

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
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SUNDAY, MAY 6, 1900.

TONIGHT'S MEETING.

Tonight the people of Dawson and representatives from the creeks will assemble in mass meeting to listen to a report from the citizens' committee and to transact such other business as may come before the meeting.

Of chief importance on the order of business are the questions of representation and royalty.

As regards the former, innumerable and, in our judgment, unnecessary delays have intervened since authority was given at Ottawa for the election of members on the local council.

The census returns have proven what everyone outside of certain members of the Yukon Council has known all along, viz., that there are several times over a sufficiently large number of British subjects in the territory to justify representation.

It appears, however, that the council has become thoroughly convinced at length, both as to the genuineness of the popular wish in the matter and as to the right which the people have, that their desires should be respected.

We understand that the facts relative to the results of the census have been telegraphed to Ottawa, and that in the fullness of time instructions will be received ordering an election to be called.

These facts, however, should in no degree hinder a strong expression of opinion at the meeting tonight. The people of Dawson have placed themselves on record upon various questions in the past, and have seen their wishes disregarded. No harm can result if they accentuate their previously spoken convictions upon the questions at issue tonight.

The more strongly the grievances of the territory are impressed upon the government, the quicker relief will be granted. Therefore, the fact that Ottawa has been wired by the local authorities with a report of the census, and a sort of negative recommendation in behalf of representation, should not preclude further action by the mass meeting tonight.

As regards the royalty question, which will also be dealt with at the meeting, there has always been a strong opinion maintained that the legal status of the tax might be successfully attacked.

The royalty has never been made a law by virtue of parliamentary enactment. In fact, it is no law at all, being merely an order or regulation in council, and without precedent in Canadian history.

The full facts will be laid before the mass meeting, and a line of action suggested whereby a test of the legality of the royalty measure may be made.

As for fears which have been expressed that the meeting may give rise to violent action, the

Nugget has merely to say that people who entertain such views are not acquainted with the character of the men who constitute the population of this territory. They are men who are accustomed to constitutional laws and constitutional means for righting wrongs. When these have been exhausted, there will be plenty of time to discuss resort to other measures.

The mass meetings thus far held have been productive of much good. They have manifested a respect for law, and at the same time have shown a firm determination to persist in a demand for recognition of just claims until the same is obtained. This is the spirit which commands respect, and ultimately will bring success.

TO GO OR NOT TO GO.

As the season advances, that omnipresent person who was "going to Nome" becomes more difficult to find. From the free expressions made during the winter, it was feared that the spring rush would not leave us able-bodied men enough to defend the town from invasion, but the number leaving is not distressingly large. It will be remembered that during the fall following the discovery of gold in Atlin, fully two-thirds of the population of Skagway expressed a determination to try their fortunes in the new district. How many really went, could be easily counted. The exodus to Nome is a parallel case, and while their leaving will no doubt better their financial condition in the main, their less peripatetic brethren who stay behind will have equally as good chances of wealth in the long run.—Skagway News.

A generous response to the call for aid to those made homeless by the Ottawa fire will furnish an object lesson which will be productive of beneficial results to the Yukon Territory, as well as affording all who assist, the consciousness of having aided a deserving cause. Time is an important consideration in such an emergency, and the sooner Dawson is prepared to forward a goodly sum to Ottawa, the better for all concerned.

Good, clean sport is admired and appreciated by all lovers of the manly art. Such was furnished to the large crowd which assembled at the Palace Grand last night. Both men did their best, and satisfied the patrons of the affair that the match was a legitimate one and perfectly on the square.

The stories of thousands of men rushing pell mell for Nome have convinced many men that they are pretty well off in the Klondike. A man who has steady employment here is taking an unwarranted risk when he throws his chances in with the multitudes who will flock to the Nome beach this summer.

A Correction.

Inadvertently the name of Mr. Young of the Yukon Sun was omitted in yesterday's Nugget from the list of the committee who will act in arranging for the benefit for the sufferers from the Ottawa fire.

Take Notice.

All persons working for me on Monte Cristo bench will please call at the Melbourne Hotel and receive payment in full. EDWARD MCCONNELL.

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Notice is hereby given that I will not be responsible for any debts incurred by any person in my name or in the name of any person or persons coupled with my name in the Yukon Territory. EDWARD MCCONNELL.

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STROLLER'S COLUMN

Under the management of George L. Hillier, the Orpheum playhouse is producing an excellent quality of entertainment; indeed the present performance excels anything which has been given at this resort since the withdrawal of Paul Borden. It is quite evident that Hillier is a very capable man in connection with theatrical affairs; he is a scenic painter of extraordinary merit; he displays excellent taste in the assortment and arrangement of stage properties, and he is an actor of more than ordinary ability. It is gratifying to know that he is making an earnest endeavor to exert his talents; such commendable effort is appreciated by the public, and will be rewarded by substantial success.

"Have you ever noticed," said an old order man to the Stroller one day lately, "that under the head of 'Good of the order,' a great many orders are talked to death? Now, I used to belong to several orders outside, and there was always some jay managed to get in that could not allow anything to pass, no matter of how big or how little importance, without getting up and boring those present with a long speech; no motion ever suited him and he would make an amendment. If \$25 were to be voted for any purpose, this fellow would amend the motion to read \$24.85; then he would spiel for half an hour or more and finally withdraw his amendment. I do not know whether any of the lodges in Dawson have any such barnacles on their hulls or not, as I don't belong to any Dawson lodges; but if they have, mark my words, the order that allows itself to be afflicted by any perpetual motion amender and chronic spieler will go to the dogs and all Genenna went stop it."

"The ice has gone out above and below Dawson, and it may be that just enough will remain here to make a bridge from the city over to the west side. It would not be the first time such a thing has happened. Chief Isaac's wife's grandmother says that in 1797 there was an ice bridge not over 100 feet wide extended across the river in front of where Dawson now stands until the latter part of August. She says that it was one day when she and a lot of other frolicsome young people were over there looking for four leaf clovers that she became engaged to her future husband, whom she has every reason to believe was Chief Isaac's wife's grandfather. The old lady does not believe, however, that the bridge will be of long duration this year; but she does not take any stock in what Silas said to a Nugget man a few days ago; she has never liked Silas since he stole a slab of salmon from her the summer he was 7 years old. She says Silas would rather lie on 60 days' time than tell the truth, for spot chechako."

At the glove contest last night the Stroller had the misfortune to have a seat immediately in the rear of an overgrown young man whose lingo indicates that he was raised in Hogan's alley. All through the "go" this young know-all was constantly emitting such expressions as: "Look at dat? de bloke caught de pug right square in de mug; see dat duck? Hully gee, but she's a warm one; see 'm book it on ter de guy's wind? Dere, I tink he's done fer; yep, dat settles it."

During the progress of the Hill murder trial, the spectators at infrequent intervals manifested their sympathy for the prisoner. All the facts which were submitted from the witness box, the law as it was defined and interpreted from the bench, favored the cause of the accused. The only person who appeared to entertain an opinion adverse to the theory of the defense was Crown Prosecutor Wade. He presented vigorously and earnestly the case for the state; he was aware of his isolated position, but the murmurs of the audience, the objections of opposing counsel, even occasional rebukes from Justice Dugas, did not influence the conduct of the prosecutor. After the trial, he expressed his approval of the verdict, and he heartily congratulated Attorney McKay upon the masterly manner in which the defense had been conducted.

Best imported wines and liquors at the Regina.

"Mainland" and "British Lion" cigars 25 cents. Rochester Bar, cor. Second ave. and Third sts.

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