

FALSE ECONOMY.

Rosland is, by reason really of a squabble amongst the members of its Flee Brigade, hitherto and still voluntary, discharging a paid chief and assistant of experience. The motive publicly given is necessary municipal economy.

THE PORCUPINE.

On this mine at Ymir busy development work in tunnelling and shafting has long been proceeding and is actively continuing. A recent assay showed \$16 in gold and 201 ounces in silver, and the owners are confident that they have a good property. As, however, despite fair facilities of access, they have decided not to ship till silver rises, it seems clear enough that the splendid assay noted was taken on exceptional rather than average ore. It is therefore of less value as a test of general capacity. What the public need are tests of the average or general ore deposits of a mine or claim.

FORT STEELE.

This East Kootenay mine centre will at the next session of the Provincial Legislature, seek incorporation as a City under a special Bill, which should pass without difficulty. Fort Steele has a very promising future and is happily in the present unhampered, as regards its proposed legislative application for incorporation, by any obstructive franchise privileges. If only Fort Steele should succeed alike in obtaining incorporation and in getting immediate connection with the Crow's Nest branch of the C. P. R. its people would feel fairly contented in the present and still more hopeful of the future, despite the contingency of their bete noire, Cranbrook, that city of the future which the Hon. Col. Baker would fain see constructed.

LEAVING THEIR WORK.

The Fort Steele Prospector is responsible for the statement that very large numbers of Canadian workers are quitting their task in the Crow's Nest extension of the C.P.R. on the ground of large and undue deductions from contract rates of wage. The whole affair is very unfortunate and it is to be hoped will be set right should there be solid reason, as alleged, for the men's complaints. One very big deduction is stated to be for railroad fares, amounting in the case of each man brought from an Eastern point, to \$25.50. It is reported in the same Fort Steele journalistic authority that J. D. Macarthur, who had the most extensive contract on the prairie end of the Crow's Nest route, has abandoned his engagement. Nevertheless, work on the railroad extension continues, despite drawbacks, to make rapid progress.

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