

British Columbia Mining Critic.

"I Am Nothing, if Not Critical."—Shakespeare.

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PROVINCIAL NOTES.

In a recent issue of the Province, in commenting upon the population of British Columbia, it is incidentally remarked that "In the Nanaimo coal district there are between 2000 and 3000 white miners forced to live like Chinamen." This is an extreme statement and evidently lacking the elements of truth. If the miners do only work half-time during the month, there is no reason why they should exist mainly upon rice as an article of diet, which is the natural inference of the Province implication. That paper suffers badly from anti-Mongol rinderpest. Some local Koch should arise and find out an anti-bacteria.

Within the last twenty-four hours there has been no new townsite thrown upon the market. Many of them can be thrown as they exist only on paper. As far as the interior of the Province is concerned, there is a general consensus of opinion among those who travel to and fro that there will be no particularly large town or city in any given section, but that small places will exist in the different mining districts. Nelson, the oldest of them all, is still considered one of the best and the most solid.

Does the daily press of British Columbia do what it might and could in giving the mining news of the Province to the outside world, presuming some of it goes to the outside world? There seems to be a decided lack of enterprise in the service. Compare the way in which the Seattle Post-Intelligencer gives the mining news of this Province and that of the local daily press, and one is forced to the conclusion that the utlander is incomparably ahead.

A GREAT RECORD.

The most extravagantly humorous statement possibly ever uttered by the Colonist is the following: "The Colonist has masters, but they comprise the general public, in whose interests it is generally acknowledged this paper has always fought, and with good results." When it is remembered that the Colonist has been the champion of every monopolist in British Columbia, the defender of every land-grabber and the advocate of every ring of speculators that ever asked for a franchise of any kind during the last dozen years, the deep, hidden humor of the

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