

FIRST COUNCIL MEETING

In New Chambers Held Yesterday Afternoon - Session Not Remarkable for Length or Amount of Business Transacted - Councilman Wilson Speaks - Adjourned Until Monday.

From Friday's Daily. The council chamber in the new administration building, which was occupied yesterday by the Yukon council for the first time, presented quite a gay and animated appearance when that august body was called to order shortly after 3 o'clock. Outside the railing in the seats provided for the public were a number of Dawson's most prominent citizens, including several ladies, and the contrast with the dingy, old quarters in the old court house was indeed a marked one. Prior to the convening of the council the members had all been assigned their respective seats which hereafter they will regard as their own. Registrar Girouard occupies the seat of honor, that immediately to the right of the commissioner, he being in point of service the senior member of the council; alongside Mr. Girouard is his right is Mr. Justice Dugas. In the rear row is Legal Adviser Newlands. On the left of the commissioner in the front row are Councilmen Wilson and Prudhomme; in the rear row are Gold Commissioner Senkler and Major Wood.

At the session the members were all present with the exception of Major Wood, who is temporarily absent from the city, and Registrar Girouard. The minutes of the previous meeting were ordered to be considered as read and under the head of petitions a communication from the Northern Commercial Company was presented asking that the council grant permission to lay steam and water pipes along certain streets and alleys and also ratify the work the company has already completed. Under the head of reports of committees Mr. Justice Dugas, as chairman of the finance committee, reported that upon the petition of Mrs. Ferguson for the payment of \$2500 for street signs and house numbers, the committee begged to recommend that no action be taken.

Councilman Wilson gave notice of the following questions which he proposed to the commissioner: 1.-Can the commissioner state if the government intends to continue for another year the system of issuing liquor permits in this territory? 2.-If so, does the commissioner intend to pursue the same policy of restriction in regard to the number of permits to be issued? 3.-Has the commissioner or the government promised the present

holders of permits a renewal for next year? 4.-Is it the policy of the commissioner or the government to allow the liquor trade of this territory to be controlled by a few? 5.-What was the relative cost per mile of the trail from the mouth of Quartz creek to Eureka creek and of the trail made from West Dawson to the Portyauke district? 6.-What was the total amount expended in each case? The questions so pointed and upon a subject which has been discussed more or less freely from the professional agitators down to the ordinary individual who is compelled to pay \$2 for a bottle of beer came as a sort of boomerang. In reply the commissioner begged to inform the honorable member that it was the purpose of the council to meet continuously until a somewhat lengthy bill to come up had been disposed of, he would defer answering the queries until a later day, but before the final adjournment of the session.

Mr. Prudhomme moved, and was seconded by Mr. Wilson, that the name of Mr. Newlands, the new legal adviser, be substituted on all committees for that of Mr. Congdon, resigned. Under new bills Mr. Newlands introduced the ordinance providing for the incorporation of the city of Dawson, moving its first reading. Following the legal adviser moved the bill be referred to the committee on municipal law, saying that the bill was quite lengthy and should be thoroughly considered before coming up for its next reading.

At this point of the proceedings Mr. Wilson arose and begged the indulgence of the council while he made a few remarks apropos of the present being the first meeting of the council in their new chambers and also of the fact that the date was the first anniversary of the election of himself and his worthy colleague, Mr. Prudhomme, to the council. Among other things, he said: "This being the first meeting of this council in this magnificent chamber, and also the anniversary of the election of Mr. Prudhomme and myself to this body, I think the occasion calls for a few remarks. I am sure, sir, that the commodious quarters in which the government has been pleased to place us is a credit

to the government, and we are willing to give the government credit for every good thing that it does. We are glad, sir, to have the accommodations that we have here today, and yet there is a point in this. The government has erected this magnificent building and lined its walls with native spruce and British Columbia fir. Had they built this building of the finest marble and decorated its walls with the finest paintings the world has ever known, it would not have been sufficient, in the present unsatisfactory state of our mining regulations, to convince the people of this territory that the government at Ottawa has their real interests at heart. "I recognize that all of the things that we desire cannot be done in a day, and I am willing, of course, to make allowances for the necessary time required; but even with this allowance there are some of us who cannot help thinking that the government has not done all it should have done, and it is our duty to point out this fact, and before this session is ended I hope to see a memorial going forth from this council to Ottawa setting forth the wants of this territory. "I hope to see in that memorial the liquor traffic placed upon a proper commercial basis. The council recommended this last year, but were not fortunate enough to persuade the government to take our view of the matter. I hoped also to see properly presented the question of the representation of the Yukon in the house of commons, and I would also like to see popular representation in the council. And not only do we ask representation in the house of commons, but also in the senate. "You are aware that this matter is a burning question, and has been for some time. It figured in the last election a year ago; in fact the people of this territory were unanimous in asking for a representative government, and while I am quite aware, and have been informed that it would be a bad policy for the government at Ottawa to take any steps to this end at the present time, that there is no precedent for the government at Ottawa to follow. I mean to insist that the Yukon territory is unique in itself, and is altogether different in its population and in every other respect to the territories which have been granted representation in the past.

