(From Friday's Daily Edition.)

Chamberlain Is Pleased.

His Letter to Governor General After Sending the First Contingent.

Appointments to the Provincial Service Noted in the Official Gazette.

Yesterday's issue of the British Columbia Gazette promulgates the following communication from Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain to His Excellency the Governor-General, in which the Colonial Secretary acknowledges with thanks Canada's contributions to the Imperial forces in South Africa, and fittingly comments upon the proofs of colonial devotion to the throne and flag that the past few months have produced:

Downing Street, Nov. 15, 1899.

My Lord: I received from you on the 2nd inst. a copy of an approved minute of the Dominion Privy Council dated the 14th of October, 1899, in which your ministers authorized the equipment and despatch of 1,000 volunteers for service with the Imperial troops in South Africa. The great enthusiasm and the general eagerness to take an active part in the military expedition which has unfortunately been found necessary for the maintenance of British rights and interests in South Africa have afforded much gratification to Her Majesty's government and the people of this country. The desire thus exhibited to share in the risks of the Empire has been welcomed, not only as a proof of the staunch loyalty of the Dominion and of its sympathy with the policy pursued by Her Majesty's government in South Africa, but also as an expression of the growing feeling of the unity and solidarity of the Empire which has marked the relations of the Mother Country with the colonies, during recent years. The thanks of Her Majesty's government are specially due to your ministers for the cordial manner in which they have undertaken and carried through the work of organizing and equipping the Canadian contingent.

I have, etc.,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

* * *

Among the business announcements contained in the current Gazette are notices of the incorporation of the following companies: The Western Mercantile Co., of Nelson, capital $50,000; the Gold-Copper Mines, of Cranbrook, capital $500,000; the Mountain View Copper Co., of Greenwood, capital $500,000; Hillside Silver Mines Co., of Kaslo, capital $150,000; People's Trading Stamp Co., of Vancouver, capital $60,000; Greenwood Electric Company of Greenwood, capital $75,000; and Caldwell Mines, Limited, of Rossland, capital $100,000. Notice is given of application to the legislature at its approaching session for a private act incorporating a new telephone company—probably carrying into effect the pending arrangements for the establishment of a long distance line connecting this city, Nanaimo, Vancouver, and New Westminster—while the annual general meeting of the Victoria & Sidney Railway Co. is announced to be held at the Hillside avenue offices in this city at 10 a.m. on the 27th instant. A special general meeting of the shareholders of the Arrowhead & Kootenay Railway Co. is advertised for January 29, at the C.P.R. offices in Montreal, the directorate also meeting at the same time and place.

* * *

Among the week's appointments are noted the selection of Thomas A. Wilson of Trout Lake as a provincial coroner; of William F. Gurd of Cranbrook; and E. A. Carew-Gibson of 150-Mile House, as notaries public; and of Wm. McQueen, Rossland; John Hemer, Cedar; and J. B. Burr, Ladners, as justices of the peace.

* * *

Tenders for the restaurant privileges during the approaching session of the legislature are invited by an advertisement of the provincial secretary's, all bids to be in the hands of that minister by to-morrow.

* * *

Salmon Arm school district has been divided by the council of public instruction, and will hereafter consist of two districts—Salmon Arm East and Salmon Arm West.

* * *

A court of revision and appeal for Northeast Kootenay is to be held at Golden on the 29th instant.

THE DEAF MUTES.

The following letter has been received from Miss Helen Merritt:

I would express most grateful thanks to all the people whose kind assistance has permitted me to keep those unfortunate children under my instruction long enough to enable them to give such a public demonstration of their intellectual and physical capacity for acquirement as was clearly shown last evening.

I am strongly inclined to believe that two months more improvement as that shown during the past month would fit one of them for entrance to the public school.

HELEN WILLARD MERRITT.

Miss Merritt's school for deaf and dumb pupils will be in session from one o'clock until four, from the 2nd to the 5th of January inclusive. The public are invited to visit it at any of those hours.

DISORDERLY FRENCH DEPUTIES

Paris, Dec. 22.—The discussion of the government's request for a two-months' provisional appropriation in the chamber of deputies this afternoon gave its opponents the opportunity for an attack which they did not neglect. M. Millevoye, ex-Boulangist, M. Merein and others complained of the government's policy in the conspiracy trial, declaring that the delay involving the budget was due to the senate's time being occupied by the high court sessions.

The Premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, retorted that the government had convoked the high court because they thought the time had come to put an end to the insolent challenges of the Nationalists.

M. Lasies, anti-Semite, who frequently interrupted the speaker, here cried: "No. It was not on account of Nationalist insolence that you convoked the high court, but in order to avenge Dreyfus, whose acquittal you were unable to secure."

