

ACTION OF COUNCIL

Respecting Petition for Representation.

NOT APPROVED BY CITIZENS' COMMITTEE.

Which Met Last Night and Issued an Address.

Census Will Only Tend to Delay Relief—Committee Will Telegraph Original Petition to His Excellency in Council Direct.

From Saturday's Daily.
The Daily Nugget is in receipt of the following communication from Mr. Joseph A. Clarke, secretary of the citizens' committee:

Dawson, Y. T., March 9th, 1900.
Editor of the Daily Nugget, Dawson Y. T.

Dear Sir: At a meeting of the citizens' committee held last evening it was decided to issue the following signed statement regarding the present status of the proceedings taken by the committee, in order that the citizens of the territory may know exactly how the matter stands. By giving space to this statement in your columns you will greatly oblige the citizens' committee.

Yours truly,
JOSEPH A. CLARKE, Secretary.

The statement is as follows:

Dawson, Y. T., March 9th, 1900.
To the British Subjects Residing in the Yukon Territory.

Gentlemen: Your committee, the undersigned, met at the close of the meeting appointing them on February 10th. We almost immediately requested an interview with the commissioner of the Yukon territory, and obtained the same. We were advised by the commissioner that he had some instructions from Ottawa in regard to the election of two members to the Yukon council, and that it would be advisable that we should meet the Yukon council. The committee at once requested a meeting, the request being dated February 15th. We met the Yukon council only on the 26th day of February, a report of which meeting has already appeared in the press. At the request of the Yukon council petitions to his excellency the governor general in council were submitted for the endorsement of the Yukon council, which petitions were dated the 28th day of February. The council finally met and considered the same on the 6th day of March, and sent the secretary of the committee the following reply:

"Sir: I have the honor to forward you a copy of a resolution passed by the council at its meeting yesterday, which is as follows:

"Resolved, That an immediate census of the territory be taken; that in the meantime the commissioner communicate by telegraph to the minister of the interior the purport of the petitions received from the citizens' committee, and forward the originals by mail, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the secretary of the committee."

This letter was dated March 7th, and signed by J. N. Brown.

This reply your committee consider unsatisfactory and indefinite and is neither an endorsement nor approval. Your committee have not been able to learn at what time the census referred to in said resolution will be or can be taken.

We have been informed by the commissioner that a report of the various steps taken in connection with this matter have been telegraphed to the minister of the interior.

On the evening of the 8th day of March, your committee met, all members being present except Mr. McMullen, who was absent from illness, and resolved to telegraph the petition of the

citizens through their committee to his excellency in council direct.

The following resolution was then carried: That a public meeting be called on receipt of a reply to our telegram to Ottawa, but in any event not later than 15 days from this date.

We have been as diligent as possible, but regret that we have not a more encouraging report, and have not obtained more definite results.

We deem it advisable, however, to wait a reply from Ottawa for a reasonable time. Signed and approved by

C. M. WOODWORTH,
ALEX. M'DONALD,
A. D. WILLIAMS,
JAS. STURGEON,
DONALD MACGREGOR,
Chairman,
JOSEPH A. CLARKE,
Secretary.

Juneau Woman Suicides.

Additional particulars of the suicide of Mrs. John M. Tenny, wife of the deputy collector of customs at Juneau and sister in law of President Rurt, of the Union Pacific railway, February 1, were received on the Alki, which arrived from Skagway yesterday morning. Mrs. Tenny shot herself with a revolver. Her sudden death shocked the entire community. She was suffering with ill-health. They were formerly residents of Seattle.

A few days before the act Mrs. Tenny told Dr. Mar. Chisholm, the family physician, that she had some silverware coming from Seattle, and through fear of having it miscarry had ordered it directed in care of Miss Chisholm. This was rather a singular request, for Mr. Tenny is well known, but Dr. Chisholm thought nothing of it at the time.

When the steamer Rosalie sailed from here January 25, she carried a small package addressed "Mrs. T., care of Dr. Chisholm, Juneau, Alaska." The package was delivered to Dr. Chisholm by Henry Shattuck, the steamship company's agent at Juneau and she handed it to Mrs. Tenny. The package was about the right size for silver forks or spoons, but instead of containing silverware it hid a 38-calibre revolver and some cartridges. She ordered the revolver by mail from Seattle.

Mrs. Tenny was about to leave for Seattle on a visit to her sister in Omaha. While she lay on a sofa Mr. Tenny packed the trunk. Then went to get a tray to haul it to the wharf. He left Mrs. Tenny still lying on the sofa, and apparently in her usual condition of mind.

Mr. Tenny rode back to the house on the dray. When he and the drayman entered the parlor his wife was lying on the carpet with the pistol by her side. Blood was on the sofa and the floor. She was dead. The position of the body indicated that while reclining or sitting on the sofa she had unfastened the front of her waist and fired at her heart. The suddenness of death showed that she took good aim.—Seattle P.-I.

Indians Employed.

A late issue of the Victoria Times says:

"Major Bliss, of the Yukon field force, had reached Skagway when the Tees sailed, on his way to Ottawa for orders, presumably to proceed to South Africa for duty. He was accompanied up the Yukon as far as Minto by Inspector Scarth, who is in charge of a special party that will make a thorough search to clear up the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Clayson, Relfe and Oleson.

