

the business of the country is not delegated to a particular institution, the bankers feel a livelier sense of responsibility for maintaining the proper equilibrium, and they have a stronger sense of self-reliance inasmuch as they do not habitually contemplate leaning in an emergency on another institution.

Those who are actively working for the central bank in the United States consider that the events in New York City to which reference was made at the beginning of this article have a tendency to make the public believe that any plans for centralizing the banking business are unwise. These great banks in the central cities will have a considerable say in the operations of a central bank. They are showing now that they will evade the laws when it suits their purposes to do so. And their course may very likely create some legislative hostility to the plan for banking reform. In the past, many of the great financial and railroad magnates in the Republic have shown a rather contemptuous disregard for the laws and the interests of the general public. When they wanted anything they have gone straight for it regardless of who or what they crushed; and if the laws were in the way they have hired the cleverest lawyers to devise schemes for circumventing the laws. This naturally created hostility to themselves and all corporate interests and has been one of the causes of the legal troubles which the corporations have been experiencing latterly.

THE GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

The Gresham Life is about to establish a branch office in Canada for the transaction of life business. Later on, other classes of insurance in the Canadian field will also be taken up.

The Gresham was established in 1848. It transacts business in Great Britain, in all the countries of continental Europe, in Egypt, in India, in South Africa, in the West Indies and in South America.

It has a world-wide reputation, and ranks among the progressive British offices.

The income of the Gresham last year was \$7,255,430, while its assets amount to over \$52,000,000. Mr. James H. Scott, the General Manager, is at present in Montreal to make the necessary appointments and arrangements for opening up business in Canada.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S MINING DEVELOPMENTS.

The annual report of Mr. William Fleet Robinson, provincial mineralogist of British Columbia, contains much matter of interest on the subject of the mining production of British Columbia and the mineral resources of the province. The report is illustrated, as usual, by a very extensive and excellent series of mine photographs, maps and plans.

The following tables, and that at the foot of the page, are self-explanatory:—

TOTAL PRODUCTION FOR ALL YEARS UP TO AND INCLUDING 1910.

Gold, placer.....	\$ 71,213,103
Gold, lode.....	60,811,067
Silver.....	31,095,602
Lead.....	24,645,605
Copper.....	60,743,405
Coal and coke.....	114,012,596
Building stone, bricks, etc.....	10,593,100
Other metals, zinc, etc.....	1,083,172

Total.....\$374,197,650

PRODUCTION FOR EACH YEAR OF THE DECADE 1901-1910.

1901.....	\$20,086,780
1902.....	17,486,550
1903.....	17,495,954
1904.....	18,977,359
1905.....	22,461,325
1906.....	24,980,546
1907.....	25,882,560
1908.....	23,851,277
1909.....	24,443,025
1910.....	26,377,066

The aggregate value of the annual output of minerals in British Columbia first reached over \$10,000,000 in value in 1897, and since then, although there has been some fluctuation in the returns from time to time, the general tendency has been upward. The advance made in production during 1910 was a decided one, the aggregate value

QUANTITIES AND VALUES OF MINERAL PRODUCTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR 1908, 1909 and 1910.

	1908		1909		1910	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Gold, placer..... (O)	.....	\$ 647,000	.....	\$ 477,000	.....	\$ 540,000
" lode..... (O)	255,582	5,282,820	238,224	4,924,090	267,701	5,533,380
Silver..... (O)	2,631,389	1,321,483	2,532,742	1,239,270	2,450,241	1,245,016
Lead..... (P)	43,195,733	1,632,799	44,396,346	1,709,259	34,658,746	1,386,750
Copper..... (P)	47,274,614	6,240,249	45,597,245	5,918,522	38,243,934	4,871,512
Zinc..... (P)	.....	170,000	.....	400,000	4,184,192	192,473
Coal..... (T)	1,677,849	5,872,472	2,006,476	7,022,666	2,800,946	9,800,141
Coke..... (T)	247,399	1,484,394	258,703	1,557,218	218,029	1,308,174
Other Materials..... (E)	.....	1,200,000	.....	1,200,000	.....	1,500,000
		\$23,851,277		\$24,413,025		\$26,377,066

Customary measures: O—ounces; P—pounds; T—tons of 2,240 pounds; E—estimated.