

SYSTEM IS AT FAULT

Now London Hospitals Are Run

It is Now Desired to Increase the Sphere of Hospitals Usefulness.

London, Feb. 14.—The appeal which has been issued by the governors of the Bartholomew's hospital for the establishment of part of their establishment has led to a serious criticism of the whole London hospital system. The agitation springs from a desire to increase the sphere of usefulness of the hospitals, and their functions properly discharged than is possible under the existing circumstances. A hospital board is, not unnaturally, conservative, and follows where its predecessors have led. But the time has come when it must be recognized that the heart of a city is not the place for a sick ward. The individual, for his health and his comfort's sake, goes as far from the city as he can possibly get, but not great homes for the diseased and aged are placed just where they are likely to have the worst of atmospheres, with all the ills that attend, and nothing to compensate. The London of today is not the London of the day in which these asylums for the infirm were erected. Originally they were not built in upon every side as they are now. There was more open space and better air. Besides, means of conveyance were so bad in the days of our ancestors that the sites secured were Hobson's choice. Now the case is different. There is no reason why the great hospitals should permanently occupy their present sites, where every year there must be more congestion and less of pure, health-giving air. The land upon which these buildings stand is enormously valuable. If the hospitals were removed and the space turned to account by leasing, there would be a huge revenue available. Such a change cannot be instantly effected, but at a time like the present, when appeals are general for the funds to extend the buildings already standing in London, it is highly important that the governors of the hospitals who are asking for the money should understand that those who find the means intend to have a voice in determining how the money shall be spent.

Amongst the most notable contributions to the discussion upon the subject which is being carried on in the daily press is a letter from an eminent surgeon to one of the metropolitan hospitals. This gentleman throws a light upon the existing system, which must leave a deep impression on the minds of the public. He points out that a large proportion of the patients treated in the London institutions are not residents here, but persons from all parts of the province. Furthermore, many of them, though received as ordinary patients, could very well afford to pay for their treatment. The cost of their care comes out of the great London charities. "I believe," the writer says, "that if such cases were not admitted, but were sent to their county hospitals, if poor, or to surgical homes, as they ought to be, a great many of the wards of West London hospitals might be closed without any loss accruing to London." These cases are sent up from the provinces because the patient likes to get the attention of a good London physician, and because the good London physician is such an enthusiast that he welcomes an interesting case from anywhere. But London has its own poor ever with it, and should not have to bear the burden of the poor from all parts of the country. There are noble institutions in the provinces at which are as skillful physicians and surgeons as are to be found throughout the world. The province for the provinces, and London for London, it should be, unless there is some special reason making it impossible for a case to be properly treated outside the capital. The monetary consideration is serious. The patients pay only 1s 7d in the £ towards the maintenance of the hospital, the rest is supplied, 10s in the £ from the benefactions of the dead, and 7s 6d in the £ from the living. Obviously there might be a great deal more upon the London's hospitals for the London's poor. Those who

are able to pay should have their own wards, and not be permitted to crowd out those who are necessitous. If this course were followed there would not be need for nearly such large buildings. It would be easy to maintain in town establishments where urgent cases could be received, the rest could be treated in sanatoria in the country, and the spaces formerly occupied in the metropolis by the hospitals would be earning a vast revenue every year from the buildings by which they would be substituted. Why should, say, St. Thomas' pay £50,000 a block for buildings merely in order that they may overhang the noisome Thames at Westminster bridge? What reason is there for the continuance on the fringe of Smithfield of the enormous St. Bartholomew's hospital? These as well as every other considerable hospital might do their work a thousand-fold better, at less cost, with more certain hope of recovery for the patient, and, in the end, with less constant appeal to the pockets of the charitable.

Necessarily one must differentiate between West and East End hospitals but, even in the latter, none but accident or out-patient cases should be treated. The public has responded magnificently to the many appeals made for the relief of the suffering poor, but the day has come when it will have to seriously consider whether those who are administering the funds so raised are doing quite the best possible with the money placed at their disposal. By occupying enormously valuable spaces worth incalculable sums in rent, but which are wholly unsuited to the purposes of a hospital, they are not best serving the objects for which they were intended, any more than is a church placed upon a site worth half a million in the heart of the city, which draws no congregation to its services and is useless save as a memorial of the days when the neighborhood of the church was a residential as well as a business quarter. The hospitals must be prepared to seek fresh woods and pastures new, and if a number of them evolve a general scheme of reform, the mind of the public will be eased of grave suspicions which at present possess it.

