BANKERS' OPINION ON THE OUTLOOK.

A Symposium of Interesting Views—Notes of Caution—Fundamental Conditions Good but Consolidation rather than Expansion now should be our Object.

Leading Canadian bankers recently expressed their views on the Canadian outlook at the request of the London *Financial Times*, and their opinions form an interesting symposium. Summarising them, it may be said that caution is suggested by these financial authorities, and a desire expressed that there should be an opportunity for consolidation rather than any attempt to continue a feverish pace of expansion. Extracts from the statements made are as follows:—

SIR EDMUND WALKER.

Investors are no longer satisfied with a return of three or four per cent. upon their money. Even in Britain they are demanding a return of 5 per cent. or more, and the public in France and Germany is taking the same stand. The reason for this is plain. The cost of living has increased by leaps and bounds. People are no longer able to exist in comfort upon

Statement of the Chartered Banks of Canada.

Statistical Abstract for Month Ending February 28, 1913, giving Comparison of Principal Items, with Increase or Decrease for the Month and for the Year.

(Compiled by THE CHRONICLE).

	Feb. 28 1913	Jan. 31 1913	Feb. 29 1912	Inc. or Dec. for month, 1913	Increase or Decrease for month, 1912	Inc. or Dec. for year.
Assets.						
Specie	$37,592,441	$36,151,056	$36,132,572	+$1,441,385	—$ 1,080,934	+ $1,459,869
Dominion Notes	91,488,344	94,976,271	98,074,887	— 3,487,927	+ 1,106,418	— 6,586,543
Notes of & Cheques on other Bks.	57,167,804	57,828,138	50,362,587	— 660,334	+ 479,052	+ 6,805,217
Deposit to Secure Note Issues	6,397,936	6,410,103	6,953,266	— 12,167	+ 1,134,574	— 555,330
Loans to other Bks. in Can., sec'd.	138,900	138,900	560,225	....	+ 9,906	— 421,325
Deposits with and due other Banks in Canada	7,803,025	7,186,951	7,279,063	+ 616,074	— 953,732	+ 523,962
Due from Banks, etc., in U. K.	17,958,676	10,213,717	21,420,288	+ 7,744,959	— 3,454,712	— 3,461,612
Due from Banks, etc., elsewhere	26,217,880	28,148,840	28,230,445	— 1,930,960	+ 4,214,423	— 2,012,565
Dom. and Prov. Securities	$ 9,018,940	$ 9,125,656	$ 9,064,294	— $106,716	+ $ 14,036	— $ 45,354
Can. Mun. For. Pub. Securities	23,691,078	24,118,965	21,671,096	— 427,887	+ 453,780	+ 2,019,982
Rlwy. and other Bonds & Stocks	68,902,540	68,245,021	61,457,709	+ 657,519	— 3,759,452	+ 7,444,831
Total Securities held	$101,612,558	$101,489,642	$92,193,099	+ $122,916	— $3,291,636	+ $9,419,459
Call Loans in Canada	$71,286,799	$71,376,510	$71,181,510	—$ 89,711	— $ 101,656	+ $ 105,289
Call Loans outside Canada	95,229,407	92,387,847	88,589,472	+ 2,841,560	+ 7,718,354	+ 6,639,935
Total Call and Short Loans	$166,516,206	$163,764,357	$159,770,982	+$2,751,849	+ $7,616,698	+ $6,745,224
Current Loans and Discounts in Canada	$882,112,726	$874,705,616	$793,853,547	+$7,407,110	+$17,881,304	+ $88,259,179
Current Loans and Discounts outside	37,673,798	40,098,146	35,946,475	— 2,424,348	— 1,171,606	+ 1,727,323
Total Current Loans & Discounts	$919,786,524	$914,803,762	$829,800,022	+$4,982,762	+$16,809,698	+ $89,986,502
Aggregate of Loans to Public	$1,036,302,730	$1,078,563,119	$989,571,004	+$7,734,611	+$24,326,396	+$196,731,726
Loans to Provincial Governments	$ 1,567,214	$ 3,236,028	$ 2,535,944	—$1,668,814	+ $ 736,214	— $ 968,730
Overdue Debts	4,003,324	4,210,022	3,589,685	— 206,698	— 182,751	+ 413,639
Bank Premises	38,063,572	37,580,485	33,257,426	— 483,087	+ 268,112	+ 4,806,146
Other Real Estate and Mortgages	3,817,679	3,919,928	2,467,380	— 102,249	— 83,031	+ 1,350,299
Other Assets	11,421,215	15,400,113	11,207,575	— 3,978,898	— 2,928,447	+ 213,640
TOTAL ASSETS	$1,491,553,448	$1,485,457,458	$1,383,835,613	+$6,095,990	+$20,299,835	+$107,717,835
Liabilities.						
Notes in Circulation	$97,206,713	$94,575,644	$88,920,598	+$2,631,069	+ $ 855,077	+ $8,286,115
Due to Dominion Government	7,406,340	8,117,977	10,057,477	— 711,637	+ 4,598,151	— 2,651,137
Due to Provincial Governments	26,001,461	24,524,487	27,304,898	+ 1,476,974	+ 289,795	— 1,303,437
Deposits in Canada, payable on demand	$349,661,830	$354,518,964	$321,152,954	—$4,857,134	+ $4,215,992	+ $28,508,876
Deposits in Canada, payable after notice	630,467,518	635,000,056	600,252,128	— 4,532,538	+ 3,404,954	+ 30,215,390
Total Dep'ts. of Public in Can.	$980,129,348	$989,519,020	$921,405,082	—$9,389,672	+ $7,620,946	+ $58,724,266
Dep'ts. elsewhere than in Can.	91,868,886	83,284,404	81,397,599	+ 8,584,482	+ 4,347,837	+ 10,471,287
Total Dep'ts. other than Govt.	$1,071,998,234	$1,072,803,424	$1,002,802,681	— $805,190	+$11,968,783	+ $69,195,553
Loans from other Banks in Can.	....	....	....	....	....	....
Deposits by other Banks in Can.	$ 6,695,503	$ 6,194,138	$ 6,433,827	+$ 501,365	— $1,133,386	+ $ 261,676
Due to Banks & Agencies in U. K.	12,884,506	11,347,324	4,203,443	+ 1,537,182	+ 1,037,076	+ 8,681,063
Due to Banks and Agencies elsewhere	9,842,421	9,470,554	6,364,530	+ 371,867	+ 235,861	+ 3,477,891
Other Liabilities	20,234,740	20,552,844	14,429,466	— 318,104	— 1,002,944	+ 5,805,274
TOTAL LIABILITIES	$1,252,269,981	$1,247,586,414	$1,160,516,994	+$4,683,567	+$16,848,411	+ $91,752,987
Capital, etc.						
Capital paid up	$115,820,316	$115,327,032	$110,448,244	+$ 493,284	+ $1,029,910	+ $5,372,072
Reserve Fund	107,514,405	107,200,548	98,721,502	+ 313,857	+ 619,907	+ 8,792,903
Liab. of Directors and their firms	11,027,977	10,740,268	11,145,609	+ 287,709	+ 544,850	— 117,632
Greatest Circulation in Month	101,211,345	109,777,660	93,259,141	— 8,566,315	— 8,206,961	+ 7,952,204
Aver. Specie held during Month	36,027,349	34,021,176	36,150,352	+ 2,006,173	— 477,195	— 123,003
Av. Dom. Notes held during Mth.	91,941,566	94,733,894	97,901,146	— 2,792,328	+ 463,004	— 5,959,580