M. Lasies was called to order and the chamber approved the government's attitude by vote.

LOCAL NEWS.

Four Months for Dishonesty. — The little Japanese house-servant Yoi Abe, who was apprehended with a quantity of jewellery and a sum of money in her possession belonging to Mrs. Bishop, her employer, was yesterday sentenced to four months at hard labor. She had confessed her guilt.

Suit for Damages—In the county court yesterady, Mr. Justice Drake presiding, the action of Captain Land vs. the J. L. Card Steamship and Trading Co., for damages for dismissal was heard. Judgment was reserved. Mr. Alexis Martin appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. F. Peters, Q. C., for the defendants.

Christmas Treat.—The little folk of the Baptist mission, Burnside road, were honored with the first visit from Santa Claus this season, on Wednesday evening, when after a really first class programme of songs, recitations, and other exercises the patron saint of children made his appearance—looking as hale, hearty and jolly as in days of yore—and distributued gifts for all from a well filled tree.

Who Has Lost Coal Oil?—The city police gathered in yesterday a notorious sneak thief registered as Ah Suey, against whom innumerable convictions have been recorded in the past. He had a quantity of groceries and a five-gallon tin of coal oil in his possession, and is unable to give a satisfactory explanation of where he obtained the several articles. The police would be glad to hear from anyone who has missed such property.

Remembered the Little Folk.—It is the unanimous opinion of the little folk of the Protestant Orphanage that they have no truer or dearer friend than Miss Dunlop, the lady who has so kindly and freely undertaken their kindergarten instructioin for some time past. On Tuesday evening she made all particularly happy by giving her appreciative pupils a genuine Christmas treat, the gifts being well selected, and the happiness of the recipients complete.

Narrow Escape—Mrs. Bush, wife of Engineer Bush of the fire department, is to be congratulated because of her narrow escape from drowning. She was crossing from West Dawson on Friday afternoon and broke through the ice. Had it not been for the prompt assistance of Messrs. A. J. Bell and W. R. Hamilton, both employees of the gold commissioner's, we should no doubt have occasion to record a most distressing death—one which would have thrown the entire community into mourning."—Yukon Sun.

Sealskins May Travel—The regulations regarding the admissioin of fur seal skin garments into the United States have been so far amended that here after no questions are to be asked as to when the garment was bought, or whether the skins are of seals caught before December 29, 1897. By making an affidavit before a United States consul, that he or she does not intend to dispose of said fur seal skin in the United States, but intends to return with the same to Canada, any person in the Dominion can take any seal skin garment into the States that they may desire, without any detention or inconvenience.

Willison Resigns.—Crown Timber Inspector Willison, of the Klondike, has signified to the Canadian government his desire to give up the office which he has held for nearly two years past. He mailed his resignation to the Ottawa government early in November, and as soon as it is accepted he will engage in mining ventures. Inspector Willison recently made an extended tour of some of the principal creeks of the Klondike, notably Bonanza, Eldorado, Dominion and Hunker, and upon his return to Dawson he declared that he found more work being done on Dominion than on all the other streams of the district combined. "But," he said, "there is great activity on all of the creeks. Where mining is not in actual progress, the preparations for it are under way."

Youthful Contributions.—Following is a list of the school children who have already contributed donations to the Friendly Help Society: Florence Vincent, Eva M. Thompson, Ethel G. Wilson, M. Lucey, F. J. Wilson, John Dee, Anna Nolte, Willie Carter, Fred Carter, Delvin Maltby, Olive Crowther, James Dalzell, Eddie Coates, Edith Lawrence, Joe Davidson, Maud Townsley, Eddie Brynfolfson, Freeman Brynfolfson, Gladys Hocking, Annie McGregor, Gertie Mutton, Violet Graham, Violet Cameron, Myrtle Holmes, Millie Davis, Eva Drysdale, Ashton Graham, Gerald Graham, Cecil Foote, James Stuart, Joe Stuart, Frank Cameron, Edith E. Wilkinson, James G. Wilkinson, Hazel M. McKitrrick, Jack Heyland. Two little girls, Bertie Chance, Georgina Babbington, Katie and Herman Harburger, Elaine McMicking.

New Office.—A. D. Charlton, assistant general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific at Portland, and I. A. Nadeau, Seattle agent, visited Vancouver, where they established a general agency of the Northern Pacific. J. O. McMullen has been appointed general agent, and A. E. Salisbury assistant. The new office will look after both the passenger and freight interests of the road on the Mainland. Mr. McMullen, who has been selected from among the various applicants for the position, is well known in Coast railroad circles. He has been connected with the Northern Pacific on the Coast for the past twelve years, occupying various positions. For several years he has been associated with Alex. Tinling in the Tacoma office. Mr. Salisbury has for several years been connected with the Canadian Pacific railway, both in Seattle and at Vancouver.

