

PURCHASE RATIFIED

City Council Passes Library Bylaw

Don McLennan Named as Street Foreman and G. J. McLean as City Auditor.

The city council met in regular session last night, but there was little to do other than routine business. The exception of passing the bylaw authorizing the city to purchase the lots for the site for the Carnegie library. All the members were present with the exception of Alderman MacDonald. No new communications or petitions were received. There were no new bills presented. Following the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous session, Chairman Johnson of the committee made his report recommending the payment of the following accounts:

Electric Light Co.	\$148.75
Electric Light Co.	35.00
Edison & Barclay	53.14
Edison & Barclay	8.00
Edison District Tel. Co.	7.00
Edison Light Co.	668.50
Edison Saw Mill	5.17
Edison Printing Co.	82.50
Edison Telegraph Service	6.00
Edison Telegraph Service	6.75

The report also embraced the recommendation that G. J. MacLean, the government nominee, be appointed city auditor to begin his duties at once on the first quarter's accounts at a salary of \$300 a year, payable quarterly. It was explained that in the future it was the intention to have the books of the city audited every quarter instead of at the end of the year. Last year two auditors were employed to go over the city's books, one being named by the city and the other by the territory. Mr. MacLean being the gentleman selected by the latter.

It was asked what if anything had been done with the letter, that had been received by the mayor from Joe Clark. His worship replied he had answered it and a copy of the reply will be found elsewhere in this issue. Ryan also asked concerning the communication from Dr. Grant with reference to the lady now in the Good Samaritan hospital. The member was informed the matter would be taken up later, but as it was not, the query evidently became lost in the shuffle.

The question of a street foreman for the coming season was settled by a motion of Ryan to the effect that Don McLennan receive the appointment at a salary of \$250 a month.

"I presume he will work at the pleasure of the chairman of the committee," asked Murphy, to which he received an affirmative reply.

The question of a public reception to Commissioner Congdon upon his arrival within the next few days was taken up by La Lande who offered a motion that a committee consisting of his worship, Edwards and Johnson, be named to arrange the preliminary of what it is intended will be a reception in which the entire city and surrounding district shall participate if they so desire. The resolution was agreed to unanimously and the committee will meet today to further consider the matter. The prevailing idea is that a suitable hall should be secured in which an address may be presented and an opportunity had to hear the commissioner in reply.

It was moved for leave to introduce the library bylaw and also its first reading. Later the rules of procedure were suspended and the bill was advanced to its second and third reading and was passed, being amended 40. His worship explained that in order to facilitate matters the deed to the city for the lots had been sent on to Mr. Botsford at New York for his signature together with the resolutions and other matters pertaining to the library. As soon as he has affixed his signature he will take all the documents and present them to Mr. Carnegie's agent at New York for his perusal in order that he may see that all the conditions imposed by the donor of the gift have been fully complied with. It is presumed the funds for the construction of the library will now become available.

Upon the matter pertaining to the library there seems to be a great divergence of opinion among the members of the council, and this is in reference to the cost of maintenance. One of the aldermen seems to have the idea that it will cost \$10,000 a year to maintain the library and if such should prove the case, which is not for a moment believed, the affair will prove more than a white elephant on the hands of the city. There is now provided for a year for its maintenance and with reasonable economy could prove an abundance. There is more than one librarian and it would be ruinous to make a political issue of the affair simply for the purpose of giving several political jobs.

Rattling Go

Nome, Feb. 10.—On Saturday night the Monte Carlo was the scene of a rattling good prize fight in which four fast rounds were fought. The contestants were "Dutch" and young Bailey. There was an amusing four-round preliminary between two heavy weight soldiers from Fort Davis. The main fight attracted considerable interest and was witnessed by a large crowd. From the time the gong sounded in the first round until "Dutch" went down and out in the fourth round both men put up a good go. It was apparent after the second round that young Bailey was too fast for his opponent, although "Dutch" was game to the finish. At the close of the fourth round Bailey delivered a solar plexus blow which put "Dutch" to sleep and won a signal victory for Bailey.

WINTER MINING

Some Work in Progress Near Nome

Nome, Feb. 10.—Arthur H. Allardyce has returned from a trip to Bluff and the Topkok country. He does some prospecting on No. 6 above Eldorado, but did not find the pay-streak. Bedrock was found at a depth of 12 feet, and a stratum of gravel eight feet deep was found, but it contained only colors. At a depth of 18 inches he discovered three teeth of a mastodon. The dimensions of each of these teeth are about 23x35 inches. Mr. Allardyce says there are 100 people in Bluff, and most of them are mining in the bench. They have cut holes through the ice at the edge of the sea, and excavated large chambers. The dumps taken out contain pay that will enable the miners to make wages this winter.

