

THE BANK OF TORONTO.

The oldest bank with its head office in Ontario, as the Bank of Toronto is able to style itself, enjoyed last year a very satisfactory year's business. The Bank's funds were naturally in constant demand throughout the year, and an able management being able to utilise these conditions to the best advantage, there is the natural result of increased profits. The net profits, after making the usual deductions, reach \$850,694 comparing with \$835,787 in 1912. To these has to be added an amount of \$200,000 received from debts recovered previously written off (excellent evidence of an admirable conservatism in the Bank's management) making with the balance at credit of profit and loss account brought forward from 1912 of \$176,578, a total amount available of \$1,227,272. Of this amount the eleven per cent. annual dividend together with a bonus of one per cent. making a distribution of 12 per cent. in all, absorbs \$600,000; the usual allocation of \$20,000 is made to the officers' pension fund, \$300,000 is written off bank premises and there is carried forward to next year, the largely increased balance of \$307,272.

The following are the leading items of the bank's general statement in comparison with 1912:—

	1913.	1912.
Capital paid up	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
Reserve	6,000,000	6,000,000
Circulation	5,439,107	5,474,917
Deposits (not bearing interest)	6,885,927	6,457,519
Deposits (bearing interest)	36,420,668	35,164,826
Total Liabilities to Public	49,617,892	47,838,671
Specie and Legals	6,645,779	4,870,833
Call and Short Loans	1,784,841	1,905,841
Total of Quick Assets	14,072,237	12,189,218
Current loans and discounts	43,478,485	44,763,603
Total Assets	60,925,164	59,226,549

The Bank's deposits at the end of the financial year were in all nearly \$1,700,000 more than at the corresponding date of 1912, while call and short loans were \$120,000 lower than 1912 and current loans and discounts, allowing for the different method of treatment of rebate of interest called for by the new Bank Act, a little over \$1,000,000 lower. This increase in deposits and decrease in financial and commercial loans has enabled the Bank to make substantial additions to its reserves. Cash holdings are \$1,800,000 higher than a year ago, and at \$6,645,779 stand in a ratio of about 13.40 per cent. to the liabilities to the public against 10.18 per cent. in last year's balance sheet. A year ago quick assets were in the proportion of 25.48 to the liabilities to the public; in the present balance sheet they have been increased by \$1,900,000 to \$14,072,237 and stand in a proportion of 28.36 to the liabilities to the public of \$49,617,892. The whole statement is such as to give satisfaction to all concerned and must be particularly gratifying to Mr. Thomas F. How, the general manager.

NEW HEADQUARTERS.

Recently the Bank of Toronto took possession of its magnificent new premises on King and Bay streets, Toronto, where accommodation has been provided for its head office operations on a scale adequate to the necessities of a rapidly growing business and to the convenience of a large and increasing staff. The new building is in the monumental style, exclusively for the Bank's use, providing a ground floor banking room of excellent proportions and qualities, and on the three upper floors abundant and satisfactory

accommodation for the head office staff and numerous other departments. The building is both artistic in design and thoroughly practical in plan, both an ornament to Toronto and a credit to the bank.

For almost sixty years, the Bank of Toronto has now been identified with the growth and development of Canadian commerce and finance, and it may be confidently expected that under the sound management and direction now at its disposal that the policy of progressive conservatism which has consistently characterised it will be continued to the benefit both of its large clientele and its stockholders.

THE NEW YORK LIFE'S SIXTY-NINTH YEAR.

The New York Life's sixty-ninth annual report tells a wonderful story. New policies were issued in 1913 insuring over 232 million dollars, and total outstanding contracts amount to over 2,270 millions. Both these items show large increases as compared with 1912. The dividends declared for payment in 1914 are over seventeen million dollars, which is also a large increase over the distributions made in 1913. These so-called dividends are, of course, really savings from the allowance made in the premiums for death-losses, expenses, taxes and all other contingencies, and are therefore a measure in some sort of the economy and efficiency shown by the management.

AN ENORMOUS INCOME.

The income received was in round figures 124 million dollars, and the report shows exactly what was done with it. Over half of it was paid back to policyholders in death-claims, matured endowments, dividends, etc.; expenses, including over a million dollars in taxes, absorbed fifteen millions; and forty-three millions were added to the reserves held for the ultimate payment of policies in force. The life companies have lately complained, and with reason, of the burden of national, state and local taxation, and in the case of the New York Life over eight per cent. of the total expenses went for taxes.

INCREASE IN EARNING POWER.

The analytical statement of the earning power of investments—both old and new—which the Company publishes, is of more than passing interest. The New York Life's investments during 1913 were made on an average income basis of 5.07 p.c., and the average earning power of both old and new is 4.54 p.c. The increase of the average earning power of assets during the year was 0.03 p.c. which, upon the present volume of the Company's assets, amounts to \$220,000. The Company has paid special attention to this phase of its business during the administration of President Kingsley, and its reports have shown a substantial increase in the earning power of assets each year. During 1913 a Farm Loan Department was established.

The magnitude of the Company's operations is indicated by the announcement that its complete statement for the year, filed with the Federal, State and foreign governments, consists of 168 printed folio pages. A briefer report, including lists of the Company's investments and other important information, is furnished policyholders and the public.