

"HAVE YOU BEEN TAKEN?"

Work of Census Enumerating Is Progressing.

And in the City Will Be Completed by This Evening—One-Fifth Are British Subjects.

With a degree of solemnity never witnessed or excelled outside a private electrocution or hanging bee the work of census enumerating is progressing very satisfactorily, and, so far as the city is concerned, will be completed by this evening. Twenty-two members of the police force are pushing the work as rapidly as possible, and the man who has not taken the precaution to wear his yellow check in his hat band, has, if not deaf, heard the question "Have you been taken?" perhaps 50 times in the past three days. The enumerators are very gentlemanly in the performance of their duties, but the excessive and almost frigid solemnity maintained by them during the process of "taking" is really amusing.

An unofficial estimate by one who is in position to know of the progress made, is that Dawson will be found to contain between 8000 and 9000 male residents of voting age, and the entire district will go from 17,000 to 20,000. It is also stated from the same source that the number of British subjects, men entitled to the rights of suffrage in the Yukon district, are in the proportion of 1 to about 4%, the latter portion being composed of all persons and nationalities other than British subjects.

The above estimate is made only for the city of Dawson, as it is thought that on the creeks and in other settlements of the district the proportion of British subjects will be greater than in Dawson. In the estimate given officials police and soldiers are not included. It is safe, therefore, to conclude that when the rolls are all in and counted there will be found to reside at least 4000 eligible voters in the Yukon district.

Cecil Rhodes' Railway.

Referring to the settlement of the differences between Andrew Carnegie and Henry C. Frick, the New York Press says:

"As is known to all Great Britain and to the newspaper reading public of the United States, the one pet scheme of Cecil Rhodes, 'The South African Colossus,' is his Cape to Cairo railroad project. This one idea has had far more to do with the Boer war than ever has been told. As all England knows of his great project, so does all Pittsburgh, which means the steel manufacturing industry of the United States; know that the Carnegie Steel Co. has expected to obtain the contract for furnishing the steel rails, bridge building material and other construction work for the great railroad.

"The Carnegie Steel Company went so far last fall as to form a prospecting party of civil engineers draughtsmen and others versed in surveying and engineering to go over the proposed route of the Cape to Cairo railroad. The prospecting party expected to be in Central Africa for two years at least, and it was to start from Pittsburgh for Cape Town next month. Had the bitter feud continued between these two millionaire iron and steel kings, the affairs of the Carnegie Steel Company possibly would have been tied up by litigation, the numerous mills closed by injunctions obtained by Frick, and all the possibility of this company getting the enormous contract for steel rails for the Cape to Cairo railroad would have been off."

Impressions of the Boers.

Mr. A. C. Hales, the Daily News correspondent, who fell into the hands of the Boers February 7th and was released a few days ago at Bloemfontein, telegraphs some "inside impressions" of the Boers. "They are as clever as cats in their rough mountain country and nearly as active, dashing from point to point with marvelous rapidity; equally at home on foot or in the saddle, never by any chance exposing themselves needlessly, but brave enough when mere courage and force are necessary.

"They watched our men moving toward them on the veldt from behind bushes, rocks and loose earth, often allowing our scouts to get within a few yards, and permitting them to ride away unmolested, in order to draw the troops into ambush."

It was into one of these snares that Mr. Hales, with 80 Tasmanians, rode. Lamberts, the Boer General, is described as "dressed as a bullock-driver, with patched tweed trousers, a coarse, blue

cotton shirt, a dirty, red cotton handkerchief around his neck and a battered felt hat. He wore a pair of boots that were ragged at the toes, his sleeves were rolled up to the elbows, and he had a short pipe in his mouth when Mr. Hales saw him. But he seemed full of dash and energy and was said to be a celebrated hunter. His men did not salute him, but addressed him familiarly.

Mr. Hales and the other wounded were sent into the interior. Whenever their escort stopped at a Boer farm, men and women gave them milk, fruit, brandy and tobacco, washed their wounds and literally overwhelmed them with kindly attentions. When some of the British prisoners said they were married and had families, the Boer women would lift their children to be shaken by the hand.

