

CITIZENS' MEETING

Incorporation Ordinance Picked to Pieces and Many Amendments Offered

WITNERS OF THE PEOPLE IN LINE

"The Gang" Presents a Nice Bunch of Resolutions

WHAT AM I HERE FOR?

Said Joe Wilson When Asked What He Had to Say—Committee to Meet Today.

From Thursday's Daily.

Pioneer hall was packed to the doors last night by a mass meeting of citizens called for the purpose of considering the new incorporation ordinance and recommending such changes in its provisions as did not meet with the approval of those assembled. It was a good natured crowd, but it was lacking in unity, and one that was almost identical with every similar meeting that has ever been held in the city.

The professional agitators were present in their pristine glory and if there was a resolution offered or a motion made in which one or the other did not espouse a quantity of "hot air" the "Nugget" man failed to observe it. The entire proceedings were out of order. Those on the inside knew what amendments would be proposed and every resolution that was offered was typewritten beforehand and handed out to the different members of "the gang" scattered here and there through the audience so as to give the meeting too much of a semblance to a packed caucus. In a sense the meeting was truly representative inasmuch as the rank and file of the voters were there, but the heavy taxpayers, those who have to dig up the money to grease the wheels of the municipal machinery and who naturally are the most interested in the economical and business like way of administering the city's affairs, they were conspicuous by their absence. There was not a solitary representative of the big corporations on hand nor any of the leading First Avenue merchants; in fact, the principal object of the meeting, the incorporation ordinance, was an American, who occupied the front seat throughout the evening, and had nothing to say. The apparent apathy shown by the leading merchants and property owners of the city concerning incorporation continues one of two things: Either they are satisfied that the affairs of the city are in perfectly competent hands or they prefer to let matters take their own course rather than attempt to assimilate with the element that has dominated every public gathering that ever was held since the corner stone of Dawson was laid.

The meeting being called to order by Mr. Alfred Thompson was placed in the chair with Alex. Macfarlane named as secretary. The chairman made a brief address concerning the objects of the meeting, stating that it was not a question of whether or not Dawson should incorporate or remain as it is; that has been settled and it is now the city should be determined whether the city should be governed by a mayor and board of aldermen elected by the people or by a commission of three appointed by Governor Ross. Some discussion was indulged in as to how the matter at hand should be taken up, the secretary calling attention to the impracticability of reading the ordinance section at a time on account of its great length. It was pointed out by Mr. A. Beddoe that many sections of the bill might easily be passed over, as applied to the speed of railroads, etc.; there were not over a dozen items it would be necessary to discuss.

The first objection raised to the bill was that provision in the bill which provided that section 18 be amended by adding another clause to subsection 1 which shall read: "All persons residing within such area who have resided therein for not less than six months previous to the day fixed for the revision of the voters' list, and who pay a yearly house, room, office or land rental of not less than \$200." Carried.

Mr. J. Gillis passed a few remarks about that provision in the bill by which it is arranged that the present council shall be made city clerk and be amended section 146 by substituting the following: "The city council shall appoint an officer who shall be called the city clerk, and who shall hold office during the council's pleasure. The person now holding the office of assessor and collector of

the unincorporated town of Dawson shall be the city clerk during the pleasure of the city council and shall hold office until said council shall have appointed his successor." That section 148, relative to the appointment of a deputy by said city clerk, be stricken out." Carried.

Reference was made to the borrowing powers of the city, where and how such loans could be effected and the maximum rate of interest they would bear. It was pointed out by the secretary that by a recent amendment the city could borrow from any chartered bank in the territory an amount not exceeding 75 per cent. of the taxes due for the current year. Mr. Beddoe stated that 10 per cent. per annum was the limit of the rate of interest. The suggestion was then offered that a lower rate of interest could possibly be procured on the outside and Mr. Oresswell offered an amendment that the words "any chartered bank in the territory" be changed to read "any chartered bank in the Dominion of Canada."

P. W. Clements asked what provision was made in case of the death of an official of the city while holding office and the secretary stated that in case such death occurred prior to the last three months of such incumbent's term of office another election would be held; if within the last three months a successor could be appointed by the commissioner or the office could remain vacant until the next general election, it being optional with the commissioner.

Mr. Clements also asked what percentage of the liquor licenses would belong to the city, to which the chairman replied that the commissioner had distinctly stated that the majority of such fees—probably 60 per cent. would be applied to the city revenue.

