

WILSON - PRUDHOMME

Were the Successful Aspirants at Saturday's Convention for Nomination

AS CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO SEATS IN YUKON COUNCIL.

Of Sixteen Nominations All But Five Were Withdrawn Before Balloting Commenced.

The Five Were Wilson, Prudhomme, Sugrue, Grant and Boullais—Only Three Ballots Were Required—Wilson and Prudhomme Were Favorites From the Start—Nominations Were Made Unanimous—Strong Support Was Pledged—An All-Night Banquet—The Candidates.

(From Monday's Daily.)

It was 3:20 o'clock when the afternoon session of Saturday's convention was called to order. The secretary reported that since adjournment John Duff of 12 below Dominion, had arrived with credentials and he was, on motion of C. M. Woodworth, given a seat in the convention. A roll-call of the delegates showed that not more than three-fourths of them were present, with the result that delegates were straggling in for the next half hour.

Mr. Gwillim, of the committee on rules and procedure, reported a lengthy document which was read and received and adopted by sections.

A. D. Williams, of the finance committee, submitted a report which was adopted.

I. M. Sola, of the entertainment committee submitted a lengthy report which was also adopted.

The committee on platform, through its secretary, Mr. Ritchie, reported a document almost identical with that presented to the governor general, except that it was broader and asked for more liberal laws. The report was received and adopted, with a few amendments, by sections.

When it came to be read by sections there was a volume of words poured forth sufficiently strong to form the nucleus of a Kansas cyclone. Delegate McLeod of Bear creek, told the convention what the mining laws of Australia were, with relation to revenue from miner's license fees, and Dr. Catto objected to most everything. Joe Clarke, Col. MacGregor, Mr. Woodworth, Frank Slavin and P. R. Ritchie took turns at tearing the platform to pieces and putting the offending planks out of business.

A clause introduced by Barney Sugrue that "this convention heartily indorses the proposition to establish a government assay office in Dawson," was unanimously adopted.

A clause introduced by A. D. Williams that "this convention demands that all mining records be open to the public without charge," also carried unanimously. Ah, there! Assistant Gold Commissioner Bell!

Mr. Woodworth introduced a clause that "this convention demands the establishment of public schools where needed in the Yukon district," was adopted.

With the above mentioned, and other slight alterations, the report of the platform committee was adopted.

Nominations being in order, it was ruled that all names of candidates be submitted in writing to the secretary and announced by him. The following nominations were made: J. F. Sugrue, A. Prudhomme, Arthur Wilson (French Hill), Jos. A. Clarke, Dr. A. S. Grant, John Burke (Gold Run), Dr. Catto, C. M. Woodworth, A. D. Williams, Auguste Noel (mamamute howls), M. Bollain, Dr. Thompson, Dan McGillivray, Jeff Davidson, Col. MacGregor and Thos. McMullen.

A motion to invite foreign consuls and members of the Yukon council to the banquet at the Hotel McDonald carried. The meeting adjourned until 7:30.

It was after 8 o'clock when the evening session was called and in order to make sure that no interlopers were present, those in the hall were lined up on one side of the hall and as their names were called they stepped across the hall and lined up on the other side, when it was found there were no goats present.

Wm. McKay, Dr. Edwards and P. B.

Ritchie were appointed by the chair to act as tellers.

A motion made by Joe Clarke that the campaign executive committee consist of the six members already named, the four candidates receiving the highest number of votes next to those nominated and that the nominees be allowed to add two men each to the executive committee.

F. W. Gwillim wanted to exclude the press, but was greeted with jeers. Joe Clarke stated that the daily press of Dawson had supported the movement from its inception and its representatives were entitled to see the convention through. Mr. Clarke's expression was applauded and the press representatives remained.

When the nominees whose names had been submitted before the adjournment of the afternoon session were called upon to address the meeting, they all made short but well formed addresses, and withdrew from the race in the following order: Thos. McMullen, Col. Donald MacGregor, Dan Gillivray (in favor of Arthur Wilson), Jefferson Davidson, Dr. Thompson (in favor of Rev. Dr. Grant), Mr. Boullais, Auguste Noel (not present), A. D. Williams and C. M. Woodworth, the latter speaking at length and earnestly advocating the nomination of Alex Prudhomme, of Dawson and Arthur Wilson, of Gold Hill.

