

THE B. C. MINING EXCHANGE AND INVESTOR'S GUIDE

And Mining Tit-Bits.

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REVIEW OF 1899.

During the year a new impetus has been given to several branches of mining, more particularly in Copper mining. In 1898 copper rose considerably in value, owing to the immense increase in demand for electrical purposes. Early in this year the great mines of America amalgamated, with, as a consequence, an immense rise in prices; Lake coppers going up to 19 cents per

some demand for properties in B. C., but as there has been no market heretofore the prospector has passed it by as useless. The same applies to antimony, which is very largely used in the manufacture of type, and as a means of hardening other metals. Some excellent properties have been located lately in the Yale district, containing extensive veins averaging over 40 per cent. of this mineral. Japan has hitherto been meeting



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found, and throughout the year the demand has been considerably in excess of the output. Owing to the working of the combine there was a decrease in October to $17\frac{1}{2}$ cents and from then till now has fluctuated between that figure and 18.50 cents. The natural result of this immense demand and rise in value has been the opening up of whole new districts, more specially in British Columbia: in the Smilkameen, East Kootenay, Boundary Camp, Rossland and Revelstoke Division and Lardeau, and as far as indications go, and from what can be ascertained from work done, the supply is almost inexhaustible.

Molybdenum has come largely into use and is increasing in value, as the mineral is rarely encountered in any considerable bodies. There has been

the demand in this line. There is only one company handling the reductions of the ore; this is operating at San Francisco and New York.

Within the year, ores, containing what has hitherto been a deleterious quality of zinc, are being bought up for treatment at Manchester, England, by a company that has brought out a process by which the zinc is saved. As the demand is at present, and likely to be, far above the supply, mining for zinc itself is likely soon to become extensive in the Province, and as there are few of our ores which do not contain it in considerable quantities, it may be expected that reduction plants will be erected in the Province.

Discoveries of other minerals, of more or less value, have been reported: as instanced in the Soda Lakes,