

DAWSON'S FIRST COUNCIL

Held Its Initial Meeting Last Night—Standing Committees Appointed—Manly and Business-like Address of Mayor Macaulay—Policy Outlined.

The city council had deliberated whether it would hold its first meeting in the territorial council room or the gold commissioner's court, and when it had taken seats in the latter it was immediately seen that the council chamber would have been none too large to accommodate the large crowd desirous of being present at this first meeting. There were many in the hall unable to obtain admission to the court room, which was packed with people, fully one-half of whom stood throughout the whole proceedings.

But these proceedings were by no means lengthy, and by half-past nine when an adjournment was taken to Wednesday evening an extraordinary amount of preliminary business had been dispatched. As the members of the council will sit in the same positions at all future meetings the order in which they sat is here given:

Acting City Clerk Ward Smith.
Ald. Macdonald Ald. Murphy
Ald. Norquay Ald. Adair
Ald. Wilson, absent Ald. Vachon

The mayor opened the proceedings with a rather lengthy address which reminded one of a budget speech. It was devoted entirely to the question of the city's finances and was in many respects exceedingly able. It was not a prepared but an extempore address, with a reference to notes of the appropriations coming to the city prepared by Acting-Comptroller-Hinton. The mayor said:

Ladies and Gentlemen (there were two ladies present): "It is a source of great gratification to me tonight to find so many who have come here and thus shown their interest in the first meeting of the city council, and I can assure you also that it is a great gratification to occupy the high position which has been given to me by the taxpayers of the city of Dawson.

"One of the first and most interesting matters to take up tonight will be that of finance, which is the essential of city government. In opening this subject I have here a statement rendered by the accountant of the territorial government, showing the proportion of the taxes which we shall take over to the city government and the unexpended credits we have to draw against from day to day, from now until July 1st. This sum of money, amounting to \$34,008.93, will still remain in the hands of the territorial government, which will meet our appropriations on the same as they come up until the total amount has been expended.

"One of the largest items of the city's expenditure will be the fire department. For this the Yukon council made an appropriation of \$70,000, of which \$52,096.01 has already been expended during the past eight months, leaving a balance of \$17,903.99 with which we will have to carry on the department until July 1st. But, while there is a credit of only \$17,000 for this department it will probably carry us through. The expenditure per month has averaged during the past eight months \$6512, and at this rate we should have a shortage in this one account alone of \$8,000 on July 1st.

"But one of the principal items of expense in this department is horse feed, and of this there is a large quantity on hand, probably enough to carry us through. Then there is the item of fuel, of which there is a supply. We hope further to save something by centralizing the department under one roof and also it may be possible to run the department with less men during the summer months. At any rate this matter will receive our careful consideration and any saving that can be made without lessening the efficiency of the service will be attempted. So that, although there may possibly be some shortage, yet, owing to the amount of supplies on hand and the economies here suggested, it will not be anything like the sum named.

"Then comes the expenditure for streets, garbage and lighting. The year's appropriation for this amounted to \$60,000, and up to March there had already been expended \$48,011, or an average of \$6,000 per month, leaving a balance of \$11,989, which would be at the rate of about \$3,000 per month from now until July. This is going to be one of the hardest of the appropriations to finance to the best advantage, as not only will we have a shortage of \$12,000 under the present rate of expenditure, but in April we will have a large extra ex-

penditure for cutting ditches, repairing roads, and so on. On the other hand, we shall soon be able to cut down the bill for lighting.

"In the matter of handling the garbage we also hope to make a large saving. We have a scheme that seems very feasible and very economical as compared with the present system of a garbage scow. This scow was built at considerable expense, and it costs from \$15 to \$20 per day to run it, as refuse contained therein has to be dumped out into the current of the river. The item for wagon and horse hire to March 1st was no less than \$26,157, and the wages account was \$4,715.

"We propose building a road around the water front to a point below St. Mary's hospital, and at this point the carts can be dumped directly into the river, there being a strong current there at all times that will carry everything away. This would be an advantage to the city over the present system in many ways. It would also cut off the day and night men on the scows, and other savings would be made, while the road, although I do not at present know exactly what it would cost, I am assured it would entail but a very small outlay comparatively.

"The question of roads will be one that will require careful consideration this spring. In no other city do we have this glacial matter to deal with, which is always sinking and giving trouble. To deal with this means a large outlay if we are to have our streets thoroughly well made.

