

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The statement of the Bank of Nova Scotia for the year ended December 31st, 1915, is a notable one in more than one respect. For the first time the assets of this Bank are reported as over \$100 millions, and what is of more importance, a position of notable liquidity with quick assets in excess of 70 per cent. of the liabilities to the public is disclosed. Furthermore, this Bank furnishes an exception to the general run of recent banking statements in reporting an increase of profits over 1914, the Royal being the only other institution which has thus far made a similar report. These outstanding facts from the Bank of Nova Scotia's statement constitute admirable testimony to the great efficiency which marks Mr. H. A. Richardson's management of this institution, and indicate that not only is the Bank in a particularly strong position to face future unsettlement and times of financial stress, but also that the Bank will be well equipped to take care of legitimate expansion when the time for that arrives.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

The Bank of Nova Scotia's net profits for the year were \$1,220,057, an increase of \$23,940 compared with 1914, and equal to 6.6 per cent. on the paid-up capital and rest. Including the balance of \$201,058 brought forward, the amount available on profit and loss account was \$1,421,115. Of this amount, the 14 per cent. dividend absorbed \$910,000; and the war tax on the Bank's circulation, \$65,000. The usual contribution of \$50,000 to the Officers' Pension Fund is made, leaving the increased balance of \$396,115 to be carried forward.

Following are the leading items of the Bank's annual statement in comparison with those of the previous year:—

	1915.	1914.
Paid-up Capital.....	\$ 6,500,000	\$ 6,500,000
Reserve.....	12,000,000	12,000,000
Profit and Loss Balance.....	396,115	201,058
Circulation.....	7,154,415	7,148,813
Deposits not bearing interest.....	18,164,057	13,895,259
Deposits bearing interest.....	58,644,110	55,060,091
Total liabilities to public.....	†84,984,376	†76,651,578
Specie and Legals.....	17,294,062	14,333,641
Central Gold Reserve.....	1,750,000	1,500,000
Bank Balances Abroad.....	4,973,547	4,620,159
Call and demand Loans in Canada.....	13,154,311	12,061,200
Call and demand Loans Abroad.....	7,731,849	4,581,662
Total of Quick Assets.....	59,990,461	49,232,413
Current Loans in Canada.....	34,376,929	37,906,353
Current Loans Abroad.....	6,305,446	5,160,279
Total Assets.....	104,244,468	95,733,671

† Excluding acceptances under letters of credit.

A HIGHLY LIQUID POSITION.

The figures denote a most satisfactory position from the point of view of liquidity. Holdings of cash, including the deposit in the Central Gold Reserve, are equal to 22.4 per cent. of the liabilities to the public and total quick assets equal to no less than 70.6 per cent. Both classes of deposits show a substantial gain. Non-interest bearing deposits are up from \$13,895,259 to \$18,164,057 or by \$4,300,000, while interest-bearing deposits show a gain of \$3,600,000 from \$55,060,091 to \$58,644,110. Circulation at \$7,154,415 is about the same as last year. Total liabilities to the public are up by \$8,300,000 from \$76,651,578 to \$84,984,376. On the assets side of the accounts, the principal

gain in the cash holdings is in Dominion notes, which at \$12,081,464 are \$2,800,000 more than in 1914. The deposit in the Central Gold Reserve is \$250,000 higher at \$1,750,000. Call and demand loans in Canada are in this Bank's accounts separated into those on grain and other staple commodities and those secured by bonds, debentures and stocks. The former show a substantial advance from \$4,820,684 in 1914 to \$7,130,390 in 1915, while the latter have decreased from \$7,240,516 to \$6,023,921, the net gain of both classes being about \$1,100,000. Call and demand loans abroad at \$7,731,849 are \$3,150,000 higher than in 1914. In comparison with the increase noted above of \$8,300,000 in liabilities to the public, the quick assets at \$59,990,461 are \$10,700,000 higher than in 1914. Their ratio of 70.6 per cent. compares with 64.2 per cent. last year.

Canadian current loans are down by \$3,600,000 from \$37,906,353 to \$34,376,929. Current loans abroad, however, are up \$1,145,000 from \$5,160,279 to \$6,305,446, this advance being doubtless accounted for by increased activity in the Bank's West Indian business. The total assets, which pass the \$100 millions mark for the first time, are \$104,244,468 against \$95,733,671.

Mr. W. P. Hunt continues as the manager of this Bank at its important St. James Street, Montreal, branch.

Hon. W. T. White, Minister of Finance, speaking recently at Toronto, mentioned that since July last the Dominion Government has been itself financing about 80 per cent. of its war expenditures.

Standard Bank

of CANADA

QUARTERLY DIVIDEND NOTICE No. 101

NOTICE is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of THIRTEEN per cent. per annum upon the Capital Stock of this Bank has this day been declared for the quarter ending 31st January, 1916, and that the same will be payable at the Head Office in this City, and at its branches on and after Tuesday, the 1st day of February, 1916, to Shareholders of record of 21st January, 1916.

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Head Office of the Bank in Toronto on Wednesday, the 23rd day of February next, at 12 o'clock noon.

By Order of the Board,

GEO. P. SCHOLFIELD,
General Manager.

Toronto, 28th December, 1915.