and for being Imperialist. If his own colleague does not go so far, in the same direction, he goes as far as he dares, or could possibly, in his position, go. The simple fact is that Quebec is anti-Imperial; and while this is so both parties, both of them, more or less openly, condemn Imperialism. Shades of individual opinions produce other variations.

In the United States, the independent political press has no difficulty forecasting the result of a Presidential election. Here the political press is too much under the influence of party to take a calm, sober view of the situation; and as a result, we have no reliable forecasts of a Dominion election. The chances are that the Government will hold its own, or more than hold its own, in Quebec, while it will lose somewhat in Ontario. In the West, if the whole power of the C.P.R. be exerted against the Government, the Opposition will gain; perhaps in any event they would do so. The Maritime Provinces are claimed by both parties; but which will prove the true prophet will only be known on the night of November 7th.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

We give below a condensation of the figures of the statement of Canadian banks for the month of September, 1900. It is compared with the bank statement for the previous month, and shows capital, reserve, assets and liabilities, average holdings of specie and Dominion notes, etc.:—

Canadian Bank Statement.

LIABILITIES.	Sept., 1900.	Aug., 1900.
Capital authorized	$82,608,664	$82,358,664
Capital paid up	65,784,772	65,368,255
Reserve Funds	33,769,356	33,245,018
Notes in circulation	$50,387,070	$47,421,277
Dominion and Provincial Government deposits	5,516,872	5,603,362
Public deposits on demand	101,911,549	100,738,575
Public deposits at notice	183,062,013	183,007,679
Deposits outside of Canada	21,213,758	16,429,516
Bank loans or deposits from other banks secured	1,491,563	1,337,916
Due to other Banks in Canada	3,462,114	3,384,578
Due to other banks in Great Britain	4,998,675	5,713,769
Due to other banks in foreign countries	867,283	569,873
Other liabilities	5,692,843	6,965,301
Total liabilities	$378,603,318	$371,171,91
ASSETS.		
Specie	$11,666,635	$11 080,742
Dominion notes	18,642,961	18,243,566
Deposits to secure note circulation	2,372,973	2,372,973
Notes and cheques on other banks	10,045,213	9,947,178
Loans to other banks, secured	1,549,743	1,295,152
Deposits with other banks in Canada	4,512,917	4.253,174
Due from banks in Great Britain	6,485,226	6,014,776
Due from other banks in foreign countries	12,020,346	12,374,707
Dominion Govt. debentures or stock	11,752,678	11,182,752
Other securities	37,162,135	35,098,636
Call loans on bonds and stocks in Canada	30,786,953	30,028,215
Call loans elsewhere	29,749,949	27,771,191
	$176,747,729	$169,663,003
Current loans and discounts in Canada	272,020,397	272,012,322
Loans and discounts elsewhere	18,650,178	14,885,183
Loans to Dominion and Provincial Governments	1,572,168	1,501,760
Overdue debts	1,391,949	1,988,004
Real estate	1,149,744	991,911
Mortgages on real estate sold	582,202	575,919
Bank premises	6,426,345	6,335,039
Other assets	8,129,840	8,174,399
Total assets	$487,670,752	$476,127,784
Average amount of specie held during the month	11,008,562	11,002,953
Average Dominion notes held during the month	18,934,682	17,697,548
Greatest amount notes in circulation during month	51,188,095	48,242,681
Loans to directors or their firms	12,081,728	11,744,413

From the figures of the September statement it is evident that the tide of prosperity is still flowing strongly over the country, the condition of things exactly corresponding to that which was reported by the bankers of the American Association at their recent convention in Richmond. At that time the universal note was of increased deposits, more active business, abundant funds and resources; and this not in one part of the country alone, but in every State of the Union, from north to south, and from east to west. This, too, is the case with the banks in Canada, all the salient figures in the banking return are higher than ever before. Circulation has now touched fifty millions, the increase during the month of September being nearly three millions. Deposits have now reached three hundred and sixteen millions, the increase over last month being over six millions. But the total deposits of the country have now risen, for the first time in our history, to over four hundred millions, the amount being made up as follows:

Deposits in Chartered Banks	$316,000,000
In Government Savings Banks	54,000,000
In Loan Companies	20,000,000
In Montreal Savings Bank	12,000,000
In Quebec Savings Bank	6,000,000
Total	$408,000,000

This is a most remarkable showing considering that only five years ago the total deposits of all kinds were only $274,000,000. The increase has been very largely in deposits in the chartered banks. These in September, 1895, were $197,000,000 only, while they are now $316,000,000. At one time the banks of Canada compared very unfavorably with those of other countries in the amount of banking funds at their disposal over and above their capital. This, as is well known, is the true measure of the power of the banks to earn profits. But now the deposits and circulation, taken together, amount in the aggregate to nearly six times as much as the capital, which gives a fair index of their earning power over and above their capital and surplus and reserve profits. These large sums, *i.e.*, deposits and circulation together, amounting to $367,000,000, are, of course, *liabilities* of the banks. They call for the holding of very considerable reserves, a matter which we may be sure the banks are fully alive to the necessity of. And the statement gives evidence that they are so alive to the fact that they have as a whole about 30 per cent. in immediately available resources, while they hold a large amount of immediately convertible assets in addition, in the shape of Government and railway bonds. The banks, then, taking them as a whole, are in a strong position and have abundant funds at their disposal to meet the present requirements of their customers.

But it is to be noted that the loans and discounts are fast increasing, and are likely to increase further, so that even before the New Year it may be found that the supply of available funds is not so plentiful as it is at present. And if customers find that bankers are talking of the possibility of higher rates for the remainder of the fall and winter they need not be surprised. For the increase in the discounts during the last year has been quite as remarkable as the increase in deposits. All this shows that the banks are doing a very active and expanding business, which is as much as to say that their customers' demands and requirements are expanding too, and that very rapidly. Of course, in such a condition of things, it is the part of prudence to consider if expansion is proceeding on healthy lines, if it is based on sound and legitimate business, and if it may not be followed by a sharp reaction. Our conclusion, after a survey of the whole position, is that the