

RECEIVED BY WIRE. THE MOORE TOWNSITE CASE

All Skagway Owned Practically by one Family.

Chamber of Commerce Holds Concurrence Meeting - Matter Will Probably Rest as It Is.

Skagway, Jan. 25 - A synopsis of the Skagway townsite decision by the secretary of the interior arrived yesterday. It corroborates the previous report that 60 acres, comprising practically all the business portion of the city has been awarded to the Moores. The decision says the tract awarded must be square, therefore, it comprises all that part of the city lying between Main street and the bluff east of town, and from the water front to Sixth avenue (Holly street). The principal point in the decision is that it is based on the general land laws governing Alaska.

The fact that Ben Moore took up land as a trading post does not disqualify him from entering other land for his personal occupation. This point was the main contention of the citizens who were fighting the case and its decision seems to settle the whole case. As the written decision would be signed at Washington on the 22d, and as there will be 30 days in which to file a motion for an appeal, there will be ample time to act provided such course is decided upon.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held last night for the purpose of discussing the matter. Attorneys Price and Jennings were present but could suggest no feasible way out of the difficulty. Price is the lawyer who has always led the fight against the Moores. He said last night that the secretary of the interior might be asked to reopen the case on the plea that new evidence could be introduced. Jennings said there would be little chance of success along that line and said there is no possibility of getting the case before the supreme court until it could be taken up regularly through the lower courts.

A committee was appointed to consider further action in the matter.

At a citizens' meeting held yesterday there was a general sentiment favoring moving all the buildings off the 60 acre tract, but this, of course, is almost a physical impossibility; however, it shows the highly excited state of the people.

Many favor compromising with the Moores on the best possible terms.

The present indications are that nothing will be done towards fighting the decision and that the Moores will take the whole business section of the town with all its improvements.

(The late decision from the general land office regarding the above case is virtually the same as a decision rendered from the district land office at Sitka regarding the same case in June of '98, except that the decision then awarded the Moores 43 instead of 60 acres. At that time in an interview with the present writer Capt. William Moore said:

"I am ready and willing to settle with those who have squatted and built on my property on very easy terms. They will find me very amicable. I will not be hard upon them."

At that time had Capt. Moore been offered \$50 per lot he would have given title to all the property. What he will do now is hard to say. The old gentleman went to Nome last year, when he left Skagway feeling that he had not received fair treatment either from the people or his son Ben, and it may be that now he may not feel inclined to make any very great concessions.

There have always been those in Skagway who, although they have improvements on the disputed tract, believed that Moore was entitled to something, and these people have always been willing to purchase the property they occupied at a nominal price, but have been persuaded not to do so by Attorney Price and others who contended that the Moores would be knocked

out of all claims by the authorities at Washington. - Ed.)

Family Night.

The innovation inaugurated in Dawson theatrical circles by the management of the Standard last night is the most popular movement in the way of providing pleasant entertainment ever made in the city and from now on "Family night" at the Standard will be the big event of the week.

Every box and a large part of the first floor last was occupied with men and their wives, children and representing much of Dawson's fashionable society; and so pleasantly were they entertained that all spoke in none but terms of praise and compliment of the management whose forethought had made possible such a mid-week pleasure.

The play produced last night, "49," is the product of Joaquin Miller's fertile brain and is typical reproduction of scenes as they were in the early days of mining in California. Each member of the cast was well up in his or her respective part, especially fine work being done by Alf Layne, Ed Lang, Harry O'Brien and Miss Vivian.

An announcement on behalf of the management by Lefoy Tozier that a similar performance will be presented each Thursday night, when the bar will be wholly covered and no liquors sold, was loudly applauded. As a winner, the Standard's "Family night" is entitled to first money.

Caribou's House Warming.

An athletic exhibition will be given tonight at the Club gymnasium, when several bouts between ambitious youngsters as well as old timers in the ring will be pulled off. There will be exhibitions also in other athletic exercises which will prove entertaining.

SAYS HE IS INNOCENT.

(Continued from page 1.)

talked, although he bore up bravely, and strove to subdue his feelings, which, guilty or innocent, were quite natural to one in his position.

"What do you think of the news, Slorah?" was asked, and in low tremulous tones he replied:

"Oh, it's all right; but it don't surprise me any, as I have been expecting something of the sort for some time."