Two laymen are at work on No. 2 Daniels creek, the property owned by Berger & Sullivan. Nine men are working for one layman and five for another. The larger force has taken out 15,000 buckets of gravel, which will yield from \$1 to \$2.50, to the bucket. The gravel containing the pay is from 12 to 16 feet in depth, but the full pay is not found in all of this thick stratum.

Considerable work is being done on the quartz veins near Bluff, and Mr. Allardyce thinks the future of that camp will be determined by the result of development in quartz, which is looking very promising. He says there is comparatively little frost in the ground, and underneath the snow he found streams of running water. The mild weather in the early part of the season during which the snow fell to a depth of several feet, undoubtedly are the causes of the ground being less frozen than usual.

ALASKA'S TREATMENT

As Viewed by an Alaskan Newspaper

The following editorial from a recent issue of the Skagway Alaskan emphasizes a comparison recently drawn by the Nugget with reference to conditions in Yukon and Alaska.

It serves to indicate the feeling of Alaskans with reference to the policy of the American government toward that territory. Under the caption "Blast the Settlers," the Alaskan says:

"With a blaring bluster of mouthed patriotism and an expression of touching love for Alaska, a bill for the extension of the land laws to this northern theatre of an everlasting 'skin game' was introduced into congress for the avowed purpose of advancing the settlement and agricultural progress of the country, by making it possible for the establishment of homes. Nothing in all the fulsome oratory that has been recorded in the Congressional Record relative to the debates upon this bill carried the refrain of the least little songlet about the additional soldiers' script features of the proposed act. No utterances were made relative to the schemes of cannery combine. That the fish trust was behind the bill for the purpose of obtaining cheap surveys, so that all the desirable points along the coast could be gobbled with script to keep others from taking them, was kept very far in the background. The bill went through the house very slickly. The senate, many of whose members have had long experience and are adept in all the occult science of playing hell in the garb of heaven dropped on the little game and so amended the bill that its passage would frustrate the cannerymen from gobbling the whole coast at a fell swoop. It was also amended so that other varieties of land sharks could not absorb the best of the country by the usual precontracted commutation of homestead frauds by the aid of suborned rif-raff. Right here the congressional attorneys of the sealaws behind the bill squealed and let the cat out of the bag. It was then 'to the devil with the honest and hardy settlers.' And the result is that the death of the bill is openly threatened 'unless it be so drafted that those who have conceived it can swipe all the best of the land.'"

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Job Printing at Nugget office.

THE CUSTODIAN.

By F. A. MITCHEL.

While on a visit to the south I one day passed a plantation that had fallen into decay. The roof to the main house had caved in, the windows panes were broken, the fences down. Behind the house was a solitary hut. The only thing left of the former splendor of the place was the trees. A desire came over me to know something of this noble ruin. I walked up to the house and, seeing no one, went back to the hut, where I found a venerable negro sitting on a box before his cabin door, smoking a cob pipe.

"Good morning, uncle."

"Mornin', sah."

"Are you the only person about the place?"

"Spec I am, sah, an' I've been de only pusson 'bout de place fo' fo'ty yea'."

I offered the old man a cigar, which he declined, preferring his pipe. Throwing myself on the grass, I waited for him to talk. As he did not, I made a remark by way of a starter.

"I suppose this was once a busy place."

"Reckon it was a busy place, sah. It belonged to Cunnel Peyton. He was Cunnel Peyton befo' de wah, though he didn't nebber command nothin' den, an' General Peyton while

it was a goin' on. He owned a hundred t'usand niggers."

"You mean a thousand?"

"Yes, 'bout dat. Dey all libed in de cabins 'long hyer."

"What has become of the cabins?"

"I burn 'em all up fo' firewood. Missy Dorothy, Peyton was 'bout twenty yea' old when de wah kum on. Dat war de time when dis place war fine. All de Peyton fambly, five chillun, war growed up, fou' boys an' one girl. De flower ob de flock war Missy Dolly. De cunnel an' de boys went away to de wah, leavin' Missy Peyton an' Miss Dolly. Dere war three Pickerin' boys on a plantation ober dar, an' dey war all three in love with Missy Dolly. Dey all went to de wah, an' when dey lef' Missy Dolly war 'gaged to George Pickerin' de oldest."