"Returning for a moment to the fire department, I would say that the centralization of the force in one hall will enable the department to be run at less cost, as it will take a smaller number of hands, especially during the summer months; and, by giving this matter our particular attention we shall be able to save the city considerable in the matter of insurance by obtaining a lower rate. One of the firemen we propose to make inspector of flues and chimneys, and by a careful carrying out of his duties many fires may be avoided. There will probably be an additional expense for hose which I had overlooked, the Yukon council having given to the town of Grand Forks from 1000 to 1200 feet of hose to start them with, and this may have to be made up. I can assure you again that the aldermen will give the closest attention to all matters in connection with the fire department.

"As to the policing of the city, we have held several informal meetings in order to thoroughly discuss this, and we all went down and called upon Major Wood to get his views in the matter. At that meeting it was decided that we could most easily cope with the situation by employing the present town force. Major Wood was quite agreeable and said the city might have the fourteen men now on city duty, paying them what the city should decide—\$10, \$20, or \$50 each per month as we thought fit. Probably we would require to appoint a chief of police, but that, and the whole matter, is left entirely in our own hands by the courtesy of Major Wood.

"With the present amount of money we have to deal with, and the shortage in sight, we will have to shut down on one matter very hard, this is the lighting of the city. At the end of this month we may be able to shut it off altogether for the summer. Then, in regard to sanitary arrangements we shall see that the bylaws are most rigidly enforced, as we think that in this regard the city officers have heretofore been very lax. The present accumulations of filth it not cleaned up at an early date might produce an epidemic that would cost the city thousands of dollars, and we are determined to take action in regard to this at the earliest moment possible.

"To recapitulate, the accounts of the new council are as follows:—

	Appropriation	Expended	Credits
Fire Dep't. m't.	\$70,000.00	\$52,096.01	\$17,903.99
Streets, Lights and Garbage	60,000.00	48,011.79	11,988.21
Contingencies	8,000.00	6,088.27	1,911.73
Assessments and Coll. Taxes	6,510.00	4,400.00	2,110.00
	\$144,000.00	\$110,591.07	\$33,408.93

"Now, we contemplate making the assessment this year at a much earlier date, and it is my intention to have it made about the latter part of August, and have the court of revision as early as possible so that we may possibly get our taxes before the end of September. If assessments were made at a later date a great many people would be out of the

country and thus avoid contributing to the revenues of the city. We have a new limit placed at our disposal, which takes in all north of the hospital to Ogilvie bridge, and this will add a little to the amount to be collected.

"But, as I said, we have very heavy expenses to be met and it may be necessary to make a loan on one of the banks here, as the amount we have now will certainly not be enough to carry us through until we collect our own taxes. I would like to have had a plan prepared on this head, but Mr. Ross being out of the country it cannot be done. There is the revenue from liquor licenses; I think we ought to get from 60 to 75 per cent. of that, and we may probably get it all, because it should go to the benefit of the city. But this we cannot decide until Mr. Ross' return.

"Also, in addition to the present taxation, the council will endeavor to find where other taxation can be properly laid so that the burden may be evenly distributed and generally lightened. So-called pedlars, for instance, who come here with their goods and pay not a cent in the treasury, will be carefully looked after by our license inspector, and they will be made to pay a fair percentage of taxation to the city.

"I find it will be necessary to pass a few bylaws this evening, but in the future all bylaws will be read three times in order that the public may know what is going on and, if they desire, enter a protest while the measure is under consideration. Also, a few officials will have to be appointed now, but in regard to the appointment of others we shall proceed slowly, so as to make our work efficient and justify the confidence placed in us by the people of Dawson."

Acting Clerk Smith read the following applications: For street and garbage inspector, 5; inspector of chimneys, 2; for re-instatement on present fire brigade, 4; chief of police, 6; city stenographer, 5; city auditor, 4; city surveyor, 3; city clerk, 3; miscellaneous, 5.

Alderman Murphy moved the adoption of ordinance No. 1, providing for a seal of the city of Dawson. The design approved shows two miners rampant on either side of a windlass, with a gold pan couchant. The bill went through all the forms of first, second and third reading and final passage.

Alderman Norquay moved bill No. 2, as to the terms of service of city employees, and fixing the hours of labor in the city offices from 9 to 5, except Saturdays, from 9 to 1. This was carried.

