

A YUKON OUTFIT

WHAT THE GOLD HUNTER SHOULD TAKE.

Sound Advice for Those Who Contemplate Seeking Their Fortunes in the New Gold Fields of Alaska and the Northwest Territory.

The most practical and vital question to be decided by the man who intends to go to the Yukon next year is the composition and quantity of his outfit. What should he take and how much of it. This is far more important a question than that of the route he shall select, since by any regular route he would probably reach his destination, while should he not have a proper outfit, he would be likely to find his labor to have been all in vain, with failure and possible starvation staring him in the face.

Whatever a man would require to eat, to wear or to work with, he should take with him. To go into that country depending upon being able to purchase any of the necessities of life or successful work is to run the risk of utter failure and calamity. Again and again was this asserted by experienced Yukoners when the excitement broke out in July. Publicly through the press and privately on all occasions they advised gold seekers to take with them a complete equipment for 18 months, certainly not less than a year, and to place no dependence whatever upon being able to purchase what they might need from trading posts. This advice was based upon the well-known conditions of work and transportation in that region. The miner might be located several hundred miles by a trail impassible in winter from the nearest trading post, while the post itself, even if accessible, might fail to secure a stock of goods.

The soundness of this advice has been amply demonstrated the present season. Hundreds who did not give it sufficient weight, have rushed into Dawson City with not enough food to last them through the winter, only to find that not a pound of food is to be purchased there, and that they are but adding to the distress of those already threatened with starvation. They have not done this in ignorance, but in defiance of the advice of men of experience. The golden mirage of their imaginations has blinded them to the practical, and they have rushed headlong to needless hardships, if not destruction. Yet the majority of them took this advice seriously at first, and equipped themselves well for the journey. Very few, indeed, of those who have reached Dawson with almost nothing for their support this winter, landed at Dyea or Skagway with less than a thousand pounds of supplies each. The secret of their present shortness is the difficulties of the trail and their intense eagerness to reach their destination. They have disposed of or abandoned the bulk of their outfit, trusting to luck, or the deity supposed to have tools in his special charge, to get through the winter somehow. They would have done better to have camped at the lakes till spring, than to have gone on to Dawson short of supplies. They would have done still better, when they found they could not get through this fall in good shape, to have returned to the coast and waited until spring for another attempt fully equipped. Those who followed this course are infinitely better off than those who sacrificed everything to their insane eagerness to get through, and are now at Dawson with nothing to do and threatened with being overwhelmed by a calamity of their own creation.

The value of the advice given to those who started last fall has been demonstrated by their experiences. The same advice is as valuable to those who will go in the spring. Take everything with you that you anticipate to need for a year for any purpose, and do not depend upon being able to buy anything whatever. It is folly to take for granted that there will be so many new steamers on the river next year that the country will be amply supplied with food and other necessities. Assuming that transportation facilities will be increased ten times, this will be offset by the undoubted fact that more than ten times as many persons will go in as are there now, and that the added transportation facilities will be used to carry them and their outfits. To the thousands who are already there and must depend entirely upon supplies brought in for sale, must be added the other thousands who will not heed the voice of prudence and will rush in lightly equipped, depending upon purchasing what they need for the winter. It is extremely doubtful whether enough goods for sale can be taken in next summer to supply this demand. Indeed, in view of the experiences of this year, it is almost certain that they can not.

As for food, an adequate supply for 18 months weighs about a ton. The chief items are 600 pounds of flour, 300 pounds of bacon, 150 pounds each of beans and sugar, 75 pounds each of rolled oats or other mush material and corn meal, 50 pounds of rice, six dozen cans of condensed milk, 35 pounds of butter in sealed cans, 150 pounds of evaporated vegetables, 100 pounds of evaporated fruit, 50 pounds of prunes and raisins, 30 pounds of dried fish, 40 pounds of coffee, with baking powder, soda, salt, pepper, ginger, mustard, yeast cakes, tea, soap, matches, lime juice (very important), dried beef, extract of beef, soups in tins, sausage, tobacco, etc., as desired, bearing in mind always that variety of food promotes health. There has more or less been said in the papers about various concentrated foods, but with the exception of evaporated vegetables and fruit, condensed preserves, condensed milk and beef extract there is nothing yet brought forward which has been proved desirable. One can not afford to experiment with his stomach in Alaska.

