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CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

BUSINESS STATISTICS BRANCH

CHEQUES CASHED

AND

MONEY SUPPLY

NOVEMBER, 1947

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CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS, NOVEMBER, 1947

The high level of economic activity in Canada during 1947, was reflected in an advance of about 9 per cent in the cheques cashed in leading cities. The total during the first eleven months was $67.7 billion compared with $63.3 billion in the same period of 1946. The wave of prosperity was all but general throughout the Dominion, thirty-two of the thirty-three clearing centres reporting a higher level of business transactions of this class. The advance in the amount of cheques cashed resulted from greater productive operations as well as a marked increase in wholesale prices. The index of employment rose 15 points to 179, on the latest date for which statistics are available. The index of wholesale prices during the twelve months rose from 141.6 to 180.8. Common stock prices were at a somewhat higher level in November than in the same month of 1946. Measured by basic economic indicators, Canada enjoyed a greater measure of prosperity in 1947, than in any other peacetime year.

Comparison with the First Eleven Months of 1946.

Each of the five economic areas except Ontario showed an increase in the first eleven months of 1947 over the same period of the preceding year. The slight recession in Ontario was attributed to the decline in the cheques cashed in Ottawa, where government financing is an important factor.

MARITIMES.

Each of the three centres in the Maritime Provinces showed an advance in this comparison. Moncton and Saint John recorded the greatest percentage increases, while the total for Halifax advanced by $48 million. The net result for the economic area was an increase of 8.4 per cent.

QUEBEC.

The increase in the cheques cashed in the City of Quebec was 20.4 per cent. A greater absolute increase was shown, however, in Montreal, where the total was $1,513 million greater than in the first eleven months of 1946. The increase in Sherbrooke was nearly 16 per cent, the total for the first eleven months of the present year having been $209 million. The provincial total rose 9.8 per cent, intimating an increase of $1,860 million.

ONTARIO.

Each of the fourteen centres in Ontario except Ottawa, recorded advances over the same portion of 1946. The increase in Toronto amounted to nearly $126 million. Considerable gains were shown in Sudbury, Windsor, Hamilton and London. The greatest percentage increase in the centres of the province was recorded in Chatham, where a gain of 32.8 per cent was shown over the high level of 1946.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES.

Each of the ten centres in the Prairie Provinces recorded advances in 1947. The largest percentage of 31.8 was recorded in Regina. The absolute increase in Winnipeg was $843 million, the total in the first eleven months having been $6,657 million. Considerable increases were shown in Medicine Hat and Lethbridge, the percentage gains having been 30.7 and 16.6, respectively. Cheques cashed in the Prairie Provinces amounted to $11.6 billion, an increase of 14.3 per cent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Owing to the marked gains in New Westminster and Vancouver, the percentage increase in British Columbia was greater than that of any other economic area. The provincial total was 21.2 per cent greater than in the same months of 1946.

Comparison with November, 1946.

Cheques cashed in the thirty-three centres of Canada were 9 per cent greater in November than in the same month of 1946. The total was $6,774 million compared with $6,211 million. Advances were shown in each of the five economic areas. Twenty-eight of the thirty-three clearing centres recorded increases over the same month of the preceding year.

MARITIMES.

Cheques cashed in the Maritime Provinces were 7.4 per cent greater than in November, 1946. Advances of 14.8 per cent and 5.3 per cent were shown in Halifax and Moncton.

QUEBEC.

Each of the three centres in the Province of Quebec recorded advances in November. Quebec City showed the highest percentage increase of 48.7. The total for Montreal was somewhat greater in this comparison, the amount having been $1,708 million.

ONTARIO

Twelve of the fourteen centres in Ontario registered gains over November,1946. The exceptions were Kingston and Ottawa. The net advance for the province was 7.7 per cent. A marked increase was shown in Windsor, where the total rose from $79 million to $106 million. Important increases were also shown in Chatham, Sudbury and Sarnia. The total for Ontario was $2,737 million compared with $2,542 million in November,1946.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES.

