

CUSTOMS HOUSE MOVED.

Established on Boundary Line on White Pass Summit.

Canadian Official Says It Will Remain There Until Settlement of Boundary Question.

(From Thursday's Daily.)
The Canadian customs house which has long been at Log Cabin, where it handled all the rail and wagon road business arising from traffic to the interior through the White Pass, was recently moved to the Summit on the *modus vivendi* boundary line.

The customs house will be maintained there indefinitely, and if it should be proved the Britishers are entitled to the territory that far northward, probably it will remain at that point permanently. In any event, the first Canadian customs house to be encountered by mushers from the outside may be expected to be found at the Summit at least until the boundary dispute is settled.

E. S. Busby, supervising officer in charge of the Canadian customs houses at Bennett, Summit and Atlin and the customs agency of his country at this port, with headquarters at Skagway, says:

"Now that the railroad gives the advantage of service to the very Summit, and fuel as well as supplies of other kinds can be taken there on rail, we had just as well be at that point. It is customary to have custom houses right at the boundary.

"Furthermore, in this instance, the United States custom officer is stationed at the Summit, and in case of any misunderstanding as to routine affairs the matter can be settled right on the spot by the representatives of the respective governments without parley or delay that might be occasioned by having them apart.

"All who start from Skagway over the trail should get a manifest of their goods at the Canadian customs office for presentation to the officer at the Summit. The goods will then be examined and entered at the Summit. If it is desired to go through the British territory in the Yukon valley to American territory beyond, for instance Fortymile, Eagle, Circle or Nome, the man with American goods will have to put up a bond at the Summit amounting to a cash deposit equal to the duty that would be collectable on the goods were they destined for British territory, the amount deposited as a bond will be refunded upon application through the proper officers there.

"In regard to shipments over the pass by rail, all work in connection with the customs is done at Skagway and at Bennett, thus obviating delay of trains at the Summit.

"As there are no bonded winter carriers between Bennett and Dawson, no one can expect to ship freight from this port through to American territory without giving their own evidences of surety. There are even no through freighting lines to Dawson as yet. Next winter I expect to see as great strides in the interior transportation facilities as there have been made this winter.

"Nothing but a few small shipments scarcely worth noting have thus far been made through in bond this winter to American territory."—Skagway Alaskan.

First Avenue Improvements.

That portion of First avenue which was laid waste by the big fire is being improved by the erection of new buildings. The last structure to be started is that of Mr. W. A. Webb, proprietor of the Yukon Bakery. The gentleman has a lease on the Check and McGregor property, which was recently sold to Peter Black. Mr. Webb proposes to erect a one story building, 25 feet wide by 50 feet long. The structure will be partitioned into two separate store rooms. Mrs. F. H. Fancher will occupy one with a stock of notions and

fancy goods, and Mr. Webb will use the other for his bakery business. Work on the new building was commenced yesterday morning, and the structure will be completed by March 1st. Messrs De Lion and Gandolfo expect to have all their improvements on the site of the Monte Carlo finished before the 10th of March.

Mr. De Lion has let a contract for the erection of a two story building 34 feet wide by 75 feet deep. The upper story will be partitioned into office rooms; the ground floor will be occupied by a first class saloon, club room and bowling alley. Mr. Gandolfo will use the remaining 16 feet of the old Monte Carlo property for a confectionery and fruit store.

The only vacant lot in this vicinity is the one recently occupied by the Opera house.

THE FIGHTING EDITOR.

His massive head, so like to mighty Mars
Is filled with thoughts of battle,
Blood and smoke,
And as he walks men almost hear the scars

That gash his breast beneath that sable cloak.
But mark, la me! his legs! his legs! la me!

Are holy legs, and such as bishops wear,
And while his upper works fighting be
His lower parts might stampede off to prayer.

And thus it seems the Lord would circumscribe
His awful powers of pen and mouth to slay.