"Had you any reason to expect anything of this nature otherwise than from what your attorney told you you might expect from his efforts?"

"Yes, I had. I have friends here and on the outside who know that I am innocent of this thing, and they, as well as my attorney have been at work for me."

"I am innocent, and sooner or later it must be proven and I will be free."

"I don't know of anything I want to say through the papers; too much, I think, has been said already, although I thank you for giving me the opportunity I have been well treated here and concerning the people who are doing their duty in the matter I have nothing to complain of."

Next to the prisoner himself perhaps there is no one better pleased at the news contained in the telegram than Sheriff Hilbeck, who is now released from the most unpleasant duty attached to his office.

The commutation of sentence was generally received by all classes with satisfaction as there has prevailed a general feeling since the trial that guilty or not guilty the evidence was not conclusive enough and not of the right character to warrant his execution, and there has at all times been a feeling that there is evidence in the case which has never come out.

This morning there was considerable comment on the matter, it being an idea somewhat prevalent that under Canadian law the term "life imprisonment" means 21 years, for which the credits allowed for good behavior amounting in that length of time to five years, so that many thought that under the sentence as commuted Slorah, provided he complied with the prison regulations, would be at liberty in 16 years.

This impression is erroneous, however, as the law means exactly what it says—imprisonment for life.

When asked for his views of the case under its changed appearance this morning Attorney Bleeker said:

"It is pleasant, of course, to know that a man who has been condemned to die on the gallows has passed from its shadow."

"The causes which led to the commutation I have no definite knowledge of, but presume that the evidence in the case, together with the recommendation to mercy had great weight in bringing the matter about, and my telegram containing the statement of application for new trial on grounds of important evidence, and citing the petition asking for mercy, may have had something to do with it."

"I had asked for a respite, but this

of course, is better. It will not in any way effect the efforts that are being made to secure a reopening of the case, which we have strong hopes of bringing about, and little doubt of obtaining an acquittal if we are successful in getting the matter once more into court."

Baroness Lehmann.

Another American girl has yielded to the fate that seems to overtake so many of our wealthy girls who travel abroad. This time it is May Brown, daughter of Frank Brown, ex-governor of Maryland, and possessor of one of the largest estates in the south. Although the governor, who has just returned with his beautiful daughter from Europe, denies that an engagement exists between her and the Baron Rudolph Lehman of Amsterdam, society folk believe that Miss Brown will shortly become Baroness Lehman.

When the Browns were in Europe, Baron Lehman was their constant attendant. He was with them at the Paris exposition, and they were his guests on a yachting cruise to the north. He is about 30 years of age and is said to be the head of an ancient Amsterdam family, although to say the truth, he is not mentioned in the Almanach de Gotha, the recognized authority on the nobility of Europe. Governor Brown, who is a shrewd Maryland politician, may be confidently trusted to see whether the baron's title will bear investigation.

The young lady's father has had a very pretty romance in his own life. While working as a tobacco clerk he fell in love with a wealthy young woman. Naturally her parents objected to the match and shipped her off to Europe. There she met and married a wealthy old man. Within a year he died and left her a million. She returned to the United States and married her old love, the future governor, who had in the meantime inherited a fortune. Mrs. Brown died about five years ago.—Ex.

Many Fire Escapes.

One more evidence of modernness of Dawson is furnished in the number of fire escapes which are going up all over town. One was put on a large building at the corner of First avenue and Third street yesterday afternoon, and the special rubber was largely in evidence when it was subjected to a test by Fire Chief Stewart.

Another has been placed on the Victoria building, but is of wooden construction, the owners no doubt believing that if the building burns an inextinguishable fire escape would be of little use to them afterwards.

The McDonald hotel has one in course of construction which will be a thing of beauty and very modern in the matter of style and finish. It will be built of iron and will have a landing stage at each floor.

As there is no train service here which might necessitate the departure of guests from the house by this means because of lack of time to come down by the stairs, the fire escape is to be placed on the front of the building and will extend from the cornice clear down to the sidewalk, not coming to a disappointing end some 12 or 15 feet from the ground as many of them do in the larger hotels outside.

The Fairview also has a fire escape, but it, like the one on the Victoria building, is built of wood.

