

# British Columbia Mining Critic.

*"I am Nothing, if Not Critical."*—Shakespeare.

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## NOTICE.

All communications intended for THE EDITOR should be sent direct to

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*The British Columbia Mining Critic is published weekly in the interest of Mining, Finance and Commerce, and for the protection of investors.*

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## British Columbia Mining Critic

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## EDITORIAL.

The Western Mining World has the following to say regarding the position which the city of Denver holds in the mineral states of the west:

"A careful survey of the mineral empire of the west cannot fail to impress the impartial observer with the fact that Denver is the great center around which mining interests revolve and from which great enterprises emanate. Not only has it become the recognized headquarters for mining deals—a sort of mineral clearing-house—but it has taken front rank as a supply depot for mining machinery, and today is the greatest distributing point in that line in the world. The entire country feels a justifiable pride in Denver—the London of the Great West."

It is only a question of a few years now when every word of the above will apply with equal force to the city of Vancouver as the center of a mineral empire as great or greater than that which supports Denver. Within the past few months every move has tended stronger in this direction. Mining companies whose operations extend from East Kootenay to the Klondike have found it absolutely necessary from a business stand-

point to have a head office located here in Vancouver. Bank after bank is being added to the already large list. Investors from all parts of the world are making their inquiries and doing business largely through Vancouver. On every hand are the evidences that this city is now the recognized center of what bids fair to prove the greatest mining move the world has ever witnessed. The moral is very plain, and alert business men are proving every day that they appreciate the facts outlined.

## THAT ALBERNI PROTEST.

The protest contained in the notice recently issued by the Miners' and Traders' Protective Association of Alberni touches on a matter which is certainly worthy of the most careful attention by those who have it in their power to work a change in the condition of affairs. The practice of tying up large numbers of claims for speculative purposes, with no intention of developing them, is certainly a reprehensible one, and calculated to do much harm in any mining country.

There is one phase of the matter, however, which the Miners' and Traders' Protective Association appears to have overlooked. One which is quite as much to the point and as easy to remedy. In many cases three or four men, with a personal understanding, hold several claims, and by each in turn relocating claims held by the others, the ground is tied up for some years by what is really the joint owners, and not one dollar's worth of assessment work is done on any of the claims. This generally pending the arrival of an investor, who finds to his disgust that the country is