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Editorial Notes.

The present issue contains verbatim reports of the valuable lectures, lately delivered in the coast cities by the Provincial Mineralogist, Mr. W. A. Carlyle. In our March number, we propose to publish lectures on chemistry in its application to mining industry, delivered by Mr. H. Carmichael, public assayer for British Columbia, and addresses given in metallurgy by Mr. W. Pellew Harvey, the well known provincial expert on metallurgy and assaying.

Our object in publishing these lectures is to enable readers who were unable to be present at their delivery to derive the full benefit of the valuable information they contain, and for this purpose we have had a number of the charts used reproduced and published in our re-

ports. We trust that this effort on the part of the British Columbia MINING RECORD will be appreciated by our many readers in the mining districts, and that the lectures will prove to be of substantial service to them.

Mr. Carlyle is evidently a man of much force of character and practical ability, whence it may be assumed that the giving of lectures—instructive as these are—will be but a minor duty of his office. He will doubtless, be able to diffuse widely and advantageously, much valuable information as to the extent and availability of the vast mineral wealth of our Province of which the world in general, and British investors in particular, are still ignorant. British Columbia greatly needs accurate and authoritative advertisement of its abundant mining opportunities, and in giving this advertisement Mr. Carlyle will render important service to the Province.

A great need of the metal mining industry of this Province is a public laboratory wherein a good milling test or accurate sampling may be obtained of a representative quantity of ore, say an average amount of one ton or thereabouts. Only by making such a fairly large, and therefore representative test, can the true worth of the ore in a ledge be approximately ascertained. At present no such establishment is to be found within the Province, the only test of ore value now usually made being that given by some assayer of small specimens, too often selected as especially rich in appearance. The fuller test which, we suggest, would furthermore aid in the selection of a proper process of after treatment of the ore in bulk, which is by no means always a simple matter. The same test would also indicate whether the ore sampled would or would not prove unduly and profitlessly expensive to treat, a contingency which now happens very disappointingly, after considerable cost has been fruitlessly incurred in the case of ores, which, when assayed in very small quantities seem rich enough. To such mistakes are due many of the wrecked and idle mills, which are so often found in Western American mine regions. A properly worked laboratory of the capacity which we have broadly indicated would, we repeat, save, as a result of cheap and decisive first tests, much loss of time and money to mining investors in this Province.

Such a laboratory might perhaps be set up to advantage in connection with the proposed Provincial school of mines, provided only that the latter be itself conveniently located. Mine owners could thus be informed of