COL. PRIOR ENDORSED!

And Cabinet Representation for this Province Secured as a Permanent Right.

Difficulties of Travel Reduced the Rural Vote and Thus Lessened the Majority.

The New Minister Cordially Thanks the Friends Who So Nobly Stood by Him.

Probably no cabinet minister seeking re-election upon acceptance of office ever contested his constituency in face of a more difficult combination of adverse circumstances than that which confronted Hon. E. G. Prior in the campaign which resulted yesterday in his election by the majority of 107 over Mr. Wm. Templeman. His vote of 1,564 was, however, not only the largest ever given by Victoria to a candidate for the Dominion house, but was in excess of the combined vote of himself and Mr. Templeman in their former contest, at the last general elections. Then Col. Prior polled 1,068 and Mr. Templeman 449. Yesterday's contest brought out the very strongest opposition ever likely to be presented, for besides losing the votes of his Conservative friends who do not think as the government does on the school question, many voters without strong political affiliations were no doubt misled into casting their votes for the candidate who, professing to be a follower of Mr. Laurier, circulated in his newspaper the Times yesterday the fiction that Mr. Laurier had actually been "called in" to form a government.

A very curious circumstance was noted in connection with the appearance of this supposed telegram. It was rushed upon the streets in the form of an "extra," presumably as soon as received from Ottawa, but simultaneously there issued from the same quarter several huge placards on canvas, which must have been the work of hours rather than minutes, but which made the same startling announcement, that Wilfred Laurier had been called upon to form a cabinet and "What is Col. Prior's position now?" Precautions had, however, been taken to meet any such roorback, and the false "telegram" did not obtain more than half an hour's start of a circular showing beyond a doubt that the Laurier story was an invention for the purposes of the political emergency. More than one staunch Liberal expressed disgust at campaign methods so indecent as that thus resorted to by the opposition; but Mr. Joseph Martin, the Manitoba friend of Mr. Templeman, sped out to the Willows and used the story for all it could be made appear worth at that most important polling place.

In the face of these inventions, and of the authentic reports of the internal dissensions of the Bowell administration, Col. Prior's friends have reason to be satisfied with the result of his appeal to them. This appeal was most strongly and directly expressed through the COLONIST of yesterday, in which over his own signature Hon. E. G. Prior stated his confident belief that under any circumstances the right of British Columbia to cabinet representation, which would be asserted by his re-election, would not be ignored by any Conservative premier. The electors accepted his assurance as that of an honorable man, and the "no cabinet minister" combination failed to elect their candidate Mr. Templeman.

THE VOTE.

Yesterday's vote polled, totalling three thousand and twenty-one, was not up to the general expectations, though the result demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt the calm judgment of the electorate. With 6,900 votes on the roll, after allowing for repeaters and absentees a poll of at least 3,500 was looked for. To reduce the vote a combination of adverse circumstances presented themselves, however. The soft state of the country roads kept a large proportion of the outside vote from being polled, and this was particularly the case in the Metchosin district, the practically solid support of which even the opposition conceded to be with Hon. Mr. Prior. The fact that the Happy Valley road was absolutely impassable kept at home many of the residents along that highway, who are among the new Minister's staunchest supporters. Between Parsons' Bridge and Victoria, at Colquitz, Cedar Hill, and in fact all the outlying districts, Hon. Mr. Prior lost votes owing to the roads; while general and justifiable dissatisfaction with the arrangement of the districts and location of the polling places considerably reduced the number of those who made their way to the polls.

The election itself was as spirited as had been the campaign preliminary to it. The forces on each side were marshalled early and there was no abatement of enthusiasm on either side as the day progressed. At the Willows during the morning some little hard feeling was caused by the apparent determination of one of the Liberal lights to challenge each and every voter presenting himself of whose support the Liberal candidate did not feel assured. Matters finally reached a point where a blockade of votes and a loss of many were threatened, and the returning officer was obliged to make a special trip from the city for the purpose of setting matters straight. At none of the other districts was there any special friction and the election as a whole was conducted in an orderly, fair and gentlemanly manner, complimentary to Victoria and characteristic of the city. Of course the eleventh hour special telegram from Ottawa put in its appearance—to say that "the government had resigned and Hon. Mr. Laurier had been called upon to form a Cabinet." The "dispatch" bore the earmarks of a made-to-order fake, however, and very few, if any, were deceived by it.

