

# BILL TO PROTECT MINERS

### Introduced by Councilman Arthur Wilson at Yesterday's Meeting Is Broad and Comprehensive—Passed the First and Second Readings—Bill Was Referred.

From Wed's and Thursday's Daily.

Councilman Wilson at the meeting of the Yukon council yesterday afternoon introduced a bill entitled "An ordinance for the protection of miners," which if it succeeds in passing after its third reading will be of immeasurable benefit to every man, woman and child in the Yukon territory, whether actively employed about a mine or not. The bill was given its first and second reading, and will doubtless receive its final hearing at the next meeting of the council, and that it will pass, perhaps with some slight modification, is the earnest wish of everyone familiar with its provisions. As matters now stand he who delves in the earth with pick and shovel has but little protection other than that which he himself is taught by his own instincts. Some mines are timbered and some are not; in some the ventilation is so bad that before descending a shaft after a fire has been put in it is necessary to lower a lighted candle in order to ascertain if there is enough oxygen in the air at the bottom of the shaft to sustain life; drifts cave in because they have not been properly supported; buckets fall off the windlass rope and perhaps crush in the skull of the man below; people have been known to fall in abandoned shafts simply because they were neither fenced nor covered up, and the protection afforded is as infinitesimal as the proverbial mote. Mining inspectors there are in plenty, but they either can not, will not, or do not inspect as they should, and the result is an occasional life lost, perhaps a broken leg or a fractured skull. The accident is recorded in the daily papers, the injured man goes to the hospital and perhaps he recovers; maybe he dies, and if he does he is soon forgotten; there are others anxious to take his place, and thus the sacrifice of human life goes merrily on.

Mr. Wilson's bill, which it is hoped will greatly ameliorate the condition of the working miner, is quite lengthy covering twenty-four sheets of paper closely typewritten. In hearing it read for the first time one is impressed with the care that has evidently been bestowed in compiling it, the intent plainly being to reduce to the smallest possible chance any injury to the life and limb of the miner. The bill's application is very broad, and included every mine of whatever description within the Yukon territory. The interpretation of the term "mine" is equally as elastic and includes every shaft in the course of being sunk, every level and incline, the works, machinery, tramways, railways and sidings, both below and above ground. The "shaft" includes the pit and slope. The term "owner" applies to any person or body corporate who is the proprietor, lessor, or occupier of any mine, or any part thereof, and does not include a person who merely receives a royalty or rental from a mine, or is merely the proprietor subject to any lease or grant for the working thereof, or merely the owner of the soil and not interested in the minerals of the mine, but any contractor for the working of any mine or any part thereof shall be subject to this ordinance in like manner as if he was an owner, but so as not to exempt the owner from any liability.

The commissioner is empowered from time to time to appoint competent and practical persons to act as inspectors and may define the limits of each district within which such inspectors shall act. It shall be the duty of every inspector to visit and inspect from time to time every mine within his district; to ascertain that the provisions of this ordinance are complied with and that the mines are worked with all regard to the safety and protection of the persons employed therein; to investigate every case where loss of life or any personal injury occurs by reason of any explosion or any accident whatever, and to report such information regarding such loss of life or injury to the commissioner.

The inspectors shall have the power to enter, examine and inspect any mine at any time, day or night, its general condition as to safety, its ventilation and all other matters pertaining to the welfare of the persons employed in or about the mine. If he should find any mine to be dangerous or defective so as to endanger the life of those employed therein he

shall be obliged to render harmless noxious gases to such an extent that the working places and shaft levels shall be in a fit state.

All entrances to any place in a mine not in actual use or course of working shall be properly fenced.

Any time it is found by the foreman or any other man for the time being in charge of any mine that by reason of noxious gases prevailing or any other cause whatever the mine is unsafe and dangerous, every workman shall be withdrawn from said mine or such portion thereof as is considered dangerous, and no one shall be permitted to make such needed repairs shall be admitted into the mine until such danger has been removed.

Explosives shall not be stored in any mine nor taken into any mine except when in a secure case or canister containing not more than six pounds. No more than one such case or canister shall be allowed in a mine at any one time.

