

TER'S STATEMENT TO-MORROW

Announced field in

minister of financial state- is not much longer... should be no tariff...

NAVY. Reduction

Should war... Such is the... Secretary of the... the bureau of... department and... naval affairs.

ED Raging in Leavy.

Special to... as yet to give... from the forest... throughout sev-... the upper pen-... it is thought... Wires are down... being having been

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ARCTIC EXPEDITION WAITS ONLY ON COOK

All depends now on the arrival of a cook from Seattle as to whether the schooner Duchess of Bedford will be able to get away on her Arctic exploring expedition to-morrow. The vessel was to have sailed on Thursday according to the plan of Capt. Einar Mikkelsen early in the week, but an unexpected delay resulted in getting the papers from Ottawa sanctioning the changing of the schooner's name from the Duchess of Bedford to that of the illustrious lady who is one of the patrons of the expedition.

RELIEF. May 19.—Commiss-

to the 11th general... of comfort. Cosiness is suggested in every quarter, and the big pile of furs, which have not yet been stowed away, at once conveys to mind the frigid climes through which the schooner in a few more months will pass. The Duchess of Bedford will be hauled to the stream by James Bay to-morrow morning. She may not sail to-morrow as intimated above, but the intention is to be ready to get away as soon as the cook arrives.

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EXTENSION ALONG SAANICH ROAD

Tramway Company Will Construct New Line This Summer--Other Branches Considered --New Pension Scheme.

The British Columbia Electric Rail- way Company will extend its line along the Saanich road this summer, was the most important announcement made by James Buntzen, superintendent, when seen at the company's office on Friday morning. His present visit is more of pleasure than business, as he will return to Vancouver by this evening's boat. During the past few months Mr. Buntzen went to London and conferred with the board of directors on the whole situation and impressed upon them the demand for extensions and improved service in the cities of Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster. "Mr. Goward has recommended," he said, "the immediate extension of the present Douglas street line along the Saanich road. It will be for a distance of at least three-quarters of a mile and entail an expenditure of over \$10,000. The company expects to lose money for the present, but hopes in time to work up a profitable business. The same service will be given, as now exists from the Royal Bay wharf, through and it should be a great convenience to residents of that vicinity. "Of course, as you know, we built the Gorge line last year," he continued. "This has certainly not been a profitable undertaking. It was expected that a rapid upbuilding along the route would result, but the hope has not yet been realized. Of course, there has hardly been time yet to make a full test, but the year should show whether there is a reasonable chance of this becoming a profitable investment. Should such be the case the company will at once take up the proposal to build a line in the direction of Ross Bay cemetery, and, maybe, eventually to Foul and Shoal bays. This is a matter, however, for future consideration, although, if the Douglas estate becomes thickly populated the latter will be an important bearing on the subject." "Asked as to revived idea of a line to Mount Tolmie and Gordon Head, Mr. Buntzen said: "I have not thought about that matter recently. Of course

Gordon Head is a long way, and the company would have to carefully calculate the cost and maintenance charges before even thinking of construction. But I hear there are a large number of residences being built in that district by newcomers from Man- toba and the Northwest, and will, on my next visit, go over the ground and make a preliminary investigation. You may certainly state, however, that the company is prepared to do all it can for the upbuilding of Victoria, or any other city in which it operates and, as soon as there is a chance for reason- able profits within reach all require- ments will be met. "At present we are attempting to at- tract a large traffic to the Gorge. The new bathing house is half up, the beach practically completed and all should be ready within a couple of weeks for the crowds we hope will visit our park. I do not think we will interfere with others having bathing facilities there, as the company will cater principally to ladies and children. The bathhouse being built at the bridge will be more for deep water swimming and we will be glad to see any other attraction provided at the Gorge. All will help to make the tram line there profitable. "It is my intention in about a week to submit the pension scheme evolved by the board of directors to the em- ployees of the company. While I do not think it will make public the details before it has been considered by those most concerned, I may say that it will, in my opinion, be of great benefit to the men after they have reached a certain age. The board felt that, as the profit sharing now in force had been a source of satisfaction to both shareholders and employees, a further step towards community of interests would be in the right direction. They had no precedent in this country to act as a guide, so the matter was a difficult one to handle. However, it is thought a feasible arrangement has been drafted and I hope it will be accepted by those concerned."

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CONTESTS OUTLINED BY THE COMMITTEE

In Charge of Aquatic Sports in Connection With Victoria Day Celebrations--Notes.

