

DAWSON'S GREATEST NEED.

Will Probably Be Supplied in The Near Future.

Matter Now in the Hands of Yukon Council—A First-Class Telephone System Promised.

If Thomas A. Edison knew just how the result of his inventive genius is being degraded in Dawson, that brow which has frequently been knit during the time his active brain has been busy in the solution of problems which have benefited the entire civilized world, would be mantled with the blush of shame and indignation. However, it is the abuse of the alleged telephone system now operating a few instruments in Dawson that has brought it into such a state of disrepute.

But there is light ahead and in all probability a telephone system will be in operation here by the middle of the summer that will, in all respects at least put Dawson on an equal footing with other towns of similar proportions in all parts of the world. A petition has been presented by Mr. Jack Wiley praying the Yukon council to grant to him an exclusive franchise for the construction, maintenance and operation in Dawson and the surrounding country, comprising the various creeks, a telephone system that will be so conducted as to make it possible for every man having a place of business in the territory to use and profit by it.

Of the present system but little can be said. It is not even a makeshift. Few people know of its existence and they are none the better for that knowledge—only poorer in purse and deteriorated as to morals, for if there is anything on earth, in addition to attempting to work a balky horse, that will cause a man to forget his last communion, it is to attempt to talk over a telephone system which is constructed a la barbed wire fence. Anything here at present under pretense of being a telephone system should not be considered for a moment by the council when Mr. Wiley's petition is taken up at its meeting tomorrow.

Of Mr. Wiley's ability to properly construct and superintend a telephone system commensurate with the requirements of Dawson, the goldopolis of the world, there is no doubt. He has been in the business many years, during which time he has mastered every detail, and operating a modern system to him has become almost second nature. When asked by a representative of the Nugget as to his plan after obtaining his franchise Mr. Wiley said: "Within 30 days after the opening of navigation I can have all the required material here, in position and in operation. I propose to furnish a service the equal of that of any city big or little in Canada or the United States, and furnish at just one-half the price now charged for the few instruments now in use here. My rates will be such that within two months after being ready for business I will have two hundred or more customers instead of in the neighborhood of three as is now the case. The system will be extended to all the creeks, I will place stations at frequent intervals all over the district and put in such a plant that a man could talk to the most remote points with as much certainty and distinctness as if to some person in the same room. I already have most encouraging assurances that my lines will be well patronized, as the majority of the people in Dawson have been accustomed to such advantages before coming here, and they are all anxious to avail themselves of these advantages as soon as opportunity presents itself."

Jack Wade Country.

Regarding the Jack Wade country as a mining field Judge and Mrs. French, who are now guests at the Regina, mention of whose trip up the river from

Eagle was made in the Daily Nugget of yesterday, are both quite enthusiastic.

They both assert that it is unfair to say that the bottom has fallen out of the Jack Wade country, as it is as yet but primitively prospected and the most promising results have been obtained. Litigation as to the ownership of claims has retarded progress and the Nome excitement has caused many to drop everything and leave, but Judge French does not hesitate to give it as his opinion that the Jack Wade country is destined to become one of the best mineral fields in the Yukon basin.

The travelers left Fortymile for Dawson Sunday morning, during which day they met 30 people en route to Nome, and on Monday they met 55, all Nome-ward bound.

They traveled up river by dog team, having five vigorous animals, and Mrs. French, a petite and vivacious little brunette, says she never enjoyed a trip so much in her life. She has traveled with her husband through Africa and elsewhere and says that a ride behind a fiery team of malamutes on the Yukon is not excelled in pleasure by any other known system of transportation.

Judge French is here partly in the interests of the man Webb, who was arrested near Eagle two weeks ago for alleged dog stealing and who is being held without a warrant having been issued for extradition.

After spending two weeks or more in the Yukon metropolis Judge and Mrs. French will return to their home in Eagle.

Board of Trade Tonight.

The adjourned meeting of the Board of Trade takes place at the rooms of the board on Wednesday evening, Feb. 21st (tonight), and the recommendations of the committee on mines, mining and smelting will come before the board for final action.

The changes recommended in our mining laws are the result of several months careful study and attention and in view of the condition which prevails at present there is nothing so important to the citizens of Dawson and vicinity as the mining laws.

It is also important that the Board of Trade be placed on record in an emphatic manner and that every member should lend his assistance, that our conclusions may have his unqualified endorsement. Your presence is particularly desired.

F. W. CLAYTON, Sec.

Horses Drowned.

From late Skagway papers it is learned that two teams of horses with the heavily laden sleds which they were hauling were lost by falling through the ice on Lake Bennett about three weeks ago. The teams and outfits were owned by the Red Line Transportation Co., of which M. J. Heney, superintendent of construction for the White Pass & Yukon Ry. Co. is operator. The outfits lost were being brought down the line for use at the railroad camps. There is a curve of the trail on the lake and the drivers attempted to shorten the distance by driving in a straight line when the front team and sled went through the ice, and in an attempt to pull them out of the water the other rig also fell in and all was lost.

Hospital Patients.

There are 77 patients in the hospitals of Dawson. Of this number only four are women. At St. Mary's hospital, the sickness which is more common than any other is rheumatism. Only six cases of scurvy are reported.