All supplies should be carefully packed in canvas sacks of a total weight of 50 pounds each as nearly as possible. Canvas of superior quality should be used, the object being to preserve the food from loss by dampness as well as by breaking or tearing of the packages. Fifty pound packages are the most convenient for handling, and this is often as great a weight as one man can carry. It is better to have these canvas sacks paraffined, to resist dampness. Do not use oiled canvas, as the extreme coldness causes it to crack, with consequent loss of the contents of the sack. This is true also of oiled clothing, sleeping bags, etc. Plain canvas is better than oiled, and paraffined better than plain. A canvas tarpaulin is necessary as an outfit cover, and this may also be fitted up and used for a sail. The canvas sacks should be numbered and a list of the contents of each kept. The owner's name should be plainly marked on each. Such necessities as matches, candles, etc., should be distributed throughout the sacks, so that a loss of a portion of the outfit will not deprive the owner of these things. Put matches in tin boxes. The camper will require a tent, 8x10 or 10x12, being the usual sizes taken. Each man should have a canvas sleeping bag, preferably paraffined, with a hood to draw over his head. He can have another heavy woolen sleeping bag to go

inside this, or use blankets, as he may prefer, though there is more warmth to the same weight in the sleeping bag. As for clothing, the essentials are mackinaw suits, heavy woolen underwear and overshirts, heavy woolen socks, woolen mitts and fleecy lined leather mitts, heavy leather boots, gum boots/overall, woolen cap, soft felt hat and a waterproof clothing sack. To this equipment one may add whatever he may think desirable, but these at least are necessary. The question of footwear is an important one. Gum boots are worn only while at work in the water, either in a claim or along the trail. Leather boots crack and are easily ruined in the snow and cold. The Indians make a moccasin boot, called "muckinck," which is the usual footwear along the Yukon, but it will of course be impossible for them to supply the demand for them next year. This renders it advisable for the gold-seeker to take at least one extra pair of boots with him. The most desirable is the style of boot worn by lumbermen.

There are numerous little things that are a necessary part of an equipment. Every man should have a small kit of shoemaker's tools and supplies, also a complete mending outfit for clothing, toilet articles, etc., all in a case with pockets, one that can be rolled up and tied. A few yards of mosquito netting are necessary, for mosquitoes are a pest. Goggles to protect the eyes from snow blindness are necessary. Pens, ink, pencils, paper and government stamped envelopes, both Canadian and United States, should be taken. A few books are worth their weight. Fishing tackle and shot guns are likely to prove of service, as the streams teem with fish and water-fowl are extremely abundant in summer. Traps are useless, as all taking of animals for their fur is done by Indians. A compass is desirable, also snow calks for the feet. For travel on the snow a Yukon sled is needed. No matter by what route one travels or how he expects to transport his outfit, there will be times either on the journey or later when he will have to pack supplies on his own back, and he should be equipped for it. The ordinary packing straps cut and gall the shoulders and let the load lie like a dead weight on the small of the back and the kidneys. There are various devices for overcoming these troubles. The best of them are the Merriman pack, by which the weight is thrown upon the hips, and the Yukon packing frame, which places the weight on the shoulders. Either is worth far more than it costs to the man who has to pack his outfit. In packing it is a great mistake to overdo oneself or to carry a load too far. The best plan is to move the entire outfit along by short stages, and then to stop work before completely exhausted. One should be especially careful not to sit around without a coat when heated or to wear wet clothing when not at work.

Every man going to Alaska should take a small supply of medicines and surgical necessities. These outfits, both regular and homeopathic, may be procured in specially prepared cases, and cost about \$10. He should also understand the use of the remedies and appliances. Finally, the best advice of all is to take only the best quality of everything, whether clothing, provisions or utensils, and to procure them from experienced outfitters, who know just what is wanted and how to pack it. It is poor economy to save a cent or two a dollar a pound to get this cheap food at its destination.

These things can all be bought cheaper and to better advantage at the outfitting points from which the steamers sail than at any other place. It is both economy and wisdom to wait until the final starting point is reached before outfitting, as a perfect equipment, selected under the advice of reliable outfitters and properly packed, is half the battle for success.

Girl Visits in a Church.

