

The Klondike Nugget

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Publishers

From Monday and Tuesday's Daily.
SMALLPOX SITUATION.

There is nothing to be gained in shutting our eyes to the fact that the smallpox question as it confronts Dawson today is a serious matter. It does not, however, present difficulties which cannot be overcome by prompt action on the part of the authorities and will require compliance by the people with the regulations laid down. The fact that cold weather is almost upon us tends to increase the difficulties of the situation, as it is a well recognized fact that smallpox flourishes in the winter time. The point has been made that the authorities should have begun earlier in taking care of the matter. The Nugget quite agrees with this view of the question, but we are unable to see that any amount of criticism of past inactivity will serve to lessen the seriousness of present conditions. What we want now is energetic action by the health officials and all the assistance which it is possible for the people to give them.

The quarantine established should be enforced with absolute impartiality and as rigidly as possible. It will cause much inconvenience to many, but, consideration for the public welfare suggests that such inconvenience be submitted to with patience. We suggest to the big companies and other concerns employing large numbers of men that general vaccination of employees would be in order, and might serve to prevent any considerable spread of the disease in Dawson.

There is no occasion for anything in the nature of a panic, but we believe it is well for people to know exactly what the situation is in order that everyone may understand why extraordinary measures may be necessary in dealing with it.

THE GARBAGE QUESTION.

It is none too early for the authorities to make the necessary regulations to govern the dumping of garbage on the ice during the coming winter. Everyone who was in Dawson last winter will agree with the Nugget that the unsightly piles of filth and garbage which disfigured the ice along the waterfront were absolutely a disgrace to the city.

They were not only repulsive in appearance but were decidedly dangerous to the public health, particularly when it is remembered that much of the town's refuse was dumped in altogether too close proximity to the water holes from which a large part of Dawson's inhabitants secured their water for household purposes.

We hope there will be no repetition of last year's experience. A regulation laid down by the council in time will prevent the difficulty. After the river freezes over, the present ordinance should be extended to compel the dumping of garbage on the ice at some point below the scow where it is dumped at the present time. This would serve in some measure to preserve the appearance of the water front and at the same time prevent impurities from getting into the water holes which undoubtedly will be a large source of supply for water during the coming winter. If the men who make a business of disposing of garbage are compelled to observe some such regulation as suggested above, there will be no difficulty.

It is, however, none too early to pass the necessary ordinance or to order the enforcement of any now in existence which may cover the emergency.

SWIFT AND CERTAIN.

This morning at 8 o'clock, Alexander King, for the murder of Herbert Davenport, was executed by the proper officers of the law.

On July 15th of the present year King committed the crime for which he has paid with his life. On the 31st of the same month he was brought before a jury, tried, convicted and sentenced. The conduct of the trial has

since been reviewed by the minister of justice and the sentence confirmed in every respect. Today the law was placed in effect and King was hung.

This case furnishes an example of the certainty, though by no means undue haste, of British justice. There were no exasperating and unnecessary delays, nor was consideration given to trifling technicalities which might tend to postpone indefinitely the punishment which the crime merited. The entire transaction was the embodiment of simplicity, though through it all ran the evidence of stern regard for the law which has made "British justice" known and respected the world over.

The taking of human life under any circumstance, even though it be in punishment for the crime of murder and by due process of law, is something from which the most hardened may well shrink. Society demands, however, for its own protection that men who seek the lives of their fellows without due provocation, must pay a fitting penalty for their acts, and capital punishment, by common consent of civilized nations is looked upon as the just reward of the murderer.

Society gains nothing by the execution of the criminal, aside from the moral effect exercised upon men of criminal inclination. If by the hanging of a murderer others of murderous instincts are restrained from carrying out their designs, society at large is benefited to that extent. To accomplish, therefore, the ultimate effect for which it is intended, the law must be executed in a manner that will leave the deepest impression possible upon the minds of the criminally disposed. It is the swiftness and certainty with which British law is brought to bear upon the criminal that makes the law and order so universally observed in British communities.

Dawson, though by the nature of the circumstances surrounding its early settlement it might well have been a lawless camp, has been marked by everyone who has visited the town as a striking example of a law abiding community. This has not come about by reason of a lack of men of lawless inclination, but rather on account of the fact that all such men have understood perfectly well that undue actions on their part would bring certain and merited punishment. The execution of King with no unnecessary delays or hindrances is but another example of what awaits the offender against the majesty of British law.