The polls closing at 5 o'oclock, very little time was lost in counting the ballots, and by 6.30 it was practically certain that Hon. Mr. Prior had been elected. The COLONIST bulletined the returns from each of the polling places as the count progressed, and by 8 o'clock the verdict of the electorate was thus made known. The official count was afterwards found to tally in almost every case, being as follows:

District.	*Prior.*	*Templeman.*
No. 1, Work Estate	147	168
" 2, City Hall	83	71
" 3, Temperance Hall	81	103
" 4, Cook Street	180	234
" 5, Court House	196	155
" 6, Harmony Hall	127	150
" 7, Kane Street	103	92
" 8, Government St.	135	82
" 9, James Bay	122	97
" 10, The Willows	190	174
" 11, Victoria West	170	128
" 12, Metchosin	30	3
Total	1564	1457

The majority was 107 for Hon. E. G. Prior, who it is stated suffered more than proportionately through the number of spoiled ballots, not a few qualified electors making the not-to-be-expected blunder of writing the name of their favorite candidate in the circular space of white reserved on the black ballot for the customary cross. The Durocher ballot was used for the first time in British Columbia, and its advantages over the old form at once commended themselves to the observant. The percentage of spoiled ballots was undoubtedly heaviest at The Willows, where 18 votes were lost through the omission of the deputy returning officer to initial them.

MUTUAL CONGRATULATIONS.

When all the returns except those from Metchosin had been received, the crowd who had thronged the COLONIST office and stood in the rain outside to catch a glimpse of the all-important figures, moved to the Liberal Conservative headquarters in the Adelphi block. Here a flow of congratulatory speech making of course soon commenced, and the enthusiasm of those present gradually worked up until when it had reached a high pitch Col. Prior was seen ascending the stairs. This was the signal for such an outburst of cheering as had only once been heard in those rooms before, and the Colonel appeared a proud man indeed as by slow degrees he edged his way through the mass of his supporters to the platform. The tremendous cheering was renewed when some of the more enthusiastic of his friends lifted him upon a table and he commenced a short address. "Gentlemen, we have won the fight," were his first words, and at once hats went up in the air and cheers greeted the announcement. They had won the fight, he went on, even with the difference of opinion within the party on the Manitoba school question and the false telegrams circulated about the polling places to the effect that Sir Mackenzie Bowell had resigned and Mr. Laurier had been called on to form a cabinet. The COLONIST, he stated, has just received the following telegram from its Ottawa correspondent:

"OTTAWA, Jan. 6—I have seen the Premier, who says the report about Laurier having been summoned by His Excellency is absolutely false. The Cabinet is still doing business at the old stand. There is positively no hope for the Liberal party in the present crisis. It is truly a family matter with the Conservative party. The breach is about healed."

The reading of this dispatch roused the enthusiasm of the meeting again and cheer upon cheer was given. This telegram showed, continued Col. Prior when the applause had subsided, that even up to the last moment the opposition stuck to their policy of falsehood and deceit. Moved by the enthusiasm of those present who had worked so hard and unselfishly in his behalf, Col. Prior continued: "My heart is full, gentlemen, I cannot find words enough to thank you all for the way you have stood by me." (Great applause.) In thanking the various committees he especially mentioned Mr. A. S. Potts, the secretary of the Liberal-Conservative Association, and called for three cheers for that gentleman, which having been very heartily given Mr. Potts made a neat speech in reply.

Mr. A. E. McPhillips congratulated the Conservative party on the result of the election. It had sounded a note, he said, that would ring from the Pacific Coast to Ottawa and on to the Atlantic at Halifax—a note of unity for the Dominion. (Applause.)

