

DAWSON BOARD OF TRADE

Holds Its Regular Monthly Meeting.

Several Important Questions Considered—Suggestions Made as to Mail Service.

A regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trade was held Wednesday in the board chambers of the A. C. office building. Second vice-President Yemans presided in the absence of senior officers. The minutes of the previous monthly meeting as well as of previous meetings of the board of trustees, were read, the former for approval, the latter for the information of the board. E. P. Condon, chairman of the committee on mines and mining, reported that while his committee is devoting two nights of each week in the compilation of a report, but that further time would be required as the report will necessarily be a voluminous one. The committee was granted another month.

The matter of better mail facilities was taken up and discussed, the board congratulated the local mail service which includes the Dawson postoffice and those having the carrying contract, but by no means endorsed the treatment being accorded Dawson by the Canadian government. It is facilities for the carrying of second class mail matter to and from Dawson that the board is demanding and will endeavor to have supplied by the government.

L. R. Fulda asked for information if the Canadian government permits regularly stamped mail to be carried by express companies the same as is done in the states by Wells, Fargo Co. No one appeared able to give the desired information.

By Leroy Tozier, the secretary of the board was instructed to address the postmaster general at Ottawa setting forth the conditions as they exist here and ask that the contractors be forced to carry the full limit of 700 pounds of mail as they are supposed to carry, and are paid for carrying, and further that the government be asked to enter into a supplementary contract for the delivery of 500 pounds additional mail matter in Dawson with each regular trip, the additional mail matter to embrace that of the second-class. The motion, although receiving no second, was the subject of considerable discussion.

C. J. K. Nourse gave it as his opinion that every pound of mail, of whatever class, intended for Dawson, should be delivered by the government, but that the chance of getting the government to do so is not flattering.

On motion, Messrs. Yemans, Fulda and Nourse were appointed a committee to correspond with the officials at Ottawa, notifying them of the conditions and needs of Dawson regarding her winter mail service.

E. C. Allen, chairman of the committee on fire, light and water, asked that his committee be given further time in which to prepare a report, promising to report at the next meeting of the board of trustees. The request was granted.

The matter of establishing a grade and of grading First avenue was taken up and a communication in reference thereto from Commissioner Ogilvie read. The commissioner's letter was not encouraging to the proposition on the grounds that such improvement, he said, would necessitate the expenditure of a large sum of money. (The government, in case of the grading of First avenue, would have to foot half the bill, as it owns all the river side of that thoroughfare.) After considerable discussion the secretary was instructed to request the council to establish an official grade on First avenue, but that it be not asked to do any grading for the present, the grade to be for the benefit of property owners contemplating the erection of buildings.

Article 2 of section 3 was amended to read "147 days" instead of "60 days," this portion of the by-laws applying to the time in which charter members of the Board be received, the amendment extending the time to February 1, 1900.

Section 1 of article 4 was amended by adding the following words: "The president shall, ex-officio, be a member of the board of trustees."

A suggestion that the board issue a series of sympathetic resolutions in behalf of the Nome miners was the cause of no little merriment, but nothing came of the suggestion, the preponderance of opinion being that perhaps the Nome miners are as well or better off than their fellows of Dawson.

The matter of the present poor telegraph service was discussed but the

board decided that it was not in its province to suggest to the Dominion Telegraph Company at present.

Scavenger Guilds called attention of the board to the habit practiced by many restaurants in the city of throwing slops, garbage, etc., into public streets and alleys; that the secretary notify the council of the practices and ask that an ordinance be passed regulating and eliminating the evil.

The secretary was instructed to correspond with the Yukon council asking that body to take steps towards abating the sign evil now prevalent in the city.

Joseph L. Green, formerly with the Dawson Water Company, was introduced to the board by L. R. Fulda. He submitted to the board a proposition to construct a first-class water system in Dawson, a system which will supply water inside the houses if it is so desired. A temporary system, he said, could be put in operation on First and Second avenues during the month of March, and soon thereafter the system would be extended all over the city. Mr. Green stated that the necessary money was at hand for the construction of the plant, but was not at liberty at the present to disclose the names of those interested. He asked that the board take the proposition under advisement and stated that in case it was favorably considered he would ask for an exclusive franchise from the Yukon council, also from the Canadian government. The proposition was referred to the committee on fire, water and light.

On motion, the president was empowered to appoint a committee on health and sanitation.

There being no other business, the board adjourned.

Steam Thawers Have Come to Stay.

