

FIRST COUNCIL MEETING

In New Chambers Held Yesterday Afternoon - Session Not Remarkable for Length or Amount of Business Transacted - Councilman Wilson Speaks - Adjourned Until Monday.

The council chamber in the new Administration building, which was occupied yesterday by the Yukon council for the first time, presented quite a gay and animated appearance when that august body was called to order shortly after 3 o'clock. Outside the railing in the seats provided for the public were a number of Dawson's most prominent citizens, including several ladies, and the contrast with the dingy, old quarters in the old court house was indeed a marked one. Prior to the convening of the council the members had all been assigned their respective seats which hereafter they will regard as their own. Registrar Girouard occupies the seat of honor, that immediately to the right of the commissioner, he being in point of service the senior member of the council, alongside Mr. Girouard is his right hand, Justice Dugan. In the rear row is Legal Adviser Newlands. On the left of the commissioner in the front row are Councilmen Wilson and Prudhomme; in the rear row are Gold Commissioner Senkler and Major Wood. At the session the members were all present with the exception of Major Wood, who is temporarily absent from the city, and Registrar Girouard. The minutes of the previous meeting were ordered to be considered and read and under the head of petitions a communication from the Northern Commercial Company was presented asking that the council grant permission to lay steam and water pipes along certain streets and alleys and also ratify the work the company has already completed. Under the head of reports of committees Mr. Justice Dugan, as chairman of the finance committee, reported that upon the petition of Mrs. Ferguson for the payment of \$2500 for street signs and house numbers, the committee begged to recommend that no action be taken. Councilman Wilson gave notice of the following questions which he proposed to the commissioner: 1.-Can the commissioner state if the government intends to continue for another year the system of issuing liquor permits in this territory? 2.-If so, does the commissioner intend to pursue the same policy of restriction in regard to the number of permits to be issued? 3.-Has the commissioner or the government promised the present

to the government, and we are willing to give the government credit for every good thing that it does. We are glad, sir, to have the accommodations that we have here today, and yet there is a point in this. The government has erected this magnificent building and lined its walls with native spruce and British Columbia fir. Had they built this building of the finest marble and decorated its walls with the finest paintings the world has ever known, it would not have been sufficient, in the present unsatisfactory state of our mining regulations, to convince the people of this territory that the government at Ottawa has their real interests at heart. "I recognize that all of the things that we desire could be done in a day, and I am willing, of course, to make allowances for the necessary time required; but even with this allowance there are some of us who cannot help thinking that the government has not done all it should have done, and it is our duty to point out this fact, and before his session is ended I hope to see a memorial going out from this council to Ottawa setting forth the wants of this territory. "I hope to see in that memorial the liquor traffic placed upon a proper commercial basis. The council recommended this last year, but were not fortunate enough to persuade the government to take our view of the matter. I hoped also to see properly presented the question of the representation of the Yukon in the house of commons, and I would also like to see popular representation in the council. And not only do we ask representation in the house of commons, but also in the senate. "You are aware that this matter is a burning question, and has been for some time. It figured in the last election a year ago; in fact the people of this territory were unanimous in asking for a representative government, and while I am quite aware, and have been informed that it would be a bad policy for the government at Ottawa to take any steps to this end at the present time, that there is no precedent for the government at Ottawa to follow. I mean to insist that the Yukon territory is unique in itself and is altogether different in its population and in every other respect to the territories which have been granted representation in the past. "Let us look back on history, and refer to what was done in regard to other communities. We know that Quebec and Montreal were governed without direct representation for a time, and in the Northwest territories, with the government of which the commissioner is familiar, and in which government he distinguished himself, it would not have been a wise policy to adopt a representative government because you were surrounded by certain elements of population that, in a sense, we might call savages, who knew nothing about constitutional government, and another part who came from Europe, and who did not understand your language nor our ideas of free institutions. Therefore in that case it was necessary to let time work out the destiny of the country. "In the Yukon it is different. Here we have men, and women, too, who are already skilled in the institutions of our country, who are well versed in all that goes to the working out of a constitution as free and as liberal as that of the Dominion, and therefore I say that the authorities at Ottawa should take this into account when dealing with the question of giving representation in the house of commons and in the senate to the people of the Yukon territory. "If I had the power to govern matters in this territory for a short time I would manage them very differently to the course in which they run at present. I would not, for instance, ask my honorable friend Mr. Senkler to occupy a seat in the council. I would think that he had sufficient to do in carrying on the work of his important office as gold commissioner; and neither would I ask him to sit as a member of the court of appeals to pass judgment upon his own decisions. "If I had the power for a short time I would not have the chief justice of this territory occupying a seat in this council. I would have him devote himself exclusively to the high and important duties connected with his office, and not ask him to mix himself up, as he now has to do, with to a certain extent, the petty bickering incidental to political life, which are inseparable from this council. No, I would ask my honorable friend to confine himself to the duties he has today, and as for Mr. Newlands, I would tell him that he knew full well that we ought to have an elective council, and that when we have it we would ask him to take a seat as attorney general, providing we have a seat for him in that capacity. "If I had the power I would not have my honorable friend Major Wood sitting as a member of this council, but instead would have him confine himself to the policing of the territory, a task which he is so abundantly able to fulfill. "You, sir, Mr. Commissioner, are known to us as a man of some brains, a man whose qualities have been recognized among us. I would ask you to preside over the council, as at present. I would have you sit as premier, occupying the seat at the right of the speaker of the territory, his counselor and adviser. "For my honorable colleague, Mr. Prudhomme, I will say nothing, as