Thus intervene, to save that Afric tribe,
By cursing him with feet that run away—

Has thus ordained that, though his soul be far,
He linger longer on his sanctum perch,

That while his bust may make men mad for war,
His shapely shanks will flag the folks to church.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Anyone knowing anything of George Rowan formerly of Los Angeles, who is being anxiously inquired for by his father, will please report such information to Sergeant Wilson at the town police station.

F. S. McFarlane, who has been left in charge of the business of W. H. Parsons & Co., reports the arrival of W. H. Parsons and party at Five Fingers. Mr. McFarlane has assumed the entire management of the business, and is doing a thriving trade.

R. E. West, who arrived from the outside with papers, will leave again for the outside on Saturday. He came in with dogs, but will sell the dogs and take a horse on his return, as he says the trail is in fine condition for horses. The horse West will take left here in December, went to Bennett and brought back nearly a ton of freight.

J. A. Elwell reached Dawson over the ice Monday, after a trip of 15 days from Bennett. Mr. Elwell and wife went on one of the late boats last fall and enjoyed an extended trip through the middle states. Mrs. Elwell is in Seattle, where she will remain until joined by her husband in July. Mr. Elwell says that the trail is covered with people en route to Dawson and Nome. On the day after the trains began running, after the big snow blockade, 320 passengers were carried by the White Pass and Yukon railroad to Bennett, most of whom were en route down the river.

A Communication.

Dawson, Y. T., Feb. 19th, 1900.
Editor Klondike Nugget.

Dear Sir: I am directed by the committee of the patriotic concert to forward to you the following resolution passed by them:

"Resolved that the sincere thanks of the committee be extended to the Klondike Nugget for the support given by it to the Patriotic concert." Yours truly,

P. E. THACKER,
Secretary Patriotic Concert.

An Abused Wife.

Married Daughter—Oh dear, such a time as I do have with that husband of mine! I don't have a minute's peace when he's in the house. He is always calling me to help do something or other.

Mother—What does he want now?
Daughter—He wants me to trapeze way upstairs just to thread a needle for him, so he can mend his clothes.—New York Weekly.

REPORT FINALLY ADOPTED.

Mining Committee Suggestions Will Go to Ottawa.

Entire Document Gone Over and Few Alterations Made Last Night—Large Attendance of Board.

For the third time within three weeks the Board of Trade met last night for further consideration of the report of the committee on mines and mining. Second Vice President H. W. Yemans presided, and at the opening of the meeting stated that the recommendations about to be made to the Canadian government regarding the suggested changes in the mining laws of the Yukon district will be the first time in the district history that a suggestion has gone from an organized and representative body such as is the Dawson Board of Trade and the chairman ventures the opinion that such suggestions will command due respect and attention at the government's hands.

There being a number present who had not heard a former reading of the committee's report, which, with the suggested changes and amendments, were read by the secretary.

On the question of the size of claims, the committee's recommendation being 500 feet square, Surveyor Barwell thought that area too large for hillside claims, as he considered it a lot of useless ground. Mr. Condon defended the suggestions embodied in the report. Col. McGregor gave some ancient mining history which he had been instrumental in putting into existence over a year ago, and that time the minister of the interior had advised him that he favored a uniform size of 500 feet square of all claims. Col. McGregor favored the adopting of the report. After a great deal of discussion a motion that the size of all claims be placed at 500 feet square was made, put and carried, the one dissenting vote being that of Surveyor Barwell, who preferred a smaller size for hillside and bench claims.

When the matter of royalty came up Surveyor Barwell said it is the policy of the government to make the revenue from the Yukon pay the government expenses of the eastern provinces to as great an extent as possible and that he had been so informed by an official of the government.

On motion of C. M. Woodworth, seconded by Captain Olson, the size of a mining district was made to read "twelve" instead of "five" miles.

With the exceptions of the changes above noted the entire report was adopted practically as it appeared in the Daily Nugget of the issues of the 8th and 9th instants.

