

### AMERICAN BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES.

There is not in the United States that sharply defined line of difference between banks and trust and savings companies that obtains in Canada. In the States each class of these financial institutions transacts kinds of business, to some extent, which are also carried on by the other. One feature they have especially in common, that is, the reception of deposits, just as in Canada our mortgage loan companies and savings banks base a large share of their business on these funds. Our banks do not engage in real estate transactions, nor do they make the buying and selling of securities a branch of their ordinary business, nor do they engage in the promotion of joint stock companies. But, in the States, these classes of financing are carried on by some banks, and form a large proportion of the active operations of the trust and savings companies. Some institutions bear the title "Bank and Trust Company." The following statement of the capital, surplus, or rest, and deposits of 1,415 banks and trust companies has been compiled from a New York stock list, the figures being made up to a recent date.

STATISTICS OF AMERICAN BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES BY STATES.

State.	No. of Bks. &c.	Capital.	Surplus.	Deposits.
		\$	\$	\$
Alabama.....	4	1,875,500	864,500	8,924,260
Arkansas.....	5	900,000	157,300	2,384,200
California.....	37	21,820,000	11,650,800	140,816,000
Colorado.....	8	2,325,000	1,050,400	26,710,400
Connecticut.....	35	13,300,000	6,452,500	42,560,000
Delaware.....	8	2,423,185	1,196,000	8,510,000
Dist. of Columbia.....	15	6,277,000	2,657,000	32,586,000
Florida.....	6	450,000	207,155	3,192,834
Georgia.....	34	7,075,600	2,801,500	21,961,000
Illinois.....	44	31,113,000	21,100,000	349,360,000
Indiana.....	17	6,410,000	2,030,000	29,900,000
Iowa.....	26	4,585,000	1,230,000	32,245,600
Kentucky.....	31	13,400,000	4,605,000	44,160,000
Louisiana.....	15	4,530,200	5,545,000	27,686,600
Maine.....	2	2,750,000	1,340,000	10,340,860
Maryland.....	43	25,503,597	15,006,000	71,146,000
Massachusetts.....	156	73,815,000	38,655,000	403,950,000
Michigan.....	44	11,600,000	3,940,000	95,645,000
Minnesota.....	31	12,476,025	2,260,000	56,138,000
Missouri.....	46	31,640,000	17,980,000	193,445,000
Nebraska.....	19	5,075,000	1,066,600	30,294,000
New Hampshire.....	5	750,000	317,000	3,128,080
New Jersey.....	40	10,510,000	9,770,000	77,328,000
New York State.....	79	17,970,000	15,146,000	140,286,000
"    "    City Bks.	103	64,924,700	83,700,000	823,100,000
"    "    Trust Co.	39	42,900,000	74,185,000	560,640,000
Ohio.....	98	35,980,556	11,680,000	137,320,000
Oregon.....	8	1,600,000	1,012,000	9,724,000
Pennsylvania.....	201	77,571,400	82,100,000	491,849,600
Rhode Island.....	46	18,646,200	6,766,400	55,301,600
South Carolina.....	14	1,530,000	980,000	10,250,000
Tennessee.....	35	7,702,500	2,340,000	28,926,000
Texas.....	33	6,488,100	3,100,000	23,435,000
Utah.....	10	2,100,000	540,000	8,386,000
Virginia.....	21	6,254,750	3,240,000	25,068,400
West Virginia.....	13	1,775,800	477,000	9,505,000
Wisconsin.....	17	5,105,000	1,560,000	51,071,000
Washington.....	18	3,135,000	1,130,000	20,384,000
Totals.....	1415	584,288,114	439,848,555	4,107,658,434
Amount per head of population.....		\$7.80	.....	\$54.77

\* In this total a large amount of profits yet to be divided are included.

In the list from which we have made up and classified the above statistics, we find no less than \$048,000,000 of the deposits returned as being held by companies in which the word "Trust" forms part of the title, and in quite a number of them this word is associated with "Bank." It is, therefore, evident that an enormous business is being carried on in the States by institutions which are styled "Banks," which enterprises are largely engaged in real estate loans, and other forms of business which are either not entered upon at all by the banks of Canada, or only incidentally in connection with collateral securities, and liquidations of estates. On looking down the list of these 1,415 companies, we find 94 whose average capital is \$50,000, some being less than \$20,000. There are 545 whose capital ranges from \$100,000 to \$200,000, the average being \$150,000. Companies of this class, having a capital from \$200,000 to \$500,000, number 407, the average being \$350,000. So that we get an aggregate of 1,136 bank and trust companies operating in the United States whose average capital is \$230,000. Those whose capital runs from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 number 176, the bulk of them having the smaller amount. Eight have a capital of \$3,000,000, and only three a higher amount, viz., Bank of Commerce, St. Louis; Exchange National Bank, New York; National Bank of Commerce, New York, each of which has a capital of \$5,000,000. Some of the States seem to be very sparingly furnished with banking capital, as, for example, Florida, with only \$450,000; Georgia, with 33 banks, and only \$7,075,600 total capital amongst them; Iowa, with 26 banks, and \$4,585,000 of capital. Yet these States and others whose banking capital and trust company capital is quite small have large deposits, running up in Illinois to 11 times the capital of the companies where they are placed. In that State indeed, there is one bank whose deposits are 20 times the amount of the capital, and one Trust Co. holds deposits for 56 millions whose capital is \$3,000,000. In some cases the disproportion between capital and deposits is, from a Canadian standpoint, very extraordinary, as in the case of a New Orleans Bank which has a capital of only \$100,000, yet its deposits amount to \$2,630,000. In San Francisco, one bank with a million dollars capital has 27 1-2 millions on deposit, and a bank in South Carolina with the trifling capital of \$30,000 controls \$600,000 of deposits, and one in Georgia with a capital of \$15,045 has deposits for \$9,8820. It seems indeed that any institution calling itself a "Bank" or a "Trust Co." in the States can secure deposits of a large amount regardless of its having a very slim basis in capital. It is owing to this, to a large extent, that the suspensions and failures of American banks are so numerous, and re-organizations so frequent. Yet, in spite of these evidences of weakness in the financial basis of so large a proportion of American banks, the extent of public confidence reposed in them by depositors is remarkable, and gives no sign of there being any widespread sympathy with the poli-