

The Klondike Nugget

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From Thursday and Friday's Daily.

WHAT DOES DAWSON WANT?

A review of the proceedings of last night's meeting of the Board of Trade leads up naturally to the question, "What does Dawson want?" In the course of last evening's discussion it became evident that sentiment is very largely divided. There was apparently a demand for an assay office at which gold should be taken and currency given in exchange. Another opinion called for an assay office to act merely as a check upon the banks. An assay office for royalty collection found favor with some, while the question just missed going entirely by the board on a motion that Dawson wants no assay office at all.

The compromise finally effected, which is detailed elsewhere in this paper, is entirely harmless, for there is not one chance in ten thousand that an assay office will be placed in Dawson on the lines as therein proposed.

We are brought, therefore, to the query as indicated above, "What does Dawson want?"

It is evident from the discussion as brought forward last evening that an assay office if it is secured at all will be a thing of the distant future. It is further evident that a very strong divergence of opinion exists as to the advantages of such an institution, should the same be established.

As a matter of fact, what, in the opinion of this paper, is wanted, is some equitable means whereby gold dust may be withdrawn from circulation, and currency substituted therefor.

It was the hope of obtaining this result which led to the efforts made some time ago to secure an assay office for Dawson. It was the general belief then that an assay office, if established, would enable all holders of dust to convert the same into currency at actual value, less cost of reduction, etc., which it was presumed would be nominal.

If, as was claimed last evening, this object cannot be advantageously accomplished through an assay office, it appears to us that the Board of Trade, should seek some other means of reaching the desired end.

That there is anything satisfactory about the present method of effecting exchanges, we do not believe will be contended. As long as gold dust continues to be the recognized medium of exchange, all manner of opportunities present themselves to unscrupulous parties, to make use of that fact to their own advantage. The various means by which this is done are too well known to require discussion.

It is sufficient to say that under existing circumstances the legitimate tradesman, receives the worst of the bargain, and the miner not infrequently disposes of the product of his claim at less than he is entitled to receive.

If the Board of Trade can bring forward a solution to this problem, which will protect the merchant and miner alike, that organization will have accomplished something which will be of value to the community.

In the meanwhile with respect to the assay office, what is required is information. That particular element was largely wanting in the discussion of last evening especially from the pro-assay standpoint. Facts and figures are strong arguments when placed against theories and generalities and in this respect it must be said that the gentlemen who are opposed to an assay office for Dawson had practically a clean field last night.

YUKON FORESTS.

Any concerted measures which may be taken looking toward the protection of the timber along the Yukon and its branches should be given all possible encouragement. The extent of the Yukon territory's forest resources are scarcely understood by those whose information has been gleaned from a steamboat trip between Dawson and

Whitehorse. Along the Stewart river, the Hootalinqua and other tributary streams, great stretches of heavily wooded country occur which, if properly utilized will prove of inestimable value in the future development of the territory.

One of the principal objects which in the opinion of this paper it is desirable to attain is the prevention of forest fires during the dry season. Certain ordinances are already in force covering the point in question but they have not served entirely to accomplish the required results.

During the past three summers forest fires, started in one way or another have raged in various parts of the territory and in this manner vast quantities of valuable timber have been destroyed. Carelessness on the part of prospectors and hunters has been accountable in a measure and such carelessness might be obviated in a large degree through the organization of a branch of the forestry association.

Next to the gold deposits in the territory our timber is probably the most important of all our resources. Without the latter it would be impossible to develop the former successfully.

It is most opportune, therefore, that something be done to prevent the extinction of our forest preserves before it becomes too late.

SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED.

The fact that Commissioner Ogilvie is about to retire from active participation in the administration of the affairs of the territory should be given due recognition. Mr. Ogilvie during two and one-half years in which he has acted as chief executive of the territory, has had a position of the utmost difficulty to fill.