"Let us look back on history and refer to what was done in regard to other communities. We know that Quebec and even Ontario were governed without direct representation for a time, and in the Northwest territories, with the commissioner in familiar and in which government he distinguished himself, it would not have been a wise policy to adopt a representative government because you were surrounded by certain elements of population that, in a sense, we might call savages, who knew nothing about constitutional government, and another party who came from Europe, and who did not understand your language nor our ideas of free institutions. Therefore in that case it was necessary to let time work out the destiny of the country. "In the Yukon it is different. Here we have men, and women, too, who are already skilled in the institutions of our country, who are well versed in all that goes to the working out of a constitution as free and as liberal as that of the Dominion, and therefore I say that the authorities at Ottawa should take this into account when dealing with the question of giving representation in the house of commons and in the senate to the people of the Yukon territory. "If I had the power to govern matters in this territory for a short time I would manage them very differently to the course in which they run at present. I would not, for instance, ask my honorable friend Mr. Senkler to occupy a seat in the council. I would think that he had sufficient to do in carrying on the work of his important office as gold commissioner; and neither would I ask him to sit as a member of the court of appeals to pass judgment upon his own decisions. "If I had the power for a short time I would not have the chief justice of this territory occupying a seat in this council. I would have him devote himself exclusively to the high and important duties connected with his office, and not ask him to mix himself up, as he now has to do, with a certain extent, the petty bickerings incidental to political life, which are inseparable from this council. No, I would ask my honorable friend to confine himself to the duties he has today, and as for Mr. Newlands, I would tell him that he knew full well that we ought to have an elective council, and that when we have it we would ask him to take a seat as attorney general, providing we have a seat for him in that capacity. "If I had the power I would not have my honorable friend Major Wood sitting as a member of this council, but instead would have him confine himself to the policing of the territory, a task which he is so abundantly able to fulfill. "You, sir, Mr. Commissioner, are known to us as a man of some brains, a man whose qualities have been recognized among us. I would ask you to preside over the council, as at present. I would have you sit as premier, occupying the seat at the right of the speaker of the territory, his counselor and adviser. "For my honorable colleague, Mr. Prudhomme, I will say nothing, as

STANDING ROOM ONLY

Every Seat-in Auditorium Was Occupied Last Night.

For the first time in the history of Dawson money amounting to \$150 was refused for seats at the Auditorium last night for the very good reason that every seat in the big play house was sold and occupied. Manager Bittner has proven conclusively that legitimate drama will win in Dawson without bar and "alman left" accompaniments.

As the Nugget stated in its issue of Tuesday, the play this week, "Friends," as produced at the Auditorium, is the best ever seen in Dawson—good because produced by good people, star actors and actresses, and not barn stormers. Any play Bittner's present cast would produce would be good. Everybody was more than pleased last night and many who were turned away then have secured tickets today for tonight's entertainment. An unusual feature witnessed last night was that nearly every man in the house had a lady alongside him and in many cases a baby or two on his knee. There is no question about the people of Dawson patronizing theaters where they get the worth of their money, and that is what Mr. Bittner is giving and proposes to continue giving. Next week will be produced at the Auditorium "Jim, the Westerner."

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

As It Will Be Applied to the City of Dawson.

The City of Dawson is at present governed by the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory with the assistance of the council. The ordinance for the incorporation of the city which was read at the council yesterday provided that the electors of the city may by vote to be taken under the direction of the commissioner, decide whether the city shall become incorporated, and be governed by a mayor and six aldermen. If the electors decide that it should not be so governed the ordinance provides that the commissioner in council may appoint three commissioners who shall have all the powers of a mayor and council to govern the city.

All British subjects who were assessed on the last revised assessment roll of the Town of Dawson will have votes to decide upon the form of government, and afterwards if incorporation is carried for the election of a mayor and aldermen. The mayor and aldermen must not only be British subjects, but the mayor must have been assessed for \$2000.00 on real property and the aldermen for \$1000.00 on real property. The aldermen are to be elected from the city at large, and the vote is to be by ballot.