Eight of the ten centres in the Prairie Provinces showed advances in November over the same month of 1946. The exceptions were Calgary and Edmonton. The largest relative increase of 46 per cent was shown in Regina. The gain in Winnipeg was 14.7 per cent, the total rising to $836 million. The net result for the area was an increase of 11.8 per cent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Each of the three centres in British Columbia recorded advances. Victoria showed an increase of 46.7 per cent, while that of New Westminster was 30.3 per cent. The aggregate for the province was 16.1 per cent greater than in the same month of the preceding year.

Long Term Comparison.

Each of the five economic areas except Ontario recorded advances in the first eleven months over the same period of any other year in history. British Columbia showed the greatest relative gain over 1929, when times were particularly prosperous, and the same province recorded the highest percentage increase over 1938, compared with the other economic areas.

The gain in the Maritime Provinces over 1929 was 116.5 per cent, while an advance of 179.4 per cent was shown in the Prairie Provinces over 1938.

Turnover of Current and Savings Accounts.

The velocity of current accounts obtained by dividing the cheques cashed by the current deposits was 2.53 in October compared with 2.14 in the same month of 1946. The amount of cheques cashed against current accounts was relatively greater over September than the rise in current deposits. The turnover of savings accounts was 0.119 in October against 0.128 in the same month of 1946. Savings deposits recorded an advance from $3,500 million to $3,779 million during the twelve months' period.

Money Supply.

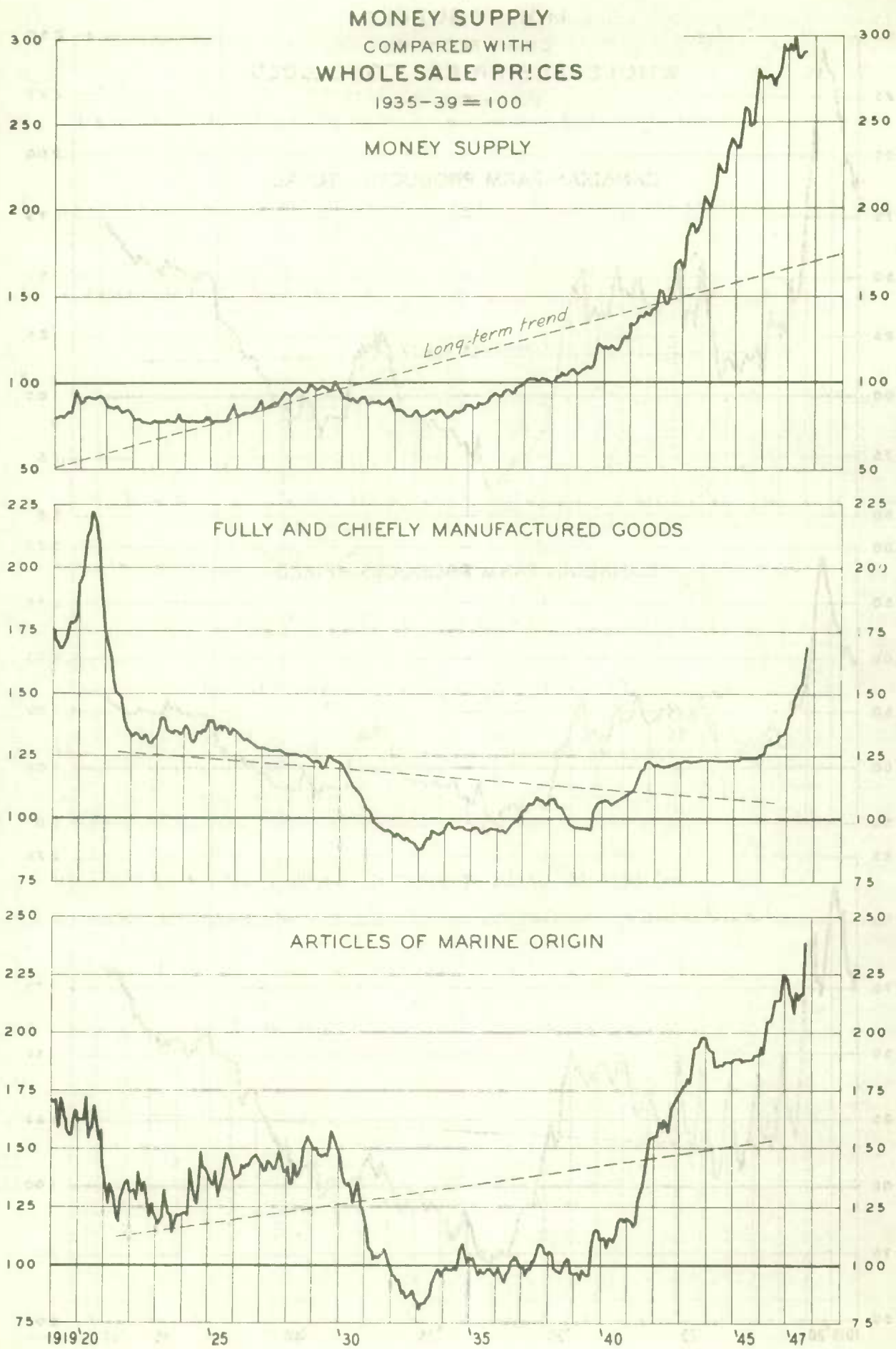
The money supply consisting of notes and currency in the hands of the public rose from $7,416 million in October, 1946 to $7,619 million on the same date this year. The total deposits were $6,498 million compared with $6,323 million in October, 1946. The sum of the notes and coin in the hands of the public was $1,121 million against $1,093 million.

