

## DAWSON MERCHANTS TALK

### On the Subject of Transient Traders and Jobbers.

#### Will Request Yukon Council to Enact Laws Protecting the Legitimate Tradesman.

"My idea of procedure in reference to the question," said Edgar Mizner, "would be to charge a license according to tonnage, the lowest being \$100, and from that graduated according to the amount of merchandise carried in a scow up to \$500. The license system might be worked with success in all lines of business; that would obviate the taxation problem. I do not think, however, the scow business will prove remunerative next season as our concern intends to make things hum as far as selling goods is concerned. I think the man who brings in goods next season will not make a particularly profitable venture."

It is understood that immediate action is to be taken by the merchants of Dawson towards requesting from the Yukon council some measure on the part of that body which will protect the mercantile community from the fly-by-night speculator who floats down the Yukon with a scow load of goods and, dumping them on the market here, is off again to repeat the venture as long as navigation remains open. The objection raised by the merchants to this method of doing business is that it is unjust that they who take all the chances of fire, pay taxes, support public enterprises and employ labor the year around, are not better protected from the intrusion of the temporary merchant who does nothing for the development of the country, his only aim being to dispose of a consignment of goods quickly and leave the country with his gains without paying his proportion of the expenses of the country. The following interviews gives an idea of the general feeling in the matter:

"I do not think there will be as much business done this coming season with scows as in the past for several reasons," said H. Te Roller, "first by reason of the profitless ventures of many scow men last summer and again by the fact that the large stores are now in a position to land goods in Dawson cheaper than ever, cutting off the big profits possible in the past. However, this matter should be vigorously handled by the authorities and people engaged in that business should be compelled to pay both a transportation license the same as any other transportation company, and a trader's license at least as heavy as that of merchants who permanently reside here. An undesirable feature of the scow business, from the consumers' standpoint, lies in the fact that inferior goods are dumped on the market, the purchaser having no redress when such is proven the case as the seller has left the country. Should a merchant, however, unwittingly sell goods to his customers which are not up to standard he will exchange them for fresh goods even though a period of three or even six months has transpired since the sale was made."

D. A. Shindler—I think all scow outfits should be taxed at least \$100 and some means taken to stop the importation of general merchandise in a scow which is brought down the river with a few sacks of vegetables, they being purposely shipped to take advantage of the fresh food act which allows scows carrying vegetables, etc., to land without paying any tax whatever.

Harry Hershberg—I think it a great hardship on the legitimate merchants here who carry on business the year around that itinerant traders should be allowed to bring in commodities as they have in the past and dump them on the local market without paying anything to speak of for the support of the country from which they take large amounts of money. They should be heavily taxed to say the least.

J. P. McLennan—I think scow men should be made to pay a license which would cover their transactions for a year. The amount paid by these men should be in excess of that charged to local merchants as we take all the risk and are here all the year round. If it is just to tax us on the "turn over system" on presumable sales it certainly should apply to these traders and they should be compelled to pay on a volume of business in like proportion. In this connection I might add that provision should be made by the authorities whereby the police would report to the tax collector all new stores which opens for business in the future and the enterprise made to pay

taxes immediately before the goods are sold and the store closed only to be opened by another itinerant merchant.

#### The Animal in Man.

Of all animals upon earth man came last. All of earth's animal creations are bound up in man. As to the first statement there is no difference of opinion. The Bible and Darwin agree that man was created last of all the animals.

Very superficial observation will convince you that man contains in his mental make up all of the "inferior" animals, or at least a great many of them. You, Mr. Jones or Mr. Smith, who read this are in your single self a sort of synthesis of the entire animal creation. If you could be divided into your component animal parts, there would be a menagerie in your house, and you, Smith or Jones, would be missing. That thing we call a soul would be floating around, impalpable, looking for its house to live in.

Of course you can see the animal make up in your neighbor more readily than in yourself.

