

interests of the west, through which the mountain states have suffered irreparable loss.

Now, that a tendency to take hold of undeveloped properties is manifested again let the rights of the investor be scrupulously protected. A mining country is not developed by one producing mine, however magnificent its yield, but by transforming prospects into mines. It is infinitely better for the state for investors to liberally share the ups and downs of embryonic mines, and uncover the hidden wealth of our great mineral fields, rather than limit the expenditure of capital to the production of wealth already in sight. But capital is entitled to honest treatment and the man who seeks to inveigle it into wild-cat propositions is an enemy to the commonwealth—a traitor to the interests of his state."

Concerning the International Mining Congress, shortly to meet at Salt Lake City the Toronto Globe has the following :

"A deputation of gentlemen interested in the International Mining Congress, which met this year at Salt Lake City, Utah, were introduced about the Parliament Buildings by Mr. E. E. Sheppard. They were Messrs. Irwin Mahon, Secretary of the congress, J. T. Conforth and Joseph Ruse, Canadian Assistant Secretary, and their object in Toronto is to secure representation from Canada at the next annual meeting which is set for July 6, 7, 8 and 9. At the last congress, which was also the first, one thousand delegates attended, every State in the Union besides seven other countries, including South Africa, being represented. During the convention about 8,000 people visited Denver. The objects of the congress are to establish mining as a more legitimate business and to develop the industry. It is said that if Canada will send delegates to the Salt Lake City congress, the meeting of 1899 will be secured for Toronto."

This gives fresh emphasis to the point which the CRITIC has been trying to make for some time past. British Columbia is the place where the next congress should be held. The place by right of the vastness of her mineral resources, the progress of development, the need of making more clearly

known to the world the multitude of chances that await on every hand for the fortunate investor. That such an opportunity is being allowed to pass without a single effort to secure what might have been so readily had for the asking; speaks volumes against those who are supposed to have our mineral industry under their fostering care, but who find in tinpot politics a more fascinating pursuit. It was the "chance of a lifetime" and not an effort has been made to secure it.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mine owners and mining men generally will watch with the greatest interest the operation of the new Morison stamp mill now being erected on the Dorothy Morton claim on Philipp's Arm. It will be the first working mill of this pattern to be erected and its success in added tonnage means the bringing into the market of many claims that at present show no working margin of profit with any of the old mills.

The rate payers of Vancouver have voted down the smelter bonus by-law. This was in all probability largely owing to a series of rather vague promises set afloat at the last moment by a representative of a rival firm who promised many rosy things if the by-law was defeated. It now remains to see how nearly these promises will be adhered to.

In any event Vancouver needs a smelter and needs it badly. It would be difficult to name any other way in which the mineral industry on the coast could be better stimulated, and at the same time the business belonging to it centralized, than by the location of one or more good smelters here.

NEWS NUGGETS.

Notices were posted at the pit-heads of the several Wellington Collieries of F. Dunsmuir & Sons, last week that the return of the 10 per cent. in the wages of the employees, was acceded to, the increase to date from the first of June instant. Work was resumed in all the Wellington pits. This ends what at one time bid fair to spread to a general strike.

The Directors of the Bald Mountain intend to prosecute further development work on their properties near Donald as soon as the snow disappears. More tunnelling will be done.