BLOCKED FREIGHT.

The same condition as regards the matter of getting freight to Dawson, exists today that confronted shippers at the close of the season of navigation last summer. Hundreds of tons of freight which the transportation concerns are unable to handle on the boats are being brought down in scows or left in storage for the winter at Whitehorse or Skagway.

During the middle of the shipping season when the water was at its best, boat after boat arrived in Dawson with scarcely enough freight aboard to serve respectably for ballast. They came and went between Dawson and Whitehorse waiting for shippers to get their orders out and send their goods on to be handled.

Now, when the water is low, and the closing of the river but a few weeks away, a great rush has suddenly taken place and men with anxiety written all over their countenance are rushing about endeavoring to get their goods through.

Some will succeed and others will fail, but the lesson will probably be entirely forgotten before the ice leaves the river in the spring. Procrastination is certainly one of the worst failings of perverse human nature.

The Nugget suggests to all candidates now on the creeks that they betake themselves homeward at the very earliest possible moment. It certainly would be apt to prove disastrous to the hopes of a candidate should he be caught in quarantine and forced to re-

main in idleness while his opponents were out vote-catching. Quarantine regulations in such an emergency would be very much like cruelty to animals.

Now is the time for prophets to come forward and explain the great and all-absorbing question, when the river will close. There will be any number of men in Dawson the day after the river ceases to run who knew down to a minute when the ice would stop running. The Nugget would like to have some of these gentlemen on record, however, before the final moment arrives.

Gardening in China.

Queer people, the Chinese. If prizes for profitable gardening were competed for by nations, the Mongolians would have a very fair chance of being successful competitors. The Chinese do not confine themselves to cultivation on dry land only; they also cultivate the bottom of the waters, and in the beds of shallow lakes, ponds and brooks produce fruits unknown to other people. The water chestnut, the fruit of which is enclosed in a case formed by its root, is one of the most noteworthy of these products and is grown up in large quantities. It is very wholesome and of a delicate flavor, and is gathered by women, who tuck up their wide trousers, and wade above their knees into the ponds, where they grope for the chestnuts with their hands. As soon as her basket is full, the gatherer repairs to the nearest town or village, which she perambulates, crying her water chestnuts. These esculents are much appreciated, and meet a ready sale. They are prepared for food by removing the rind and boiling the bulb.

A great variety of trees, some of which are little known out of China, are to be found in the orchards. In addition to the peach, apricot, custard-apple, rose-apple, pineapple, pear, plum, date, cocoa, plantain, banana, persimmon, citron, orange, lemon, quince, guava, olive, pomegranate and vine—the last mentioned being grown in many varieties—there are the li-chi, the fruit of which is of the size of a strawberry, the stone being in soft, succulent pulp of a very delicious flavor; the lunggan, or dragon's eye; the wampee, whose fruit, about the size of a pigeon's egg, is much esteemed, and the carambola. Of these fruits the carambolas, perhaps, gathered in greatest abundance. In the autumn when the fruit ripens the orchards are in a state of perpetual clangor, from the beating of gongs by boys hired for the purpose, and without whom the birds would consume more than half the fruit.

HOWARD GUILTY.

(Continued from page 2.)

before renewing his campaign tour. His party managers assert that if the coal miners' strike continues a short time longer it will insure Bryan's election.

Bank Boys Coming.

Skagway, Oct. 2.—Messrs. Stevenson, Bell and Maynard of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, left for Dawson yesterday morning.

A. E. Epler started at the same time with seven tons of machinery.

All Freight Cleared.

Skagway, Oct. 2.—The freight accumulation has all been cleared from this place and has been landed at Bennett and Whitehorse. The railroad officials say it will all reach Dawson before the river closes.

Another Case of Smallpox.

The health office was besieged by people this morning making inquiries about the smallpox situation. Dr. McArthur stated that there were no cases reported yesterday, but Dr. Edwards, who is in charge of affairs at Grand Forks had reported one case this morning, taken to the hospital at the Forks from No. 10 above Bonanza.

Standard Theatre.

