

# ALASKA IN 1906

ITS WONDERFUL DEVELOPMENT AND  
HOW IT IS BUILDING SEATTLE.

(Special Correspondence of the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.)

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**A**LASKA BUILDING. Seattle.—I write these notes in the heart of Alaska's great commercial metropolis, Seattle. I am in the Alaska Club, surrounded by members from the Klondike, Cape Nome, Seward peninsula, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Sitka and Juneau and at my elbow is Mr. W. M. Seward, its secretary. Upon the walls are photographs showing all phases of life in the great land of the Arctic. Here is a picture of a railroad whose tracks are nearer the pole than any other on earth, and there are automobiles, filled with Eskimos, riding along on the edge of Cape Nome. About the room are specimens of wild hay, Alaskan vegetables, and on the table are numerous nuggets of copper, silver and gold, locked up in glass cases. Before coming up I stepped in the Scandinavian bank of the ground floor, to look at some gold which had just come in. It was brought out from the vaults in the cashier in a plain canvas bag of the same size as those which our Virginia boys use for chestnuts. It would hold, I judge, a peck, and it was filled with dust, grains, peas and great nuggets of gold. The cashier was claiming that Alaska will eventually produce enough gold to pay our national debt, and that it will soon be turning out an annual product greater than that of Colorado. It is claimed that \$500,000 or \$1,000,000 worth has been mined within the past year and that the territory may at some time produce as much as three times this amount. According to the latest report of Uncle Sam's assay office here in Seattle, it had taken in up to June 30, 1905, more than \$100,000,000 worth of gold. This was the total of the receipts since the opening of the office in 1898, and it weighed altogether 208 tons avoirdupois. Think of that! Two hundred tons of solid gold! A ton is a good wagon load for a two-horse team, and it would take 200 such teams to drag that golden burden. Of the whole something like \$22,000,000 of this has come from our own part of Alaska, whereas \$77,000,000 has been taken from the Yukon and the British northwest. Not long ago Mr. Roberts, the head of the mint, estimated that Alaska would be annually producing \$100,000 or \$150,000 worth of gold, and that Nome alone might yield that much in one year. Of course, a great deal of the gold goes to other mints; but it is estimated that fully 50 per cent of all mined in Alaska comes here in Seattle.

I have before me a photograph of 10 pounds of gold bricks which were made in the assay office of the Alaska Banking and Safe Deposit company. The Scandinavian bank had \$1,000,000 worth of such bricks piled up behind its plate glass show windows long ago. It was a sort of advertisement. It was considered a rather dangerous experiment, and two detectives were stationed on either side of the window to keep back the crowd, while the glass and grab the gold.

The greater part of this gold is coming from Cape Nome. Of the above amount the assay office reports that almost \$18,000,000 have been sent in from that point, and I should not like to quote their claims for the future. According to the Alaska club men they are yanking the gold out of the beds of the streams as well as from all along the beach. Anvil creek has produced more than \$6,000,000 worth, and it is said that no one can predict as to its future until the benches have been sluiced down and the tailings re-washed. Rich discoveries have been made along the base of Anvil mountain, and a little over a year ago a man named Brown discovered a placer in its foot, the gravel from which yielded \$150 per pan. The wisecracker prophesied that this mine would turn out something like \$1,000,000 worth of gold in one year. All about Cape Nome gold is being washed from the streams. A mining expert recently said that standing on Anvil mountain one could look on more placer gold values than from any other point in the world. There is a space there long which is said to be one of the richest spots in northwestern Alaska. Gold has been mined on the shores of the sea for a distance of 40 miles from Nome to the Stikine river, and has been found to pay. The first successful bench digging was done about six years ago, when there was a great rush from the creeks, and in a short time 500 miners extracted \$2,000,000 worth of dust or an average of \$4,000 per man. Much of this gold was fine, but not so rich as the bed rock lay from four to eight feet below the surface, and good pay dirt was usually found when it was reached. A little later on all kinds of machinery were employed, and some men tried to get the gold out of the sands from beneath the sea water. Such attempts have usually failed.

**THE SEWARD PENINSULA.**  
Seward peninsula is being peppered with mining companies. A great deal of the mining there is done by ditching, and there are several hundred miles of ditches already dug, representing an investment of something like \$2,000,000. These ditches are necessary to place mining, the water being carried up and down hill, through iron pipes, and finally used for sluicing. A large number of ditch companies have been organized, each of which has its own mineral properties. I have before me a little book gotten out by the citizens of Nome and Seward peninsula, which mentions the names of a number of the companies. I count 25 combinations, most of them representing considerable capital. In addition quartz mines are now being opened, and also silver mines and mines of copper and tin.

