

# The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)

ISSUED DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

ALLEN BROS. Publishers

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Yearly in advance.....\$40 00  
Six months.....20 00  
Three months.....11 00  
Per month by carrier in city (in advance) 4 00  
Single copies.....25

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1900

## NOTICE.

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

## BURNED AGAIN.

A very large proportion of the business district of Dawson has again been destroyed by fire. For the third time within less than as many years the same thing has occurred. Each time, with a display of faith almost incredible, Dawson's property owners have backed their confidence in the town with their capital and rebuilt the burned district in better and more substantial form than ever.

Will they do it again?

The Nugget is of the opinion that the necessary capital will be forthcoming to rebuild the burned district only upon the receipt of some assurance that fire protection adequate to the necessities of the town will be forthcoming within the very near future.

It is no reflection upon the efficiency of the fire department as at present constructed to say that it does not afford protection which justifies the investment of capital in buildings within the business centre.

If Dawson is to be built up on a permanent and substantial basis, some system of water supply must be devised whereby a stream can be turned on at a moment's notice at any point within the fire district. Experience has proven that with the present plan of pumping water from the river innumerable and unforeseen delays are almost certain to occur, and these delays, brief though they may be, are very apt to last long enough to enable the fire to get beyond control.

But, after everything has been said and done with regard to perfecting the fire department, the best fire protection that Dawson can have is the exercise on the part of every occupant or owner of a building of continuous and unwavering vigilance.

A defective flue, a candle carelessly left burning or any other of a half dozen similar causes may result at any time in a fire more serious in its results than that of yesterday. A regular and systematic inspection of every stovepipe and flue in town should be made. A hundredth part of yesterday's loss would pay for such inspection for a year.

## HIGHWAYMEN.

It looks very much as though the trail between Dawson and Bennett is infested by a gang of

well organized professional robbers. It is scarcely to be credited that so many men could leave Dawson by the up-river route and not be heard from for weeks at a time unless they had met with foul play. Along the cut-off trail the circumstances are favorable for the hold-up business by reason of the fact that the telegraph line follows the river instead of the cut-off. On the other hand, the general conditions are extremely unfavorable for the successful termination of the hold-up's career, for he cannot escape from the country without passing the vigilant eyes of the Northwest mounted police at one end or the other. If highway robbery has been committed along the trail, we feel absolutely safe in saying that it is a question of a short time only when the perpetrators will be safely in custody, if they are not so already.

The Nugget suggests to the Yukon Council the advisability of passing an ordinance governing entrances to places used as theaters or for other purposes of a public nature. If all doors leading into such places were made to swing outside, instead of inside the building, the danger resulting from a rush in time of fire or other cause would be materially lessened. A door swinging inside the building is very apt to be forced and kept shut by the mass and crowd of people endeavoring to get out, while if the door swings out it would be kept open from the very same cause.

There were some features of yesterday's fire that appear almost providential. Had the fire broken out at night time, the ruins this morning would have been a veritable funeral pyre. In view of the fact that so large a number of occupants were in the burning buildings, it was most fortunate that none were burned to death, even though the fire broke out in broad daylight.

## YESTERDAY'S BIG FIRE.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Devine. Mr. Devine, who was employed at the Monte Carlo as night bartender, told this story when asked concerning the start of the fire:

"I occupied room 13 at Monte Carlo and had just got up and was partially dressed when I heard Florence Broeze who occupied room J, say, 'There's a fire up stairs.' I ran out in the hallway and taking the chemical tank kept there went up to the Garrett through one of the two trap doors. I immediately applied the chemical to the burning roof, which was only a smouldering blaze, and was not over four or five feet around the chimney. I was making good headway and could have put it out but just when about one half of the chemical was used, the tank burst. If I had had a couple of buckets of water I could have 'soused' it out. The roof paper began to burn up again and in another second the heat cracked the window pane in the front of the building. Now, remember this all happened in less time than it has taken to tell it, and when that window pane cracked it made a draft which in 10 seconds fanned the little blaze into the fire

which swept from the front to the rear of the building. It seemed as if the building material had been made of gunpowder

"I made a run for one of the trap doors and got out all right.

"It had not been five minutes since I had gone up and now the place was full of smoke. The women were terribly excited, crying and screaming, but men from below came up and they were all taken out in safety. 'Bobby' Burns, the caller, was asleep in my room and we nearly overlooked him, but I got him out safely."

"What caused the roof to catch fire?" was asked.

"The front of the building and behind the bar, used as an office, was heated by a stove, the chimney of which went through the room above, passing through a drum and thence to the roof. This became clogged. Yesterday afternoon it began to burn out, heating the chimney red hot, which in time ignited the roof paper."

Mr. Devine's brother Frank turned in the alarm immediately upon hearing the cry of fire upstairs.

This is the story of how the fire started; let us follow the result of its fury.

The afternoon was comparatively warm, about zero, which was fortunate for those involved and those engaged in combating the flames.

