

DAWSON WEEKLY NEWS

BRITISH EMPIRE'S FARTHEST NORTH NEWSPAPER

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DAWSON, YUKON TERRITORY, CANADA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1950.

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Former Yukoner And Fiancee Are Slain By Ex-Husband

William A. O'Loane, son of Yukon and Alaska pioneer parents, and well known in Fairbanks and other Interior Alaska points, was shot and killed, together with his fiancee, Mrs. Betty Buchanan Trout, recently in Mt. Vernon, Wash., by John W. Trout, principal of Rockport Grammar school, 40 miles up the Skagit River, the women's former husband who then turned the gun upon himself.

The tragedy occurred in front of 3-year-old Terry Trout, son of the divorced couple, in the partly furnished home that was being prepared by the engaged couple in preparation for their marriage. The Trouts had been divorced in June, 1948.

The child ran to his maternal grandparents home next door and waited their return from a shopping trip to tell them about what had happened. Trout was still breathing when L. F. Buchanan rushed next door, but died later.

Bill O'Loane had scores of friends in Fairbanks where he attended high school a few years ago while making his home with Mr. and Mrs. John B. Hall. When war came along he served in the Air Force and upon his discharge returned north and worked for a time for the Alaska Road Commission in the Donnelly area. He left many of his possessions with the Halls, intending to return at a future date. He was a flying instructor at Mt. Vernon where his parents now make their home.

He was born 24 years ago in Mayo, Y. T. from pioneer parents. Both he and his mother were naturalized in Fairbanks at the same time. The O'Loane family lived for many years at Tanana and Hot Springs where O'Loane Sr. was manager of the N. C. Company store. They moved outside several years ago for health reasons. Bill was their only child.

Captain George Black, Yukon's veteran former member of parliament, came in from Whitehorse on the CPA plane last Tuesday to attend the funeral of the late Mrs. Ina Gibben. He returned to his headquarters at Whitehorse on Friday's southbound flight.

Requiem Mass Sung for Late Pioneer Sister

Requiem high mass was sung at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning by the Rev. Phileas Gagnon, O. M. L., for beloved Sister Mary Gideon, one of the oldest and most revered members of the congregation of St. Ann in the Yukon, who lost her life as a result of the disastrous fire at the hospital last Tuesday.

Born at St. Evariste, province of Quebec, the highly-esteemed sister was aged seventy eight. She joined the congregation of her faith in 1900 at Lachine, Quebec, and her first call to duty was at Holy Cross, in 1902 and then Nulato, Alaska.

She was transferred to Dawson in 1904.

Burial was made in the Sisters' private cemetery on the hillside above the hospital site. She was the fifth member of her order to be interred in the land where she had devoted her lifetime to the precincts of her calling.

Relatives survive in Vancouver and Seattle.

In years of service she was the veteran member of the Sisters' organization in Dawson, superseded in years only by pioneer Sister Mary Prudentienne.

It was fittingly appropriate that the funeral service for the late pioneer sister should be conducted by the Rev. Father Gagne, hospital chaplain for the past thirty years, who was a very dear friend and confidant of the venerable priest.

Members of the choir who sang the devotional hymns at the service were six members of the Sisters' order, all of whom had long been associated with the venerable Sister Mary Gideon.

Organist was Miss Victoria Faulkner. With the tragic passing of the pioneer member of the congregation of St. Ann, the number of sisters in service in this district total only eleven.

Pall bearers were: J. P. Granger, Gustave Martin, L. A. Blouin, Walter Turchinski, H. W. Firth and Leo Poirier.

In his eulogy Rev. Father Desmarais, O. M. L. in a brief but deep elocution expressed the meaning of her devoted life.

Deeply moved—slowly he displayed how she answered the call to a higher life—yes, for 45 years she has been in Dawson performing the work assigned with the virtues of a religious. Yes, "a fire was lighted—over 75 years ago—but it was the fire of Divine love. So the life has come to a term—but from above, she will assist to the revival of such a worthy mother."

Plane News

Pilot Phil Iverson landed the CPA Douglas at the Klondike airport on regular schedule Tuesday afternoon.

From here the plane went on to Fairbanks, was due back here southbound Wednesday.

There were several incoming passengers.

Earlier in the day an RCAF transport, bringing Red Cross supplies and equipment here, roared over town but due to heavy fog blanketing the valley at the time, was unable to land.

It was expected to return here yesterday.

Three tubercular patients from the hospital, R. F. Diment, Mich Nakano brother and Miss Martin, native girl, were to have flown to Edmonton on the RCAF ship.

Some ladies attain their ends by not taking enough exercise.

HOSPITAL FIRE WAS DAWSON'S WORST CONFLAGRATION IN THE PAST HALF CENTURY

BREAK IN THE SEVERE COLD WEATHER IS NOW HELPING TO ALLEVIATE THE HARDSHIPS OF DISASTER

The definite break Tuesday in the extreme cold weather which has held the Klondike in an icy grip for practically a solid month, proved the most cheering news that Dawson has known during the new year.

As the second week in the new year ended, denizens of the Dawson community looked back on a series of deaths, fires and cold weather crises seldom paralleled in the past many decades.

Most serious aftermath of the disastrous hospital fire and the cold weather is the partial freezeup of the town's water system. As of Monday thirty eight homes or public institutions were handicapped by frozen water systems. Scores of others were forced during the severe cold weather to keep a twenty-four hour vigil on their water pipes; doing everything possible to keep them functioning.

Crews of the Dawson City Water & Power Co., assisted by Territorial Government road and garage crews, were braving sub-zero temperatures over the week end in efforts to repair damage and thaw out water systems most urgently needed.

Up until yesterday, the cold weather has grounded planes since last Friday and held car, cat or truck operations to a minimum. Until Wednesday there had been no plane in from the south since last Thursday when the CPA's DC-3 arrived from Whitehorse and remained overnight. It left for the south the following day.

Despite the emergency caused by the fire and the cold, life in Dawson has been going on much the same as usual, with few cancellations of scheduled meetings or other functions. Looking back on the fire tragedy, several factors stand out above all others. There was the coolness and efficiency displayed by the sisters, nurses and other members of the staff in evacuating patients... the calm, courageous manner in which the Dawson Fire Department and volunteers battled the fire... the orderly salvages of valuable supplies and equipment... and the speedy, efficient manner in which temporarily hospital quarters were set up, equipped and service resumed.

Due to the cold weather the siren at the south Dawson power plant, a mile from the hospital, which sounds the general alarm for a fire, was frozen up and wouldn't work. For that reason scores of Dawsonites were unaware that the hospital was burning until notified by friends or neighbors.