Signal bells must be provided in every underground plane on which persons travel which is selling or worked by an engine, windlass or gin if exceeding 30 yards in length; they must also be provided with sufficient man holes for places of refuge every 20 yards; every back or counter balance used for raising or lowering minerals, if exceeding 30 yards in length, shall be provided with some proper means of communicating distinct and definite signals between the lower end and the main entrance.

Every road on which persons travel underground where the product of the mine in transit exceeds 10 tons an hour shall be provided where there is not standing room of at least two feet, at intervals of not more than 25 yards, with sufficient man holes.

Where the load is drawn by machinery and there is not standing room of at least two feet, the intervals between man holes shall not exceed 15 yards.

Every man hole and every place of refuge shall be kept constantly clear. The top of every shaft which for the time being is out of use or used only as an air shaft, shall be kept securely fenced.

Where the natural strata are unsafe every working or putting shaft shall be securely cased, lined or otherwise made secure.

The roof and sides of every traveling road and working place shall be made secure, and no one shall be allowed in such road or working place unless the same is secure.

Every working shaft if exceeding 50 yards in length shall be provided with guides and some proper means of communicating distinct and definite signals from the bottom of the shaft to the surface.

A sufficient cover over head shall be used for every cage or tub employed in lowering or raising persons in any shaft, except where the cage or tub is worked by a windlass.

Single linked chain shall not be used for lowering or raising persons in any working shaft, except for the short coupling chain attached to the cage or load.

Drums on machines used for raising and lowering persons must have flanges or horns; if such machine is worked by steam, water or other mechanical power an adequate brake and a proper indicator must be used.

All exposed and dangerous parts of the machinery must be kept securely fenced.

Steam boilers must be provided with proper steam and water gauges.

Ladders used for the descent and ascent of workmen shall not be fixed in a vertical position, but shall be inclined at the most convenient angle which the space in which the ladder is fixed allows; every such ladder shall have substantial platform at intervals of not more than 20 yards.

If more than 12 persons are ordinarily employed in any mine underground, sufficient accommodation shall be provided above ground near the main entrance to the mine and in the engine or boiler room, for enabling the persons employed in the mine to conveniently and with comfort dry and change their clothing.

A competent person shall at least once in every 24 hours inspect and examine the external parts of the machinery, ropes, chains and other works of the mine which are in actual use; at least once a week the shafts shall be examined.

Persons employed in a mine may appoint two of their own number to inspect the mine at their own cost, the result of such inspection to be recorded in a book kept at the mine for the purpose.

The majority of the workmen at any mine may appoint a person to examine the seat of any accident resulting in the death or injury of any person.

The bill also provides for special rules which may from time to time be enacted and penalties for the infringement or contravention of the provisions of this ordinance. Every owner, agent or manager who is guilty of an offense against this ordinance shall be liable to a penalty

not exceeding \$200; a further continuance of such offense after due notice thereof given by the inspector renders the offender liable to a further penalty of \$25 for each day thereafter. Other persons guilty of an offense against this ordinance are liable to a penalty of \$50.

Fines and penalties imposed in pursuance of this ordinance shall be paid into the territorial treasury.

## WINDING UP CENSUS WORK

### Little Now to Be Done But the General Compilation.

Today will practically wind up the outside census work although the returns had not this forenoon been received from Gold Run, Sulphur and Dominion. Commissioner Major H. J. Woodside remarked this morning that the ground has been covered as carefully as it was possible to do it and that the enumeration of the district has been very thorough. The bridge guards, however, have found a number of persons within the past two days who had not previously been interviewed, but by this evening the "untaken" will be few and difficult to find.

From now until the books are completed and ready to convey to Ottawa, Major Woodside and a corps of skilled clerks will be busy with office work, all of which will be completed within three or four weeks.

Many of the enumerators, especially those on undeveloped creeks like Henderson where roadhouses are few and far between, where accommodations are very meager and the population is much scattered, have labored under great difficulty in securing the information necessary in their work.

## ANOTHER HIPPODROME

### Kelly and Caribou Meet and Police Stop the Go.

Last night at the Orpheum theater Caribou Sinclair and Kelly of Nome met in deadly combat in what purported to be a 30-round go. The bout was advertised for 9:30 sharp but the champions refused to appear claiming that the expenses of the night was over \$175, and that there was not sufficient money in the house to warrant them showing their shape. Spielers were put out on the street after waiting impatiently one hour, and a few stragglers having been induced to enter, the contestants glared fiercely at Kelly and Kelly respiced at kind. Waterfront Brown acted as referee.

