvenient to have a state so large and expensive. Some of the members of the Legislature are compelled to travel nearly 3000 miles to get to the seat of government, or about as far as the Oregon Congressmen have to travel to get to Washington, D. C. The Alaska members from the Far North must cover much of their journey on snowshoes and by dog teams. After they get here their pay is $15 per day. If the Oregon members got that much there would perhaps be more statesmen ready to serve their country than there are now.

Juneau is a fine little city. Like some of the other Alaska places we have visited, it is a little shy on level land for the building of a city economically. There are hills rising nearly perpendicular back of the town. On the sides of these hills will perhaps rise the future Juneau. It is practically sure that here is to be the city of our northern possessions, at least the city for years to come. This is said without in any wise detracting from the prowess of Ketchikan and the other places visited. Many of these places will flourish and become populous probably beyond the dreams of a great many of their present residents, yet it is quite certain that Juneau will continue as the metropolis of Southeastern Alaska.

Mining Increases Population.

In the first place the mining as carried on at the Treadwell employs a large number of men. This has already given a population of from 9000 to 10,000 in Juneau, Douglas and Treadwell. Now mines of about the same character as the Treadwell are being opened on the Juneau side. While the ore is not quite as rich as the Treadwell ore the methods of treatment will be much less expensive than at the Treadwell. In the first place it lies on higher levels and much of the work of treating will be done by gravity. Then science has shown how many of the old methods can be improved upon by different and better machinery.

Two of these great mines are now being opened. Already they employ more than 1000 men. The owners, one of whom is F. W. Bradley, president of the Treadwell mine, are spending several million dollars in doing this work. The ore is there by the billions of tons. Though it is of a low grade, to be sure, the owners say it may be treated for less than 50 cents a ton. That sounds like a small sum for mining, milling and disposing of the tailings. The best engineers in the country have planned the buildings, machinery and system of operations. They claim they are able to do the work for 39 cents a ton.

When fully developed these new mines will, it is asserted, employ nearly five times as many men as the Treadwell, or about 10,000. If that is true there will be miners enough at work within and adjacent to Juneau to give the city a population, from that source alone, of something like 20,000 people.

Juneau's Prosperity Assured.

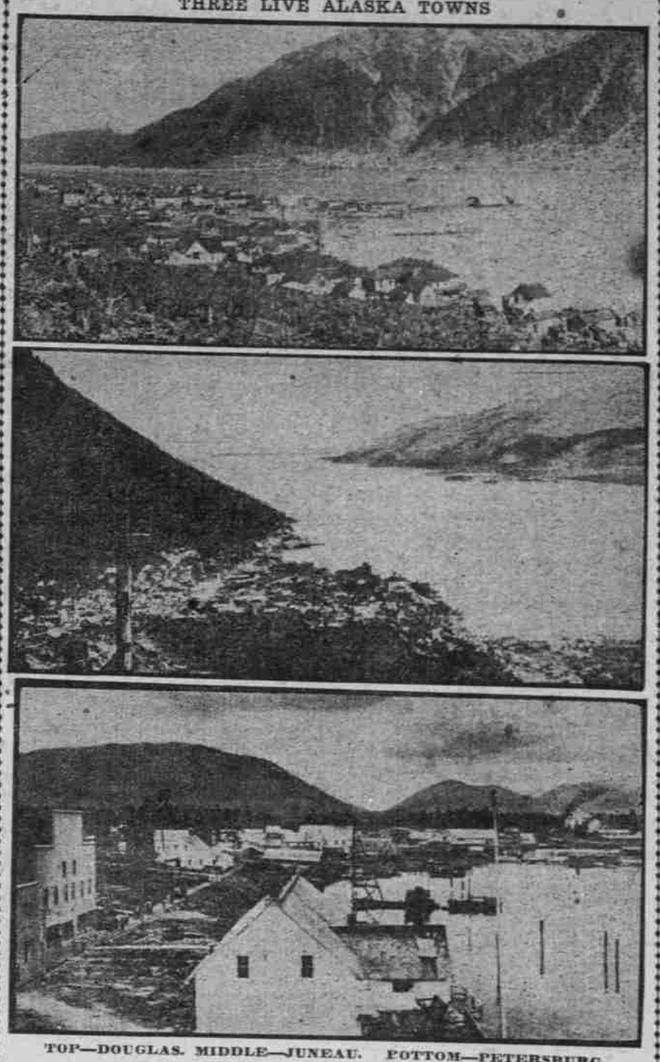
There are many other things to make Juneau a prosperous and populous city aside from her mines, the lumber, fishing and mercantile operations. Juneau is certain to be an outfitting center for a large territory which will in time build up jobbing houses. Already the largest sawmill in the territory is located there and running regularly. Juneau is certain to remain the financial center of the territory. There are two strong banks in operation and many men of large means reside there. As the capital of the territory, the place will always draw visitors. The territory's business is done in Juneau.

