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SOME CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES BANKING FEATURES.

Two weeks ago THE CHRONICLE described some features of recent American and Canadian banking development. It will be interesting to view the same subject from another aspect. We are accustomed in Canada to the circumstance that the great bulk of the people's deposits is held by the chartered banks. According to the current bank statement the amount of deposits of the public in Canada payable on demand and after notice in the chartered banks was \$567,937,052 at 31st March. The deposits outside of the amount with the chartered banks total some 120 millions, distributed amongst the two departments of the Government savings banks the two Province of Quebec savings banks, the loan companies and the trust companies. Many suppose that in the United States the national banks occupy pretty much the same position relatively as do the chartered banks in the Dominion. As a matter of fact this idea is hardly correct; the national banks do not predominate the American banking business as our banks predominate the Canadian. The figures given below, which are taken from the last report of the comptroller of the currency, show the position of the various classes of banks in the States according to reports made on or about 30th June, 1906.

	Capital stock	Surplus and Undivided profits
8,862 state banks	\$421,845,705	\$251,114,808
742 loan and trust co's.	268,384,337	395,373,620
1,319 savings banks	28,896,367	238,334,309
929 private banks	20,036,992	8,856,787
6,053 national banks	826,129,785	665,163,366
	\$1,565,293,186	\$1,558,842,890

	Individual deposits.
8,862 state banks	\$2,741,464,129
742 loan and trust co's.	2,008,937,790
1,319 savings banks	3,299,544,601
929 private banks	109,947,509
6,053 national banks	4,055,873,636
	\$12,215,767,665

In the matter of proprietors' investment the national banks have a decided predominance. In paid-up capital they have slightly more than the aggregate amount; and in surplus and undivided profits over 40 p.c. of the whole. But it should be remembered, when comparing them with the savings banks in this respect, that business such as the savings banks transact can be carried on with a minimum of paid-in capital.

When it comes to deposits, though the national banks have the largest amount, the savings banks are not so very far behind. Of the whole deposits the national banks have less than one-third.

But the most interesting part of these statistics is that showing how the various classes of financial institutions invest their funds. The principal items are:

	State Banks.	Loan and Trust Co's.
Loans on real estate	\$150,759,337	\$166,524,402
Loans on other collat'l sec.	80,287,952	895,843,351
Other loans and disc'ts.	2,009,756,478	547,059,086
State, county and msp'l. b'ds.	10,036,457	17,305,806
Railroad bonds and stocks	2,375,440	46,592,846
Other stocks, bonds and sec.	394,437,012	684,581,875
Due from other banks	513,029,009	289,102,143
Cash	231,863,412	70,183,686
Total assets	3,677,050,317	2,959,230,534

	Savings Banks.	Private Banks.
Loans on real estate	\$1,323,729,850	\$13,430,972
Loans on other collateral sec.	58,946,703	8,303,090
Other loans and disc'ts.	293,274,919	72,715,318
State, county and m'ep'l. b'ds.	140,393,235	1,120,184
Railroad bonds and stocks	346,561,193	625,909
Other stocks, bonds and sec.	1,084,782,527	4,674,732
Due from other banks	156,764,518	24,723,406
Cash	26,129,931	6,761,156
Total assets	3,583,024,195	144,045,800

	National Banks.
Loans and discounts	4,206,890,078
U. S. bonds to secure circul'n	516,871,650
Bonds, securities, etc.	651,171,903
Due from Nat'l banks.	330,038,966
Due from App'd. reserve ag'ts.	587,668,626
Exch. for clearing house	313,377,664
Specie	485,987,256
Legals	165,246,317
Total assets	7,784,228,113

There is not a great deal of uniformity in the investment policies pursued by the five classes. The state banks and the private banks follow the example of the national banks in putting out the major part of their resources in ordinary loans and discounts. But the trust companies and the savings banks, which between them control over 6½ billions of assets, are on a different tack. In loans on real estate, on other collateral security (presumably stocks and bonds) and in stocks and bonds, the loan and trust companies have about 60 p.c. of their total resources, and the savings banks have over 80 p.c. The heavy investment of the savings banks in real estate loans and bonds and securities is especially noticeable.

The amount in ordinary loans and discounts compares as follows with similar items in the Canadian business of our own banks.