



MINING RECORD

ESTABLISHED 1895

VOL. XII.

FEBRUARY, 1905.

No. 2

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING RECORD

Devoted to the Mining Interests of the Pacific Northwest.

PUBLISHED ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH BY

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA RECORD, LIMITED

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VICTORIA, B. C.

Office—Province Building. Telephone 243. P. O. Drawer 645.

BRANCH OFFICES:

London Office: 24 Coleman Street, E. C.
Denver, Col.: National Advertising Co.
San Francisco: Duke's Agency.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN ADVANCE:

Canada and the United States, per year - - \$2.00
Great Britain and Foreign, per year - - - \$2.50

Advertisements should reach Victoria office by 5th of each month
Rates on application.

Correspondence to be addressed to the editor, business communications to the Manager or the Secretary.

SALUTATION.

It falls to the lot of many men to do much useful work conscientiously and well, but to have little reward other than the inward recognition that they have indeed tried to do their duty. It is one thing to do really good work, steadfastly keeping in mind what is believed to be right and acting accordingly; it is another to disregard worthy motives and use ability only with the object of gaining popularity. At no time is the former easy, sometimes it is exceedingly difficult. The latter requires little effort and, for the time generally appears to be, if not the better, the less troublesome course. The former, though approved by many, is seldom commended, neither spoken nor written word attesting appreciation; it often brings abuse or condemnation, occasionally, in the case of a journal like the *MINING RECORD*, it is punished by a withdrawal of advertising business. The latter wins praise and frequently paves the way for indirect reward, if direct be not asked for nor ostensibly permitted. In taking up the

work long and well done by Mr. H. Mortimer Lamb—whom I have to thank for his too kind references to myself, printed last month before my return to Victoria—I feel justified in expressing the opinion that he adhered to the former course and thereby deservedly obtained for the *MINING RECORD* a name for honesty of purpose and in practice. It will be my constant endeavour to maintain its good name so long as its reputation and interests shall remain in my charge.

In greeting my many personal friends and acquaintances, scattered throughout the mining regions of British Columbia and elsewhere, I invite their attention while I take advantage of this opportunity to make my position clear. ere my personality becomes submerged in the customary editorial "we." I have often been told that in a mining country the first duty of a writer for publication is to write only what is favourable of a prospect, a mine or a camp; if nothing favourable can be written, to avoid the subject altogether. I do not see things in this light. There may possibly be a duty of that nature to a mining district, there certainly is one, though in another direction, to the public when publicity is intended to induce the provision of money for mining purposes or what purport to be such. This is my conviction, consequently, whenever it shall appear to me to be in the best interests of the mining industry, I shall direct public attention to the unfavourable features of any mining enterprise or scheme. At times I shall be mistaken in my view; most men, however painstaking or conscientious, occasionally are; yet shall I earnestly endeavour to continue to merit the confidence so many have considerably assured me my work has begotten.

For numerous congratulations and kind expressions of appreciation I desire to express my deep sense of gratitude. These and a firm belief that a future of considerable expansion of, and prosperity for, the mining industry of British Columbia is at hand, make me reliant that my efforts will meet with success. Yet this can not so well be achieved without the constant recommendation and support of those engaged or otherwise interested in mining and allied industries. I, therefore, respectfully bespeak their hearty co-operation, so as to render more effective the work I have undertaken.

E. JACOBS.