

DR. JOS. BETTINGER'S BODY

Found Short Distance Up White River Wednesday Afternoon.

Victim Evidently Wandered From Right Trail and Succumbed to Cold—Body Mutilated by Wolves.

Another mystery of the Yukon has been revealed and what for a period of nearly five months was wrapped in darkness is now explained.

The body of Dr. Joseph Bettinger who left here on foot for the outside on December 7th, thinly clad and ill prepared for the hard journey, the trail at that time being practically unbroken, has been found in the still embrace of death within a few miles of where the unfortunate man was last seen alive which was on the morning of December 10th and a few miles above Ogilvie on the Yukon and when the mercury registered nearly 50 degrees below zero.

The body was found Wednesday afternoon a few miles up the White river and less than 100 feet from the trail and near the river bank. It was found by two wood cutters who, after making sure of its location, returned to Stewart and reported the same to Mining Recorder L. T. Burwash who, accompanied by one of the men, went after the body with a dog team and returned with it to Stewart post some time Wednesday night. The condition of the body showed that shortly after death and before being charitably covered by snow from heaven, wolves had torn and mutilated it but after being covered with the mantle of white it apparently lay undisturbed throughout the long cold winter and until the melting of the snow revealed it to the two men on Wednesday. As the victim's watch was in his vest and nearly \$100 in cash were found on his person, all theories as to his having met with foul play are forever dispelled.

As was stated in the Nugget when Dr. Bettinger's disappearance was first noted sometime the latter part of December, he had left for the trip thinly clad, wearing a light suit, spring overcoat and thin silk mitts. H. C. Macaulay met him at Ogilvie and noting his light apparel, presented him with a pair of heavy mitts and wanted to supply him with a parkey, but Bettinger declined the latter, saying he could keep warm walking.

The fact that his body was found on White river a few miles above its confluence with the Yukon indicates that he had kept to the west side of the river going up and followed the trail made up White river by a lot of stampedees which trail at that time was more clearly defined than was the one on the Yukon. The indications are that the man was simply overcome with the cold, gave up and died, his arms being stretched above his head when found, showing that he died as he fell. The body is still at Stewart post to which place it was taken by Mr. Burwash.

No news of the discovery of the remains were received in Dawson until the arrival of Mr. Burwash on the stage yesterday evening, owing to the fact of the telegraph wire being down between Dawson and Stewart. However, Inspector Wroughton left early yesterday morning on official business up the river and would reach Stewart some time today in which event he will conduct an inquest and probably arrange for sending the body to Dawson for interment.

Dr. Joseph Bettinger was not over 30 years of age. He spent several months in Skagway early in '98, coming on to Dawson that summer. For a year he was assistant physician at St. Mary's hospital. Going outside last year he married a Miss Peterson who resided near Tacoma, Wash., and brought her with him to Dawson late in the summer. Failing to find lucrative employment here he decided to go outside, he to make the trip on foot and his wife to go by stage, overtaking him at Whitehorse. He left here on December 7th, Mrs. Bettinger following on the stage three days later. It was upon her arrival at Whitehorse and failure to meet her husband there or to have heard of him along the route, that inquiries for his whereabouts were first made. Many and various were the reports circulated as to the missing man having been met at points along the route, one man asserting that he met the doctor on Lebarge. After vainly waiting at Whitehorse and Skagway until all hope of her husband's arrival was abandoned, the heartbroken young wife went below to return in the spring and continue the search for her

missing husband. The police at the time, under direction of Inspector McDonnell specially detailed for the work, made a thorough search of the Yukon trail, but no one ever thought of his having wandered up White river. Thus has been rolled away the cloud that shrouded another of the many mysteries of the Yukon, another name added to the long list of victims of the Arctic winter.

TRIBUTE TO MR. OGILVIE

From His Co-Workers, Members of Yukon Council.

Last night being the last night in which the council would meet with Mr. Ogilvie acting as presiding officer, a resolution was passed expressing the appreciation of the members of the council for the services which he has rendered the territory and also the esteem in which he is held by each member.

After all the business before the council had been completed and the council was about to adjourn, Justice Dugas moved that the council resolve itself into a committee of the whole with Major Wood occupying the chair. Addressing the chair he said:

"The news reached us a few weeks ago that our commissioner had tendered his resignation to Ottawa and tonight the news comes to us that tomorrow the new commissioner will be given the oath of office and assume the duties of commissioner of the territory. "In the two and one-half years in which Mr. Ogilvie has presided over the council differences of opinion on certain matters have arisen, but we have always discussed the matter as men and not allowed any feeling of animosity to enter into any of the discussions.

"There is no use to refer to the public meetings in which private animosity has actuated the proceedings. As members of the council and as citizens we have always been able to approach our commissioner and we know that he has been actuated with only one desire and that is to serve the public. His actions have been straightforward and honest and nothing ever need be said in defense of any of his actions. He possessed a high public reputation before coming here and that reputation he has ably sustained. Therefore as a small expression of the esteem in which we hold Mr. Ogilvie I would move the adoption of this resolution:"

That the members of this council take this last opportunity of expressing to Mr. William Ogilvie the high appreciation of his conduct in all his dealings with the council and at the same time of recognizing his continuous efforts to help in the development and welfare of this territory under the most trying difficulties, due to the peculiar circumstances under which this territory was opened.

Mr. Senkler took great pleasure in seconding the resolution which was passed unanimously. In reply to the resolution Mr. Ogilvie thanked the members for their expression of their kindly feeling toward him and then made a review of the work of the council of the last two and one-half years, and spoke of the difficulties which had been met and overcome and the results which had been attained. The full text of his remarks will be published tomorrow.

Capt. Whalen Arrives.

