

### FIRE LADDIES GO ON A STRIKE.

#### Decide to Disband in a Body, Taking Effect on the 8th.

#### Government Criticised for Neglect, and the Citizens for Lack of Appreciation—Chief Fletcher Also Resigns to Commissioners.

At 12 o'clock today the Dawson City fire department, which has stood between Dawson and danger for nine months, will cease to be. This was the outcome of a meeting held at the Pioneer hall on Wednesday evening, at which the NUGGET, in the last issue, predicted that something would be heard to drop. Assistant Chief Stumer presided, and after the transaction of some routine business Secretary Moran read a communication from Chief Fletcher, notifying his comrades that he had tendered his resignation to the fire commissioners, to take effect on July 10, and offering his resignation as a member of the department. The secretary then followed with a reading of the resignations of a number of others, including that of Assistant Chief Stumer. This gentleman supplemented the reading of his resignation with a brief statement. He took the step, he said, with feelings of regret; but, under the circumstances, he considered it the best thing for him to do. The resignations were all accepted with regrets.

Fireman Lyons then touched off the mine in an outburst of eloquent complaint. He called attention to the fact that the fire commissioners had recognized the department in no way whatever except to notify it of their appointment, that the government had allowed the department to be turned into the street, that the business public have abused the department and some of the men have been treated with disrespect. He moved that the secretary prepare a form of resignation for all the members who wanted to sign it.

Another fireman offered as a substitute that the department disband as an organization, to take effect July 10. He believed the commissioners should be notified and given time in which to make other arrangements for the protection of the city against fire.

This brought Secretary Moran to his feet with some hot words, which were in effect as follows: "Why should we delay until the 10th? Make it the 8th, at least. The government and commissioners have not shown us any consideration. Only lately they saw us thrown into the street. We have already shown too much endurance. Even the citizens have greeted us with derision. Many of them misconstrue our aims; they think we are banded together for self-interest. If they will inquire into the work we have done and the efforts we have made to bring the department to a higher order of efficiency they would have a different and more just opinion. We did not ask their financial, but their moral, aid, and we were denied it. We have stood the taunts of the public, lack of support from the business men and neglect from the government until, in justice to ourselves, we should stand it no longer."

These remarks were greeted with cheers. Leroy Tozier, who had been called to the chair, suggested that action on the resignations be reconsidered in order that the department might, if it took the step proposed, disband with a solid front. The suggestion was accepted. He also criticized the government somewhat for their lack of consideration for the department.

The resolution to disband was then adopted unanimously by a rising vote, two members refraining from voting.

Chief Fletcher then stepped forward and thanked the boys cordially for the generous support they had always given him, and said that no matter where he might go, he would always have the kindest feelings for them and feel proud of his connection with them.

The chief was assured by Mr. Tozier that the men thought of him as kindly as he did of them; that they had an abiding faith in him both as a man and as the chief, that they had shown this by the unanimous and hearty way in which they had followed him, and that were the circumstances different they would receive his resignation with the deepest regret.

Mr. Tennant spoke of the fine times the boys had enjoyed together, how they all respected their superiors, and moved that a testimonial of esteem, properly engrossed, be presented to each. This was unanimously adopted.

After a suggestion had been made that the department resolve itself into a social organization, the report of treasurer Galpin was read and it was decided to meet again Friday night to wind up all the affairs of the department.

#### Steamboats Get the Racing Fever.

The sporting contests on the Fourth, just opposite them, had an inspiring effect upon the crews and commanders of the steamers Eldorado and Columbian, and when they finally cleared for White Horse rapids it was almost as one boat. The Eldorado was the first one to throw off the rope, and before she had gone five feet the Columbian had whistled a hurried order and was in immediate pursuit. The hundreds of people on the levee became excited immediately and watched the contest as long as the boats were in sight, when they were still neck-and-neck. However, the race only lasted to Klondike City, where the Columbian was obliged to put into port. Going on a few miles alone, the Eldorado suffered the destruction of her wheel, and was obliged to return back to the city. It was explained that when she left port two paddles in the wheel were gone, and this caused her to pound so hard that the other paddles were broken, one after the other, by

their violent contact with the water. The wheel was thoroughly repaired next day, and the boat again left for the rapids.

While the race was in its early stages a gang-plank leading from the C. D. Co.'s wharf to a barge snapped in two from the weight, and precipitated a half dozen people into the water. Luckily, the water was not over two and a half feet deep, and all escaped simply with a wetting. Among the unfortunate number were three ladies, one of whom lost her pocketbook and another her sunshade, but the former was recovered and the latter rewarded.

