

TURMOIL REIGNED

At the Joint Meeting of The Four Candidates Held Last Night.

THE UBIQUITOUS DRUNK PRESENT.

Considerable Sweetness Wasted On the Desert Air

OWING TO MALAMUTE HOWLS

Which Drowned the Voices of The Various Speakers—Many Undelivered Addresses.

From Monday and Tuesday's Daily.
The joint meeting of the two local factions which have put forth candidates for election to seats on the Yukon council, which was held last night in the Orpheum theater was probably the most densely crowded meeting of the kind ever held in Dawson, the building being crowded from the orchestra pit to the dome, and a more frenzied, howling, consolidated mass of misbehavior was never before assembled on Canadian soil. It was a typical Dawson political meeting in that it had all the component features of the average Dawson meeting of that character. The ubiquitous drunken man, without whom a public meeting in Dawson would be lacking, was, of course, there and was located near the front, from which vantage point he continued to empty himself of drunken sputterings and invectives during the entire meeting. The "brainless pessimist" was there but was not allowed to inflict himself upon the meeting further than to inject a few invectives while others were speaking or attempting to speak. The young man who resents any and all left-hand compliments to the Irish, was there and the way he raved and ranted revived recollections of the bull dog department of a bench show. The speaker who was given respectful hearing, allowed to finish his speech and take his seat without being howled down was the very rare exception.

Yet, strange and incompatible as it appeared, this audience applauded every time the matter of self-government in the Yukon was mentioned.

At 8:30 o'clock Ben Ferguson stepped on the stage, and, in behalf of Theatrical Manager Alex Pantages, announced the reopening of the Orpheum in a grand sacred concert next Sunday night to be followed during the week with a first-class vaudeville show. Immediately following Ferguson's announcement Candidate O'Brien moved that H. T. Wills be seated as chairman of the meeting. Candidate Wilson seconded the motion, which was put by O'Brien, and Mr. Wills was unanimously chosen. After a few opening remarks the chairman turned at once to the business for which the meeting was called and introduced the first speaker in the person of Candidate Thomas O'Brien.

The candidate was loudly received, many cheering, others howling, as was the case all through the meeting when anyone appeared on the stage to speak. O'Brien took up the platform on which he is running and discussed it section by section. He was frequently interrupted by questions from the audience regarding tramways, whisky permits, etc., but to all questions he returned the soft answer that turneth away wrath. He stated that the laws of the Yukon as they exist are bad; that a person does not require more than three days' residence in the district to know that the laws are nefarious and unjust. He especially denounced the law that imposes a charge of \$10 on a man for a miner's license before he can even work one day in a mine, and said this law should be "rebolished." At this stage of the proceeding the electric lights which had previously cast a red-tinted, weird light over the vast throng, went out entirely and darkness such as we are told reigned in Egypt prevailed until with his characteristic movement in cases of emergency, Joe Clark came to the rescue with a con-

venient lamp, when the speaker continued his address, the gallery being still shrouded in darkness except for the fiery end of an occasional cigar which peered out through the darkness like a distant star. Mr. O'Brien continued to discuss the platform and proceeded to point out many defects in the present laws that should be remedied. He paid but little attention to such interruptions from the audience as "Why didn't you think of these things three years ago?" Once or twice he answered questions from the audience and answered them in a manner which left no doubt as to his conviction as to the subjects in question. He said he is opposed to the special permit system and that it is injurious to the interests of good government. O'Brien strongly condemned the present tax system of the Yukon and denounced the tax on the gross turnover of business as being unjust and unheard of in well governed countries. O'Brien spoke for 20 minutes.