GRAND FORKS ITEMS.

J. W. Frame, owner of one of the best hillside on Quartz creek, has just returned from a tour of inspection to the locality. He reports many people anxious to purchase mining property now who one year ago had no faith in the future of the creek as a gold producer.

Peter McDonald, who made money at the rate of a dollar a minute in the early days of Dawson, running a saloon and dance hall, has been sojourning at the Forks for a few days. He is thinking of taking in the new camp on the Koyukuk, and expects to leave at the opening of navigation.

Since boxes are nearly all in place on the various claims, and in a few cases the work of washing up has already begun. The dumps are to be much frozen yet for active operations, and will require more sunshine to thaw them before a general cleanup can be inaugurated.

The N. A. T. Co. have lumber on the ground for the erection of buildings to be used for their branch store and the accommodation of their employees engaged in summer work on No. 5 above on Bonanza. A portion of the town is situated upon this ground and should their mining operations be carried to any extent on the right limit of the creek, it will undermine many cabins now situated high on the bluff.

The postoffice at this place does a lively business upon the arrival of mail, and the number of people in line awaiting delivery reminds one of the early days in Dawson.

Dr. Ramsey, the dispenser of pink pills for pale people, officiates in the absence of Dr. Edwards, the government's trusted representative.

Rev. Mr. Cook, the Presbyterian minister here, is imbued with many of the principles adopted by the Salvation Army; that is, to enter fields where reformation is most needed. His church has a bottling works on one side and a law office on the other.

Crown Prosecutor Wade, Gold Commissioner Senkler, Barrister Tabor and N. A. Fuller took dinner at the Magnet, 18 below, on Sunday. It was remarked by a fellow guest that if Wade brought the strong arm of the law into play with such telling effect as he handled the table furniture on that occasion, there would be few acquittals charged against him during his official career. The party came up in a democrat wagon, hence their appetite.

The Butler hotel and bar was opened to the public last evening by Jack Cavanaugh. The partitions have been removed, making a large concert and dancing hall, which, with other alterations, give the house a more commodious appearance. With the Dewey in full blast and the prospect of a third one coming, the Forks will indeed be a warm camp for the next two months.

Surprised at Clerical Mistakes.

The department of the interior at Ottawa, expresses surprise at the great number of fractional placer applications which are made by persons here, who allege that they have lost property through mistakes and errors. By the last mail, Commissioner Bell received from the department a letter, an extract of which reads as follows:

"The department is somewhat surprised at the number of applications received for compensation owing to errors by clerks; and you are requested to advise the officials that the department will feel obliged upon to make the clerk who is guilty of mistakes in the future, liable for his errors."

Weather Report.

The maximum temperature for the 24 hours preceding 9 o'clock this morning was 61 degrees above zero.

The minimum temperature during the same period of time was 25 degrees above.

Hilarity on tap at Rochester Bar.

Table d'hote dinners. The Holborn,

SOME OF WALSH'S IDEAS.

Some of the Suggestions Which the First Commissioner Made to Sifton.

A Number of Them Have Already Been Acted On, and Others Probably Will Be.

In view of the fact that the Ottawa government has recently shown a disposition to grant certain reforms which have long been sought by the people of this territory, it becomes interesting to refer to Major Walsh's report re reded the government shortly after his return to Ottawa. Before leaving Dawson in the fall of '98, Major Walsh expressed himself in favor of a number of changes which the people were seeking, and a perusal of his report indicates that the major possessed very clear ideas as to the requirements of the country.