Then the question came up as to what would be the sources of revenue upon which the city could depend, Wm. Thornburn bringing the question before the house. He stated that it was a most vital question for the voters. The commissioner has decided that the city shall either be incorporated or be governed by a commission and the people should know what they can control and what they can depend upon. A commission appointed by the governor will not in any way be responsible to the people, whereas a mayor and board of aldermen elected will be. In either event money must be raised to carry on the expenses of the government, and the speaker considered that in the long run one plan would prove just as costly as another. The people should know where this money is to come from and how it is to be raised. Much would doubtless come from taxes levied, there would be license fees, fines imposed, etc., but the people should know just what revenue will accrue to the city in case incorporation is effected. The following resolution was offered and passed:

"That the Yukon council be asked to declare by resolution at its next meeting what sources of revenue will be granted to the city when incorporated."

To a question raised concerning the city police the secretary stated the city council will have the power conferred upon it to appoint and regulate its own police force.

The method of halting upon incorporation was brought up by D. C. MacKenzie, who pointed out after the section in the bill pertaining to such had been read that as arranged the question of voting "yes" or "no" might be confusing to some of the voters and he moved that in the preparation of the ballots the two propositions be stated separately and that a vote for one or the other be designated by placing a cross (X) opposite. Carried.

Attention was also called to the fact that many might consider that the election was one which would decide whether the city should remain as it is or be incorporated. There was no such thing as "staying as it is," it was a question of an elective city government or an appointive commission. It was suggested that the words "appointive" and "elective" be printed on the ballots in heavy black letters.

Then came a voice from the rear which later resulted in such a tempest in the report that Barney Sugrue felt called upon to arise in defense of the people who might not perceive the wail in sheep's clothing who was endeavoring by subtlety to divide the strength of the meeting. Wise Barney; poor Ashbaugh who had the temerity to acknowledge himself a Tory.

Roderick Leader Ashbaugh was the owner of the voice referred to and he timely made the shocking statement that perhaps many of the people did not consider an elected city government the best. He stated that 10 per cent. of the voters paid the taxes and 90 per cent. of them spent the money so raised. He believed that a commission appointed by the commissioner would be abundantly qualified to fill the position and would devote their whole time to the administration of the city's affairs. Glasgow is managed in a similar manner and is acknowledged to be the best governed city in the world. Many people prefer an appointed commission and he would have the ordinance so amended that voters could say whether they desired incorporation, an appointed commission or an elective commission. Surely the Yukon council is willing to allow the people to express their own opinion on the matter. The work of Governor Ross



THE CHIEF HAS RESIGNED—BUT HE STILL HANGS ON TO THE HAT.

was commended and the speaker ventured the opinion that the council would give the voters the privilege of expressing their preference if such desire were only made known. All the council wished to do was to unload the city upon someone else's hands.

A voice from rear—"If Glasgow is the best governed city in the world why don't other British cities follow her example?"

Another voice, presumably from a Glasgowian—"Because they are not so far advanced."

A. F. George spoke warmly in favor of the Ashbaugh resolution, characterizing it as a third alternative. The motion read: "Resolved, that it is the sense of this meeting that the voters should be given an opportunity to vote yes or no as to whether or not they desire to be governed by an elective commission."

Councilman Wilson took the floor and pointed out the possible evils which might result from having a choice out of three to vote upon. He said:

"I am pleased to see so many of you taking an interest in the matter of incorporation. It has occurred to me that while both the amendment of Mr. McKenzie and that of Mr. Ashbaugh have their merits, they may possibly run you into a situation you are not looking for. It is simply this: The feeling of the people of Dawson may be largely for incorporation, but there are quite a number who favor the idea of an appointive committee to govern the city. The governor asks you your choice of the two. Suppose you make it three to choose from? I take it those in favor of a commission will be divided between the elective and appointive one, and you will possibly defeat the object of your desire to obtain by causing a split, and the result will be that you will have an appointive commission."

Then came volumes of hot staff straight from the shoulder. A. J. Gillis asked to have the distinction pointed out to him between an elective commission and an appointive commission. Mr. Ashbaugh replied; some favored the third alternative; others opposed it; points of order were raised; the question was clamored for; personalities were indulged in and the faithful Barney pointed out the pitfall into which they had narrowly escaped being precipitated. In the midst of it all one was tempted to ask, "where are we at?"