Candidate Alex Prudhomme was the next speaker and he, too, was greeted with thunderous applause. He agreed with O'Brien that we want a general change of laws, but he gave it as his opinion, which was not contradicted, that the people do not want O'Brien to be the man who will be placed in position to bring about the desired changes. "Only three months ago," said the speaker, "Mr. O'Brien said that people of Dawson and vicinity were entitled to but one representative on the council, and now he tells you he is in favor of an entire elective board." The speaker declared that such lightning changes of expression are inconsistent and not becoming in a man who asks support at the hands of the people. "That gallery is falling" shouted a voice, and as it really looked as though such was the case, Chairman Wills requested that the crowd in it thin one which was done for a few minutes. But as the gallery bore up last night, it is not probable that it will soon, if ever again, be so strongly tested, as there were fully 400 people on it last night. The gallery excitement having subsided, a dog fight took place, after which Mr. Prudhomme continued his address. He segregated the platform on which he stands and showed in what respect it is superior to the laws as they now exist. He made a strong point on the nefarious concession system as it exists and was greeted with cries of "come off," the audience not thinking that such flagrant wrongs as the concession system needed condemnation. He pledged himself, if elected, to work hard for reform, and a voice from the gallery asked if he will endeavor to do away with the woodpile. The speaker referred scornfully to what he termed "O'Brien's liquor graft," and closed by following the example set by O'Brien in that he asked the voters to take the Yukon party ticket straight, O'Brien having enjoined his friends to vote for him and his running mate, Mr. Noel. Prudhomme asked that the supporters of his platform see to it that both his and Mr. Wilson's names are on their tickets and properly marked. Prudhomme spoke about 30 minutes.

Candidate Noel was the next speaker and he, too, was most effusively greeted. He began with a reference to the Yukon Sun which was the signal for hoots and howls. Then he referred to the Daily News in scathing terms and the howls continued. The speaker denounced the News as the most anti-British, anti-Canadian paper in this country. The audience had kept up an uproar since Mr. Noel's first words, and that gentleman plead for a respectful hearing. He eulogized his colleague, Mr. O'Brien, and a disturber who did not endorse the eulogy made so much uproar that it became necessary to ask the police to remove him, which was done. Mr. Noel did not go over his platform section by section, stating that his colleague had already covered the ground, but said there are five or six features in it that was superior to the planks of the platform of their opponents. The speaker asked the pardon of the English-speaking element present while he addressed his fellow people in the French language. For a few minutes all went merry as a marriage bell, when some one who understood French informed Joe Clarke that Noel was using language which reflected on his (Clarke's) political honor. Clarke rose to a point of order which was not recognized by the chair, and Clarke, declining to rest under the imputation, refused to sit down until the language was explained in English. Barney Sugrue finally got the floor when it came out that the language to which Clarke took umbrage was to the effect that Noel had stated to his French auditors that Weldy Young was authority for the statement that Clarke had told him he was trading Prudhomme off for votes for Wilson. Noel admitted that such had been the purport of his remarks and Clarke stated that only

yesterday he had confronted Young with his statement; that Young had first denied it and later acknowledged to having made the statement, but admitted its falsity and said it was legitimate as a campaign lie. Noel then stated that on yesterday Clarke had stated in the Madden house that the independents are trading Noel off for O'Brien votes. Clarke stood pat, admitted having made the statement, and said he could prove that what he said was true; that the independents are offering to trade Noel off for O'Brien votes and he would get half a dozen men to make affidavits to that effect. After a few minutes more talk, during which turmoil held high carnival, the speaker retired after having spoken about 30 minutes.

Candidate Arthur Wilson was fourth on the list and to him, when he stepped to the front of the stage, was accorded the most rousing welcome accorded to any of the speakers. Mr. Wilson was suffering from a severe cold last night and was not in good shape for talking. He spoke quietly but pointedly. He said the supporters of O'Brien and Noel are not the miners but the government officials and allies; that the supporters of O'Brien and Noel are not men who want an assay office established in Dawson, but men whose interests it is to keep an assay office out of Dawson and the Yukon as long as possible. He explained at length a previous slight apology made by Mr. O'Brien, the first speaker, in regard to a reported conversation between Major Wood and the speaker (Wilson) in which O'Brien had admitted that he was misinformed. Wilson had seen Major Wood yesterday and had been authorized by that official to publicly state last night that he (Major Wood) had promised his vote to the candidate, Wilson. This announcement was greeted with deafening applause, as was also the encomium of the speaker on Major Wood. Regarding Mr. Noel's statement that the Yukon Sun is deserving of support for the reason that it is the only Canadian paper in the country, Mr. Wilson said, "If the Yukon Sun is a sample of Canadian papers, may the Lord help Canadian journalism; I deny the imputation that the Yukon Sun is a sample Canadian paper." The speaker closed with a stong plea to his hearers to vote their honest convictions, and to not be bulldozed by any man or set of men into voting against what they honestly believe to be right and for the best interests of the district. He also imperturbed his friends to not forget his colleague, Mr. Prudhomme, but to see that the names of both the Yukon party candidates are properly marked on their tickets.