The following is an approximately correct list of the losses:

The Monte Carlo—Two stories, 50x100 feet; saloon in front and theater in rear on first floor; rooms upstairs; building owned by Ed Holden and Jack Smith; business run by Ed Holden.	7,500
Loss of building.	40,000
W. S. Phillips—Two news stands, one on the north and one on the south side of the Monte Carlo, both owned by W. S. Phillips; stock of news, confectionery, cigars, etc. in north place saved, south side lost. Total loss.	\$2,000
Albert Mayer—Jewelry store occupying south front window; saved considerable stock. Loss, estimated.	1,000
Geo. Apple—Hoffman House, log building, 3 stories, 30x50; annex in rear, 2 stories, 30x50; saloon fixtures down stairs, restaurant fixtures in annex, both unoccupied; effects of lodgers lost. Loss of lodgers.	3,000
Loss of building and fixtures.	30,000
Opera House, Bakke & Wilson—Frame building, 2 stories, 50x100 feet, front half of first floor used as a saloon, upper floor rooms; theater in rear, 50 x 100; building owned by Gus Bakke and Tom Wilson; theatre leased to Actors' Co. Operative Co.; employees, 40. Loss of employees.	5,000
Loss of stock and fixtures.	5,000
Loss of building.	35,000
Dominion, Tom O'Brien—Frame building, one story, 40x100; saloon occupied by Sam Bonfield; 20 employees; loss of and damage to stock and fixtures.	5,000
Loss of building.	10,000
Bodega Block, Geo. Apple—Frame building, 2 stories, 30x70; saloon on first floor leased to John C. Murray and Chas. Powell; offices up stairs occupied by Clark & Wilson, T. E. McGowan and U. S. Consul; stock all saved; office occupants saved most everything; building owned by Geo. Apple.	25,000
Loss of building.	25,000
Jewelry Store, Sale & Co.—Occupied front north window of Bodega, saved everything. Loss from breakage.	200
Northern Trading Co., Rosenthal Bros.—One story building, 30x60, general merchandise; most of stock and fixtures saved; building owned by T. Check and J. MacGregor. Loss of stock, etc.	2,500
Loss of building.	7,000
Canadian Bank of Commerce and Palace Barber Shop, Thomas O'Brien—Building occupied by Canadian Bank of Commerce and Palace Barber Shop; building owned by Thomas O'Brien; bank and barber shop fixtures saved.	7,500
Loss of building.	7,500
Merchants' Cafe, Charles E. Miller—One story, 10x70; used as a restaurant; employees, 10; stock saved. Loss of building and breakage.	3,500
Northwest Trading Co., Caldwell & Nelson—Two stories, 15x40; lower floor, general merchandise; stock owned by Allenberg & Garfinkle; stock saved; upstairs, Pattulo & Ridley, attorneys; building partly torn down; building owned by William Caldwell and Andy Nelson. Loss to building.	1,000

This was where damage by fire or wreckage ended, but to retrace to the Monte Carlo on the north side: The Board of Trade, B. N. Levy—Building two stories, 40x100; saloon, Gandolfo's cigar and candy store and Reed's drug store occupied the front lower floor; restaurant in rear; upstairs recently fitted up for offices; stock of all occupants saved. Loss (Mr. Levy's estimate).

Judge Cigar Store, Harry Carson—Hole in wall between Board of Trade and Juneau Joe's; stock saved. Loss to building.

Juneau Joe's, Carl Hans—One story building, used as restaurant; partially wrecked. Loss.

were entirely removed, entailing considerable damage in handling.

Captain Donald B. Olson of the Dawson Electric Light Co., states that the loss suffered by his company will be comparatively slight. When it became apparent that the fire would be an extensive one, linemen were at once placed at work all along the block and the fixtures and lights removed from the endangered buildings. In three or four days the light company will have all damage repaired and be in as good shape as ever. There can be no less than 300 people thrown out of regular employment. Performers suffered most in individual loss, their wardrobe, their stock in trade, being a heavy loss to them.

The burned district covers an area of 100x300 feet, and gives an unpleasant appearance to the city.

Those who intend to rebuild immediately are Carl Hans, Tom O'Brien, Geo. Apple and Chas. E. Miller. The others are undecided as yet but before many days the lively song of hammer and saw will surely be heard through out the entire burned district.

## BADLY BURNED.

Frank Hudson, caller at the Pavilion, was assisting in removing the fixtures from the Monte Carlo when he was almost cut off by a terrible burst of flame which shot out of the front end of the building. Hudson is now confined to his home near the town station of the N. W. M. P., from the severe burns received. His eyes are closed, and lips and face are swollen terribly from the fire, while his nose is burned. Both hands are seriously burned and it will be some time before he can use them. He makes the following startling statement:

"I was helping to remove some of the fixtures when it became too hot, and with Bob Winkler and Billy Rogers, started for the door. As passed by the stairway I saw a man still gathering up things. I yelled to him but he paid no attention to me."

"Everyone else was out except he and I. Suddenly the flames began to come down on me in great rolls and I made haste to get out. When I got to the door I stumbled over a pair of moose horns which some one had tried to take out, but who left them in the doorway. They were between the main doors and inside the storm doors and the only way to open the main door was to drag—the horns out of the way. The horns were hot and it was in handling them I got my hands burned so badly. The flames were all around me, so I got down on my hands and knees and began to crawl. I thought I was gone, but kept my wits, and got out. But I am positive they will find

## A MAN'S BODY

in there. For I know that the man near the stairs did not pass me, and he could not possibly live a minute after I got out, and I was the last one out."

Call and see our stock of playing cards, leather pocket case with each pack. Nugget office.

# the P. P. Co.

CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH

## The Best--The Cheapest

### Branch Store

Front Street, Opposite S.-Y. T. Dock

Warehouses 2nd St. & 5th Ave.

# Parsons Produce Co.