

DAWSON ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.

There is not a more striking or dramatic passage in ancient Scripture than "The Lord said let there be light; and there was light." In the centers of civilization the prevalence of cheap and brilliant artificial light has robbed darkness of its terrors, and it requires a sojourn in the Arctic region to make one appreciate the vast strides which have been made in the matter of lighting since the composition candle displaced the tallow dip some 40 years ago.

We of the North must be permitted to enthuse a little over the advent of Dawson's new electric light plant, the property of the Dawson Electric Light & Power Company, Limited, and which came down the river just ahead of the ice blockade which would have left it at Bennett for the winter, to puzzle the aboriginal natives and make Dawsonites swear.

It is in the matter of lighting that a modern city shows its progressiveness more than anything else. A community satisfied with candles is unprogressive and not far removed from barbarism. Dawson has reason to congratulate herself on as modern a lighting plant as is possessed in London or New York, the only difference being in size. The principle on which it has been put in is that nothing is too good for Dawson and that Dawsonites stand always ready to pay for the best.

In an issue of this nature it may be appropriate to devote a few lines to the efforts of the promoters and the many backsets which they were forced to overcome. In 1898 Dawson arose at one vast stride from an era of candles to Rochester lamps.

A vessel loaded with coal oil made her way to Dawson, guaranteeing a sufficient supply of precious coal oil to last out the approaching winter. The advance was a distinct improvement, yet there were those in our midst who believed Dawson already merited the best light in the world—electricity. A company was therefore formed with "Billy" Chappell as president, Alex McDonald as vice-president; Falcon Joslin secretary, and Banker Doig treasurer. Captain Donald B. Oleson, a man of many years practical electrical experience upon the outside was chosen as general manager. A paid-up capital of \$75,000 was subscribed. Summers are short, but it was hoped to be able to get in the necessary apparatus before the river closed, and the attempt was made. Owing to the fact that everything had to be packed over the passes, a low-volt system was chosen as the pieces of apparatus required were of more convenient size. This required half-inch copper wires, and such were duly installed. Machines with a capacity of 500 lights were installed and then commenced an arduous and unsatisfactory struggle for power. Such engines and boilers as could be obtained were of the pipe portable variety, constantly petering out at critical times. Sawmills were drafted into the service, but no radical improvements could be made until the summer of 1899 opened.

The past summer, Mr. T. R. Williams went to the markets of the world and after expending some \$45,000, came back with such additions to the plant as places the Dawson Electric light works at once in the front rank among such establishments.

The plant as it now stands is a mar-

vel of completeness. In a large three-story building on the banks of the Klondike, close by its junction with the swift flowing Yukon, will be found an array of machines and engines to make a mechanic's eyes sparkle with pleasure. The boilers are of the return tubular variety to conserve the fuel. They aggregate 250-horse power, with a possible increase in case of necessity of 50 more horse power. Here is a surplus of steam over any possible demands for years to come. Two engines of the high speed oscillating variety, each with 100 horse power, provide an excess of power. This idea of leaving a margin to allow for any possible falling away in efficiency is carried out to the generators which also are of double

FALCON JOSLIN.

Mr. Falcon Joslin, the subject of our sketch, is the Dawson member of the Seattle firm of lawyers, Martin, Joslin and Griffin. He was among the very first lawyers to reach the bourne of the 1897 gold seekers. It is with amusement he relates how upon his arrival there were neither law courts, lawyers nor law practice. The most primitive law was dispensed by the commander of the police detachment, while the gold commissioner decided hundred thousand dollar claim cases with the ignorance of law and delicious abandon of a child playing at keeping house.

To begin at the beginning, Messrs. Joslin and Griffin, two partners of the

valuable property was on the ragged edge of insecurity, the subject of our sketch, instantly upon his arrival found his services in such urgent demand as to decide him at once that the pick and prospect pan were not for him.

Judge McGuire came in over the ice in February, and opened the first court in the Yukon territory—then the Yukon district—and for a time Mr. Joslin, though an American, was allowed to practice in open court. From then until the present time, Mr. Joslin has conducted a highly successful legal brokerage and mining business. A number of most important business claims are managed for absentee owners in trust by him, while his ten years' practice in Seattle gave him an insight into corporation law most invaluable in this district. Two important milling concerns availed themselves of his services to close up their affairs—the Arctic and Kerry companies, while a third the White river mill, is still being operated in trust by him. The incorporation of important local concerns has been naturally placed in the hands of this gentleman who for years was the counsel of some of the largest Seattle concerns.