TO RAISE FUNDS

For Promoting the Cause of Prohibition

Winnipeg, Feb. 13.—At the prohibition convention the following enumeration of the policy of the temperance party as formulated at the last convention was reaffirmed with the addition of the words: "Wherever practicable." "We are determined to see, through means of our local organizations, that in every constituency there shall be a candidate who can be definitely relied upon to give an independent support to prohibition." A report from the executive recommending the employment of two additional field secretaries, and the raising of a campaign fund of at least \$10,000 was adopted. Rev. Jos. Hogg, treasurer, reported receipts of \$868, a large portion of this consisting of sums subscribed at the last convention. He reported \$120 as due for expenses of the field secretary's work. Rev. E. J. Chegwinn and B. H. Spence were appointed to audit this report. W. W. Buchanan in an address on the referendum vote in Ontario, dwelt at length on the efforts of the liquor men to win out at the polls. He declared that the sum of \$800,000 had been spent, or \$3 for every vote that was polled through their efforts. The fact that the total vote polled was only six thousand less than in the general election, he said, was an indication that the temperance sentiment was very strong in the country.

MANITOBA FARMERS.

The report of the department of agriculture, which was laid on the table of the legislature by Hon. Mr. Roblin yesterday, points out in its introduction that the province has had two seasons of unusual prosperity, and that the community of farmers is the rugged pillar around which every commercial enterprise twines. The foundations of this pillar rest upon 25,000,000 acres of arable land. The value of agricultural products raised during the year is estimated at \$50,000,000. This is a remarkable production for 41,000 farmers, says the report. Another feature is that lands through the province, as in the territories, have largely increased in value during the last two or three years.

Power of Attorney Blanks for the Tanana-Nugget Office.
Job Printing at Nugget office.

CONCESSION MUST BE ABOLISHED

Board of Trade Has Begun Aggressive Measures to Accomplish the Overthrow of Treadgold Octopus

Dawson, Y. T., March 6, 1909.

To the Editor The Klondike Nugget: Dear Sir,—It is the wish of the Dawson Board of Trade that you forward a copy of telegram sent this day to Messrs. the Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of Canada, Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior, William Mulock, Postmaster General, and James Hamilton Ross, Member of Parliament for Yukon, and which reads as follows:

"Oppose any attempt to pass order in council or act in parliament that will in anyway confirm Treadgold concession. Are having monster petition signed and reliable data prepared to forward Ottawa asking government to aid in furnishing water for mining purposes. People are a unit in making demand and will insist upon government protection from monopoly of Treadgold Octopus.

"The Dawson Board of Trade," "H. C. Macaulay, Pres." And it is the further wish of said board that your influence, help and co-operation, in assisting the people of this territory to make the necessary recommendations to the parliament of the Dominion of Canada to prevent the passage through parliament of the Treadgold concession and water grant from Klondike river and Rock creek such as is and has been contemplated.

The Treadgold concession and water grant as granted by an order in council and which when ratified by the parliament at its next session will become law is in the opinion of this board one of the most iniquitous measures that was ever inflicted upon a people, and (in the consideration of the Dawson Board of Trade) will work a great hardship upon the people of this territory since it will mean the virtual bankruptcy of all the property holders of Dawson and surrounding territory; and instead of the Klondike becoming the prosperous country we expect it will virtually become the property of Mr. Treadgold and those who are associated with him in his scheme.

An immense petition to the Dominion parliament to cancel and disallow this measure is being prepared and circulated (a copy of which will be sent you) embodying the objections of the people of the Yukon to the granting of this measure and asking the government to provide water for the miners of this territory.

If this were done it would mean the commencement of a new era of prosperity for this camp, the population

Will Go Before Parliament With a Petition Asking for the Establishment of a Public Water System—Prosperity of the Country Depends Upon the Securing of Favorable Action.

of which would materially and rapidly increase and an immense avenue for Canadian manufactures and merchandise would be opened up and not only would this territory be benefited but the benefit would extend to the whole of Canada, by a measure of this kind.

Now, in order to convey to you some idea of the magnitude of the grant which Mr. Treadgold and his associates are looking for and which it appears likely they will receive, if the intention of the minister of the interior is allowed to be carried out, it having been recommended by him we believe, that the said Treadgold and his associates receive the sole and prior right to divert and take water from the Klondike river up to 5000 miners inches for distribution and use in the district, said district comprising the beds, banks, valleys, slopes and hills of the Klondike river, of Bonanza, Bear and Hunker creeks and their tributaries, also the right to divert and use the water of Rock creek, which water we are informed by Mr. Joseph McGillivray, a mining engineer of long experience, amounts to 8000 inches, natural flow, and which would give Mr. Treadgold and associates the sole right to divert and sell 13,000 inches of water. Now a miner requires with which to sluice his dirt 50' inches of water, which is the amount considered necessary to make a sluice head, and

should the Treadgold company at the rate which we understand, is the contemplated charge (25 cents per miner's inch per hour) it would cost that miner \$12.50 per hour or \$300 per day of 14 hours, which is the length of the working day here during the summer season. Now this grant of 5,000 inches from the Klondike river and the natural flow of Rock creek, amounting to 8,000 inches, making a total of water at Treadgold's command of 13,000 inches, or 260 sluice heads of 50 inches per sluice head, costing the miner in this country \$75,000 per day, or \$10,140,000 per year of 130 sluicing days, which is the length of the sluicing season here, would mean this: That the holder of the same would practically own the country, all the hill claim owners would have to come to him for water or allow their claim to remain un-operated for lack of same, and Mr. Treadgold and his associates would be receiving all the profits that would accrue from the thousands of hill claims situated on the immense and huge gravel deposits with which this country abounds.

