

THE CHANCES OF MAN IN THE FAR NORTHWEST

Alaska and Its Two Sides of Life as Seen by Sydney B. Charles, Former Portland Newspaper Man--Tanana, Its Good Features and Its Endless Litigations--Country Varying in Resources



SIDNEY B. CHARLES AND DAUGHTER.

ALASKA a good place in which to make a stake? "Do you think I could better myself by going there?"

"Not once, but scores of times questions similar to these have been asked me since returning from Alaska," said Sydney B. Charles, a former newspaper man of Portland, who has been engaged in that work for the past four years in Fairbanks, the metropolis of the Tanana placer gold fields.

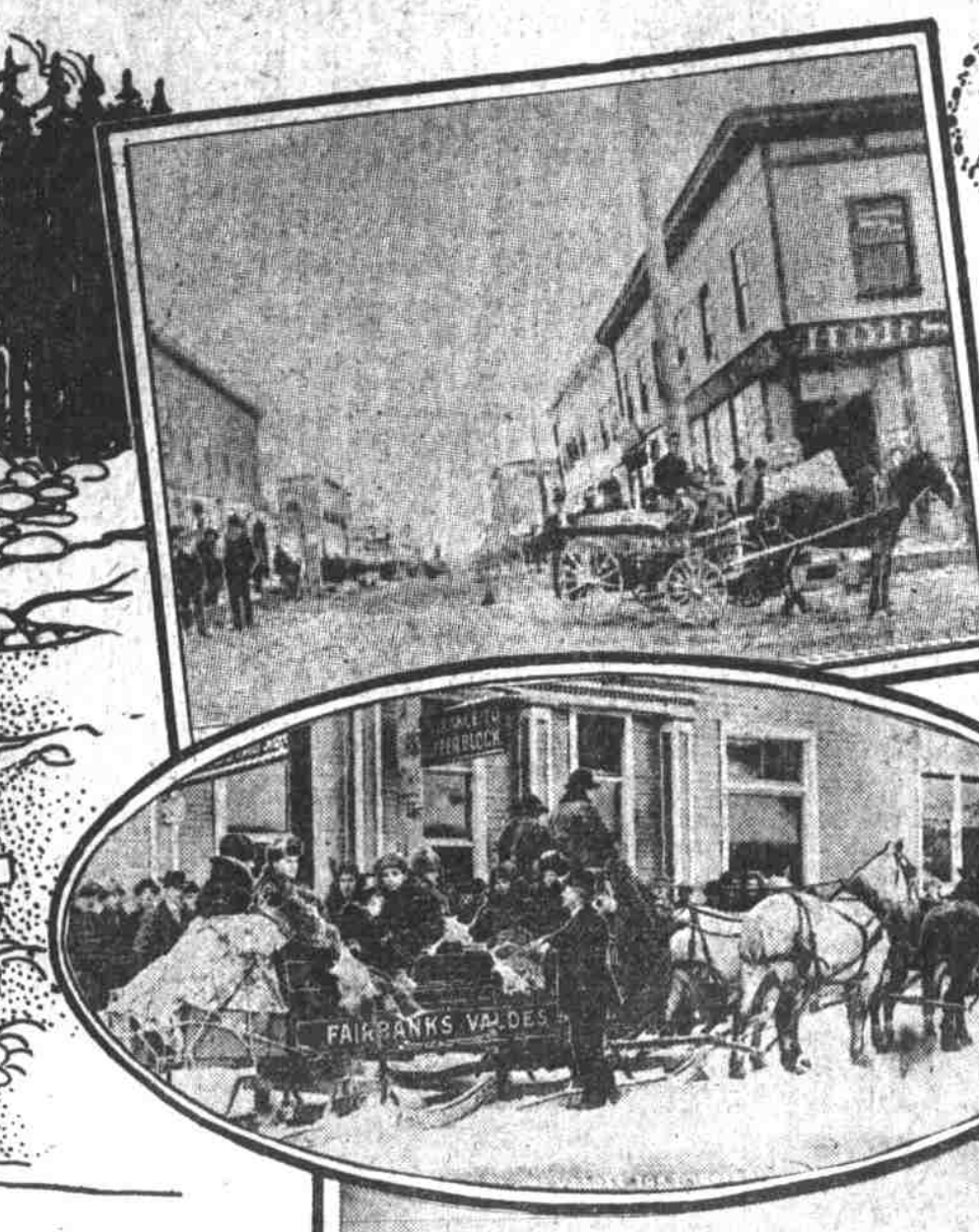
Alaska Gold. "Indeed, many farms, fruit orchards and considerable town property have been purchased in Oregon with gold extracted from Alaska."



STAGE LEAVING VALDEZ FOR FAIRBANKS.

Central Alaska. "In speaking of Alaska, one must do so advisedly, since it is such a vast country, for the climatic and other conditions vary in the different districts as much as they do between New York city and Portland."

Staying Qualities. They went north expecting to find the work to which they were trained and were forced to take whatever offered. Take a 'soft man' unused to hard, physical labor, and place him in a tunnel where he must work, bent over as anybody knew, at least with free barrow moving with clockwork regularity.



A TYPICAL ROAD HOUSE IN THE INTERIOR.

How Labor Suffers. "It must be confessed, by an impartial observer, that the labor laws of Alaska are very crude. For instance, the merchant, the machinery man, the banker and every firm supplying the mine owner, takes precedence over the laborer in mortgaging the dump or outfit."

Prospectus. Oh, I shall write a rural play. I'll name the village "Squash." And teach the characters to say "I swan" likewise "By gosh!"



SUMMIT OF THOMPSON'S PASS.

IF DEATH WERE SLEEP. It would appear rather ridiculous to us that time and space should preserve us for all eternity, among the stars and the boundless mansions of the sky, the soul of a poor beast, made up of five or six touching but very unsophisticated habits and of the longing to eat and drink, to sleep warm and to greet his kind in the manner which we know.

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HOW KOOLAU HELD THE PASS--Like Horatio Who Held the Bridge He Contributed to History

THIS is the story of how one man, fighting for life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and aided only by a woman and a 10-year-old boy, defeated an army, shook his fist in the face of an outraged government, laughed to scorn the laws and statutes provided, and escaped with his life.

IF DEATH WERE SLEEP

ONE foremost truth, pending others which the future will no doubt reveal, is that in questions of life and death, our imagination has remained very childish.

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