How do men describe each other? Do they not speak as follows and mean exactly what they say: "He is as sly as a fox," "He eats like a pig," "He has doglike faithfulness," "He is as brave as a lion," "He is as treacherous as a snake," "He was as hungry as a wolf," etc.

Our good and our bad qualities alike are mapped out in our humble animal relations. The horse stands for ambition, which strives and suffers in silence. The dog represents friendship, which suffers and sacrifices much, but whines loudly when injured. We have no doubt that of the 12 passions which enter into Fourier's complex analysis of man each has its prototype in some one animal.

To rebel at the animal combination which makes up a man would be folly. The Maker of us all, from ants up, naturally gathered together the various parts in lower animal form before finishing the work of man. A harmoniously balanced mixture of all the animals is calculated undoubtedly to produce the perfect man.

Therefore study your animal make up. Analyze honestly and intelligently the so called "lower" creatures from whom you derive your mental characteristics. If you have not yet done so, study at once some good work on embryology and learn with amazement and awe of your marvelous parental transformations. Then do your best to control the menagerie that is at work in your mind.

Stupefy Mr. Pig if he is too prominent. Circumvent Mr. Fox if he tries to rule you and make of you a mere cunning machine. Do not let your old dog Tray qualities of friendship lead to your being made a fool.

In short, study the animal qualities that make up your temperament and prove in your own person the falseness of Napoleon's irritating statement that a man's temperament can never be changed by himself.

It may interest you to know that when man becomes insane the fact is at once made apparent that his mind, dethroned, had acted as the ruler of a savage menagerie. Many crazy men imagine themselves animals of one sort or another. Nearly all of them display the grossest animal qualities, once their mind is deranged. Women of the greatest refinement sink into dreadful animalism when insane. Heine tells of a constable who in his boyhood ruled his native city. One fine day "This constable suddenly went crazy. \* \* \* And thereupon he began to roar like a lion or squall like a cat." Heine remarks with calculated naivete: "We little boys were greatly delighted at the old fellow, and trooped yelling after him, until he was carried off to a madhouse."

There is, by the way, much of the natural animal in "little boys." It takes years to make a fairly reasonable creature of a young human. For that reason many ignorant parents are foolishly distressed at juvenile displays of animalism, which are perfectly natural.

The same Heine, whose writing you ought not to neglect, describes beautifully a human menagerie. We'll quote that, and then let you off for the day. Heine was living in Paris in the forties and used to visit a curious revolutionary freak named Ludwig Borne. Of this man's house Heine wrote:

"I found in his salon such a menagerie of people as can hardly be found in the Jardin des Plantes (the Paris zoological garden). In the background several polar bears were crouching, who smoked and hardly ever spoke except to growl out now and then a real fatherland 'Donnerwetter,' in a deep bass voice. Near them was squatting a Polish wolf in a red cap, who occasionally yelped out a silly, wild remark in a hoarse tone. There, too, I found a French monkey, one of the most hideous creatures I ever saw. He kept up

a series of grimaces, each of which seemed more lovely than the last," etc. If Heine's polar bears, wolf and monkey had studied themselves, as we advise you to study yourself, they might have escaped the sarcasm of the sharpest tongue ever born in or out of Germany.—Ex.

#### Mammoth and Mastodon.

So many remains of prehistoric animals have been found in this country, some of them constituting the best and most complete specimens known, giving to the student and the curiously inclined better ideas of what the country and its animal and vegetable life must have been like in former ages, that some adequate description of the huge animals according to the scientific research may prove of interest.

To begin with, the remains of the animals found here so thickly scattered under a strata of comparatively recent formation, are of two distinct kinds, which leads to the natural conclusion that they belonged to the same day and family, and that they were the most numerous of the animals living at that time, and that in accordance with their size must have held sway over the animal kingdom. These two animals are spoken of by scientists as the mammoth and the mastodon.