"Young Mrs. Winthrop" is the title of the emotional drama which made its first appearance in Dawson on the boards of the Standard last evening, and it is accounted a grand success both from an artistic standpoint and in the matter of box office receipts.

Mr. Douglass Winthrop, the husband in the piece is presented by Mr. Frank Gardner, and the title role is enacted by Miss Corinne B. Gray. The pith and marrow of the play lies in the disagreements of these two, which culminate in a divorce case conducted very successfully by Bakton Scott, who, in the person of Alf Layne outlives the devil himself in his laudable efforts to bring the parties together, which he does successfully at the end, when there is the usual grand finale in which all who have met, loved and parted are again united in perfect bliss and live happily for ever after.

Miss Mabel Lenox is the newest at-

traction at the Standard, and her work is a credit to herself and the house. She is a very clever actress, and strengthens the already strong cast of the Standard.

One of the features of the Standard is the artistic stage settings which mark the more recent productions there. They do great credit to the management and employees.

Whither Are We Drifting.

If it all "takes" there will be several hundred sore arms and sore under-pinnings in Dawson in the course of a few days, as hundreds of persons are submitting to vaccination now that they realize that smallpox still lingers in this part of the country. It is not an unusual thing for ladies to prefer that a vaccination scar be left on one of their ankles instead of on the arm; but why a man should be vaccinated on the leg instead of on the arm is a query. Yet a number of men are now bearing their unsightly legs to the surgeon's scraper and virus tubes. Can it be that a decolette male costume is in contemplation? Has some embryo Ward McAllister given a tip that low necks and short sleeves are to be embraced by the sterner sex? These are questions of the day of which both pulpit and press will do well to take cognizance. Whither are we drifting?

A Savage Publisher.

The late J. Schabelitz, the famous Zurich publisher and author, was a shrewd business man, an excellent linguist, a skillful writer and probably the most savage publisher who ever lived. When he accepted the famous memoirs of Count von Arnim, he wrote on the postal card with the acceptance the proviso "I reserve the right to correct your infernally bad grammar."

To an aspiring poet who had submitted manuscript he answered by postal card: "I refuse to be disgraced by printing your doggerel. I don't return the copy because you didn't inclose enough postage. If you will send it with the price of this card, I will send it to you, but I don't think the stuff is worth the expense on your part."

One of his postal cards to a novelist read about as follows: "For heaven's sake, come and take away the unamiable mass of paper you left here for me to look at!"

An ambitious historian was crushed by the following, written, like all of his correspondence, upon a postal card: "You are making the mistake of your life. You don't want to study history. You want to learn how to write."—Saturday Evening Post.

Has Evidently Been Worked.

From the tone of the following which appeared in the last issue of the Whitehorse Star, the editor of that paper has been up against the real thing in the way of being worked by alleged business men for free write-ups:

The business men of Whitehorse, with but few exceptions, are an enterprising and progressive body of men, and with this class it is a pleasure to have business dealings. There are, however, a few "Cheap John Grafters" who are under the impression that when a newspaper man strikes them for an ad. that to give him one is so much money thrown away. But when some poor, unsophisticated victim, who has been taken in and fleeced by their "sure thing" games, makes complaint, they are the first ones to hurry to the newspaper man and ask him as a personal favor to not make public the facts in the case.

There is still another class who assure you that as soon as they get ready for business they intend to spend "barrels" of money in advertising, and ask if the newspaper man won't kindly give them a little write-up, which he usually does, and in the end finds that he has "gone up against it," or in other words been buncoed into giving one of these "Cheap Johns" valuable space for nothing.

Some of these fellows are engaged in business which, did we but do our duty and let the sunlight of truth fall upon their every day transactions, the olfactory of the respectable part of the community would be assailed by such a stench that it would require a carload of disinfectants to purify the atmosphere, and the only reason we have not done so is because we do not desire to let the outside world know into what degradation a portion of one class of business in Whitehorse has descended.

A Woman's Ways.

