

# THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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## PHOENIX OF THE YUKON SCANDALS.

### Now-Reverberating Over Canadian Provinces.

#### It is Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper Starts the Music—Sifton Indignantly Protests—Whitewash Not at Hand on Time.

The speech of Sir Hibbert Tupper in the house, protesting as it largely did of a strong trade against the Yukon administration given by the liberal government, has proven a bombshell in Canadian politics. His numerous open charges of corruption and mal-administration of the officials from Major Walsh down, has precipitated a large sized storm, as was probably intended. Reports have it that Minister Sifton could not sit quietly in the presence of such a torrent of accusation, but time and again raised his voice in angry protest. Naturally enough the actions of Mr. Sifton are considered indications of his weakness, after the positive assurances he has been giving the Canadian press for many months that the rumors of corruption were so utterly without foundation that no reputable personage could be found to champion the accusations nor make them credible. Sir Hibbert spoke from 3:30 in the afternoon until near midnight, and it is needless to say, that except upon the part of Minister Sifton, was listened to with breathless attention.

In this connection we wish to refer to the recent royal investigation held by the Yukon commissioner at Dawson. In Mr. Sifton's instructions to Mr. Ogilvie regarding the investigation, Mr. Sifton laid it down as most important that the results of the investigation should be in his hands for the opening of parliament. He anticipated, and a pail of whitewash was poured to be handy for emergency. That Mr. Ogilvie conscientiously tried to furnish him with the required calcimine is the opinion of a majority of those who witnessed that farce examination or royal investigation. First, everything was ruled out of court consequent to August 25.

Secondly, Mr. Ogilvie made a public speech strong vindication of Mr. Fawcett while the investigation was still supposedly in progress. Thirdly, cases were dragged into the investigation that the power to subpoena witnesses had been denied the makers of charges, and that the privilege of compelling answers had been withdrawn, as in the Miner-McDonald thousand dollar case.

Fourthly, the privilege of verbally summing up the latter case was denied the Nugget which conducted it, and in the presence of one hundred people Mr. Ogilvie promised that the transcribed notes of the case should be submitted to Mr. George, of the Nugget, for a written argument, which should accompany the trial book to Ottawa. That this was not done goes without telling. In place of a fulfillment of this promise, the damaging admissions of the witnesses for the defense were afterwards submitted to them, and they were accorded the privilege of striking out anything which proved to them of giving a coloring to the case which they did not like.

Fifthly, this abortion of a report has been handed on to Ottawa in the hands of Mr. Ogilvie's special protegee, "Fraction" Riley, himself accused publicly of collusion with fellow officials, and the charges remaining today unanswered and uncontradicted.

Sixthly, when Mr. Ogilvie decided to remove the privilege of legitimate investigation for making charges of offenses after August 25, he promised faithfully that he would at once ask for, and secure an extension of his powers to cover the disputed period. That this has not been done again goes without the telling.

The Yukon scandal is reaching proportions never anticipated by either Mr. Ogilvie or by Mr. Sifton. It is late in the day for a great city to come out and champion the cause of the oppressed, and we simply point to it with pride as showing the result of the persistent fever causing agitation for reform begun by the Yukon and maintained by the Yukon. The strongest possible combination to get an end to it, undoubtedly, things are at this moment running better in government circles, but who, in the light of the past twelve months of history will say that those reforms have been the voluntary heart offering of Mr. Sifton? Mr. Fawcett was not removed from the instance of either Elogist Ogilvie or the chief business officials who interviewed the Canadian press from from Vancouver to Montreal in vindication of that unfortunate gentleman. The removal was not even the result of parliamentary action for that body was in session. It came simply as a result of the mounting agitation which was kept up against him. And so with other reforms. Today it is possible no longer for Bolton, Craig, Hardman et al to turn down the honest prospector while the "gang" gets in and stakes the ground or shares. No one supposes for a moment that that is a voluntary reform of creditable to the goodness of heart of the minister who believed he held us all in the hollow of his hand. With a free, fearless and unobscured press, corruption, such as the Nugget found in Dawson a year ago cannot but cease to exist. Having seen a reformation in the administration, we now look to parliament for a reform in the regulations, and we rather think we see the hand of the two Nugget representatives now in Ottawa in the famous speech of Sir Hibbert, which has once more centered all eyes upon the many oppressions which the Yukon complains of.