Dr. Catto followed suit and in rather a rambling talk, withdrew from the contest and advocated strongly the nomination of men from the ranks of the miners, and named Mr. Arthur Wilson as one candidate of his choice and hoped the other one would be a French Canadian. John Burke is 46 years old and never voted in his life; but he will vote at the coming election, but was not himself a candidate and, therefore, withdrew his name.

Dr. Grant did not withdraw his name, and in his address made the best and most lucid speech of the evening. He was warmly applauded when he said that he would support the nominees of the convention regardless of their nationality or religion.

Joe Clarke did not think it in his line to continue in the field as for two months past he had been using his efforts in the advancement of J. F. Sugrue, whom he asserted was one of the most desirable men whose name had been submitted to the convention. Mr. Clarke's speech served to stir up a hornet's nest in that it was instrumental in bringing to their feet three members of the citizens' committee.

Arthur Wilson was the first man called who asserted that he was a candidate; that at the earnest solicitation of his friends, he had consented to stand for the nomination and, it he should be the choice of the convention promised to work for his own election and later if successful, to work for the betterment of conditions in the Yukon. Mr. Wilson, who came from British Columbia to the Yukon, said that while on the outside he affiliated with the Liberal party and that he yet believed in the general principles of the Liberal party, but if the treatment of the Yukon territory since its organization is the best his party can put up he is ashamed of it. Mr. Wilson was loudly cheered.

Alex Prudhomme was willing to remain in the race. He humbly thought there were those present better fitted for the position than himself; he had worked unceasingly in the cause of reform, and if nominated he would stay with it to the end, and stay to win.

J. F. (Barney) Sugrue was the last candidate on the list. Mr. Sugrue made one of his typical speeches, always good, which was enthusiastically received. If nominated by the convention he would work hard for his election and if elected would work faithfully in the interests of good government in the Yukon.

The candidates having all spoken, the question of the eligibility of the candidates to nomination—the matter of continuous residence for 12 months in the district—arose and called forth considerable discussion and a few personal remarks. The question was unsatisfactorily, to many, settled by being dropped.

When voting began the following were the candidates before the convention: J. F. Sugrue, Alex Prudhomme, Arthur Wilson, Dr. A. S. Grant and M. H. Boullais.

First ballot—Sugrue 21, Prudhomme 23, Wilson 30, Grant 20; Boullais, 7. The latter dropped out.

Second ballot—Sugrue 18, Prudhomme 25, Wilson 29, Grant 16; the latter dropping out.

While the third vote was being counted Frank Slavin made a speech that was generally conceded to be a "hummer."

Third ballot—Wilson 43, Prudhomme 37, Sugrue 20.

Alex Prudhomme and Arthur Wilson having received the highest number of votes, were declared the nominees of the convention.

Mr. Sugrue at once took the floor and complimented the successful candidates, pledged them his hearty support and moved that their nominations be made unanimous. Dr. Grant seconded the motion and also promised to support the nominees at the polls. The motion carried amidst cheers and the first convention in the history of the Yukon became a thing of the past.

An hour after the convention adjourned nearly all its members, with a few invited guests were seated at a banquet in the spacious dining room of the Hotel McDonald, where, until 5 o'clock Sunday morning there was eating, drinking and unconfined revelry. An orchestra of five pieces furnished delightful music and Miss Celia DeLacy sang a number of songs. The very best of fellowship reigned except that Frank Slavin insisted on making speeches deprecatory of Canada and her laws and insisting that all representatives of what he was pleased to term the "alien press" are liars; but as Frank was in his normal condition no attention was paid to his remarks by the sober element present.

Support of the nominees of the convention was pledged and re-pledged, toasts were made and drank to nearly every known subject and, as a whole, the occasion was a fitting ending of the previous day's work and efforts in behalf of better local government.

The Candidates.