He came into a community practically disorganized and in which an almost unanimous lack of confidence was felt so far as concerned the government or any thing pertaining to it. Mr. Ogilvie steps down from his position with a record of unimpeachable honesty and integrity and the knowledge that, owing in no small degree to his efforts, the Yukon territory is governed today by wise and just laws. The Nugget heartily endorses any project looking toward a proper recognition of Mr. Ogilvie's services.

Five hundred applications for positions of chaplain in the United States army have recently been filed. There are in all twenty-three places to fill, but as each carries with it salary and extras amounting to a captain's salary, and as the chaplain has no need to come into contact with bullets and bayonets, it is not particularly a matter for surprise that there are numerous candidates to fill the vacancies.

A year ago at this time, water was trickling in the ditches leading to the river and the snow on the flat was disappearing at a very lively rate. There is now more snow on the level in Dawson than there was at any time during the winter a year ago and from all indications it is here to stay for some time yet. It is very fortunate that we have no peach and apple blossoms to be injured by late frosts.

Between Mrs. Carrie Nation and Gen. Funston, the state of Kansas is coming to the front in a wonderful manner. Carrie has smashed the saloon business of her state and Funston has done equally effective work with the Filipino rebellion. Kansas is not so slow as a great many people would like to have it appear.

The date for the free library concert has been definitely fixed and preparations for a splendid entertainment are almost completed. The purpose of the concert may well command the support and patronage of the public. The free library has done excellent work during the past winter and every effort made to increase the efficiency of the institution should be given liberal encouragement.

The possibility of a railroad being constructed along the line of the Dalton trail from Chilkat to the Yukon is

interesting news. Railroad competition would do wonderful things for this territory.

When the impartial historian comes to record the story of the McConnell case he will be compelled to admit that in the opening skirmishes, at least, the victory was to the fair rather than to the brave.

An Opinion About Dogs.

Dawson, April 4, 1901.

Editor Daily Nugget:

Anxious readers of papers have been informed lately that a high authority in Washington, D. C., has settled the question regarding the origin of rabies amongst dogs of this country: They were bitten by a rapid animal! If any-

one was dense enough to assume that that disease was caused by the bite of a snail, a toad or a lobster or any other slow brute, and not by a squirrel, a speedy malamute or some other swift beast, he will now say no more about it and go talk about the weather or the next stampede. At any rate no more authorities are heard on this subject; but knowing for a positive fact that still some doubt lingers in the minds of some inquisitive people, who think a "rabid" animal is meant in this "ipse dixit" of the Washington oracle. I venture to intrude on your well known good nature with the suggestion that the previous question also extends to this "rabid" animal biting all the other dogs. It might appear as if we actually were as far as this matter as in the controversy, What was first, the hen or the egg? and some authoritative oracle had decreed, the hen, because she laid the egg. But as a matter of fact we are not, for a conclusion arrived at long ago by scientific men traced the origin of this disease to the suppressed natural tendency of the species in question to perpetuate the breed. If such were the case, it would be advisable for those raising dogs for working purposes in this country to take this into consideration and have dogs conditioned the same as horses and work oxen; the advantages are so obvious that no more need be said about it. Yours, N. J. S.

Dewey Did It.

Editor Nugget:

If my memory serves me rightly the word "Manila" was spelled with two "i's" previous to the American-Spanish war. What authority is there for now spelling the word with but one "i"? An answer will settle a controversy which has arisen regarding the question.

BONANZA MINER.

(The only reason that can be assigned for the change in the spelling of the word is, we suppose, that Dewey shot "i" out of "Manila.")

HOLDING THE TORCH TOO HIGH.

Goddess of Liberty, listen;
Listen, I say, and look
To the sounds and sighs of sorrow
This side of Sandy Hook
Your eye is searching the distance;
You are holding your torch too high
To see the slaves who are fettered;
Though close at your feet they lie;
And the cry of the suffering stranger
Has reached your ear and your breast,
But you do not heed the wail that comes
From the haunts of your own oppressed.