In St. Mary's hospital there are 40 persons confined, three of whom are women. Three of the patients are afflicted with scurvy. Mr. J. Vallee, aged about 60 years, is suffering from a cancer in the stomach. His case is hopeless, and the attending physicians expect him to die before the end of the week. None of the other inmates are in danger of death.

There are 27 sick people in the Good Samaritan hospital, all of whom are men. Three of the patients are in bed with scurvy. W. K. Capen died at 9 o'clock p. m. on Monday. He had

been afflicted with peritonitis and had been an inmate of the hospital for about ten days. The deceased came to Dawson from Eastport, Maine, at which place his wife and child, the latter only four years old, now reside.

In Dr. Bourke's private hospital there are seven patients, among whom are Mrs. Matthews, from Hunker creek, Attorney Lisle and Mr. Ellinger.

Special Constable Branconnier and Sergeant Davis are the only two patients in the N. W. M. P. hospital; and at the Yukon garrison hospital, a non-commissioned officer of the V. F. F. is the only inmate.

Attorney Burritt Returns.

Attorney W. E. Burritt of the firm of Burritt & McKay, is home from an extended trip to the outside during which time he visited Ottawa and other eastern cities. On his way back he stopped over at Skagway long enough to be initiated in the Arctic Brotherhood, not knowing that a flourishing camp of that order had been instituted in his own city during his absence. Mr. Burritt brings news of the severe illness at a Bennett hotel of Joseph Magill, who is suffering from some internal injury sustained on the trip out. Mr. Burritt brought back Thos. Pike's dog team, which was taken to Skagway by the owner several weeks ago. He was 16 days on the road from Bennett. The trail he reports to be in fine condition.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

As the new Orpheum is still in the hands of the carpenters the date of its opening to the public has been deferred until the night of Monday, the 26th.

Having served the two months' sentence imposed upon him for receiving stolen goods, Joseph Selix was yesterday released from custody and is again a free man.

The hockey match which was arranged for Saturday evening by the employees of the A. C. Co., was indefinitely postponed on account of cold weather. When the weather moderates the match will take place.

The committee appointed at the mass meeting of Britishers is waiting for the Yukon council to meet, when the members of that body will be requested to endorse the petition addressed to Ottawa, which prays for representative government.

The present cold spell has been productive of more colds, coughs and slight attacks of sickness than any of its predecessors during the entire winter. Several persons in the city are confined to their homes with colds of unusual severity, and a few cases of both pleurisy and pneumonia are reported.

A teamster by the name of Swanson was killed a mile and a half up the Cariboo trail from Dominion on last Wednesday. He was hauling wood down the trail and had the rope, which was attached to the sled, around his neck. The sled was loaded very heavily, and at a steep place it became unmanageable. When Swanson was found, the appearances indicated that he had been dragged for a considerable distance, and that he had died of strangulation.

A Remonstrance.

Editor Nugget: I see in your paper an advertisement for the Ames Mercantile Co., and I must say I never was so surprised in my life. I can hardly believe my eyes. It says "there will be specials every day," and also that they are selling "seven pounds of sugar for \$1."

I am a woman and naturally I shall take advantage of this opportunity, but I don't think it is right for these people to cut prices, as my husband works in one of the other big company stores, and it may effect his position. He says that everything was going smoothly before they came in the field and now they are cutting the business to pieces. I am in favor of having this enterprise stopped by due process of law. Yours truly, INDIGNATION.

The liquors are the best to be had, at the Regina.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

Every room a miniature home. The Fairview.

Music, both sheet and instrumental. Cribbs & Rogers.

The most popular house in town, the Fairview, new management.

Health is Wealth!

JOIN The Club Gymnasium. \$10 per month entitles you to all the uses and privileges of the Club. Baths free to members. Instructions in Boxing and Wrestling.

3rd Avenue BERT FORD, Prop.

C. J. Dumbolton ...TAXIDERMIST

FIRST CLASS WORK.... Hunters bring in your game. I will buy all the heads and birds you have. CITY MARKET Opposite S.-Y. T. Co.

CITY MARKET!

...NOW OPEN...

Tons of Choicest Beef Arriving Daily

We respectfully solicit the patronage of old-time customers in and out of town.

C. J. Dumbolton & Co.

Second Ave., Opp. S.-Y. T. Co.

One Dollar

A splendid course dinner served daily at

THE HOLBORN

PRIVATE DINING ROOMS UP STAIRS. BRUCE & HALL, Props.

Uncle Hoffman

...The Money King

Re-Opened In Chisholm's Aurora Block....

Entrance and Show Window on Second Street

For Sale

Interest in the

Dewey Hotel

Apply to

E. M. Sullivan, Forks

WHY USE MANILA ROPE?

When you can buy Crucible Cast Steel Wire Cable for hoisting purposes, 3/4 to 1-inch, always in stock.

McLennan, McFeely & Co. Ltd.

Vancouver, Bennett, Atlin, Dawson

For first class Meats try the Bonanza Market, Third St., near Third Avenue.

Storage

Cheapest Rates



in the City

Boyle's Wharf

Nome Outfits

Sargent & Pinska

"THE CORNER STORE"

Clothing

OPPOSITE CHISHOLM'S

Footwear