The council are given all the powers that are usually given to a city and will have control of the fire brigade, the care of the streets and sewers of the city and the lighting of the streets. They make a temporary loan re-payable within the financial year of an amount equal to half the amount of taxes collected during the previous year and the rate of taxes cannot exceed two cents on the dollar. They may build and control such buildings as they require for the purposes of the city. The council may also pass bylaws for the appointment and payment of salaries to such officials as they require, for the health of the city, the management of their property, the government of the proceedings of the council, fire protection, the running at large of dogs and the licensing of such places as livery stables, hawkers, peddlers, pawn brokers, etc., and generally, for the peace, order and good government of the city. It is also given power to take lands for streets, sewers and public buildings on payment of the value to the owners, to be fixed by arbitration. The council may also provide for the improvements of streets, sewers, sidewalks, etc., by a frontage tax, provided the owners ask them by petition to do so. The proceedings for elections, which take up a large part of the ordinance, are practically the same as for elections to the Dominion parliament, and electors may be punished for bribery, corruption and illegal voting, etc.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

\$3,000 WATCH SALE! ...FOR ONE WEEK ONLY... 17-Jewel Waltham or Elgin Watches, \$25.00. 15-Jewel Waltham or Elgin Watches, \$20.00. 7-Jewel Waltham or Elgin Watches, \$15.00. In 14-k. Gold Filled Fahy Cases. Warranted for 20 Years. We Beat Seattle Prices. Christmas Is Here! J. L. SALE LEADING JEWELER

THE BURNING OF THE HORNET

Was Followed by Rarely Experienced Hardships.

An Interesting Account of Which Was First Written by Mark Twain - The Greedy Portuguese.

Storms and fogs of the past have been prolific of disaster to those "who go down to the sea in ships," one of the most notable wrecks being that of the steamer Rio de Janeiro, which went down in sight of San Francisco. This circumstance has recalled to old timers the dreadful experience of the Hornet, which was written up at the time by Mark Twain. The story of their sufferings was recently retold by one of the two survivors, Mr. Frederick Clough of San Francisco.

Mr. Clough went to sea as a boy of 15. He was 20 years old when he shipped in Maine as an able-bodied seaman on the Yankee-built clipper Hornet, bound for the Pacific coast with a cargo of mixed goods and two passengers, Henry and Samuel Ferguson, sons of a New York merchant. Captain J. A. Mitchell was the Master. The vessel had a fair voyage for 100 days, when she was 2 degrees above the equator and several thousand miles from the coast of South America.

On May 3, while they were lying in a calm on a blistering hot day, the cry of fire was suddenly raised. The first mate in drawing a bucket of varnish had ignited it with a candle. The flames spread to the barrel from which he was filling the bucket. The cargo included a quantity of petroleum and many cases of tallow candles. In a very few moments these had caught the flame, and fire was beyond all control. Within a quarter of an hour the ship was untenable.

The crew and the passengers rushed to the boats. There was no confusion. Every man got away in the three boats, which were lowered at once. But so great was the hurry that only the most meager stores could be placed in the three boats. The craft commanded by the first and third mates and which were eventually lost had almost nothing. The captain, however, rushed back in the face of the flames and brought out as many provisions as he could carry. The inventory was afterward recorded at Honolulu. They were 4 hams, 30 pounds of salt pork, half a box of raisins, 12 cans of oysters, 100 pounds of bread, a few cans of assorted meat, 4 pounds of butter and 12 gallons of water. The other boats were eventually lost and have no part in the story.

In this one, commanded by the captain, were 15 men in all, including the two Ferguson brothers, the third officer and two sick men. One was a Portuguese, and he distinguished himself by eating a lot of the bread before the others were fairly in the boat. This little crew and their precious provisions cast off from the sinking and burning ship and lay to hoping that some passing vessel

would be attracted by the glare. In launching they had stove a hole in the bottom of the boat, which had to be stopped with a blanket. Fortunately they had a compass and a chart. The captain took his reckonings and determined to steer for the Clarion islands. He took stock of the food, calculated the number of days which they must sail and divided the food on that basis. So they hoisted sail and steered in the direction of the islands. The slender ration began to run low, and still there was no sight of land. Then the captain took stock again and decided that they must reduce even that scanty ration. The one selfish man in the boat had helped in the reduction of the provisions—that was the greedy and sick Portuguese who had eaten the bread on the first day. As the supply began to run low it was discovered that the bread did not hold out as was expected. Watch was kept, and the Portuguese was discovered crawling away from the bag one night. "After that," says Clough, "we lay for that man by tying the neck of the bag in a peculiar knot and warning him that if we found it tied in any other way we would know that he had been at it and act accordingly. Some of us were for treating him as he ought to have been treated, but the captain wouldn't let us."