Insurance Rates—Instead of the fire insurance rates being increased as a result of Mr. Didwell Davenport's report to the fire underwriters on the fire and water systems of the cities of Vancouver Island, there is a possibility of them being reduced in Victoria at least, particularly if a few changes in the water-mains, suggested by the underwriters are carried out. Mr. Davenport speaks very highly of the fire department and the discipline, and Victoria scores high in the report on all points with the exception of that of water pressure. In conversation with insurance men yesterday it was learned that if the pressure was increased the rates would certainly be reduced. To do this it would be necessary to extend the 24-inch main to the lake. At present the water leaves the lake in a 12-inch main and half way to town enters the 24-inch main and then again the smaller main. The idea was that in the city the pressure is never more than 45 pounds, making it necessary to use steam engines at most fires. To bring Victoria up to the standard fixed by the underwriters the pressure should be increased by at least 40 pounds and longer mains laid on many of the streets, Government and Wharf streets for example being at present supplied by 6 and 4 inch mains respectively.

Canada's Duty At Present.

Col. Prior Discusses the Sending of a Contingent to South Africa.

Lack of Patriotism in High Places and Strange Attitude of Quebec.

To the Editor of the Colonist:

Sir: As it is now admitted by the Times and other leading English papers that the danger to the British Empire, by reason of the South African trouble, has reached an acute stage I feel that it is not improper for me as one of the public men of Canada to say a few words in regard to the assistance which I think the Dominion should give to the Motherland in this struggle. I do not wish to make political capital out of this matter, because I feel that the present crisis in the history of the Empire is far and away too serious to be brought into party strife, but, however my language and motives may be misconstrued by "Little Englanders" and other small souls, I should be derelict in my duty to my constituents and my country if I abstained from fearlessly attempting to show where I think there is a serious danger to the well being, safety, and honor of Canada. In the first place let me say that I am convinced that the large majority of the members of the government at Ottawa, as well as the large majority of the Liberals of Canada, are willing and anxious that Canada shall bear her share in the defence of the Empire by furnishing men and money for the South-African war. But I am sorry to say that there is a small but very influential and active minority in the cabinet that seems determined to do all in its power to prevent Canada taking any part in or supplying any funds to the same. Sir Wilfrid Laurier when first the question of sending a contingent was mooted evidently did not think it was the right thing to do, and made all sorts of excuses, such as "The law is against sending the militia out of the country." "There is no menace to Canada." "How can we do so without parliament granting us the money," etc., etc., but I am glad to say that the overwhelming evidence soon presented to him showed that the people of Canada, almost unanimously wished the contingent to be sent, so he changed his attitude and allowed the men to go. I have therefore no more to say about the Premier. But there was another member of the cabinet who was, and is still, a most persistent opponent to any assistance being granted to the Motherland. I refer to Hon. J. Israel Tarte, the minister of public works. I was not at all surprised to see by this morning's telegraphic news in the Colonist that the government had not yet decided as to whether they would send a second contingent or not, or, if they did, whether they would stand the expense of the same or let Great Britain pay for it.

Why this delay at this most important time when every moment is of the greatest value? Simply, we are told, because Mr. Tarte with a certain following are kicking vigorously against any expense being incurred by Canada in the transaction, even if the troops are allowed to go at all. I am aware that some will say: "Those telegraphic despatches are only sent by some Conservative reporter in Ottawa to make capital for his party," but I contend that they must be read in the light of what we know took place before the first contingent went, and in connection with the article certain published in Mr. Tarte's paper and mouthpiece, La Patrie. This paper has asked on several occasions in reference to this Transvaal trouble, "What have we to do with the things in Africa? Why should we interfere?" "What interests have we in the Transvaal?" "Why should we be asked for the money and the blood of our people to spend them in such far away regions?" etc., etc. Mr. Tarte in this paper also announced that the project of sending a contingent had probably been prepared by Gen. Hutton, and he threatened that he would be dismissed for it. He also stated, after the first contingent had gone, that "We have consented this time, but I do not wish the operation to be repeated on the next occasion." Only the other day this same paper, La Patrie, in describing a new torpedo boat that France had designed, and showing what a deadly weapon of war it was, concludes the article by saying: "It is very easy to see what the result would be if the French and English navies ever came in contact."

As to the outrageous political pamphlets you quote, and which were scattered broadcast in Quebec before the general elections of 1896, I can only say that several similar ones were shown me after the elections. These plainly show the unworthy means employed by the disloyal minority to obtain votes for their party.