(From Friday's Daily.) Members of the Victoria Day celebration committees have practically completed their labors. Only details remain to be attended to, and nothing can be done in that regard until within a few days of the carnival. The parade to take place on the morning of the 24th, the regatta on the afternoon of that day, the fireworks in the evening, and, in fact, every feature is well in hand, and promises to be carried through most successfully. All that is desired is fine weather, and it is believed that the meteorological agents will see that those who wish to celebrate the auspicious occasion in a fitting manner will not have their ardor dampened, but rather stimulated by bright warm sunshine. Last evening a well attended meeting of those in charge of the regatta was held, when the drafting of a programme, a week that has presented many unexpected difficulties this year, was finished. It follows: 1. Five-oared service whalers--Course round Deadman's Island and return. Prizes, 1st \$30, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$15. 2. Double sculls, schoolboys' race--Open to boys actually attending school. Only one crew from each school to be allowed to enter. Course from Mr. E. Crow Baker's boat house to starter's barge. Prizes, value \$12. 3. Indian war canoes--40 to 50 feet. Course around Island and return. Prizes, 1st \$6, 2nd \$3, 3rd \$1 per paddle. 4. Four-oared lapstrack, amateur--Senior championship of British Columbia. Course from Point Ellice bridge to starter's barge. Prizes, value \$30. 5. Tandem canoe race--Ladies only. Course from buoy near Curtis Point to starter's barge. Prizes, value \$15. 6. Skiffs--Open to amateurs, with lady coxswain. Double scull skiffs, outrigger and sliding seats barred. Course round Deadman's Island and return. Prizes, value \$15. 7. Indian war canoes--Under 40 feet. Course round Deadman's Island and return. Prizes, 1st \$5, 2nd \$2, 3rd \$1 per paddle. 8. Tandem canoe race--Open to all amateurs. Course from buoy near Curtis Point to starter's barge. Prizes, value \$15. 9. Klootchmen's race--Working class only. Course from starter's barge, round buoy and return. Prizes, 1st \$2, 2nd \$2, 3rd \$1 per paddle. 10. Four-oared lapstrack--Amateur. Course from Point Ellice bridge to starter's barge. Prizes, value \$30. 11. Skiffs--Open to ladies, with gentleman coxswain. Course from buoy near Curtis Point to starter's barge. Prizes, value \$15. 12. Klootchmen's race--Five, round buoy and return. Prizes, \$30. 13. Consolation war canoe--Course round Deadman's Island and return. Prizes, 1st \$20, 2nd \$10, 3rd \$5. 14. All-comers' race--Open to any sized boat with any number of oars. Course round Deadman's Island and return. Prizes, 1st \$30, 2nd \$15.

INVITATION TO HOLD CONGRESS IN VICTORIA

Will be Extended Chambers of Commerce by Delegates From Board of Trade.

