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WITH this issue the MINING RECORD enters its sixth year of publication—a fact which, if it does not excuse, at least extenuates at the present time an indulgence herein that (to other people) intolerable practice known technically as “blowing one’s own trumpet.” Our readers, however, will, we think, concede, that this is a vulgarity to which the MINING RECORD is not commonly addicted. With this preface then, we may turn with some degree of pardonable pride to a steady growth of circulation and a rapidly increasing advertising patronage, sufficient indeed to justify the addition this month, and to be continued in future issues, of eight pages to our space. With these greater facilities at our command, we hope to introduce into our periodical some new and, we trust, interesting features, beginning this month by publishing for the first time a summary of recent legal decisions as affecting the mining industry of British Columbia. We shall continue in the future, as in the past, to use every endeavour to fearlessly expose in these columns schemes of a doubtful or “wild-cat” character; and that already our efforts in this regard have been well appreciated by the best class of mining men in this Province, is, to a gratifying degree, attested by the numerous commendatory letters we have of late received from the most prominent and the most respected mining engineers and mining operators of Western Canada. Of these letters there are none we value more highly than

the following from Mr. J. D. Kendall, until recently the resident partner in Vancouver, of the well-known engineering firm of Bewick, Moreing & Co. :

H. Mortimer Lamb, Esq., The B. C. Mining Record, Victoria, B.C.

DEAR SIR:—Before leaving for England I would like to express to you my appreciation of the manner in which you have endeavoured to conduct the MINING RECORD.

I know how almost impossible it is to prevent inaccuracies sometimes creeping into a paper of this kind, but so far as I have been able to judge you have succeeded in producing by far the most reliable mining paper in the Province. The stand you have taken against wildcatting and booming must be of great value to the mining industry of the Province, although your efforts will certainly not have the appreciation of those who profit by these reprehensible practices. As I have said elsewhere, the mines of British Columbia do not need booming, they will boom themselves if capably conducted, and after three years’ residence in the Province I am satisfied that the greatest enemies to the complete development of its mineral resources are the wildcatters and boomers.

Yours faithfully,

J. D. KENDALL,

Resident Partner, Bewick, Moreing & Co., Vancouver.
Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 11th, 1899.

A LONDON weekly journal of very considerable standing and influence recently published in its financial columns an article commenting on the very unsatisfactory showing as yet made by the majority of British companies operating mines or mining properties both in the Klondike and in this Province, and arrives at the following conclusion, that: “If British Columbia and the Yukon ever became material contributors to the world’s production of gold it will be only after much patient effort and struggle upon a limited capital, for it is certain that the investing public will not lightly dole out further cash. The goldfields of the region have had their opportunity, and it has been lost. It has taken five years for West Australia to live down the evil reputation won for it by a number of unscrupulous company promoters, and it will take British Columbia and Klondike as many, if not more.” It is now nearly two years since we expressed the fear that the Klondike “boom,” which was then at its height and resulted in the flotation in London of numberless highly speculative or decidedly dubious Yukon company promotions would have a blighting effect on the then promising prospects of the British Columbia market in Great Britain. Events have justified only too truly our predictions of that time, but while the bursting of the Klondike “bubble,” so far as promoting enterprise is concerned, is principally responsible for the disfavour with which British Columbia mines are now regarded by the ordinary British investor, it has only become so by the poor showing made in the meantime by the majority of