

Brunswick Petroleum Company at or near the same point. These early operations were under the direction of a Mr. Merrill of the Downer Oil Company of Boston, and Prof. Carroll; and the financial head of the business was Mr. Louis J. Emery of Bradford, Penn.

As stated above, the early discoveries of oil were small, and the great oil field that was being opened up in Mr. Emery's own city was too great an attrac-



Pouring Nitro-glycerine into the cylinders to lower into Well for "Shooting" the Oil Sands.

tion for him, and therefore he abandoned this field and went into the oil business in his own State, and afterwards built refineries in Bradford and became one of the Oil Magnates of Pennsylvania. Both Mr. Merrill and Prof. Carroll in after years told the writer that they still had unbounded confidence in the oil possibilities of New Brunswick.

So with a little dabbling here and there, nothing practical was undertaken until the year 1898, when many of the prominent business men of the Province became convinced of the fact that oil and gas in commercial quantities existed here, and acting on their conviction, presented a memorial to the Executive of the Province of New Brunswick inviting them to take under consideration possibilities which they believed existed and to grant them a Concession covering a certain portion of the Province, and under conditions of a large expenditure to be made by them in drilling operations; that they, the Memorialists would undertake to form a Company and supply capital to develop the Province.

The then Premier, Hon. H. R. Emmerson, gave the matter his favorable consideration, and employed experts to report to him on the possibilities. After receiving these reports, he was so convinced of the soundness of the undertaking that he promoted an Order-in-Council and further legislation to grant these Memorialists a portion of the Province to be explored for gas and oil.

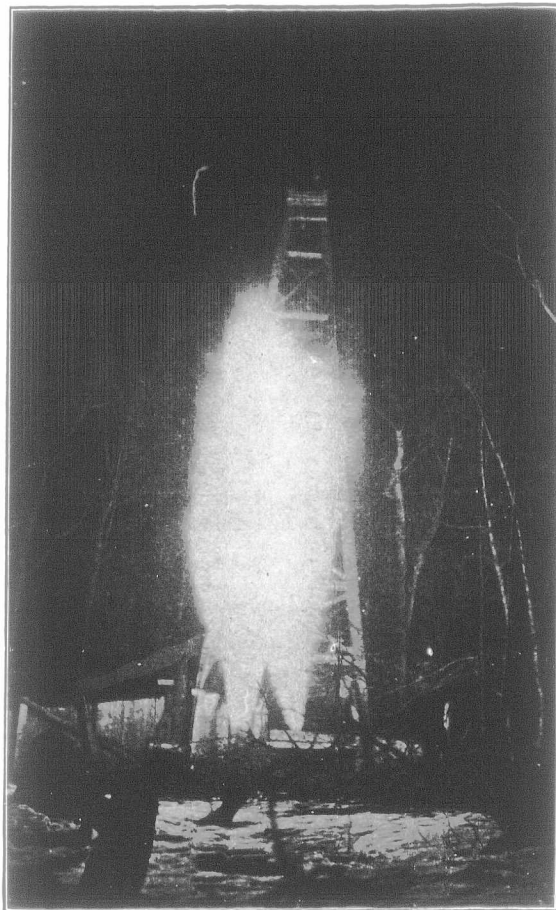
On the 16th day of September, 1899, the New Brunswick Petroleum Company, Ltd., secured its Charter, but it was not until November, 1901, that

the first drilling rig was erected on the farm of Ralph Steeves at Upper Dover. However, in the interim, the Company's officers had not been idle. They were fortunate first in securing the co-operation of the Hon. B. F. Pearson, of Halifax, who agreed to help finance the proposition provided he were first satisfied there was a possibility of discovering gas and oil in commercial quantities. To that end, he secured the services of Prof. N. S. Shaler of Harvard University, to make a thorough Geological examination of the territory we controlled, and report.

Prof. Shaler first made personal investigation, and was well satisfied with the conditions found. However, he deemed it advisable to send his staff of engineers under the direction of Harold B. Goodrich, to examine in detail the Geological structure of the country, so that Prof. Goodrich, during the summers of 1900 and 1901 with two other engineers, completed a most exhaustive examination of the district under the Company's control.

Prof. Shaler personally visited the property many times during this examination, and in 1901 wrote to the N. B. Petroleum Company as follows:—

"In view of the facts it appears to me to be an



75-foot Gas Flame at Weldon, N.B. Photo taken at Night.

excellent mining venture to prosecute the inquiry under the conditions of your Concession from the authorities of the Province. If oil is found, it is likely from the samples shown, to be of excellent quality. It will be near transportation, nearer, indeed, than any other source of supply to the open sea. The conditions for refining will be excellent, and the market unlimited. You are doubtless aware of the fact that there is a prospect of a considerable