

Position of Canadian Banks

October Statement Shows Decline in Current Loans.

The October statement of the combined position of Canadian banks, issued at Ottawa, contains a number of interesting and, in the case of the domestic current loans item, somewhat unexpected changes.

Although October is one of the most exacting months so far as the financial situation of the country is concerned, owing to the heavy movements of grain crops, the total advances falling under the category of "Current Loans in Canada" showed in the statement a decline from the September level of upwards of 12 millions.

Whether the decrease in this respect is due to the rather unusual marketing conditions which prevailed in the period or to the contraction of loans to other commercial and industrial borrowers, or to the decline in commodity prices, must be left to conjecture, but a decline in the aggregate of loans of this class at this season of the year is a matter of unusual record.

Circulation, on the other hand, had the usual seasonal rise, the October figures being 18 millions in excess of those at the end of September, although the change in the year amounted to less than 13 millions.

Demand deposits were higher last month by over 10 millions, as compared with the September total, but were down 17½ millions in the year while those of the notice or savings class showed the smallest monthly increase in nearly a year, being higher than the September showing by but little over a million. The aggregate of 1,271 millions, however constitutes a record in the banking history.

The October outstanding totals and the changes from those of the previous month follow:

	October 1920	Change in month
Circulation . . .	249,165,707	+ 18,070,822
Dep. dem . . .	687,651,781	+ 10,364,876
Do. notice . . .	1,271,275,751	+ 1,081,654
Do. abroad . . .	339,955,233	- 15,283,759
Curr. loans . . .	1,405,401,227	- 12,119,529
Do. abroad . . .	193,749,657	- 8,840,527
Call loans . . .	113,135,902	- 1,533,709
Do. abroad . . .	188,367,459	+ 1,404,499
Specie . . .	79,823,476	- 1,213,200
Dom. notes . . .	178,021,891	+ 5,140,369
Cent. gold res. . .	119,202,533	+ 10,190,000
Total liabs. . .	2,868,516,190	+ 21,080,974
Total assets . . .	3,155,601,568	+ 15,586,799

The changes from the position of a year ago follow:

	October 1920.	Change in year
Circulation . . .	249,165,707	+ 12,688,228
Dep. dem. . .	687,651,781	- 17,528,460
Do. notice. . .	1,271,275	+ 8,528,767
Do. abroad . . .	339,955,233	+ 85,990,030
Curr. loans . . .	1,405,401,227	+ 300,461,067
Do. abroad. . .	193,749,657	+ 33,036,271
Call loans . . .	113,135,902	+ 12,586,512
Do. abroad . . .	188,367,459	+ 30,173,374
Specie . . .	79,823,476	- 1,230,013
Dom notes . . .	178,261,891	+ 13,464,609
Cent. gold res. . .	119,202,533	- 6,897,467
Total liabs. . .	2,868,516,190	+ 171,068,41
Total assets. . .	3,155,601,568	+ 188,002,720

TIGHTEN UP CREDITS.

The French Government has passed the word to the banks to tighten up on credits according to the Intransigent and as a result, the cost of living in France already has ceased its upward flight, if it is not actually starting downward.

The Government's word to the banks, the newspaper says, was not to cut off credits, but to ration them, supporting honest firms in temporary need, but denying further credit to speculators for whom new loans would be only an encouragement to maintain high prices.

IMPERIAL BANK ORGANIZES PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT.

Extracts from a statement by the Imperial Bank covering the first six months of operations for its current fiscal year, or up to October 31, show a healthy increase in various departments. Deposits were higher by \$5,180,000, or 5.9 per cent., as compared with April 30 last, while commercial loans were \$5,034,000 up, or a gain of 8 per cent.

The Imperial Bank announces the organization of a new business publicity and service department, with J. McNeil, who has been an inspector for several years, in charge as manager.