Now, sir, I contend that the retention in the cabinet of a man holding such opinions as Mr. Tarte evidently does in regard to the defence of the British Empire, and who on every possible occasion publishes them in his paper, is a standing disgrace to Canada and a serious menace to the well being of our Dominion. What is the meaning of all these quotations I have given when made by a man who has been sworn in as a privy councillor and who holds the most important portfolio in the cabinet? They would be base enough in all conscience if made by some entirely unknown and unimportant person, but when made by one holding such a distinguished position as Mr. Tarte does I say, in my opinion, they come perilously near to what many a man in the days gone by has lost his head for. And I believe every loyal man and woman in Canada will agree with me. Let the Liberals of Canada show that their loyalty is not merely lip service by insisting on the cabinet being purged of such a man, and I am sure the party will gain in strength by such action. Do not let me be understood as meaning that French-Canadians as a body are disloyal. Far from it. Both sides of politics have men like Sir Henri Joly, Sir Adolphe Caron, Senator Forget, Mayor Prefontaine, Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Casgrain and hundreds of thousands of other French-Canadians who are as loyal to the British crown as any men in Canada or England, but Mr. Tarte is for ever, for political purposes, raising the race and religion cry, and thus pandering to the worst passions of the Quebec population. Is it to be wondered at that in a French-Canadian population of some two millions he can get some following even on such a desperate cry? Writing on this subject brings to mind the grand lines of Tennyson's poem, "Britons, Guard Your Own," the fifth verse of which runs as follows:

"Vive l'Empereur" may follow by and by;
"God Save the Queen" is here a truer cry;
God save the nation,
The toleration,
And the free speech that makes a Briton known.
Britons, guard your own.

And that is the best answer I can give to La Patrie why Canada should "interfere" in South Africa. "Britons, guard your own." Great Britain has been challenged by a country that has refused rights to Britons that they themselves are granted everywhere the Union Jack floats; her territory has been invaded by a foe who has been preparing secretly for years for this combat. Canada being part, the banner colony, of the great British Empire, it is as much to her interest to see the Empire maintained as it is that of England, Scotland or Ireland. Who, I would ask, guards our shores with her ships; who protects our commerce on the high seas, and enables us to lie down at night in peace and security knowing that none dare molest us? It is Great Britain. And what do we pay for all this? Absolutely nothing. Not a dollar do we pay for it. That being the case, I cannot conceive that there is a man in Canada who can be so contemptibly small, so unutterably mean, as to grudge paying a small something to assist the Motherland when she stands in danger, as she does now, of being left in "splendid isolation" to face the whole world. Great Britain spends 45 per cent. of her total revenue for Imperial defence, of which all the colonies get equal benefit without being taxed for it. Her taxpayers for naval and military defence pay $4.13 per head. Canadians are only taxed 36 cents per head. The balance we get free from Great Britain. And yet statistics show that the colonies are growing in both wealth and resources more rapidly than the Mother Country. Now, what action should Canada take? This is a glorious opportunity for the colonies to show the mettle of their men and their devotion to the Motherland. Canada has already sent 1,000 men and will no doubt in the end send another 1,000. You, sir, in the columns of your paper suggest 5,000 being offered, but I go even further than that, for I agree with Dr. Davie, who the other day said to me: "Let the Canadian government at once offer to the Imperial authorities not 2,000 men, but 10,000, and let Canada pay for them too, if their services are accepted." It is very unlikely that the whole number would be asked for, but if they were I have not the slightest doubt they would be quickly forthcoming. Many at first sight might object to this offer being made owing to the large expenditure it would entail, but what, I ask, would the expenditure of five or six million dollars amount to compared to the world-wide effect such an offer would have, and the good it would give to Canada in the British Empire? Why it it cost even ten million dollars it wouldn't amount to more than a yearly tax of some five cents per head on our present population. The cost, to my mind, would be utterly trivial compared to the immense advantages gained. And the hardy athletic young men of Canada are just the very men for such warfare as will be carried on at the Cape. Accustomed to handling arms, to camping out, and to "doing for themselves" in the mountains and prairies, they will with a little drill come much nearer to being a match for the Boers than any raw troops that can be sent from the British Isles. It is grand to see that, notwithstanding all our enervating civilization, the same pluck and courage are found in the men of the present day as was shown by their forefathers who laid the foundations of the greatest empire the world has ever seen. They have the same belief in Queen and country, and the same loyal devotion to duty that Sir Richard Grenville had when, after fighting his one little ship, the Revenge, "with her hundred fighters on deck and her ninety sick below" for a day and a night against 53 large Spanish galleons, and being at last desperately wounded and taken prisoner and laid against the mast on one of the

"He rose upon their decks, and he cried,
'I have fought for queen and faith like a valiant man and true;
I have only done my duty, as a man is bound to do;
With a joyful spirit I, Sir Richard Grenville, die!'
And he fell upon their decks, and he died."