**CORPORATIONS IN ALASKA.**  
A great deal of capital is coming in to Alaska from all parts of the United States. Nearly every big industry there is owned by a company represented by capital in other parts of the Union. There are more than 150 different corporations listed in the Almanac of the Alaska club here, covering every kind of investment from fish packing to fox-raising. There are numerous mining companies, trading companies and companies for opening up coal and petroleum properties. Many of the investments are small, but others are backed by large capital. This is so with those owning the copper deposits, which are said to be in the hands of the Havermeyers and Rockefeller. The same parties who have copper interests in Montana and along Lake Superior have gotten hold of the mines in Alaska, and they are not anxious to have them developed until the market will

enable them to do so without affecting their investments in the United States proper. There is no doubt, however, but that there is an enormous amount of copper in Alaska. In the Commercial club here little bags of copper nuggets, ranging from the size of a pea to that of a man's fist, are shown. It is said that a nugget was recently discovered some distance back from the coast which weighed about six tons. If it were where it could be shipped it would be worth eight or nine hundred dollars, but as it is now it would not bring 500 cents. All this stuff is merely the off-scouring of the quartz mines, in which the real money is. The specimens shown came from along the Copper river, where, I am told, the ore carries from 30 to 70 per cent of pure metal and is far superior to that of the chief copper regions of the Rockies.

Our government geologists have found copper in nearly all parts of Alaska, but the best prospects so far look in the Ketchikan district, Cook inlet district, at the head of the Duncan canal, in the Hetta inlet and in the Copper river basin. The latter occupies an area as big as Washington state, and it will some day be shipping copper all over the world. The Alaska Copper company is operating on the Hetta inlet. It has completed a 250-ton smelter, a water power plant and a 5,000 cable tram. Other claims are being developed in the same region by the Alaska Industrial company.

**A SEATTLE ASSET.**  
Seattle acts as though it owned Alaska, and it is really making more profit out of it than any other part of the Union. This city took a jump when the gold regions were discovered, and it has had on its seven-league boots ever since. Every man who goes there pays his toll to Seattle, and every ton of goods coming down likewise. A large part of the money from the mines is invested here, and indeed, it is said that Seattle has received more than \$25,000,000 of Alaskan gold in real estate purchases and in the natural profits of trade. Every dollar that is spent in the far west, whether in mines, railroads or trade, is reflected in business channels here, and the people are just as anxious to build up that country as their own state. The trade of Alaska is now worth something like \$40,000,000 a year, and it steadily increases.

There are a number of steamship lines which connect the Puget sound region with the various Alaskan points. There are regular boats from Seattle to Juneau, Ketchikan, Haines Mission, Sitka and Skagway. There is one line to the Gulf of Alaska, which calls at Valdez and elsewhere, and another which goes up along the Alaskan peninsula to Dutch Harbor. A third company connects Seattle with the Seward peninsula. You can also go by boat to the Nome region, and there are river boats on the Yukon.

At the same time Uncle Sam is doing all he can to better our communications with that far away territory. The telegraphs are under the United States signal service and there are a number of wireless stations by which messages can be flashed from one point to another. The head of the telegraph system is one of the ablest men in the government service. This is Maj. W. A. Glassford, who did excellent work as head of the signal corps in Porto Rico during the war and later on in the Philippines. As it is now every prominent point in Alaska can be reached by wire. The rate for 10 words to Sitka is \$1.50 to Skagway, \$2; to Fairbanks \$3.50; to St. Michael, \$5.50, and to Nome, \$4.

**A TEMPERATE REGION.**

We usually look upon Alaska as all snow and ice. This is so with the greater part of the country, but not with the Alaskan islands, and the strip of land running along the south coast. The climate there is such that boats can run all the year round, and the most of the region is no colder than Washington, D. C. Indeed, the Eskimos and other Indians of that part of our territory would laugh at the idea of using snowshoes. They have no sledges nor

reindeer, and they are troubled more with rain than ice. Even in southeastern Alaska, where they occasionally get cold breezes from the Arctic, the mercury seldom drops to zero and last year the lowest temperature at Juneau was 4 degrees above that point.

