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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Once again the MINING RECORD takes pleasure in wishing its numerous readers A HAPPY NEW YEAR. This is the eleventh time, since the establishment of this journal, that it has had a similar opportunity to show sentiments of goodwill towards those whose interests it persistently endeavours to advance. That such sentiments are cordially reciprocated by many good friends and well-wishers, is well-known to the writer, who has also to express his sincere appreciation of the many kind words of commendation and approval of his work, spoken from time to time by one and another of those with whom he comes in contact. May the year 1906 be a prosperous one. As its immediate predecessor closes the outlook for the new year appears big with promise so far as the mining industry is concerned. That this promise shall be abundantly realised is, perhaps, the best wish a mining journal can give expression to. May present expectations be amply fulfilled and the mining industry experience in 1906 an expansion even greater than that it is our happy privilege to be able to chronicle in pages that follow.

The publication of this issue of the MINING RECORD has been delayed longer than was intended when it was decided to make it the Annual Review number. Heretofore the general review of the progress of the mining industry of the province for the year just closed has appeared in January. With a desire to place before readers of this journal as early as practicable a fairly full summary of the year's developments and the general results achieved in connection with the utilisation of the mineral resources of British Columbia, efforts have been made to have these completed and published immediately after the close of the year, but unexpected difficulties have arisen and prevented this good intention from being carried out. We regret this exceedingly, but make no excuses; we simply admit that the work involved has proved to be too great to be completed sooner with the limited assistance and resources at our command. After several weeks' correspondence and other preparation for the collection of the data requisite for a comprehensive review of the situation over the wide field the province presents, the editor of the MINING RECORD spent nearly four weeks in the Kootenay and Boundary districts, which are the chief metalliferous min-