

The British Columbia Mining Critic.

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

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ISSUED WEEKLY.

Devoted to the Interests of Mining and the Protection of Investors.

THURSDAY,.....JUNE 10, 1897.

Letters from practical men on topics connected with mining, mining machinery, mining laws, and matters relating to the mineralogical development of Canada, are always welcome.

Manufacturers and Dealers in appliances used in and about mines are invited to send illustrations and descriptions of new articles.

Views and descriptions of mines and mining locations solicited.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The present and prospective output of our mines justifies the cry: "A Canadian mint to coin Canadian money for Canadian use."

It would be well for some directors of development companies to bear in mind that when they show sufficient confidence in their claims to invest some of their own funds, others will be more easily induced to do likewise.

Every dollar dug out of the rocks is a new dollar. It is a contribution to the wealth of the world. Every ton of ore uncovered and transported makes our province and country richer. Every new mine opened up another valuable addition to the list of assets and mining, which has been begun in British Columbia so auspiciously, will be chief among our resources.

British Columbia will soon become recognized as one of the most cosmopolitan sections on the coast, judging from the accounts received from many places in the Province, giving the nationality of miners and investors. It behooves the heads of our educational institutions, therefore, to see to it, that the rising generation becomes proficient in other languages than our own.

The Slokan City News in its last issue comments editorially upon our esteemed citizen, Mr. F. Innes, and his association with the Two Friends mine. As we go to press at a late hour we have not the opportunity of giving the article the attention it really deserves. We do not impute to the writer any ulterior motives, but we wish to direct attention to a misstatement:

We watch with a great degree of patient attention the opening up of certain claims and the development of the mines. Every act possesses some interest to us, even if it be the unfulfilled promise or a bit of roquery. We desire to encourage and promote the mining industry by all legitimate methods and foster our mineral resources. But it is not necessary for a mine owner, director or superintendent to every other day, for instance, announce, "We can build a trail," "We have the trail in view," "The trail has been commenced," and so on ad nauseam. Add again, we do not exact from the superintendent the, to him edifying intelligence, that that bolt has been riveted in the boiler.

What we do want is good, substantial news of consequence and bearing upon possible dividends. The publication of all the little details which some prominent mine owners are now doing, will simply make us ridiculous in the eyes of the rest of the mining world, of which British Columbia is but a very small part, and will earn for us the unenviable title of "Kindergarten miners," an understood appellation. Besides, to those at home it does seem as if these detail managers seek cheap notoriety and free newspaper advertising. A good mine, properly handled, energetically worked, need not, figuratively, say, "look at me: see what I am doing," for its output, followed by reasonable (not necessarily enormous) returns will itself invite attention and the significant fact be heralded all over the land by its fortunate investors.

More work, directors and Superintendents, and less talk. Give us elbow grease, not chin-chin.

TEXADA ISLAND.

In this issue we publish a few particulars on some of the leading mines on the Island, all of which are even now shipping propositions. We might within reason add considerably to the list, but await the further development of other properties, as yet in their infancy, although assessment work has disclosed exceptional rich prospects.

With a certainty of success the above Island is bidding for the Premier position as a mining centre of the Coast. Pluck, energy and perseverance, combined with tact, has brought the Island into the prominence it deserves, and no longer does doubt exist as to its great mineral wealth. The properties now working demonstrate the fact that as depth is attained, the high quality of the ore bodies are assured. Every foot of sinking proves that value increases in the ore. Free gold is being discovered from end to end of the Island and the specimens are such as to compare with anything in the Cayoosh or other districts. A Townsite has been laid off at Sturt Bay, and a substantial hotel is being built for the accommodation of travellers. Several locations are being acquired by business people, and the future success of the townsite is most promising. Steamers will call daily up and down, and as the shipment of ore will be of no mean impor-