Mr. Woodworth suggested that when the report is sent to Ottawa there be appended to it such suggestions as may be made by the various members of the Board. Mr. Condon vigorously opposed the suggestion and quoted Mr. Sifton as saying that at any time a petition representing the unanimous expression of the Yukon miners is forwarded, such petition will receive favorable attention.

Mr. Barwell said the most important feature in the matter of mining in the district is that part relating to representation. He thinks every claim should be prospected and represented; that such regulation would induce the prospector to again go to work. Mr. Tozier thought that to compel men to labor on their claims would kill the mining industry.

Col. McGregor favored a rigid representation law. It has been the law of all successful mining camps since the industry became known. The colonel knew the Spaniards had a rigid representation law 200 years ago.

Leroy Tozier differed from Messrs. Barwell and McGregor and stated that rigid representation work would limit the number of claims a poor man could

own; for instance, he knows a man who has sunk 27 holes to bedrock in this district and has not yet struck pay dirt. Mr. Tozier closed by saying "You can't be too lenient with the prospector." Mr. Barwell said the solution of the Yukon country is to get the prospectors back and that government restrictions now existing must be removed before they will come. If these restrictions are removed he believes hundreds, perhaps thousands, of prospectors will come here from Nome next fall if the laws are changed so as to give them a chance to prospect, located and record after coming here.

Mr. Condon did not favor too rigid representation work and stated that many claim owners are able to pay \$200 per claim in lieu of doing the work, who are not prepared to do or have done the work.

The matter of granting concessions was strenuously denounced by all who took part in the discussion.

Mr. Barwell thought it would be well to get the endorsement of the Yukon council on the report before it is sent to Ottawa, but Mr. Tozier did not think it wise for the committee to "bump up against" the council. Mr. Condon, as a member of the committee, endorsed his co-workers remarks.

The meeting adjourned for two weeks.

Beware of Robb.

Mr. E. La Porte has written a letter to the Daily Nugget in reference to the criminal operations of one William B. Robb, who recently departed for Cape Nome. The communication is too long for publication, but evidently Robb, as Mr. La Porte states, "possesses a name completely in harmony with his character." Before leaving he borrowed money from several acquaintances without informing them of his intended trip. He also sold to Mr. Erhardt an undivided half interest in a cabin and its contents, which are the property of Mr. La Porte. He helped himself to wearing apparel, which is owned by Charles P. Bonsal. Mr. La Porte desires that the stampede to Nome be informed of Robb's inclinations, so that he may be unable to practice his confidence tricks on the trail.

Territorial Court.

The trial of the cause of Victor et al. vs. Butler was concluded yesterday and Justice Dugas took the matter under consideration.

In Callahan vs. Johnson, which was tried yesterday, plaintiff sued for \$134, on account of money paid by him for the benefit of defendant; the latter resisted the claim, and set forth that the plaintiff was indebted to defendant in the sum of \$140. Justice Dugas, at the termination of the testimony, dismissed the case and ordered each party to pay his own costs.

The action of Griste vs. Mitchell was tried yesterday afternoon. The plaintiff sued the defendant on a \$158 board bill and recovered a judgement of \$144 and costs of suit.

The cases of Guddard vs. Ripstein and Meadows vs. Smith have been transferred to the foot of the calendar.

The actions of Schlofer vs. Willison and Lang vs. Kern have been settled.

The trial of the Canadian Development Company vs. P. J. Benoit, Le Blanc and Alexander McDonald is now in progress. On the 21st of August, 1899, a collision occurred between the steamboat Canadian and the steamboat W. K. Merwin in Thirtymile river. The C. D. Co., owner of the Canadian, instituted action against Messrs. Le Blanc and McDonald, owners of the Merwin for \$408, which the plaintiff claims is the amount of damages sustained to the Canadian by reason of the collision. The defendants deny that the Merwin was responsible for the accident, and allege that it was occasioned by the negligence of the officers of the Canadian. The defendants have filed a counter claim, and ask for \$5000 damages against the plaintiff. The trial of the suit will not be concluded before this evening.

The next case on the calendar is that of Herring et al. vs. Ripstein.