There are said to be excellent grasses on many of the Alaskan islands, which may eventually be used for feeding cattle and sheep. It is believed that the Gateway and West Highland cattle can be acclimated there, and also the black-faced Scotch sheep. The Agricultural department already has four experiment stations, and it expects to open up a farm in the Copper river valley this summer, where it will carry on experiments raising grain. The hay possibilities are said to be great, the market being the towns and mining camps which are now largely supplied with stock food at enormous freight rates.

Fruit experiments are also being carried on in the government station at Sitka, where 3,000 seedling apple trees have been started from hardy varieties brought in from Minnesota. On Kodiak island the climate is, I should say, much like that of the Falklands. A Seattle meat packer has several hundred head of cattle and sheep there, and they find their own food winter and summer. As to hops, it was raised last year as far north as the Forty Mile country, and a moving machine was among the articles shipped there last season.

Near Wrangell they have produced a cauliflower which weighed over 10 pounds, and an Irish potato which weighed more than seven pounds. All along the Yukon there is no snow during four months of the year. The grass grows as high as your shoulders, and there are wild raspberries, currants, huckleberries and blackberries. The sun puts in about eight hours' extra time there, and during those months does twice as much work as in any other part of the United States proper. The Alaskans say that the growth of the various crops depends on the amount of sunshine, and claim that their summer, with the long days, affords as much vegetable growth as the northernmost parts of our country.

Seward peninsula is so a large extent a timberless land, the ground of which is frozen to an "unknown" depth. If a few inches of the tundra is scraped away the ground will thaw out for two or three feet, and vegetables planted in it will grow with enormous rapidity. The thawing ice below gives plenty of moisture, and the hot sun makes nature jump.

In the Tanana valley, which ends in the Yukon, there is a strip of land about 10 miles wide and 50 miles long. It is beautifully timbered. In some places, and in others, there are wild hay so luxuriantly that a man on horseback has difficulty in getting through. In this valley during the summer the sun shines all day long, and the most of the night, and the people claim that their three months' season is equal to six months anywhere else. The same is true of the valley of the Stikine, where potatoes, turnips, carrots and cabbages are now grown with success. The Tanana valley is as big as Iowa, and the agricultural region of the Seward peninsula is said to be a hundred miles wide and 150 miles long. It is largely covered with timber.

Considerable railroad buildings are now going on in Alaska. The Nome and Arctic railway is being operated for 12 miles, and the Seward river and Copper river railway almost as far. The road over the pass from Skagway to White Horse has a length of 112 miles, and the Alaska Midland is projected but not yet begun. It will go from Koyukuk to the Seward peninsula, a distance of 150 miles. There is also the Trans-Alaska Siberian road, which is proposed to build across Behring strait, so that we may eventually go by rail to St. Petersburg and Paris.

One of the most important of the railroads now under construction is the Alaska Central, which begins on the Pacific coast at Seward and goes due north through the heart of the country, opening up to settlement and development an enormous territory. It will be 400 miles long, and will make accessible a virgin country as big as all New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois combined. This is a region of mines, timber, and it is said of agricultural possibilities. The road has already been built from the Pacific coast 150 miles northward, and there are 1,800 men at work now in the various construction departments. The payroll is about \$125,000 a month, and more than \$250,000 per month has been spent during the past year by the purchasing department. The first 150 miles will be opened to freight and passengers by July 15, 1906, and it will then have regular steamship connection with Seattle.



UP TO DATE ESKIMOS AT CAPE NOME.  
Copyright Photograph by F. H. Newell, Furnished by the Alaska Club to Frank G. Carpenter for the Deseret News.

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FRANK G. CARPENTER.

## The Newest Effects in Summer Belts.

We have just received a splendid assortment of the prettiest belts you ever saw. Included in the line are Silk, Kid, Elastic, Silver and Wash Belts. Two of the pretty conceits for the season are the Fritz Schneff and the Pearl Buckle Belts.

COLLALETTES—With jewel settings. Worth \$1.00 each. 48c  
Center aisle back.

"The coolest store in town"

# WALKER'S STORE

DON'T BECOME CONFUSED ON OUR CLOSING DATE  
IT'S NOT NEXT SATURDAY. IT BEGINS THE WEEK OF JULY 16TH.

## Toilet Articles and Stationery Underpriced

COLONIAL LINEN FABRIC, 50 envelopes and 40 sheets of paper. Worth 50c. Special ..... 32c  
WILLIE LOWE'S FRESH VIOLET PERFUME. Worth 75c the ounce. Special ..... 58c  
AMERICAN TOILET SOAP. Three cakes in the box. Worth the cake. Special, 2 boxes for 25c or, the box ..... 15c

## A splendid innovation in robe selling.

A sale involving our entire collection of lace, embroidery and linen robes.