Mr. E. Crow Baker read the returns from that old Conservative stand-by Metchosin, which had just come in and showed 30 for Prior and 3 for Templeman. At this the applause broke out afresh. Then came a telegram from Sir Charles H. Tupper at Ottawa to Hon. Mr. Prior, with the two words, "Hearty congratulations." The result of this election, Mr. Baker said, was only a forerunner of the general elections, and when they came he was sure that the returns for Hon. Mr. Prior and Mr. Earle would show a sweeping victory for the Conservative party.

Mr. Thos. Earle, M.P., was called for with great enthusiasm and a burst of applause greeted his appearance. The honor the electors had done Hon. Mr. Prior in putting him at the head of the poll was he felt also an honor to himself, for they had won a fight on an issue which affected his own position as well as Mr. Prior's. He had with Hon. Mr. Prior been selected to represent the Liberal-Conservative party at the general elections and he felt satisfied that upon that occasion success would crown the efforts of the party. (Applause.)

Subsequently when the president of the association, Mr. H. Dallas Helmcken, Q. C., M. P. P., arrived, other speech-making took place in the Adelphi room. Then all adjourned to the Institute hall on View street, led by the band, and the felicitations were there kept up for a couple of hours, the large hall being filled with a most enthusiastic assemblage. The chief workers during the campaign occupied the seats of honor upon the platform, and Mr. D. R. Ker presided. Col. Prior, who in the meantime had been home to bear the good news to his family, arrived late and received a perfect ovation on entering the hall, the assembly rising to a man and giving cheer upon cheer with the greatest enthusiasm. A reception no less hearty was accorded to Hon. J. S. Helmcken, the veteran campaigner, who has done such splendid service in the past few weeks. They of course were among the speakers at this meeting, who also included Mr. Thomas Earle, M. P., Mr. H. D. Helmcken, president of the Liberal-Conservative Association, and Mr. A. S. Potts, its secretary; Mr. E. Crow Baker, Mr. W. H. Ellis, president of the Macdonald Club, and others. Appropriate selections by the band were played between the speeches.

The following graceful letter speaks for itself:

TO THE EDITOR:—Now that the fight is over and victory rests with the Conservative party I wish in this way to publicly express my sincere thanks to the manager, editor and staff of the COLONIST for the able manner in which they have championed my cause during the whole of this campaign. The paper has been conducted in such a manner that whilst it did everything it could to forward the Conservative interests it never in any way can have wounded the feelings of my opponents, being always free from personalities and abuse. A paper conducted in this manner cannot fail to be a source of strength to any party or public man that it may support, and I therefore wish to express my deep appreciation of the service the COLONIST has rendered in the late contest.

E. G. PRIOR.

In a moment of inspiration a Liberal-Conservative committeeman at about 7 o'clock last evening created the following "Political Acrostic":

Woe to me for I am badly beaten!
They made me stand to make a test;
Empty pledges my hopes to build,
Making me the tool, my heart is chilled!
Plucked like a chick, for fry or roast,
Laughed at now after all my boast,
End of my hopes in politics' free field,
May be my pen I'll try now to wield
And leave the Colonel strictly alone,
No more to try to make him stay at home.

"SMOKER."

THE CITY.

ROBERT IRVINE, for feloniously wounding his wife Agnes by stabbing her in the breast with a knife, several weeks ago, was yesterday committed for trial by Police Magistrate Macrae.

THE annual meeting of the maternity home committee will be held to-morrow at 11 a.m. All members are requested to be present, and any friends wishing to attend will be made welcome.

THE Young People's Union of the Emmanuel Baptist church held their semi-annual business meeting last night. Reports of the committees showed that the work of the union was in a prosperous condition. The following officers were elected for the ensuing six months: President, D. Dewar; vice-president, Miss McDiarmid; secretary, Earle Clarke; treasurer, A. E. Wescott.

ONE emaciated and unattractive carcase of sheep caused a heap of trouble and the appearance of a young man in the city police court yesterday. Mark Moody and James Madden, charged with having possession of the stolen meat, were acquitted; John Eaton, on the same charge, was given 48 hours' imprisonment; and James Taylor, for the theft, was given three months at hard labor.