TABLE 1. CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS AT THE CLEARING HOUSE CENTRES IN CANADA, NOVEMBER, 1947 WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR OCTOBER, 1947 AND NOVEMBER, 1946.

Province and Clearing House Centres	CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS			
	November 1947	October 1947	November 1946	Percentage of Nov. 1947 to Nov. 1946
	$	$	$	
Maritime Provinces -				
Halifax	87,194,556	80,550,657	75,979,629	114.8
Moncton	28,695,598	27,817,844	27,242,848	105.3
Saint John	41,583,578	48,286,228	43,402,401	95.8
Total - Maritime Provinces	157,473,732	156,654,729	146,624,878	107.4
Quebec -				
Montreal	1,708,347,069	1,839,459,133	1,651,535,955	103.4
Quebec	227,759,859	204,816,047	153,145,780	148.7
Sherbrooke	20,902,971	22,275,042	17,807,029	117.4
Total - Quebec	1,957,009,899	2,066,550,222	1,822,488,764	107.4
Ontario				
Brantford	28,006,653	28,529,505	23,549,964	118.9
Chatham	24,370,706	22,095,554	18,718,289	130.2
Fort William	19,792,079	19,712,164	15,891,401	124.5
Hamilton	158,375,445	160,633,563	146,859,260	107.8
Kingston	19,228,581	19,918,948	20,150,875	95.4
Kitchener	41,751,437	39,106,198	35,881,922	116.4
London	89,779,170	100,158,353	80,309,116	111.8
Ottawa	328,361,932	298,409,742	336,467,530	97.6
Peterborough	19,477,213	20,797,810	18,552,878	105.0
St. Catharines	28,991,137	29,446,535	27,064,934	107.1
Sarnia	24,390,382	24,421,619	20,546,592	118.7
Sudbury	18,615,169	18,049,043	14,940,924	124.6
Toronto	1,829,459,699	1,929,212,596	1,704,114,776	107.4
Windsor	106,432,805	113,534,374	78,526,927	135.5
Total - Ontario	2,737,022,408	2,824,026,004	2,541,575,388	107.7
Prairie Provinces				
Brandon	11,357,343	12,659,247	10,038,491	113.1
Calgary	150,544,637	175,370,169	174,189,874	86.4
Edmonton	103,306,714	120,516,592	108,363,001	95.3
Lethbridge	14,347,496	17,446,098	13,369,182	107.3
Medicine Hat	9,799,323	10,796,906	6,985,344	140.3
Moose Jaw	20,711,693	19,746,506	16,936,279	122.3
Prince Albert	9,785,490	9,372,557	9,390,998	104.2
Regina	164,372,847	183,149,832	112,498,846	146.1
Saskatoon	36,793,075	38,085,743	33,256,448	110.6
Winnipeg	835,701,292	966,778,528	728,467,349	114.7
Total-Prairie Provinces	1,356,719,910	1,553,922,178	1,213,495,812	111.8
British Columbia				
New Westminster	25,776,777	28,252,866	19,783,181	130.3
Vancouver	438,247,845	500,289,027	398,110,022	110.1
Victoria	101,800,549	79,256,245	69,417,200	146.7
Total - British Columbia	565,825,171	607,798,138	487,310,403	116.1
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA	6,774,051,120	7,208,951,271	6,211,495,245	109.0

