

Notes and Comments.

This is what the Colonist has to say, editorially, speaking of trusts: "We repeat what we have already said that the object of this movement is not to oppress the public. The intention is to render business conditions secure, by making the mass of combined wealth so enormous that it will be free from the fluctuations which influence smaller interests. To employ a simile, the promoters of these great combinations hope that, as a large steamer will pass unaffected through a sea that would rock a small one, so they will not be affected materially by the fluctuations, which have from time to time in the past, with almost mechanical regularity, produced periods of depression. The individuals concerned are not seeking to enlarge their own incomes for personal gratification, for they have already far more than they can use in that way."

It is both comforting and re-assuring to learn that: "The individuals concerned are not seeking to enlarge their own incomes for personal gratification," and the following telegram is robbed of its terrors: "The Journal of Commerce announces that the American Can Company, otherwise known as the Tin Can Combine, has advanced the prices of cans about 25 per cent. It is said that old prices were relatively too low as compared with the price of tin plate, but the present advance is regarded as a liberal one."

So long as the Tin Can Company is not "enlarging its income for personal gratification" what mattereth it if a still more "liberal" advance be made in the price of cans.

"In our opinion the district has suffered more from the incapacity of the men who have been charged with the expenditure of the investors' money, than from any of the causes most times named. Nothing injures the reputation of a district more than failures, and mining freaks have charged more failures up against West Kootenay than there was justification for. There have been too many schemes in which the mining was all done in London, in which illegitimate profits were earned there, and resultant failure charged against mineral prospects in Kootenay."—Nelson Tribune.

It is known to everybody but the evergreen London investor that the methods employed by some English mining companies would be ruinous in any

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mining region—no matter how rich. Here is a paragraph from the New Zealand Mines Record which shows that British Columbia is not the only field being injured by foolish or dishonest management.

"That an immense amount of capital has been expended will readily be acknowledged, but that it has been expended in the best interests of the shareholders, and in the real development of the industry, is open to doubt. It is much to be regretted that the English capital invested in the Wakatipu has not been productive of better results; but until English syndicates can adapt themselves to the circumstances of the localities in which they invest capital, little hope may be entertained of successful issues.

"We have had mines here in Wakatipu that gave excellent returns, owned and managed locally, which would, under English ownership, have absorbed, for supervision alone, the entire yields. We may have, but we have not yet found, lodes that will bear the strain of the extravagant ideas entertained by English organizations."

Apud of the above, we quote the following from the Lardeau Eagle:

"What good will a British Columbia office in London do us? Until the easy guys in England get next to themselves and learn to invest their money in legitimate schemes they will only continue to be bitten, thus acting as a boomerang in the long run. Let there be laws made at home which will encourage development of our natural resources. The rest will follow."

"With New Zealand's laws and British Columbia's resources this would be the best and richest country on God's green earth. Some progress has been made, it is true, but we have a long way to advance still. The labor unions in New Zealand went into politics, with the result spoken of above. And the sooner the labor unions of British Columbia form a provincial organization, raise funds, pick out their men, and elect them, the better for all the people. Laws which benefit all the people cannot be termed class legislation, since each and everyone is given a chance to earn a decent living and enough left to enjoy life upon."—Lardeau Eagle.

Them's our sentiments.

"Jap miners at the Van Anda mine have proven a failure and they have been replaced by white men. The moral is pointed and valuable."—Slocan Drill.