At the end of the fourth round the go was stopped by the police as Brown claimed Kelly fouled Caribou. Such, however, was not the case, as Kelly punched Caribou when in a clinch but with both arms free; Brown himself prior to the commencement of hostilities stating to the on-lookers that the principals had agreed upon that style of fighting. His decision met with jeers and hisses, the police entered the ring and the fight was declared off. The people who paid admission were again numbed of their coin and pugilism in Dawson given its final knockout. Neither man showed any degree of skill, both being slow and uninteresting.

## ROBBERY AT NOME

### Family Loses \$6000 in Du/and Cash Left in Tent.

Over \$6000 in gold dust, bills and silver were stolen by a clever thief from the tent house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Murray at the Log Cabin restaurant in Sullivan City on the night of September 5th.

The time and occasion for committing the robbery was well chosen, one or more men who were well posted on the situation of affairs and knew that the Murrays had this large amount of money on hand.

Thursday evening, Sept. 5th, Mr. and Mrs. Murray gave a free dance for the benefit of the miners not working on the night shifts, and about 100 persons were in attendance. The affair was over about 1 o'clock on the morning of Sept. 6th, and when Mr. and Mrs. Murray retired to their tent they found everything turned topsy-turvy, trunks opened and contents scattered about, and a large slit in the back of the tent, showing how the thieves made their entrance and exit.

Suspicion rests on several parties who are being watched and arrests may follow in a few days. —None News, Sept. 12.

## Died Yesterday Evening.

George Pendegast, a well known miner, resident of the Klondike for several years, succumbed to an attack of typhoid fever, breathing his last at St. Mary's hospital yesterday evening. The deceased was about 25 years of age and was well liked by all who knew him.

Decease came here early in '98 and spent that summer in the Eagle and Seventymile districts, coming to the Klondike that fall. He owned valuable property here, having claims on Glacier, Hunter, Dominion and Fonzanza. He has one brother at Nome and brothers and sisters in Boston. He was a native of Prince Edward Island. The funeral will be held from St. Mary's hospital tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

FOR SALE—Latest improved coal cook heater. Apply Nugget office.

## SMALL GRIP WAS STOLEN

### Thief Supposed It Contained a Large Amount of Dust.

Indications are coming to light which point to the fact that would-be gold dust thieves are not operating exclusively on the creeks.

Mr. J. M. Poitras of 16 Eldorado is the latest victim of the sneak thief's operations, although his loss fortunately is very slight. Mr. Poitras drove down from the creek night before last, bringing with him a small grip, which has been used for carrying gold dust. On this occasion, however, its contents consisted principally of a small pocket book containing accounts and papers of value to no one but the owner.

Mr. Poitras retired to his cabin on Second ave., hitched his horse in front while he removed the robes and grip to the house. Returning, he drove the horse to the stable only a short distance away.

When he came back the grip had disappeared from the table on which it had been placed.

Yesterday-morning the pocket book was found in the street with the papers intact. It was brought to the Nugget office and this morning reclaimed by the owner.

Mr. Poitras' theory of the affair is that the thief knew of his return from the creek and believed that the grip contained gold dust. When he discovered his mistake he threw away the pocket book, upon which the owner's name was marked in ink. Mr. Poitras hopes that grip, also, was discarded by the thief, and that some one will find it and restore it to him.

## ALL FOR DAWSON.

### Skagway, Oct. 9.—The HALLING arrived last midnight with 59 passengers and 222 tons of Dawson freight, including 81 head of calves.

## A WORK OF ART

### Gostzman Produces a Picture of Dawson Six Feet Long.

Gostzman, the photographer, has completed a bird's-eye view of Dawson which is the most remarkable picture in this country and which it is safe to say has never been excelled in similar work anywhere. The picture gives a panoramic view of the city from the bluff above Mooside to and beyond Klondike City. It is six feet long and one foot high. The negatives for the work were taken by a new lens recently imported by Mr. Gostzman, which cost \$1200. To make the same required four months constant labor at the factory.

Another lens purchased by Mr. Gostzman for special work is 4 1/2 inches in diameter and will take a picture two feet square. Mr. Gostzman is now operating two establishments, his photo studio on Second street and a branch house on Third, opposite the N. C. Co.