The latter differed from his near relative only slightly. His head was longer and narrower, his tusks were longer and not so thick, and they commonly extended from the sheath at the base of the trunk, in a curling form, out and somewhat downward, with the ends turned in towards each other. His principal point of differentiation from the mammoth, however, was in his teeth, the molars being peaked, while those of the mammoth were flat. The mammoth more nearly resembled the elephant of the present day. His head was broader and shorter, the molar teeth were flat and his tusks, while not so long were of a much sturdier build, and turned backward and up in a slight curve.

That he used these tusks, which, in some of the specimens found are as great in diameter as an ordinary stovepipe, for toraging purposes, is evidenced by the tusks found, which, in some instances, are worn away to quite sharp points by the action of gravel, sand or other material, supposedly about the roots of trees and such places as their food was found.

There are indications showing that in Europe these animals became extinct at a somewhat earlier period than they did in this country where they flourished in a very late pleistocene period.

The species seem to have become, in France, extinct soon after the coming of man, and the fact that there is no evidence of this country having been inhabited by man at the same period as that of the mammoth, would indicate that the country was not peopled by the human race till long after Europe is known to have been inhabited.

The best specimens thus far found were discovered in Northern Siberia, where, imbedded in the frozen soil have been found not only skeletons intact but still retaining the flesh and skin, and covered with a thick coat of coarse hair, under which, after the fashion of northern animals of the present day, was a warm coat of fine fur of a reddish brown color.

This feature acts as a very decided contribution to the belief indulged in by many that the country, at the time the mammoth flourished was at least temperate, if not semi-tropical in climate.

Had it been such, it is difficult to imagine an argument that would show why the animals were thus provided with a fur coat.

#### ILLICIT HOOTCH.

(Continued from Page 1.)

stroke. The final result, as has been stated, was \$200 and costs, which were paid, and Mr. Sullivan, the persecuted, went forth without the means of producing the far-famed balmy dampsness which has gone into history as one of Dawson's peculiarities.

In the meantime Capt. Starnes retains the factory. That the business carried on must have been somewhat extensive seems to be witnessed by the large number of empty barrels found.

There are many who will doubtless be able to recall the fact that drinks procured at certain times in some of the local saloons bore a certain rawness in taste, not to mention something of an electrical effect which followed its consumption, and no doubt if these things are missed from Dawson whisky in the future, those who do the missing may attribute the loss to the seizure of the Sullivan hootchery.

It is believed by the police that with this seizure moonshining will cease as it is not thought that there is another plant in the territory. As a final result it must be said that Constable

Piper has acquitted himself with honor to himself and credit to the force in the matter of refusing to be influenced even for seven short days.

#### A New Sidewalk.

A new sidewalk is being constructed in the barracks square leading from the entrance to the orderly room along by the commissary and ware rooms and on to the house of Major Wood.

A man named Clawson was brought in from 25 above on Bonanza yesterday by Homen's stage almost completely paralyzed with rheumatism. He was taken to the Good Samaritan hospital, where he is being cared for.

Plenty choice fresh vegetables at Meeker's.

Kodaks bought and sold. Goetzman.

For choice meats go to the Denver Market.

The Seattle Market has received over the ice dressed turkeys, fine veal, fresh halibut and Eagle brand of eastern oysters. c16

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

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2 " Oat Meal, per pound	.12
200 Cases Roast Beef, (Rex) 12-2s, per case	7.00
200 " Roast Mutton, (Rex) 12-2s, per case	7.00
200 " Steak and Onions (Rex) 12-2s, per case	5.50
100 " Pig's Feet, 12-2s, per case	5.00
100 " Sausage Meat, 12-2s, per case	6.50
100 " Potted Ham, 24-1s, per case	3.00
100 " Potted Tongue, 24-1s, per case	3.00
50 " Bacon and Greens, 24-3s, per case	6.00
100 " Spinach, 24-3s, per case	6.50
40 " Pilot Bread, "medium," 25 lb. tins, per lb.	.10

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