

THE SOCIAL SESSION OF THE ELKS.

Wholesale Arrests and Fines Inflicted Upon the Audience.

An Enjoyable Program—Dancing Before Breakfast—A Merry Throng Submits to Fines Inflicted in the Name of Charity.

The social session of the Elks Club on Tuesday night was a most remarkable success. The size of the audience was limited only by the size of the house—the new family theater being filled to its utmost capacity.

President William H. Bard made the opening address. He told of the Order and its objects; of the silent, though extensive charity of its members, of its being purely an American institution without a single branch outside the boundaries of the United States. He told of the existing need in Dawson of their services. He welcomed the order who had gathered with the Elks and invited them to unbend and join freely and unreservedly in the festivities. He then appointed D. W. Semple chairman of the social session, and right well he played his part.

According to the time-honored custom in these sessions the chair appointed policemen, had them decorated with enormous shields and resolved itself into a summary court with absolute power over the persons and pockets of those present. By the powers vested in him warrants were issued and prisoners ranged in front of the platform. In the name of charity each was fined—the fines ranging from \$2 to \$24—and before the commencement of dancing everyone in the hall had been so fined. In some cases, beside the fine, the culprit would be peremptorily ordered to sing, play, recite or tell stories for the edification of the audience, and other fines were inflicted upon the performers according to the degree of atrocity with which their numbers were rendered. The charges invented against the defenceless culprits by the chair were quaint and unique and caused much amusement, each victim delighting in the squirmings of his fellow-sufferers and considering the sight as a part compensation for his own.

The following numbers were contributed during the evening: Banjo solo, by A. F. George; address by Captain Jack Crawford; songs, with banjo accompaniment, Ben Davis; song by G. O. Noble, with chorus by the Dawson minstrels; song and Highland dance, little Margie Newman; song by Mrs. Adeline Pusey Barlow, song by Mrs. Miller, address by Col. O. V. Davis, song by Cad Wilson; instrumental duet by Messrs. Casley and Burkhart, stories by Leroy Tozier and recitation by Mrs. Semple.

Throughout the program the refreshment committee circulated freely through the audience with sandwiches, and other refreshments which were not sandwiches but came around in goblets. The floors were then cleared for dancing and the art terpsichorean was conscientiously indulged in until nearly daylight.

The event was well-managed throughout and the goodly company was a more representative gathering of Dawson's best people than has ever been seen here before.

One feature of the evening, which cannot be overlooked is the unsatisfactory lighting of the hall by acetylene. The opening of the door would admit fog and the fog would cause a charred deposit to accumulate in the burners. Toward morning, candles and lamps had to be substituted entirely, as the burners were not giving the light of "fallow dips"—twice the lights went out entirely.

Miners' Meeting.
The president and secretary of the Miners' Association are arranging for meetings of miners on Wednesday and Thursday evenings on Hunker and Dominion creeks, respectively, for the consideration of the proposed amendments to the mining regulations. The meeting on Hunker creek on Wednesday, will be at the large cabin of Mr. Hunker, on Discovery. On Dominion, Thursday, the meeting is called for the road-house on No. 30 below upper discovery.

The subject in hand is a most important one and miners interested in the future welfare of the camp and its inhabitants must see to it that the proper changes are substituted for the presents iniquitous and impossible regulations. Ways and means of properly presenting the suggestions at Ottawa are also to be considered. It is essential that the proposed amendments should be what is practically wanted by the real miners, and suggestions from any and all of them will be in order at these meetings.

More Reports Wanted.
Additional particulars are now obtainable of what Corporal Richardson's loss of the official mail sack at Hechtaliqua means. Since word of the loss has arrived at Dawson every department of the government has been busily engaged in digging up memorandums and references with which to prepare another report of October's business. The gold commissioner's office is still worse off, for in Richardson's mail sack was not only a report of October's business but also that of September. From the disorderly manner of keeping records in that office it will be easily realized there is very much of a task ahead of the clerks. All the vouchers for October's pay have been lost.

From Indian River.
John Patterson has just returned from a ten-day trip, covering Little Blanche, Quartz, Eureka and other creeks tributary to the Indian river. From observations which he made of the work being done on the creeks visited he is of the opinion that the Indian river district is certain to develop into a fine camp. The

benches on Little Blanche and Quartz, he states are turning out remarkably well.

