

from the amounts stated as outstanding by the Finance Department. Upon combining the total of bank notes held by the public, with the total of Dominion notes held by the public the total of circulating medium actually in use in the country's general business is reached. It is not possible in the case of any other country to arrive at this total with such exactness. When gold coins are extensively used by the general public it is always difficult to estimate the amount in circulation. But the circulation of gold coins in Canada may properly be ignored as it does not reach large proportions. Then there is scarcely another country in which the whole number of banks report fully, frequently and regularly.

In this issue of THE CHRONICLE the table published last year has been brought up to date. Upon studying it one may see that there can be no doubt as to the great activity of general business throughout the country. There was a very active season in 1910—from the beginning of the year to the end of September. In order to finance the trade and commerce of the Dominion it was necessary to have in use an amount of circulating medium from 10 to 15 per cent. greater than in the same period in 1909. Then, from September, 1910, to August, 1911, the ratio of increase takes a fall. In that period the circulating medium in use exceeded the record of the preceding year by from 4 to 9 per cent. Beginning with August, 1911, a series of phenomenal increases in the amount of circulating medium have occurred. In March, 1912, the last month dealt with, the increase over the corresponding month of the previous year reached the very large percentage of 18. This certainly bespeaks great activity in commercial and industrial circles.

THE APRIL BANK STATEMENT.

There are several notable points evident in the newly published bank return for April. Attention may be drawn particularly to the satisfactory growth in the notice deposits of the banks. These at April 30, reached \$615,370,348 against \$606,044,932 at March 30, or an increase of above nine and a quarter millions for the month. It is likely enough that this large advance is in part accounted for by some large deposits of a temporary character, but when a suitable allowance has been made for these, it would seem that the development of the ordinary savings deposits is proceeding on a satisfactory scale. The increase in this item in April of 1911 was only \$2,700,000, so that last month's additions are notably large.

The month also saw another large development in demand deposits, and while both the Dominion and Provincial Government balances were, on the whole, somewhat lower than in March, the net result of the movement in the various classes of deposits was an addition of over \$22,000,000 to the total of deposits of all classes, bringing them up to \$1,081,694,911. A somewhat striking index to the recent growth of the banks' business is furnished by a comparison of last month's total of deposits with the same figures for April, 1911, and April, 1910. The total of deposits for April, 1910, was \$887,640,759, so that in two years, the banks' deposits have grown by approximately \$200,000,000. And the comparison of the last twelve months is even more striking, the banks' deposits in that short interval having been increased by \$143,600,000.

Another point of interest is furnished by the remarkably large advance, during the month in the banks' current loans. These at April 30, totalled

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RELATION OF BANKS' RESERVES TO IMMEDIATE LIABILITIES
(Compiled by The Chronicle.)

	April, 1912	March, 1912	April, 1911	April, 1910
LIABILITIES.				
Dominion Government deposits.....	\$ 8,985,723	\$ 9,811,092	\$ 4,658,365	\$ 13,402,795
Provincial Government deposits.....	26,294,419	27,006,978	26,604,069	29,464,671
Deposits of the Public "demand".....	345,365,183	331,896,238	281,964,369	246,746,180
Deposits of the Public "notice".....	615,370,348	606,044,932	555,822,930	521,427,072
Deposits elsewhere than in Canada.....	85,679,238	84,737,024	69,062,268	76,600,041
Total deposits.....	1,081,694,911	1,059,496,264	938,112,001	887,640,759
Note Circulation.....	95,145,371	95,918,404	83,647,088	78,776,228
	1,176,840,282	1,155,414,668	1,021,759,089	966,416,987
*Less notes and cheques other Canadian banks held.....	59,039,941	50,750,942	42,683,823	33,747,109
Net Liability.....	1,117,800,341	1,104,663,726	979,075,266	932,669,878
AVAILABLE ASSETS.				
Specie and legals.....	133,095,305	132,763,119	111,812,318	100,394,440
Net foreign bank balances.....	34,684,125	42,356,317	37,229,755	26,623,855
Foreign call loans.....	103,558,392	94,667,027	84,535,658	122,359,531
	271,337,822	269,786,463	233,577,731	249,377,826
Percentage of Liability.....	24.27	24.42	23.86	26.74

* This item is deducted because it represents obligations of the banks held by themselves.