

posits by other banks in Canada and abroad. The notes and bills discounted and current amount to \$11,103,802, other loans amount to 7,433,566, which are "secured by bonds, debentures, stocks, or grain and other staple commodities."

The immediately available assets amount to \$16,268,869, which is equal to over 74 per cent. of the public deposit liabilities. This proportion is very much above the ordinary.

Out of the profits two 5 per cent. dividends were paid, \$100,000 added to reserve fund raising to \$3,200,000, \$91,260 was written off bank premises account, and \$12,000 transferred to Officers' Pension Fund.

Altogether this 73rd Annual Report of the Bank of Nova Scotia is a unique exhibit. The paid-up capital is to be increased by \$500,000 raising it to \$2,500,000. The new stock will be issued at a premium of 160, which will realize \$800,000. This will be added to the Reserve Fund, the amount of which will then be \$4,000,000, or \$1,500,000 more than the paid-up capital. Mr. H. C. McLeod, general manager, has every reason to be proud of the position to which the Bank of Nova Scotia has risen under his enterprising management.

"PROVIDENT SAVINGS LIFE."

MR. S. S. de FOREST, St. John, N.B., has been appointed manager for the Province of New Brunswick, with headquarters at St. John. Mr. de Forest is well known and popular throughout the Province of New Brunswick, and his efforts to secure business for the Provident Savings should be crowned with success.

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA.

The bank statements for the past year seem likely to make a record. If, in future years, the results of 1904 are equalled, the banks of Canada will be remarkable for development of business and profits. One after another reports for 1904 are appearing that show unprecedented gains in the volume of active business, in resources, and in earnings.

In these respects the Royal Bank of Canada takes a prominent position. Its expansion in the past year was, in some respects, unrivalled, and along the whole line there are decided evidences of the growth of the bank in public confidence.

A leading feature in these indications is the enlargement of deposits from \$16,087,446 as on 31st December, 1903, to \$21,945,144 at the end of 1904, the increase in one year being \$5,857,698, which equals an advance in these funds of 36.41 per cent.

The current loans and discounts rose from \$13,634,845 to \$15,358,166. A large amount of the additional resources was devoted to the augmentation

of the immediately available assets, which were advanced from \$10,922,751 to \$15,192,999, an increase of \$4,270,248 of which increase \$842,337 occurs in the extra amount of gold, silver and Dominion notes. These assets owned by the Royal Bank are now equal to 70 per cent. of the deposits, which is an exceptionally high proportion and indicates a very strong position. Mr. Pease evidently is not inclined, to use an old saying, "to spread his butter over too large a piece of bread."

The net profits of the year were \$435,038, which is 14.50 per cent. on the paid-up capital and 7.25 per cent. on capital and reserve fund combined. Evidently a much larger dividend than 8 per cent. per annum might have been paid and left amply sufficient for the other appropriations. The gross amount for distribution, made up of \$435,038 profits and \$192,705 brought forward from 1903, was \$627,743 which was appropriated as follows, two 4 per cent. dividends, \$240,000, Officers' Pension Fund \$10,000, \$75,000 written off bank premises, furniture and real estate, which left \$302,743 as a balance to be carried forward to 1905.

Mr. Edson L. Pease has our congratulations on this very gratifying statement, which cannot fail to put the Royal Bank still further ahead as a strong, progressive and ably managed institution.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE DOMINION.

The public accounts of the Dominion were laid before Parliament on 17th inst., and will be distributed at an early date.

From a special report prepared by Mr. J. M. Courtney, Deputy Minister of Finance, in which the salient features of the accounts are summarized, we learn that, the receipts on Consolidated Fund Account, which include Ordinary Revenue, amounted in the year ending 30th June, 1904, to \$70,669,816, and the expenditure on same account to \$55,612,832, leaving a surplus of \$15,056,984.

Besides the expenditures charged to Consolidated Fund, there was a total of \$7,881,718 charged to Capital, of which \$1,879,566 was for outlays on the Intercolonial Railway, \$698,877 on Prince Edward Island Railway, \$6,249 on National Transcontinental, and \$33,076 on Canadian Pacific. The total outlay on railways, Capital account was \$2,617,768 and \$1,880,788 on canals. On public works the principal expenditures charged to Capital were, \$209,104, Montreal Harbour, \$585,724, River St. Lawrence Ship Channel, and \$595,568 on miscellaneous works. For Dominion lands \$748,855 was charged to Capital, and for Militia, \$1,299,910. Railway subsidies to extent of \$2,046,878 were paid in last fiscal year.

The deposits held by the Government on 30th June, 1904, were \$62,158,449, which is an increase of \$1,387,320 over 1903.