

THE INCREASE OF CANADIAN BANKING CAPITAL.

Within the last year there has been a notable recession in the rate of increase of the paid-up capital of the Canadian banks. In the ten months from June 30th, 1913, to April 30th, 1914, the capital of the banks was increased only by \$1,982,568, as compared with a net increase of \$3,602,550 in the twelve months ending June, 1913, and \$11,523,231 in the year ending June 30th, 1912. For several months no new issues have been announced, and it is to be expected that with the exception of some of the smaller banks whose capital accounts are practically always open, that the banks' capitals have for the time being achieved a periodical finality. It will require another very strong forward movement of development and trade activity to inaugurate such a notable series of increases in the paid up capital as was seen in 1911-1912.

Within the last year there have been no sweeping changes in the capital accounts resulting from bank amalgamations such as were seen in recent years. The most substantial additions made to paid-up capitals are by the Dominion Bank which has added \$587,503 to its paid up capital in the last ten months, by the Hochelaga Bank whose capital account has been swelled by \$400,340 in the same period, and by the Standard Bank which has added \$396,860. Beyond these the additions made are all small, the largest being \$91,000 by the Imperial Bank. As at April 30th, 1914, the banks' paid up capital stood

at \$115,173,655, compared with \$113,191,087 at June 30th, 1913, and \$109,588,537 at June 30th, 1912.

One of the reasons which strongly urged bankers formerly towards increases of paid-up capital but now no longer operates, has been the necessity of meeting the demand for circulation. This demand can now be better met through the new Central Gold Reserve. The bankers have, as is well known, for many years inclined to be cautious in regard to the extension of capital accounts for the sound reason that they have not wished to jeopardise their dividend rates. It is so long since a Canadian bank cut its dividend rate that it is quite possible such action now would create an unfavorable impression and effect altogether out of proportion to the originating cause.

WESTERN CROPS LOOKING WELL.

The latest crop report of the Manitoba Free Press is an encouraging document. Speaking broadly, the report could hardly be better. There is sufficient moisture, no special damage, one or two points reporting slight hail damage and a very small damage from cutworm. The bulk of the wheat will be in the shot blade fully in a week if not ten days ahead of last year. Coarse grains are in excellent condition for this date in June. The outlook could scarcely be more favorable and this report is fully thirty-five per cent. ahead of last year. One interesting point made in the report is that generally speaking there is a sufficiency of farm help.

INCREASES IN CANADIAN BANKING CAPITAL.

BANK.	PAID-UP CAPITAL.			Increase July, 1912, to June, 1913.
	April 30, 1914.	June 30, 1913.	Period's Increase.	
Montreal.....	\$16,000,000	\$16,000,000		\$ 12,230
Quebec.....	2,732,520	2,697,080	\$35,440	197,080
Nova Scotia.....	6,000,000	5,967,610	32,390	1,967,610
British.....	4,866,666	4,866,666		
Toronto.....	5,000,000	5,000,000		30,620
Molson's.....	4,000,000	4,000,000		
Nationale.....	2,000,000	2,000,000		
Merchants.....	7,000,000	6,764,700	235,300	131,146
Provinciale.....	1,000,000	1,000,000		
Union.....	5,000,000	5,000,000		47,630
Commerce.....	15,000,000	15,000,000		3,652,210
Royal.....	11,560,000	11,560,000		
Dominion.....	5,963,260	5,375,757	587,503	456,655
Hamilton.....	3,000,000	3,000,000		24,400
Standard.....	2,889,645	2,492,795	396,850	492,795
Hochelaga.....	4,000,000	3,599,660	400,340	676,880
Ottawa.....	4,000,000	3,940,180	59,820	440,180
Imperial.....	7,000,000	6,908,942	91,058	908,942
Metropolitan.....	1,000,000	1,000,000		
Home.....	1,943,968	1,938,700	5,268	650,389
Northern Crown.....	2,839,125	2,772,960	66,165	565,460
Sterling.....	1,184,353	1,129,657	54,696	128,841
Vancouver.....	878,018	860,280	17,738	37,460
Weyburn.....	316,100	316,100		6,100
	\$115,173,655	\$113,191,087	\$1,982,568	\$3,602,550*

* Net increase, after allowing for disappearance of capital owing to amalgamations.