### Volunteer Fire Department.

The regular meeting of the Volunteer fire department occurred on Wednesday night, and was a "hot" session. The most important business transacted was the election of a committee of three to meet with three of the council and three of the fire commissioners. The result for the committee came from Mr. Ogilvie and the objects, as stated, were to inquire into the acts of the paid members of the department at the late fire, and to effectively reorgan-

ize the entire department. Nine members were placed in nomination, and Messrs. Schwartz, George and Moran were easily the choice of the department, the choice afterwards being made unanimous.

A unique letter of commendation and congratulation was read from the Arctic Hook and Ladder company of Circle, pointing out that Dawson and Circle were the only two fire organizations in this entire vast section of country, and that friendly relations should consequently be established at once. An appropriate answer was made.

Some amusement was caused by Jakey Kline questioning the recent division of funds among the members. He thought, like Oliver Twist, that he ought to have more; but the boys voted him down and put an end to debate by a vote of approval to the committee which made the division.

The ball committee, for May 24, reported having secured the large empty A. G. warehouse for that day, and it was decided to give the dance there.

### The Sparring Exhibition.

The McKenzie-Keheo 10-round sparring contest at the Monte Carlo on Thursday night proved a woful disappointment to lovers of the manly art. It was known that Keheo was out-classed by McKenzie, and McKenzie had therefore assumed the odds of the game by agreeing to best him before the expiration of the 10 rounds. The difference in size of the two men was marked though not abnormally great and a clever exhibition was looked for by a large houseful of people who gathered for that purpose.

James Donaldson was chosen referee because of the popularity of his equitable decisions and his ability to maintain due decorum both on and off the stage. Ed O'Donnell was official time-keeper. Both athletes are strangers in the Dawson arena and were critically examined for

the surrounding banks are fully described. Hundreds of land marks are indicated, which enable the masters to find the position of a steamer at any time, and which will do away with the Indian pilots. The names of the creeks running into the river have been indicated wherever possible. Soundings are given in the shoal water. The worst part of the river is between Circle and Eagle. Here the map-drawers have gone into the minutest detail. The scale is three quarters of an inch to the mile. The map is made up in book form, and there is hardly a steamer on the river but has been furnished with one. Capt. Hill leaves for the interior about the middle of April. He is in command one of the Alaska Exploration Company's boats this year.

### A Year Without a Summer.

Sour Dough thought he played a good joke on Cheechako Thursday. They had met on First avenue, and as Cheechako's eyes looked out upon the ice-bound river through the gap left by the late fire, he asked Sour Dough when the ice would go out.

"Maybe not at all," was the unexpected reply.

"What-ah?" Cheechako asked with incredulous eyes.

"Maybe not at all," Sour Dough replied without cracking a smile, though he had to labor hard to keep an upward chuckle of enjoyment from reaching his lip. "You see, some summers the ice never goes out here."

His apparent sincerity finally overcame Cheechako's incredulity and he finally ejaculated, "Well, I'll be d-d!" while Sour Dough fairly kicked himself in the ecstasy of his joy as he thought how he had worked the gullible one.

But according to an Indian legend, preserved in the archives of the police barracks, Sour Dough spoke more truly than he knew, for



there was one summer, at least, so the record reads; when the ice did not leave the river. That was 31 years ago, and the Indians attributed the phenomena to a scarcity of snow in the country, as a result of which the tributaries failed to swell the main river sufficiently to break the ice loose.

### POLICE COURT NEWS.

Week's work chiefly nuisances. Yukon sawmill, sparks, \$25 and costs. W. W. Poncher secured \$7.14 from C. E. Carbonneau for wages.

John Black got exceedingly merry, but on second sober thought paid \$20 and costs and called it square.

T. M. Ellison is surprised at how nice we are getting in Dawson. One dollar and costs always the surprise.

M. Macintosh, afraid of typhoid germs, drank that which is warranted to kill them at 40 rods, \$20 and costs.

A. Frederick, outside foreman of the N. A. T. & T. company paid \$10 and costs for dumping rubbish over the river bank. Got to put it on the ice.

Joseph Lee, empty poke, shattered nerves and battered face, goes to the barracks at the request of Adjutant McGill. After repairs a sentence will be imposed.

M. G. Barnhard sued C. E. Carbonneau for \$205.85 for wages due at the time the men all struck. The men had agreed to wait until the washup, so the case was dismissed.

Morgan Davis went to the forks from Monte Cristo gulch with \$228 in dust which had but recently seen the light. Mike Hayden and Pat Shea were glad to see him. Whiskey obscured reason and the porter saw the money taken from Davis in a back room. Bartender to the rescue and the men stand trial.