Two more of the sealing fleet, the Aurora and the Casco, cleared yesterday on cruises to the Japanese coast. The former is in command of Capt. Brown and will carry 18 of a crew, while the latter, captained by C. Le Blanc, will have a crew of 22 all told. Yesterday the schooner Annie E. Paint came alongside Turner, Beeton & Co.'s wharf to make ready for sailing on Friday. She, too, goes to the Japanese coast.

BY a recent general order issued by Assistant General Traffic Manager P. P. Shelby of the Great Northern, the title of Mr. F. J. Wheeler is changed from agent to general agent. He will have charge of traffic in Victoria and all points on Vancouver Island, as well as Vancouver, New Westminster and points on the Fraser river, west of Mission, B.C., his headquarters being at Vancouver. Mr. J. H. Roger is appointed agent at Victoria, vice H. Martin, general agent, resigned.

PASSENGERS arriving over from the Mainland by last evening's steamer bring the news that the Royal City is again flood-swept, though no important damage has as yet resulted. The three feet of snow has disappeared in two days' continuous rain, and the tramway line to Vancouver has suffered by washouts, while the city line as well as many of the lower streets in Westminster are under water. There has been no important rise of the river, and the flood will, in all probability, be no more than a few days' inconvenience.

ON Friday night a small fire in Ball's barber shop on Yates street was discovered by Chief Deasy. A passer by noticed the chief with three other men bursting open the front door of Bruce's cigar store in the same building, their purpose being to locate the fire. The stranger hunted up a police officer and informed him that four hard looking citizens were committing a burglary at the corner of Yates and Douglas. Officer Perdue set out to capture the supposed housebreakers, but his ardor was dampened when he discovered they were Chief Deasy with his men suppressing an incipient fire.

A SPECIAL sermon to voters was preached by Rev. P. C. L. Harris in the Central Presbyterian church last night. He took for his text "Through wisdom is the house builded and by understanding it is established," and compared the building of the national life to the erection of a building in which the material should be well selected and the architects capable. He pointed out that every elector should take sufficient interest in his country to vote, and, while refraining from touching on any political subject, advised the people to use their intelligence in casting their ballots to-day.

A PROSPECTOR returning from Alberni reports a fact calculated to bring joy to the hearts of heavy game hunters. "Beginning," said he, "with Cameron lake and in toward Englisman's river, the snow is literally cut up with deer and panther tracks. In several places in sight from the road, patches of blood showed where the great cats had overtaken their prey, and evidently devoured it on the spot. Some idea of the speed and power of these animals was gained from observing a trail made by a deer with a panther in pursuit. The cat was covering the ground in great bounds which, when stepped off, were found to measure from 12 to 15 feet clear. A hunter with a couple of good dogs should be able to make a fine bag of panthers out that way."

MAINLAND MINING.

Another Big Strike in the War Eagle—Furnaces for Trail Creek.

Wonderful Progress in West Kootenay—Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Co.

(From the Rossland Miner.)

James Cronan is pushing work with a small force on the Roderick Dhu, a very promising prospect in the vicinity of the Deer Park.

The Poorman Gold Mining Company has completed its incorporation. Patrick Clark is the president, and L. D. Lucas, secretary.

Work has been suspended for the past few days on the R. E. Lee & Maid of Erin, owing, it is said, to a hitch in the management. A meeting of the directors was held in Spokane on Thursday, and operations will probably be resumed in a week or ten days.

The new War Eagle compressor plant is now nearly all on the ground, and will be ready for operation by February 1, at latest.

Another big strike is reported in the War Eagle. The whole face of the No. 2 tunnel is now high grade ore. This strike will enable the company to greatly increase its output this winter, and dividends may be expected to be declared with the old regularity in the spring.

H. P. Toronto has nearly finished the 50-foot shaft on the Gopher, which his contract calls for. The work has been much retarded by water, but this will not bother them any longer, as a force pump was shipped down to the mine by Hunter Bros. on Thursday. Some fairly good grade ore is being got out, and the ore body is now the full width of the shaft.

Orders have been received at Trail to proceed at once with the erection of two more reverberatory furnaces which will have the result of giving the smelter a capacity of 300 tons a day from the start. Nothing could speak more eloquently of the development of the camp than this.