Because the members of his church were negligent in attending Sunday services and still more so in contributing to the support of himself and the church, Rev. Maurice Penfield Pikes, pastor of the First Baptist church at Trenton, N. J., decided to try an innovation to attract people to hear him preach and their nicks and dime from their unwilling pockets. He introduced pretty girls as ushers, and is more than pleased with the results of the first experiment. Mr. Pikes had the sagacity to make announcement of the fact that the young women would show folks to their seats and take up the collection. He was careful, too, to pick out six of the prettiest girls in his flock, so the church had more young men in its pews than had ever before been seen there. Every seat in the church was filled long before services were begun, and it was necessary to get chairs in the aisles. As ushers the girls were a grand success, but their best services were given when the time came to take up the collection. The innovation doesn't meet with the approval of the other preachers, who say that when people are drawn to a church simply for the privilege of looking upon a bevy of pretty girls there is no lasting good to be expected from it. But Mr. Pikes says that he believes in getting people into his church and he doesn't care how he does it so long as the means are legitimate and honest. It took a long time to take up the collection, but when it was over and the money counted there was nearly \$300 to add to the treasury of the church.

Miss Maud Parks of Lock Raven, Baltimore county, Md., was sitting near a stove when a celluloid comb in her hair caught fire. Somebody present got a bucket of water and emptied it over her.

California claims the largest boy in the world of his age. His name is John Birdine. He is 15 years old, six feet 8½ inches tall, and weighs 220 pounds.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

(Office of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 71-717 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.)

The trade has fallen into a way of thinking that the big receipts of the past week will clean up the surplus wheat that is liable to come out at present prices. Most of this wheat is contracted, when it is all in the bulls' hands that they will control the situation.

In the Northwest the claim is made that 80 per cent of the crop has been marketed, and that country elevator stocks are very light compared with previous years. Every one is looking for a sharp falling off in receipts after the first of the year; also for higher prices, while the situation on all sides is admittedly bullish the world over, the prices have not responded to what the bulls think the position of stocks to estimate requirements justified. They have fixed the standard of values in their own minds, and because they are not realized they feel disappointed. Most of them are too much inclined to lose sight of the fact that the price of wheat has reached a point where substitutions of other articles cuts greatly into the consumption, and that the speculators are more solicitous as to the price and the probable supplies than the consumers.

The outlook for supplies from Argentine is uncertain, the probability being that the exportable surplus will not exceed 30,000,000 bushels. Traders lose sight of the fact that Argentine is a large country, and that unfavorable conditions will hardly exist over the entire territory. Harvesting is now in progress, and the rains might reduce the exportable surplus. There will be little wheat to ship from Australia, but India's prospects are evidently good, judging from the free offerings in Liverpool for September. The American visible supply this week showed a larger increase than expected, being 1,051,000 bushels more than last week, and now totals 36,610,000 bushels, as compared with 54,443,000 bushels at the same time last year.

Portland Market.

- Wheat—Walla Walla, 75@76c; Valley and Bluestem, 77@78c per bushel.
- Four—Best grades, \$4.25; graham, \$3.40; superfine, \$2.25 per barrel.
- Oats—Choice white, 35@36c; choice gray, 33@34c per bushel.
- Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton.
- Millstuffs—Bran, \$17 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$18.
- Hay—Timothy, \$12.50@13; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.
- Eggs—18@25c per dozen.
- Butter—Fancy creamery, 55@60c; fair to good, 45@50c; dairy, 40@50c per roll.
- Cheese—Oregon, 11½c; Young America, 12½c; California, 9@10c per pound.
- Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$1.75@2.25 per dozen; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$5.50@6.50; ducks, \$4.00@5.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8@9c per pound.
- Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@45c per sack; sweets, \$1.40 per cental.
- Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental.
- Hops—5@14c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4@6c.
- Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@12c; mohair, 20@22c per pound.
- Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$3.50; dressed mutton, 6½c; spring lambs, 5½c per pound.
- Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.00; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$4.50@5.00 per 100 pounds.
- Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.50; dressed beef, 4½@6c per pound.
- Veal—Large, 4½@5c; small, 5½@6c per pound.

Seattle Market.

- Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 28c; ranch, 16@18c.
- Cheese—Native Washington, 12½c; California, 9½c.
- Eggs—Fresh ranch, 28c.
- Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10c; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.00; ducks, \$3.50@3.75.
- Wheat—Feed wheat, \$22 per ton.
- Oats—Choice, per ton, \$19@20.
- Corn—Whole, \$22; cracked, per ton, \$22; feed meal, \$22 per ton.
- Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$22; whole, \$22.
- Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5½c; mutton sheep, 7c; pork, 6c; veal, small, 7c.
- Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5@6c; salmon, 3c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and sole, 3@4; ling cod, 4@5c; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2½@4c.
- Fresh Fruit—Apples, 50c@1.25 per box; peaches, 75@80c; prunes, 35@40c; pears, 75c@1 per box.