She will laugh while the tears still dim the eyes
She will sing a song to cover the sighs,
She will fight for the mastery over pain,
Full many an untold battle gain;
Then over a mouse will faint away,
But that is only a woman's way.
She will take her place in the battle of life
And bear unconquering the brunt of the strife,
Her strength and energy ready to share
And always trying a smile to wear,
But in a dispute the last word she'll say,
For that is just a woman's way.
She rocks the cradle of life's greatest men,
She has ruled the world since the world began;
She can reach a decision and act on the same,
While a man spends the time in arguments
and
But when she goes shopping she takes one day,
For that is just a woman's way.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

Magistrate McDonell was greeted by a familiar face from the prisoner's box this morning, the owner of the face being John O'Hara. John has changed his brand within the past three weeks. Then he confined himself exclusively to the slumber brand and was up twice in three days for wooing balmy on the sidewalk. Last night he absorbed an overdose of the boisterous brand which instead of producing sleep which would necessarily have been in the beautiful snow, caused him to become a disturbing factor on Fourth avenue. He renewed his time honored promise to not do it again, but John's promises are too numerous to be taken seriously. A fine of \$10 and costs or ten days work was imposed. A friend produced the needful and John smiled as he left the courtroom.

When Julius Hawkins wooed, and married his wife he ignored such conventionalities as color line and took unto himself a daughter of the forest about whom clings a distinct aroma of salmon. But the color line is not the only difference in the Hawkins family. Last night the wife swore to a warrant charging her liege lord with striking her with his fists and kicking her with his feet. This morning in that laconic style peculiar to the Indian women she told of how Julius had abused her for leaving clothes pins on the dining table where he thought his supper should have been; that he had dragged her around over the house, baptised the floor with her bright, red blood, kicked her on the back and in various ways used her in a manner not practiced towards their wives by loving and affectionate husbands. In his own behalf Hawkins denied abusing the fish scented wife of his bosom, other than to mildly correct her; that she has been acting badly lately in that she has taken to staying out at night and coming home in the early morning hours under the influence of the essence of democracy; that his wife has been trying to shake him lately and that he is opposed to having his family fig tree destroyed. As the woman had the marks of her husband's violence to substantiate her story, the court informed Julius that the marriage license which was in evidence was the only thing that saved him from a long sentence at hard work. As it was a fine of \$30 and costs or two weeks at hard labor was imposed. Hawkins was also required to give bond in the sum of \$300 to deport himself properly toward his wife for a period of six months.

T. H. Heath was up on a charge preferred by F. W. Clemens of having entered the latter's office, kicked over his stove and used naughty language. Heath claimed to have as much right in the office as Clemens and apparently the court so thought, as the case was dismissed.

Scows for Dawson.

Reports from up the river are to the effect that fully 75 scows are yet to be dispatched from Bennett with cargoes for this place. That a large number of them, fully one-half, will be hung up on bars and their cargoes will be freighted in over the ice the same as were the cargoes of fully 100 scows last winter, otherwise they will lay until navigation opens in the spring, is certain.

Not a scow that left Bennett after the 7th of last October succeeded in landing their freight in Dawson. Of a fleet of five scows which left Bennett October 8th and were towed by steamer to the mouth of Fiftymile, four succeeded in getting within a few miles of Dawson when the ice stopped on the 24th, the fifth one only getting as far as Scow Island. Less than a dozen scows that left Bennett after October 4th of last year reached Dawson until the spring, and if the closing season this year is as early as was that of last year, there is no doubt but that the coming winter will see more sandbars buoyed with scows than did last, although there were fully 125 laden scows hung up between Dawson and Hootalinqua last fall.

There is no doubt but that the same risks will be taken this year as last when, so long as Lake Bennett was open laden scows were dispatched from there for Dawson and towards the last a number got no farther than Caribou, a distance of only 28 miles, when they were stopped by the ice. The same thing will occur this year, particularly in the matter of dispatching scows from Whitehorse, where, so long as the river is open they will be started, but if the approaching winter closes in with the rapidity of last, it is a safe bet that not four scows that leave Whitehorse after the 10th of the month without steamer convoy will tie up in Dawson before the river closes.

"Flush On."

Fully four inches of the beautiful fell last night and this morning several hundred draught dogs which for the past six months have enjoyed a continuous vacation, wore a sort of "family man" look, for the fall of snow means that they must earn considerably more than their board for several months to come, with the prospect of being frequently left in weather so below "frezzy," while the driver looks on red hot and asks to be "hit" by a black-jack dealer. These are a few things which were brought forcibly to the canine mind this morning when the mantle of white was beheld.