Doctor Barry Duncan, Dawson's only physician, didn't know about the fire until an hour after it had started. He rushed to the scene, played an important part in salvaging equipment, attending those hurt or asphyxiated, giving instructions or advice in getting a temporary ward, operating room and lab established as quickly as possible.

It has been disclosed that in his inspection of the hospital wards, while the fire was raging in the third story attic, Dr. Duncan found a small native child that had been overlooked in the confusion and he and Emile Fournier brought it out to safety.

The transfer of patients from hospital to the school building in case of emergency was by pre-determined plan. As soon as school superintendent Jack Hulland was notified of the fire, he told a group of his high school boys to "get going."

They piled into George Ford's sedan outside the school, raced to the hospital and played a big part in battling the flames and salvaging equipment and supplies.

Said Sister Mary Laurina, head of the nursing department after: "If we had only realized that we had more time, we could have saved many more things. But it was a 'quick getaway.' Sister Laurina was a pillar of cool efficiency throughout the entire ordeal."

A group of high school girls assisted staff nurses and volunteer nurses in helping to get the patients warm and settled in their temporary ward at the school.

Ernie Schink, one of the earliest volunteers to reach the fire had the presence of mind to get two cows and a calf out of the stable behind the burning building. It was an unusual sight to see them being herded down first avenue as cars and trucks raced past them on their way to the fire.

Venerable hospital chaplain, the Rev. Father Gagne, in Dawson since 1919, refused to budge from his small, frame monastery, downhill about a hundred and fifty feet from the raging inferno. When firemen went to see if he was O. K., they found his stove red hot, his stovepipes glowing red. He nearly had a fire in his own place but said he would "stick it out."

Fire hoses played streams of water on the roof of the priest's home to keep it from catching fire.

Of the twelve sisters, six staff nurses, and dozen other members of the staff who occupied quarters on the third floor attic, few escaped without losing everything they owned. Sisters and nurses, with their vestments and uniforms wet and caked with ice, went valiantly about their duties.

The Dawson City Chapter I. O. D. E. quickly came to the rescue of those in need of clothing. By the following morning the Chapter had issued checks for \$35. each to all of the sisters and nurses. A fund begun the following day by local bush pilot Pat Callison netted five hundred and twenty five dollars by evening for the same purpose while T. Eaton and company, through its official W. S. Curry, Winnipeg, wired in to say that a five hundred dollar sum had been established for staff and nurses clothing.

"Everyone has been so wonderful to us," said Sister Mary Laurina, speaking on behalf of the Sisters while members of the civilian nursing staff expressed the same sentiments. Also a paragon of coolness and bravery was Sister Superior Mary Mark who is head of the entire organization.

Her clothing wet and freezing to her shoulders, she was wrapped in blankets and hurried to the school to be with her patients by Frank Lloyd, manager of the Northern Commercial Co. store.

After the initial shock of the fire was over, Sister Superior quickly resumed her executive capacity, directing, assisting, keeping up morale.

"How grand everyone has been," she beamed. "We are grieved over the loss of our beloved Sister Mary Gideon but thankful that no other lives were lost. It was a blessing that the fire broke out during mid-day. Had it happened at night, the loss of life might have been much heavier."

(Continued on page 3, col. 1.)

I. O. D. E. Takes Active Part in Hospital Relief

Mrs. Nancy Firth, Regent of the Dawson City Chapter, I. O. D. E., has advised the News that the local chapter is taking an active part in handling relief for the sisters and nurses who lost everything in the hospital fire last week.

By Wednesday morning, the day after the fire, the Chapter had issued checks for \$35. to each and every member of the Sisters' Order and the nursing staff.

Main topic of the meeting of the Dawson City Chapter held Tuesday night of this week, was a plan for further aid for the hospital staff.

Mrs. Firth said that the local chapter was ready and eager to institute a campaign for collecting and handling funds for the hospital relief. However a public meeting is being called for Sunday afternoon, when a committee will be formed among Dawson citizens, to undertake this mission.

The I. O. D. E., in deference to this plan, will await the outcome of the meeting Sunday but ready and willing to play any vital role in the campaign that may be deemed advisable.

Fire Destroys Cabin of Old Timer, Dawson

Fire, believed to have started from a coal oil lamp, completely destroyed the frame cabin of pioneer Thomas Moran in south Dawson, Saturday morning.

Fire Chief J. W. Ballentine and his crew answered the alarm at 5 a. m., but the blaze had gained such headway that it was impossible to save anything.

Tommy lost all his furnishings, groceries and personal belongings.

Miss Bee Pritzel, staff nurse for St. Mary's, who was on duty at the temporary quarters in the public school, was the first to spot the fire and G. Martin, night caretaker at the school, phoned in the alarm.

Moran was assisting Martin at the school that night.

While her, Martin and other on duty at the school witnessed the flames, Tommy didn't know that it was his place until notified by the RCMP after the fire was over.

Three Youths Arrested Charged With Armed Robbery With Violence

WHITEHORSE.—One of the most dastardly armed robberies to occur here in years took place New Year's Day at 3 a. m., when Patrick Michael Miller, William Douglas Anderson and David Winton, each 17 years of age, broke into John Sewell's store. They went directly upstairs to the sleeping quarters, awakened John Sewell with a rifle pointed at his face and ordered him to hand over his money. Mr. Sewell grabbed the rifle and during the tussle was hit over the head with the butt of the rifle with such force that the butt was broken right through. He was also beaten about the face and, at the point of the rifle, ordered downstairs and made to open the safe from which \$800 was taken. Then they ordered him back upstairs to his bedroom where his hands and legs were bound to the four bedposts with electric light cord and neckties. The trio remained in the store two hours, leaving about 5 a. m. with some firearms.

It was about 7 a. m. when Mr. Sewell was able to extricate himself when he at once reported to the police. He gave a fairly good description of two of his assailants but the third

Beloved Dawson Wife and Mother Laid to Rest

With bowed heads and loving prayers, citizens of Dawson paid final tribute at St. Paul's Pro Cathedral last Wednesday to the memory of Ina Gibben, beloved wife of Commissioner J. E. Gibben.

Burial was made in the Masonic plot at Hillside cemetery.

In the hushed and quiet confines of the historic little Anglican church, where she had worshipped these past number of years, the Rev. W. R. Stringer, rector of St. Paul's spoke in eloquent eulogy of the late departed Dawson wife and mother.

Mrs. Gibben was born at Winnipeg, Manitoba, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Hume, pioneer residents of that city, in 1910. Besides her father, husband and daughter Barbara, she is survived by one sister, Mrs. G. L. Boyd, of Toronto, Ontario.