The four candidates having been heard, the meeting dropped further into pandemonium and calls were made for every man in sight to come out and make himself heard, if he could.

Barney Sugrue, in response to repeated calls, arose and made one of his characteristic speeches, always quaint and to the point. Barney began by saying he had followed the O'Brien-Noel funeral procession all over the creeks and that he intends staying by them until the evening of election day to see that they are given decent and proper burial. He told of how three O'Brien-Noel boosters had bothered around Skiff Mitchell on the creek until Skiff had given them \$25 to get rid of them, and of how the three men had gone to the Forks, bought \$1 worth of candles and \$24 worth of whisky and had an O'Brien torchlight procession; but that Skiff Mitchell was still an unwavering supporter of the candidates he had helped nominate. He closed by referring to Candidate Noel as a broken-down politician, wholly unworthy of support or even of serious consideration.

This brought Noel to his feet, also a long drawn out series of howls from the audience. Prudhomme appealed for a respectful hearing of his opponent, but the howls continued, finally changing to cries for Woodworth, and Noel gracefully yielded the floor. With a free use of sweet oil and the exercise of patience, figuratively speaking, the turbulent waters were calmed for a few minutes until Woodworth said something which brought Noel again to his feet. Noel demanded to be heard and said he would stand on the stage as long as the crowd could howl; that he would stay till morning but that he had his say. Someone tossed a two-bit piece from a box to the stage, but the speaker did not weaken. The chairman interceded in Noel's behalf, and he said his say.

Crown Prosecutor F. C. Wade was the next speaker and, interruptions included, occupied the platform for nearly an hour. He spoke of the wonderful progress of the Yukon since the appearance of the first steamboat landed in Dawson in June, '98. He gave facts and statistics which, when a person stops to realize, stamps the Yukon as

having in its short life, made the most remarkable record for advancement of any country on the face of the earth. Mr. Wade's address, had he been permitted to deliver it without interruption, would have been eminently instructive as well as interesting. But frequent interruptions and howls riled up the crown prosecutor and he indulged in a few pointed personalities which were taken by some to reflect on the sons of the Emerald Isle, which brought Barney Sugrue to his feet and started several others who boast Irish ancestry, towards the stage. Barney raised a point of order which the chair declined to recognize and Barney refused to take his seat. For fully 10 minutes Wade and Sugrue stood side by side on the stage, each waiting, hoping and praying that the other would sit down. Finally Barney yielded and Wade continued his speech. On his mentioning Dr. Catto some one in the audience shouted and inquired what became of the letters Catto sent to Ottawa. They were consigned to the waste basket. "They were a—d—d sight better than anything you ever sent to Ottawa," yelled Catto from the audience; and then the desire to make a speech seized him and he rushed for the platform and endeavored to persuade the chair to introduce him as the next speaker.

As Attorney Wade closed his talk, Attorney McCaul threw aside his overcoat and stepped to the front of the stage. Mr. McCaul has evidently been in politics before, as he goes at it like an old timer. He explained that, while he had taken no active interest in the campaign, he had a few words to say as to the respective candidates. He respected Mr. O'Brien as a man and had nothing against Mr. Noel, but would vote for neither of them for the reason that he looked upon them as government candidates, and to elect either of them would be similar in effect to having two more members of the Yukon council appointed from Ottawa by the minister of the interior.

When McCaul yielded the floor Noel made another attempt to speak which, with the aid of the chair, who requested order, was successful for a few moments, when cries for Sugrue were again lustily made. Sugrue arose, and Dr. Catto, whose chance had, he thought, arrived, pushed forward to the front and at the same time Frank Buteau had something to say and likewise worked his way to the front of the stage. But as 12:30 o'clock had arrived and O'Brien and Noel had both left the hall, the chairman decided that the hour for adjourning the meeting had arrived. Owing to the pandemonium which reigned, the chairman could not be heard three feet away, but by a signal announced that the meeting was adjourned. But cries for Sugrue continued and for a few minutes he was heard. He closed by proposing three cheers for Wilson and Prudhomme, which were given. Attorney Wade proposed three cheers for O'Brien and Noel, which were also given. Dr. Catto lifted up his voice and would feign have talked, but in the uproar nobody heard him. Joe Clarke started "God Save the Queen," and Catto's speech died in embryo and Frank Buteau's was never started. A few minutes before 1 o'clock this morning the meeting stopped without the formality of an adjournment.

