

# THE SEMI-WEEKLY NUGGET.

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DAWSON, Y. T., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1900.

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## THE NEWS WAS BOUGHT

### Details of a Notorious Deal Which Surpasses, in Infamy, The Dastardly Record of Boss Tweed In His Palmiest Days.

### The Nugget Compelled, in Self Defense, to Expose the Methods Which Have Been Used in Behalf of Messrs Prudhomme and Wilson --- The Evidence Complete.

### Attempts at Corruption Fail With The Nugget But Succeed With the News --- Why The Nugget Has Maintained An Independent Attitude --- The Entire Story Told.

From Saturday's Daily.

If the facts as set forth in the columns of the Nugget today cause the men who have in charge the campaign of Messrs. Wilson and Prudhomme any dismay; if they cause voters who had determined to support these gentlemen with their ballots to waver in that determination; if they set people to pondering as to what methods they approve in conducting a political campaign; if they cause an awakening of the conscience of men and a determination upon their part to place right here and now a stinging rebuke upon a corrupt and venal newspaper as well as upon the men who for a stipulated sum have purchased the support of that paper as whisky is purchased over a bar; if all this and more results from what the Nugget presents to the public today, the Nugget has only to say that the Daily News, the paper in question, which paper has hawked its support about the streets of Dawson as an abandoned woman who flaunts her infamy, and the men who has bid for and bought that questionable support have none but themselves to blame.

The News of last evening paused for a moment from the work of blackening the characters of reputable citizens---work which it would be too cowardly to perform except for pay---the News we repeat turned aside from this work for a moment in a futile endeavor to pour a modicum of its slime upon the Nugget. Judging of others by its own infinitely low standard of morals and imputing to those who regard principle and integrity as above monetary consideration, its own willingness to sell its soul for the highest tender, the News lays an accusation against the Nugget so false and cowardly as to be accounted for only by the fact that

the News itself is absolutely abandoned to all sense of honor, decency or self respect.

The charge with which the News, which never had a policy until it was paid therefor, hopes to bring annihilation upon the Nugget, is, in brief, that this paper has deserted the cause of Messrs. Wilson and Prudhomme and openly advocates for a consideration, the election of Thos. O'Brien to a seat upon the Yukon council.

**BOTH CHARGES THE NUGGET DENOUNCES HERE AND NOW AS ABSOLUTELY AND UNQUALIFIEDLY FALSE.**

It is a fact and a fact which the Nugget makes no pretensions of concealing that this paper has had very little to say respecting the approaching election. It is the purpose of this article to set forth in clear and distinct terms the reason for this paper's attitude during the campaign, in order that the public may understand the exact situation and judge intelligently as to its merits. It is a matter of regret to this paper that it is compelled to make these statements and possibly later on to bring into this discussion the names of gentlemen who would much prefer that their names be kept out of print. But the Nugget has this to say, that **IT WILL DEFEND ITS FAIR NAME AGAINST EVERY CALUMNY AND SLANDER THAT IS BROUGHT AGAINST IT, NO MATTER WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES MAY BE.**

In the beginning of the present campaign the Nugget declared itself as being favorable to the election of Messrs. Wilson and Prudhomme, but the statement was also made and made in such language as to admit of no misunderstanding, that this paper would, under no circumstances, lend itself to a campaign of abuse and slander. This position was assumed for the simple reason that in the judgment of the Nugget no reasons for conducting such a campaign existed. So far as concerned the federal issues at stake, nearly every one of the demands made in the platforms of the opposing candidates has either been granted or is in process of being granted. Abuse of the government at the very moment when it was complying with the demands made upon it by this paper, seemed out of place and uncalled for.

Mr. Thos. O'Brien, the ancient enemy of the Nugget, was placed in nomination and the Nugget was called upon from certain quarters to begin a campaign of personal abuse against Mr. O'Brien. The Nugget has no love for Mr. O'Brien and is under no obligations to that gentleman, and it is prob-

ably safe to say that Mr. O'Brien reciprocates this paper's affection. Two years ago the Nugget fought Mr. O'Brien in the courts and fought him successfully, it may be said, for the reason that Mr. O'Brien was conducting a toll road which this paper believed and still believes was conducted contrary to right and justice, and if the circumstances were repeated the Nugget would be found exactly where it was at that time. But the Nugget did not lay up an everlasting grudge against Mr. O'Brien because we succeeded in defeating him in the courts. We said then and we say now that the power which granted Mr. O'Brien the rights he enjoyed under the tramway charter was more at fault than he was. We saw no reason, therefore, to make Mr. O'Brien a target for abuse and slander.

