

As we have pointed out on a number of occasions, the introduction of capital is what is needed, and nothing should be done in any way to deter capitalists from investing.

But there is something required on the part of capitalists themselves, especially those hailing from the old country. English capital in the Northwest has not in every instance turned out well for the investors, because of mismanagement on the part of those employed in looking after it. The country was not to blame for this and it may be the same in British Columbia unless care is taken. The first thing the capitalist has to do is to make sure of the man or men he employs to report upon the mines. The next is to engage only thoroughly practical men to look after its development.

The Americans do this, and as a result their investments in the Kootenay have turned out to be profitable. Before they put their money into a venture they know pretty well what they are putting it into, and when they have invested they make sure by employing only practical experienced men that their properties will be worked to the best advantage.

We make these remarks because we know there are men here who pose as experts,—who profess to know more than they really do and who are simply looking out for chances to make a haul out of the first moneyed man who turns up.

There should be an association composed of thorough and practical men and membership should only be granted to those who can give undoubted evidence of their ability and honesty in dealing with mining matters. How many so-called experts are there here who have no real claim to be considered anything of the sort? Let these men get hold of a capitalist and advise him to his loss and the harm they will do to the whole community is incalculable. There are too many in British Columbia looking after "soft snaps" and we warn capitalists against such individuals. A little careful enquiry on their part is all that is necessary. But an association such as we have suggested would be an extra safeguard which we, having the interests of the mining industry at heart, would like to see established. There is nothing of the sort, as we would like to see it, at present in existence.

The people of Rossland have resolved to postpone incorporation, or rather there was so little interest shown in the matter by the property owners of the town, that it was resolved to drop it for the present. This, it appears to us, is a mistake. Incorporation cannot now take place until January, 1898, and long before then the people will probably regret that they did not go in for self-government.

The various departments which we organized in connection with the RECORD are keeping us busy, but we do not grudge the trouble and expense, as our efforts are only aiding in the development of mining in this Province and will ultimately be of benefit to ourselves.

The "enquiry department" brings us letters from all quarters asking for information, and in the "purchasing department," by supplying parties in the mining districts with the catalogues of the best makers on both sides of the line, we consider we are placing most valuable information in the hands of our mine owners. No one need hesitate to write to us, as we will be only too glad to afford any information or assistance in our power to mining men, free of cost.

In this way we make the MINING RECORD helpful.

First Lecture on Metals and Metallurgy.

BY W. PELLEW-HARVEY, F. C. S.

ATOMIC WEIGHTS.

SYMBOL.	NAME.	AT. WEIGHT.	SPEC. GRAV.	FUSING POINT. DEG. F.
Au.	Gold.....	196.7	19.2	2,000
Ag.	Silver.....	107.9	10.5	1,832
Fe.	Iron.....	56.0	7.8	40
Hg.	Mercury.....	200.0	13.6	1,990
Cu.	Copper.....	63.5	8.9	634
Pb.	Lead.....	206.9	11.4	455
Sn.	Tin.....	118.0	7.3	758
Zn.	Zinc.....	65.0	6.9	235
S.	Sulphur.....	32.0	2.0	1,150
Sb.	Antimony.....	122.0	6.7	2,910
Ni.	Nickel.....	58.5	8.9	507
Bi.	Bismuth.....	208.0	9.8	
Cl.	Chlorine.....	35.5		
H.	Hydrogen.....	1.0		
O.	Oxygen.....	16.0		
C.	Carbon.....	12.0		

I am pleased to see so many here to-night. At Westminster last night there was a fair attendance and at Victoria throughout the series there has been a good attendance. The Minister of Mines, I may say, is well pleased with the success of these lectures. I believe it is the intention of the Provincial Government, in recognition of the interest that has been taken, to organize next season a series of classes. It has not yet been made known where these classes will be held, the intention being to take up the subject in such a way as will enable the prospector and mining man to follow out the work that has been outlined in these lectures.

The subject which I have to treat upon is rather an enlargement of that which has been so ably handled by Mr. Carlyle. In introducing myself I would give you to understand that I am unaccustomed to lecturing, and should I make any of the little mistakes expected from a new hand, I hope you bear with me. With this understanding I will try to make the subject as interesting and profitable as is in my power. We know that your object in coming here is to gather information, so I wish to-night to give what information I can in a manner that all may understand it. If there should be anyone here more advanced than his neighbor, he might kindly let his notes pass and assist the other to pick up anything I may have to say. It is no doubt a great secret to