Mr. Arthur Wilson was born in Nova Scotia 37 years ago. When 22 years of age he followed the advice of Horace Greely: "Go West, young man, and grow up with the country." Young Wilson came west and settled in Nanaimo, British Columbia, where for 12 years he was employed in the coal mines of that place. In the summer of '97 he joined the rush to the Klondike and has been here almost continuously ever since with the exception of a visit for a short time to Nanaimo where his wife resides. Mr. Wilson has followed mining ever since coming to the country and now owns mining property off 14 below Bonanza, on French Hill and on Sulphur. Mr. Wilson, besides being a mine owner, is also a mine worker. When a strong arm in an ugly tunnel is needed Wilson is said by the boys to be one of the best men on the creeks. In appearance he is bright, quick and intelligent. He is a deliberate talker and readily shows that his early education was not neglected. His disposition is a magnetic one, as is proven by the fact that he entered the convention, a comparative stranger Saturday morning and was the most popular man in it before it adjourned. He will poll an immense vote at the coming election.

Mr. Wilson served the city of Nanaimo as a member of her municipal council.

Alexander James Prudhomme was born in the city of Ottawa 34 years ago, but was raised and lived until grown in the province of Quebec. For ten years previous to coming to the Yukon he lived in Ottawa, where he followed his trade, that of contractor and builder. He came to the Klondike in May, of 1897, which was several months before the rush. During the first year he engaged in mining on the creeks and in the spring of '98 started to work at his old trade in this city and has since been one of Dawson's most successful and reliable contractors and builders. On the outside Mr. Prudhomme affiliated with the Conservative party, but never held

a government office. His family, consisting of his wife and five children, are with him in Dawson, the family home being on Harper street between Second and Third avenues. Mr. Prudhomme as evidenced by his nomination is very popular and like his running mate will poll a heavy vote.

Arthur Smith Suicides.

Arthur H. Smith, of San Francisco, who has been in this country during the past two years, is dead by his own hand.

His body was found Saturday hanging from the roof of a cabin back of the Acklin farm, and all the circumstances go to show that it had been there several days. A handkerchief was used in lieu of a rope, and the roof was so low that the suicide had to lift his feet from the floor to accomplish his design.

The dead man was found by a man hunting in the woods, and as a result of his discovery the body was brought to town by the police, and an inquest will be held today. Arthur Smith was for a time after his arrival in the country in the employ of the A. C. Co., and at the time of his death was in the employ of the Ames Mercantile Co., in the capacity of traveling salesman on the creeks. He was very highly thought of by his employers and fellow employees, to whom his unfortunate and tragic death came as a great surprise and shock.

It is the general impression among those who knew him best and were most familiar with his affairs that his action was due to despondency, although compared with the position of many his was by no means one to grow despondent over, as he drew a good salary and was well liked and fully trusted by his employers. He was in the store last Monday and turned over his books and the proceeds of some very important collections, and he was not a cent behind in his accounts.

One of the saddest features of the affair is the fact that he leaves a wife and two little girls in San Francisco who are widowed and orphaned by his last act.

Over in the office of the Ames Mercantile Co., there are two letters addressed to the dead man, one bearing a postal date of August 20, from Oakland, and another which, judging by the handwriting on the envelope, comes from one of his daughters. This is from San Francisco and bears date of August 22. It is a well filled letter and if it had come a few days earlier might have averted the tragic death of the father destined by fate never to receive it.

Breaking It Gently.

"Is this where Mrs. Sadsby lives?" asked the bearded stranger.

"Yes, sir," replied the woman standing in the door of the cottage.

"Wife of Andrew Sadsby, who went to sea several years ago and was supposed to have been lost?"

"Yes, sir."

"Madame, I bring you news of your husband."

"Is he alive? Oh, is he still alive?"

"Perhaps it would be hasty to say that. But—"

"What do you know of him? Tell me quick?"

"That's what I am trying to do, ma'am. Six weeks ago your husband, Andrew Sadsby, was found on an island in the South Pacific. He had been shipwrecked and cast ashore. For years he had lived there, subsisting on shellfish and bananas, with an occasional coconut, and—"

"Isn't he coming back?"