Goddess of Liberty, follow;
Follow me where I lead;
Come down into the sweatshop;
And look on the work of greed;
Look on the face of the children,
Old before they were born;
Look on the haggard women,
Of all sex and grace shorn;
Look on the men—God help us—
If this is what it means
To be men in the land of freedom
And live like mere machines.

Goddess of Liberty, answer;
How can the slaves of Spain
Find freedom under your banner
While your own still wears the chain?
Loud is the screech of the eagle,
And the boastful voice of your drums,
But they do not silence the wail of despair
That rises out of your slums.
What will you do with your conquests,
And how shall your hosts be fed,
While our streets are filled with desperate
Crying for work or bread?
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Free Library Concert.

The free use of the Methodist church has been generously granted to the board of control of the Dawson Free Library for their grand concert arranged for some time ago. They are in need of money for the payment of necessary bills and for the purchase of more books, magazines and papers.

The concert is under the direction of Mr. Arthur Boyle and will be one of the best musical treats ever given in Dawson. Thursday and Friday, the 11th and 12th inst., are the dates fixed. Tickets are now in the hands of the following and ought to be purchased at once as only a limited number can be accommodated: Mrs. F. C. Wade, Mrs. Tish, Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Prudhomme, Dr. Herdman, Messrs. A. F. Nicol, J. P. McLennan, P. R. Ritchie, Chas. Milne, Col. MacGregor, Reid's drug store and the Librarian at the library rooms.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Stanley and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Chappelle returned from their trip to Jack Wade creek yesterday.

GAME ON HAND MAY BE SOLD

Moosehide Indians Object to New Ordinance.

On Ground That It Removes Their Source of Subsistence—James' Men Are Carnivorous.

[From Friday's Daily.]

Another phase of the game question and one which has not been considered before was presented to the council last night by Major Wood.

Chief Isaac and the missionary from Moosehide had called upon him and asked him to present their side of the question to the council. The Indians are almost wholly dependent on the game they kill and sell for their maintenance and while they are allowed under the present ordinance to kill game for their own use, they are prohibited from killing for sale. This is their chief source of revenue by which they obtain their money to supply their other necessities and they say that to take this means of support away will work a great hardship on them. They therefore want the privilege to kill and sell game renewed to them.

Commissioner Ogilvie stated that this was a very difficult question; that the council could not allow the Indians to kill and sell game and at the same time prohibit the white man from doing the same. "They are allowed," he said, "under the present ordinance to kill game for their own use at any season of the year. However, the matter will be taken under advisement to see what can be done."

The committee appointed to report on the status of the game situation in Dawson submitted its report which was to the effect that an inventory of the amount of game on hand had been taken and it showed that there was on hand at the various meat markets and in storage about 5000 pounds of moose and caribou and the owners asked an extension of time in which the same could be disposed of.

It was thought at first that an amendment to the ordinance would have to be framed in order that the sale might be allowed, but after discussion it was decided to leave the matter with the legal adviser to take such steps as he deemed necessary to lengthen the time of sale.

The committee also reported favorably on the application of L. L. James for a license permitting him to kill one moose a week during the summer for his logging camp up the Klondike.

The issuing of the license was left to Commissioner Ogilvie with instructions to find out the number of men employed at the camp and the amount of meat necessary for them, as it was thought that one moose a week was excessive of actual needs.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

Transacted by Yukon Council at Last Night's Meeting.

The council held a very short session last night, only taking up and discussing the petitions and communications before it and leaving all the ordinances for a special meeting called for Saturday afternoon at 2:30.

Mr. Ellis, a man who has been supported by the council all winter and who has had some petition before the council at every meeting, last night wanted some money. It was a narrow escape for him that the council did not throw him over altogether for Commissioner Ogilvie had heard from good authority that he had recently had \$200 which he had hoarded away. His petition was denied and Major Wood instructed to keep feeding him until navigation opens when he will be shipped to the outside.

A communication was read from a baker asking the council to purchase from him bon bons at \$5 per hundred for distribution to the children on Easter Sunday. Communication referred to the board of education.

