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### BANKING ACTIVITY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Many New Branches Being Opened—Marked Increase in Bank Clearings.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Vancouver, November 16.

Development and prosperity in any section is measured by the number and success of its financial institutions, and in this respect the growth of the Pacific coast district is increasing, as shown by the recent formation of a number of trust and mortgage corporations. In Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster and Prince Rupert, many new branches of the large banks will open shortly. In Victoria, the Dominion Bank, the Bank of Toronto, and the Bank of Hamilton will each have new branches. The recent visit of Mr. James Turnbull, general manager of the Bank of Hamilton, and Mr. H. A. Aylwin, inspector, was marked by personal visits to all the coast cities, including Prince Rupert and Kam-

loops, and it is expected that banks will be established in each. This bank has also been active in Vancouver.

The Bank of Ottawa recently opened a branch there, and quarters are being prepared for the Traders Bank. Both of these institutions will erect buildings of their own.

In New Westminster, the Bank of Toronto opened this week, while the Merchants Bank started two weeks ago. The Bank of Hamilton and the Bank of Vancouver are expected to open up shortly, which will give the Royal City eight standard bank in operation. The Merchants Bank will erect a handsome building on a site recently purchased. The Bank of Montreal, recently opened at Cloverdale, fifteen miles south of New Westminster.

About the middle of the present month the Royal Bank of Canada will join those already established in Prince Rupert. This bank recently opened a branch in Salmo, B.C. The steady and almost phenomenal increase in bank clearings, week by week, in the coast cities, notably Vancouver, show that many transactions take place.

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