Therefore, while the Nugget proposed to support Messrs. Wilson and Prudhomme, because these gentlemen were nominated by a citizens' convention, we propose to support them in our own way and without resorting to abuse and vituperation of their opponents.

At this stage in the campaign occurred the circumstance which accounts for the fact that the Nugget has refrained from participating to any extent in the subsequent proceedings of the campaign. As stated above there has been until now no intention of divulging this matter, but the UNMANLY AND COWARDLY ATTACK MADE UPON THIS PAPER IN YESTERDAY'S ISSUE OF THE NEWS, MAKES IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT THE FACTS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC.

The committee in charge of Messrs. Prudhomme and Wilson's campaign became dissatisfied with the manner in which the Nugget handled its own affairs. They wanted the Nugget conducted to suit their ideas; the style in which the paper was edited did not suit them. They therefore came to the Nugget office with the following proposition, which is made public for the reason as given above that the News, the committee's shameless and debauched hireling, has forced the Nugget to make public what it would prefer for the sake of the men concerned and for the honor of the newspaper profession to keep secret.

The committee proposed to this paper:

I. THAT THE EDITORIAL UTTERANCES OF THE NUGGET DURING THE BALANCE OF THE CAMPAIGN SHOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH DIRECTIONS ISSUED BY THEM.

II. THAT THE FRONT PAGE OF THE NUGGET SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO A PAID WRITER OF THE COMMITTEE, WHOSE ARTICLES SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO ANY AMENDMENT OR ALTERATION FROM THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS PAPER.

III. THAT A CERTAIN NUMBER OF COPIES OF EACH DAY'S ISSUE SHOULD BE FURNISHED FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION.

IV. THAT SUCH PRINTING AND ADVERTISING AS THE COMMITTEE DESIRED SHOULD BE FURNISHED.

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOREGOING THE SUM OF One Thousand Dollars WAS TENDERED.

As an indication of the style in which they proposed to conduct the Nugget, three or four articles were read in this office, every one of which HAS SINCE APPEARED IN THE COLUMNS OF THE DAILY NEWS---but that is another part of the story.

The Nugget asks of the reputable, self-respecting men of the Yukon what they would have done under similar circumstances? We ask them if they would attach any weight to the utterances of a newspaper whose support was gained by such methods. We ask them if they desire to see inaugurated in the Yukon territory a system of corrupt practices such as would put Boss Tweed, in his palmiest days, to the blush. We ask them as men who love right, and esteem honor and manliness in men to ponder and weigh well these questions and then determine whether they censure the Nugget for REFUSING ABSOLUTELY, as it did, the offer as made from the committee.

They were told in plain language that if they desired to purchase a newspaper, the Nugget, like every other business enterprise could be had at a certain figure. But to sell its editorial support or the indiscriminate use of its columns---NO REPUTABLE NEWSPAPER HAD EVER DONE SUCH A THING---and the Nugget would not be the first to establish such a precedent.

Since that time the attitude of this paper has been absolutely independent. We have shown no favor to any candidates, giving every one an equal show, and that, we submit to the honest judgment of the men of the Yukon, is the only logical position which this paper could occupy under the circumstances.

But there is yet another chapter to this story which must be written ere it is complete, and the Nugget would willingly refrain from placing it in print. Every newspaper has its sphere of influence. The power of the press for accomplishing good or evil in a community is something tremendous. Public opinion which in this day of enlightened civilization controls the affairs of the world is largely moulded through the influence of the newspaper. It is, therefore, the right of the newspaper reader to demand that his paper shall express its honest convictions---regardless of outside influences. When, therefore, the fact is forced upon the public mind that the influence of a newspaper is ON THE MARKET FOR BARTER OR SALE, and that its opinions can be purchased by the man who has the LARGEST PURSE, a vote of want of confidence in such paper is absolutely certain to follow for a more flagrant violation of a sacred trust could not be imagined. The honor of the newspaper profession is dear to the heart of this paper. The Nugget even for the sake of scoring a point against a business competitor would not willingly hold another newspaper up to the scorn and contempt of the public. But we submit to an unprejudiced public that the Daily News has forced the Nugget into making plain these statements of fact.