Commissioner and Mrs. Gibben were married at Winnipeg in 1938. Their daughter Barbara, now six and attending her first year at school, was born at St. Mary's Hospital in this city.

From her home at Winnipeg Mrs. Gibben went to the Mackenzie River district prior to her marriage. There she was an active worker for the Red Cross and other civic organizations.

Following their marriage in 1938, Commissioner and Mrs. Gibben came to Dawson in 1941 where the well known government official acted as stipendiary magistrate until his appointment as commissioner, succeeding Mr. George A. Jeckell two years ago.

Taken ill in June of the past year, Mrs. Gibben was admitted to the hospital June 19 where she remained until July 9 and then returned to her home. She was re-admitted to the hospital on Nov. 22 and had been a brave and tolerant patient right up until she was called to her last eternal sleep.

Pall bearers at the funeral were: Ralph Zaccarelli, Jack Hulland, MacMunroe, C. H. Chapman, Mike Cole and John Dines, Jr.

Words alone could never express the sincere and heartfelt sorrow of the entire Dawson community at the passing of Ina Gibben.

A devoted wife and mother, she was a pillar of strength and activity in the town that she had come to love and a friend to all the northern people.

Mrs. Gibben was a faithful and energetic member of St. Paul's Women's Auxiliary, of the Dawson Community Christmas Tree Association and of the I. O. D. E.

In the passing of Ina Gibben, highly esteemed northern wife and mother, this district has lost one of its most gracious, most charitable and most likeable citizens.

The News wishes to join with their legion of friends in the northland in expressing deepest sympathy to Commissioner Gibben and daughter Barbara.

he was unable to identify. An immediate round-up of suspects was commenced which resulted in the three accused being apprehended by 11 a. m. and all the stolen property recovered. It was found secreted in the mattresses where one of the accused was living. The police are to be complimented on their quick action and the success which crowned their efforts.

The accused appeared in police court Tuesday charged with armed robbery with violence and were remanded in custody to stand trial before a higher court of jurisdiction which will be held here on or about January 18.

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C. S. Macpherson, Whitehorse, Y. T.
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affairs, entertainments, dances, etc.,
as well as wedding and other an-
nouncements, .50c per line.

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card of thanks, \$1.50 per inch, mini-
mum \$1.50.

Classified advertisements, 50 cents
per line.

**Kimbel Tells of
Narrow Brush
With Icy Death**

Last week the News reported the
narrow escape of Ed. Kimbel, pioneer
Mayo transportation man, and his
helper Fred Harper, and Indian lad.
Here is Ed's own personal account
of the near escape . . . one of the
closest calls Ed claims, that he has
ever had during his thirty years in
the northland.

We had been using this same road
on the Stewart River for wood and
timber hauling since November 15.
The ice was now twenty inches thick.
Sam Wood and Ken Larimore had
also been hauling heavy loads of wood
over the same road. Sam and Ken
had just gone up and over the same
spot where we plunged in, two hours
previous to our plunge. We had left
our wood camp, operated by Bill Sher-
wood and Brian Kelly about 9 o'clock
on the evening of Friday, January 6.
It was quickly getting colder right
along. We were hurrying to get home,
back at mill, and were travelling a-
bout 25 miles an hour with our model
58 White truck and a big load of hay.

We hit the air hole about 9.30. The
air hole was what is known as an
ice blowup and it was about 100 by
300 feet. The water was roughly 15
feet deep . . . and cold.

I was driving at the time. I've had
thirty years experience in driving on
ice in this country, having hauled the
overland mail by gas cat for many
years from Whitehorse to Mayo and
on up to Keno and the Wernecke
camps.

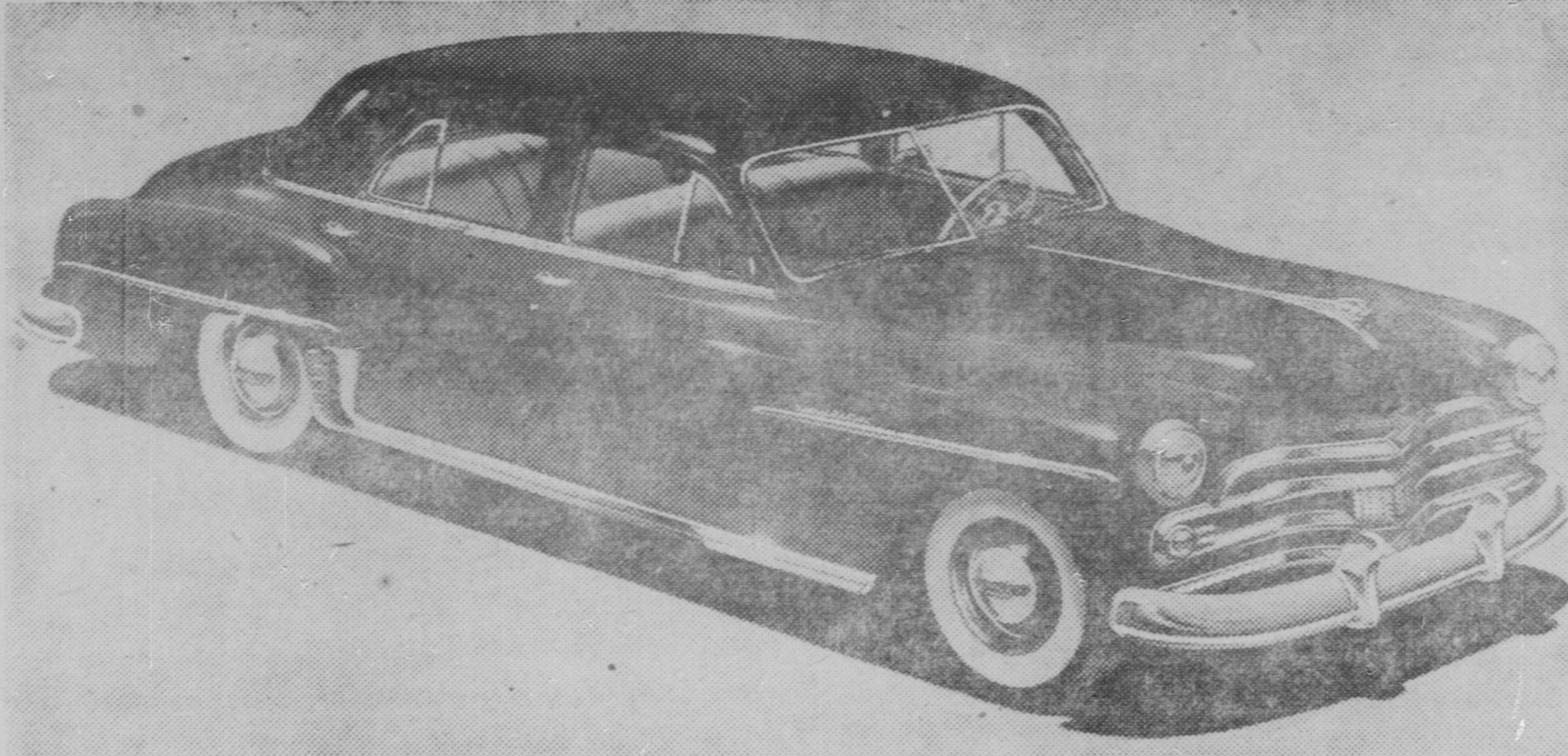
I came to Mayo in April, 1920,
over the old mail trail by way of
Dawson and Quartz Creek by horse
stage, run by Coates and Kastner,
the nthe rest of the way to Mayo by
two horse team driven by Isaac Lusk.