Aboard each of the racing boats was a number of men bound for the new stampede to the Little Salmon river. Several of them were accompanied by poling boats.

#### No Railway for the Yukon.

OTTAWA, June 9.—The announcement was made in the house today by the premier that the government had decided that in the public interest no charters for railways into the Yukon would be granted this year. The grounds assigned for this course were that it was undesirable in the present unsettled state of affairs regarding the boundary to take any steps which would result in building up or strengthening interests antagonistic to the Canadian contention, and also that in the possible but not probable event of the decision on the boundary question being adverse to this country the government would not be hampered in its determination to construct a railway from tidewater exclusively through Canadian territory to the Yukon. Sir Charles Tupper and Mr. Foster championed the cause of the promoters of bills granting charters to construct railways into the Yukon, of which there are half a dozen now before the house. Sir Wilfrid Laurier also informed the house that there had been no change in the position of the negotiations respecting the Alaskan boundary since he made his last communication to the house. In supply, the estimates for the inland revenue department were passed, and the house adjourned at 10:40.

#### Happily Married.

Friends of Mr. Nels Peterson, principal owner of the Flyer line of steamboats, will be gratified to learn of his marriage on the evening of July 4th to Miss Josephine Rutgers. The ceremony took place at 7:30 p. m. at the Catholic church, and was conducted by Rev. Fr. Gendreau. The event was quiet and unostentatious, and only a small company of friends, including D. H. Pingree, D. D. Maple, Nathan Kresky, Captain Jack Crawford, Philip Sheridan and Miss Julian, were present. A bountiful supper, served on board the steamer Bonanza King, followed. The bride and groom will enjoy a short honeymoon aboard the steamer, which has left for the White Horse rapids.

Of course, there is a story of romance associated with the happy event. It dates back a year or more, to a time when Mr. Peterson and Miss Rutgers, then strangers to one another, were en route to Dawson. The goddess of love, so the story goes, had taken the two under her protection. At an opportune moment the goddess caused one of Mr. Peterson's moccasins to rip, and its immediate repair became a necessity. In this dire extremity Miss Rutgers went to his aid and deftly repaired the rent. The traveler then resumed his way, but the acquaintance formed at the time grew into mutual esteem when the two met again at Dawson, and the event of Tuesday night consummated the plans of the fair goddess.

The bride is a most estimable young lady, and Mr. Nelson one of the happiest of men. The NUGGET joins with their other friends in the most cordial well wishes.

#### New Catholic Church.

The visit to Dawson of Rev. Fr. J. J. Whalen, it is learned, is in the interest of a new Catholic church now in course of construction at Vancouver, B. C. The structure, which will be located at the corner of Dunsmuir and Richards streets, is shown by the plans to be of noble proportions and beautiful lines. It will be 165 feet long, with transepts 104 feet wide, the main body 64 feet wide and the sanctuary 70 feet, affording a seating capacity for 1,000 persons. The tower will reach 190 feet into the air, with a turret 128 feet high. The style is Gothic, while the structure will be of native sandstone, resting on a granite foundation. The building will cost upwards of \$80,000, and will be ready for occupancy by next Easter. Rev. Whalen is now a guest of Rev. Fr. Gendreau, and it is believed that when he leaves for home, in two weeks, he will take with him some substantial contributions to the building fund of his church.

The Yukon Outfitting & Express Co.'s representative leaves in a few days for the outside.

#### An Emotional Actress.

Corinne B. Gray, the leading emotional actress of Dawson, is giving the patrons of the amphitheatre a treat through the medium of Eastern modistes and milliners. She makes six complete changes nightly, each being lovelier than the preceding one. If but given a chance Corinne is capable of doing very good work in her line as she is undoubtedly possessed of emotional power and talent.

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#### Notice to the Public.

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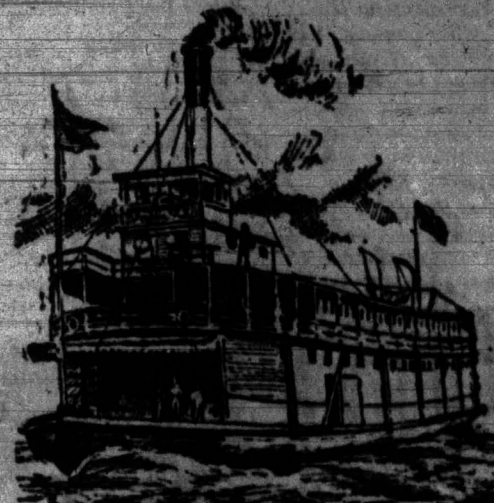
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