Included in this splendid assortment of robes are beautiful effects in Baby Irish, hand embroidered handkerchief linen, hand embroidered Irish linens and beautiful embroidery robes. It's the most superb collection ever brought to this city. A backward season forces us to make these unusual inducements.

The prices all include the making by Madam Stout. You pay scarcely more than the price of the robe itself and in some cases even less.

Also our splendid line of hand embroidered French patterns at the same inducements.

All trimmings aside from those included with the robes and waists will be charged for. Also drop skirts and lined waists.

Here's the way we do it. A chance you will readily appreciate.

All regular \$15.00 robes, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$25.00	All regular \$50.00 and \$65.00 robes, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$60.00
All \$25.00 to \$32.50 robes, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$35.00	All regular \$75.00 and \$100.00 robes, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$75.00
All \$35.00 to \$40.00 robes, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$42.50		

Our complete assortment of French hand embroidered waist patterns to go at the same inducements.

All \$10.00 to \$12.50 waist patterns, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$15.00	All \$15.00 to \$17.50 waist patterns, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$20.00	All \$20.00 to \$27.50 waist patterns, including making by Madam Stout .....	\$25.00
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Lace department—Center aisle—back.

## Women's hosiery and knit underwear.

Entire stock of beautiful silk hosiery for Summer wear at 20 per cent discount.

Including plain colors, all blacks and embroidered effects. Values range from \$1.50 to \$5.00 the pair. Monday and Tuesday you choose at 20 per cent off.

**WOMEN'S FANCY EMBROIDERED HOISERY.**  
Pure silk. Best German goods. Worth \$1.00 to \$1.50 the pair. Monday and Tuesday ..... 89c

**WOMEN'S SILK AND COTTON MIXED VESTS AND PANTS.** Vests long or short sleeved. Pants knee length, tight fitting. Extra fine \$1.50 quality. Monday and Tuesday the garment ..... 69c

**WOMEN'S FINE Lisle VESTS.** Lace trimmed. Crocheted or plain yoke. Low neck and sleeveless. The very best you ever saw, at the garment ..... 50c

**\$5.50 to \$6.00 Children's dresses for \$3.95.**

They come in the following shades, natural linen, green, blue and oxblood. Made up in the Russian style with round collar, trimmed with braid and white pique. Also the Gretchen style belted and trimmed with embroidery. Sizes 6 to 14 years. A splendid sale.

**Fine madras blouses for boys.**  
Made with and without collars. Special haberdashery's designs. Exclusive patterns. Prices very reasonable, at 50c to \$1.25 each.

**85c Genuine Rajah silk and pure 85c silk pongee at 85c the yard. 85c**

These two splendid fabrics are recognized \$1.25 and \$1.50 qualities.

There are 20 pieces of the Rajah—30 inches wide. Name stamped on selvage—the genuine article. Range of shades, navy, marine, national, light and Alice blue, reseda green, light and dark gray and old rose.

The pongee is in two widths—27 and 36 inch. Automobile cloth and taffeta finish. Domestic and imported kinds.

Two of the season's most popular fabrics offered at this great reduction. \$1.25 and \$1.50 qualities go at the one price 85c the yard.

## A handsome showing of new Princess gowns

Made up in Persian Mulla, Organdies and Swisses. Trimmings of lace, insertion and hand embroidery. Short sleeves. Very fetching models. Priced very reasonable at \$20.00 up.

**Splendid line of linen Bolero jacket suits.**  
Handsomely trimmed with braids, Baby Irish and Yucca lace. All prettily trimmed to match jackets. Colors are pink, blue and white. Prices range from \$15.00 to \$25.00 each.

**New line of white linen skirts.**

A comprehensive display of the new styles, including the trimmed and pleated effects. Very well models. Priced unusually low at \$2.50 to \$7.00 each.

## A record breaking two days linen sale.

Every yard and piece of linen in our department will be tremendously reduced Monday and Tuesday to make two days of the greatest linen selling we ever experienced

Our stock contains only the best linens—No mercerized goods allowed in the department—All our Shamrock linens, made by John S. Brown and Sons and sold exclusively by us in this city are splendidly underpriced.

800 beautiful sets of table linens reduced like this:

The stock comprises the following elegant patterns—Scroll and sprig, Lily of the Valley, Duke of Leinster, Roses—with Circular Centre, Floral, Conventional, Chrysanthemum, Fern and passion flower, Shamrock and Thistle.