I am now sixty years old and will
say, that in all my travels, on the
Alaskan side and in the Yukon, that
I have never met with any more try-
ing experience as this past one. I
spent from 1910 to 1918 on the Alas-
kan side, at Anchorage, on the Kus-
kokwim, Flat and at Iditarod and
then went to Seattle where I was en-
gaged in caulking wooden ships in the
Houghton Shipyards on Lake Wash-
ington. Came to Mayo in 1920.

I have never seen in all these trav-
els a blowout on ice as thick as the
one we broke through . . . and it
had to be right on our wood road.

The "death plunge," as I call it, I
will never forget. While roaring down
the river road, all of a sudden we
ran into a dense fog, caused by the
cold air and open water. Then our
front wheels seemed to drop straight
down and the next thing the icy cold
water hit us. The truck went straight
down in fifteen feet of water. I forced
my door open and felt around for
my pal Freddie Harper, an Indian lad
who had been helping me on the
trip. He is one of my cat skippers.
He was trying to get out the oppo-
site door. I swam to the surface and
then some 20 feet to the solid ice

New Dodge Special Deluxe



A longer, lower, and wider appearance is a
feature of the new 1950 Dodge models announced
today. The largest rear window in Dodge history
adds greatly to the all-round visibility feature in
this new model.
Special Deluxe models on 118 1/2" Wheelbase are
available as a 4-Door Sedan, and Club Coupe.

The DeLuxe Series on 118 1/2" Wheelbase also
includes a 4-Door Sedan and Club Coupe. The
DeLuxe Series on 111" Wheelbase consists of
2-Door Sedan, Business Coupe, and all-metal
Suburban.
Safety Rim wheels and Super cushion tires are
standard equipment on all Dodge models.

and then crawled out after a hard
struggle with my heavy clothing sop-
ping wet. Then I called Harper and,
after a bit, heard him trying to call
back to me. He had little wind left
for we had both swallowed a lot of
water in our struggle to get to the
surface. I told Fred to climb up on
the hay, which he did, and afterwards
I was able to pull him from the load
with a rope that was on the load.

I can't begin to describe the
thoughts that ran through my head
while under water. My daughter Gail,
now Mrs. Wilbur Gibson, of Prince
George, was the first person to enter
my mind as I never thought I would
ever get out alive. I was sure we
would be carried under the ice as the
current was very swift and our
chances were slim. Then I thought of
my many friends and pals that I was
leaving behind. Then it struck me I
should try to find Freddie but I had
to swim to the surface without him.

Just as soon as I had puled Fred
over to solid ice, I said: "Pal, we
got to run for it. It was forty three
below zero. We had lost our caps in
our struggle to get out and our hair
froze hard at once. We started to run
or the mill, our nearest shelter. It
was four miles away, and I'm telling
you, it was the longest four miles I
have ever run. The sharp cold was
soon freezing our bare heads and our
steps were forever slowed by our
frozen clothing. Soon we found that
we couldn't bend our legs and had
to, more or less, just scuffle along.
Several times Fred stopped and said
he couldn't run any more. He want-
ed to take off his boots but I told

him: "Its life or death Fred. We just
got to keep going and if we try to
walk, we'll freeze to death for sure.
I knew if we could keep on running
we would have a better chance for
our lives.
Soon the lights from the sawmill
came into view, Fred took on a new
spurt and soon left me behind. He
was awfully frightened and was call-
ing for help all the way. As we came
close to the mill Fred stayed on the
main road as he could not run through
the snow. But I was all in and tried
to take the short cut over to the mill,
about 900 feet off the road. I only
went a short way through the snow,
which was about ten inches deep,
when I fell to the ground. I was frozen
so stiff and tired I could not get back
to my feet. I called and called for
help but the boys at the mill did not
hear me.

Fred Marklund, a good friend of
mine who is in charge at mill, was on
the sick list and in bed. Ray Devall,
another good pal of ours, was taking
care of him and it was Ray who fin-
ally heard my calls and came to my
rescue. I'll never be able to thank
Ray enough for by this time my last
hopes for life were dwindling fast
and I was crawling through the snow
on hands and knees.

Ray and Fred Marklund soon had
the fire going full blast and started
cutting off our frozen clothing. As
soon as this was done, Ray ran the
mile to town to get help. Cal Harris,
Al Martin and Dunc Mageshie, who
runs the Chateau Mayo Hotel, came
over with their taxi and rushed us
to the hospital.

My feet were badly frozen but Har-
per had on short rubber boots and the
small amount of water that had soak-
ed into them, helped protect his feet
from freezing. But Fred's ears, hands
and face were frozen but I think he'll
be able to be up and around again
soon.

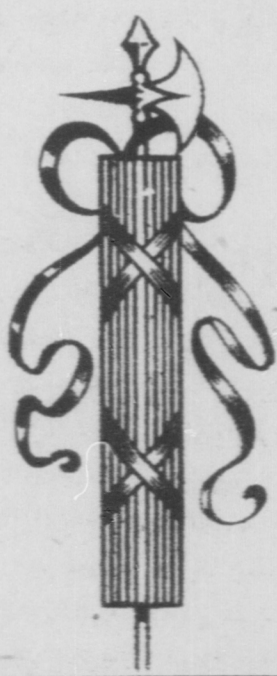
But Kimbel will be laid up for some
time with badly frozen feet, aside
from his ears, fingers and wrists.
Glad to say, though, I'm coming along
fine. I certainly want to thank the
doctors and the nurses and the boys
who came to our rescue.

