

### FOR A COURT OF APPEAL

#### Dawson Bar Society Re-organizes

#### And Forwards Memorial to Parliament Asking for Some Needed Changes.

The telegraphic item from Ottawa published in the Nugget on the 2nd inst. regarding the contemplated appointment of H. J. Senkler as a judge of British Columbia with special jurisdiction over Yukon affairs has created quite a stir among the members of the legal profession of this city.

One of the reforms advocated for the Yukon has been the appointment of additional judges for the superior court here with a view of having a court of appeal established so that the delay and expense now incurred in sending appealed cases to the court of British Columbia might be abolished and the expense and loss of time saved.

Last Saturday the members of the bar held a meeting and re-organized the bar association for the purpose of more strongly urging the position taken by them in regard to the contemplated change in the judiciary.

The officers elected by the society were: W. L. Walsh, president; Arthur Davey, secretary; H. E. Ridley, F. J. Stacpoole and W. M. McKay, executive committee.

A resolution was passed favoring the transferring of all mining disputes to the territorial court and asking for the appointment of two additional territorial court judges and the creation of a territorial court of appeal consisting of three judges and abolishing the appeal to British Columbia, but continuing the right of appeal to Ottawa. This resolution was wired to Ottawa and will be followed by a memorial through the mail.

This means the abolition of the gold commissioner's court, but it is thought in that event Mr. Senkler, the gold commissioner before whom the cases are tried, might be created one of the two additional judges with special jurisdiction over mining cases with which he has now become very familiar. By putting mining disputes, which are now the principal sources of litigation, into the territorial court it puts them on an equal footing with other civil cases and gives an opportunity for the same appeal to be taken as is possible in other civil cases. As it now stands appeals in mining cases can only be taken from the commissioner's court to the appeal court, which consists of the two territorial court judges and the gold commissioner, whose decision is final.

Under the present system appeals from civil cases must be sent to British Columbia and from that court there is another appeal to the supreme court at Ottawa. Under the proposed change the appeal may be taken from the judge who hears the case and it will then be heard before the other three judges who will form the court of appeal and from their judgment it may be referred direct to the supreme court at Ottawa without having to first be sent to British Columbia.

It is understood that there will undoubtedly be some change made in the Yukon judiciary during the present session of parliament and every effort will be made by the members of the bar here to have the changes made in accordance with the resolutions passed by the bar association.

#### A Disgruntled Gang.

The opposition at Ottawa are not satisfied with the speech from the throne. It does not contain enough "meat" for them. They will be displeased even when it is pointed out that the speech is a mere formal document and contains no indication of the actual business of the session. The speech read by Sir Henri Joly was a very formidable document. It promised all sorts of things, but we venture to say the government of this province will undertake to deal with very few of the matters therein mentioned. There are a great variety of other matters, it is understood, with which the opposition find fault. At one time they say the government has no policy. Then they will sail off on another tack and condemn in thunderous Tupperian tones the policy that is alleged to have been stolen from the Conservative party, which, if it came from such a source, must necessarily have been perfect and unassailable. One leader

says the tariff has not been reduced at all, that it is to all intents and purposes the same that should have brought prosperity to Canada, and would have done so but for unpropitious circumstances; another claims that certain industries are being ruined because of the cut that has been made. The cotton men and the woollen men are threatening to close up their mills unless more protection be given them. It is all very confusing, because not even the most enthusiastic opponent of the government can reconcile all the conflicting statements.

It is perfectly plain that the British preference has reduced the duties on certain imports by one-third. We know that as far as possible the raw material necessary to stimulate manufacturing in Canada has been placed upon the free list. A large addition to this list was made not much more than a week ago. This has stimulated many lines of manufactures and must be given credit to some extent for much of the activity of the present day. The free list is very much larger than under the N. P. We may therefore assume that it is not the National Policy that in the hands of strangers is producing the present marvellous trade expansion. But, when we come to think of it, there is a Tory school that decries that the country is prosperous in support of their position they point out that some of the eastern provinces are not gaining in population. It would be useless to explain to them that in all the countries of the world where settlement is completed agricultural communities are affected in the same way. Statistics show that the agricultural counties of Britain are losing population and that there is a substantial increase in the manufacturing centres. This movement is produced by natural causes. It does not seem very long since all the grain grown in Great Britain was cut with the common reaping "hook." Under this system armies of laborers were employed at harvest time. The hook was replaced by the scythe, the scythe by the horse reaper, with a man perched upon it pushing off the sheaves with a rake. Then followed the self-acting tilter, which culminated in the self-binder. On the farm automatic machinery has driven the hand-workers out of the business, hence the rapid depopulation of districts. But the production has not been decreased at all. It continues to increase and to meet the demands of the world for food. The farmers of Canada are more prosperous than they ever were. The government has enabled them to reach remunerative markets and the mortgages are being rapidly paid off. Though manufacturers are working over time and farmers multiplying their operations, the foreign trade of the country has more than doubled in six years. Mr. Foster says this is merely an increase in values. Others say it is merely Canada's share in the good times that have struck the continent. The foreign trade of the United States has decreased during the last two years, while that of Canada has shown a remarkable growth. How, then, can it be a wave of prosperity extending over the whole continent?