A meeting of the Council of the Board of Trade was held on Friday. There was a large attendance, President Patterson occupying the chair. The first matter dealt with was a report from the Trade and Commerce committee recommending the action the local board should take at the sixth congress of Chambers of Commerce to be held in Victoria. The following resolution was proposed: "That the Victoria British Columbia Board of Trade extend a very cordial invitation to the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire to hold their seventh congress in Victoria, the capital of British Columbia. The committee recommended that the board's delegates to the forthcoming congress move, in formal terms, that the invitation be accepted. It was further suggested that the appended resolution be adopted and that the representatives at the gathering mentioned: "That, in view of the great importance of accurate and intelligent reports upon the current commercial conditions in all parts of the world, the Imperial government be so advised as to continue the present policy of supervision. There was no public meeting last evening, the whole time being devoted to ministerial business. Certain adjustments had to be made in regard to the superannuation fund. Two candidates for the ministry were recommended by the Indian district and accepted. One of these Mr. Bromwick, is an undergraduate of Oxford University, and has for a short time already done faithful service in a northern field. The other young man is a native Indian, and was accepted as a missionary to his own race. Mr. W. H. Barraclough, B. A., presented the pastoral address. It was a thoughtful and well-written document, and indicated the steady progress of the work of the conference. During the year there had been a net increase in church membership of 468, and in missionary givings of \$3,344. The committee on conference relations reporting through Rev. Jno. Robson, recommended superannuation, relation to the following ministers, most of whom are merely continuing in that relation: Revs. G. W. Dean and J. L. Sheridan, of Victoria; C. Ladner, D. Robson, Jos. Hall, James Turner, Vancouver; T. D. Pearson, J. P. Bowdoin, New Westminster, and E. B. Glass coming to the province from the North-west. (From Saturday's Daily.) The final session of the annual conference of the Methodist church was held last night. It was after 10 o'clock before the delegates could assemble. Business had been held back all day waiting a report from the ministerial meeting and stationing committee. Unusual problems confronted these latter bodies this year, on account of special cases to be dealt with. A great many of the delegates of the conference found it impossible to remain for the closing meeting, notwithstanding the fact that the closing interest is always taken in the work of the closing sessions, inasmuch as the final draft of stations is then read and the chairman and secretary of the districts are elected. These latter officers are most important officials in the conference during the year, and there is lively competition for these positions of authority. Several changes occurred this year. Rev. S. J. Thompson, president of the conference, becomes chairman of the Victoria district, and Rev. W. E. Prescott is the new chairman of the Vancouver district. No change was made in the New Westminster chairman- ship, but Rev. H. Barraclough, of the Victoria district, financial secretary, and Rev. J. A. Wood, who is now appointed to Saanich, is to be filled by Rev. S. S. Osterhout, in West Kootenay, Rev. J. D. Knox continues to hold the office, while in East Kootenay, Rev. J. P. Westman, formerly of this city, is the newly appointed official. After the election the conference special committee was appointed, composed of the chairman of districts, the secretary of conference and five laymen. It was about 1 o'clock when the conference closed, leaving the delegates for the Mainland little time to reach the steamer for Vancouver. On the whole the conference was looked upon as a very eventful one, and if its many memorials to the general conference are granted it will have important effects upon the future of the Methodist church of British Columbia in several respects. During the afternoon numerous votes of thanks were passed to the local churches for the entertainment of members of the conference, to the ladies who had provided refreshments and several luncheons, to the choir for excellent music, and to the local press for furnishing daily reports. Rev. S. J. Thompson has won golden opinions as a presiding officer, and enters upon his year's duties with the warmest good wishes of all his brethren and friends. Draft of Stations. The final draft of stations for the B. C. conference of the Methodist church was presented at Friday's sitting of that body. The stationing committee has had a heavy task it would appear, and a large number of changes from the original draft were made. Victoria district has been very much altered by the new draft. Victoria city will have two new faces among its clergymen as a result of the conference. Victoria West will be filled by Rev. A. E. Roberts, the secretary of the conference, who has been stationed at Haliburton street church, Nanaimo. Rev. W. E. Dunham has been given charge of the James Bay church. Rev. R. J. McIntyre, who has been filling these stations, has been transferred to Cumberland. Rev. J. P. Hicks, who was, according to the first draft assigned to Cumberland, will remain in Victoria without a station at his own request. It is understood that he will continue to have charge of the Recorder which, while not officially recognized as the organ of the conference, is nevertheless looked to as practically performing that duty. Mr. Hicks has acted as the editor in chief of it for some time past in conjunction with his other duties as chaplain of the forces at Esquimalt. He has made the paper a credit to himself and the church, and with more time to devote to it the Recorder should, if anything, be improved. Nanaimo will have new ministers in both its churches. Rev. A. M. Sanford, of the Wallace street church, goes to Princess street church, Vancouver, and Rev. A. E. Roberts, as previously mentioned, comes to Victoria. Rev. John Robson, B. A., formerly of Fernie, will take charge of Wallace street church, and Rev. R. B. Laidley goes to Haliburton street church. Rev. R. Newton Powell, formerly of the Princess street church, Vancouver, will have charge of the church at Nelson. Rev. T. H. Wright, well known here, is transferred from Duncan to Nicola lake, where an exchange is made with Rev. J. A. Wood. The full list of stations with the ministers in charge is as follows: I.—Victoria District. Victoria (Metropolitan)—Geo. K. B. Adams, George W. Dean, superannuated; Rev. J. P. Barraclough, B. A., presented a station at his own request. Victoria (Centennial)—Samuel J. Thompson, president of the conference. Victoria (Victoria West)—Arthur E. Roberts. Victoria (James Bay)—W. E. Denham, Wm. Sheridan, superannuated. Victoria (Chinese Mission)—One to be sent. (S. P. K.) Victoria Japanese Mission—One to be sent. (M.) Nanaimo (Wallace street)—Jno. Roberts, B. A. Nanaimo (Haliburton street)—R. B. Laidley. Nanaimo (Chinese Mission)—One to be sent. (T. C. T.) Saanich—J. A. Wood. Cowichan—To be supplied. (D. A. S.) Salt Spring Island—Thos. Keyworth, superintendent of Wallace street. Ladysmith and Extension—Wm. C. Schlicher. Cumberland—R. J. McIntyre. Cowichan (Japanese Mission)—Ukichi Oyama, under superintendent of Cumberland. Fred. S. Okell and Charles F. Connor to attend college. J. Wesley Miller, B.A., to attend college. S. J. Thompson, chairman of district. John Robson, financial secretary. II.—Vancouver District. Vancouver (Wesley Church)—Walter E. Prescott, B.A., 67 Burrard street. Charles Ladner, superannuated. Vancouver (Princess street)—A. M. Sanford, B. A., B. D. James Turner, superannuated. Vancouver (Mount Pleasant)—Albert E. Hetherington,