STANDING ROOM ONLY

Every Seat in Auditorium Was Occupied Last Night.

For the first time in the history of Dawson money amounting to \$150 was refused for seats at the Auditorium last night for the very good reason that every seat in the big play house was sold and occupied. Manager Bittner has proven conclusively that legitimate drama will in Dawson without bar and "alsman left" accompaniments.

As the Nugget stated in its issue of Tuesday, the play this week, "Friends," as produced at the Auditorium, is the best ever seen in Dawson—good because produced by good people, star actors and actresses, and not barn stormers. Any play Bittner's present cast would produce would be good.

Everybody was more than pleased last night and many who were turned away then have secured tickets today for tonight's entertainment. An unusual feature witnessed last night was that nearly every man in the house had a lady alongside him and in many cases a baby or two on his knees. There is no question about the people of Dawson patronizing theaters where they get the worth of their money, and that is what Mr. Bittner is giving and proposes to continue giving. Next week will be produced at the Auditorium "Jim, the Westerner."

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

As It Will Be Applied to the City of Dawson.

The City of Dawson is at present governed by the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory with the assistance of the council. The ordinance for the incorporation of the city which was read at the council yesterday provided that the electors of the city may by vote to be taken under the direction of the commissioner, decide whether the city shall become incorporated, and be governed by a mayor and six aldermen. If the electors decide that it should not be so governed the ordinance provides that the commissioner in council may appoint three commissioners who shall have all the powers of a mayor and council to govern the city. All British subjects who were assessed on the last revised assessment roll of the Town of Dawson will have votes to decide upon the form of government, and afterwards if incorporation is carried for the election of a mayor and aldermen. The mayor and aldermen must not only be British subjects, but the mayor must have been assessed for \$2000.00 on real property and the aldermen for \$1000.00 on real property. The aldermen are to be elected from the city at large, and the vote is to be by ballot. The council are given all the powers that are usually given to a city and will have control of the fire brigade, the care of the streets and sewers of the city and the lighting of the streets. The government of the city is to be a temporary loan repayable within the financial year of an amount equal to half the amount of taxes collected during the previous year and the rate of taxes cannot exceed two cents on the dollar. They may build and control such buildings as they require for the purposes of the city. The council may also pass bylaws for the appointment and payment of salaries to such officials as they require, for the health of the city, the management of their property, the government of the proceedings of the council, fire protection, the running at large of dogs and the licensing of such places as livery stables, bawling taverns, pawn brokers, etc., and generally for the peace, order and good government of the city. It is also given power to take lands for streets, sewers and public buildings on payment of the value to the owners, to be fixed by arbitration. The council may also provide for the improvement of streets, sewers, sidewalks, etc., by a frontage tax, provided the owners ask them by petition to do so. The proceedings for elections, which take of a large part of the ordinance, are practically the same as for elections to the Dominion parliament, and electors may be punished for bribery, corruption and illegal voting, etc.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

A grand entertainment will be given in aid of the organ fund of this church at the Pioneer hall on the evenings of Thursday and Friday, Dec. 19th and 20th inst. The program will be entirely new and varied in character and will consist of tableaux vivants, music, etc., the whole to conclude with W. D. Howell's brilliant farce, "The Mouse Trap," kindly produced and staged by Mr. P. R. Wilson, who will appear as Campbell. All who enjoy beautiful pictures, music, and a hearty laugh, should make early application for tickets at Messrs. Critch & Rogers' drug store, or from any of the ladies taking part in the entertainment. Dec. 19th and 20th are the dates fixed for the entertainment. Tickets are \$1.00.