"Inspector Scarth, said Major Bliss, is to have the aid of five Indians in his search for the missing men, for not only will the skill of the tried police be employed in the attempt to unearth the mystery, but the Indians will be called upon to exert their native skill and training in tracking in the bush and on the trail.

"The inspector has encamped a mile and a half this side of Minto with his entire party, and will remain there indefinitely. The entire place will be scoured by the police and Indians. The government is determined to do all that it can to ferret out this mystery. Money will be no object. Thousands will be spent if necessary."

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
ISSUED DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.
ALLEN BROS. Publishers

WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

The closeness of times in Dawson during the past winter has been due in no inconsiderable degree to the fact that at the time of the freeze up last fall, hundreds of tons of merchandise were scattered along the Yukon river in scows, destined never to reach Dawson with their precious cargoes.

The value of the goods thus tied up has been variously estimated, but the lowest figure we have heard mentioned places the amount at several hundred thousand dollars. There was scarcely a business house in Dawson but what was effected to some extent by the loss, and in consequence a general tightening up ensued which resulted disastrously to business generally. The price of commodities was affected to a considerable extent, there being a general stiffening all along the line as soon as it was realized that the river had actually closed and no more goods could be brought in except by the expensive and laborious process of freighting over the ice.

The experience of last fall will serve to urge upon everyone who has goods to bring in from the outside, the importance of getting orders out promptly and thus avoiding the possibility of having goods caught in the ice several hundred miles above Dawson.

The steamboat companies should be able to handle a greater volume of business next summer than ever before. When the railroad is completed to Whitehorse the entire up-river fleet will probably be placed on the run between Whitehorse and Dawson, and the facilities for landing freight in Dawson will thus be vastly increased. The risk of getting goods in will be greatly lessened, and the prices of commodities should show a consequent decrease. There will be little or nothing to be gained by resorting to the old time scow for bringing goods down the river, for the risks incident to the navigation of a scow on the upper Yukon system are too great to make the small saving in freight any particular object.

That our business houses are determined not to be again caught, as many were last fall, is shown by the fact that in numerous instances they have arrangements all perfected for bringing their supplies in at the opening of navigation.

GOOD NEWS.

The announcement from Gold Commissioner Senkler that the government intends selling at public auction all reserved ground including fractions and the claims reserved under the alternate claim act is the most important information that has been received in Dawson for some time. The government's action would have been much more satisfactory had the ground been thrown open for location to the prospector. Every move made by the Ottawa authorities has seemed to be aimed directly at the efforts of the individual miner, every conceivable stumbling block having been thrown in his way.

Nevertheless, this move on the part of the government, while undoubtedly made with a selfish motive will result in lasting benefit to the country. It will give new impetus to investment, increase very materially the amount of

labor employed on the creeks and serve generally to stimulate and renew life in all branches of commerce dependent upon the development of the mining industry.

The most important feature of the announcement is the fact that the sale of the property effected will take place in Dawson. The method used in disposing of the reserved Dominion creek ground savored so strongly of pre-arranged plans that little confidence was felt that the sale would be carried out on impartial lines. Hence, but little local interest was manifested in the disposal of the ground and insofar as information at hand is concerned the entire lot was closed off to parties in Ottawa. In the present instance it is to be hoped that the sale when consummated will be on such a basis as to justify public confidence in the fairness of the government's intentions.

This action marks an entirely new departure in the federal Yukon policy and may be accepted, we believe as an indication of a disposition on the part of the interior department to encourage the advancement and development of the Yukon territory's resources.

A False Report.

A recent Victoria paper contains an article in which a recent arrival from Dawson is quoted as saying that fully one third of the business houses in this city have closed during the winter and that those still open are not doing any business. As Dawson never expects to figure as a wholesale city or great railroad center, it is doubtful if the story will do her any material harm, for it matters but little to Dawson what opinions the outside world may have regarding her. But the fact remains that a liar has gone out, and in order to get his name in the papers has concocted a story of which the above is a part. The Victoria paper gives as a reason for the reported business inactivity here the exodus to Nome, and in turn gives as a cause for the exodus to Nome the explanation that existing mining laws of the Yukon district are oppressive and border on prohibitory. This portion of the article is the only one bearing the semblance to truth.

Regarding the number of business houses here, there has been little, if any, decrease, and those engaged in business are all satisfied with the volume transacted.

But the Victoria story is only one of thousands that have been concocted and published concerning Dawson. Every man who has ever been here and returned to the outside must first be interviewed for publication before his journey is completed.

Applies in Dawson.

"He trun it into me all right," said the defeated pugilist, wiping the blood from his nose after the fight was over. "But he licked me fair. I ain't doin no beefin. I had 'im goin in de sixt' round, but I didn't foller it up. It's all right, an I hain't puttin up no holler."

His literary friend, however, fixed it up for him in a little better shape, and this is the way it appeared in the papers:

"I have only to say, concerning the fight between Mr. Biffim and myself, that he is one of the most accomplished and scientific ring generals whom I have ever encountered in the pugilistic arena, and he won the contest strictly on its merits. In my own behalf I might plead that I was overconfident and did not exert myself to the full until it was too late, but such excuses are both trite and commonplace. It must have been apparent, however, to those who were watching us closely that I had decided the advantage of Mr. Biffim in the sixth round, and had I followed it up with my usual skill the result might have been different."

Carbon paper for sale at the Nugget office.