San Francisco Market.

- Wool—Nevada 11@13c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 7@8c per pound.
- Hops—10@14c per pound.
- Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@23; California bran, \$17.00@18.00 per ton.
- Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, \$2.00@2.25 per cental.
- Eggs—Store, 24@28c; ranch, 30@34c; Eastern, 16@20; duck, 20@25c per dozen.
- Citrus Fruit—Oranges, navels, \$1.50@3.00; Mexican limes, \$2.00@3.00; California lemons, choice, \$1.50@2.00; do common, 50c@1.25 per box.
- Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 12½c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound.
- Hay—Wheat, 12@14; rye and oat, \$11@14; oat, \$10@12; wheat barley, 7@8; best barley, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$8.50@10; clover, \$8.50@10.
- Fresh Fruit—Apples, 25c@1.25 per large box; grapes, 25@50c; Isabella, 60@75c; peaches, 50c@1.1; pears, 75c@1 per box; plums, 20@35c.

NEVER CONTENT.

Some people are never content with anything. They will not find exactly what they want even in Heaven, if they know someone is there ahead of them. For instance, some are great sufferers from neuralgia. Friends have told them what is best and certain to cure them. Not content with what is said, they suffer on. Pain ravages and devastates the system, and leaves it a barren waste. St. Jacobs Oil has cured thousands. Just try it.

John E. Redmond, M. P., the well-known Irish leader, will sail for this country on December 30. He is coming to America at the invitation of prominent workers in the Irish cause to speak on the rebellion of 1798, to arouse the enthusiasm of Irish-Americans in the pilgrimage to Ireland next July to celebrate the rising.

WHALING FLEET IN DANGER.

It is predicted that the vessels of the whaling fleet, most of whose underwriters are in San Francisco, have been caught in the ice and some may not last through the siege. Danger also threatens those who neglect what are called "trifling" ailments, for they may not last through the crisis. Resort to Hostetter's Stomach Bitters at once for incipient rheumatism, malaria, constipation, nervousness and kidney complaint.

In Japanese saws, the teeth point toward the handle, and both saws and planes cut toward the workman.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA," and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark.

T. Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the name that has borne and does now bear the facsimile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look Carefully at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.

March 5, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

Three drops of a black cat's blood is a sovereign cure for croup in the folk lore of some people.

After being swindled by all others, send us stamp for particulars of King Solomon's Treasure, the ONLY renewer of manly strength. MASON CHEMICAL CO., P. O. Box 76, Philadelphia, Pa.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is the best of all cough cures.—George W. Lotz, Faber, Cher. La., August 28, 1895.

Try Schilling's Best tea and baking powder.

The oldest married couple in the United States are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mandel of Cape Porpoise, Mass. She is 98 and he is 101 years of age, and they have been married 77 years.

BRAVE SPIRITS BROKEN.

How often women wake up in the morning cheerful and happy, determined to do so much before the day ends, and yet—

Before the morning is very old, the dreadful BACKACHE appears, the brave spirit sinks back in a fright; no matter how hard she struggles, the "clutch" is upon her, she falls upon the couch, crying—"Why should I suffer so? What can I do?"

Lydia E. Pinkham's "Vegetable Compound" will stop the torture and restore courage. All such pains come from a deranged uterus. Trouble in the womb blots out the light of the sun at midday to a vast number of women. You should procure Mrs. Pinkham's Compound at once and obtain relief.

Mrs. F. M. Knapp, 563 Wentworth Ave., Milwaukee, Wis., says: "I suffered with congestion of the ovaries and inflammation of the womb. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured me as it will others."

Travelers in Sweden report that the street cars in that country seldom stop for passengers. Both men and women jump on and off while they are moving, and accidents are scarcely ever heard of.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED

By local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; these cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness, (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 76c.

Authorities of the Kansas university dismissed all the natural history classes on circus day recently to enable the students to study the animals.

HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD.

All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose. "Fru Gorden Dring" is made from Sugar Cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the PACIFIC COAST SYRUP CO. All genuine "Fru Gorden Dring" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

C. E. Green of Effingham, Kans., has the Continental currency his great-grandfather received for his services in the Revolution.

BROKEN DOWN MEN

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