I must apologize for the length of this letter, but it is a theme that draws a man on almost against his will. Let me end it by again quoting "Britons, guard your own."

E. G. PRIOR.

Victoria, Dec. 20, 1899.

REPUDIATED BY COLLEAGUE.

Mr. Fisher Objects to Tarte's Paper Being Quoted as Representing Public Feeling—Elections at Hand.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—(Special)— Hon. Mr. Fisher, in an address last night, said there were some people in Quebec who disapproved of war, but the Conservatives only quoted the views of newspapers such as La Patrie. The government was quite prepared to appeal to the country on its policy in this matter. Mr. Fisher also announced that the elections would soon be held and warned the Liberals to get ready.

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is sent direct to the diseased parts by the improved Blower. Heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. Blower free. All dealers, or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo.

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Above goods were just received by us in one shipment from the manufacturer.

WEILER BROS, . Victoria, B. C.

Labor Delegates In Conference

Government to be Asked to Repeal Arbitration and Conciliation Act.

Matters of Interest to the Wage-earners Discussed at the Vancouver Meeting.

Vancouver, Dec. 21.—A conference of delegates from the labor unions of Nanaimo, Vancouver and Victoria was held in the Labor hall last night. The object of the meeting was to consider the best methods to pursue to prevent the provincial sources of wealth being operated by under paid and over worked labor. Though the meeting was a lengthy one the conference ended without completing its entirely the work laid out.

The personnel of the convention was Ralph Smith, M.P.P., and Wm. Woodman, representing South Nanaimo, Nanaimo city and district; Ed. Harrop and T. H. Twigg, Victoria trades and labor council, and John Pearey, J. H. Watson, J. Morton and Geo. Bartley, Vancouver trades and labor council.

After three hours' discussion it was decided to ask the provincial government to repeal the Conciliation and Arbitration Act now on the statute books and in lieu thereof re-enact the act of 1894 in slightly changed form, which provides for the establishment of a bureau of labor statistics and for arbitration and conciliation. The first change provides that the two arbitrators shall first endeavor to elect the third member and president of the board; failing in this the Lieutenant-Governor shall appoint the third member who shall be a judge of the Supreme court. The other change proposed is to provide that no others but an incorporated labor organization of not less than seven members can demand the submission of a dispute to arbitration.

The only difference of opinion that arose was whether it was advisable to make either party abide by the decision arrived at by the board of arbitration with a set penalty for violation or not. The final decision was to allow the act to stand as at present, which says, where the arbitrators, before hearing the case, decide to abide by the decision of the award such decision shall be as binding as a decision of the Supreme court.

The minority contended that the decision whether pre-agreed to or not by the board of arbitration should be binding and a heavy penalty provided for violation of such award.

The question of enacting a legal eight-hour day in all branches of industrial trade was discussed and a resolution adopted which, while favoring an eight-hour day provides that petitions shall be presented to the legislature by the trade or calling desiring such legislation before its enactment.

It was the opinion of the conference that a provincial trades congress should be established which would hold annual meetings. Owing to the lateness of the hour, no lines were laid down for forming such a congress.

Another conference will be held in Victoria about the middle of January.

POLITICS IN P. E. ISLAND.

The following despatch in the Eastern press respecting the bye-elections recently reported, gives more details of the situation there than hitherto published:

"Charlottetown, P.E.I., Dec. 13.—The bye-elections for the provincial house, King's and the fourth district of King's and the mourth district of Queen's, resulted in the election of A. A. McLean, Q.C., in Queen's by 58 majority, and A. P. Prowse, son of Senator Prowse, in King's, the latter defeating Attorney-General McKinnon by 31 majority.

"The result leaves the house thus: Opposition 15, government 14. It is thought probable that the government will appeal to the country. Fred Peters, one of its supporters, is in British Columbia.

"At the last provincial general election the Liberal government, then led by Fred Peters, won seventeen of the thirty seats, while the Conservative opposition took thirteen. This, with the speaker off, gave the government a majority of three in the house. To vacancies were created in government constituencies—one by the appointment of the attorney-general to a judgeship. The attorney-generalship was given to M. McKinnon, of the fourth district of King's.

"The bye-elections were delayed until the return of Sir Louis Davies from London. That gentleman campaigned in the vacant constituencies on behalf of the government candidates. The defeat of the two ministerialists gives the opposition fifteen members, and leaves the government with but fourteen.

"In addition to this Fred Peters, the late premier, resides in British Columbia now. He has held on to his seat, being afraid to drop it, as the vacancy would be filled by a Conservative. At the last session of the legislature Mr. Peters travelled all the way from Vancouver to Charlottetown to attend the session. The result of the bye-elections leaves the government in a minority of one, and with Mr. Peters absent, in a minority of two.