The Lillooet, Fraser River & Cariboo Gold Co., Ltd., has acquired a number of promising properties in this camp under bond. Among them are the Mispickel, which adjoins the R. E. Lee and Gopher, and the Buckeye group on Lake mountain. They have done some prospecting work on these claims lately and it is expected that they will put a force of men to work on at least two of the properties early next month.

Probably the most important strike made in the camp during the past week was that in the Homestake shaft. A foot of clean galena was encountered, which on being sampled proved to be of an exceedingly high grade. The returns from an average of several pounds were $8.50 in gold, 73 ounces in silver and 31 per cent. lead. The Homestake company has 100 tons of shipping ore on the dump, but so far has been unable to secure any teams to haul it away, the War Eagle and Le Roi having engaged all the teams in the camp which have been idle lately. The mine is now being put in shape to make regular shipments and as soon as teams can be obtained it will be a daily contributor to the piles of ore now accumulating in the ore bins of the Trail smelter.

(From the Prospector.)

Last year witnessed remarkable progress in West Kootenay—a progress equalled during the same period in not more than two places in the whole world. One year ago the Kaslo & Slocan railroad existed only on paper. Six months ago there was but one smelter in West Kootenay (not counting the dismantled structure at Revelstoke), now there are three. All of the towns of a year ago have grown and prospered, and at least three—Sandon, Trail and Rossland—are almost entirely of this year's growth.

Roughly estimated, the shipments of Slocan high grade silver lead ore from January 1 to December 31 have aggregated 8,000 tons, worth one million dollars; from the Blue Bell to Pilot Bay smelter, low grade ore, 20,000 tons, which, together with the shipments from Ainsworth and Nelson, amount to half a million dollars. During the same period the mines around Rossland have produced about 22,000 tons of gold ore, worth one million dollars. This makes a total of two and a half million dollars' worth of ore produced in West Kootenay in 1895.

ALBERNI GOLD FIELDS.

After a season of great activity the Alberni mining district is practically closed down for the winter. With but few exceptions work on the various claims had not been advanced to a sufficient degree to enable those engaged to continue after the first deep snow. Work on the Cataract hydraulic lease continues with the sawmill in full blast, turning out the lumber for the big flume a mile or more in length. On Coleman creek a small gang of men will spend the winter in thoroughly prospecting the group of claims belonging to the syndicate, and at Copper island work will continue on the Rainbow. Other than these the claims will remain "in stat" until the opening of spring makes it possible to continue development work to advantage. Generally speaking the results of the season's work may be regarded as excellent. A comparatively small number of prospectors have been engaged in looking over a large tract of extremely difficult country. As might be expected, the real value of what has been found remains largely a matter for future speculation and final proof, but enough has been done to clearly demonstrate that Alberni district contains a number of leads of a well defined nature, and carrying precious metals in paying quantities. With proper transportation and reduction facilities Alberni district will give a good account of itself in the near future. Those who are on the inside track claim that a large amount of developing capital will be placed in the district next spring.

ON Friday last Mr. Gus Klopf was in town in connection with the formation of a baseball team in this city to make the fourth in the Northwest Baseball league which was recently formed in Portland. Mr. Klopf is trying to make arrangements for securing grounds for the league games, and if he is successful, Victoria is promised a first-class team.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

SHIPS AND SHIPPING.

At 11 o'clock yesterday morning the Northern Pacific liner Victoria, Capt. Panton, arrived from the Sound, en route to the Orient. She will sail at 6 o'clock this morning, carrying a full cargo, nearly all of which she received at Tacoma. The cargo consists of the usual assortment of provisions and other American commodities, including flour, lumber, machinery, cotton, dry goods, condensed milk, etc. All the 140 Chinese on the Strathnevis leave by the Victoria, in addition to 37 from this city and 50 or more from Eastern cities. Three of the Chinese brought over by the Victoria will go back on her, they not having proved their right to land as returned merchants in Uncle Sam's domain. Among the cabin passengers who go over on the Victoria is Kay Smith, the well known athlete and amateur wrestler. He goes to Yokohama in the intererests of the Pacific Commercial Company. Messrs. Norris and Squier, the silk dealers are also passengers on the Victoria. Other cabin passengers are: Miss Agnes Gibson and Miss Ada E. Cully, of Buffalo, N.Y.; Miss Mary E. Huston, Miss Alice L. Frazer and Para Lefingwell, and Rev. Zook and wife, all of Chicago, missionaries bound for Shanghai, China, and Rev. Lambuth, also a missionary. Mrs. Arthur, wife of the former captain of the Canadian-Australian steamer Warrimoo, embarked; she, with her three children, is going to Shanghai, it is understood, their future residence.