A representative of The Nugget has just returned from a ten days' trip up the creeks, where he was "rubber necking."

The object was to find out something about steam thawers. On Monte Cristo hill, where one year ago there was scarcely anything, today there are 20 steam thawers at work on the frozen placers and in many cases hoisting the dirt out of the shaft. There is every kind of boiler one ever heard of. The upright tubular, the horizontal tubular, the return flue tubular, the Scotch marine, and then comes the family of pipe boilers which is as numerous almost as there are manufacturers. The Roberts type leads in numbers, with its many different varieties. Then there is the coil pipe boiler, a very excellent one, and the old fashioned porcupine. And then again one sees the clumsy aggregation of large four-inch pipes, which is the poorest steamer of them all.

A great many pipe boilers syphon the water out with the steam, making it impossible to run points at a high steam pressure. Another common fault is with the fire boxes; they are usually too large thereby losing much of the direct heat.

A good many miners are prejudiced against pipe boilers because of the deficient quality of some of the makes. But it is no more fair to judge all pipe boilers by one than it is to judge all men by one man. There are four essentials that a pipe boiler should aim at and as yet none of them come up to the requirements, viz: Economy in weight, economy in wood and durability.

Most of the pipe boilers are lacking in water capacity, and steam domes. The experience of the miners this winter with their different boilers will demonstrate what is to be the "survival of the fittest."

It is certain to a steam man that it can not be any of the tubular class, as they are all great wood eaters, and wood is money on most of the creeks now.

The Nugget man saw some claims where five men and five points were putting the same number of cubic yards on the dump as some other mine, with double the points and crew. Of course the difference in output is attributable in part to the character of the ground and the ability of the manager, but the difference lies chiefly in the kind of machinery and the way in which it is used.

The Nugget realizes the importance that steam is to play in the future of the Yukon and invites papers from practical miners giving their ideas and experience in the use of their particular machines. A live discussion between miners on the subject will surely result in great good to the community at large.

Notice.

Until further notice the office of the undersigned will be located in the small building north of the S. Y. T. warehouse, formerly occupied by the B. L. & K. N. Co. ORR & TUKEY, Packers and Freighters.

THIEVING AT SCOW ISLAND.

Evidences of an Organized Gang of Pilferers.

Goods Are Stolen From Scows and Cached in the Woods—Employ Watchmen.

From parties who have just arrived from Scow island, so named on account of there being 21 scows laid up there for the winter, it is learned that theft and pilfering stalk rampant day and night at that place. But a small percentage of the cargo of the 21 scows has been or will be brought on to Dawson before the opening of navigation, and as many of the scows are entirely without care and attention, they are a prey to any and all comers. It is said that but little of the stuff is being taken by persons bound for the outside or by persons coming in from the outside, but by a gang that is making systematic stealings with the intention of shipping the goods down the river to this city on their own account in the spring. The goods are being taken from the scows and carried back into the woods on the mainland and cached for the winter. A gentleman who arrived in the city from the island one day this week is authority for the statement that, while wandering about in the woods on the mainland a few days ago he came upon a cache of upwards of two tons which had been carried back from the river a distance of two miles. This particular cache of goods was made up principally of lard in cases. This is only a sample of what is being done and it is thought that with the persistency with which the thieves are working there will be little if any cargo left in unguarded crafts on Scow island by the time the voice of the whip-poor-will is again heard in the land.

The owners of the property in question are, in a great measure, to blame for the loss of their goods by theft. The man who owns a few thousand dollars' worth of goods on Scow island or any other point up the river can well afford to employ a watchman for his property, and if he fails to do so he has but himself to censure if he finds his goods missing on his return in the spring. If a man does not take sufficient interest in his own property to protect it, he cannot expect protection from the police. The latter have as much as they can well look after in the winter season without detailing a man to guard each scow or group of scows that may be frozen in on the river. But should the police apprehend the thieves, then there will be a few, much appreciated by the public, "horrible examples" made. In the meantime, persons who own property left on scows up the river will do well to put reliable men on watch.

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W. E. Prentice Returns.

W. E. Prentice who left Dawson last June on a visit to his former home in New York, arrived in the city Wednesday 19 days from Skagway. He reports the trail in good condition and the cut off a great convenience to travelers. Horses in tandem may be used to good advantage, all along the route. Mr. Prentice says everybody is talking Nome, and he predicts that the rush to that place when the season opens may reach 200,000 people. He says there is considerable stealing from scows up the river. One man at Minto has been arrested for stealing and will be brought by the police to Dawson. Mr. Prentice was accompanied on his trip over the ice by James McCullough, Henry Rogers, Frank Page, McCloud and Malcolm.

