

funds in comparison with 1909 and 1908. This table, it will be observed, is compiled upon a basis which excludes Canadian inter-bank items.

RELATION OF RESERVES TO IMMEDIATE LIABILITIES (000's omitted).

LIABILITIES,	June, 1910.	June, 1909.	June, 1908.
Dominion Government deposits....	\$ 16,257	\$ 6,289	\$ 8,773
Provincial Government deposits ...	29,575	16,393	10,836
Deposits of the Public "demand"....	263,417	226,480	161,218
Deposits of the Public "notice"....	534,432	455,178	399,286
Deposits elsewhere than in Canada..	85,017	69,250	65,463
Total deposits.....	\$928,698	\$773,790	\$645,566
Note circulation.....	79,781	\$ 70,170	68,154
	\$1,008,479	\$843,960	\$713,720
*Less notes and cheques other Canadian banks held....	44,456	34,600	27,431
Net Liability.....	\$964,023	\$809,360	\$686,289
AVAILABLE ASSETS.			
Specie and legals.....	\$101,936	\$ 93,373	\$ 74,693
Net foreign bank balances.....	35,280	36,219	25,759
Foreign call loans.....	130,173	115,255	52,256
	\$267,389	\$243,847	\$152,708
Per cent. of liability.....	27.74	30.13	22.25

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

THE BANK OF MONTREAL.

Election of President and New Director.

The important announcement is made that Mr. R. B. Angus has been elected President of the Bank of Montreal in succession to the late Sir George A. Drummond, and that Mr. H. Vincent Meredith, assistant general manager and manager of the Montreal branch, has been elected a director.

Mr. Angus, one of Canada's most distinguished financiers, entered the service of the Bank, to whose highest position he has now been elected, in 1857. He was accountant in the Chicago branch in 1861, was second agent in New York in 1863, becoming assistant manager in Montreal in 1864, and being promoted to the managership the following year, and to the general managership in 1869. This latter position he held until the 1st November, 1879. When several men connected with the Bank of Montreal bought out the Dutch interest in what was then called the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway, those interested, realizing the ability of Mr. Angus as a financier and organizer, asked him to leave the Bank and become the representative of their interests in St. Paul. Accepting the managership of the Railway, his great success during his two years of residence in the American North-west is a part of the history not only of the American, but the Canadian North-west. On the 12th May, 1879, Mr. Angus was chosen director of the Bank of which he is now the President, and has been on the board ever since. Mr. Angus has also for many years been prominently associated with the Canadian Pacific Railway, and at the present time he is a director of other leading Canadian corporations.

Mr. H. Vincent Meredith, who now becomes a director, entered the service of the Bank of Montreal at Hamilton in 1867, became accountant in Montreal in 1870, and was promoted to the position of assistant inspector in the same year. Mr. Meredith became assistant manager in Montreal

in 1887, and manager two years later. His title since 1903 has been assistant general manager and manager of the Montreal branch, and he will continue to occupy those positions.

These important appointments will, we believe, be highly popular throughout the Dominion, and widely appreciated by financial and banking interests in the United Kingdom and abroad who are brought into touch with the Canadian banks. That under its new President, the traditions and practice which have enabled the Bank of Montreal, under a distinguished line of Presidents to occupy so prominent a position in the Canadian banking world, goes without saying.

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF AN ENGLISH CITY.

How Birmingham Cares for its Inhabitants.

In the civic world of Europe—the world which carries on the government of the towns from Aberdeen to Rome and Moscow to Plymouth—there are a few municipal authorities universally looked up to and admired as having evolved the highest type of municipal government, by their activities and enterprise. Several of the German towns stand high in this list; Vienna is the El Dorado of the open space and park enthusiasts; in Great Britain they talk of the wide-spread enterprise of Glasgow and the civic spirit of Birmingham, fostered and organized largely in the first instance, be it said, by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, in the days when he was Mayor of Birmingham, before a wider field of activity claimed him. Birmingham, whose population is 560,000, is regarded in many respects as a model municipality. While its standard of municipal government is a high one, the particulars which follow regarding the city's care for the health of the inhabitants—one of the most important tasks of any municipality—may be regarded as fairly typical of present-day activities in this direction in England and the larger centres of Western Europe.

It was in 1875 that Birmingham woke up to the necessity of improving its health and it started by laying down the following as necessities:—(1) universal and efficient sewerage and drainage; (2) the paving of carriage-ways and footpaths; and (3) a thorough system of scavenging. The Health Committee started to work with a medical officer at a salary of \$5,000 a year, and a staff of inspectors. The decrease in the death rate from 24.8 to 21.6 between the first and second quinquenniums following the doctor's appointment in 1873 was the direct result of the activity of the Health Department.

Since the passing of the Public Health Act (in Great Britain) sanitary science has progressed steadily, and the work of the Health Department increased greatly. Every year almost witnesses a widening of the scope of activity directed to making life in a great urban community more wholesome and healthy. To define the duties of the Medical Officer of Health is difficult. Put in a sentence, it is his business to take cognizance of everything which affects prejudicially the health of the people, and suggest remedial and