

The Klondike Nugget

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INCORPORATION.

A concerted effort made among property owners in Dawson at the present time would, we have reason to believe, result in securing the incorporation of the town as a municipality almost immediately. The question is, do those most interested desire the formation of a municipality. Until the present time there have been no local taxes of a direct nature imposed upon the residents of Dawson, and in consequence there has prevailed a very general disposition among property owners to leave matters as they are—as long as the apparition of the assessor and tax collector has not appeared on the scene.

Now, however, the Yukon Council comes forward and proposes a revenue ordinance, the proceeds from which are to be used in defraying the ordinary expenses of conducting the affairs of the town. This does not mean that all the local revenues are expected to be derived from the proposed ordinance, as a large sum is already received from the various other sources of revenue which the Council has at its disposal. But, once placed in operation, this system of taxation will naturally be made each year the means of raising a continually increasing sum to meet the requirements of a constantly growing community.

The question of incorporating Dawson as a municipality, therefore, assumes an entirely different appearance from that which it has previously borne.

The Council claims the right of levying taxes for municipal purposes, and has announced its intention to make immediate use of that right. It begins to look very much as though Dawson will soon occupy the position, almost anomalous in British history, of a town which pays taxes, but has no voice in electing the taxing authority.

If the town is to be taxed, we are of the opinion that the time is ripe for incorporation.

On the other hand, if the Yukon Council retains all the revenue producing machinery under its own control, as indicated in Gov. Ogilvie's interview, printed in another column, the advantages to be derived from incorporation are open to serious question.

KEEP POLITICS OUT.

We should regret to see considerations of a political nature enter into the movement now being carried on to secure representation in the Yukon Council. This territory is so far removed from the scene of the Dominion's political battles and the questions at issue are so absolutely local in nature as to preclude any reason existing for the drawing of party lines at this time. When it comes to electing representatives to go down to Ottawa to look after our interests, there may be some occasion for bringing party measures and policies into the field. At the present time, however, they are decidedly out of place.

There will be plenty of time to choose candidates after we get the right to elect them, and there will also be plenty of time to

espouse the interests of the great political parties when they display a disposition to grant us some measure of recognition. Meanwhile, we will do very well to stand together for the interests of the Yukon Territory.

The end of the war should see English capital again looking toward the Klondike for investment. Purse strings have been tied pretty closely since hostilities were begun, but confidence is again restored, and capital will soon be let loose and seek profitable fields for investment. The unsettled condition of affairs in South Africa makes it apparent that some time must elapse before capital, which is ultra conservative, will rush into the Transvaal. Meanwhile, safe investment for capital in any amounts will be found in this territory, and in the natural course of events the tide will turn in this direction.

The account of the effort made in British Columbia to place Joseph Martin at the head of the provincial cabinet reads like a page from the history of the middle ages. We were surprised to learn from a brief dispatch, received some time ago, that Ottawa authorities had the affairs of British Columbia under serious advisement. The arrival of the details of the story remove all grounds for surprise. Victoria has been nearer a condition of anarchy during the past few weeks than Dawson ever thought of being.

A more earnest assemblage of men never came together for the purpose of discussing questions of public concern than was seen at the meeting on Friday night. There was a manifest determination on the part of the meeting to so shape its actions as to leave no doubt as to its sentiments upon the various questions at issue, and at the same time to show an unprejudiced and fair spirit. In both respects the affair was an unqualified success.

An occasional excitement injected into the somewhat work-a-day order of life which prevails in Dawson will serve a useful purpose in furnishing us the means of varying the monotony of things. Viewed from every standpoint, the meeting of Friday night was decidedly refreshing.

Reports concerning a probable reduction in the royalty are conflicting. Consul McCook says it will be reduced, and today's dispatches deny the allegation. However, we are of the opinion that there is good reason to hope for some favorable action before the elections, which it is now said will come off in June.

The women of Pretoria, to the number of 2,000, are enrolled, uniformed and armed for the defense of the city. In addition to being excellent shots, the Transvaal women are said to have very long finger nails. We are inclined to think that Lord Roberts' troubles have just begun.

Friday night's mass meeting will be remembered as an important episode in the history of the territory. By keeping everlastingly at it we will yet be recognized as entitled to some consideration at the hands of the powers that be.

From Dawson to Cannett in less than five days is the record made by the mail last week. And yet people talk of the isolation of the Klondike!

Short orders served right. The Holborn.

Malloy in Good Condition.

The boxing contest between Dick Case and Pat Malloy will be given at the Orpheum next Thursday evening. Both men have been training faithfully ever since the match was arranged. Some few days ago, it was rumored that Malloy had been so ill for the past week or so that he was unable to train himself properly. When questioned concerning the matter the young man said: "I have never felt better in my life. About two weeks ago I suffered a short while with a cold, but I soon recovered, and my training work was not interrupted. When I enter the ring you bet I'll be fit to win. I am about the same weight as Case; but my reach is longer, and I am a taller man than he is. These points will count. Without boasting, I wish to say that I can secure a decision over any man of my class in the Yukon. Next Thursday I will be able to strike a stronger blow than I ever have before."

At this juncture Malloy's conversation was interrupted by his boxing partner, a husky youth nearly six feet tall, who volunteered the remark: "You can hit hard enough, Pat. Why, look at this eye," he continued, as he pointed to his badly discolored right optic, "I was out for three minutes when you landed a left there. And that was the second time I went to bed with my clothes on. When we first began to train, you reached the point of my jaw, and I didn't spar any more that day."

Malloy appears to be in excellent physical condition, and Case will have to work as hard as he ever did in his life if he wins the contest.

Was a Day of Rest.

The fact that several teamsters were up in police court Monday of last week on the charge of violating the Sabbath by pursuing their worldly avocations on that day had an effect which was very apparent yesterday, as not a team was then noticed to be at work at any time during the entire day. Taken all around, yesterday was the most quiet Sunday Dawson has had for many months, and probably the quiet was fully as highly appreciated by the teamsters themselves as by any other class of people.

The Sunday Concert.

The concert which was given at the Palace Grand theater last evening was very well attended. The program consisted of 11 numbers, ten of which were rendered. Miss Nellie Forsythe, who had been engaged to sing "Kathleen," was unable to appear on account of illness. The Symphonic orchestra played some very excellent selections. The most prominent features were the two descriptive pieces, namely, a fantasia, "Mining on the Yukon," by Loesch, and the fantasia, "A Trip to Great Britain," by Langley. However, the rendition of all the numbers was above criticism. The program was as follows:

- March, "Northern Lights," (Knight), orchestra; overture, "Freischultz," (Carl Maria v. Weber), orchestra; song, "Resurrection," (Shelly), Mr. Ed Shank; musical selections, orchestra; song, "Oh, Promise Me," (De Koven); Mrs. Leroy Tozier; descriptive fantasia, "Mining on the Yukon," (Loesch), orchestra; overture, "Huguenots," (Meyerbeer), orchestra; waltz, "Pictures From the Vienna Woods," (Strauss), orchestra; piano solo, Mrs. E. B. Lyon; descriptive, "A Trip to Great Britain," (Langley), orchestra.

Parties wishing to sell or buy mining property call on or address Norton D. Walling, Grand Forks.

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