Kingdom have this percentage. And some of the best-known English joint banks of the highest standing are content with a ratio of reserve to paid-up capital, of 50 p.c. or considerably less.

It has to be borne in mind in making this comparison, however, that the circumstances of the British banks during recent years have been widely different from those of the Canadian banks. It is pointed out by the Economist that the reserves of the English joint stock banks only amounted at June 30 last, to £36,268,500. For the last eight years, they have fluctuated between £36,000,000 and £37,000,000, their maximum having been reached in June, 1903, when they were £37,232,000. Since that time, the writing down of the banks' investments has required not only large allocations from profits, but considerable drafts also upon the reserve funds. The depreciation in British gilt edged securities has hit the banks as hard probably as any class of the community and it may be readily surmised that had this depreciation not occurred, or had it been of only moderate dimensions even, that the reserve accounts of the British banks would now present a widely different showing. At June, 1903, when the English joint stock reserves were at their maximum, the Canadian banks' reserves were only $47,973,814. In the interval, while the English reserves have been stationary, those of the Canadian banks have increased by about 90 p.c.

Liability on Bank Shares.

A second point which the present table emphasises is the difference between Canadian and English practice in regard to liability upon shares. In the case of all of the Canadian banks, the margin between subscribed and paid-up capital, where it exists, is small, and is accounted for by the fact of new issues of capital subscribed for being in process of being paid up by instalments over a period. In the case of the British banks, it will be seen, however, that the margin between the subscribed capital and the paid-up capital is large—in many instances, remarkably so. And there is not, as in the case of the Canadian banks, a gradual approximation of the paid-up capital to the subscribed capital. Practically, the difference between the paid-up capital and the subscribed capital—the uncalled liability—fulfils the same function as does the double liability upon Canadian bank shares. In many instances the uncalled liability upon the shareholder in British banks is vastly greater proportionately than the double liability of the holder of Canadian bank shares. In one case, a £100 share is only £12.10s. paid, leaving liability, uncalled and reserved, of £87.10s.; in another, on a £100 share there is a similar liability of £85; in a third, a liability of £84.10s. There are, in fact, a number of the British banks where the uncalled liability is equal to four and five times the amount paid up. Usually this liability is, to a very large extent, reserved, *i.e.*, while a certain amount can be called up for purposes of business extension, the major part can only be called for in the event of the bank's liquidation. However remote this possibility may be—and, of course, in the case of the great English banks, it is extremely improb-

BANK RESERVES: A COMPARISON OF CANADIAN AND BRITISH PRACTICE.

(Compiled from Statistics of The Chronicle and the London Economist.)

Canadian Banks.	Capital Subscribed Sep. 30, 1911	Capital paid up Sep. 30, 1911	Rest Fund Sep. 30, 1911	Percentage of Rest to paid-up Capital
	$	$	$	
British North America	4,866,666	4,866,666	2,652,333	54.50
Bank of Commerce	11,673,450	11,411,850	9,129,480	80.00
Dominion	4,689,500	4,566,574	5,566,574	121.90
Eastern Townships	3,000,000	3,000,000	2,250,000	75.00
Hamilton	2,745,900	2,743,400	3,064,677	111.73
Hochelaga	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	100 00
Home	1,362,900	1,272,082	425,000	33.41
Imperial	6,000,000	5,959,423	5,959,423	100.00
Merchants	6,000,000	6,000,000	4,900,000	81.66
Metropolitan	1,000,000	1,000 000	1,250,000	125.00
Molsons	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,600,000	115.00
Montreal	14,400,000	14 400,000	12,000,000	83.33
Nationale	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,300,000	65.00
New Brunswick	895,300	895,300	1,598,666	179.23
Northern Crown	2,207,500	2,207,451	150,000	6.79
Nova Scotia	4,000,000	3,892,150	7,154,080	183.81
Ottawa	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,900 000	111.43
Provincial	1,000,000	1,000,000	425,000	42.50
Quebec	2,500,000	2,500,000	1,250,000	50.00
Royal	6,200,000	6,200,000	7,000,000	111.29
Standard	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,500,000	125.00
Sterling	1,019,200	951,934	281,616	29.58
Toronto	4,606,300	4,497,455	5,247,455	116.68
Traders	4,367,500	4,354,500	2,300,000	50.52
Union of Canada	4,776,500	4,755,290	2,776,655	58.41
Vancouver	1,041,900	616,905	....	....
Weyburn	602,600	301,300	....	....

Banks of the United Kingdom.	Capital Subscribed June 30, 1911	Capital paid up June 30, 1911	Reserve June 30, 1911	Percentage of Reserve to Paid-up Capital
	£	£	£	
Barclay & Co	8,000,000	3,200,000	1,200,000	34.34
Capital & Counties	8,750,000	1,750,000	800,000	45.71
Glyn, Mills, Currie	1,000,000	1,000,000	500,000	50.00
Lloyds	26,200,750	4,192,125	3,000,000	71.56
London & Provincial	1,600,000	800,000	1,500,000	187.50
London & S. Western	2,500,000	1,000 00	1,000,000	100.00
London City & Mid.	19,148,340	3,989,238	3,590,314	90.00
L'n, C'nty & Wstm'r	14,000,000	3,500,000	4,050,000	115.72
London Joint Stock	19,800,000	2,970,000	1,100,000	37.03
Man. & L'pool Dist.	9,480,000	1,896,000	1,750,000	92.30
Metropolitan	5,500,000	550,00	450,000	81.81
National Provincial	15,900,000	3,000,000	2,150,000	71.66
Parrs	11,023,900	2,204,780	2,000,000	90 71
Union of London & Smiths	22,934 100	3,554,786	1,150,000	32.35
Williams Deacons	7,812,500	1,250,000	750,000	60.00
British Linen	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,800,000	144.00
Clydesdale	5,000,000	1,000,000	950,000	95.00
Commercial of Scotland	5,000,000	1,000,000	1,010,000	101.00
National of Scotland	5,000,000	1,000,000	900,000	90.00
North of Scotland	3,260,000	652,000	387,500	59.43
Royal of Scotland	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,013,565	50.68
Union of Scotland	5,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	100.00
Belfast Banking	2,500,000	500,000	450,000	95.00
Hibernian	2,000,000	500,000	200,000	40.00
National of Ireland	7,500,000	1,500,000	585,000	39.00
Provincial of Ireland	4,080,000	540,000	365,000	67.59
Ulster	3,000,000	500,000	700,000	140.00