

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The Bank of Nova Scotia's statement for the year, ended December 31st last, is characterised by a considerable enlargement of resources, and by yet further strengthening of the very fine liquid position reported in recent years. In comparison with ratios of liquid assets to liabilities to the public of 70.6 per cent. in 1915 and 74.3 per cent. in 1916, there is now indicated a ratio as at December 31st last of 78.9 per cent. This fact indicates very clearly the conservative course pursued by the Bank under Mr. H. A. Richardson's management.

THE BALANCE SHEET.

Following are the leading items of the Bank's balance sheet in comparison with those of the preceding year:—

	1917	1916
Circulation.....	\$ 12,171,423	\$ 7,945,081
Deposits not bearing interest....	26,102,810	21,278,802
Deposits bearing interest.....	78,235,361	66,546,078
Total liabilities to public.....	116,509,593	96,748,785
Specie and Legals.....	20,128,004	17,526,258
Central Gold Reserve.....	6,500,000	2,000,000
Bank Balances Abroad.....	5,438,103	6,842,435
Call and demand Loans in Canada	14,238,163	12,313,309
Call and demand Loans Abroad	7,928,753	7,791,174
Securities held.....	29,603,471	18,446,892
Total of Quick Assets.....	92,035,247	71,926,080
Current Loans in Canada.....	34,646,786	35,094,181
Current Loans Abroad.....	7,373,290	5,909,211
Total Assets.....	138,297,245	116,621,727

The great demand for currency at the present time is shown in the Bank's circulation, which, at \$12,171,423, shows an increase of \$4,200,000, more than 50 per cent., over the circulation of twelve months ago. This additional circulation has been covered by fresh deposits of \$4,500,000 in the Central Gold Reserve. Deposits are \$16,500,000 larger, at \$104,338,171, savings deposits accounting for the major portion of this increase with a growth of \$11,700,000. On the other side of the account, cash holdings are \$2,600,000 up, at \$20,128,004, and, with the Central Gold Reserve deposit of \$6,500,000, are in a proportion of practically 23.0 per cent. of liabilities to the public. Bank balances abroad are down by \$1,400,000 to \$5,438,103, and call loans abroad show only a slight variation from 1916. Call and demand loans in Canada are nearly \$2,000,000 higher, at \$14,238,163. This increase is wholly accounted for by an increase in loans on grain and other staple commodities, loans on bonds, etc., being \$600,000 lower than a year ago. Securities held, the measure of the Bank's assistance in Government financing, are increased over \$11,000,000, to \$29,603,471, the largest growth being in Dominion securities, representing temporary loans to the Canadian Government, which are up from \$3,110,743 to \$12,704,328. Canadian current loans and discounts are \$450,000 lower than a year ago, at \$34,646,786; current loans abroad have increased nearly \$1,500,000, to \$7,373,290, a result, doubtless, of activity in West Indian trade and the high prices ruling for tropical products.

Almost the whole of the year's increase in assets is represented in the growth of quick assets, which are now reported as \$92,035,247, against \$71,926,080 twelve months ago, and equivalent, as already stated, to 78.9 per cent. of liabilities to the public. Total assets are \$138,297,245, against \$116,621,727—it is only two years ago they were reported for the first time in excess of one hundred millions.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Net profits for the year were \$1,295,315, showing the moderate increase of \$43,276 over those of 1916, which were \$1,252,039, and are equal to 7.0 per cent. on the paid-up capital and rest, against 6.8 per cent. in 1916. Including the balance of \$584,654 brought forward, the amount available on profit and loss account was \$1,879,969. Of this amount, the 14 per cent. dividend absorbed \$910,000, war tax on the Bank's circulation \$65,000, and \$150,000 is written off Bank premises. After making the usual contribution of \$50,000 to the Officers' Pension Fund, and patriotic and philanthropic contributions of \$144,700, including \$100,000 to the Halifax Relief Fund, the slightly reduced balance of \$560,269 is carried forward.

Mr. W. P. Hunt continues as the manager of this Bank at its important St. James Street, Montreal, branch.

UNION OF CANTON SUBSCRIBES \$5,000 FOR HALIFAX RELIEF FUND.

Mr. C. R. Drayton, Canadian manager of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, who spent a few days in Montreal last week, accompanied by Mr. Hay, assistant manager at Hong Kong, states that he has received instructions from his Head Office to subscribe \$5,000 towards the Halifax relief fund. The generous donation from an old British company just entering Canada will be much appreciated.

Mr. Leroy A. Lincoln, formerly general counsel of the New York Insurance Department, has been appointed general attorney of the Metropolitan Life.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

The Standard Bank of CANADA Head Office, TORONTO



TRUST FUNDS

Our Savings Department gives you a guarantee of absolute security and interest at current rate.



Montreal Branch: 136 ST. JAMES STREET
E. C. GREEN, Manager.