The chair finally decided the Ashbaugh motion out of order and declared the meeting must stand by his ruling or elect another chairman. By this time everyone had forgotten the original motion by Mr. MacKenzie and the secretary read it again and it was passed as follows:

"Shall Dawson be incorporated and be governed by an ELECTIVE mayor and council?"

"Shall Dawson be governed by a Commission to be APPOINTED by the commissioner in council?"

"The voter shall signify his intention by marking a cross opposite the method of government he desires."

The decision was made to have the words "elective" and "appointive" printed in large black type.

Again the Ashbaugh idea came up, the originator offering a resolution that it was the sense of the meeting that the voters be allowed to say whether they desired an elective or appointive commission. Ed. Port made a few remarks and Frank Slavin from the rear handed out a bunch of uppercuts aimed at a speaker who had cast a reflection on the Antipodes.

Councilman Prudhomme asked why Mr. Ashbaugh does not make an amendment providing for a choice by the voters of the elective or appointive commission. Joe Gibson in the rear of the hall inquired if there was

A CALL TO ACTION.

The time has arrived when the tax payers and responsible business men of Dawson must come together and devise ways and means of protecting their interests against the onslaught of a clique of professional office seekers and agitators.

A well defined movement is on foot among this element to take advantage of the apathy now existing among those who are most heavily interested in the community, the object being to secure control of the machinery of local government for their own personal advantage.

This movement can be frustrated and the municipality placed in the hands of reliable, responsible citizens only by united action on the part of the men who pay the taxes.

The question of the hour is simply this: Are the tax payers willing that their affairs should be dominated by a few irresponsible, political carpet baggers or will they unite for effective action and take the control of affairs into their own hands?

The Nugget strongly urges that a meeting confined to tax payers be called and a policy outlined which will prevent non-tax paying agitators from getting their clutches fastened upon the throat of the community.

The time for action has arrived.

anyone present who would get up and say the people of Dawson did not possess sufficient intelligence to govern themselves. Some one interjected a bit of pleasantry intended as a joke, though not labeled as such, and the speaker retorted, "One dam fool at a time." More interruptions and laughter followed and to a question from the chair as to what he had to offer, Joe simply said:

"What am I here for?"

Wm. Thornburn asked that the section pertaining to the punishment of the election and returning officers when convicted of bribery be read.

The secretary did as requested and was followed by Col. Macgregor, who does not suppose for a moment that there is any man in Dawson who would stoop to corruption or bribery in an election, but in order that all temptation should be removed he would move to amend section 21 by making the penalties greater. Fine of \$20 as provided should be increased to not less than \$200 or more than \$500 and the imprisonment changed from 30 days to not less than three nor more than six months. Carried.

An amendment was also made requesting a change in the form of the ballot to be used.

A committee consisting of the chairman and secretary and M. H. Boulaie, D. A. Matheson and Thos. Adair, was appointed to prepare the amendments desired and resolutions passed and presented them to the commissioner in council today.

Original Advertising.

We are apt to associate advertising entirely with the bustling life of the western world, but Oriental advertisers are not all so sleepy as we imagine. Here are a few samples of the ingenious phrasing with which they catch the public eye—

"Goods dispatched expeditiously as a cannon-ball."

"Parcels done up with such care as a loving wife bestows upon her husband."

"We sell paper tough as elephant's hide."

"The print of our books is clear as crystal, the matter charming as a singing-girl."

"Customers are treated as politely as at rival steamship companies."

"Our silks and satins are smooth as a lady's cheek and colored like the rainbow."

The finest of office stationery may be secured at the Nugget printery at reasonable prices.

INFORMATION IS SOUGHT FOR

By "Canadian" Relative to the Amount of Taxes Paid

By the Leading Participants in Last Night's Meeting—He Asks Plain Questions.

Editor Nugget:

While reading the report of the meeting at Pioneer hall last evening the personnel of those prominent at the meeting struck me, and I thought I would ask you—knowing how good natured you are—could you ascertain for the information of the interested

public how much taxes the movers and seconders of the various resolutions pay. Take A. J. McFarlane, M. H. Boulaie, D. C. McKenzie, Barney Sugrue and his running mate of the Forks, Jas. McKinnon, G. Soule, Dr. A. Thompson, Col. Macgregor and Mr. Gillis, I candidly confess that I believe any one of the First Avenue or Second Avenue merchants pay as much as all these gentlemen combined, and not unnaturally the question arises in my mind, is it not for the lovers and fishes to be obtained from the incorporation that these men are so anxious to have the town incorporated?