PROPOSED WIRE CONNECTIONS.

A San Francisco press dispatch says the federal government is to be asked by petition to construch a telegraph line from Tatoosh island south to Gray's Harbor, on the Washington coast. The request is one which shipping men all over the Coast will warmly unite on, and the one now being circulated on the exchange is being numerously signed. The petition sets out that the coast is a dangerous one; that stranded or disabled vessels have no means of sending for relief, and that the small cost of running the present line from Tatoosh, which is connected with Port Angeles and Port Townsend, to Hoquiam or Aberdeen or Gray's Harbor would be slight. The celebrated Destruction island, midway, could be made a line station, and reports from there would be valuable, it being the only stretch of coast not covered by wires, and near the storm center.

THE METROPOLITAN CHURCH.

There was a large congregation at the Metropolitan Methodist church last evening, showing that the interest taken in the series of sermons being given by the Rev. Solomon Cleaver, M.A., is as great as ever. The preacher took his text for the third sermon of the series from I Kings, chap. xviii, v. 21. "How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." The preacher showed how Israel had been halting for eight years between God and Baal, and that God had given them three and a half years of want and famine to bring them to a decision, and yet they were undecided. How many of his congregation had been halting ten, twenty, or even forty years between Baal (sin) and God! Ahab, the king, had for three years been trying to find Elijah by sending his men over the whole country but without success. Now, the much hated prophet, he who had caused all this trouble sent for Ahab and demanded an audience. The news that Elijah had come back spread like lightning throughout the country for much was expected of him, he at whose words the heavens were closed, could he not remedy the terrible devastations of famine? Elijah's interview with Ahab resulted in an order for all to meet at Mount Carmel, and all Israel and the 851 priests and prophets assembled there during the night. Then two altars were erected, one for Baal and the other for the Lord. The preacher then graphically described the vain attempts of the prophets of Baal to bring fire to eat up the sacrifice of the bullock; how they labored on until 3 o'clock that afternoon and, after cutting themselves with knives and blood flowed freely over the sacrifice, the prophets of Baal sank fainting beside the alter. Then followed the prayer of Elijah to the Lord, as given in the 36th verse of the chapter under consideration and how the prayer was scarce finished when fire came down from Heaven and licked up the sacrifice, the stones and the water, and then the slaying of the false prophets. The preacher dwelt on the necessity of fire in the Christian life. Fire throughout history had been symbolical of God's presence, as at Mount Sinai. God does not want a sleepy religion; where there is no fire there is no religion.

Then followed the rain, which came in mercy over the thirsty land, though not before Elijah had learned a lesson of patience, for his servant had to go out and look at the heavens seven times before he saw a cloud rising. Then Elijah ran before the chariot of Ahab to Jezreel, and when the news was brought to Elijah that Jezebel had cursed him when she heard of the miracle of Mount Carmel, he—enfeebled with his long physical exertions—showed the only sign of weakness in his history and fled to the desert toward Mount Horen, where he sank exhausted and disheartened under a juniper bush. The fourth sermon of the series, "Elijah, the Prophet of Fire," will be preached next Sunday evening.

THE departure of the sailors and sealers for the Japanese Coast hunting was marked by special and appropriate services in the First Presbyterian church last evening, Rev. Dr. Campbell preaching a most impressive and eloquent sermon, commending to the care of the Lord, whose hand is on the waters, all those who are now going down to the sea in ships. The music of the evening, under the direction of Mr. J. G. Brown, was also notably enjoyable.

IN THE KASLO-SLOCAN.

