

The Mining Record

VOL. XI.

JUNE, 1904.

No. 6

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING RECORD

Devoted to the Mining Interests of the Pacific Northwest.

PUBLISHED BY

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA RECORD, LIMITED

H. MORTIMER LAMB, Managing Editor.

Victoria, B. C., Office, Province Building.
Vancouver, P. W. Charleson, Hastings St.
London Office: 24 Coleman Street, E. C.
Denver, Col.: National Advertising Co.
San Francisco: Duke's Agency.

SUBSCRIPTION TERMS:

Canada and the United States, one year - - \$2.00
Great Britain and Foreign, one year - - - \$2.50

Advertising Rates on Application.

Address all communications to

THE MANAGING EDITOR, B. C. RECORD, LTD.,
P. O. Drawer 645, Victoria, B. C.

THE MONTH.

In the course of its comments upon the unpleasant surprise that has been sprung upon the shareholders of the Le Roi Mining Company by recent disclosures relative to stated faulty sampling and assaying, the *Critic* (London) remarks: "The optimistic statements at the last meeting and the recent efforts to create an interest in the shares by pushing them up require some explaining. Probably an investigation of the register and the recent share transfers would throw some light on the people who have benefited by what appears to be another instance of manipulation of the reports from the mine in the interests of market mongering." Whilst we are not sufficiently acquainted with the other members of the directorate to warrant us in expressing a competent opinion as regards the probability or improbability of there being justification for this suggestion so far as they are concerned, we have no hesitation, from our personal knowledge of Mr. A. J. McMillan, managing director; Mr. Geo. S. Waterlow, another director, and Mr. S. F. Parrish, late general manager, in asserting very positively that we do not believe that either individually or collectively they would knowingly sanction or assist in any irregularity that would improperly benefit themselves at the expense of others. Mistakes may have been made, but deliberate and intentional collusion for the purpose of personal

gain is one of the last things we would conceive these gentlemen to be guilty of, and it is but doing them the barest justice at this juncture to frankly state so.

There seems now to be a reasonably good chance that gold dredging on the Fraser will develop into an important and profitable industry. At any rate the success that has attended the preliminary operations of the new dredge—built, by the way, largely after the New Zealand pattern—recently launched at Lillooet, is distinctly encouraging, and has resulted not only in the staking of the river as dredging leases for many miles but, according to report, a determination on the part of this and other dredging companies to immediately place other large dredges of the same type on the river between Lillooet and Lytton.

The reproductions of photographs appearing in the Minister of Mines Report merit notice. Most of them are of photographs taken by the Provincial Mineralogist, and when it is pointed out that of these the larger ones are from four to seven separate photographs joined together, the care taken in preparing them for the engraver will be evident. The excellent work of Mr. Robert H. Clarke, pressman in the Government Printing Office, in printing the illustrations is apparent to all who examine them. A number were printed in black with a sepia tint, the work being done at one printing. This was an experiment at first, but it gave such good results that it was continued until the limited supply of ink on hand was exhausted, and black ink only was used for the remainder of the illustrations. The reproduction, from the Report of the Minister of Mines for New Zealand, of plan, elevation, etc., showing appliances for saving fine gold from dredging, is also good, while the reduction, by the B. C. Photo-Engraving Co., of a large sketch map of a portion of South-East Kootenay deserves mention as well. It is with pleasure we take advantage of this opportunity to acknowledge the excellence of the work done at home.

The summary of work done in the Government Assay Office, as reported by the Provincial Assayer, exhibits the usefulness of that section of the Bureau of Mines of British Columbia. From the report it is gathered that the work included the making of 720 assays or quantitative determinations, of numerous qualitative determinations of minerals and rocks for identification and classification, the melting and assaying of 164 lots of gold, analysing of a number of samples of water and of oil, and, in connection with the platinum group of metals, the conducting of a series of experiments in separating gold, silver, platinum and osmiridium, results of which experi-