Among other features of the report the following recommendations will prove interesting as indicating how accurately the major forecasted the legislation needed to insure the continued growth of the territory:

1. Establish a branch postoffice at the Forks of Eldorado and Bonanza creeks.
2. All timber leases should be issued from the district and not from Ottawa.
3. There should be an inspector of weights and measures appointed.
4. There should be a steamboat inspector appointed.
5. There should be an assistant judge for the Dawson district appointed, and that one of his duties be the deciding of mining disputes.
6. That it would not be proper for the Dominion government to pass a law prohibiting aliens from taking up mining claims in the British Yukon.
7. That the mining laws and regulations must be liberal.
8. That good facilities for communication and transportation must be provided in the district.
9. That a telegraph line is an immediate necessity.
10. That the officials of the government be allowed to stake claims, but not allowed to speculate in such claims.
11. That the postoffice department should take over the mail service of the Yukon.
12. I would recommend for the government of the Yukon district the appointment of a council to consist of the commissioner and of four appointed and four elected members, the appointed members to be selected from the population of the district, and the elected members to be returned from the four districts of Dawson, Stewart river, Pelly river and Hootalinqua river.
13. The Liberal government should also convey to the Yukon council such powers as will enable the council to grant incorporation to towns and municipalities.
14. That the royalty should be reduced.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

Harry Merrymont learned to his sorrow and the material detriment of his purse that to run out of hay while en route from Bennett to Dawson with horses is not a good thing to do. But this shortage occurred to him three days ago, and when yet two days out from Dawson with seven steeds attached to sleds which were laden with merchandise. The result was, as Merrymont himself admitted in court this morning, that two of his horses were in very bad condition when he neared Dawson yesterday and when he came in contact with Constable Booth, who was out "taking" and by whom he was arrested, the charge against him this morning being that of cruelty and inhumanity, in that he was working horses in an unfit condition. The constable's statement was corroborated by the driver, who said that the horses had been fed oats until they refused them, but had not been fed hay for two days for the reason that they had none to feed them. Merrymont, in his own behalf, thought that probably the horses had become sick from being overfed. In imposing sentence the court severely reprimanded the defendant and was sorry it was not allowed to sentence him to six or nine months at hard labor. However, Merrymont got the full limit for the first offence, \$50 and costs of the court and witnesses.

A strenuous attempt was made by Frank K. Wishard, assisted by his partner and one of his teamsters, to prove in court this morning that Frank Hitchcock had fraudulently disposed of a saddle which was claimed by the prosecuting witness. Hitchcock had no difficulty in proving his position in the matter which was that the saddle was his own property, and therefore to be done with by him as he saw fit. The case was dismissed.

Preparation at Skagway

In preparation for the big traffic to come this way this summer en route to the Yukon basin, the White Pass & Yukon road has just begun important work on terminal and other facilities designed to give rapid dispatch.

One of the works is the building of two scows which will rank as the largest on the Yukon lakes. Their keels were laid this week at Bennett, and work is being pushed on both craft by 17 car-

penters. Each scow will be 26x70 feet and have a capacity of 100 tons of freight. F. A. Twitchell, who is in charge of the construction of the craft, expects to have them ready for use in three weeks. They will be used in conveying railroad material and empty cars from Bennett to Caribou pending the completion of that part of the railroad from Bennett to Caribou.

Another important work to be done shortly by the railroad is the putting in of two big derricks on Moore's wharf. They are to be used for the lifting of machinery and other such heavy material right from the ships to the cars.

One derrick will take the freight from the ship and deposit it in the center of the wharf. The other will pick it up and swing it around and on the car. Each derrick will have a lifting radius of 46 feet, and will be able to pick up any article not weighing more than ten tons. Articles weighing less than half a ton will not be handled by the derricks. The heavy shipments of mining and other machinery through this port to the interior have been handled here only with difficulty, but it is hoped to hereafter rush them through with as much ease as though they were playthings.—Alaskan.

Whipsaw Record.

Archie McClellan and George Keyes, two old timers, with a saw, cut out 372 feet of lumber in a single day of ten hours last week. The men were working for W. A. Crabb on 13 pup below lower Dominion, and Mr. Crabb and others vouch for the correctness of the measurement and the time consumed. The record is said to beat all previous records with a whipsaw made in the Klondike district.

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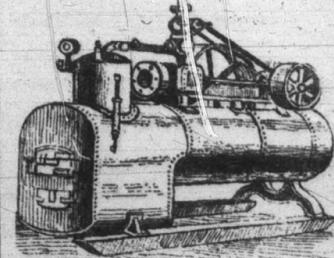
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