As I lay in the hospital, surrounded
by good friends who are doing every-
thing possible to make my stay here
more cheerful, I keep looking back
over my thirty years in the Yukon.
I recall my good old duck and geese
hunting trips with my good old pal
George Black. I think back to those
trips when I ran lumber and log rafts
from Mayo to Dawson . . . running
Fraser Falls rapids. Have made many
trips through them with old Jim Mer-
vyn who has lost three of his be-
loved sons in the Stewart River. All
these experiences and memories I
now recall. But I shall never forget
the thousand things that ran through
my mind when we took that icy
plunge on the cold night of January
6 in 1950.

I might add that Sam Wood and
Ken Larimore came within a hairs-
breadth of running right into the
same hole as they were only an
hour behind us on their return trip
down river. Luckily they saw the hay
pile lying on the water. This caused
them to stop and investigate.

We Print=

- * Envelopes
- * Letter Heads
- * Meal Tickets
- * Menu Cards
- * Shipping Bills
- * Shipping Tags
- * Statements
- * Bill Heads
- * Dance Tickets
- * Laundry Slips
- * Dry Cleaning Slips
- * For Sale Cards
- * For Rent Cards
- * Business Cards
- * Meeting Cards
- * Circulars
- * Dodgers
- * Posters
- * Legal Forms
- * Duplicate Bills
- * Gummed Labels
- * Requisition Forms
- * Shop Work Tickets
- * Lodge Notices



The Dawson News

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Read Down Lv. Mon. and Thurs. Ar. Mon. and Thurs.	North Route Whitehorse, Y. T. Dry Creek, Y. T.	Read Up Tues. and Fri. Ar. Tues. and Fri. Lv.
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Read Down Lv. Tues. and Fri. Ar. Tues. and Fri.	via Alaska Coachways Dry Creek, Y. T. Fairbanks, Alaska	Read Up Mon. and Thurs. Ar. Mon. and Thurs. Lv.
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Bud Fisher, who went up river right
away to see if Sam and his compan-
ion were O. K., found out that the
two had been to the ice hole but had
turned back. One of the strange things
is that the lights on the truck were
still burning three hours after it had
plunged into the icy water.

A. E. Glover, assayer-in-charge of the
Department of Mines laboratory and
field station at Fairbanks during a
four-day visit to the site while the
recent miniature stampede that was
given nation-wide publicity was still
in progress.

**Official Report
Is Prepared On
Fishwheel 'Strike'**

(Jessen's Weekly)

A preliminary report on the alleged
discovery of placer-gold at the locali-
ty near Fort Yukon, Alaska that has
become known as "Fishwheel" has
been prepared by the Territorial De-
partment of Mines (Alaska), accord-
ing to a statement by the Commis-
sioner of Mines, B. D. Stewart.
The "Fishwheel" area was investi-
gated at the end of October, 1949, by

The report describes in consid-
erable detail the physical, geologic and
mineralogical features of the locality
and also includes interesting and sig-
nificant observations on general con-
ditions, prospecting operations and
the life that was being lived at the
"mushroom" mining camp on the Ar-
ctic Circle.

Although it is not yet available for
general distribution a copy of the re-
port will be made available for pub-
lic inspection at each of the Territo-
rial Department of Mines, which are
located at Ketchikan, Anchorage,
Fairbanks (College), Nome, and at
the office of the Commissioner of
Mines, Juneau.

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HOSPITAL FIRE

For the veteran pioneer patients—the real old timers, some of whom are nearing the century mark, the hospital fire proved the most exciting day in their lives since the gold rush. They were agitated and voluble but none excited. It was a break in their usual day by day monotonous routine and they made the most of it. A. I. Schultz, eighty six, Fortymile pioneer, undergoing treatment, didn't wait for a car to take him away. Cool as a frozen icicle, the jocular old timer put on his mackinaw, fur cap and mitts, threw his belongings into a paper bag and hit off down the hill on foot, heading for the home of a friend downtown.

It is estimated that the loss, including the building, equipment and furnishings will total close to one million dollars. Insurance carried amounted to one hundred and twenty five thousand.

One of the most tragic aspects of the fire was the futility of keeping the flames from spreading. A capacity number of hose lines poured hundreds of gallons of gallons of water into the holocaust but flames raced and roared through the teinder-dry frame structure with such velocity that the firemen had little chance to subdue the mass of flames.

From Bear Creek, a one-thousand gallon pumper, manned by Dan Grant, Fritz Pournier, Bob Minnet, Bob Clay, Frank Lidstone and Mike Telep, rushed to the scene but this extra supply of water was quickly exhausted.

One of the first to spot the flames shooting out under the doors of the Sisters chapel on the second floor, where it is believed the fire started, was Mrs. Daisy White, formerly of Vancouver, staff nurse on duty at the time, who was among the first to give the alarm.

After the patients had been evacuated she made a frantic attempt, aided two two volunteer firemen, to rush up the attic stairs to her room to try and save her belongings. Half way up the stairs she espied the tongues of flame seething from the roof and shouted:

"Good Lord, get me out of here."
There was never a ghost of a chance to get anything out of the attic quarters of the sisters, nurses and other staff members.

The whoosh and roar of the flames—the pillars of smoke and sparks spilling hundreds of feet into the air—the glow of burning embers against the early afternoon twilight—the shouting of firemen and vol-

unteers... the roar of motors... these were only a few of the sights and sounds that mingled to create a lasting memory of the tragedy.
There was confusion but no panic. Once the town had been alerted, volunteers from the stores and hotels, from the radio station, from the police, from government offices, the banks, the News office; in fact from every business house or private home in town, went rushing to the scene. Heroically fighting the inferno, and with the traditional stoicism of their race, was a band of Indian lads. As the natives cleared out rooms and wards on the main floor and threw equipment and supplies outside, a group of Indian women hauled the salvaged articles to places of safety.

Water-soaked men and women, unable to remain longer inside the blazing inferno, bravely carried on outside, their hats and clothing sheathed with ice and frost.
By a stroke of luck the sharp breeze prevailing at the time was blowing away to the northward, thereby keeping the walls of flame away from the fire fighters and those engaged in salvage. Had the wind been blowing against the town it would have cut off roads and sidewalks leading from the hospital and made it impossible to transfer the salvaged equipment and supplies.
As the flames levelled the huge structure and the end grew near, the CPA plane, which had been held at the airport, soared over town in total darkness heading for Whitehorse.