### Sluice Water Scarce.

Miners are beginning to express a fear that there will be a scarcity of water for sluicing this spring, owing to the peculiar atmospheric conditions, and arrangements are being made by many to employ both day and night shifts in order to avail themselves to the utmost of the reduced supply. As a result of these conditions, the price of labor is said to have been materially stiffened.

Excellent meals and first-class accommodations on the Flyers.

## WHERE THE GREAT FIRE STARTED.

### And Sombdy Tried to Start a Fire in the Tivoli.

#### But It Was Quickly Put Out and Finally Spread There Through the Wall From the Burning Bodega.

The jury of six citizens who assisted Captain Frank Harper, sitting as coroner, in an endeavor to discover the cause of the late fire, concluded their labors on Wednesday night. They were unsuccessful in attaining the object aimed at, but, by the adoption of a recommendation to the police officials, they gave valuable support to the project of Colonel Steele to exclude the scarlet women from the business section of the city, as a means of securing greater security against fire. They also discovered facts which tend to the belief, or suspicion, that a fire was abroad during the conflagration and that an attempt was made to start a blaze in one of the boxes of the Tivoli theatre. In these respects the inquiry was of much interest and not a little importance.

As has heretofore been published in the Nugget, the jury met on Monday night and heard the testimony of a dozen witnesses, including that of Helen Holden, in whose room the fire started, and George Harris, a porter at the Bodega, who discovered the fire, after which an adjournment was taken to Wednesday evening. It was at the latter session that the sensational evidence came out.

Theodore Eekert, a musician at the Tivoli, was the first witness called. He said he was with the band outside when the fire in the Bodega was discovered. He went inside the Tivoli with others, and assisted in getting the piano and other valuables out of the building. About fifteen minutes after the alarm had been sounded, he was passing one of the theatre boxes—used as a dressing room by the Newman children—when he saw a fire in it. He rushed in and found a bundle of paper and a lot of broom straws, tied together and which lay on a shelf, blazing vigorously, while the wood-work had just begun to burn. He put it out with his hat. His opinion was that the fire was of incendiary origin and that it had been started by the fire in the Bodega. The room was bare, everything having been taken out.

Lyman Russell, who cares for Bob Atney's acetylene gas plant, told how he ran into the Tivoli upon discovering when the fire was first turned off the gas, besides carrying out a few supplies of carbon in the building. After that he saw Eekert put out the fire he had discovered in the box, and he passed the remark at the time, "This looks pretty d-d rocky," signifying that the circumstance pointed to incendiarism. That was about half an hour after the main fire had been discovered, and a few minutes later he also saw some fire in the stock room at the end of the theatre bar. That is the side where the fire finally broke through from the Bodega.

Dr. W. A. Richardson also corroborated to a degree the evidence of Mr. Eekert. John Flordon was next put on the stand to testify in regard to the main fire. He had been one of the first to mount the stairs at the back of the saloon and distinctly saw the fire making its way from the front of the building to the rear. The front contained Helen Holden's room.

Dick Maurettus described the interior of the Tivoli, told what took place there after the alarm, and swore that there was no fire in the building other than had been described.

### A VERDICT RENDERED.

In summing up the evidence, the coroner said he could not see what else there was to do but come to the conclusion that the fire had started in Miss Holden's room on the upper floor of the Bodega, but what the cause was did not appear. The testimony showed that there had been no wood put in the stove since two o'clock, five hours before the fire, that the stovepipe safe had been inspected by Chief Fletcher and was all right; that there were no lamps lighted; that the stovepipes were cleaned about three weeks before, and that there was no fire in the Tivoli, etc. As Miss Holden had left her windows open, there was a chance that a live spark flew inside and ignited the lace curtain, though there was nothing in the evidence to support the theory. As Miss Holden was known to possess some diamonds and gold nuggets in her room, the theory had been suggested that some one had stolen the articles and then set fire to the place to cover their crime. As for the fire discovered by Mr. Eekert in the Tivoli box, it might have been accidental and caused while the goods were being removed from the place. A mystifying feature of the fire was also found in the fact that it spread with such extraordinary swiftness.

At the close of these remarks the jury retired, and about ten minutes later handed in a verdict as follows: "The fire which occurred in the city of Dawson on the evening of April 23, 1899, started in a room occupied by Helen Holden, over the Bodega saloon, about 7:15 p. m. No evidence has been produced to show from what cause the fire originated. It is recommended that all women of the town be excluded from all public buildings other than licensed hotels." The jurors were P. H. Ritchie, Charles A. Stevens, Harry Smith, J. H. Ross, W. Ash and A. L. McKay.