TABLE 2. CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS AT THE CLEARING HOUSE CENTRES IN CANADA DURING THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1947 COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 1946.

	First Eleven Months 1947	First Eleven Months 1946	Increase (+) Decrease (-)	Percentage of 1947-1946
	$	$	$	
Maritime Provinces -				
Halifax	846,779,361	798,436,940	+ 48,342,421	106.1
Moncton	280,407,016	249,682,692	+ 30,724,324	112.3
Saint John	459,342,838	416,252,627	+ 43,090,211	110.4
Total-Maritime Provinces	1,586,529,215	1,464,372,259	+ 122,156,956	108.4
Quebec -				
Montreal	18,824,438,605	17,311,486,050	+ 1,512,952,555	108.7
Quebec	1,878,569,182	1,560,367,815	+ 318,201,367	120.4
Sherbrooke	208,543,258	179,953,501	+ 28,589,757	115.9
Total - Quebec	20,911,551,045	19,051,807,366	+ 1,859,743,679	109.8
Ontario -				
Brantford	291,389,013	246,790,836	+ 44,598,177	118.1
Chatham	217,730,752	163,944,475	+ 53,786,277	132.8
Fort William	189,336,830	165,544,121	+ 23,792,709	114.4
Hamilton	1,572,551,694	1,321,714,420	+ 250,837,274	119.0
Kingston	193,227,920	184,760,318	+ 8,467,602	104.6
Kitchener	392,603,323	330,400,662	+ 62,202,661	118.8
London	921,647,814	797,008,783	+ 124,639,031	115.6
Ottawa	3,572,729,738	4,673,558,408	- 1,100,828,670	76.4
Peterborough	209,230,850	178,122,174	+ 31,108,676	117.5
St. Catharines	277,715,352	230,842,211	+ 46,873,141	120.3
Sarnia	241,341,975	219,308,653	+ 22,033,322	110.0
Sudbury	172,804,446	138,645,387	+ 34,159,059	124.6
Toronto	18,383,814,474	18,257,945,075	+ 125,869,399	100.7
Windsor	1,025,516,045	851,108,695	+ 174,407,350	120.5
Total Ontario	27,661,640,226	27,759,694,218	- 98,053,992	99.6
Prairie Provinces -				
Brandon	102,923,790	95,366,649	+ 7,557,141	107.9
Calgary	1,613,736,046	1,456,878,190	+ 156,857,856	110.8
Edmonton	1,168,083,060	1,105,349,640	+ 62,733,420	105.7
Lethbridge	155,991,051	133,784,891	+ 22,206,160	116.6
Medicine Hat	89,586,370	68,531,919	+ 21,054,451	130.7
Moose Jaw	187,664,567	170,144,290	+ 17,520,277	110.3
Prince Albert	97,933,981	94,516,851	+ 3,417,130	103.6
Regina	1,179,407,778	895,058,180	+ 284,349,598	131.8
Saskatoon	355,809,821	317,609,771	+ 38,200,050	112.0
Winnipeg	6,657,352,642	5,814,498,300	+ 842,854,342	114.5
Total-Prairie Provinces	11,608,489,106	10,151,738,681	+ 1,456,750,425	114.3
British Columbia -				
New Westminster	254,094,493	205,494,593	+ 48,599,900	123.6
Vancouver	4,828,408,727	3,956,826,427	+ 871,582,300	122.0
Victoria	836,304,193	722,495,179	+ 113,809,014	115.8
Total - British Columbia	5,918,807,413	4,884,816,199	+ 1,033,991,214	121.2
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA	67,687,017,005	63,312,428,723	+ 4,374,588,282	106.9