"Mr. Farquharson, the Premier, succeeded Mr. Peters in that office a year ago."

Water Power Makes Fortunes.

Gigantic Operations on Kettle River Making Two Millions a Rich Investment.

Will Supply Working Force for Far Away Mines—Profit of Similar Enterprises.

John R. Reavis in Grand Forks Miner.

The development of the Cascade water power, on Kettle river, twelve miles below Grand Forks, is now proceeding with a large force of men and has reached such a stage that it deserves to attract the notice of the entire Boundary country, in which it is to find, when completed, its chief, if not sole employment. For some reason this enterprise does not attract the attention it deserves by reason of its magnitude and the part is must inevitably play in the development of the mining industry of this vicinity.

The Cascade Water Power and Light Company was formed in England and acquired the power privileges of the Kettle river at Cascade two years ago, and are now laying out in their improvements half a billion dollars. It will take a year more to complete the work and have the plant ready to deliver electric power. In some respects it is an enterprise of greater magnitude than that carried out at Monnington Falls on the Kootenay river by the West Kootenay Light and Power Company, and which is now delivering electric power at Rossland, Trail and other points in that part of the country. The Kootenay river is a larger stream than the Kettle river, and the ultimate possibilities of power at Bonnington are much greater than they are at Cascade, but the initial amount of power to be supplied from Cascade will be about the same as that now supplied from Bonnington, this being in the neighborhood of 2,500 horse power.

The work at Cascade involves the construction of a flume 2,700 feet long, most of it through solid rock. This is over 2,000 feet longer than the flume at Bonnington, and the fall secured is 150 feet, which is 116 feet more than the fall secured at Bonnington. An equal service can be done at Cascade by one-fourth the water as at Bonnington.

WHAT NATURE HAS DONE.

Nature has done a great deal for the Cascade water power. At a joint just above where the Canadian Pacific railway bridge spans the Kettle river this side of the town of Cascade, the rives plunges down into a deep, narrow and tortuous canyon and continues this for half a mile, descending 120 feet in that distance, and being lashed into a foaming and raging torrent, carrying everything before it with an irresistible force, finally debouching into a broad eddy below, which looks more like a lake than a river. In the ages past the water has beaten in one direction, taking the form of a lake that extended up through the entire Grand Forks valley, broke through the rocky barriers that stretched across the present pathway of the water and in the infinity of years has cut for itself a channel more than one hundred feet deep.

For the utilization of the tremendous power concentrated in this fall of the river a dam had to be constructed at the head of the fall and a flume cut out to the level below so the water could be delivered upon water wheels and the power taken up by dynamos and carried over wires in the form of electric currents. In this way the power of the entire Kettle river falling 150 feet at Cascade can be made almost as effective at Phoenix, 21 miles away, as it can at the point of generation. Nothing in modern scientific achievements is more marvelous than this. Bonnington Falls power is carried over 31 miles of wire to Rossland and then delivered to the mines, with a loss of about 13 per cent. The loss in delivering from Cascade to Grand Forks and the mines in this vicinity will probably not be over 10 per cent.

NOVELTY IN DAM STRUCTURE.

The building of dams is like the building of bridges, each particular work demanding some special features of its own. The dam being put in at Cascade is not like anything of the kind heretofore seen in the country. The engineer in charge and the designer of the dam is William Anderson, a Scotchman, who was also in charge of the development of the power at Bonnington, where he achieved a distinction in his calling, which proves to be in no wise lessened by the work in which he is now engaged. Before Kettle river plunges down into the narrow gorge at Cascade it spreads out into a wide circular basin caused no doubt by the engorgement of the water in the canyon below, and the water falls over the rim rock above the deeper channel in a semi-circle. Around this semi-circle, with its foundations bolted into the solid rim rock, the dam is being built. The dam itself is not in the form of a semi-circle, but in the form of a bisected polygon, having three faces of different lengths, the total length being 400 feet. This irregularity of form gives it additonal power, for the water above does not come down squarely against a straight wall, but comes against several, which has the effect of compressing them and of making the work self-locking. The frame work of the dam is of logs. They are built up in the form of cribbing and broken rock has been thrown in the cribs. About 35,000 linear feet of logs will be required in the structure. The foundation is 40 feet across, and the greatest height will be 53 feet. Between the cribs are gates, there being twelve altogether, and by raising and lowering these the water can be kept in complete control. This feature of the work appears to have been most admirably conceived and executed. It not only controls the water going into the flumes, but it minimizes the danger of the breaking down and washing away of the dam. The construction of the dam has been seriously interfered with of late by unprecedented high water for this season of the year; in fact, the men had to be laid off altogether for some time, but the cold weather early this week caused the river to fall rapidly and operations are now being renewed. A little over one-third of the structure is now up and the remainder will be up in a few weeks, if the river maintains its usual winter stage.