"I cannot venture to give you any information yet as to that. You must prepare yourself, ma'am, for—"

"He is sick! He is dying!"

"At the time he was found, to tell the truth, he was sinking rapidly."

"And then he— Don't keep me in suspense."

"I won't ma'am. He was sinking rapidly, as I said, but he sank because he was diving for pearls. He came up again. Diving for pearls is a highly profitable occupation. Your husband, Andrew Sadsby—his first name, I think you said, was Andrew—"

"Yes! Yes!"

"Your husband, Andrew Sadsby, had spent a considerable portion of his leisure in diving for pearls. You will understand that he had inevitably a large amount of unoccupied time on his hands. He became an expert at pearl diving. At the time he was found he had accumulated a large, I might say a very large, collection of valuable pearls, and as his facilities for disposing of them were naturally limited he has them all yet. The rest is soon told. He paid his passage to his native land with pearls, he turned them into money in New York city, he took a train for his old home, and—Susan Jane, don't you know me?"

"Andrew!" she shrieked.

The next day he had his beard removed, and his faithful wife recognized him.—Chicago Tribune.

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

ROBERTS' MANIFESTO

Declares That Transvaal Is Part of Great Britain's Territory.

MAY BE FORCED TO SURRENDER.

Arthur Sewell, Shipbuilder and Politician, Dying.

BARONESS FLED FROM CHINA.

Peace Negotiations Still in Progress—Members of Tsung Li Yamen Take a Hand.

London, Sept. 4, via Skagway, Sept. 9.—Under date of the 1st, Lord Roberts reports that he has issued a proclamation that henceforth the Transvaal is a portion of her majesty's domain. Under date of the 3d comes a report that the British troops are surrounded at Ladysmith and that they have burned all their stores to keep them from falling into the hands of the Boers, and that it was feared the British would be forced to surrender. General Hunter is hastening to the relief.

Arthur Sewell Dying.

Bath, Maine, Sept. 4, via Skagway, Sept. 9.—Arthur Sewell, Democratic nominee for vice president in 1896, lies at the point of death from a stroke of apoplexy. He cannot recover.

Fled From China.

Detroit, Sept. 4, via Skagway, Sept. 9.—President Ledyard of the Michigan Central Ry., has received a cablegram from his daughter, Baroness Von Keller, widow of the German ambassador murdered in China. The message says: "I am in Yokohama; come for me."

Chinese Situation Unchanged.

Washington, Sept. 4, via Skagway, Sept. 9.—A dispatch has been received from Conger, the first for seven days. He says the situation is not materially changed. Negotiations between the powers regarding peace propositions continues. Germany is awaiting the action of the other powers.

Peace Negotiations.

Tientsin, Aug. 29, via Skagway, Sept. 9.—Three members of the Tsung Li Yamen are seeking to negotiate with the allies through Sir Robert Hart, director of Chinese customs. Another member of the Tsung Li Yamen named Ching Li, visited the Austrian ambassador on the 22d and was arrested for complicity in the attack on the legations.

After Captain Rant.

News comes from Victoria that George Stables, of Atlin, who won distinction by defeating Capt. John Irving for the provincial parliament in the Cassiar district, is making a fight on the government for appointing Capt. W. J. Rant as stipendiary magistrate for the Porcupine district. He alleges incompetence, and it is reported, intemperance as disqualifications. In substantiation of his charges he points to the record of Capt. Rant in Atlin, and the muddle that followed the first rush to that mining camp.

Mr. Stables recently addressed some questions to Attorney General Eberts in relation to the appointment of Captain Rant, who submitted answers as follows:

1. Has Capt. W. J. Rant been appointed stipendiary magistrate for the Porcupine district? If so, on whose recommendation was the appointment made? Answer—Yes. The senior member of Cassiar.

2. Is this the Mr. Rant who figured so prominently in the Atlin troubles a year or two ago? Answer—No. This is the Capt. W. J. Rant who was mining recorder at Lake Bennett.

Mr. Stables is said to be a reformer who proposes to warm up the dry bones in British Columbia politics.