The firm lost some \$60,000 in drafts, notes and mortgages in the destroyed vaults of the Bank of British North America in the big Dawson fire, but by a combination of good fortune and good management have been able to duplicate everything without the actual loss of a dollar. Clients with property in trust will appreciate this more than the average reader. Mr. Joslin has owned and owns yet, numerous pieces of Klondike property, but it is in his holdings on the famed Jack Wade creek in the Fortymile district that he prides himself most of all. The investments were made after personal inspection, and a slight vanity when judgment is so amply borne out by developments as has been the case on Jack Wade creek, is both natural and excusable.

Mr. Griffin has returned to the Seattle office of the firm as the general prosperity on the coast has been reflected in the firm's business, and it has grown beyond the power of one gentleman to control. Mr. Joslin has sole control of the Dawson affairs of the concern and will remain to care for their interests and to carry out the many trusts imposed by absentees in Martin, Joslin and Griffin.

A Natural Inference.

Clara—Uncle John what do they mean when they talk of old mine diamonds? Uncle John—I suppose they mean diamonds that were theirs before they visited the pawnbroker's. —Jeweler's weekly.

Good Summer Literature.

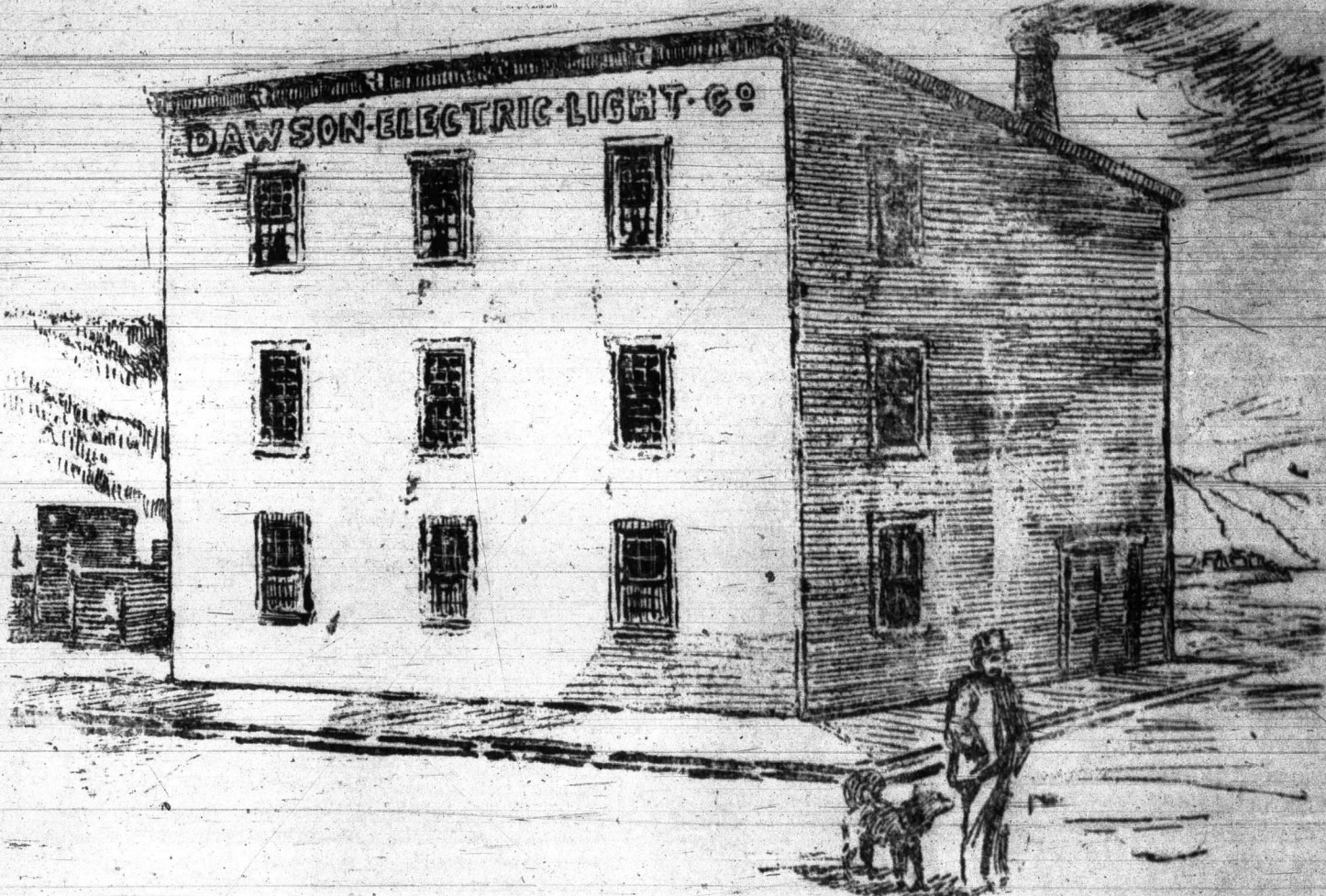
"What do you read in summer?" "The Congressional Record." "Does it interest you?" "No. I don't want to be interested. I want to be put to sleep."—Chicago Record.