MONEY SUPPLY
COMPARED WITH
WHOLESALE PRICES
1935-39 = 100
MONEY SUPPLY
Long-term trend
FULLY AND CHIEFLY MANUFACTURED GOODS
ARTICLES OF MARINE ORIGIN
300
250
200
150
100
50
225
175
125
75
1919 '20
'25
'30
'35
'40
'45
'47

MONEY SUPPLY

COMPARED WITH

WHOLESALE PRICES, CONCLUDED

1935–39 = 100

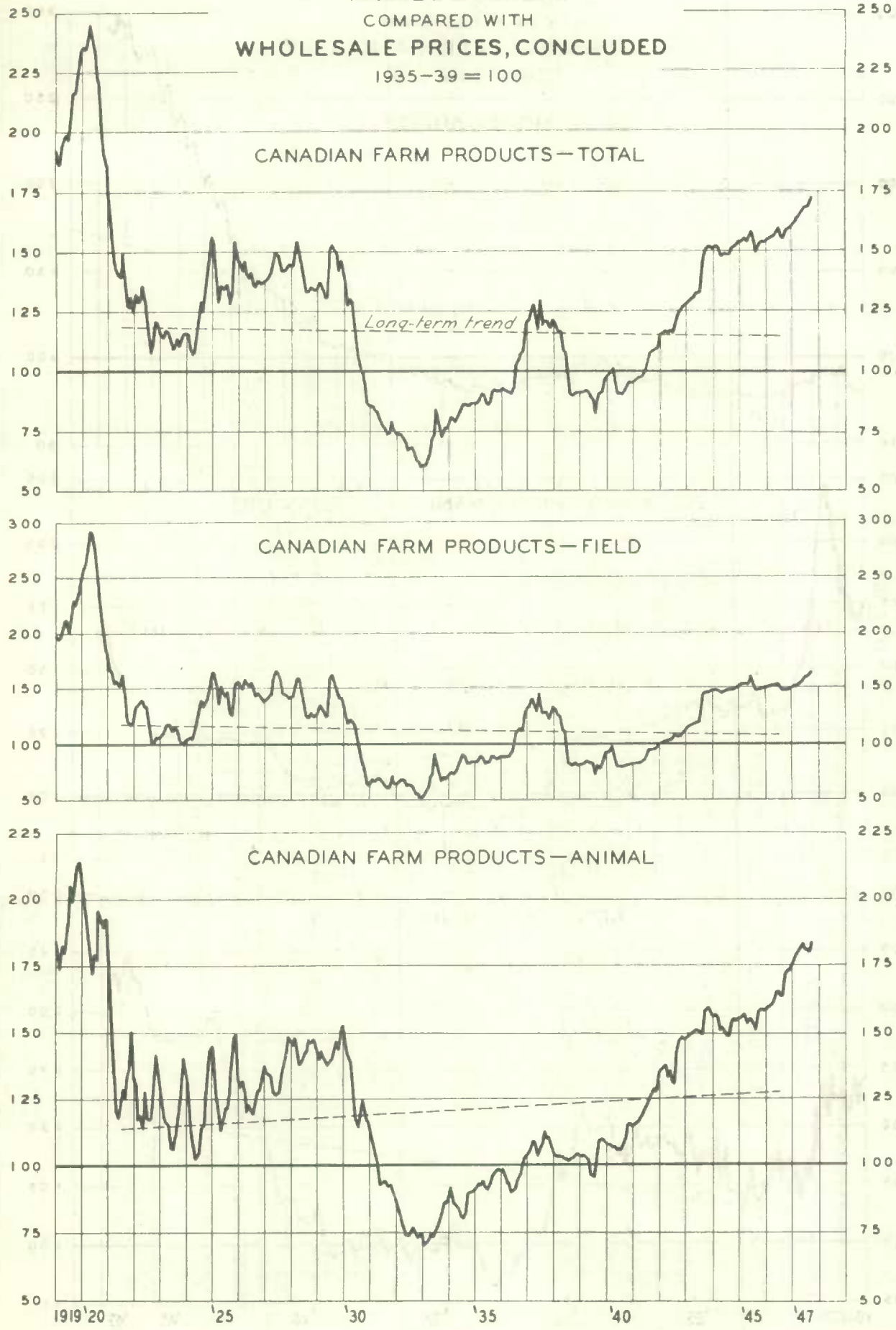


TABLE 5. - CHEQUES CASHED IN CLEARING CENTRES IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS, 1925-47

DOLLARS

Year	CANADA	Maritime Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia
1925	25,015,415,999	515,633,543	7,635,119,904	9,946,218,746	5,232,131,090	1,676,312,716
1926	27,514,880,175	554,988,570	9,005,759,883	10,863,106,530	5,326,132,406	1,764,892,786
1927	31,819,425,196	564,296,823	11,082,747,833	12,929,551 586	5,396,570,507	1,846,258,447
1928	39,610,777,130	676,387,427	13,653,868,589	15,732,150,194	7,278,696,062	2,269,674,858
1929	42,866,333,084	732,749,648	15,118,314,871	17,073,784,243	7,243,610,780	2,697,873,542
1930	34,479,077,931	646,719,442	12,132,375,845	13,768,172,582	5,784,906,176	2,146,903,886
1931	28,948,345,698	595,108,861	9,775,953,446	12,182,808,695	4,743,527,185	1,650,947,506
1932	23,759,683,161	479,731,826	7,160,097,186	10,355,080,619	4,387,199,159	1,377,574,371
1933	27,489,543,984	438,608,534	7,773,586,889	11,912,155,020	5,994,585,779	1,369,607,762
1934	29,826,506,035	487,001,933	8,557,010,031	13,474,791,996	5,818,804,780	1,488,897,295