Alderman Macdonald moved bill No. 3, as to the duties of city solicitor, and carrying with it the appointment to that position of D. Donaghy, at a salary of \$3,000 for the balance of the present year.

Alderman Murphy introduced bill No. 4, of rules and regulations, a document which embraces 36 clauses and a number of sub-clauses. This was also duly passed, with an amendment by Alderman Adair that the mayor only vote in case of a tie. Alderman Macdonald was then elected president of the board of aldermen and made a little address.

Then came the election of committees, each being formally proposed and seconded. The following are the standing committees:

Finance—Adair, Vachon, Wilson.
Public works, streets and city property—Wilson, Norquay, Murphy, Adair.

Bills and printing—Vachon, Murphy and Wilson.
Licensing and police—Macdonald, Murphy, Norquay.

Fire, water and light—Norquay, Murphy and Macdonald.

On the motion of Alderman Macdonald, the mayor was made an ex-officio member of all committees.

The meeting then adjourned to 8:30 on Wednesday evening.

Usual Price of Drunks.
There were but two cases before Judge Macaulay today in the police court. W. R. Lapp was up charged with being drunk and impeding peaceable passengers on First avenue. He pleaded guilty and was assessed the nominal sum of \$5 and costs, which was paid. Wm. Elliott went to the Standard library last night in company with a bright, lurid jag. He was looking for knowledge, but after juggling down and clawing over half the books in the library was unable to acquire that which he sought. He became a pest to the other habitués and seekers after more light, a condition which closely resembled a disturbance and upon a limb of the law arriving he was escorted off to the bastille. This morning he pleaded guilty to being drunk and he, too, was commanded to deposit \$5 and costs in the royal exchequer.

Aldermanic Banquet.
Mayor and Mrs. Macaulay have invited the aldermen to dinner at their residence this evening, and a few other guests are also invited to meet them.

EVENTS OF THE CREEKS

Bonanza and Eldorado Are Prosperous

No Cessation of Social Happenings—Otto Anderson Boasts an Heir.

Last Saturday evening the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey was the scene of another happy gathering, the occasion being the party given in honor of their guest, Miss Martin of Dawson, who has been visiting them the past week. The evening was very pleasantly spent in games, singing and music. Mr. Fried gave some sweet music on the guitar and Mr. Ullman played some choice pieces on the zither. Miss Martin proved herself quite a talented young lady, her singing being the feature of the evening. Mrs. Kinsey's singing of "The Singer and the Song" showed her to be the possessor of a beautiful sweet voice, which is aptly suited for the parlor. At 12 o'clock a bounteous repast was served, after which there was singing and games, the party not breaking up until far into the morning. Among the invited guests and those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Willard, Mr. and Mrs. Frey, Mr. and Mrs. Coffin, Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey, Mrs. Price, Miss Martin, Messrs. Longton, Link, Friend, Johnson, Truitt, Ullman, C. Kinsey, and Anderson.

Notwithstanding this being the Lenten season the dances given by the Grand Forks Social Club continue to be the event looked forward to. The dance given last Friday night was a brilliant affair. Besides the elite of Grand Forks and vicinity there were a number of visitors from Dawson; in fact it is becoming quite the rule for sleighing parties from town, after enjoying a ride up Bonanza or Eldorado creeks, to attend the club dances. The reception committee leave nothing wanting in looking after the interests of visitors. Excellent music was furnished by Mr. Foster, pianist, and Mr. Davis, violinist. The floor was in the very best of condition and a very enjoyable time was spent. The club will give another dance next Friday night, March 7th.

Yesterday noon the tar paper on the roof of Vant & Kolb's tin shop caught fire around the stove-pipe. An alarm was turned in and the volunteers promptly responded with the chemicals and succeeded in putting the fire out before any headway was gained. The damage done was trifling.

The second series of games played by the Grand Forks Progressive Whist Club ended last Wednesday evening and the prizes were awarded as follows: Mr. Peterson of Gold Hill and Miss Langreth of Grand Forks first prizes, and Mr. Bowhay of Gold Hill and Miss Daring of Grand Forks booby prizes. Mr. Peterson for first prize received a very nice silk necktie and Miss Daring for booby prize a toy sled, and inside was a card with the words "Slide right along." It will also be remembered that Miss Langreth received first prize the month before and Mr. Bowhay the first.