One Negative Vote.

"Do you think women should propose?" asked the sweet young thing. "No, I don't," returned the cynical old bachelor. "It's dangerous enough for single men as it is."

Household Leze Majesty.

"Fortunately we don't have such a thing as leze majesty in this country" said the bachelor. "Oh I don't know," replied the Benedict. "My wife seems to regard any comment on her cooking something in that line."



The New Plant of the Dawson Electric Light & Power Co.

the capacity actually required. Two 1000-light, 1000 volt alternating machines have been added this summer, which, added to the 500-light machines already in position, give 2500 lights, which will allow one 1000-light machine, with its engine, to lie idle all the time for emergencies. This important provision obviates in future

ANY AND ALL POSSIBLE DELAY

of the current in case of shutting down, beyond the possible loss of two seconds required to throw a switch. With a reserve of a 1000-light machine and a 100 horse power engine, and with an excess of boiler power, the service in future is to be equal in brilliance and consecutiveness with any city in America.

The only change in the officers of the company made since its organization is in the vice-presidency. During the absence of Alex McDonald last year, Sam Stanley was elected to fill that important position.

Captain Donald B. Oleson, the affable general manager, is one of those rare characters combining intricate and detailed knowledge of the business he has followed for many years, with a dogged persistence and perseverance under the most discouraging difficulties, and an agreeable and suave manner of meeting the many people who have business with the company, that it is doubtful if his equal for the delicate position he occupies is in the country.

Of Mr. Williams, who brought the plant through the freight blockade at Bennett and safely piloted it down the river past a succession of similar craft hung up on bars for the winter, it may be said that few things he undertakes to do but will be done. Whether operating a sawmill or throwing his energies into electric lighting, the unusual degree of success which attends his efforts marks a man of remarkable executive ability.

Steam thawers, pipe and pipe fittings and valves, stoves, tin and sheet iron work at J. H. Home & Co.'s, opposite Fairview.

Seattle firm, joined in the stampede to the new land of gold in the summer of 1897, and after killing the last of their 20 horses on White pass found themselves at last at Bennett. The last of the 20 horses was tethered on the hills to browse and hung himself by the neck in despair by throwing himself over the cliff. Not at all disconcerted, though feeling sorrow for the faithful horses, the two determined partners loaded their outfits onto a boat and, with the usual adventurous and hair breadth escapes incident to the trip reached Dawson in just 60 days from the time of leaving Skagway. Though thoroughly resolved to try their fortunes



Falcon Joslin.

at mining upon their arrival at Dawson the partners found mining business in such a chaotic state from the lack of proper legal advice on property and personal rights that they at once saw their opportunity and opened up an office. Deeds, bills of sale, options and contracts involving hundreds of thousands of dollars had been carelessly drawn up without legal form on angular scraps of paper of all colors and sizes, and from the lack of anyone familiar with conveyancing so much



Wilcoxon.

to wait had proved to fully arm him an unwilling land of a life might be strictly to his nurses, the hour never turny too long or y, wherever his hire him.

Crises.

What is the oc-olonged crisis in as poor France! as come to pass ger have a fresh son. you may talk as you were an igno-married me! hat probably ac-