Pilot Phil Iverson, chief CPA pilot on the Yukon division, lifted the big ship off the Klondike airport, after dusk had fallen. It was a feat of skill and daring, one that could only have been undertaken with safety by such an experienced northern airman as Captain Iverson. Aboard were thirteen T. B. patients and two staff nurses.
One T. B. patient, an old timer Gus Lind, who had never flown before, was obstinate about making the flight.
"You'll never get me aboard one of those things," he argued. "I'll die here first," but the nurses got him bundled up and aboard and away he went. He's one man who is not liable to forget his first plane ride.
By midnight, nothing but a mass of burning embers remained where once stood Dawson's oldest, biggest and most institution.

It will be many years before the historic northern mining town, on the banks of the Yukon, will ever boast a hospital so modern, well equipped and of such immense value to the town, as the one just gone.
Ironically the first alarm to be answered by the Dawson fire department, following the hospital fire, was to the temporary hospital quarters at the Dawson Public School. An overheated chimney stack sent the eff rediaegrb chimney stack sent the fire brigade rushing there at four o'clock Wednesday morning while the temperature was soon brought under control.
During the grim, cold nights that followed, the dismal, mournful scream of the fire siren struck fear and anxiety into the hearts and minds of all who hear it.
What this far northern community needs worst of all right now is a definite break in the severe cold weather which is so responsible for magnifying recent sorrows and disaster and which is wearing down the patience of the people all over town.
N. B. It came on Wednesday.

CORRESPONDENCE

CANADA

Department of Mines & Resources
Dawson, Y. T., January 14, 1950.

Sir:
I enclose copy of a radiogram from Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, Deputy Minister, Department of Mines and Resources, extending sympathy to those who suffered loss, and appreciation of the co-operation and resourcefulness which which was displayed at St. Mary's Hospital fire.
Will you please publish this radiogram in the next issue of the Dawson News.
Yours truly,
J. E. Gibben, Commissioner.

Ottawa, January 12, 1950.
J. E. Gibben, Dawson, Y. T.

Have read your message yesterday's date in which you report the manner in which local people have handled the emergency which arose through the loss of St. Mary's Hospital by fire Stop On behalf of this department may I extend my deepest sympathy to those who have suffered loss and concurrently heartfelt appreciation of the co-operation and resourcefulness which has been displayed in dealing with this difficult situation under such adverse climatic conditions.

H. L. Keenleyside.

The Editor,
Dawson News Publishing Co. Ltd.
Dawson, Y. T.
Dear Sir,—
The Sisters of St. Ann, through your paper, wish to express their sincere THANKS to the members of the fire department, and to the public in general for the wonderful assistance given during the recent disastrous fire that destroyed St. Mary's Hospital.
We also wish to express our THANKS to those who have so generously seen to our needs in the way of donations of food, clothing and financial assistance.
We wish to assure the residents of Dawson that every effort will be made to rebuild or restore St. Mary's Hospital as quickly as possible and we await word from our Provincial House who has the final decision, before definite plans are made.
The Sisters of St. Ann.

WAR VET HELPS
BURNABY, B. C.—W. M. Dean of 2030 Curragh Ave., Burnaby, is a war veteran who knows the dire distress of children in war-ravaged countries. He and his wife are doing their bit to try and help the sick, hungry and destitute children of such countries. The \$5 the Deans have sent to UNICEF, Ottawa, will allow 40 children to be tested, vaccinated against tuberculosis.
The familiar cupola on railroad cabooses were "invented" by a Chicago and North Western brakeman who discovered the excellence of the view when he stuck his head through a hole in the floor of a damaged caboose.

BENEFIT BY THIS GOOD NEWS COMBINATION
YOUR HOME TOWN PAPER gives you complete, dependable local news You need to know all that is going on where you live.
But you live also in a WORCDD, where momentous events are in the making—events which can mean so much to you, to your job, your home, your future. For constructive reports and interpretations of national and international news, there is no substitute for THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR daily.
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Synopsis of Mining Law Yukon Territory

Any person eighteen years of age or over shall have the right to enter, locate, prospect and mine upon any lands in the Yukon Territory, whether vested in the Crown or otherwise, for the minerals defined in the Yukon Quartz Mining Act and the Yukon Placer Mining Act, with certain reservations set out in the said Act.
No person shall enter for mining purposes or shall mine upon lands owned or lawfully occupied by another until adequate security has been furnished to the satisfaction of the Mining Recorder for any loss or damage which may be thereby caused.
Where claims are being located which are situated more than one hundred miles from the Mining Recorder's office, the locators, not less than five in number, are authorized to meet and appoint one of their number as emergency Recorder, who shall as soon as possible, deliver the applications and fees received to the Mining Recorder for the District.
If two or more persons own a claim each person shall contribute proportionately to his interest to the work required to be done thereon, and when proven to the Mining Recorder that he has not done so his interest may be vested in the other co-owners.
The survey of a claim made by a duly qualified Dominion Land Surveyor shall be accepted as defining absolutely the boundaries of the claim surveyed, provided the survey is approved by the proper authority and remains unopposed during the period of advertisement.
A person about to undertake a bona fide prospecting trip may secure from the Mining Recorder written permission to record at his own risk a placer claim within six months.
A legal post must stand four feet above the ground, squared or faced for the upper eighteen inches and measuring four inches across the faced portion. The post must be firmly fixed in the ground.
Metal tags to be obtained from Mining Recorder and affixed to claim posts. (Placer and Quartz.)
Priority of location shall be deemed to convey priority of right. Certain disputes may be heard and determined by a Board of Arbitrators.
Grants of claims grouped or owned by one person may be made renewable on the same date.

PLACER MINING
Creek means any natural water course having an average width of less than one hundred and fifty feet between its banks.
Creek claims shall not exceed five hundred feet in length measured along the base line, by one thousand feet on each side of the base line. Other claims shall not exceed five hundred feet in length by one thousand feet in depth. Claims shall be nearly as possible rectangular in form and shall be marked by two legal posts, one at each end of the claim, numbered "1" and "2" respectively.
Location posts of creek claims shall be placed on the base line and of all other claims parallel to the base line, and on the side of the claim nearest the creek or river toward which it fronts.
A discoverer shall be entitled to a claim 1,500 feet in length, and a party of two discoverers two claims, each of 1,250 feet in length.
The boundaries of any claim may be enlarged to the size of a claim allowed by the Act, if the enlargement does not interfere with the rights of other persons or terms of any agreement with the Crown.
An application for a claim may be filed with the Mining Recorder within ten days after being located if reserved until the Mining Recorder certifies that the same is required for use in mining operations on the

