the purpose of financing some transactions in Canada, gold shipments are necessary. It was noted in the September bank statement that the Canadian banks had been shifting a portion of their outside call loans into their bank accounts in New York, and such a movement on their part often precedes the importation of gold by them. These importations are serving to build up by degrees a very respectable specie basis for the ever increasing mass of bank liabilities in this country. What may be spoken of as Canada's gold reserve—the specie held by the banks and by the Dominion Treasury—passed the $100,000,000 mark over a year ago. Since then the total has risen steadily, and at the end of September it was $126,103,673. Of this amount the banks held $37,757,678 and the Government held $88,345,995. But practically the whole amount is subject to the call of the banks, as they hold $83,121,254 of Dominion notes which are payable in gold.

Money rates in Montreal and Toronto are unchanged at 5 to 5½ p.c. The large grain buying interests are now making an extended use of their lines of credit. In the cases of a couple of the companies the bank advances stood at high figures even before the grain from the 1911 crop came forward. This was due to the policy of holding over part of the grain belonging to the 1910 crop. It may be presumed, therefore, that these concerns have very large loans from the banks at the present moment.

LLOYDS BANK.

Lloyds Bank, of London, England, whose announcement appears on another page, is well known as one of the most important of the great English joint stock banks. For some time, it has, in fact, occupied the position of possessing the largest deposits of any English bank, these amounting as at June 30 last, to £81,039,271. The extent of the operations and resources of the bank may be gauged from the following figures, which are of June 30 last:—

Capital paid up	£ 4,192,120
Reserve Fund	3,000,000
Deposit and Current Accounts	81,039,271
Cash in hand and at call and short notice	21,757,565
Discounts	9,115,354
Advances, loans, bills, etc.	44,443,960
Total Assets	91,017,768
Half-yearly Dividend at rate of	18 1-8 p. c.

Dating from 1865 and, representing some of the oldest private banks in Great Britain, Lloyds Bank has made many absorptions of other institutions, resulting in a rapid development of branches, which in England and Wales, now number over 600, against 411 in 1903. A short time ago, the articles of association were altered so as to permit the Bank to extend its foreign business, and recently an office in Paris, France, has been opened. It is likely that the near future will see very important extension of the interests abroad of this representative English banking institution.

THE GRAND TRUNK'S REPORT.

Judging by the cabled reports of the Grand Trunk's meeting, the report for the half-year ended June 30 last, has proved a satisfactory one to the shareholders. Cost of labour has, of course, gone up considerably, increased wages accounting for the expenditure of over £100,000. But apparently as the result of a policy of economy in other directions, the percentage of working expenses to gross receipts has been kept at a fraction under that of the corresponding half-year of 1910. It is rather to future developments than present circumstances that Grand Trunk shareholders have to look to find the promise of commensurate returns upon their capital and Mr. Smithers, chairman of the company, fresh from his tour of inspection of the whole system, was able to speak in a vein of pronounced optimism of the prospects in this direction, and of the future value of the Grand Trunk shareholders' reversion to the profits of the Grand Trunk Pacific.

The gross receipts and working expenses of the company during the half-year in comparison with the corresponding half-year of 1910, are shown in the following tables:—

GROSS RECEIPTS.

	1911. £	1910. £	Increase. £
Passengers	944,570	884,274	60,296
Mails and Express	156,656	146,426	10,230
Freight and Live Stock	2,347,954	2,186,027	161,927
Other Receipts	112,002	104,909	7,093
	3,561,182	3,321,636	239,546

WORKING EXPENSES.

	1911. £	1910. £	Increase. £
Maintenance of way and structures	395,713	365,487	30,226
Maintenance of Equipment	600,415	638,696	*38,281
Traffic Expenses	114,947	107,375	7,572
Conducting Transportation	1,373,042	1,204,624	168,418
General Expenses	96,524	93,508	3,016
Taxes	47,564	46,375	1,189
Total	2,628,205	2,456,065	172,140
Percentage of Gross Receipts	73.81	73.94	*0.13

*Decrease.

The following table shows the disposition of the revenue for the half-year, and also for the June half-year of 1910:—

	1911. £	1910. £
Gross Receipts	3,561,181	3,321,636
Working Expenses	2,628,205	2,456,065
Net Traffic Receipts	932,976	865,571
Rentals and interest, etc.	159,399	181,395
Net Revenue Receipts	1,092,375	1,046,966
Net Revenue Charges*	729,378	699,806
Surplus	362,997	347,160
Balance brought forward	9,105	11,839
Available for dividends	372,102	358,999
Dividends	360,442	346,447
	11,660	12,553

*Rents of leased lines, interest on debentures and bonds, deficiencies in Canada Atlantic, and Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee railways.