

THE DAILY KLONDIKE NUGGET.

VOL. 1 No. 231

DAWSON, Y. T., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1900.

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VACCINE VIRUS

Is The Only Weapon With Which To Combat Smallpox

SAYS DR. W. A. RICHARDSON

Who Advances Reasons Why It Spreads Most In Winter

DIFFICULTY IN DISINFECTING

Is Fearful That Future Spread Will Be Hard To Prevent—Vaccinate The Children.

Apropos of the fact that politics and smallpox are the paramount subjects of discussion in Dawson at the present time, and feeling that information on the latter subject is more eagerly sought after, a Nugget representative yesterday evening called at the office of Dr. W. A. Richardson and informed that gentleman that he had called to learn something about the habits, customs and preventatives of the disease. In answer to a question as to what

produces smallpox, Dr. Richardson said:

"Smallpox is produced by a distinct germ or microbe, which science has yet failed to satisfactorily define. Like the majority of other germs, aside from those of yellow fever, they are but little effected by either heat or cold. Many believe that cold weather will annihilate typhoid and other fever germs, but usually such is not the case. The cold may render them inactive, as it certainly does in cases of malaria, but under similar conditions the malaria will again prevail as soon as the weather becomes warm again.

"Smallpox is usually more contagious in cold weather for the reason that conditions are then more favorable. For instance, in the winter time a person enters a room where there is a case of smallpox, although it may not at the time be known that it exists. On leaving the room he closely buttons up his coat and there is absolutely no chance for the germs to be blown away until he enters another room, unbuttons his clothes and allows the imprisoned germs access to the air, when they will infect all with whom they come in contact.

"Another thing; in the winter season people crowd around stoves in public places; the rooms are ill ventilated and foul smelling, and the disease germs have an opportunity for spreading and contaminating everybody present. One of the greatest disinfectants is the open air. I once knew an old doctor, a quarantine officer in Ontario, who invariably, after visiting a smallpox patient, would take a long drive in the open air with his coat unbuttoned and swinging to the breeze. It may have been an old-fashioned mode of disinfecting, but it is a fact that he never spread any infection."

When asked what his opinion of the smallpox situation in Dawson is at the present time, Dr. Richardson said:

"Notwithstanding the fact that the health officer and board of health will do all in their power to stamp out the disease, I fully anticipate a number of new cases for the reason that there is no telling how many centers have been infected. There are cases at the Forks, and people who have there been exposed have doubtless gone on to the other centers, Dominion, Sulphur, Hunker and all around. We do not know how many of them have come to Dawson; therefore, there is no telling where the next case will develop.

"As to disinfecting houses where the disease has been known to exist, it is easy in a country where the houses are plastered and the walls may be easily washed, but with the class of buildings we have in this country, many of them 'chinked' with moss, the only thorough way to disinfect them is to burn them to the ground."

"Doctor, what experience have you had in the treatment of smallpox cases?"

"In 1892," replied Dr. Richardson, "I had charge of the smallpox hospital in Victoria, B. C., when we had about 150 cases, the disease having been brought over on an Oriental steamer. It was then that I realized the full benefits of vaccination. Of the cases where the patients had never been vaccinated 33 per cent of them proved fatal, and where the patients had been vaccinated the fatalities were only 1 per cent.

"Six weeks previous to the breaking out of smallpox in Victoria," continued Dr. Richardson, "I vaccinated my own child, which was but 18 months old, but which was very healthy—I had a tip there was danger of a smallpox epidemic—and from the virus taken from my child's arm I vaccinated the entire hospital corps. When I took charge of the smallpox station I took with me 33 attendants, all of whom had but recently been vaccinated, and not one of the 33 took the disease. Of over 150 patients we lost 14, and they, with but two exceptions, were persons who had never been vaccinated.

"I don't care to appear as a crank on the subject of vaccination for the reason that people will say, 'Oh, he has some points and wants to advertise himself and make some money,' but I honestly think that people who will not have their children vaccinated are criminally negligent and should be required by law to do so at once, as vaccination is the only known means which successfully combats the plague."

Short orders served right. The Holborn.
Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

BOONE ON TRIAL

Charged With Attempting To Take The Life Of Peter Steil

IN THE HOLBORN RESTAURANT

Where Mrs. Boone Was Taking Dinner In Steil's Company

TO WHICH BOONE OBJECTED

And Was Assisted In The Row By His Wife Who Punched Steil's Head—Not a Mind Reader.