Juneau has a wagon road leading directly to a glacier about 20 miles north, automobiles taking passengers to the ice field in a few minutes. Think of visiting a glacier in such comfort! There is also a good road leading five miles down the channel. Another across the channel leads from opposite Juneau down past Treadwell. A movement is now on foot to bridge this channel. There is to be a capitol building erected in the near future, $20,000 having been appropriated for this purpose. However, it is expected this sum will be doubled when the next Legislature assembles.

As to business houses and hotels, Juneau is far ahead of the other places I have visited. The general stores have large stocks and may be classed as department stores. The banks occupy spacious quarters. The drug, grocery, news and stationery stores have big stocks, well displayed.

The streets are, as a rule, narrow, and some of them have various kinks in them. In many cases the sidewalks are only five feet wide.

THREE LIVE ALASKA TOWNS



TOP—DOUGLAS. MIDDLE—JUNEAU. BOTTOM—PETERSBURG.

KELSO NEWSPAPER MAN BECOMES PRIVATE SECRETARY TO REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON.

P. F. Snyder.

KELSO, Wash., April 13.—(Special.)—P. F. Snyder, one of the youngest and progressive young newspaper men of Southwestern Washington, has just received word from Representative Albert Johnson at Washington that he has been named as his private secretary. He will leave for the Capital City this week. Mr. Snyder has been associate editor of the Kelsonian for a number of years, and formerly was with the Kelso Journal. Mr. Snyder anticipates issuing a Washington news letter to be sent to the various newspapers in this part of the country each week, giving such Capitol news as might be of interest to the people in Southwestern Washington.

PLUCKY CREW SAVED

Heavy Swells Batter Disabled Little Gasoline Schooner.

MEN CLING TO THE RIGGING

Two Don't Eat or Sleep for 24 Hours and Only Prompt Work of Lifesavers Prevents Nenamosha Going on Peacock Spit.

ASTORIA, Or., April 13.—(Special.)—The little gasoline schooner Nenamosha had a narrow escape from being wrecked on Peacock Spit today, and, but for the Point Adams lifesaving crew, would probably have been lost. The little craft, which is making her first trip on the Siletz-Portland run, left the former place at 1:30 Sunday afternoon, in command of Captain L. I. Butterfield and with Nelson Anderson as engineer.

When off Cape Mears the engine's waterjacket commenced to leak badly. There was a heavy swell running and Captain Butterfield hove the vessel to for a time.

Later, as the little craft was started again, the side of the waterjacket was blown off. Two anchors were thrown over and the craft lay there until 5 o'clock this morning, when the small foresail was set and the vessel headed for the Columbia River. Both anchors were lost while attempting to raise them.

Good progress was made up the coast and the Nenamosha headed in across the bar shortly after 12 o'clock today.

Just as she passed the end of the jetty the wind shifted, and, with the small sail, Captain Butterfield was unable to bring her around and she drifted onto Peacock Spit.

