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In Comparison With Cities of More
Than Twice The Population.

Per Capita Clearings Make Wonderful Showing.

The comparative table that follows below showing cities in the United States whose populations are greater while their bank clearings are considerably less than those of St. John, N. B., afford instructive and interesting reading. It proves beyond a doubt what a vast body of trading is done through the chief port of New Brunswick and in what a preponderantly successful position that city is standing. The United States is also on the crest of a great wave of prosperity so there can be no question of the value of the comparison. Nothing speaks so clearly as these figures which are in every case absolutely authentic. If it is argued that the heavy munition exports which are passing through St. John explain largely the very high bank clearings of that city as compared with cities of greater size in the United States, it has also to be remembered that these very cities are themselves at the top notch of their manufacturing activity while some of them are themselves in munition production:

TABLE
4

This Table shows the Bank Clearings of St. John in comparison with nine commercial centres in the United States.

CITY	POPULATION 1916.	BANK CLEARINGS 1916	PER CAPITA CLEARINGS.
St. John	55,000	\$90,946,795	\$1,829
Fall River	126,904	\$4,956,306	667
Fort Wayne, Ind.	74,342	\$8,451,639	1,041
Springfield, Ill.	59,618	\$7,797,036	1,303
New Bedford	114,694	\$5,691,285	652
Erie	73,798	\$7,565,378	969
Mobile, Ala.	56,536	\$9,376,044	1,052
Lowell	112,124	\$1,962,662	454
Holyoke, Mass.	64,069	\$4,747,942	776
Binghamton	53,082	\$4,717,400	823

An analysis of the figures in this comparative Table reveals the fact that no city of the United States whose population comes anywhere near that of St. John, has anything like the amount of its bank clearings. Thus Binghamton, N. Y., whose population is the nearest of those selected to St. John, being about 5,000 greater, has less than half its value of bank clearings. At the opposite extreme we may take the case of Lowell, Mass., with a population much more than double that of St. John, shows in round figures fifty-two millions of bank clearings against ninety-one millions by the New Brunswick city. Also of Fall River whose population shows 126,804 against the 48,000 of St. John, yet whose bank clearings are in round figures only eighty-five millions against the ninety-one millions of the Canadian city.

The case of Waterbury, Conn., with a population seventy-five per cent greater than St. John shows bank clearings in excess of St. John by fourteen per cent only. Trenton with a population much in excess of twice that of St. John shows bank clearings only around twenty-eight per cent greater.

The case of Wilkes Barre is unique. It is the centre of a very considerable steel industry and is consequently heavily in munitions industry. Its bank clearings exceed those of St. John by about eighteen per cent while its population is greater than St. John by fifty per cent. Here we have an instance of a munition manufacturing city in direct comparison with St. John and coming out of that comparison with no discredit to the latter city.

The above Table is shown in the form of a Chart. The black lines indicate the relative value of bank clearings. The extraordinary position of St. John is better appreciated.

CHART
E

This Chart compares St. John with a number of live progressive American cities in Bank Clearings which is the best barometer for general business. In point of population St. John is the smallest city in the group—in Clearings it is the largest. Included among these cities are many well known manufacturing centres.

St. John — Clearings \$90,946,795.

Fall River — Clearings \$4,956,306.

Fort Wayne — Clearings \$8,451,639.

Springfield — Clearings \$7,797,036.

New Bedford — Clearings \$5,691,285.

Erie — Clearings \$7,565,378.

Mobile — Clearings \$9,376,044.

Lowell — Clearings \$1,962,662.

Holyoke — Clearings \$4,747,942.

Binghamton — Clearings \$4,717,400.

CHART
F

This Chart shows at a glance the comparative standing in per capita Bank Clearings of St. John with nine important American cities.

Rank 1 St. John — Per Capita Clearings \$1,829.

2 Springfield, Ill. — \$1,303.

3 Mobile, Ala. — \$1,052.

4 Fort Wayne, Ind. — \$1,041.

5 Erie — \$969.

6 Binghamton — \$823.

7 Holyoke — \$776.

8 Fall River — \$667.

9 New Bedford — \$652.

10 Lowell — \$454.

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