The Boone case occupied the time and attention of the territorial court and a jury this morning.

Prosecutor Wade recited the gist of the case to the court and jury.

Peter Steil, Mrs. Boone and a lady friend were taking dinner together in the Holborn restaurant on the 8th of September, and Boone who had heard of the fact, went there, accompanied by his brother, on trouble bent, and in connection with the spirit of jealousy which actuated him to hostile deeds, was also the spirit of hootch, some of it being within the persons of Boone and his brother, and some yet remaining in a bottle.

The trouble they were looking for came to pass and culminated in the firing of a shot by Boone, alleged to have been discharged from a revolver with intent to cut short the earthly career of Peter Steil.

The first witness called was Mr. Morgan, a waiter in the Holborn who had laid the viands before the party on the day in question. He told of how the party, who were in a box, were seated.

Mr. Boone and his brother, he stated, came in and went directly to the box and threw the curtain aside, whereupon a mixup occurred. Mr. Morgan had gone to the box and caught hold of Boone by the arms. He held on for about a half a minute to prevent his doing any harm to any one, but about that time he discovered that Boone had a revolver in his hand, upon which he let go. During the scuffle he had moved about with Boone and got near the end of the cash counter. Some 12 or 15 seconds after this Boone had fired the shot. When the shot was fired Mrs. Boone had hold of her husband trying to take the revolver from him.

Witness did not know what Boone's intentions were with regard to Peter Steil or anyone else in connection with the shooting, and told Mr. Wade that he was unable to read his mind. The direction of the shot he thought was past Steil, who was standing to the right of Boone, and down the aisle between the tables.

A chair was produced which bore the marks of the revolver ball.

Mr. Bleeker, who conducted the case for the defense, under cross-examination of the witness brought out the fact that Boone drew a revolver during the time witness held him, and used it as an inducement to the witness to let go of him.

Robert Hamilton was the next wit-

ness to give evidence, and said that he had been dining in the Holborn on the day in question when the row occurred.

He saw the struggle between the waiter and Boone. He did not know whether the waiter still had hold of him or not when the shot was fired. There was quite a crowd around and he could not see Boone at the time.

The case is on trial during this afternoon's session.

Important Orders.

Two important orders were received yesterday by Assistant Gold Commissioner Bell, a full copy of which will be published in tomorrow's issue of the Nugget. In the orders just received the most important feature is the fact that after the 9th instant all claims elapsing will, instead of reverting to the crown, be again open to location the same as though they had never previously been located. But all claims which have reverted previous to the 9th instant will be offered at public auction, November 2.

Hanse Declared Innocent.

During the afternoon session of the territorial court yesterday the argument of the council were heard in the case of Hanse, charged with theft.

Mr. Wade paid a tribute to Mr. Bonfield in the course of his argument which, had it been uttered anywhere but in the courtroom, would have been greeted with applause.

He said: "Gentlemen of the jury, I defy any one within the sound of my voice to bring forward a man in Dawson or the Yukon territory with a better reputation for honesty, truthfulness and being a white man generally, than Sam Bonfield."

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

Moosehide Stamped.

In the soft pearly gray of the early morning, Moosehide was descended upon, and the hills back of the peaceful hamlet swarmed over by ruthless seekers after pelf.

That happened this morning, and kept right on happening up till noon today, when it is said several hundred would-be claim owners had arrived on the scene of the reported strike, and everything with enough substance to raise a spear of grass had been staked. The fog banks lifted early, or they would have been staked and recorded and thereby prevented from getting away. Who the alleged discoverer of gold in the vicinity of Moosehide is is not known yet, but it is said that good yellow gold in quantities which would pay to work for, were found some five weeks since on the bench back of Moosehide, and that, after the way of those who inaugurate stampedes, the discoverer kept the fact darkly secret till last night when the news burst upon the multitude, and the wild rush of the morning resulted.

Whether or not there is really any good foundation for the stampede is a matter to be developed by future events. At present all that is sure is that a lot of people went there and staked the land, and that Moosehide has had a sensation.

A Judgment Misunderstood.

In the judgment recently handed down by Judge Craig in the Wade vs. McDonald case, it was commonly supposed by most of those who heard it that it embraced the payment of \$7500 unpaid retainer fee. This was erroneous as the \$7500 retainer fee had already been paid, and was considered by the court as having been earned. The judgment only calls for \$2500 by way of damages, all disbursements by the plaintiffs, costs of the action, and a dismissal of the defendants counter claim.

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