Upon the rejection of the offer of Messrs. Wilson and Prudhomme's committee by this paper, the same committee visited the office of the Daily News. A sum of money amounting, we have been informed, to \$1000 was tendered to and accepted by the News.

From that date the News, which previously had BEEN GIVING BUT DESULTORY SUPPORT to Wilson and Prudhomme and DAMNING the ticket with faint praise, began upon an ENTIRELY DIFFERENT TACK.

Bitter EDITORIAL ATTACKS were made upon the personnel of the opposing ticket. (NOTE THE FIRST CONDITION laid down by the committee in its proposition to the Nugget.)

The FRONT-PAGE of the News has since been practically filled with campaign matter, furnished outside the News' staff and among these articles have appeared all that were read in the Nugget office, as mentioned above. (Note the SECOND CONDITION.)

Every night since that date copies of the News have been distributed

(Continued on page 8.)

## A CHILD DROWNED

### Near Klondike Bridge This Morning While His Father Was Near By.

### POWERLESS TO PREVENT TRAGEDY

### Hendrick Hill Sees His Oldest Child Go Down to Death.

### THE BODY WAS RECOVERED

### The Child Was the Oldest of Four and, Unnoticed, Followed the Father to His Work.

Little Wyhner Hill, aged 6, was drowned in the Klondike river this morning at 6:30 o'clock.

Hendrick Hill, the father of the child, is employed in taking the logs from the river just below the bridge, and this morning went about his work as usual, not noticing that the little boy was following him.

Mrs. Lyons who collects toll on the bridge saw the child's danger when he reached a point near the edge of the ice, and began calling to the father to warn him. Either the distance was too great or the father was too busy with his work to heed the cry, and at all events before he knew of the child's presence or danger, the ice gave way and little Wyhner was precipitated into the cruelly cold water beneath, and all efforts to save his life were futile. The terrified father did his best, making frantic efforts to get near enough to rescue his child, but the distance was too great, and before his eyes his little son went to his death beneath the logs of the raft. Twice the child came to the surface, the last time throwing his hands in one last despairing effort to get hold of one of the logs, but the water was too cold, and the young life had too nearly fled from the fragile body to make escape by his own efforts a possibility, and he went down to rise no more.

The police were notified and steps were immediately taken to recover the body. It was thought that possibly the body might have caught and been held under the logs and grappling irons were brought from the nearest fire hall and the river bottom thoroughly dragged, but without results.

Since then a close watch has been kept on the big bar near the mouth of the Klondike, as it is believed that the current may beach the body there, but up to a late hour this afternoon nothing has come ashore.

Wyhner Hill was the eldest of four children, and his tragic death is a severe blow to the bereaved parents.

Later---At 3 o'clock this afternoon the body of the unfortunate boy was found.

The Holborn Cafe for delicacies.

Table de hote dinners. The Holborn.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

If we haven't got what you want we'll send for it. Hammell's, The Parks.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

...TRY...  
**MILNE**  
FOR YOUR  
**COFFEE**  
Whole or Ground.  
**TEA...**  
Indian, Ceylon, Japan  
Full line of Groceries  
111 First Avenue

Do Your Tinting Before Winter Settles Down  
...WITH...  
Sherwin-Williams **Mixed Paints**  
For all classes of work---House paints, floor paints, stains and enamels in all colors.  
**McLENNAN, McFEELY & CO., Ltd.**

WHOLESALE **A. M. CO.** RETAIL  
...SPECIAL FURNITURE SALE...  
THIS WEEK we place on sale a handsome line of Bedroom Suits, Brass and Iron Beds, Chiffoniers, Dressers, Commodes, Sideboards, Rockers, Chairs, Couches, Dining, Center and Library Tables, Morris Reclining Chairs, Desks, Cabinets, Etc.  
SATISFACTION AND A HEAT SAVING AWAITS YOU HERE.  
...AMES MERCANTILE CO...  
Satisfaction and a heat saving awaits you here.