

GREATEST SUCCESS OF THE YEAR.

The Dawson Ladies Manage a Huge Fireman's Benefit Ball.

Handsome Costumes—Pretty Figures—Good Characters—Immense Crowd—Photograph of the Dancers—A Display of Beauty.

What a mighty race is this people building up a city in the shadow of the North Pole. There a year ago was a snowy waste with a dozen cabins huddled together on the flat and a bunch of people in Indian costume fighting the bitter cold of an Arctic winter, there is now a city of well-dressed, pleasure-loving and sociable people. Never was the contrast more forcibly presented to the observer than at the Fireman's Masquerade on Wednesday evening last when the Pioneer Hall was crowded to the door with beautiful costumes upon handsome figures and a manly and well-behaved and neatly-dressed double column of spectators completely around the room.

All honor is due the ladies of Dawson for the benefit they tendered the Volunteer Fire Department. The committee of arrangements: Mrs. W. M. Huston, Mrs. C. Yager and Miss Florence Hamburg, must be congratulated most sincerely for the indefatigable energy and good judgment displayed in the management of the affair. If there was anything left undone which might have added to the success of the affair it was not apparent; if there was anything missing which might have increased the sum of the enjoyment of attendants it did not appear. The energy of the committee had infected the town, and the result was seen at a glance in the costumes of the dancers, especially the ladies. The graceful draperies upon silken forms showed consummate taste and skill in the making of costumes, and the impression made by the gathering upon the observer was of being transported to some eastern metropolis upon some occasion of carnival. There were over 150 costumes, and had the Pioneer hall been three times its present size it would have been none too large to accommodate the immense crowd who came to see and to admire. Expressions of supreme approval were on every hand, and only for the strong good sense of the lady management their heads would surely be turned by the compliments showered upon them.

The names of all the maskers were not secured, but amongst the most notable seen by the crowd were:

- Uncle Sam, a tall figure in the regulation Jonathan costume; represented by Mr. Harry Burke.
Actress "Nadgi" in bespangled black; wearer unknown.
Mephistopheles, regulation red tights; Mr. C. F. Manning.
Dog "Musher," in fringed horsehide; Mr. Martin.
"Soft Dough Stuff," in paskie trimmed with ancient flapjacks; Mr. Wm. Gafford.
Moosehide Squaw, in big feet and mouth and an Indian idea of finery; Mrs. Douglas.
Dawson Fire department, by Mrs. Emma Kimball, in helmet and red costume trimmed with appropriate emblems as miniature ladders, buckets, hooks, etc.
There were several "Topsys," each one good. Mrs. Deal, in divided gunny-sack skirts and plaid cap, afterwards taking a prize.
There were two pop-corn girls; Mrs. Agnew, in short pale blue-silk dress trimmed with strings of pop-corn. Ella Hall made a remarkable appearance in dark waist and short black skirt and nightboard cap, against which the white corn showed to perfection.
"Butterfly," by Mrs. Geo. F. Smith, in short white muslin over-dress and wings.
Clown, by Mr. Webb.
"Fire Ladder," by Mr. Bush, in regulation uniform and brass buttons.
Mexican costume, worn by Chief Fletcher, of the Fire department.
Santa Claus, in regulation mat of white hair and flowing beard; Mr. Eugene Allen.
Troubadour, a handsome costume worn by Mr. Joe Cooper.
A notable pair was the "Bride and Groom," by Miss Peckington and Miss Milroyne. Miss Peckington wore a handsome black costume overlaid with psemmentarie, and Miss Milroyne made a dapper little husband, in regulation broadcloth and silk hat. We don't quite understand the presence of the infant so carefully tended throughout the evening.
Red Riding Hood was impersonated by Mrs. A. B. Field.
Irish Washerwoman, in green bonnet and skirts; Mr. J. H. Johnson.
"Midshipmite" was a much admired figure in pink tights, and taken by many for a well-formed woman. The form was strangely feminine and well-turned. Mr. King carried out the illusion by a demure modesty of demeanor quite affecting to masculine admirers.
The "Queen of Hearts" was impersonated by Mrs. Stingle.
A pretty and original costume was worn by Miss Mayner as the "Kag-a-mumma." The hat and costume were entirely of vari-hued pieces of cloth, such as are seen in a nicely made rug. Unless one does not realize the possibilities of the material.
A very pretty pair were Mrs. Robert Birch and Miss Rattie McMullen as two "Flower Girls." Both were of a size and dressed exactly alike in most pink dresses, profusely ornamented with garlands of flowers, both wearing short blond wigs and carrying baskets of blossoms, artificial yet tastefully arranged in small button-hole bouquets. The people who were present will bear out the writer in the statement that the

couple were easily the most notable pair in the room.

