

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
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[SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1900]

ONLY A SHADOW.

In the light of the figures given out by Controller Lithgow, covering the receipts and expenditures of the local government during the past 18 months, the proposition to incorporate the town as a municipality looks, if anything, more unfavorable than ever. Of the total revenues received during the period covered by the report, considerably more than one-half, or, to be more specific, \$275,100.74, out of a total of \$332,144.15, was derived from court fines and liquor permits. According to the plan of incorporation, as outlined by Gov. Ogilvie in an interview published in the Nugget some time ago, none of the receipts from permits, which amounted during the past 18 months to \$101,628.14, would be available for expenditure by the city authorities, and only a proportion of the court revenues.

The gross revenue derived from liquor licenses amounted to \$146,655.66, and the city would be entitled, according to the position taken by Gov. Ogilvie, to a proportion of this. How large that proportion would be has not as yet been determined, but it is probably safe to say that it would be in the neighborhood of 50 per cent. Estimating, therefore, the receipts for the next 18 months by the controller's report, covering the past 18 months, an approximate amount may be reached which would be available for municipal purposes in the event of incorporation. This may be briefly summarized as follows:

50 per cent of fines.....	\$36,736.30
50 per cent of liquor licenses.....	73,327.83
Revenues from other sources.....	10,387.00
Total.....	\$120,451.13

It will be noticed that no account is taken in the above of the fact that the liquor licenses have recently been reduced by one-half. This would further reduce the total by over \$36,500, leaving a net revenue to the city of less than \$85,000. Against this must be placed the expenditures, which during the past 18 months were as follows:

Donations to hospitals, care of indigents, sick, etc.....	\$112,305.97
Wagon roads.....	99,532.22
Burial of indigents.....	4,54.00
Printing and stationery.....	6,922.61
Fire department.....	63,413.41
Bridges.....	7,226.61
Board of health.....	2,648.00
Drains and ditches.....	15,685.41
Lighting streets.....	2,075.30
Dawson free reading room.....	1,125.00
School books lost on steamer Stratton.....	230.10
Passage paid for indigents.....	5,611.11
Salaries.....	10,298.06
Contingencies.....	3,241.85
Streets.....	17,435.93
Total.....	\$352,266.58

Leaving out of the above the item covering the construction of wagon roads, which would properly belong to the territorial government, there is left the sum of \$252,834.36 as the total of expenditures which the city would find itself required to confront. The municipal balance sheet, therefore, at the end of 18 months would read about as follows:

Total expenditures.....	\$252,834.36
Total receipts.....	85,000.00
Deficit.....	\$167,834.36

To make up this shortage the city would be forced to resort to a direct tax upon property. What

the assessed valuation of Dawson would amount to is uncertain, but, assuming it to be in the neighborhood of \$4,000,000, a levy of four per cent would be required to raise the desired sum.

To our way of thinking, there must be greater advantages shown than at the present time are in evidence, before incorporation becomes an advisable measure. A portion of the enormous revenues which the federal government derives from this territory at large should be available for road building and other territorial purposes, and every dollar of revenue, derived directly or indirectly, from the local liquor traffic, and from fines for offenses committed in the town, should be available for municipal purposes. As matters stand at the present time, incorporation would be only a shadow, lacking in all substance.

Bryan is now starring the United States in anticipation of the coming presidential campaign. He has visited even the Pacific coast, having been slated to speak in Seattle on the 3d inst. Bryan is a striking example of the possibilities open to the American youth. By sheer force of personal character and attainments he has made himself the recognized leader of a great national political party, whose destiny he largely controls. While we believe his election to the chief executive office of the United States would be a public misfortune, we admire the man whose individuality has made him what he is.

It is a remarkable fact that an officer in the police service could be knocked down and robbed inside of the barracks stockade, and the guilty party never brought to justice, and no apparent effort made to find him. Nearly three months have elapsed since this desperate deed was committed, and the man who so boldly bearded the Lion in his very den is still at large so far as any knowledge the public may have of the affair is concerned. It appears to us that there is an opportunity for some clever detective work open to someone.

In yesterday's issue of the Nugget appeared a two-column and a half article giving an exhaustive account of the winter's work on Dominion creek up to date. The article was prepared by the Nugget's special creek correspondent, and will be followed by others until all the creeks in the district have been covered. Dominion is turning out most satisfactorily. In spite of high freight charges and other obstacles, work has been carried on upon a large scale, with most promising results.