Masquerade on Dominion.

New Year's night Dominion creek was the scene of a brilliant affair. Mr. and Mrs. Card gave a grand masquerade at the Palace hotel and a thoroughly enjoyable time was spent.

Mrs. Card and Mrs. Marsten gave a clever cake walk in costume and several fancy dances and music together with the light fantastic and a splendid supper completed the programme. Among those present were:

Miss Zervis, ghost; Mrs. Wild, domino; Mrs. R. J. Marsten, school

girl; Miss Robinson, summer girl; Mrs. Deas, folly; Miss Mina Holmes, flower girl; Mrs. Banks, topsy; Mrs. G. E. Simpson, Puritan girl; Mrs. Golden, domino; Mrs. Willard Scott, domino; Mrs. Harland, ghost; Mrs. A. Robinson, fancy costume; Miss Gordon, domino; Mrs. Card, full dress; Mrs. Artaud, domino; Miss Julian, gypsy; Mrs. McKay, sailor girl; Wm. Ansley, negro woman; G. E. Simpson, negro woman; Wm. Goss, queen of Manila; Geo. Dowe; D. B. McNeil, ghost; Guy O. Laughlin; bicycle girl; A. W. Robinson, Napoleon; R. L. Allen, fancy costume; R. Marsten, Irish woman; M. Banks, sport; Dr. Bell, Chinaman; J. M. McNeil; Mr. Comford, domino; Mr. Wild, domino; Mr. Connelly, Yukoner; E. L. Venable, policeman; Tom A. Shea, school girl, and many others.

No Revolt in Cuba.

Havana, Dec. 6.—La Lucha, in an editorial on the situation in Cuba, says:

"There will be neither revolt nor insurrection. Matters are in a grave condition, but not alarmingly so. The judicious behavior of all persons of influence will prevent violent or sensational developments. There has been no outbreak of armed men in any part of the island, and as a matter of fact the people in the rural districts intend to squelch any attempt at an uprising.

"The farmers who had to be forced to fight Spain are now beginning to recover from the effects of that struggle.

They know that the Americans are determined to maintain the peace, and they know that the American authorities are kept fully informed of every step taken by men who are giving a percentage of their salaries to buy arms. The other imbeciles—the agitators and office holders who are using the money they receive from the United States to further plans, which they must know are doomed to fail—are also marked men. The American government has in Cuba an unapproachable spy service, largely composed of Cubans themselves."

Remarks of this nature, coming from a newspaper closely in touch with the facts of the situation and inclined to show the brightest side of affairs, have provoked a good deal of discussion among Americans here, especially an allusion in another part of the editorial to the project of the rural guard to use the arms furnished them by the United States. The latter suggestion is thought by some to confirm the report that the rural guard will take to the woods in a body when called upon by properly authorized Cuban leaders.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Peter Iverson and Walter Ruhl will start Wednesday morning for Nome. They will take nine dogs and one sled. They will carry no outfit, other than provisions for themselves and dogs.

Yet another change has taken place in the management of the Opera house. Harry Woolrich who was announced as manager a few days ago has stepped down and out, and a stock company composed of musicians and actors is endeavoring to hold the institution up.

The sacred concert at the Palace Grand Sunday night will be the greatest musical treat of the season. Among other interesting features will be the prison scene from Trovatore and overture, and Cavalira from Cavalier Rusticana, with operatic selections.

Mr. E. A. Emmans and Miss Bertha Matlock were united in marriage at 8:30 o'clock last Thursday eve in at the home of the brides' father, Hon. J. H. Matlock, late of Ione county, Oregon. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. E. Hetherington of the M. E. church. The groom has extensive mining interests on the various creeks. The bride accompanied her father and brother to this place last October from Skagway and Bennett, at both of which places they had mercantile interests.

Unfounded Report.

It is reported that Lulu Elliott, who left for the outside last Thursday by dog team had her hands and feet hopelessly frozen the second day out. Inquiry, however, among Lulu's former associates and friends at "Nigger Jim's" where she was before leaving, employed in the "fantastic toe" business, have heard nothing from her since she left, and they assert that they would have been informed ere this if there was any truth in the report. Lulu Elliott is one of four women who are being taken outside by F. M. Smith and Ed. Clancy.

"Put money in your purse." See the fine line of pocketbooks at Cribbs & Rogers.