Mr. Otto Anderson of No. 28 below Bonanza has been wearing a broad smile the last few days. The cause was not known until a few days ago when it leaked out that he was the proud father of a bouncing boy which was born February 19, 1902. Mother and child are doing well.

Manager Mizner Talks.
Manager Mizner, of the N. C. Co., said this morning that he returned with the idea of very extensive im-

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JOHN McDONALD
FIRST AVE., Opp. S. Y. Dock

A NEW CIGAR!
CUBAN HAND MADE

provements, but he did not at present know how many of them would be carried out this season. He found that he had rather overestimated the business outlook, but certainly many of the changes projected would be immediately carried out.

One thing the company was desirous of doing was to have all its retail stores under one roof, so to speak, and the idea was to get the hardware department in the same building as the grocery department and to sell the A. E. building where it is at present. For the latter the company had received several proposals, and as one of these was a proposition to turn the building into a hotel he supposed that was how the story had got about that the N. C. Co. was going into the hotel business. As a matter of fact it had no intention of going into the hotel or any new business, but was simply planning to get all its present business together.

Objects to Wade.

Editor Daily Nugget:
Dear Sir,—I have noticed in the press dispatches of late several references to the fact that F. C. Wade is an aspirant for judicial honors and is being urged for an appointment to the bench of the Yukon territory. I wish to enter a protest against the appointment of Mr. Wade to any such position for the reason that I regard him—and I believe this view will be concurred in by a large majority of the people of Dawson—as wholly unsuited for the office he seeks. His record in Dawson is that of a man of prejudiced mind and almost entirely lacking in the judicial qualities requisite in a just and impartial court. There are other objections of a more personal nature which might be entered against him, but the above should be sufficient to defeat his purpose.

If there is any danger that an appointment to the local bench will be offered Mr. Wade, I think a petition should be circulated against it. I believe that his selection for such an office would be nothing less than a calamity.

GEORGE DE LION.

Water Main Frozen.

The first freeze-up in the water service that has occurred this winter was reported this morning. It was in the 6-inch main running from the Cascade Laundry on Second avenue to Albert street. Mr. Matheson, the manager of the company, was at work on it today with a thawing machine, and was a much-veiled manager at that. He said the freeze-up would never have occurred but for the carelessness of the engineer in not keeping up the pressure on this particular main. When it would be thawed out he was unable to state. He said the thawing was a slow and expensive process and that he was determined not to have any more mains frozen up this winter.

Small Debts Court.

The next sittings of the small court has been fixed to March 14. Judge Morawski will preside as usual.

Kelly & Co., Leading Tailors.

If your clothes need pressing or repairing see R. I. The Tailor, at Hirschberg's.

CLOSED TO LOCATION

Concessionaire Pays Ground Rent

Word Tract on Indian Which Was Open Last Now Closed.

From a notice recently issued by the gold commissioner's office it is evident R. L. Word, owner of a concession in Indian river, has paid ground rent, the lapse of which had closed his tract of ground to be open for entry from February 28. Last week there was a notice posted to the effect that Word complied with the conditions imposed by the department and ground was open to prospectors to file a claim on it, but there is another notice on the tin board which states that the applicant having complied with the conditions of the regulations for hydraulic mining, asking restrictions from the department, the interior location is now closed to further entry. The Word concession joins that of F. W. Word, and one-half miles below the mouth of Quarta creek and extends to Indian river a distance of two and one-half miles.

Increase in Customs.

There may be an impression that the customs officials of Dawson follow the custom bear, and simply hibernated close of navigation until the start in the spring. Officially, however, are evidence to the contrary. The collection of the months of January and February just ended, show an increase in amounts collected in the first months of last year of more than \$14,383.06. This result is a surprise to many laymen who would like to draw a picture of the customs service during the winter and pretend to be a mine owner the sun gets hot enough to be

China.

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TIME GOES BACK

But We go Ahead With Our Discount Sales. This Month We Offer the **FINEST ASSORTED STOCK OF UNDERWEAR** in the City at a Discount of 20 Per Cent.

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DAWSON HARDWARE CO.
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Pan-American Wheel Barrow
Wood Frame, Steel Tires.
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CHEAPER THAN EVER!
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Finest in the Land
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