### Fines For Street Building.

The scores of people who have been indicted in police court for maintaining or committing nuisances, and the others who are bound to be added to the list, may possibly glean some comfort from the fact that the Yukon council have decided to use all money derived as fines for such offenses, for improving and maintaining the public highways.

### The Dark Shadow.

Mrs. Mary Sweeney, late of California, died on Wednesday at St. Mary's hospital from the effects of heart disease. She was forty-nine years of age and a widow.

The Flyer will land you in Seattle in 10 days or less.

**AVENUE**  
Cafe in Dawson  
**STAIRS**  
Open Day and Night  
**TICKETS BY**  
**R LINE**  
**ELDORADO**  
EXCELLED SERVICE.  
PETERSON & CO., Owners  
**Dance Hall**  
Good Floor and Dancing.  
W. MARCHBANK, Mgr.  
**G**  
MAY 6, 1899  
LE. MANAGER.  
**HALL**  
Good Time Guaranteed.  
LESTER TURNER, Cashier  
**NATIONAL BANK**  
SEATTLE, WASH.  
Advanced on. Interest paid on deposit box is free to customers.  
**AVIAN AMERICAN BANK**  
Seattle, Wash.  
A. H. SOELBERG, Cashier.  
For delivery to the mint or bank. Prompt returns made. PAID ON DEPOSITS.  
Checks free to customers.  
Wholesale tickets sold to all parts of the world.  
**MESSAGE.**  
A. Wilson, graduate of the Yale, Stockholm, Sweden, and of Philadelphia, is agent of this office, opposite the  
**FRIC BELTS.**  
CK-7. Liniments and ointments for the work; try an Edison belt; a guaranteed cure for rheumatism and neuralgia and other fevers. Office next to Jant.  
**AND FOUND**  
Bag containing some music. Rodolphes. Leave at this  
containing Pictures, Hall room 2 Monte Carlo and Nellie Holgate.  
**OR SALE.**  
and laundry, cheap for cash. Apply at office between Peoples Theatre.  
**SIONAL CARDS**  
**LAWYERS**  
M. A. L. L. L. B., Advocate Commissioner, Notary, office in Northwest Territory Building.  
KAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Offices, A. C. Office Building, in A. C. vaults.  
Barristers and Solicitors, Charles Public; Conveyances, Hotel.  
ULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyances, Offices, over the Bodega.  
Trister and solicitor, of Engana, conveyancer; Notary practice, Pacific hotel.  
**DENTISTS**  
LEE—Crown and Bridge Aluminum or Rubber Filled, of Billings. All work also Room 13, A. C. Office building, souvenir jewelry and diamonds.  
**HANT—Dentist; crown and specialty. Office, new location, Drug Store.**  
Dentists. All work guaranteed. Nugget Express Co., Bldg.  
**NS AND SURGEONS**  
D. GOOD, M. B. S. R. C. P., surgeon to Winnipeg General Hospital, block, First ave. 1316.  
**NG ENGINEERS.**  
A. A. B. Sc., F. G. S., Consulting Engineer. 15 days geologist on the of Canada. Dawson.  
**lling & Tozier**  
office of Seaman James Don-

**ARCTIC SAW MILL**  
UPPER KLONDIKE FERRY.  
Sluice and Flume Lumber a Specialty.  
ALL KINDS OF DIMENSION LUMBER.  
LOWEST PRICES IN THE KLONDIKE.  
City Agents: Sluice & Zilly.  
Office at Mill BOYLE & SLAVIN Prop

Navigation Made Easy.  
Captain F. L. Hill, who last year commanded the steamer Hamilton, and W. B. Edwards, formerly of the United States coast survey, have collaborated in the preparation of a detailed map of the Yukon river, for the use of navigators, and so successful is their work that a stream, heretofore considered difficult and dangerous, is robbed of its terrors and its passage made one of but ordinary effort. The sketching and drawing was first done in the pilot house of the Hamilton, on one of her successful trips up the river. Everything is indicated plainly on the map, which is even more complete than the government charts. Even

There is a scarcity of water for sluicing this spring, owing to the peculiar atmospheric conditions, and arrangements are being made by many to employ both day and night shifts in order to avail themselves to the utmost of the reduced supply. As a result of these conditions, the price of labor is said to have been materially stiffened.