"Well, de fus' Peyton killed war Howell Peyton, at Manassas. Nex' kum de cunnel, at Sharpsburg. Roger tuk de camp fever, kum home an' died dere in de house. He had no mo' in de body befo' George Pickerin' war brought home to de Pickerin' house ober dah an' died. Missy Dolly nussid him. Dat war de fus' yea' ob de wah, an' one day, two yea' afteh Marse Tom Pickerin' kum marchin' up with de troops, lookin' so handsome an' so lak he brudder George dat when he went away Missy Dolly done promised to marry him."

"After de time when de messenger rode up to tell dat de cunnel had been shot, Missy Peyton done pine away, specially dat her favorite sin, Howell, war taken, an' when de news ob de battle of Gettysburg kum, an'

dat Marse Roger had been shotted daid, Missy es' done gib up an' died in de summer. Dis leafe Missy Dolly all 'lone. But, as luck wud hab it, Marse Donald, de las' ob de Peyton brudders, tuk sick an' kum home on leafe. 'Twas lucky fo' Tom Pickerin' war blowed up in de mine at Petersburg, an' Missy Dolly was lef' a sort ob widder nudder time."

"Dokaid, Pickerin' hung 'long an' died in de spring ob '65, at de season when de roses air bloomin'. An' 'bout de time when de Confederacy stopped bloomin'. Ob all de fine people 'alive fou' yea' befo' on de two plantations only Missy Dolly an' Alan Pickerin' was lef'. Soon 's de south'n men gib up de job, Marse kum back an' fin' Missy Dolly libin' all 'lone hyer on dis plantation. Mos' ob de niggers had done gone. Dey warn't none ob 'em lef' cept me an' my fambly hyer in dis cabin. Marse Alan war de only one ob Miss Dolly's lovers lef', an' after awhile he done 'suaded her to marry him. Dey didn't mak no fuss 'bout de weddin', fo' dere warn't nobody to kum to it cept de ghosts."

"Dey tried mighty hard to stay on de plantation, but 'twarn't no use fo' Missy Dolly to try to lib whar she had been so happy befo' de wah, an' now not eben de niggers war lef'. So one day she says, 'Uncle Peter, me an' my husband a-goin' to lib in New York, an' we want you to stay hyer an' tek care ob de plantation.' 'Missy Dolly didn't lib berry long, spee dere, war too much noise an' fuss in de city fo' her delicate situation. She had some chillun. One ob 'em kum down hyer onct, but he

war a city pusson an' didn't carry no weapons an' didn't look lak de fine gentlemen, with long hair wud used to ride 'bout on dis plantation. Marse Alan Pickerin' married nudder wife an' had mo' chillun, an' when he died dis place got all mixed up in de jaw, so nobody can't do nothin' at all 'bout it."

"My ole oman died a yea' ago, an' my chillun air all wuken in udder places. I keep watch ober de ole home. It's mighty lonesome some times, an' when I can't stan' it no longer I jes' shet my eyes an' see de place swarmin' with niggers an' Cunnel Peyton bossin' 'em all."

I fed the narrator liberally and left him, walking under the great trees which hung their branches over the manor house in a vain effort to protect it from time's ravages. As I passed out where the gate had been I looked back and saw the aged custodian still sitting before his cabin door.

The waiter started as the woman got up and left the restaurant. Then as she disappeared into the street he rushed up to the proprietor and whispered into his ears.

"That woman was a man in disguise."

The boss gave an exclamation of surprise.

"What makes you think so?"

"I'm sure of it," said the man with the napkin. "She ordered a steak, potatoes, salad, cheese and pro-none of your coffee and rolls—and" here he hissed the words into the ear of his listener—"She tipped me."

O'Brien After Bob.

Pittsburg, March 14.—Manager Jack H. Hermon of the Fort Erie Athletic Club arrived in Pittsburg today for the purpose of securing Robert Fitzsimmons' consent to the holding of his coming fight with Philadelphia Jack O'Brien at Fort Erie.

O'Brien, it is stated, has signified his willingness to accept the club's offer, preferring the contest shall take place in the east. The club is said to have offered \$10,000 for the fight. Hermon met Fitzsimmons today and presented his claims and best agreements. Fitzsimmons took the matter under advisement and was non-committal. O'Brien has gone to New York to post his money with Al. Smith, the stakeholder.

Work Has Begun

Skagway, March 18.—The erection of defensive works at Sitka, Alaska, said now to be under construction by the war department.

The plan includes also, the fortification of Unalaska island, on which are the important harbors of Unalaska and Dutch Harbor, the two forming perhaps the most important port in Alaska. Every vessel plying between the Pacific ports and the Yukon stops at one or the other of these places. At these places the only coal north of Sitka is stored, and for the on island would command the chief entrance to Bering sea and make it, almost as the Mediterranean has been made a "British lake," an American lake.

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