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Editorial Notes.

With this issue the British Columbia MINING RECORD commences a new volume, and, at the same time, the subscription price is reduced from Two Dollars to One Dollar per annum.

Those subscribers who have paid Two Dollars will have their terms of subscription extended to cover the amount.

The Publishers, after careful consideration, resolved upon taking this step in order to extend the circulation of the RECORD outside, as well as inside, the Province. It is their aim to make it the best medium published for the purpose of making known the mining resources of British Columbia. It will not only continue to be illustrated with mining scenes, but articles from the best writers in the Province are being constantly secured and will appear from time to time.

We are glad to note that the Christmas number of the RECORD was everywhere received with favor. A very

large number went to Great Britain, Europe, and the United States, where they cannot fail to attract attention to our mining industries, and the wealth of resources possessed by this Province, only awaiting capital to develop them into rich mining properties.

In some of the mining districts the winter season brings active operations to a stand still, but in others the snow is an advantage as it makes the hauling of the ores from the mines much easier, but the general opinion among men who have given the matter consideration is that with the coming of spring the season of 1896 will be a wonderfully active one in mining affairs.

It behooves us, then, to see that nothing is allowed to take place in connection with our mining affairs to give the Province a bad name with investors. We want capital to develop our mines, but let there be only a few instances of crookedness on the part of mining men and company promoters, and the whole mining industry of British Columbia will suffer. Above all, let purely speculative ventures be avoided, so far as asking the general public to join in them.

On another page will be found a long list of companies incorporated under the "Companies Act." Some of these may be classed as "unknown quantities," others are purely speculative, while a certain number are "bona fide" in every respect.

It is difficult for the ordinary investor to judge the good from the bad unless he has the time and chooses to make the most searching enquiries. Prospectuses, it is well known, are not always to be believed, nor are the names attached to them to be always relied upon as a guarantee that the statements made are true. The very best of men may be induced sometimes to place their names to a document through misrepresentation of wily promoters.

We regret to say that prospectuses of mining companies in this Province have been issued lately which should never have been allowed to see daylight. They contained propositions to which the public should not have been asked to subscribe, and were merely speculative ventures on the part of the promoters. The public, in fact, were asked to risk all the money involved, and, as a matter of course, in case of loss, to bear the whole brunt of it.