QUARTZ MINING
Subject to the boundaries of other claims in good standing at the time of its location, a mining claim shall be rectangular in shape and shall not exceed 1,500 feet in length by 1,500 feet in width.
Every claim shall be marked on the ground by two legal posts, one at each extremity of the location line numbered "1" and "2" respectively.
On the side of No. 1 post facing No. 2 post shall be inscribed the name of the claim, a letter indicating the direction to No. 2 post, the number of feet to the right or left of the location line, the date of location and the name of the locator. On No. 2 post, on the side facing No. 1 post, shall be inscribed the name of the claim, the date of location and the name of the locator.
The claim shall be recorded within fifteen days if located within ten miles of the Mining Recorder's office; one additional day shall be allowed for every additional ten miles or fraction thereof.
Any persons 18 years of age or over may locate during any period of 12 months personally, as attorney for another or by an attorney seven mineral claims in the aggregate within year and \$1.00 per acre for each subsequent year.
Power of Attorney must be filed with Mining Recorder before staking. The timber on a mineral claim is reserved until the Mining Recorder certifies that the same is required for use in mining operations on the

for every additional ten miles or fraction thereof. A claim may be located on Sunday or any public holiday.
Any person having recorded a claim shall not have the right to locate another claim in the valley or basin of same creek within sixty days of locating first claim.
For provisions as to staking under powers of attorney see Act.

Title

Any person having complied with the provisions of the Act with respect to locating and recording a claim shall be entitled to a grant for one year and shall have the absolute right of renewal from year to year thereafter, provided during each year he does or causes to be done \$200.00 worth of work on the claim, files with the Mining Recorder within fourteen days after the expiration of the claim an affidavit showing a detailed statement of the work, and pays the required renewal fee.
Provision for applying excess representation work up to a value of \$800.00. Must be recorded during year in which it is performed.

Grouping

Under certain conditions claims may be grouped and the work required to be performed to entitle the owner or owners to renewals of the several claims grouped may be performed on any one or more of the claims in the grouping.
Taxes and Fees
Royalty at the rate of two and one-half per cent on the value of all gold shipped from the Yukon Territory shall be paid to the Commissioner.
For grant to a claim for 1 year \$10.00
For renewal of grant—
If renewed within 14 days after expiry date 10.00
If after 14 days and within 3 months 30.00
If after 3 months and within 6 months 45.00
Recording an abandonment 2.00
Registration of any document 2.00
If it affects more than one claim
For each additional claim 1.00
Abstract of Title
For first entry 1.00
For each additional entry .10
For copy of Document—
Up to 3 Follies 3.00
For each additional Folio .50
For grant of water
For 50 inches or less 10.00
For 50 to 200 inches 25.00
For 200 to 1,000 inches 50.00
For each additional 1,000 inches or fraction thereof 50.00

Schedule of Fees

Recording every claim \$10.00
For a substitution record 10.00
For a certificate of improvements 5.00
Application for a lease 10.00
Recording every certificate of work per year 5.00
If recorded within 14 days after expiry date per year 5.00
If after 14 days and within three months 15.00
If after three months and within six months 25.00
For a Grouping Certificate 5.00
Recording assignment, abandonment, affidavits, or any other document 2.50
If document affects more than one claim, for each additional claim 1.00
For an abstract of the record of a claim:
For the first entry 1.00
For each additional entry .10
For copies of any document recorded where same do not exceed three follies 3.00
Where such copies exceed three follies, 50 cents per folio for every folio over three. For recording a power of attorney to stake from one person 4.00
For recording a power of attorney to stake from two persons 8.00
For recording an assignment or other document relating to a quartz mining lease 3.00
Rental, whole or fractional mineral claim granted under lease for term of 21 years 50.00
Rental for renewal term of 21 years 200.00

Dredging
A lease may be issued for a period of fifteen years for a continuous stretch of river not exceeding ten miles in length giving the exclusive right to dredge for gold, silver and platinum. The lessee must have at least one dredge in operation on the leasehold within three years.

Petroleum and Natural Gas
A lease may be issued for a period of twenty-one years for an area of not to exceed 2,560 acres giving the right to the petroleum and natural gas on the area leased. A rental is charged of 50 cents per acre for the first year and \$1.00 per acre for each subsequent year.

Assay Office
An Assay Office is maintained by the Government at Vancouver, where gold exported from the Territory will be purchased at its full value.
J. E. GIBBEN, K. C.,
Commissioner.

The Commissioner, however, may issue a permit to holders of other claims to remove the timber for use in their mining operations where other timber is not readily available.
Title
Any person having complied with the provisions of this Act with regard to locating and recording a claim shall be entitled to hold it for one year from the date of the record, and thereafter from year to year provided during each year he does or causes to be done work on the claim to the value of \$100.00 and shall, within fourteen days after the expiration of the year, satisfy the Mining Recorder that the work has been done, and pay the Certificate of work fee. One hundred dollars may be paid in lieu of assessment work.
Provision of applying excess representation work up to a value of \$400.00. Must be performed during year in which it is performed.
When \$500.00 has been expended or paid the locator may, upon having a survey made, and upon complying with other requirements, obtain a lease for a term of twenty-one years, with the right of renewal for further terms of twenty-one years.
Leases, renewals of leases, and documents relating to leased claims shall be recorded with the Mining Recorder in triplicate.

Schedule of Fees

Recording every claim \$10.00
For a substitution record 10.00
For a certificate of improvements 5.00
Application for a lease 10.00
Recording every certificate of work per year 5.00
If recorded within 14 days after expiry date per year 5.00
If after 14 days and within three months 15.00
If after three months and within six months 25.00
For a Grouping Certificate 5.00
Recording assignment, abandonment, affidavits, or any other document 2.50
If document affects more than one claim, for each additional claim 1.00
For an abstract of the record of a claim:
For the first entry 1.00
For each additional entry .10
For copies of any document recorded where same do not exceed three follies 3.00
Where such copies exceed three follies, 50 cents per folio for every folio over three. For recording a power of attorney to stake from one person 4.00
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J. E. GIBBEN, K. C.,
Commissioner.

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Full Line of Tobaccos and
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Fresh Fruits



January 27th. has been set tentatively as the date of the next Legion Social. Members of the Dawson Branch Canadian Legion plan to resume their popular series of monthly socials, and it has been decided that the profits from these socials will be set aside into a

"St. Mary's Hospital Restoration Fund"

The February Social is planned as a "Gold Rush Night" or "Klondike Night." Watch the Dawson News for further announcements



Enjoy the excellent appointments, the delicious food, and the unexcelled service of one of these fine ships.