He, Mr. Treadgold, is further allowed this concession: That the property of the grantee shall be exempt from representation. This the Dawson Board of Trade considers would enable the owners of non-working claims to evade the representation law by their turning over into the name of the Treadgold Company their properties.

For an instance of how this would work, we will suppose that 5000 hill claim owners not working their properties and not wishing to expend on their properties the \$200 per year necessary by law in order to hold their claims in his name, thereby exempting them from representation, the government would loose the fees charged in lieu of representation and the country would loose the expenditure of that amount for labor in representation of said claims, amounting in all to \$1,000,000, of which amount Mr. Treadgold will say would receive \$750,000, the claim owners would save \$250,000 and the government and the country would be done out of the expenditure of the \$1,000,000, not to speak of the fees for affidavits of representation and renewal, amounting to \$17 per claim per year, or a total of \$85,000 per year for the 5,000 claims.

But on the other hand if the government will only listen to our plea,

cancel or disallow this infamous Treadgold grant and themselves supply the water to the miners of this territory at a figure that will enable the government to get the cost of the installation of the necessary plant for supplying said water out of the water supplied, we will say in about eight years, it would we know give the miners cheap water and enable them to recover the precious metal from the immense low grade gravel deposits that we have in this country and would mean a greatly increased population and prosperity for this country and would cause and bring about an immense trade with and throughout Canada.

And now in conclusion I might say that this letter being hastily written, as we thought it necessary to act quickly in the matter, does not permit us to go into details of the matter as much as we would like. (These details will come later, a copy of which will be sent you), but I think sufficient has been said to show you the iniquities of this concession and to point out to you the firm and positive objections that the Board of Trade and the people of this territory have to said concession, and which objections will be exemplified in the petition about to be prepared and sent to Ottawa, and that the granting of this concession would be prejudicial and greatly detrimental to the best interests of this country and we ask you for your sincere and earnest co-operation and assistance in helping us to prevent this measure from becoming law. Yours truly,
DAWSON BOARD OF TRADE.

PETITION.

To the Honorable the House of Commons in Parliament Assembled:—

The petition of the undersigned residents of the Yukon Territory humbly sheweth:

1. That by order in council of April the 21st, 1902, certain privileges are granted to Malcolm Orr Ewing, A. N. C. Treadgold and Walter Barwick, in connection with the proposed establishment by them of a system of water supply for washing out gold-bearing gravel in the district therein described, including the Klondike river, Bonanza, Bear and Hunker creeks and their tributaries.
2. That the benefits conferred upon the grantees are of incalculable value and involve an enormous exploitation of the public resources of this territory for the benefit of a few favored concessionaires.
3. That in the opinion of your petitioners the accumulation of extraordinary powers in the hands of a single corporation such as is effected by the above order in council, will lead to the paralysis of the independent commercial and industrial life of the community and will prove in the highest degree oppressive and injurious to the public welfare, since the grantees are thereby enabled to crush out competition and to reduce to a position of practical servitude the individual miners in the extensive

district affected which includes the richest portion of the Klondike.

4. That the need of this territory is not the creation of monopolies but their prevention, and the encouragement of the individual miners by securing equal privileges and opportunities to all as far as the law and the administration can provide them.
5. That for the promotion and development of the mining industry of the Yukon a cheap, abundant and effective water supply, furnished at a minimum of cost, by the government at the earliest possible moment, is absolutely essential.

Your petitioners therefore pray—

- (1). That the order in council of April 21st, 1902, may be cancelled completely, and that no special privileges shall hereafter be granted within this territory with respect to wood, mining, water or any other class of rights affecting the general public, but that all persons shall be restricted in such matters to the rights conferred upon every member of the community by the mining regulations.
- (2). That the supply and distribution of water for general mining purposes within this territory shall not be controlled by any private person or corporation, but either that it shall be undertaken by the Dominion government as a public work, or that power shall be given to the commissioner of the Yukon Territory in council to construct such a system and to raise the necessary funds by bonds guaranteed by the Dominion.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

Jim—Say! If you'll notice, you'll see that most of these big Wall street men started on a farm.

Sam—Yes, and that is where they learned to water stock.— Princeton Tiger.

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