Improvements Which Have Been Carried on During the Year Just Closed.

Advance of Nelson and Kaslo—Real and Substantial Progress Has Attended Them.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

As soon as last winter gave way to spring a general feeling began to make itself felt that the hard times were over. The aspect and condition of Nelson and Kaslo even at the end of the year fully justify that assumption. If it was possible to peep into the great ledgers lying on the bank desks, further confirmation would be found. To take

NELSON FIRST,

the building of the Hall Mines smelter, with its accompanying tramway and railway and its enormous ore bins, would alone form an item worth chronicling. With the exception of certain pipes delayed in transmission from the foundry the smelter was complete and might have been blown in on the first of January. The various buildings are substantially constructed on a bluff standing some 100 feet above the C. P. R. depot, and form a conspicuous object to travellers arriving by either lines of rail or by river steamers. The tramway which connects the smelter with the Silver King mine, 5,000 feet above it passes up over mountain and canyon along a broad straight swath until it disappears over the skyline. The mine is about a mile and a half further in and this tramway is the largest of its kind in the world. Its length is four and a half miles.

The Nelson & Fort Sheppard Railway which used to deposit its passengers on the hill side 600 feet above Nelson and then run on to meet the steamers at Five Mile Point, now has constructed a branch from the latter place right up to the town and has its depot constructed on that addition known as Bogus Town, many lots in which under the title of the City of Nelson were bought some time ago under the impression that they were buying lots in Nelson itself.

In the town proper several new stores have been erected, notably a large block on Baker street, occupied by the Nelson drug company and W. H. Graham's boot store. Messrs. Travis & Farley have built a new butcher shop next to the post office, and the Bimetallic restaurant has been built next to them again. Further down Baker street near the C. & K. land office the Home restaurant and boarding house has been put up and is liberally patronized by men working on the smelter. Every empty store in town has been taken until at present a new comer has to build.

Messrs. Turner Beeton & Co., of Victoria, A. Macdonald & Co., of Winnipeg, and Herrin & Co., of Spokane, have all taken large premises and opened up branches of their wholesale business. But it is in private residences that Nelson has grown most. All up Stanley street they are built as far as Observatory street, where Mr. H. E. Croasdaile has erected a handsome residence.

Good wooden sidewalks have been laid down in every direction, and the posts and wires for the electric light are on every street.

The members of the Methodist congregation have built themselves a very pretty little church on Silica street.

KASLO CITY.

The completion of the railway to Sandon, 27 miles, and to Cody, two miles further on, has converted Kaslo Bay into a busy port. The depot is on the side nearest the town and is fronted by extensive wharves. The line encircles the bay in order to gain sufficient elevation to climb the bluff leading up the main valley. Just behind Buchanan's mill is the round house and other buildings belonging to the railway.

It will be remembered that half Kaslo was burnt in February, 1894, and a very large part of what was left was swept out or demolished by the great storm in June of the same year. It is therefore very greatly to the credit of the town that it exists at all. But its inhabitants are not the kind of people to put up with mere existence. They have rebuilt their town; several new stores, notably those of the Fyers Hardware Co. and A. T. Garland's clothing establishment, have risen from the ashes. Kaslo is a city, and as such has built itself suitable offices, while the city fathers, mindful of their charge, have carried out such works along the river bank as will probably prevent any chance of a repetition of last year's misfortune.

Two new churches have been built and several new residences and cottages. Like Nelson, the better times are felt and shown in the absence of empty houses and in the increased trade of them all.

MORE MASSACRES.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—A dispatch from Constantinople states that word has been received of a terrible massacre taken place at Bindjik, in Asia Minor. The official report of the circumstance states that 900 were killed.

The recent massacre at Orfah is stated to have been a terrible affair. The official dispatches admit that 900 Christians were killed. No further details of the massacre, however, have been received. The massacre occurred at Biredjik, an important town on the Euphrates. The outrage is believed to have been committed by Kurds and Hamidieh cavalry. The foreign embassies have received information to the effect that the bloodshed was exceptionally serious.

The U. S. Gov't Reports show Royal Baking Powder superior to all others.