Miss Georgie Grant, a petite figure in pretty dancing girl costume, was the attraction which turned many eyes.

The Goddess of Liberty was impersonated by Mrs. Lord with shield, crown, spear and appropriate drappings.

The judges appointed for the award of the prizes were Dr. La Chapelle, Alex. McCumber, T. C. Healy, Theodore Krutzen, Mr. Stumer, Dr. Merchant and Mr. Campbell. The gentlemen had a most difficult time to arrive at a decision between the many excellent costumes present.

The prize, a ladies silk waist, for the best dressed lady was awarded to Miss Lablin.

Best dressed gentleman, Chief Fletcher, a fur coat.
Second best dressed lady, Miss Georgie Grant, a Yukon gold ring.

Second best dressed gentleman, Mr. King.
Best sustained character, Mrs. Emma Kimball.

Second best sustained character, Mr. Wm. Gafford.

Most original character, Miss Mayner.
Most original costume, Dr. Edwards.

Most comical character, Mrs. Deal.
Gentlemen's most comical character, Mr. Webb.

Largest lady, Mrs. Oswald.
Largest gentleman, H. R. Burt.

Largest mouth, Mrs. Douglas and Mr. Martin.
Secretary Moran made a speech complimenting the lady management.

Photographer Hegg took several flash-light photographs of the ball room.

The floor was well managed by Ed. Cowley, and the music was furnished by Prof. Huson, Rube Lyons and Wardner Baker.

The door was attended by Al. Cowley, Lase Spray and Geo. Dyer.

From the Official Observatory.

Temperatures for the week ending Wednesday, November 25th, were very equable and showed a maximum difference in temperature for one week, night and day, of less than 9 degrees.

Table with 3 columns: Minimum, Maximum, Wind Miles per hour. Rows for Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

It will be observed that while Saturday shows the lowest mark of the week, there was no day but came within a little over two degrees of any other day. But the rate of the wind is really more important to the comfort of the people upon the Yukon than the number of degrees below zero registered by the thermometer. There was no day when the wind was as high as a wife an hour, while on Thursday, the 17th, the wind was actually only moving at the rate of a mile in ten hours. The ordinary Chilcot breeze of six or seven miles per hour would confine us to our houses at once, even were the thermometer to show several degrees warmer. The slight air moving of the last week was felt as keenly as a gale outside, and has a tendency to make one doubt the veracity of the anerometer. This is the first time the wind has been speeded on the Yukon, and the readings of this winter will prove of much interest upon the outside.

It will at once be seen from the thermometer readings that a good many of those instruments around town are inaccurate, and marked as high as six and seven degrees lower than those of the government. But the official instruments are standard, and have been thoroughly tested before being put into the field, so that they may be relied upon.

Yukon Council Proceedings.

An account for axes from Lecheed & Ellis was allowed. The axes were drafted into service at the Dawson fire.

A communication from the public administrator was read regarding the burial of the indigent dead. He wished the council to advance the necessary funds and after the administration of the estate—if there was one—the money could be repaid. Judge Dugas was asked to draw up an ordinance covering the matter.

The clerk of the council was instructed to communicate with the chief of the volunteer fire brigade concerning a fire ordinance for the town of Dawson.

Several applications for ferry privileges were read and Judge Dugas was requested to draw up a ferry boat ordinance to embrace them all.

Schoemaker & Reinart's application for trail privileges from the mouth of the Felly to a point 25 miles up the Stewart was brought up but tabled indefinitely.

He Ate Their Yeast.

Blue Chip Harry the printer went up to Hunker last Sunday to visit Mr. Russell, who owns a number of interests on that creek. Harry, arriving there found no one at home, so being cold and hungry after his long tramp, started the fire, cooked some bacon and made a pot of coffee. He looked about for some bread and not finding any thought he would cook some flapjacks. In a tin pail hanging over a stove he found some batter already made up, so cooked quite a large plate full. The boys came in about 12 o'clock Sunday night and asked Harry if he had enough to eat. He told them he had had bacon, flapjacks and coffee. He showed them where he had got the batter from. "Why?" says Russell, "you have cooked and eaten our winter's supply of yeast." Harry says he felt a little lighter, but has suffered no ill effects from his meal of bacon and yeast.