## COMING AND GOING.

Mr. and Mrs. Falcon Jolin have left for the winter.

Judge and Mrs. S. O. Mesford have gone outside for the winter.

E. D. Hill, the cattle man, has gone outside on a business trip.

G. K. French, the Eagle attorney, left for the outside on the Dawson.

J. E. McKinley and wife have gone to Southern California for the winter.

Wm. and A. A. Northrup, well known miners, left for the outside yesterday.

Sheriff R. J. Ellbeck and Comptroller J. T. Lithgow were passengers for the outside yesterday on Selkirk. Both will return over the ice early in the year.

Mr. W. W. White, K. C. senior member of the legal firm of White, McNeil & Day, left for a departure today night on the Dawson on a pleasure trip to the outside.

## Eachweek Released.

Having served a sentence of three years in the Yukon penitentiary, on conviction of having offered worthless paper upon which he obtained money, Michael Enchewag is now a free man, his credits for good behavior while a prisoner lessening his time very materially.

## Case Dismissed.

The case against T. G. Wilson of obstructing the Third avenue sidewalk with piled hay was yesterday afternoon dismissed by Magistrate Macaulay with instructions that the hay be removed as early as possible.

Blacksmith shop for sale at once, 18 below Bonanza.

## JUDGE BROWN'S CHARGE

### To the Grand Jury at Skagway Was to Thoroughly Investigate Rumors of Official Graft—Ex-Deputy Marshal Tanner on the Rack With Sehlbrede.

From Wed's and Thursday's Daily.

Skagway, Oct. 9.—In instructing the grand jury now in session at this place as to its sworn duty, District Judge Melville C. Brown charged that a most thorough investigation of rumored graft among officials be made. He particularly emphasized the word "officials." Heretofore U. S. Commissioner Sehlbrede only has been mentioned as being crooked, but now it is reported that ex-deputy marshal J. M. Tanner will also be investigated.

## LINE DOWN.

The through telegraph line to Vancouver has been down today and has thereby cut off communication to the outside world again. The line to Skagway is still in working order and the telegraphic dispatches printed in this issue of the paper were sent in by the Nugget's correspondent at the latter place.

## ANCIENT RELICS.

### Oct. 8.—Miners on Gold Run creek have uncovered ancient stone dams on bedrock. Sluices and other evidences of ancient mining have also been discovered. It is supposed that the work was done by Russians two hundred years ago.

## REPAIRING CABLE.

### Skagway, Oct. 8.—The Juman cable is being repaired by contract. It has been out of working order for a month.

## DAWSON DOGS FOR TANANA

### Scow Load Taken to Circle by Freighter.

A party whose name was not learned left here today in a scow for Circle with a cargo of dogs purchased in Dawson for use in freighting into the Tanana this winter. He took from 15 to 20 Dawson howlers with him which he purchased at prices ranging from \$10 to \$25, all of which goes to show that dog flesh is not worth \$1 and more per pound, as was the case in the early mining history of the Klondike. The Tanana freighter expects to operate from Circle, there being a good winter dog trail from that place to the diggings. It is said that fully 100 men will work on the Tanana this winter.

## SKATING RINK WANTED.

Dawson, Oct. 9th, 1901.

Dear Sir—Will you allow me, through the columns of your valuable medium, to inquire as to the prospects of a skating rink being erected this winter. I have heard several reports as to the possibility of one being built but there seems to be no definite information at hand, hence, I appeal to you. A good healthy place of recreation for the fast increasing population of young people in this camp is really a crying need. An edifice of reasonably large dimensions, and by all means covered, and that from a financial standpoint as well as for the ministering of the comfort of the people—for unless the previous be made comfortable the patronage would not be as lasting. I am sure, Mr. Editor, that you and I will not cavil on the logic of that or that a well managed rink would be long in this spot loving camp of Dawsonites. Yours sincerely,

## REORGANIZING CHURCH.

The choir of St. Mary's church is undergoing the process of reorganization and the request is made for all singers who have a desire to study high class music to join. A rehearsal will be held Friday afternoon at 1 o'clock and all who can are invited to attend.

## WANTED—By a competent woman.

position as cook or housekeeper. Best of references. Inquire at Nugget office.