The semi-weekly issue of the Nugget is again increased to eight full pages, which gives our creek subscribers sixteen pages every week of live reading matter. Special care is given the selection of the matter which appears in the Semi-Weekly Nugget, which is invariably the first paper on the creeks with the latest news. The fact that the Nugget's circulation is greater at the present time than it was when it had a clear field and no competition, speaks volumes for its popularity.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

Jim Adair to Arrive.
A. S. Levine has heard from his consignment of merchandise which is being brought in by Jim Adair. The stock is expected to arrive at Dawson today or tomorrow. There are 30 head of horses freighted the consignment, and upon its arrival the Red Star Clothing house will be packed to the doors with the latest clothing and gents' furnishing goods.

STROLLER'S COLUMN

Gussie Lamore succeeded in creating considerable diversion at the entertainment which was recently given at a local theater in honor of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. She assumed no part in the production of the drama; but she took advantage of the first number of the olio to display her capabilities as a dancer. Incidentally, she incited the ire of the Eagles by frequent references to the Hogan order, of which she claims to be a member. Sometimes her remarks amounted to invidious insinuations; and eventually the honored guests of the evening were provoked to retort. They directed cat calls and malamute howls at the winsome foot light fairy. Ordinarily such treatment would humiliate any member of the theatrical profession; for as a rule, this class of people is most susceptible to applause or criticism. Gussie, however, when in a certain state of exaltation is evidently an exception to the rule which prevails among her associates. The taunts of the audience passed her by as the idle winds did Brutus some nineteen centuries ago. Indeed, this portion of the entertainment was quite amusing to those disinterested persons, who are neither Eagles nor Hogans.

Bob Woodard, of No. 9 below discovery on Sulphur, is the proud possessor of a rubber mattress, which is so contrived that it can be inflated with air. It is one of the those household articles to which the Klondiker's attention was directed by the enterprising merchants of Seattle and Victoria in the days of '97. Like yellow mackinaw clothing, it was said to be an absolute necessity for those who contemplated a trip into the Yukon country; and the only practicable preventative of rheumatism for the argonauts who would be required to sleep on glaciers. Bob did not own a gold mine then; but he confidently concluded that subsequent events would entitle him to the luxury of a rubber mattress. One was included in the list of supplies, comprised of bacon, beans, flour and dried fruit, which he brought into the country. Long since he has consumed or disposed of all of the original outfit, excepting the patented mattress. This he still retains, even though it be useless. He is required to arise in the night, and inflate the article of alleged comfort. His back is marked from the slats of his improvised bedstead; the development of his chest has been out of all proportion to the rest of his physical structure; but Bob asserts that he will continue the use of his mattress as long as he remains in the territory.

The owners of small merchandising establishments and restaurants earnestly hope that pleasant weather will prevail during the next six weeks. They wish to dispose of their stocks in trade and go to Nome on the first steambot. There they expect to accumulate, during the summer, sufficient money to buy a fruit ranch in California, or a business block in some Eastern city. Last season, the scenes along the famous beach were the interesting sights of Nome; but in a few months hence the innumerable junk shops, dealing in everything from a rat-tail file to an anvil, will be the principal attractions of the great Alaskan camp. It will be worth a trip down the river to witness the efforts which will be exerted to separate the man with the rocker from his gold dust. It is true, there, as it was here in the winter of '97, that the early settlers are anxiously awaiting the opening of navigation. They expect to become rich through the credulity of the new arrivals.

New Warehouse.
Frank Kinghorn is building a warehouse on the water front near his present location at the Yukon dock. He will use the largest timbers for the sills and foundation ever put in a building in this country. The logs are 16 inches to 20 inches at the butt and 1000 feet are now lying at the site ready to be placed in position.

Short orders served tight. The Holborn.
Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pio near Drug Store.

When in town, stop at the Regina.
"Mainland" and "British, Lion" cigars 25 cents. Rochester Bar, cor. Second ave. and Third sts.

Chewing tobacco \$1 per pound. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

The Holborn Cafe for delicacies.

Spring Styles Arrive.
The Star Clothing house has received today its first consignments of gents' furnishing goods over the ice. They comprise fancy shirts in swell patterns from the famous Neustadter Bros' factory, the very latest in neckwear, hats of the latest block, and a full line of high-class clothing. A. S. Levine is the enterprising proprietor of the establishment.

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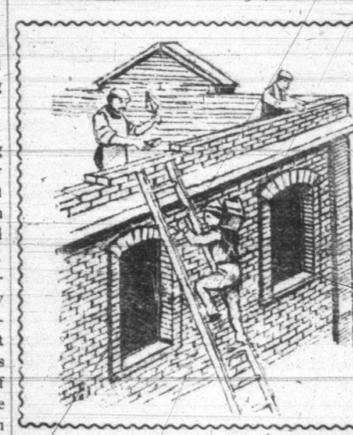
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