WORK ON THE FLUME.

The water, as above stated, will have to be carried 2,700 feet from the dam to the power house. The flume will run along the C. P. R. track for most of the distance and part of the way through a tunnel cut through a rocky point. It is a solid mass of rock for the entire 2,700 feet, and very rough in contour. At a point 1,800 feet from the power house the descent becomes rapid and from there on the water will be carried in two steel pipes or penstocks, eight and a half feet in diameter. The size of these can be better understood when it is stated that a man six feet tall could stand erect and still have two and a half feet of room above him. At low water a great portion of the entire river can be brought through these two penstocks and made to do service on the turbines in the power house. The effective power secured at low water will be about 6,000 hourse power.

The construction of the flume is in itself a work of great magnitude. It had just gotten well under way when the recent rise in the river caused its suspension. About 200 feet had been blasted and the work advanced to the point where the tunnel is to be commenced. Operations can be resumed and will be carried on uninterruptedly all winter.

In the meantime the foundation for the power house below is being cut out of the solid rock, and the actual construction of the building can probably begin in about two months.

HOW POWER WILL BE DELIVERED.

The right of way for the pole line which is to deliver the power was survéyed long since, and five miles of it in the neighborhood of Phoenix has already been cut out. The right of way is 130 feet wide, at least that is the width of the cleared right of way. The poles will be erected in the centre of the right of way, and heavy copper wires strung on the poles. The right of way must be cleared of all timber and brush so as to avoid all danger of falling trees and forest fires. In getting to Phoenix the company has had an easy task, as most of the 21 miles traversed is through the open Kettle river valley. The lines will pass directly through Grand Forks and go up to Phoenix by Fourth of July creek. A line has been surveyed from Phoenix down to Summit camp, and this right of way is to be cleared soon. The distributing station for Phoenix will stand on the high ground just east of the townsite.

To what extent the mines will make use of this power remains to be seen, but there is hardly a doubt that they will employ it very generally. The Bonnington electric power is being used very extensively at Rossland, and it is cheaper and more convenient than steam. All the new compressor plants at Rossland are made to be run by electricity. This power is also used by the Trail smelter.

BIG PROFITS IN SIGHT.

While the cost of using electric power in mining operations is less than the cost of steam power where fuel is as dear as it is here, it is supposed there still remains a big profit for the delivery of electric power.

The plant in Bonnington is understood to have been a big financial success. The capital stock of $1,000,000 has just been increased to $2,000,000, and it is understood that dividends of at least 10 per cent, can be paid on the increased capital. Sir Charles Ross, of Scotland, the original promoter of the Bonnington scheme, has made about $1,000,000 on the venture.

There is a wider field in Boundary than there is at Rossland, or, as to that matter, in all West Kootenay, and in two or three years there will, no doubt, be a demand for the whole power of the Cascade plant. It is to begin with 2,400 horse power, which they will sell for, say, $60 per horse power per year. This will bring them in $144,000 per year. When they are able to sell the entire capacity of the plant when it shall reach its maximum, say 6,000 effective horse power, at this price they can count on an income of $360,000 a year.

This is enough to show that the possibilities of the business are enormous. Of course they may sell at less than $60, but it will certainly not be far below that figure as long as fuel is so dear as it now is, and steam therefore so expensive. In any event it promises to be a most profitable field for the Cascade enterprise, and the Miner is glad of its ability to lay before its readers the first authentic account of its operations. Evidently it is to play an important part in the development of the extensive mining and commercial interests of the Boundary country.

BROWN'S PROPERTIES.

Adds Another Purchase to the Long List Made Last Summer at Greenwood.

Greenwood, B. C., Dec. 19.—Another deal has been made on a property on the west fork of the Kettle River. John Empey, the local representative of R. E. L. Brown of Victoria, purchased the Prince claim from Alexander Wallace and associates for $3,500. This claim overlapped the Washington, one of three properties owned by Mr. Brown's company, the Boundary and Beaverton Mining Company, and for fear that litigation might possibly arise at some future period Mr. Empey purchased the same and it will be deemed to the company.

Early last summer, when the west fork was attracting the attention of the investing public, Brown secured a group of six promising claims and paid the owners $100,000 for the same. He formed two separate companies to work the properties, placing ample funds in each for that purpose. John Empey was appointed the superintendent of both corporations. The Beaverton-Sulphide Company secured the Rambler, Templar and Columbia claims, one group and the Boundary and Beaverton Mining Company acquired the Washington, Idaho and Montana claims, the other group. Both claims are in the immediate vicinity of the townsite of Beaverton.