The fact is our Tory friends have made up their minds to cavil. They will affect to groan and shake their heads dismally for a number of years yet. They want capital to come in along with population to develop our resources, yet they object to American investors because they are conspiring to seize our railways and other works and use them against us, and they are afraid of American immigrants because they may try to upset our political system. The best way is to let them alone. It is useless to attempt to reconcile them to conditions over which they have no control.—Victoria Times.

#### H. M. S. Condor.

Mr. Algernon Lennox, writing to a London paper, from Calais, respecting the missing Condor, says: "When the missing warship Condor was stationed in Panama Bay, in April last, with a view to the protection of British lives and property in the event of any revolutionary movement on the Colombian Isthmus I made the acquaintance of her officers and also knew the boat well. "I voyaged from Colon to Southampton with one of her officers (going home on sick leave), who, in conversation with me, anticipated the reported remarks of Captain Sclater, referring to the ship's behaviour in heavy weather, and stated that should the guns break loose from their lashings, the Condor would infallibly be lost, owing to her huge 'rolling.'"

"Do you mean to say such a physical wreck as he is gave you that black eye?" asked the magistrate. "Shure, your honor, he wasn't a physical wreck till after he gave me the black eye," replied the complaining wife.

Job-printing at Nugget office.

### ELECTRIC LIGHTING

#### The Dawson Water and Power Company

#### Enters the Field for Keeps and Will Import Expensive Machinery.

A new electric light company, or rather an old company with new and the latest improved machinery, will make a bid for the patronage of the public next season, and as an inducement for a share of the business to be had will guarantee a service which they affirm will excel anything Dawson has yet been blessed with. The Dawson City Water and Power Company has been supplying from 800 to 1000 lights all winter, principally customers being confined, principally to the N. W. M. P. barracks, the court house and the block in which the McDonald Iron Works is situated. Their equipment has consisted only of a small dynamo which was picked up more as an experiment than anything else, but so well pleased have their customers been that had they had the capacity they could have found consumers for double the number of lamps employed. The company possesses a liberal franchise, placing them on an equal footing with the other company, and it has been determined to enter the business this year on a large scale. Their two years' contract with the McDonald Iron Works, which supplies the power for the water system, will expire in August, after which time they will operate their own plant. A triple expansion engine of 500 horsepower will be purchased this summer from the Union Iron Works of San Francisco and a dynamo of 5000 light capacity, the machinery to be installed and ready for operation before the beginning of next winter. The season following it is proposed to duplicate the plant, thus having one always ready for an emergency.

The engine and dynamo will cost \$70,000 landed in Dawson and will be the finest piece of machinery ever brought to the Yukon territory. "Our service, limited as it was, has been very satisfactory this season," said Mr. D. A. Matheson, general manager of the company, "and as we believe there is a field here for competition in electric lighting we have determined to go into it in a proper manner. The machinery we are getting from San Francisco will be the very latest improved and we are going to spare no expense in giving the best possible service. We shall have our own power house and will be in position to serve 5,000 lights before the snow flies next winter."

#### The Monroe Doctrine.

London, Feb. 22. — Hon. David Mills, the Canadian statesman, in an article in the March number of the Empire Review, written while Mr. Mills was Canadian minister of justice, bitterly assails President Roosevelt's and Senator Lodge's interpretation of Monroeism. He declares that the United States "are so long enamored of their own political institutions and so devoted to self worship that they think no others are deserving of admiration." Mr. Mills says that it would be to the State of Maine's commercial advantage to enter the Canadian federation, and says: "America has no more right to dictate to South and Central America than to Canada." In conclusion Mr. Mills quotes the United States reply to the Barbary States, "We prefer war to tribute," adding: "The United States must not be surprised when the occasion arises if she receives from European statesmen an answer not unlike that she gave to the Dey of Algiers. It is certain that a similar conclusion will be reached by Europe whenever an attempt is made to enforce against any great European power so degrading a species of vassalage as that embraced by the modern Monroe doctrine."

#### Honnen Returns.

Mr. H. H. Honnen, the well-known sour dough, freighter and stage operator, returned yesterday from an extended trip through the States. Mr. Honnen left Dawson on one of the last boats last fall and has visited a number of the principal cities on the eastern as well as western coast, but his longest stay in one place was in

Los Angeles, where he spent several weeks during December and the early part of January. "The conditions of trade all over the country have greatly improved, he says, since he first came to the north, but he concurs in the opinion expressed by the rest of the sour doughs who have returned from a trip outside, that Dawson is still good enough for him.

"I was sorry I sent Ellen such an expensive wedding present." "Why were you?" "Why, she went and placed them on exhibition without the donor's cards."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Oh, Horace," wailed his young wife, "I have just found out that Ajax, our beautiful Angora cat, has been leading a double life!" "That makes eighteen, I suppose," said Horace. "What has he been doing?" "You know I let him out every morning, because he seems to want to go and play out of doors. Well, I have discovered that he goes over to the Robinsons and lets them feed him and pet him."

Mr. Stubbs—Confound it! We are going through a tunnel! I hope it isn't long. Mrs. Stubbs—Ah, John, I remember the time when you told me you wished the whole distance was through a tunnel.—Chicago News.

#### EMIL STAUF

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