Mr. Patterson considers that the Indian river presents the best opportunity for hydraulic mining of any river in the Yukon basin. He says that the river very plainly cuts the gold belt and in process of time has piled up incalculable quantities of sand and gravel carrying coarse gold. It is his opinion that a great deal of capital will be attracted to the Indian river for investment during the next year.

Mr. Patterson says that moose are quite plentiful in the territory he covered and the country is also well-stocked with wolves.

To Investigate Thistle.

A great many inquiries have come to the Nugget office for definite and reliable information concerning the Thistle creek country. In response to the demand the Nugget has dispatched a special correspondent to Thistle, with instructions to cover the entire creek, and from personal investigation determine the exact situation. He will also look into the Carlisle country and ascertain if the strike reported from that creek has any foundation, in fact. Readers of the Nugget may expect some interesting information within another week.

Masonic Funeral.

The Masonic funeral of Brother John L. Bell, late of Ellsworth, Kansas, who died on Tuesday, Dec. 20th will take place on Saturday, Dec. 24th, at 11 a. m. from his residence on the upper ferry trail near Corduroy bridge.

Brother Bell was a Master Mason and a member of the Masonic bodies—lodge, chapter and commandry—of Ellsworth, Kansas, and Isis Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

All Masons are respectfully invited to attend and the Masonic escort will leave the A. C. Co.'s corner, at 10:30 a. m. sharp.

Fire on Tuesday.

At noon on Tuesday the fire boys had a splendid opportunity to show their ability to handle an incipient fire at Williams' cabin, first door north of the Pioneer hall. A blaze had started from the stove-pipe and had involved the entire space between ceiling and roof. The boys were on the scene in a hurry, and very calmly proceeded to put out the fire off-hand with the chemical engines. With the very best of order the roof was removed, together with the ceiling, and the owner, B. W. Levens estimates his damage to his roofless cabin at only \$200.

St. Mary's.

The books of the above institution, for the week ending, December 21st, show that 16 new patients have been admitted and 19 discharged. This leaves 80 inmates at present in the hospital.

The deaths were Ed. Prout, aged 25, of Argyle, Minnesota, and John Harkins, aged 45, of Ainsworth, B. C., both on the 21st.

Hospital at the Forks.

The miners of Bonanza have at present under construction what seems a feasible hospital scheme, viz.: Twenty men to take yearly or half-yearly tickets to provide initial expenses for equipment, provision, etc., and 300 men to provide, by a monthly rate, an income sufficient to meet the probable expenditure. The whole affairs of the institution are to be managed by a committee elected by the members and reports to be presented by them to the members once a month.

The ladies have invited the miners to a social to be held in the church on Xmas eve., and at that meeting final arrangements are to be made.

Official Temperatures.

For the week ending Wednesday, December 21, the official weather report shows a temperature which will undoubtedly astonish the outside world:

	Lowest	Highest	Wind Miles per hour.
Thursday	9.8	15.8	2.6
Friday	15.5	19.7	5.3
Saturday	5.8	13.1	3.8
Sunday	5.6	11.2	4.6
Monday	-10.2	0.0	3.4
Tuesday	2.5	1.3	4.7
Wednesday	-14.1	-6.7	4.4

The temperature is mild enough for the New England states while the small velocity of the wind makes the temperature still lighter upon humanity than the same temperature outside would do.

POLICE-COURT ITEMS.

R. Marston and C. Walker paid \$1 and costs as a sanitary tribute.

A. Williams felt exceedingly gay, the result of bibulous tendencies and paid \$25 and costs.

J. McGilvery didn't know when to stop; took another one and became incoherent. \$25 and costs.

A. Platte bubbled over from too much inward pressure and his pocket was bled to the tune of \$25 and costs.

S. Taylor was maddened to work several and became jolly; a few more and paid a fine of \$25 and costs.

J. O. Smith occupied a cabin which H. C. Quiner said was his. The superior judge will decide upon the case.

H. Simecock relieved this Arctic monotony by a liberal application of "O. be joyful." Things were not at all so splendid in the morning; \$25 and costs.

E. M. Lesikatos is the man who saw Esther Duffy's dog, suborned him, harnessed him, and was making tracks with him for Dominion. The telephone proved quicker than the dogs and a capture was made at the Forks. Lesikatos paid \$20 and costs and Esther got the dog back.

Dr. Dumas, an American physician, was fined \$50 and costs for not submitting to an examination as to his fitness by his Canadian rivals, and was fined another \$25 and costs for having a sign outside his door advising the world that his name was Dumas and that he had studied medicine and surgery.

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