enlarge the credits of the business men in various Western centres. In some cases these borrowers have been requested to reduce their lines of discount; and they do not like it at all. However, there can be little doubt that this policy is in the best interests of the country. Some of the observers who travelled through the western towns and cities with the Winnipeg business men the other day were struck with the fact that in every small town the business men seemed to have town lots and farm lands on hand for speculation. And it is undoubtedly the case that a large number of Western business men are carrying lines of credit which are swollen to unnatural limits by reason of the payments and responsibilities connected with their real estate deals. It is altogether likely that the attitude of the banks in requiring the business men to reduce their lines will result in the latter disengaging themselves from these outside speculations. Indeed there are reports that that is now taking place. There are in the East many good friends of the West who think this outcome is in the true interest of Western Canada and of the whole country. Settlement and development will take place all the more rapidly if some of the inflated realty values are punctured. It will do no harm at all if the great activity of the real estate market out there is lessened for a while.

## THE CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS.

On January 27th, THE CHRONICLE published tables showing the fluctuations of Canada's circulating medium from the end of 1908 to November, 1910. In the tables the amount of bank and government notes actually in circulation amongst the general public was given for each month. To arrive at these figures it was necessary to deduct the amount of "notes of other banks" held by the banks, from the total of bank notes outstanding reported in the government statements, and to deduct the amount of Dominion notes held by the banks from the total of Dominion notes outstanding. When these two remainders are added together the result gives the amount of circulating medium in the hands of the general public, and the record of variations or fluctuations of the total affords a satisfactory measure of the activity of general business. By the tables presented to-day the figures have been brought up to date, and percentages have been added showing the ratio of increase of each month since December, 1909, over the corresponding month of the preceding year.

As remarked in the earlier article, the simplicity of the Canadian currency system lends itself admirably for the purpose of a calculation of this kind. In all the European countries gold coins

## CANADIAN NOTE FLUCTUATIONS, 1909-11.

*(Exclusive to The Chronicle).*

| | Bank Notes | | | Government Notes | | | Total Bank and Government Notes held by Public. | Percentage Increase over Corresponding Month of previous year. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Outstanding | Held by Banks. | Held by Public. | Outstanding | Held by Banks. | Held by Public. | | |
| | $ | $ | $ | $ | $ | $ | $ | |
| **1911** | | | | | | | | |
| May | 81,862,218 | *8,100,000 | 73,762,218 | 98,314,348 | 82,666,396 | 15,647,952 | 89,410,170 | 6.8 |
| April | 83,647,088 | *7,600,000 | 76,047,088 | 90,632,421 | 76,423,945 | 14,208,476 | 90,255,564 | 5.1 |
| March | 81,938,753 | 7,411,316 | 74,527,437 | 89,994,270 | 75,877,128 | 14,117,142 | 88,644,579 | 5.7 |
| February | 79,927,785 | 7,518,338 | 72,409,447 | 89,283,079 | 75,297,677 | 13,985,402 | 86,394,849 | 6.1 |
| January | 77,110,971 | 7,054,644 | 70,056,327 | 89,456,107 | 75,886,564 | 13,569,543 | 83,625,870 | 4.2 |
| **1910** | | | | | | | | |
| December | 87,694,840 | 9,090,428 | 78,604,412 | 90,722,905 | 76,007,087 | 14,715,818 | 93,320,230 | 6.2 |
| November | 90,165,730 | 7,823,516 | 82,342,214 | 91,796,727 | 76,970,214 | 14,826,513 | 97,168,727 | 4.6 |
| October | 95,992,866 | 8,159,006 | 87,833,860 | 92,145,478 | 76,646,364 | 15,499,114 | 103,332,974 | 7.5 |
| September | 87,256,332 | 7,730,510 | 79,525,822 | 92,119,996 | 76,695,936 | 15,424,060 | 94,949,882 | 10.2 |
| August | 81,321,439 | 6,765,571 | 74,555,868 | 91,329,552 | 77,215,840 | 14,113,712 | 88,669,580 | 11.7 |
| July | 80,929,290 | 7,320,239 | 73,609,051 | 90,107,362 | 75,216,315 | 14,891,047 | 88,500,098 | 13.0 |
| June | 79,781,631 | 7,022,049 | 72,759,582 | 89,285,728 | 74,349,645 | 14,936,083 | 87,695,665 | 13.6 |
| May | 77,194,344 | 6,847,610 | 70,346,734 | 89,347,796 | 76,011,635 | 13,336,161 | 83,682,895 | 12.2 |
| April | 78,776,228 | 7,644,091 | 71,132,137 | 87,063,361 | 72,353,504 | 14,709,857 | 85,841,994 | 15.0 |
| March | 78,265,822 | 7,131,847 | 71,133,975 | 87,134,668 | 74,369,740 | 12,764,328 | 83,898,303 | 10.7 |
| February | 74,686,443 | 6,427,646 | 68,258,797 | 87,232,017 | 74,076,167 | 13,155,850 | 81,414,647 | 9.8 |
| January | 73,378,676 | 6,439,882 | 66,938,794 | 87,257,833 | 73,974,295 | 13,283,538 | 80,222,332 | 10.2 |
| **1909** | | | | | | | | |
| December | 81,325,732 | 7,182,639 | 74,143,093 | 86,984,843 | 73,225,789 | 13,759,054 | 87,902,147 | .. |
| November | 86,390,876 | 7,758,745 | 78,632,131 | 85,783,164 | 71,510,601 | 14,272,563 | 92,906,694 | .. |
| October | 89,633,549 | 8,206,214 | 81,427,335 | 83,051,822 | 68,311,633 | 14,740,189 | 96,167,524 | .. |
| September | 79,207,441 | 6,586,723 | 72,620,718 | 80,456,391 | 66,924,455 | 13,531,936 | 86,152,654 | .. |
| August | 71,847,532 | 6,325,646 | 65,521,886 | 79,188,362 | 65,313,074 | 13,875,288 | 79,397,174 | .. |
| July | 71,006,005 | 6,120,424 | 64,885,581 | 79,023,965 | 65,616,602 | 13,407,363 | 78,292,944 | .. |
| June | 70,171,491 | 5,839,633 | 64,330,858 | 79,005,300 | 66,169,620 | 12,835,680 | 77,166,538 | .. |
| May | 68,593,229 | 6,488,083 | 62,105,146 | 79,043,138 | 66,547,255 | 12,495,883 | 74,601,029 | .. |
| April | 67,266,664 | 4,957,009 | 62,309,655 | 79,017,936 | 66,701,804 | 12,316,132 | 74,625,787 | .. |
| March | 68,708,458 | 5,228,807 | 63,479,651 | 79,351,081 | 67,065,716 | 12,285,364 | 75,765,015 | .. |
| February | 67,348,359 | 5,276,028 | 62,072,331 | 79,319,453 | 67,269,625 | 12,049,828 | 74,122,159 | .. |
| January | 65,819,067 | 5,179,317 | 60,639,750 | 79,283,476 | 67,115,600 | 12,167,876 | 72,806,626 | .. |

* Amount held by banks, April 30th and May 31st, 1911, estimated.