A Wilson-Prudhomme meeting is called for tonight at the same place. O'Brien and Noel will hold services to-night at the Magnet roadhouse.

Many River Buoys.

From the crew of a scow which arrived this morning seven days from Whitehorse, it is learned that 40 scows on bars were passed between the foot of Leberge and the mouth of Indian river. A number of them were not fast on and would be floated while others had wandered from the channel into blind sloughs and are hopelessly grounded for the winter. The men who arrived this morning state that fully 50 scows would leave Whitehorse after they started a week ago.

The Chinese Question.

There seems to be much difficulty in the way of an agreement among the powers as to the best method of approaching the Chinese question. Germany's proposal that the persons guilty of the attacks upon foreigners shall first be given up does not meet with much approval, not because it is unreasonable, but because it seems to be impracticable. Germany very naturally feels specially sore against China, for her minister at Peking was assassinated, and national dignity seems to compel her to take a more determined stand than any of the other powers. If she stood alone, no government would venture to say a word to deter her from taking any course that seemed expedient, but unfortunately for any nation desiring a free hand in China, all the rest of the world is deeply concerned as to the manner in which a settlement is reached.

APPEAL DENIED

John McCrimmin Who Will Have to Pay \$150 For Shooting a Dog.

COSTS OF THE COURT ARE ADDED

Which Makes the Dog Cost His Slayer Pretty Dearly.

THE DOG LIKED CHICKENS.

Van Buskirk Found Guilty and Will Receive His Sentence Next Wednesday Morning.

Motions were heard in the territorial court this morning after a decision had been given in the McCrimmin case, and Van Buskirk had been brought over and told that sentence would be suspended for two days.

The case of Regina vs. Van Buskirk grows out of misappropriation of certain funds belonging to Mrs. H. S. Hodge by the prisoner, who was found guilty last week and was to have received his sentence this morning, but Justice Dugas postponed it as stated.

The other case was one of appeal from the decision of the lower court, taken by John McCrimmin, who objected to a judgment which called upon him to pay \$150 for a dead dog.

The case dates back to about the middle of last June, when the defendant shot and killed a dog belonging to J. A. Cameron. The dog, it was alleged had an abnormal taste for chickens, and helped himself whenever opportunity offered. He ate some of the McCrimmin chickens and his death followed.

However, this dog was a very valuable specimen of the porcupine hanky variety, and Mr. Cameron wanted pay for him, which the judgment of the lower court entitled him to. This decision was given on the 21st of last June, and the appeal was denied today.

This confirms the decision of the lower court and fixes upon the defendant not only the amount of the original judgment but the costs of court besides.

This establishes, or would seem to establish a precedent in the dog shooting business, which is of peculiar interest to many in Dawson.

Don't shoot your neighbor's dog, even if he does kill your live stock. Sue him.

Chamberlain's Speech.

London, Sept. 28. — Although the Unionists are still confident of victory at the forthcoming parliamentary general election, there is an undercurrent of apprehension that the party will be returned to power with a smaller majority than had been expected. The St. James Gazette says: "If we are to have a triumphant majority we must watch early and late, and work hard all the time."

Arthur Balfour made what the Daily Mail calls a "disappointing" speech at Manchester last evening, where he declared that the agitation for reform was a "red herring drawn across the track of South African settlement by military questions."

Taking him to task, editorially, this statement, the Daily Mail declared that the "country is very serious as to army reform and will not stand the attention of Lord Lansdowne."

George Wyndham, parliamentary under secretary of state for war, who last evening to speak in favor of Unionist candidate in Battersley, had a very hostile reception at the hands of the Radicals. He was shouted down by a howling mob, compelled to abandon his attempt to speak, but he fought his way through the hostile crowd, which, in admiration for his courage, cheered his exit.

Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, addressing a Unionist meeting at Tunstall, referred to the mushroom growth of Liberal Imperialists, and warned the country that if the Liberals were returned to power, they would restore independence to the Boer republics.