The purpose of the department will include the attracting of new accounts to the bank, encouraging of American manufacturers to come over and become customers of the bank, to issue a monthly letter on the business outlook, as well as the other duties that pertain to publicity departments.

CANADIAN BANK CLEARINGS

Following are the Canadian bank clearings for the week with comparisons:

	1920	1919
Montreal . . .	\$145,784,028	\$167,028,108
Toronto. . . .	115,160,952	104,723,803
Winnipeg . . .	110,103,780	65,920,492
*Vancouver . .	13,443,327	15,887,184
Ottawa	11,913,043	13,453,338
Hamilton . . .	6,921,530	7,886,156
St. John	2,951,343	3,596,255
Halifax	4,793,644	5,955,364
Victoria	2,008,823	3,066,434
Brantford . . .	1,387,844	1,018,223
Ft. William . .	1,066,225	1,060,355
Peterboro . . .	939,436	868,818
Sherbrooke . . .	1,224,108	985,433
Moncton	791,985
Calgary	10,258,345	8,662,344
Windsor	3,644,388	2,332,791
Quebec	7,578,981	7,856,528
New West-		
minster	677,005	573,578
Regina	5,394,645	5,241,216
Moose Jaw . . .	2,367,173	2,246,978
London	3,502,044	4,678,175
Kitchener . . .	998,259	7,203,725
Lethbridge . . .	1,092,485	961,168
Brantford . . .	1,378,844	1,018,223
Brandon	967,842	1,074,018
Medicine Hat . .	723,393	743,536
Edmonton . . .	6,013,936
Prince Albert . .	479,302
Saskatoon . . .	2,648,552	2,684,460

(*)—Vancouver for five days.

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA Dividend No. 204.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of Four per cent. on the paid-up Capital Stock of this Bank has been declared for the quarter ending December 31st, and that the same will be payable on and after Monday, the third day of January next, at any offices of the Bank in Canada.

The Stock Transfer Book will be closed from the 17th to the 31st proximo, inclusive.

By order of the Board,

H. A. RICHARDSON,

General Manager.

Halifax, N.S.

Business Founded 1795

American Bank Note Company

Incorporated by Act of the Parliament of Canada

Engravers and Printers

Bank Notes and Cheques
Corporation Bonds
Stock Certificates
Municipal Debentures
and other Monetary Documents.
Head Office and Works: Ottawa.

Branches:—

MONTREAL, Bank of Ottawa Bldg.
TORONTO, 19 Melinda Street.
WINNIPEG, Union Bank Bldg.



The Necessity of a Reserve

Opportunities come with development—and the probabilities of rapid expansion throughout the Dominion should make every Canadian realize the necessity of building up a RESERVE FUND.

Don't wait and see good opportunities slipping by—prepare to take advantage of them! Open a savings account with this Bank and save regularly.

Interest allowed at current rates.

THE STANDARD BANK OF CANADA

Head Office :: TORONTO

MONTREAL BRANCH

E. C. GREEN, Manager,

136 St. James Street.

THE MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA

Head Office: Montreal. Established 1864.

Capital Paid-up \$ 8,400,000

Reserve Funds 8,660,774

Total Deposits (Oct 30th, 1920) over \$170,000,000

Total assets (Oct. 30th, 1920) over \$209,000,000

President: Sir H. Montagu Allan, C.V.O.

Vice-President: A. J. Dawes.

General Manager: D. C. Macarow.

Supt. of Branches and Chief Inspector: T. E. Merrett.

General Supervisor, W. A. Meldrum

HOW WE CAN SERVE CORPORATIONS AND BUSINESS HOUSES

Besides guarding their money while in our care we can help them

By buying their Drafts and other negotiable paper

By issuing Bank Money Orders, Travellers' Cheques and Letters of Credit.

By making collections in every section of Canada and Abroad.

In short, by giving them a Banking Service that is modern and complete in every detail.

399 BRANCHES IN CANADA EXTENDING FROM
THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC.