The principal work has been done on the Washington claim, owned by the latter company. Since early summer a force of twelve men has been constantly at work. The primary development consisted of stripping and trenching what is known as the main ledge. This ledge, carrying values in gold, copper-silver and lead, was stripped for a length of 1,600 feet across two claims. It is a big lode, with an average width of not less than twenty feet. A shaft is now being sunk on this ledge. It will be put down to a depth of 100 feet, and if this depth carries the same values and showing as is found on the surface the company will proceed to install the necessary machinery for the continued permanent working of the property. The shaft is already down thirty-five feet. On the Idaho claim, belonging to the same company, a thirty-foot shaft was sunk last summer at the intersection of a promising galena ledge and the main ore body.

Work will shortly start on the development of the properties of the Beaverton-Sulphide Company. A small force of men is now at work constructing cabins. When these are completed, some time the coming week, the men will be put to work in the opening up of the claims.

The N. P. steamer City of London is due on Tuesday from Far Eastern ports, having left Yokohama on the 9th instant.

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School C

Interesting Features of Compet

(From Saturday's Dai

That Britain has another true-hearted Canadians gro manhood and womanhood ready to bear their parts comes in sharing the respe dangers of the Empire, w denced at the closing of t yesterday—patriotism bei note of the inter cises everywhere, and the tial poetry of the nation, expressions of affection fo flag, being important fe programmes in all cases. providing for annual, ins annual, examinations, hav form the customary volu tion lists were not in evi closing exercises consisted illustrations of the practic school rooms, supplement ings, recitations and vocal pupils, all of whom entere ceedings with zest and ment. The practical work proved especially interesti sembled parents and frie tion, much encouragement instructors being thereby was the physical drill, a factor in the education o women of a few years way neglected, the improv riage of themselves by th since Mr. St. Clair has with their physical educ very general and most ment. The closing exercis held at all the schools while at the North War programme of a literary character was presented ternoon, and the High s also re-assembled in the the presentation by His H tenant-Governor, of the eral's medals, the award some flag presented by Ald competition in drill, and address by Hon. Abraham resident consul of the More particular reference ceedings at the various s hereunder; and the public echo the seasonable wish all the speakers of the bus children will enjoy their "return with renewed he for the duties of the com

AT THE HIGH S

Captain McMicking's D Takes the Flag—The General's Meda

Punctually at 2 o'clock t Governor and Hon. Abra resident consul of the entered the Pemberto through an aisle of standi students, who sang "G Queen" as His Honor a place, under a canopy d draped on either side wi Britain and the United Sta sell then played the "Star ner"; after which Mr. P pal, read the list of promo fourth to the third divis the third to the second d motions being made at C the second to the first fortunate scholars are:

From Division III. to Div der of standing)—Miss El Miss Marion Offerhaus, Ms Miss Kristina Johnston, M Forrest Pooler, Miss Sophie Christine Murray, Miss Jo Jerrald Potts, Miss Winifred Catherine Lorell, Herbert M len Somerville, Sydney Po Amy Wilson.

From Division IV. to Di Strachan, was first in ord Miss Noble second. The fo promotions: Master Andrew Miss Campbell, Miss Carly Miss Few, Miss Glover. Master C. Gallaway, Mast Master Gibson, Miss Har Master McArthur, Miss No sell, Miss Sellick, Master Shields, Miss Strachan, M ter Sweetland, Miss Wilso and Miss Watson.

The programme of the read by Mr. Paul, numb was most satisfactorily follows:

Song—"The Maple Leaf"...
Presentation of medals and Prize.
Remarks of Principal Paul of the drill competition
Presentation of flag and prize for single-stick.
Song—"Rule Britannia"...
Addresses.

"God Save the Q

The medals are the m by His Excellency the Go one of silver, for the pup school, won by Miss Whyte; and the other, a won in a competition an of the public schools in annual examination for High school, which was May Few, a pupil of th school taught by Mr. Pr two of whose pupils had of heading the list last m

The flag was presented ward for competition in four companies of the hereunder:

No. 1 Company—Miss tain.
No. 2 Company—Miss
No. 3 Company—Mr. ing, captain.
No. 4 Company—Mr. captain.

These companies have for this competition du term, with excellent re seen from the accompa Capt. Clive Phillipps-Wo acted as judge. The flag ed for at the end of each of the commanders of companies being engra plate on the staff. Capt Wolley in his report of said:

"The four companies evolutions extremely well that they had been care man who knew his work. to be warmly congratula lent results of his instruct much to say, though the bachelor, that the girls as smart as the boys, bu smart word of command