

general manager of this day is in the direct line of succession to the old-time Private Banker whose enterprise established and whose financial skill and sagacity were exercised in conducting his own banking institution. It would be difficult to over-estimate the services these pioneer banks rendered in their day to the commercial and financial interests of the old country.

The following is a condensed statement of the returns of the banks in the United Kingdom, for years 1905 and 1903, also of the Colonial and Foreign ones who have offices in London:

	1905.	1903.	Increase or decrease
U. K. BANK.			
Capital paid-up...	419,422,000	421,943,000	Dec. 2,521,000
Deposits and current accounts..	4,274,895,000	4,155,074,000	Inc. 109,821,000
Discounts & loans.	2,694,035,000	2,656,673,600	Inc. 37,362,000
COLONIAL.			
Deposits, etc....	1,148,290,000	1,071,480,000	Inc. 76,810,000
Discounts & loans.	991,485,000	988,400,100	Inc. 3,085,000
FOREIGN.			
Deposits.....	1,497,565,000	1,088,318,000	Inc. 409,247,000
Discounts & loans.	2,084,467,000	1,480,630,000	Inc. 603,837,000

As compared with the movement of Canadian banking business, the percentage advances made by banks in the United Kingdom were quite trifling. Our banks enlarged their deposits from 1903 to 1905 by 26 per cent., as against an advance by the United Kingdom banks of one-tenth of that increase. The deposits and current accounts in the banks in Scotland decreased by a large sum between 1903 and 1905, while, in the same period, those in Ireland were enlarged by 6 per cent. The decrease of deposits in the private banks in England, by \$22,075,000, which equals over 14 per cent., indicates a change made by the absorption of Foster & Co., Hammond & Co., Hodgkin, Barnett & Co., Smith, Payne & Co., by joint stock banks.

The foreign banks established in London show the largest increase since 1903, their deposits and loans having been enlarged in that period by 40 p.c. per cent.

The aggregate reserve fund of the Canadian banks has increased since 1903 by 16 p.c., while the reserve funds of the United Kingdom banks in that period actually decreased.

The following shows the aggregate paid-up and subscribed capital, the deposits and current accounts, the discounts, advances and loans, cash reserves and investments of the banks in the United Kingdom, and those Colonial and Foreign banks which have offices in London:

Aggregate paid up capital.....	\$ 957,664,000
Aggregate subscribed capital.....	2,098,418,000
Aggregate deposits and current accounts.....	6,920,750,000
Aggregate discounts and loans.....	5,788,747,000
Aggregate cash on hand and at call.....	1,936,304,000
Aggregate investments.....	1,456,356,000

The increase in the deposits of the banks in England and Wales, in Scotland and in Ireland since 1901 are given in the "London Economist" as below, which eminent financial journal has regularly published since October, 1877, a tabular annual statement of the accounts of all the joint stock of the

United Kingdom and of all the private banks that publish accounts. The table published in this issue is based upon statements in our London contemporary.

	England and Wales bank deposits.	Scotland Bank deposits.	Ireland Bank deposits
	\$	\$	\$
1900.....	3,074,390,000	518,370,000	238,600,000
1905.....	3,361,645,000	507,690,000	267,465,000
Increase.....	\$288,275,000	Decrease.	\$28,865,000

The statements of the banks in the United Kingdom for year ended June 30, 1905, indicate that the business last year was not as progressive and prosperous as in some earlier ones, but there is nothing to justify the pessimistic predictions of those who imagine that England is receding from her supreme rank in the financial and commercial world.

THE BANK OF MONTREAL.

The Bank of Montreal occupies a position of such eminence as to give its statements special importance as indicators of the course of trade in the period they cover. They comprise the months which constitute, for Canada, a natural business year, being for the period between the culmination of the preceding and current year's harvest operations and from near the closing of navigation in one year to the same period in its successor.

The profits for the past year amounted to \$1,638,650, a sum which equals 11.38 per cent. on the paid-up capital of \$14,400,000. A higher percentage was, however, earned, because it was not until July last that the bank's capital was enlarged by the addition of \$400,000, owing to the acquisition of a Halifax bank.

The amount brought from 1904 was \$583,196, which, being added to the year's profits, \$1,638,650, made a total of \$2,221,855 at the disposal of the directors. Out of this a dividend of 5 per cent. was paid on 1st June, and a second one will be paid on 1st December next, the two making together \$1,420,000. When these dividends are distributed, there will be a balance left of \$801,855, to be carried forward to next year, the surplus of profits over 10 per cent. dividends having been \$218,650.

As compared with the statement, of 1903 and 1904, the one for 1905 stands as follows:

	Oct. 31 1905	Oct. 31 1904	Oct 31st 1903
	\$	\$	\$
Capital paid up.....	14,400,000	14,000,000	13,973,000
Reserve Fund.....	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
Circulation.....	12,996,181	10,925,000	11,325,000
Deposits not bearing interest.....	31,438,000	23,681,366	23,579,315
Deposits bearing interest.....	87,725,211	71,113,046	57,847,438
Total deposits.....	119,163,212	94,794,412	81,426,753
Securities.....	8,281,452	7,893,231	8,015,645
Due by Bks. and agencies..	6,039,037	4,668,081	8,782,074
Call and short loans.....	37,961,908	24,499,023	15,356,356
Assets immediately available.....	68,633,030	48,881,699	42,396,880
Bank premises.....	600,000	600,000	600,000
Current loans and discounts.	88,591,793	81,304,314	74,604,111