When the starving voyagers came into Honolulu, Mark Twain wrote the account of the journey in what he has since acknowledged to be his first newspaper story. He tells in a humorous way of the manner in which the sick sailors turned over in their beds to "cuss that Portuguese." After 35 years Clough still burns with indignation when he tells how that man stole from his mates the food that was life. It was the eighteenth day when the rations were cut down, and on that same day the three boats, which had been together all the time, decided to part company. The captain says that by so doing one of the boats reached the shore to tell the tale. He gave up one-third of his remaining provisions to each of the other boats. The water ration in that burning sun was made a gill a day and the solids whittled down to a morsel of ham, a spoonful of bread crumbs and 12 raisins per day. The rest of the story would not be quite clear except for the diary kept by the Ferguson brothers and which was to be cast adrift in a bottle by the last survivor. They drifted into the rains again. It became certain that they had passed the Clarion islands, and they set sail for the American islands, set down on the charts as Delubral.

Delirium began to set in. They fought against it, and the gallant captain, unflinching in his efforts to keep up the spirits of the men, never relaxed his efforts to keep them entertained. The diary of the Ferguson brothers gives a vivid relation of the greatest discomfort suffered during those later days, greater even than hunger and thirst. There was nowhere to lie down except in the bottom of the boat, which was filled with salt water. The men therefore began to develop sores and great abscesses and became so stiff from their cramped position that when they lay down it was almost impossible to rise. In their dreams they were all

haunted by the vision of sumptuous banquets. On the thirty-ninth day there was a little over a pound of ham and a bit of meat. That went. The next day they divided the bone of the ham, the cloth in which it had been wrapped and licked the scraps of the butter fight. For several days they had been eating the leather of their boots, and the last of these went on the day. Then the men began to know that which they had thought in secret. The Portuguese, the man of all whom they had the least sympathy, was very ill. They watched him after hour, waiting for his death. Only the captain would not give in to the idea. But the Portuguese was a vain long time dying, and the castaways began to whisper among themselves that they should draw lots to determine who should go first. "I do not think that any one of us came much which lot he drew," says Clough. There was a fresh, strong breeze blowing at the time. The last day dawned, and the captain finally admitted his necessity. "I will go on for one more day," he said, "and if there is no land in sight let us draw lots, and may God have mercy on our souls. It is better that one should die than that no one should be left to tell the tale." That day only one man was able to rise himself out of the galling salt water in the bottom in order to steer the boat. That man was Clough. He says, "I just managed to hold the rudder by lying on it." The sail had been set without change for four days because no one had strength to lift it. Even he, the strongest of the lot, was ready to drop the rudder, but he sighted breakers. In a voice which he describes as the shadow of a whisper he called to his companions, but they would not believe him. From the captain was induced to look even he was incredulous until he heard the breakers rolling over the island of Laysan, a small member of the Hawaiian group. The tried to lower sail to escape. The breakers, but could not. Even then, at the end of so much peril and suffering, they would have drowned had not two Kanakas who had seen them from the surf swam out and towed them to a harbor. They were cared for; they were given food in small quantities, the two white men in that section of the island being that they did not get too much. Mark Twain records that even at that time the Portuguese, who figured as the villain of his true tale, came near missing his end on the spot by eating four bananas before he could be choked off by his helpers.

Easily Explained. A Glasgow caddy once had a rare an Inverness minister and his wife. He had to drive them through the poorer districts of Glasgow on reaching their destination a minister, at the same time having caddy his legal jays, asked: "Why are there so many poor people in this city, calman?" Jesus looked hard at the parson for a minute before he replied: "Well, sir, I'm no vera smart ye see, maist of the poor folk are London Anners." Kelly & Co., Leading Druggists

Goetzman's Magnificent Souvenir OF THE Klondike IS NOW BEING CLOSED OUT AT \$2.50 EACH This Work Is Without Exception the Finest Production Ever Published Showing Views of This Country. The Work Is Handsomely Bound With an Illuminated Cover and Contains 80 PAGES OF ILLUSTRATIONS OVER 200 VIEWS. Printed on Heavy Coated Book Paper. Former Price \$5.00, NOW \$2.50 Copies, While They Last, Can Be Obtained at All Book Stores or at Goetzman's Photograph Studio Corner First Avenue and Second Street

..DAWSON LIQUOR CO.. We have the Highest Grade and Finest Assortment of Liquors sold anywhere in the world, and plenty of it. Come and Get Our Prices, We Can Save You Money. TELEPHONE 101. ...CHEAPER THAN EVER!... HOLME, MILLER & CO. Boilers, Engines, Hoists and Pumps DAWSON

The Genuine "Lubeck" Potatoes Properly cooked can not be detected from fresh goods. This refers to genuine only. We are the sole agents for "LUBECK'S GERMAN SLICED POTATOES," beware of imitations. Genuine for sale at N. A. T. & T. Company