The fire escape has evidently taken a deep root here and that quite suddenly, and in a few days will be seen on nearly every two story building in the city.

Both the McDonald Iron Works and Lacy, Johnstone & McClain are building the modern appliances of iron and some very nice work is the result.

The Weather.

The official thermometer during the 24 hours previous to 9 o'clock this morning registered a minimum temperature of 3.5 below and the maximum 4 degrees above zero.

A Labor Party.

New York, Jan. 1.—A mass meeting will be held this afternoon at Cooper Union for a labor party under the auspices of the Civic Federation.

Bigger Interest.

New York, Jan. 1.—The Bowery Savings Bank, the largest in the country, today raised its rate of interest to 4 per cent. It has an army of 123,000 depositors, with \$6,000,000 of deposits.

Negro Office Holders.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 1.—The days of negroes holding state offices ended today. The law which takes effect today prohibits negroes holding township, county or state offices. They can still hold federal offices, however.

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

Goods sold on commission at Meeker's.

Eastern oysters at the Postoffice market.

When in want of laundry work call up phone 52. Cascade Laundry.

CREEK NOTES.

Previous to the cold snap water was causing a great deal of trouble on Dominion creek. James Kelly, of 22 below upper, had his drifts filled and was compelled to lay off his men for two weeks and finally get a new pump from Dawson. Mr. Kelly is doing the heaviest work between discoveries and is handling some very rich dirt.

Mr. Joe Barret has shipped some very heavy machinery out to 32 below upper and will start active operations at once. Mr. Barret will personally direct the working of the claim.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar paid Dominion a flying visit last Wednesday, inspecting the Edgar property, 18 below upper.

Messrs. Joe Beck and Sam Nichols have returned from the outside and are on a tour of inspection. Mr. Nichols will take charge of his property above upper and Mr. Beck will be on 11 Gold Run where he has lately shipped a complete plant.

A lively dance was given at Nelson's, 12 below roadhouse, Gold Run, last week. The boys turned out after three weeks of hibernating and a jolly good time was spent.

The Eagle roadhouse, 41 Gold Run, has changed hands, Miss Evaline De Forrest, formerly a member of the Dawson stage, buying out Miss Nettie Homen, the former proprietress. The house is being renovated and will give an opening dance next Tuesday. Miss De Forrest is not the only artist who will devote her talents to serving the public as a roadhouse hostess. Miss Lila Sylvester, a violinist of considerable repute, formerly with the Boston Lyric Co., will open up a first-class hotel and general store on No. 14 Gold Run. Thus during the cleanup the weary gold seeker may sip his beer to sweet strains of the violin or go further up the creek and find solace in vocal and terpsichorean art.

No. 27 Gold Run was flooded last week and for two days the pumps were kept busy clearing the drifts. Messrs. Chute and Willis have a second plant on the road to Gold Run for this claim.

Miss Cora Sloggy, of 28 Gold Run, has been confined to her bed with a severe cold, threatening pneumonia.

Mr. Frank Swanson, of 19 Gold Run, has been confined to his cabin for several days from a combined attack of grippe and pleurisy.

It is rumored that another of the Gerow family will take unto himself a wife, or at least if not a rumor a breath of suspicion is afloat. Wallace (Pa) Gerow has witnessed the happiness around 21 below since Ed brought his bride to Dominion and in his quiet way took a trip to Dawson. A load of freight shortly arrived with an iron bedstead, carpets, etc., and the boys on lower Dominion have gathered up all the tin cans and bells and are waiting for Wallace to return.

The following table of distances from Dawson to Clear creek was obtained from a Dominion land surveyor: Dawson to Charlton Braxton house, 32 below lower Dominion (last road house), 40 miles; 32 to mouth of Arkansas (cabin with stove, two claims up Arkansas), 6 miles; summit to Hunter's cabin (roadhouse), 4 miles; Hunter cabin to Gravel lake (roadhouse), 1 1/2 miles; Gravel lake to mouth of Barlow, on Clear creek (roadhouse), 13 1/2 miles; total, 85 miles.

Lancaster Story Denied.

Father Althoff, of Victoria, has sent a telegram to parties in Dawson which constitutes a refutation of the story of the rumor as published yesterday concerning the finding of J. S. Lancaster in an insane asylum.