SIZES 2 BY 2 1/2.	SIZES 2 BY 3.	SIZES 2 1/2 BY 2 1/2.
\$4.00 grade for ..... \$2.50	\$5.00 grade for ..... \$3.50	\$6.50 grade for ..... \$4.85
\$5.00 grade for ..... \$3.50	\$6.50 grade for ..... \$4.85	\$8.50 grade for ..... \$6.00
\$7.00 grade for ..... \$5.00	\$8.50 grade for ..... \$6.00	\$10.50 grade for ..... \$7.50
\$10.00 grade for ..... \$7.50	\$12.50 grade for ..... \$8.00	\$15.00 grade for ..... \$10.00
SIZES 2 1/2 BY 2 1/2.	SIZES 2 1/2 BY 3.	
\$7.50 grade for ..... \$5.50	\$8.50 grade for ..... \$6.00	
\$10.50 grade for ..... \$7.50	\$12.50 grade for ..... \$8.50	
\$15.00 grade for ..... \$10.00	\$16.50 grade for ..... \$11.50	
\$20.00 grade for ..... \$15.00	\$22.50 grade for ..... \$16.50	

400 odd pattern cloths

to go at half prices.

2 to 5 yard lengths—Values range from \$5.00 to \$15.00 each—They go at \$2.50 to \$7.50 each—At this reduction we limit them 2 cloths to the customer.

**Huck and damask linen towels.**  
Hemmed and hemstitched.

Regular 15c grade for ..... \$11.50	
Regular 20c grade for ..... \$13.50	
Regular 25c grade for ..... \$15.50	
Regular 30c grade for ..... \$17.50	
Regular 35c grade for ..... \$19.50	
Regular 40c grade for ..... \$21.50	
Regular 45c grade for ..... \$23.50	
Regular 50c grade for ..... \$25.50	
Regular 55c grade for ..... \$27.50	
Regular 60c grade for ..... \$29.50	
Regular 65c grade for ..... \$31.50	
Regular 70c grade for ..... \$33.50	
Regular 75c grade for ..... \$35.50	
Regular 80c grade for ..... \$37.50	
Regular 85c grade for ..... \$39.50	
Regular 90c grade for ..... \$41.50	
Regular 95c grade for ..... \$43.50	
Regular 1.00 grade for ..... \$45.50	

All fancy linens are included in this sale at greatly reduced prices.

**\$100.00 hand made Cluny table cloths for \$50.00 each.**

These are 72 by 72 and 90 by 90.

**26 AND 32-INCH BREAKFAST NAPKINS.**  
Worth \$1.00 to \$1.50 the dozen to go at the dozen—  
50c to \$1.50

**HAND EMBROIDERED ALL-LINEN DRESSER SCARFS.**  
Size 18 by 54. Worth \$1.00 ..... \$1.25  
for ..... \$1.50  
Size 22 by 54. Worth \$1.25 ..... \$1.50  
for ..... \$1.75

**Pure linen crash toweling.**

18 inch Russia crash 12 1/2c kind .....	9c
20 inch Russia crash 15c kind .....	11c
18 inch Barnsley 15c kind .....	11 1/2c
18 inch Irish Russia 15c kind .....	15c
18 inch Irish Russia 20c kind .....	16 2-3c

**Pure linen table damask by the yard or bolt.**

64-inch, 65c quality for .....	42c
72-inch, 1.00 quality for .....	45c
72-inch, 1.25 quality for .....	48c
72-inch, 1.50 quality for .....	51c
72-inch, 1.75 quality for .....	54c
72-inch, 2.00 quality for .....	57c

**200 doz. odd napkins. 22 to 27 in. square.**  
Worth \$2.50 to \$10.00 the dozen, reduced to the dozen ..... \$2.10 to \$6.00

**\$100.00 hand made Cluny table cloths for \$50.00 each.**  
Round and square.

**22 AND 26-INCH DAMASK LUNCH CLOTHS—**  
Worth \$1.00 and \$1.50, to go at .....  
59c and 85c

**ALL-LINEN CENTRE BATTENBERG DRESSER SCARFS—**  
Size 18 by 54, worth \$1.00 ..... \$1.69  
Size 18 by 54, worth \$1.25 ..... \$1.25  
Special ..... \$1.25

## From the "Men's corner."

Monday and Tuesday sale of men's belts.

A splendid assortment, comprising 25c, 30c and 35c kinds, to go at your ..... 15c

E. and W. Collars, 25c each, 6 for \$1.40.