

British Columbia Mining Critic.

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

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EDITORIAL.

JUST A LITTLE TOO "STRONG."

Mr. C. H. Mackintosh, the Canadian managing director of the British America Corporation, Limited, has made such a seemingly successful beginning of work for his company that it is somewhat excusable for him to allow momentary elation to outweigh sound judgment, when striving to compress within the limits of a short message by cable a "perfect psalm of praise," for first production at the statutory meeting of the stockholders of the corporation. Mr. Mackintosh then said (and his words were doubtless cheered to the echo by the rejoicing stockholders): "The British America Corporation has secured and holds the key to the majority of the golden treasure houses of British Columbia. We will practically control the mineral resources of the Province."

We would, however, respectfully remind Mr. Mackintosh and his confreres that good as the Trail Creek district undoubtedly is, it is by no means the location of a majority of the "golden treasure houses" of British Columbia, nor can a company even with £1,500,000 of capital behind it hope to do more than control a modest percentage of the vast mineral resources of our Province. We don't doubt that the British America Corporation has bought valuable and productive mining and other properties in and about Rossland, and we quite ex-

pect the Corporation will, if well managed, secure substantial dividends for its stockholders. But we cannot but suggest to Mr. Mackintosh that, whilst Rossland has at present one mine—the Le Roi—that pays goodly dividends, there are at least five and twenty substantial dividend payers in the Slocan country, and should be at least five and twenty others in British Columbia generally within two years at most. And more than one of the Slocan mines—the Payne being a case in point—yields larger dividends on its invested capital than even the Le Roi. No doubt, within a twelve month or so, there will be some half dozen paying gold-copper mines in and about Rossland, several of which the Corporation will own, but by then there will be at least five times as many like dividend earners in the Slocan alone, with quite a few others elsewhere in British Columbia. Trail Creek, good as it is, does not contain a tithe, or even a twentieth—thank Heaven—of the "golden treasure houses" of the Province. This Mr. Mackintosh will learn soon enough. Indeed, he probably knows it already, and even now feels that he crowed more than a little too loudly when he sent along, striking the wires, a message, the style of which must surely have been suggested by recent utterances of the Deutschland Kaiser, Wilhelm the voluble.

CONCERNING SOME YUKON OUTFITS.

An intelligent visiting Manitoban of long Northwestern experience, informs the MINING CRITIC, as a result of a visit of careful investigation lately made to Seattle, that the outfitters of that city are, on exorbitant terms, supplying a host of unfortunate Klondike goldseekers with dangerously inadequate winter clothing, usually made of loose and pervious woollens, instead of in the main of furs or other very close textured materials, backed by impervious linings. In Vancouver, on the other hand, the Hudson Bay Company and other leading outfitters, as a rule, are stated by our informant to supply far more suitable clothing. The Seattle outfitters' usual line of conduct is morally criminal, as being certain to involve loss of health and even life in many cases, for as men of Manitoban winter experience aver, the wind will, when the thermometer