Capt. T. Whalen of the steamer Victorian arrived on the stage last night. He reports the trail in fine condition with a few exceptions. A short distance this side of Thistle there is a space of about two miles where the water is running very swiftly, but that can be avoided by going around. He thinks that all the freight teams now on the cutoff will have time to arrive in Dawson safely. Snow on the river is very deep and in the captain's estimation high water is not at all improbable. He starts tomorrow for the boats below West Dawson where he will oversee getting them cut out of the ice and ready for launching when the river breaks.

Those Bets.

Regarding the many bets made which name the time for the going out of the ice from the Yukon, many of which say the ice will move before the month of May is a week old, there is now a disposition on the part of their makers to hedge, but the continuous cold makes "hedge" bets difficult to obtain. At the present time spring is fully three weeks later than last year and the present indications of the near approach of warm weather are anything but flattering. A cold wind was blowing from the north yesterday, part of the time laden with fine snow which gave it all the characteristics of a blizzard.

THEY ALL OBJECT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

ed dog catcher and be paid a salary which would stop complaints of that nature. The matter was allowed to go over until the 1st of May when the present system will be changed to the license system which it is thought will settle the question.

Mr. Prudhomme also raised the question as to why the account of Sutton which was voted at the Saturday meeting had not been paid. He was told that the finance committee had raised an objection to its being paid.

Justice Dugas, in response to the question said "That matter was referred to the board of public works committee for investigation and before the committee had made its report the council allowed the claim. I objected to the petition at the time and I am not yet satisfied that they are entitled to it. Owing to illness I was not present at Saturday's meeting and I did not know that the subject was to come before the meeting."

Major Wood said that a notice was given at the meeting Thursday night a week ago that the subject was to be brought up and Sutton was told to be there with his witnesses. This notice was given out by the commissioner but had probably not been heard by Mr. Dugas. At the meeting held Saturday the question had been discussed. Mr. Sutton and his witnesses had been examined and they all agreed that the expense had been incurred and therefore the money was ordered paid.

Justice Dugas said he had not understood the question was to come before the Saturday meeting and that he alone could not prevent the payment of the money. All he wanted to do was to clear himself of any responsibility in the matter.

The report of the comptroller regarding the number of transient traders licenses issued last year was read and showed that only three had been issued.

Justice Dugas asked how it happened that only three had paid their licenses stating that there was surely evidence of false representations and that some steps should be taken to prevent such a state of affairs in the future.

Mr. Ogilvie said that a number of the scow men had said they were bringing in goods for merchants.

He would suggest that instead of their being licensed an inspector should be appointed and a tax be placed upon the value of their cargo.

Mr. Wilson said that the taxing of the scow owner would legislate the only cheap means of transportation out of existence but he was assured by Justice Dugas that there was no effort to tax them out of existence, but that they should help to bear the expenses of the country in which they do business and in some instances make considerable money on every trip. The subject was on motion referred to the finance committee which was also instructed to investigate why only three out of more than 150 had paid licenses.

The balance in the funds which is set aside for the purpose of buying law books was on motion laid at the disposal of Justice Dugas to buy needed books for the library.

On motion of Justice Dugas the secretary was instructed to furnish each member of the council with a file in which to keep papers and communications pertaining to business connected with the council meetings, the expense to be defrayed by the council.

The council then went into a committee of the whole to consider Wilson's miner's lien law.

Mr. Pattullo, legal adviser, was present and on his recommendation the passing of the ordinance was referred for one week so as to give Mr. Congdon the new legal adviser an opportunity to look it over. "This is an entirely new piece of legislation for this territory," said Mr. Pattullo, "and therefore it should be given the greatest discussion. While I am justly proud of the ordinance as it stands I realize the difficulties which will be encountered in applying it and therefore I would suggest that the new legal adviser who has just come from Noy Scotia, where such a law is in force, be given an opportunity to look it over." On motion of Mr. Dugas the final reading of the ordinance was laid over for one week and in the meantime it is to be considered by Mr. Pattullo, Mr. Congdon and Mr. Wilson.

Tickets for Sale.

Tickets for sale to the banquet to be tendered Mr. Ross are now in the hands of the finance committee of which Mr. J. P. McLennan is chairman. The banquet will be held in Pioneer hall Monday night at 8 o'clock sharp. The sale of tickets closes at 10 o'clock Monday morning.

Elegantly furnished rooms with electric lights at the Regina Club hotel. Oranges, Lemons. Selman & Myers.

In New Quarters.

The handsome two-story building of the Pacific Coast Storage Company is now completed and fitted up with all the machinery and paraphernalia necessary for the business. The refrigerating plant consists of two Scotch marine boilers of 22-horse power each, two duplex condensers and duplicate engines, and a complete electric light machine. This plant was taken from the company's steamer the Robert Kerr which is now lying in the eddy at the Yukon dock. The building contains six refrigerating chambers with a combined capacity of 600 tons.

In these refrigerators all meats handled by the company will be placed and kept at a temperature of about 20 degrees above until they are disposed of to the different retail shops which handle the product. Next summer the company will ship both up and down the river, bringing in from above live stock which will be slaughtered here and from below, using the company's steamer the Robert Kerr as a carrier of refrigerated meats from the Sound.

The Kerr will ply between St. Michael and Dawson and will be fitted with refrigerating machinery on her first trip to St. Michael where another complete plant will await her arrival. The company has been very successful not only here but in their different branches and are now opening a cannery and fish freezing plant at Bristol Bay in Northwestern Alaska. The original establishment is located in Tacoma, Wash., with branches at Nome, St. Michael and Dawson. F. W. C. Seddon and R. J. Davis are the Dawson representatives of the concern.

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