The medical health officer reported favorably on the application of A. R. Cameron, who wants to build a slaughter house at the junction of Bonanza and the Ridge road. An objection was raised that if a slaughter house is built at that place there is a possibility of the water in the Klondike becoming tainted so the application was referred back to the board of health for a report on that phase of the subject.

Ruth Howard presented a petition for a drain to be built on Third street between Fourth and Fifth avenue.

Petition was referred to board of public works committee.

A communication was received from Mr. Gandolfo and others making a protest against people doing business on the streets in wagons, etc., in opposition to the tax-paying and legitimate merchants. This subject is to be taken up by the council in the matter of the licensing of peddlers, scow navigators, etc., hence the communication was referred.

The Bar Association presented a communication respecting the ordinance appointing official stenographers and requested that it be layed over for another week.

A communication from Comptroller Lithgow enclosing a statistical report of the peddlers and scow merchants' licenses issued last year was read.

Chief License Inspector McGregor tendered his resignation but as his successor, Mr. McKinnon, will be in next week it was decided to lay the resignation over until the next meeting.

A communication to have an ordinance drafted regulating the size of the tire to be used on wagons was read. This being a very important matter and one necessary to the protection of the roads, a motion was made that the legal advisor be instructed to draft an ordinance regulating the width of the wagon tires according to the amount of the load carried, basing said ordinance on the law enforced in British Columbia. Motion carried.

Wilson's motion to forward a memorial to the Dominion government regulating the scale of wages for all governmental work, and making the rate for steady employees \$5 per day and transient labor at 80 cents per hour was again brought before the council.

As it is expected that the new commissioner has some instructions respecting this question, the matter was laid over until his arrival.

The council then adjourned to meet Saturday afternoon at 2:30 to consider the ordinances now before it.

Married Last Night.

Last night witnessed the consummation of another Klondike romance when the Rev. Mr. Hetherington united in the holy bonds of matrimony Mr. Chas. Molander and Miss Matilda Aiken.

Mr. Molander is proprietor of the Gem Bakery and an old sour dough, while Miss Aiken has just recently arrived from the outside.

Mr. Molander's cabin on Third avenue, where the ceremony occurred, was very prettily decorated for the occasion. Mrs. Compton assisted in the capacity of bridesmaid, while Mr. Peter Compton acted as best man. After the ceremony the company adjourned to the Gem Bakery where a most elaborate supper was served and when the happy couple were made the recipients of a number of handsome presents.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Warnicke, Mr. and Mrs. Thorne, Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Woodring, Mrs. Wilson, Miss Woodring, Miss Hallstrom, Miss Johnson, Messrs. McKinnon, Riddell, Shepherd, Smith and Creland.

Were April Fooled

Between 40 and 50 men sleep at the Hotel Moulton on Hunker and about 2 o'clock last Monday morning three or four of the lodgers played the others a dirty Irish trick. Rising stealthily from their beds they quietly passed down stairs and out upon the veranda. A minute later there was a terrible crash followed by cries of "Fire!" Upstairs there was a hasty springing from springless beds and men fell all over each other in their mad rush to get down stairs and in passing out through the door the latter was actually torn from its hinges. Then some fellow out behind a dog house said "April fool!" and with muttered imprecations the men filed upstairs and resumed slumber.

She Knew All About It.

"I was dining out one evening among a notable company of people, most of whom I knew only by reputation," says George Inness, jr., in The Home Journal. "I was assigned a seat next to a very charming and intellectual woman and did my best to entertain her. Said I: 'What can I talk about that will interest you?' I have some little experience as a cavalryman. Possibly you may care to hear something about horses in the field."

"Why, yes; certainly," answered my fair companion. "I know a little concerning army life, and I once wrote a book called 'Boots and Saddles.' And then it dawned upon my poor, dull brain that I was talking to the widow of the great cavalry leader, Gen. Custer, so I said no more about horses or army life."—Ex.

Mr. and Mrs. Bates, of 27 below Hunker, are spending a few days in town and are registered at the Regina.