The tug Oneonta saw the schooner's predicament, but was unable to go to her rescue on account of the shallow water. She sent up signals of distress, however, and Captain Wickland and the Point Adams lifesaving crew hastened out. By this time the seas were breaking entirely over the distressed craft and the two members of her crew were clinging to the rigging on top of the house. As the lifeboat came alongside, both jumped overboard and were picked up. The schooner was then taken in tow by the life crew and brought to Astoria.

Considering her rough experience, the Nenamosha is not badly damaged, her injuries consisting of the broken waterjacket, the loss of a part of the fore rigging and the flooding of the engineroom. It is expected that about a week will be required for repairs.

The Nenamosha is a craft of 12 tons burden and is owned by Dodson & Cook, of Taft, Or.

Neither of the men on board had a wink of sleep or a bite to eat since noon yesterday.

IDAHO DEMOCRATS HONOR

President Wilson Sends Greetings to Jefferson Banquet.

MOSCOW, Idaho, April 13.—(Special.)—Democrats from all parts of Idaho gathered this evening at a banquet in honor of Jefferson's birthday, more than 200 being present. C. L. McDonald, of Lewiston, delivered the principal address.

Telegrams and letters were read from many of the faithful, among whom were President Wilson and Secretary Bryan. The affair is regarded as an impetus to the candidacy of ex-Governor J. H. Hawley for the United States Senatorship.

Chinaman Takes Up Homestead.

LA GRANDE, Or., April 13.—(Special.)—An unusual procedure happened at the United States Land office here Saturday when Toy Lee Young, Chinese, filed on a homestead near North Powder. The Chinaman is a natural born United States citizen, and while not being able to sign his Christian name in full, he signed his first two names in the space provided.

EUGENE POLICE IN MAYOR'S SHAKEUP

Two Patrolmen Thrown Out, Night Chief Reduced and Patrolman Is Elevated.

"WINE PIG'S" GHOST BOBS

Policewoman's Office Is Abolished, Discharge of Three Inspectors and Merging of Offices Defeated After Bitter Fight.

EUGENE, Or., April 13.—(Special.)—The discharge of Eugene's woman policeman and the abolition of the public safety department, after a year's trial here, and a radical shakeup in nearly every city department, in which the night police captain becomes patrolman and a patrolman captain, the street commissioner becomes a street laborer, and a laborer becomes the street commissioner, took place at the annual meeting of the City Council tonight with the appointments by D. E. Yoran, Mayor.

The shake-up came as a complete surprise. At tonight's meeting four new Councilmen were sworn into office. They are George H. Bogue, C. P. Devereaux, William Hempy and B. F. Goodpasture.

Martha Randall is the police matron discharged by the abolition of her department. The Mayor holds that the charter does not provide for such an office, and that the past year's experiment has been illegal. Eugene was the first city outside of Portland, in Oregon, to employ a woman policeman.

A. N. Longworth, a patrolman, who testified for the Eugene police officer recently accused of stealing contraband liquor, was discharged tonight. He testified that the Chief of Police had given him liquor in the past.

Orlo Henderschot, another night officer, was similarly discharged.

Night Captain Joe Hunt was displaced by J. O. Bristol, a patrolman and formerly deposed chief of police. Hunt becomes a patrolman.

J. P. Turner, street commissioner here for 15 years, was deposed as head of the department, but retained as a laborer. C. D. Farmer, a laborer in the street commissioner's department, becomes commissioner.

The abolishment of the building inspector, plumbing inspector and electric inspector and the creation of one office, that of building inspector, with W. H. Alexander, a contractor, at its head on a salary, was also recommended by the Mayor. After a long and bitter fight on the part of retiring members of the Council, this recommendation was defeated.

Other officials appointed tonight are: G. F. Skipworth, City Attorney; C. B. Christensen, chief of police; F. W. Cummings, health officer; F. M. Wilkins, R. McMurphey, members of park board; Mrs. C. S. Freeland, member of library board.

IDAHO HATCHERIES CLOSED

Inability to Secure Desired Quantity of Eggs Causes Shutdown.