That it is going to be easy to get desirable men to accept office, give a great deal of time and perform a lot of work gratuitously merely to find jobs for a lot of people who do not like hard work is a foregone conclusion.

From what I can learn Dan Matheson's slate for mayor and council is pretty well smashed—hardly the frame left.

Last night's meeting shows that the men with large investments have neither time nor inclination to attend to civic matters and rather than trust our fortunes to a lot of men who if the taxes were doubled would only pay what they are paying now—nothing—the taxpayers had better leave it in the hands of an appointed commission.

If Gov. Ross has the appointing of the commission we know that they will be responsible men. If we try the commission and it does not satisfy the city, we can then try incorporation; but once incorporated we will have to "stay put."

CANADIAN.

THEATRICALS AT THE FORKS

Vaudeville Company Will Appear at the Dewey Tonight.

The residents of the Forks are to be treated to a high class vaudeville entertainment this evening, a company consisting of Roy Southard, Carroll the equilibrist, Leota Howard and Katherine Krieg having gone up this morning on a special stage.

The performance will take place at the Hotel Dewey and will consist of songs and duets by Mr. Southard and Miss Krieg, Miss Howard in her fire and serpentine dancing, Carroll in slack wire and feats of contortion, and Mr. Southard and Miss Howard in a comedy sketch.

Teacher—Johnny, how many different kinds of force are there?

Johnny—Three kinds.

Teacher—Name them.

Johnny—Bodily force, mental force, and the police force.

RABIES PREVAIL

"Englishman" Says Another Epidemic Imminent.

Editor Nugget:

I am informed on good authority that several cases of rabies have developed in dogs on the creek, particularly on Dominion. I know personally that one dog has died from the malady at the Palace hotel on that creek and that unmistakable evidence of the disease have developed amongst the canines along the full length of the creek. I understand that the N. W. M. P. are taking vigorous measures in that district for the repression of the epidemic, but if I may make a suggestion it seems to me impossible to confine the disease to one district for the reason that infected dogs travel back and forth between Dawson and the creeks. I observed one dog in particular—a husky or malamute belonging, I understand, to Wade Blaker. The animal went mad on the creek and there is no doubt but that in its itinerary it bit and inoculated with hydrophobic virus many other animals which in turn will spread the disease indefinitely. There seems to be a good deal of doubt among the general public as to whether the peculiar affliction noticed among the dogs last winter was true rabies or some other disease. However, a man was reported to have died of rabies last winter and medical certificates to that effect are on record. It was reported that the body of a dog infected with the disease was forwarded to the Pasteur institute last winter to ascertain if possible by certain microscopic examination if that animal had true rabies or not. Such, however, is not the case unfortunately and the public are today in the same state of uncertainty as it was during the epidemic of last year. In the present state of affairs I think the public should be cautioned to take the most vigorous measures to stamp out the disease in its incipency whether it is rabies or not. We know absolutely that the disease is fatal to dogs and it seems that only through pure luck has the disease not proven more fatal to man.

ENGLISHMAN.

WAS STELLA SLAPPED?

Conflicting Evidence in Assault Case This Morning.

The police court room this morning presented something of the appearance of a vaudeville only so far as the "cast" of the attendants were concerned, there being five female artists of the stage and dance hall present. The occasion of the trial of C. Shaney on the charge of having assaulted one of the quintette of beauties, Miss Stella Sterling who home-ports at the New Savoy theatre as cook, housekeeper, and dispenser of "almanac letters" at night, her labors being almost as arduous as Bill Nye's industrious boy who, in order that he might support his brothers-in-law, dug wells in daylight and took in washing at night.

Stella was the complaining witness, she alleging that Monday night Shaney had assaulted her at the Savoy by grabbing her by the shoulder and slapping her face. She denied having asked Shaney to dance or buy a drink.

Miss Bessie Pierce who never fails to receive applause from the bald-headed row while tying herself in a double-bow knot on the stage, saw the man slap the woman when the latter had said "Now don't get gay."

Miss Mahala Rose who has not yet made her debut on the stage but who shines when partners swing on the corner, saw Shaney push Stella by the shoulders; then the witness had looked away but had heard something that sounded like a swat on the face.