MATTERS FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION

The Council Will Consider Means for Preventing Cases of Destitution.

An Ordinance Will Be Considered Providing for Licensing of Pilots at White Horse Rapids—A Dawson Episode.

The evil effects of the rush into the Klondike last winter were largely nullified by the order of Major Walsh that each one crossing the summit should bring into the country 1000 pounds of provisions and enough more to feed the owner on the way to Dawson. By that measure an immense quantity of provisions was brought to this country and the sale of their outfits at Dawson furnished many a discontented and homesick man with the means to reach home again. The destitution existing at present in Dawson is largely among the people who lost their outfits upon the river or who came in without outfits after the 1000-pound regulation was discontinued this spring. The result of the condition of affairs is that there is now pending a regulation in this territory patterned after the celebrated order of Major Walsh. It is being suggested that none be allowed entrance to the territory unless they either have \$500 and two months' provisions or \$200 and six months' provisions.

Another piece of pending legislation is the regulation of the navigation of Miles Canyon and White Horse rapids. The experience of last spring shows that many untrained rivermen engaged in the business of pilots and something like 200 boats were lost during the first rush before the people began to realize that not every man was a pilot who claimed to be one. The charges were also very high and it is believed that a pilot licensing ordinance fixing a maximum charge below the last year's prices would fill the bill. Only properly qualified rivermen would be allowed to risk a man's outfit in those dangerous waters. The best pilots were listed by the police last summer after 35 boats were lost, and the listed men were recommended to the fleet of Klondikers, and notwithstanding a great press of work, not a boat was lost by anyone on the list.

A Dawson Episode.

The governor's strict ideas upon propriety and morality are so well known that it adds relish to a little story going the rounds sub-rosa, but for the truth of which we do not vouch. The story is to the effect that upon a recent evening our chief executive was thoughtfully wending his way homeward, with head bowed and mind involved probably with some of the problems of statesmanship which have arisen recently. Suddenly from the cavernous depths of second avenue darted two brightly arrayed damsels, and each taking an arm proceeded to hurry the astounded gentleman towards their brightly illuminated abode. Freeing his face from the collar of his immense fur coat the kidnapped wayfarer entered a vigorous protest. Just at this moment a light from a neighboring building streamed full upon the party, and then the attacking posse discovered that instead of a well known friend they had the governor himself in tow. There was a scampering of feet, and in an instant the gentleman was alone with the darkness and cold and his own thoughts alone for company, while the terrified girls covered in the house with lowered lights, awaiting a visit from an avenging constabulary. Whether the expected visit materialized dependent sayeth not, though complaint was vigorously entered before the proper authorities at the laxity of discipline under which such people dared act in such manner, on such an occasion, to lone some gentlemen.

Good Word From Sulphur.

Sulphur creek has long been enjoying a reputation for underlying wealth hardly warranted by the facts. Last winter saw one or two holes found a row of holes going down from end to end of the creek and great things were expected as soon as they reached bedrock. However, there have been not a few whippersnappers hanging round upon the creek who have been very bad news when applied to Sulphur. The true facts appear to be that this creek has great peculiarities when compared with Eldorado or Bonanza, the creeks we know most about. In the case of these two latter streams the creek itself is but from four to six feet below the level of the valley. Consequently the miners did not confine themselves to the edges of the winding creek for places to sink for sufficient head, for the spring sluicing could be obtained in the length of one or two claims to reach any depth. Not so, however, on Sulphur. This creek winds from side to side of the valley and is from 25 to 30 feet below the level of the valley. The result of the canyon-like depth of the creek is that miners have largely sunk upon the creek bed for it would take from half a mile to a mile of sluice boxes to get the water the height of that 25-foot bank. That occasionally the present creek should wind across the pay-streak and that a lucky, hapazard miner should sink at that point and strike the pay is not surprising, therefore that the creek was "spotted." In spite of all this the past six days has shown ten shafts between 40 above and 40 below discovery in which pay has been discovered. It is today pretty generally conceded upon the creek that the other sinkers had wandered off the streak by simply following the present's meanders of the creek. The pay-streak already uncovered is of a peculiar nature also. On one side is a shallow but quite rich pay right on bed-rock. Along side is from three to six feet of gravel containing very good pay throughout. Within three weeks all the cabins on the creek will be ready for occupancy and holes will be sunk away from the creek as indicated by present strikes and the chances are for a great uncovering of wealth. MINEBAI. [The author of the above is an expert in good repute and has just returned from the creek. -Ed.]

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