LEWISTON, Idaho, April 13.—(Special.)—State Game Warden Barber is in the city from Boise en route to Hayden Lake in the northern part of the state, where he will take up matters pertaining to rents and leases at the state park and will also visit the state hatcheries at Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint.

Mr. Barber stated it has been decided to close the hatcheries at Sandpoint and Hay Spur as soon as cleared of the fish now being hatched. The Hay Spur hatchery will turn out about 800,000 young trout this season, which will be distributed about May 1.

"We are closing the Sandpoint hatchery because of our inability to secure eggs for a second hatching. We have purchased 1,025,000 eggs this season from Utah, Massachusetts and the Government, and would purchase more if we could secure them. The hatchery at Coeur d'Alene, furnished to the state by the sportsmen and citizens, is now being completed and we expect to have our first eggs in the hatching vats in about 30 days. The Sandpoint hatchery will be operated next year and we hope to effect the arrangement with the people of Fremont County by which the reopening of the hatchery there will meet their approval."

YOUNG WIDOW ENDS LIFE

Deary, Idaho, Girl Whose Husband Killed Himself, Blows Off Head.

MOSCOW, Idaho, April 13.—(Special.)—Grace Dillman, the girl widow of Jesse Dillman, who killed himself about a year and a half ago, took her life today on the McCoy ranch, south of Deary, by blowing off the top of her head with a shotgun. Mrs. Dillman had been employed at the ranch. The motive for the act has not been learned.

Mrs. Dillman was married when she was only 14 years old. Shortly after the marriage Dillman became infatuated with Agnes Liner, a cook, at a mine near Harvard. He lured Miss Liner into the mine, shot and killed her and later shot himself while resisting capture.

BOND ELECTION PLANNED

Lewiston Orchards Highway District to Be Improved if Vote Wins.

LEWISTON, Idaho, April 13.—(Special.)—The commissioners of the Lewiston Orchards highway district have issued a call for a special bond election to be held on April 25, at which time the question of voting $100,000 to be used in road construction in the district will be determined. The bonds are to be a 5 per cent issue and will run for a period of 20 years.

The proposed improvement embraces the construction of nine miles of hard surface highway from the Lewiston Orchards gates to a point two miles beyond the relief reservoir.

Union Plans Three Days' Fair.

LA GRANDE, Or., April 13.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the Union County Fair board held last night it was decided to hold a three-day fair this year, the date set for September 22 to the 24th, inclusive. J. A. Hussell was re-elected president; Albert Hunter, of Island City, temporary secretary. These, with N. K. West, J. A. Woodell, W. R. Ledbetter, Claude Mackey and J. W. Bush were elected as directors.

New Mill Starts at Littell.

CENTRALIA, Wash., April 13.—(Special.)—The new sawmill of the Chester Snow Log & Shingle Company at Littell started up today. The new plant is one of the most modern on the South Bend branch. Tom Greenwood, former superintendent of the H. H. Martin Lumber Company's mill in this city, will be superintendent at Littell.

Two Sentenced to Prison.

LEWISTON, Idaho, April 13.—(Special.)—Arthur Barker and Charles Driskill were sentenced from one to 10 years and from five to 10 years, respectively, by Judge Steele Saturday. Barker is the negro who shot and instantly killed B. B. Morgan, a barber, on November 24 in a drunken brawl. Driskill was convicted of the charge of a statutory offense on the person of Elvira Quisnell, a minor, of Gifford.

Special Train Brings Churchgoers.

CENTRALIA, Wash., April 13.—(Special.)—For the purpose of attending church in Centralia on Easter Sunday the coal miners of Tono, located east of here, yesterday chartered a special train and practically the entire population took advantage of the special. The miners have chartered special trains for ball games and other occasions, but yesterday was the first time they ever took this step for churchgoing.

400 Teachers at Colfax.

COLFAX, Wash., April 13.—(Special.)—Miss Daisy Busbey, County Superintendent, reports 400 teachers enrolled at Colfax, attending the teachers' institute.