It seems that Father Althoff heard the story which went the rounds of the street here yesterday and telegraphed to Owen Calderhead of Seattle who replied that the story was without foundation, as no trace of the missing man had as yet been discovered.

This telegram was mailed to friends in Dawson who now have it.

Mumm's, Pomeroy or Perinet champagnes \$5 per bottle at the Regina Club hotel.

The Pacific Cold Storage Company paid the collector of customs in Dawson \$10,000 duty on the cargo of fine meats they are now offering to the trade.



"HIGH GRADE GOODS" When the Weather Moderates PUT IN A SUPPLY OF FRESH PROVISIONS ... And Prepare for More Cold GIVE US A SAMPLE ORDER S-Y. T. CO., SECOND AVENUE, TELEPHONE 39

"White Pass and Yukon Route." A Daily Train Each Way Between Whitehorse and Skagway ... COMFORTABLE UPHOLSTERED COACHES NORTH—Leave Skagway daily, except Sundays, 8:30 a. m. Bennett 12:15 a. m. Arrive at Whitehorse, 5:15 p. m. SOUTH—Leave Whitehorse daily, except Sundays, 8:00 a. m. Bennett 1:25 p. m. Arrive at Skagway, 4:40 p. m.

E. C. HAWKINS, General Manager J. FRANCIS LEE, Traffic Manager J. H. ROGERS, Agent

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Between Cook's Candy Store and A. Co.'s Store, via Fourth Street from Second to First Avenue, a gray pocket-book about 4 inches long. Finder please return to Manager's Office.

FOUND—A black-and-tan sporting dog. If claimed in 14 days will be sold. The Lander, Caribou, Dominion Creek.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Owing to poor health, Dunbar well established. On a paying basis. Stock at invoice price. Books open for inspection on any one meaning business. Brien & Clemons, Reale Estate and Commission, Second Avenue.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

LAWYERS CLARK, WILSON & STACPOOLE—Barristers, Attorneys, Notaries, Conveyancers, Office Monte Carlo Building, First Avenue, Dawson, Y. T.

BURRITT & MCKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc. Commissioners for Ontario and British Columbia. Aurora No. 2 Building, Front street, Dawson.

MACKINNON & NUEL, Advocates, Second Avenue, Dawson, B. N. A.

HENRY BLEEKER FERNAND DE JOURNÉ BLEEKER & DE JOURNÉ Attorneys at Law, Offices—Second street, in the Joslin Building, Residence—Third avenue, opp. Metropolitan Hotel, Dawson.

WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building.

N. F. HAGELL, Q. C., Barrister, Notary, etc. over McLennan, McFeeley & Co., hardware store, First avenue.

PATULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Offices, First Avenue.

FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE

W. D. BRUCE, General Agent Manufacturers of London, England. Mines, Real Estate, The Orpheum Building.

MINING ENGINEERS.

J. B. TYRRELL—Mining Engineer—Mines put or managed. Properties valued. 2300 St. Neil door to public school, and below discovery, Hunter Creek.

SOCIETIES.

THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION of Yukon Lodge, (U. D.) A. F. & M. M., will be held at Masonic hall, Mission street, monthly, Thursday or before full moon at 8:00 p. m. C. M. Wells, W. M. J. A. Donald, Secy.

Imported Turkish cigarettes, at Zaccarelli's Bank Cafe corner.

Sweet potatoes at Meeker's.

Chewing tobacco's all brands, at Zaccarelli's, 75c per pound, up, Bank Cafe corner.

Fresh carrots and turnips at Meeker's.

GO AS YOU PLEASE RUNNING MATCH

COMMENCING FEB. 18 AT "The Orpheum" —Entries—

LOUIS CARDINAL — GEORGE TAYLOR NAPOLEON MARION — WM. YOUNG

Mail Is Quick Telegraph Is Quicker Phone Is Instantaneous YOU CAN REACH BY PHONE SULPHUR, DOMINION, GOLD RUN And All Way Points. Have a phone in your house—The lady of the house can order all her wants by it. Business Phones, \$25 Per Month Residence Phones, \$15 Per Month Office, Telephone Exchange, next to A. C. Office Building. DONALD B. OLSON, General Manager

German Bakery KLONDIKE BRIDGE SELLS 3 LOAVES OF BREAD FOR 50c