

SECRETARY CORMACK

Of the Dawson Board of Trade

Secret Scores a Local Newspaper for Falsehood and Misrepresentation.

Editor Klondike Nugget:
Please find enclosed copy of a letter to the Dawson News Publishing Co., which I ask you to kindly publish in your issue of tomorrow.

Yours truly,
JOHN CORMACK.
Dawson, Y.T., April 13, 1903.

Dawson, April 10, 1903.
Dawson News Publishing Company,
Dawson, Y.T.

Gentlemen,—In your issues of the Dawson Daily News you have been misrepresenting ever since its recent organization the Dawson board of trade. Now the said board does not object to honest criticism, but does not philosophically object to what has become malignant and misrepresentation on the part of your paper. This misrepresentation has been so pronounced and continuous that many, I may say, nearly all, of the members of the board of trade have remarked it and expressed to me their disapproval of the action of your paper.

I myself was willing to let the matter pass over without comment, as it appears that the board of trade is in such disfavor with your office that there is little prospect of a passing over so long as the board of trade or your paper exists, and right up to your very last issue, that of April 9th, does this misrepresentation continue.

Now my object in writing upon this subject is not to put your editor right in the matter, as I have endeavored to do that before now in several conversations that we have had, but he apparently will not listen to be put right, so my object is to place the board right before the public generally, the readers of your paper in particular, and the editors of the Nugget and the Sun, in both of which papers I am sending a copy of this letter.

I am not going to specifically refer back to your misrepresentations of any further than your issue of April 7th, as I have not any of your papers of a prior date to that before me and do not wish to comment upon any article that I am not able, through absence of the same, to quote. I will therefore begin with your issue of April 7th, and draw your attention to an editorial entitled "Bungled the Job," which reads as follows:

"There must be no politics in this, therefore we cannot associate ourselves with you gentlemen of the opposition." So said the members of the board of trade when dealing with the Treadgold matter.

"They utterance of the official and quasi-official organ has made the point quite clear that there must be no politics in the affair and therefore no member of the opposition was consulted, or invited, to participate in the struggle of the body. The only men who have fought the battle of the board, in the Treadgold grant, are competent to deal with the matter from intimate knowledge and experience were ignored."

Now it is discovered that the board of trade has sent a copy of its report to Hon. R. L. Borden, leader of the opposition in the house of commons, who, with insufficient instruction in his possession, has interrupted the government, and refused the reply that there are two sides to the question.

The board of trade has the leader of the opposition as its champion on the floor of the house, and Mr. Ross, its member for Yukon, is relegated to the background," &c., &c.

Now Mr. Ross has not been "relegated to the background," and your editor knows this, and knew it prior to the publication of the foregoing quotation. I explained to your editor on the morning of April 7th that the board of trade was most decidedly a non-partisan body, that they did not know Mr. Borden as the leader of the opposition, but as a member of parliament and as such they sent him a copy of the letter and petition which was at the same time sent to every member of both houses of the Dominion parliament, throughout Canada, so that your editor knew prior to that publication that the Dawson board of trade did not apply to Mr. Borden for his assistance, nor ask him to champion the cause, which is the cause of the people of this territory, any more than they did to the most obscure member of the Dominion of Canada.

The fact that Mr. Borden was the first to bring the matter up before the house of representatives, although admitting that gentlemen to our knowledge, does not prove the Dawson board of trade a partisan or political body.

I now take up the next of your papers that lies before me, your is-

sue of April 9th (last evening) and from your editorial in that paper entitled "How to Obtain Reforms" I wish to quote the following:
"The people have been so accustomed to look to the opposition for help that the protest was quite naturally sent to Mr. Borden, leader of the opposition, even by men who were among the chief supporters of Mr. Ross. It is the usual thing to place no confidence in the government; and the action of the board of trade in relying upon the efforts of Mr. Borden rather than those of Mr. Ross shows the measure of reliance placed in government circles."

Now, I think it is not necessary for me to repeat that the Dawson board of trade did not rely upon "the efforts of Mr. Borden rather than those of Mr. Ross," and that the editor of your paper is, and was, perfectly well aware that they did not and willfully misrepresented that board when he said, as he has done, that they did.

Now, Mr. Ross has not been "relegated to the background" by the Dawson board of trade, and the letters to the other members of parliament were sent so that they might sustain the efforts, on our behalf, of our representative Mr. Ross, who has already been chosen by the people of this territory as our representative and the board of trade are only listening to the voice of the people and acting upon the same when we entrusted, as we were only too willing to do, to Mr. Ross the cause which we are advocating, and in making him the champion of our rights, as we have done, as will be seen by the following letter:

"Dawson, Y.T., Mar. 26th, 1903.
Hon. J. H. Ross, M.P.,
Ottawa, Ont.

"Dear Sir,—On behalf of, and under instructions from, the Dawson board of trade, I am sending you under different cover and by registered mail, a petition to parliament signed by close to four thousand persons, asking for certain legislation, as per the enclosed copy of the petition heading, and which petition the board of trade wish you to present to parliament on behalf of your constituents and feeling that the petition is in good hands and sure to receive favorable notice when entrusted to your care."

"I may say that the petition has only been circulated for a matter of ten days, as the board of trade wished it sent on to you as soon as possible, which is the only reason why we have not the signature of almost every person in the territory."

"And I might further say that the matter of sending a delegate to Ottawa with this petition came up for discussion and was suggested by members of the board, but was not acted upon, as the majority of the members were satisfied that the cause advocated by us in this petition could have no stronger champion and sympathizer than yourself."