1935	28,613,762,690	522,739,492	8,164,140,684	12,576,071,978	5,839,574,715	1,511,235,821
1936	32,524,014,857	573,748,930	9,879,672,830	14,137,747,234	6,053,183,251	1,879,662,612
1937	32,084,646,370	662,857,109	10,525,767,190	14,501,478,482	4,473,892,212	1,920,651,377
1938	28,018,238,361	581,311,410	9,077,038,837	12,449,454,666	4,154,501,080	1,755,932,368
1939	28,560,485,250	611,799,841	8,943,561,350	12,342,352,272	4,828,139,211	1,834,632,576
1940	31,229,126,902	754,001,286	9,022,465,901	13,921,816,083	5,584,232,240	1,946,611,392
1941	35,556,410,914	850,745,543	9,981,238,572	16,533,311,318	5,972,178,102	2,218,937,379
1942	41,331,640,727	984,942,077	11,598,193,126	20,093,993,511	6,067,989,487	2,586,522,526
1943	48,946,286,815	1,136,785,007	14,000,621,372	22,521,283,408	8,271,879,436	3,015,717,592
1944	55,613,945,448	1,207,174,265	15,750,590,443	24,633,478,070	10,572,173,111	3,450,529,559
1945	62,300,061,534	1,415,817,026	17,565,638,707	28,697,418,441	10,613,043,379	4,008,143,981
1946	63,332,428,723	1,464,372,259	19,051,807,366	27,779,694,218	10,151,738,681	4,884,816,199
1947	67,687,017,005	1,586,529,215	20,911,551,045	27,661,640,226	11,608,489,106	5,918,807,413
Percentage increase of 1947 over 1929 and 1938						
P.c. to 1929	+ 57.9	+116.5	+ 38.3	+ 62.0	+ 60.3	+119.4
P.c. to 1938	+141.6	+172.9	+130.4	+122.2	+179.4	+237.1

