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BOSTON, Mass., U.S.A.**DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW.****CENTRAL BANK V. ELLIS.**—The appointment
of a receiver to receive on behalf of a creditor
money due to a debtor is only made where a
proper case is made out, showing the debtor
entitled to rights which would be subject to
ordinary execution if they had been legal instead
of equitable in their nature, and does not apply
to the case of a claim for unliquidated damages,
according to the Court of Queen's Bench.**AN OUNCE STANDARD FOR GOLD IN
THE RAND.**A proposal has been submitted to the Wit-
watersrand Chamber of Mines and the Associa-
tion of Mines, that the monthly output of gold
for the district should be declared either in fine
gold or according to a uniform standard of fine-
ness. The proposal was the outcome of a dis-
cussion at a meeting of the Chemical and Met-
allurgical Society of South Africa, in the course
of which it was pointed out that the gold ob-
tained by the various methods of milling,
cyanide and chlorination varies from 600 fine
to 995, or in other words, there is a difference
in value ranging from £2 10s 11d per ounce to
£4 4s 6d per ounce. It is obvious, therefore,
that the number of ounces of gold declared as
the output is far from giving an exact idea as to
the progress of the industry. It is therefore
contended that the output should be given in
value alone, or that the gold should be assayed
to a fixed standard of fineness. The objections
are that the course suggested would upset the
basis of comparison, and might result at first in
showing an apparently serious falling-off in the
total production of gold, and that there would
be some difficulty and delay in getting correct
returns.As regards the first objection, it is pointed
out by the *Economist*, the new system could not,
of course, make any difference to the real value
of the gold; the difficulty of comparison
would be merely temporary, and would be
fully understood by everyone interested in
the Rand Mines. It would, besides, be partly
obviated by giving sufficient notice before put-
ting the new method into operation. The
second difficulty could be easily overcome by
the co-operation of the mine managers, as in
nearly every case the bullion is assayed before
shipment. It was agreed by the experts pre-
sent at the meeting referred to, that the monthly
declaration need not be delayed by more than
one day. One of the benefits to be derived
from the proposed change would be that the
yield of each company in fine gold could be at
once ascertained, whereas the yield in bullion
is apt to be very misleading. It is to be hoped
that so desirable a reform will be accepted by
the Chamber and the Association, and so bring
the Rand into line with other gold-mining dis-
tricts whose output is declared in ounces of
gold fine.**SALMON CANNERS DISSATISFIED.**Recently an indignation meeting was held by
the canners of salmon in British Columbia for
the purpose of showing their displeasure at the
conduct of the Government in extending the
period, five days, to the 1st September for
catching sockeye salmon, especially after many
of the canners had closed and paid off their
men. It appears that the Government had not
been asked to extend the season, and the can-
ners say that the market will be demoralized
in consequence of the Government refusing to
cancel the order after being requested to do so.**PAPER**

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