Are You Quilty?

Will the Wise Wife who took a basket sled left over night in front of Sargent & Pinkska's store, leave the same at that emporium. Jack Chisholm, the owner, refuses to work until the same blows back. The council are given all the powers that are usually given to a city and will have control of the fire brigade, the care of the streets and sewers of the city and the lighting of the streets. The government of the city is to be a temporary loan repayable within the financial year of an amount equal to half the amount of taxes collected during the previous year and the rate of taxes cannot exceed two cents on the dollar. They may build and control such buildings as they require for the purposes of the city. The council may also pass bylaws for the appointment and payment of salaries to such officials as they require, for the health of the city, the management of their property, the government of the proceedings of the council, fire protection, the running at large of dogs and the licensing of such places as livery stables, bawling taverns, pawn brokers, etc., and generally for the peace, order and good government of the city. It is also given power to take lands for streets, sewers and public buildings on payment of the value to the owners, to be fixed by arbitration. The council may also provide for the improvement of streets, sewers, sidewalks, etc., by a frontage tax, provided the owners ask them by petition to do so. The proceedings for elections, which take of a large part of the ordinance, are practically the same as for elections to the Dominion parliament, and electors may be punished for bribery, corruption and illegal voting, etc.

NEW LEGAL FIRM.

Mr. J. Langlois Bell, late assistant gold commissioner, and Mr. Herbert E. A. Robertson, have recently formed a law partnership under the firm name of Bell & Robertson. The junior member of the firm, Mr. Robertson, has been practicing at the bar in Dawson since '88 and is too well and favorably known to need further introduction. Mr. Bell, prior to accepting the position of assistant gold commissioner, practiced his profession in the eastern provinces.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

EMPIRE. P. D. Lewis, Unionville, Mo.; Miss Hattie E. Downing, Milwaukee; P. E. Bari, Milwaukee; C. Harris, Dawson. REGINA. Mrs. Preids, Hunker creek; Mrs. Feurle, Hunker creek. Toys and games—all kinds for the little ones—Kilgore & Landahl's. Give the boy a fine knife for Xmas. See Shindler.

Hay and Oats For Sale

DAWSON WAREHOUSE CO., Limited. WARM AND COLD STORAGE

..DAWSON LIQUOR CO..

We have the Highest Grade and Finest Assortment of Liquors sold anywhere in the world, and prices of it. Come and Get Our Prices. We Can Save You Money. TELEPHONE 101. CHEAPER THAN EVER!

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DAWSON. We have the Highest Grade and Finest Assortment of Liquors sold anywhere in the world, and prices of it. Come and Get Our Prices. We Can Save You Money. TELEPHONE 101. CHEAPER THAN EVER!

\$3,000 WATCH SALE! FOR ONE WEEK ONLY.... 17-Jewel Waltham or Elgin Watches, \$25.00. 15-Jewel Waltham or Elgin Watches, \$30.00. 7-Jewel Waltham or Elgin Watches, \$15.00. In 14-k. Gold Filled Faby Cases. Warranted for 20 Years. We Beat Seattle Prices. Christmas Is Here! J. L. SALE LEADING JEWELER

THE BURNING OF THE HORNET

Was Followed by Rarely Experienced Hardships.

An Interesting Account of Which Was First Written by Mark Twain—The Greedy Portuguese.

Storms and fogs of the past have been prolific of disaster to those "who go down to the sea in ships," one of the most notable wrecks being that of the steamer Rio de Janeiro, which went down in sight of San Francisco. This circumstance has recalled to old timers the dreadful experience of the Hornet, which was written up at the time by Mark Twain. The story of their sufferings was recently retold by one of the survivors, Mr. Frederick Clough, of San Francisco. Mr. Clough went to sea as a boy of 15. He was 20 years old when he was shipped in Maine as an able-bodied seaman on the Yankee built clipper Hornet, bound for the Pacific coast with a cargo of mixed goods and two passengers, Henry and Samuel Ferguson, sons of a New York merchant. Captain J. A. Mitchell was the Master. The vessel had a fair voyage for 100 days, when she was 2 degrees above the equator and several thousand miles from the coast of South America. On May 3, while they were lying to in a calm on a blistering hot day, the cry of fire was suddenly raised. The first mate in drawing a bucket of varnish had ignited it with a candle. The flames spread to the barrel from which he was filling the bucket. The cargo included a quantity of petroleum and many cases of tallow candles. In a very few moments there was beyond all control. Within a quarter of an hour the ship was untenable. The crew and the passengers rushed to the decks. There was no confusion. Every man got away in 100 seconds, which were lowered at the bar in Dawson since '88 and is too well and favorably known to need further introduction. Mr. Bell, prior to accepting the position of assistant gold commissioner, practiced his profession in the eastern provinces.