Miss Cecil Martin, she of the divine expression when she bursts into song, was present in court, but Corporal Piper who conducted the prosecution, thinking he had proven his case, did not call either she or the last member of the quintette.

In his own behalf Shaney said he had entered the Savoy and the woman asked him to dance and buy her a drink; that he declined both invitations; that the woman made as if she would strike him and he gently laid his hand on her shoulder and pushed her away. (Had he calmly said "Get thee behind me, Satan" there would have been no grounds for a charge of assault.)

Angus J. McMahers and Peter McArthur were both present at the time and neither saw Shaney strike the woman; he had merely placed his hand on Stella's shoulder and pushed her away.

In summing up the case his honor said that the fact that the defendant laid hands on the woman constituted an assault whether he slapped her or not. He further stated that a man who did not want to be asked to dance and buy drinks should keep away from dance halls. A fine of \$10 and costs or 20 days at the hard end of a royal saw was imposed. The amount was paid, and the stars having played their engagement, fled out in the frosty morning air.

Fancy Xmas cards, exquisite designs—Kilgore & Landahl's.

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

SKAGWAY STEAMERS

Two Within the Past 24 Hours Bring Freight and Passengers for Yukon

SACK OF OUT-GOING MAIL DISAPPEARS

White Pass Had Passenger Coach Filled This Morning

MOUNTED, POLICE COMING

Horses Being Taken to Fortymile—"Kid" West Nears End of His Long Mushing Trip.

Skagway, Dec. 12.—The Cottage City arrived yesterday afternoon with thirty passengers and 100 tons of freight, about the half of which is for the Yukon. The steamer sailed on her return voyage last night.

The Alki arrived this morning with a cargo of explosives but no passengers.

One coach on this morning's train to Whitehorse was comfortably filled, the heaviest passenger list for many weeks.

Seventeen sacks of Dawson and lower river mail arrived last night in good condition. One sack from the shipment is missing, having been lost on the way.

On the train this morning were C. E. Barrett and W. J. Schuler of Seattle, and A. C. Roope and E. C. Cowan of Davenport, Iowa, en route to Fortymile with teams.

Sanderson, a Dawson trader, arrived from the inside last night and "Kid" West is expected tonight.

Dr. I. H. Moore of this place has returned from a visit to Pennsylvania where he interested considerable capital in Porcupine mines.

A detachment of Mounted Police arrived on the Cottage City in charge of Inspector Pelletier and Sergeant Cunningham. They are said to be for the Dawson post.

Boatswain and Bullock.

Speaking of the right man in the right place, a paymaster tells a yarn in which the boatswain was equal to the occasion. They were about to buy beef for the ships, so the officer whose duty it was to make the purchase took ashore with him the boatswain, as representing the crew, to look over the animals, and either object or not. They approached the first animal.

"How will that do?" asked the officer.

The boatswain cautiously approached the beast, and gingerly ran his forefinger and thumb down one shank and then the other, until the whole four shanks had been examined. Straightening up he said: "He'll do all right, sir."

The officer, looking surprised, said: "Surely you can't tell the good points of a bullock by the shanks?"

"Perhaps not, sir, but they're the only parts we get, sir."—Tit-Bits.

Kissed the Duke.

An amusing incident occurred during the stay of the Duke and Duchess of York at Poplar Point which evidently escaped the notice of the correspondents accompanying the party. When the Duke returned to the railway station from the lake he was met by the Duchess, who embraced her Royal spouse affectionately. The greeting was scarcely over when a buxom woman, who was among the country folk assembled to see the party depart, bounced up to the Duke, caught him in her arms and plucked a smacking kiss on his cheek. The Duchess laughed heartily and the Duke likewise seemed to enjoy the experience immensely after he recovered from his amazement. The good lady explained that she just wished to have the distinction of having kissed the future King of England.—Toronto Star.

Hockey Rink Completed.

The civil service hockey rink is completed and is receiving its last flooding today, and it is thought the ice will be in condition for play by Saturday. The management of the club estimates that it will cost \$2600 to maintain the rink during the rest of the season and that sum will be raised by popular subscription. Hugh McDiarmid is in charge of the subscription list and will be happy to see any friends of the club who may desire to unload a few ounces for the good of the cause.

Gunter's Allegretti, Lowney and Huyler candies at Gandolfo's.

Glaze fruits at Gandolfo's.