"Hoping that your plea to parliament on our behalf will meet with success, I have the honor to be, Yours most respectfully,

"JOHN CORMACK,
"Secy. Dawson board of trade."

Now, gentlemen, that concludes my reference to your paper, but I wish to refer to an utterance of your editor at a mass meeting held at Bonanza on the evening of March 19th, a report of which meeting appears in the Bonanza Record of March 21st, and which is reported as follows:

"The unmistakable voice of W. A. Beddoe was heard in the back of the hall. He said: 'It is not wise to rely on official utterances. I know of my own knowledge that that letter is contrary to the action of the board of trade. Permit me to offer a little advice. I have done it before. Put no reliance in official communications; whatsoever. We must not rely on that letter and be lulled to sleep. The mover of that motion in the board of trade for an assay office told me himself that his motion had been defeated. The board of trade is not doing anything as regards an assay office. We should not be influenced by it. This association has more weight than the board of trade, which is made up of politicians. Every man in it is a politician but they are none of them for the opposition so they call it a non-political body.'"

If this report of the Bonanza Record is correct, which I have no doubt it is, judging by your editor's animosity to the Dawson board of trade as shown in his editorials, Mr. Beddoe has said what is not correct. The Dawson board of trade is not opposed and never was opposed to an assay office and I can prove the same if necessary by the records and minutes of the board, and as for its being a political body and as for its being "made up of politicians," if your editor means by these remarks that the board of trade has used politics as a means to advance their own personal aims and ambitions he says what is not true and is guilty of another misrepresentation. It is true that when a time has come members of the board of trade have accomplished their duty as citizens in the interests of this country, but never have they acted in the interests of a political party, and perhaps therein lies your editor's objection to them.

And now in conclusion, gentlemen, I may state that I am sorry to have to take this opportunity of thrusting myself before your readers in this way, as I am not at all desirous of notoriety and have never sought any, but having been asked by members of the board of trade to answer the misrepresentations in your paper, and feeling myself that they had been

left unanswered long enough, and trusting that you in your wisdom will cause them to cease and will allow your editor in future to indulge only in honest and fair criticism, I remain,

Yours truly,
JOHN CORMACK.

BICYCLE RACER

Freddie Card Will Enter the Lists This Season.

The proudest and happiest boy who has struck the Yukon in many moons is Freddie Card, the busy young lad who so valiantly assists his mamma in presiding over the destinies of the Hotel Cecil. Mrs. Hutcheon upon her return to the city a few days ago brought from the outside for Master Freddie a tiny bicycle suitable for one of his age, the only one in the Klondike. With his usual precocity he has already succeeded in mastering the peculiarities and eccentricities of the miniature horseless conveyance and at all hours he can be found racing an imaginary opponent up and down the halls. Freddie will be prominent in the bicycle races, on Victoria day and the 4th of July.

The old reliable Bay City Market will be open for business April 11th on Second avenue next door to Saragat & Pinsky, under the management of Chas. Bossuyt, who will be pleased to see all his old customers and friends.

Power of Attorney Blanks for the Tanana-Nugget Office.

YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE

First Social Held Yesterday Evening

Brilliant Success in Every Particular—Musical Program Followed by Dancing.

The Young Men's Institute gave its first "at home" yesterday evening at the rooms of the association over the Royal grocery on Second avenue, the apartments being crowded with members of the organization and their friends. What made the occasion unusually auspicious was the presence of the three gentlemen who have been honored by being made honorary members, Mr. Justice Dugas, Alex. McDonald and James McNamee. At the opening of the social session Mr. Auguste Noel took the chair and delivered the address of welcome, offering to all the warmest hospitality and trusting they would "so enjoy themselves that they would have cause to remember the Institute, its objects, aims, hopes and desires. Upon the conclusion of the opening address the chair called in turn each of

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The honorary members, all of whom expressed their pleasure in being present and the honor they felt in occupying the position they did relative to the association. Rev. Father Butz also made a few remarks apropos of the occasion after which Mr. Noel resigned the chair in favor of Mr. Rod Chisholm who presided over the literary and musical portion of the entertainment.

Several excellent numbers were rendered, but the younger element were aware that according to the program arranged dancing was to follow the vocal and instrumental efforts and they were only too eager for the latter part of the entertainment to be brought to a conclusion. Mrs. L. L. James favored with a soprano solo as did also Mrs. Parker. Harry Burdell did a lively stunt in vocal cal-

strophes, F. X. Genest was heard in a pretty chaussonette and Mr. Robertson played a violin solo. Among the last to be heard was among Mr. Justice Dugas who sang a song. His lordship was followed by J. J. Timmins who gave a reading "Shamus O'Brien," and then the floor was cleared for dancing which was kept up until considerable after midnight.

Not a person was present who did not enjoy the evening to the utmost, the committees doing everything in their power to make the joy wide-spread in its diffusion and cause the memory of the "at home" of the Young Men's Institute to be lasting in its permanence. It is understood to be the intention of the organization to have frequent socials of the nature of that given yesterday evening and if all are as successful as the

first—the Institute will soon become an important factor in the social element of the city.

Disorderly People Arrested.

Paris, March 20.—After midnight the unruly elements in the crowd attending the mid-lent festivities began making trouble for the police by starting disturbances in various parts of the boulevards and on adjacent streets. Some 300 disorderly persons were arrested, but most of them were discharged after being detained for an hour or two at police stations.

It is reported that 968 arrests were made during the day.

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