When the starving voyagers came into Honolulu, Mark Twain wrote the account of the journey in what has since acknowledged to be his first newspaper story. He tells in a humorous way of the manner in which the sick sailors turned over in their beds to "cuss that Portugee." After 35 years Clough still burns with indignation when he tells how that man stole from his mates the food that was life. It was the eighteenth day when the rations were cut down, and on that same day the three boats, which had been together all the time, decided to part company, the captain saying that by so doing one at least might reach the shore to tell the tale. He gave up one-third of his remaining provisions to each of the other boats. The water ration in that burning sun was made a gill a day and the solids whittled down to a morsel of ham, a spoonful of bread crumbs and 12 raisins per day. The rest of the story would not be quite clear except for the diary kept by the Ferguson brothers and which was to be cast adrift in a bottle by the last survivor. They drifted into the rain again. It became certain that they had passed the Clarion Islands, and they set sail for the American islands, set down on the charts as doahshil. Delirium began to set in. They fought against it, and the gallant captain, unflagging in his efforts to keep up the spirits of the men, never relaxed his efforts to keep them entertained. The diary of the Ferguson brothers gives a vivid relation of the greatest discomfort suffered during those later days, greater even than hunger and thirst. There was, where to lie down except in the bottom of the boat, which was filled with salt water. The men therefore began to develop sores and great abscesses and became so stiff from their cramped position that when they lay down it was almost impossible to rise. In their dreams they were all

haunted by the vision of swarming banquets. On the thirty-sixth day there was a little over a pound of ham and a tin of meat. That week, the next day they divided the bones of the ham, the cloth in which it had been wrapped and licked the staves of the boat firkin. For several days they had been eating the leather of their boots and the last of these went on that day. Then the men began to break that which they had thought to be the Portuguese, the man of all with whom they had the least sympathy, was very ill. They watched him after hour, waiting for his death. Only the captain would not give in to the idea. But the Portuguese was a very long time dying, and the survivors began to whisper among themselves that they should draw lots to determine who should go first. "I do not think that any one of us would much wish to be drew," says Mr. Clough. There was a fresh, strong breeze blowing at the time. The last day dawned, and the captain finally admitted that he would go on for one more day. "I will go on for one more day," he said, "and if there is no land or ship in sight let us leave, and may God have mercy on our souls. It is better that one should be than that no one should be left to tell the tale. That day only one man was able to rise himself out of the galling salt water in the bottom in order to leave the boat. That man was Clough. He says, "I just managed to hold my rudder by lying on it." The salt had been set without change for four days because no one had strength to turn it. Even he, the strongest of the lot, was ready to drop the rudder, when he sighted breakers. In a voice which he describes as the shadow of a whisper he called to his companions, but they would not believe him. Finally the captain was induced to look, but even he was incredulous until he heard the breakers rolling over the island of Lapaohoe, a small member of the Hawaiian group. They tried to lower sail to escape the breakers, but could not. Even then, at the end of so much peril and suffering, they would have drowned had not two Kanakas who had rowed down from the reef "wags and set them to a harbor. They were told for; they were given food in small quantities, the two while some in that section of the island were that they did not get too much. Mark Twain records that even at that time the villain of this true tale, who was meeting his end on the spot by eating four bananas before he could be choked off by his helpers.

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The Nugget - Dawson's... RECEIVED BY WIRE... ACTIONS ARE TAKEN... Victoria Merchants... White Pass Company... Force Refund... MONEY EXTORTED FROM... Freight Rates Which... Unlawfully Collected... LATEST STEAL OF THE... Tariff Sheet Being Closely... Insured by Deputy Minister... of Railways... CHINESE FEUD... SMALL-POX... The Cadue Assay Office... The Cadue Co. Empire Hotel... Modern House in Dawson... Modern Improvements... BARGAINS. Plates, Bric-a-Brac. McL.