TABLE 4. CHEQUES CASHED IN ECONOMIC AREAS - SHOWING TYPE OF ACCOUNT

Type of Accounts	CURRENT ACCOUNTS		SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	
	November, 1947	October, 1947	November, 1947	October, 1947
	$	$	$	$
Maritime Provinces ..	149,168,194	147,386,651	8,305,538	9,268,078
Quebec	1,847,689,135	1,948,251,239	109,320,764	118,298,983
Ontario	2,584,485,384	2,649,639,385	152,537,023	174,386,619
Prairie Provinces ..	1,297,378,966	1,467,249,195	59,340,945	88,672,983
British Columbia ..	512,556,979	545,364,822	53,268,192	62,433,316
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA	6,391,278,658	6,757,891,292	382,772,462	451,059,979

TABLE 5. CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST CURRENT AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS $ 000

	1946		1947			
	October	November	July	August	September	October
Cheques Cashed, Current ..	5,863,706	5,836,163	5,745,137	4,926,324	5,545,663	6,757,891
Current Deposits - Average	2,737,185	2,945,564	2,668,264	2,636,199	2,632,258	2,661,218
Velocity of Current Accounts.....	2.14	1.98	2.15	1.87	2.11	2.53
Cheques cashed, Savings ..	448,848	375,332	378,761	310,003	386,712	451,060
Savings Deposits-Average .	3,500,438	3,468,438	3,666,613	3,731,345	3,789,946	3,779,294
Velocity Savings Accounts.	0.128	0.108	0.103	0.083	0.098	0.119

TABLE 6. RELATION OF CHEQUES CASHED TO OTHER FACTORS
1935-39=100

	1946		1947			
	October	November	July	August	September	October
Cheques cashed, adjusted .	210.3	205.2	219.9	204.6	227.0	240.1
Employment (8 Industries).	164.0	168.2	174.1	177.3	177.6	179.2
Percentage Unemployed ...	2.7	3.0	2.0	1.8	1.7	2.0
Wholesale Prices	141.6	143.8	167.5	169.7	173.6	180.8
Cost of Living	126.8	127.1	135.9	136.6	139.4	142.2
Common Stocks	101.8	102.5	107.4	105.5	104.1	105.5

TABLE 7. MONEY SUPPLY - MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

	1946		1947			
	October	November	July	August	September	October
Money Supply (M+M1)	7,415.8	7,612.8	7,430.2	7,476.7	7,468.7	7,618.6
Bank Notes in Circulation -						
Bank of Canada	1,156.9	1,161.1	1,153.7	1,158.9	1,172.2	1,179.4
Chartered Banks	21.8	21.7	19.5	19.2	18.9	18.6
Notes in hands of public ...	1,029.4	1,042.4	1,008.2	1,033.8	1,021.1	1,055.1
Subsidiary coin in hands of public	63.7	65.1	63.9	65.2	64.5	65.5
Total Circulating Media in hands of public (M)	1,093.0	1,107.5	1,072.1	1,099.0	1,085.6	1,120.6
Deposits -						
Deposits with Chartered Banks						
Dominion Government	286.7	600.2	230.3	238.0	108.6	139.3
Provincial Government	121.8	119.8	125.0	115.3	115.2	128.1
Demand	2,315.7	2,181.8	2,125.6	2,058.2	2,163.3	2,263.1
Notice	3,476.7	3,460.1	3,689.5	3,774.0	3,805.9	3,752.7
Total	6,200.9	6,362.0	6,170.4	6,185.5	6,192.9	6,283.2
Deposits with Bank of Canada						
Dominion Government	36.6	63.9	124.1	133.6	128.2	143.4
Other	85.2	79.4	63.7	58.7	62.0	71.2
Total	121.9	143.3	187.7	192.2	190.2	214.7
Total Deposits (M1)	6,322.7	6,505.3	6,358.1	6,377.8	6,383.1	6,497.9

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