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Thursday, Feb. 2
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This advertisement is not published or displayed by the Government of the Yukon Territory

Constable Vickerman, of the R. C. Government, left by plane last Friday for her home at Wilkie, Sask., on a well earned vacation.
It is understood that Miss MacDonald will be away for two months.

Hospital Restoration!

H - O - W?
W - H - E - N ??

All Dawson and District Residents are invited to pool their ideas at a public meeting to be held in the COURT ROOM, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, next Sunday afternoon at 3 p. m.

This advertisement is inserted by, and the meeting is sponsored by—
The Dawson Chapter I. O. D. E.
Dawson Branch, Canadian Legion.
Dawson Branch, B. C. - Yukon Chamber of Mines.

Your Community Needs your advice and opinion

Fire Chief Brought Sick Sister Out of Flaming Room

"I saw somebody moving in there." That was the terse remark made by Maurice Gauthier to Fire Chief J. W. Ballentine while the chief and volunteer fire fighter Gauthier were battling the fire on the second floor of the hospital Tuesday.

The Chief handed over the hose he was handling and, on hands and knees, crawled into the infirmary, adjoining the chapel where the fire is said to have broken out.

Smoke filled the room and flames were crackling overhead.

Bal felt his way all around the room and under the bed, couldn't find anyone and had to come out.

"Are you sure you saw someone in there?" the chief asked Gauthier.

"Im positive," Maurice shot back.

"We got to get her out," Bal said.

While two men held his feet Jim went back into the infirmary on hands and knees. His hand touched Sister Gideon's foot. She had been sitting in a chair beside her bed. He picked her up and carried her out and she was rushed to the Catholic School in the N. C. panel truck driven by Kenny MacRae.

Gauthier, who was among the many volunteers in the thick of the fire battle, was overcome with smoke and fumes, had to be pulled out of the building. He was given first aid at the home of Ed. Whitehouse by two of the sisters on emergency duty there and quickly revived.

Aubrey Simmons, M.P. On Visit to Dawson

Arriving by CPA plane Tuesday was Mr. Aubrey Simmons, popular and widely-known representative for Yukon-Mackenzie districts in parliament.

Tuesday marked Aubrey's first trip to this gold centre since his election campaign last summer.

While here Yukon's versatile M. P. had the opportunity of studying and appraising the damage incurred as a result of the hospital fire and getting a first hand picture of immediate requirements on the situation.

Whitehorse Star Celebrates One More Milestone

With its issue of January 6, the Whitehorse Star, one of the oldest and highly regarded newspapers in the northland, began its fiftieth year of service to southern Yukon.

a front page commentary:

Commenting on the occasion, Publisher-Editor Horce E. Moore said in With this issue the Whitehorse Star commences on its fiftieth year of service in the interest of this community. Looking back over the years it is a record of which those who have assisted in moulding its destiny, and been responsible for its production, may justifiably feel proud.

Miss Rhoda MacDonald, lawyer and legal advisor to the Territorial Government, left by plane last Friday for her home at Wilkie, Sask., on a well earned vacation.

It is understood that Miss MacDonald will be away for two months.

NOTICE

All persons having claims against the estate of the late Rodolph Rosmusen are requested to file them with George Black at Whitehorse, solicitor for the estate, before January 20th, 1950, as the property of the estate will then be distributed to the heirs.
Jan. 5; 12; 19.

Classified Ads.

SALESMAN, or STOREKEEPERS WANTED for made to measure clothing. Will forward Spring Samples. Apply 204 Queen St., W., Toronto, Ontario.
Jan. 14; 28; Feb. 4.

In Appreciation

On behalf of the Dawson Fire Department and all members of the staff, I wish to take this opportunity of extending sincere thanks and appreciation for the wonderful way in which every volunteer helped us combat the fire at the hospital on Tuesday afternoon.

Such swell co-operation from the citizens of Dawson in a case of such emergency makes us all feel deeply appreciative of the faith and assurance that each and all of you have placed in us.

We of the fire hall staff would especially like to thank the staff of the Dawson power plant for their fine efforts in backing us up during the fire emergency to the best of their ability.

Jim Ballentine,
Fire Chief.

CARD OF THANKS

To our many friends in the Yukon and elsewhere, we wish to express our sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy extended to us, and the beautiful floral tributes offered in our sad bereavement.

J. E. Gibben and Barbara.

CARD OF THANKS

To all those who kindly remembered us in our recent loss occasioned by the fire at St. Mary's Hospital and who so generously contributed both money and other necessities or expressed their sympathy by innumerable acts of kindness, we wish to convey our sincere and grateful thanks.
The Nursing and General Staff.

HERBERT LOSES EYE: According to a news item in Jessen's Weekly, of Fairbanks, Charles "Chuck" Herbert, widely-known Yukon and Alaska mining man, had an eye removed early in December at Seattle, as a result of a tumor.

He is reported O. K. again and was planning on making a trip back to New York on business.

"Chuck" is manager for Yukon Placers which is operating on the Big Gold property, Sixtymile, formerly owned and worked by Yukon Explorations Ltd.

BABY NEEDS

- Pabulum Infantol
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- Johnson's Baby Powder
- Johnson's Baby Soap
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In the first place, we believe that good business consists of giving worthwhile service to worthwhile people.
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--- AIRFRESH ITEMS ---

Texas Grapefruit Oranges Dairy Items
Gorgonzola and Cheddar Cheese

—This Co-operative Movement—
"This movement will live as long as human beings have a passion for joining hands and purposes with others in the universal mutual struggle not only to live in peace rather than competing with other human beings."

Dawson Consumers Co-operative Ass'n.

GREETINGS NORTH

Sergeant-Major Paul Reid, formerly officer in charge of Dawson station of Royal Canadian Signals who, with his wife and young son left here two years ago, writes from their new home at Fredericton, N. B., to say:

"We miss Dawson and our Dawson friends and shall never forget our stay in the Yukon. We are hoping to see you all sometime again in the near future."

Paul's cronies in Dawson will appreciate this little addenda to his letter.

"You will notice from the date on this letter, (Jan. 1,) that we didn't even take in the New Year's ball here. It's a wonderful feeling to wake up on January 1 with a clear head . . . you

WOOD FOR SALE

Any Length
Phone Leo Deverreau
Noon or Evening

NOTICE

From to date I wish to be addressed as Mrs. Jennie Nelson.

Matilda Pluth.

January 19.

ought to try it sometime. All I need now is a little halo."

"See this stickpin? Once it belongs to a millionaire."

"Woolworth, I suppose?"

ORPHEUM THEATRE

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
Barbara Hutton Macdonald Carey

---in---
DREAM GIRL

Late Newsreel
Show starts at 8 p. m.