DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - OTTAWA Historical File Copy S. A. Cudmore, M.A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F.R.S.C. Dominion Statistician: Sydney B. Smith, M.A. Chief, Business Statistics Branch: CHEQUES CASHED IN CLEARING CENTRES OF CANADA, MAY, 1944. The amount of cheques cashed in clearing centres of Canada rose 22.7 per cent in May over the same month of last year. The total was \$6,653 million compared with \$5,424 million. Heavy payments on the sixth Victory Loan was the main cause of the the Maritime Provinces, the gains in the Prairie Provinces and Quebec being of extensive proportions. Debits in the Maritime Provinces receded from \$151 million to \$144 million, a decline of 4.2 per cent. The gain in the province of Quebec was from \$1,422 million to

marked gain of the month. Increases were shown in each of the five economic areas except

\$1,906 million representing 34 per cent. Increases were shown in each of the three clearing centres of the province, the rise in Montreal having been from \$1,295 million to \$1,746 million. Eleven out of fourteen centres in Ontario recorded gains over the same month of last year, the aggregate having been \$3,056 million against \$2,663 million. Marked gains were shown in Toronto and Ottawa, the advance in the aggregate of the province having been 14.8 per cent.

Nine of the ten centres of the Prairie Provinces recorded increase in this comparison. The total was \$1,141 million against \$833 million in May last year, a gain of no less than 37 per cent. Increases were shown in the three centres of British Columbia, an advance of nearly 14 per cent having been recorded. The total in May was \$406 million against \$356 million.

Marked increases were shown in the cheques cashed during the first five months of the present year over the same period of 1943. The gain in the Dominion total was 17 por cent or \$3,590 million. The greatest increase was shown in the Prairie Provinces, the advance having been from \$3,199 million to \$4,566 million. The increase was no less than \$1,367 million or 42.7 per cent. The gains in the Maritime Provinces and in the Province of Quebec were 5 per cent and 15.3 per cent respectively. The Quebec total amounted to \$6,942 million against \$6,023 million. The gain in Ontario was 9.9 per cent or \$997 million, the total in the first five months of the present year having been \$11,086 million. Cheque transactions in British Columbia rose 21.6 per cent to a total of \$1,583 million in the first five months of the present year.

Bank debits in May, after seasonal adjustment, recorded a gain of 28 per cent over the preceding month. Marked increases were recorded in this comparison in each of the five economic areas except the Prairie Provinces. Gains of 46 per cent and 42.5 per cent were shown in Quebec and British Columbia, respectively. The increases in the Maritime Provinces and Ontario were 28.8 per cent and 34.8 per cent. Due to heavy transactions in connection with the sixth Victory Loan, the gains in Montreal and Toronto, after the usual adjustment, ranged from 52 per cent to 59 per cent.

The money supply at the end of April was \$5,399 million compared with \$4,722 million on the same date of last year, a gain of 14 per cent. Increases were shown in each of the four classes of bank deposits in the twelve-month comparison, the total rising from \$3,984 million to \$4,506 million. Circulating media in the hands of the public, consisting of bank notes and subsidiary coin, showed a gain of 21 per cent. An increase of 13 per cent was recorded in the sum of the cash and cheque payments, the total in April having been \$6,317 million. Bank debits including an allowance of 122 per cent to cover cheques cashed outside of clearing centres amounted to \$5,131 million in April compared with estimated cash payments of \$1,186 million.

The index of bank debits in April was 175.4 against 156.6 in the same month last year. The index of common stock prices recorded a decline in this comparison, while moderate gains were shown in the index of the physical volume of business, employment in manufacturing and in wholesale prices and cost of living.

The total of the Dominion and Provincial balances and demand deposits was \$2,253 million at the end of April. The cheques cashed against such accounts was \$4,362 million during that month, the consequent turnover having been 1.94. Turnover in the proceding month was 2.04. Cheques cashed against savings accounts were \$199 million in April, the amount of the savings account at the end of the month having been \$2,254 million. The turnover was consequently .088 against .089 in the preceding month.

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Table 1. - CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS AT THE CLEARING HOUSE CENTRES IN CANADA, MAY, 1944, WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR MAY, 1943 and APRIL, 1944.

CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

Province and Clearing House Centres	May, 1944	May, 1943	April, 1944
Maritime Provinces -	Ψž ·	Ç	Ş
Halifax	79,913,961	84,400,228	51,533,541
Moneton	21,736,891	18,698,845	16,985,415
Saint John	42,636,945	47,494,191	31,036,674
Total - Maritime Provinces .	144,287,797	150,593,264	99,555,630
Quebec -			
Montreal	1,746,391,824	1,294,527,062	1,033,562,678
Quebec	143,990,022	112,536,134	103,671,501
Sherbrooke	15,188,465	14,746,160	10,959,756
Total - Quebec	1,905,570,311	1,421,809,356	1,148,193,935
Ontario -			
Brantford	26,486,914	24,340,944	20,785,465
Chatham ,	12,464,367	11,965,347	9,387,916
Fort William	17,732,618	13,557,741	11,486,485
Hamilton	142,316,561	140,398,253	106,883,635
Kingston	17,886,899	16,445,214	12,684,612
Kitchener	40,376,314	37,049,313	20,040,932
London	74,946,165	67,045,930	46,051
Ottawa	875,723,845	706,469,164	680,258,65.
Peterborough	14,581,378	14,732,299	11,697,007
St. Catharines	26,824,783	29,588,215	18,657,701
Sarnia	19,163,916	18,269,670	13,802,674
Sudbury	11,307,324	9,755,859	8,676,337
Toronto	1,674,480,729	1,467,270,509	923,987,278 82,839,463
Total - Ontario	3,056,399,818	2,662,503,089	1,967,239,267
Prairie Provinces -			
Brandon	9,304,985	7,505,954	7,275,260
Calgary	159,447,567	109,269,102	125,667,390
Edmonton	85,740,011	91,680,259	89,530,174
Lethbridge	10,201,161	8,192,712	9,816,312
Medicine Hat	5,879,505	5,517,906	. 5,296,345
Moose Jaw	17,112,609	12,022,083	12,607,939
Prince Albert	8,194,838	5,117,881	6,738,597
Regina	104,081,886	76,284,294	131,076,000
Saskatoon	25,466,295	19,428,942	21,217,949
Winnipeg	715,307,839	497,763,189	648,370,203
Total - Prairie Provinces .,	1,140,736,696	832,782,322	1,057,596,169
British Columbia -			
New Westminster	17,313,907	14,092,987	13,233,903
Vancouver	330,819,740	288,640,268	237,119,567
Victoria	57,489,093	53,289,494	38,321,903
Total - British Columbia	405,622,740	356,022,749	288,675,373
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA	6,652,617,362	5,423,710,780	4,561,260,374

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Table 2. - CHEQUES CASHED BY TYPE OF ACCOUNT AND BY ECONOMIC AREAS

	CHRREN	T ACCOUNT	ng .	SA	VINGS AC	COUNTS
ECONOMIC AREAU	May, 1944		1, 1944	May, 1		April, 1944
	\$		\$	\$		Ÿ
Maritimo Provinces	134,322,95	94	639,757	9,964	. 846	4,915,873
Quebec	1,795,103,630		,905,694	110,466		55,288,241
Ontario	2,896,600,36		,173,443	159,799	,453	87,065,824
Prairie Provinces	1,102,364,360		6,661,671	38,372		28,934,498
British Columbia	370,229,133	3 260	3,096,124	35,393	,607	22,579,249
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA	6,298,620,44		,476,689	353,996		198,783,685
CUMULATIVE TOTALS	First Five Months of 1944		st Five of 1943	Increas Decreas	, ,	Percentage of 1944 to 1943
Maritime Provinces	530,940,82	505	6,841,904		98,917	105.0
Quebec	6,941,607,43		2,708,213		199,222	115.3
	11,085,504,65		3,088,821		15,830	109.9
Prairie Provinces	4,566,149,499		,370,618	+ 1,366,7		142.7
British Columbia	1,583,459,138	1,301	,768,453	+ 281,6	90,685	121.6
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA	24,707,661,544	21,117	7,778,009	+ 3,589,8	83,535	117.0
Table 3.	- RELATION OF	CHEQUES C	CASHED TO	AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON OF PERSONS ASSESSED.	RS x	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	1943			1944		
ECONOMIC INDEXES	April	Dec.	Jana .	Folks	March	April
Bank Debits 1935-39=100		164.3	171.6	172.4	188.8	
Physical Volume of Busines		248.8	247.0	241.6	247.8	
Common Stocks 1935-39=100		80.5	81.5	82.0	81.5	
Cost of Living 1935-39=100		119.3	119.0	118.9	119.0	119.1
Employment in manufacturin 1926=100		233.8	242.5	236.5	231.4	227.1
Wholesale Prices 1926=100		102.5	102,5	102.7	103.0	
CIRCULATING MEDIA			of Dolla			
Bank of Canada notes	744.1	874.4	860.6	875.4	897.9	915.3
Circulation of Bank Notes		43.1	41.8	40.8	39.6	
Total Notes in Hands of						
Public		793.7	781.3	801.0	836.5	837.2
Subsidiary Coin in Hands o		55.5	51.6	E	rc 1	CC 4
Public		55.3	54.0	54.3	55.1	55.7
Circulating Media in Hands of Public (m)		849.0	835.3	855.3	891.6	892.9
	. 101.0	040.0	000.0	00030	0010	002,0
EQUATION OF EXCHANGE						
Notice Deposits	. 1,926.3	1,947.8	2,026.2	2,123.8	2,225.4	-
Demand Deposits	. 1,800.2	1,696.8	1,673.3	1,753.7	1,892.0	
Dominion Government Deposit	s 144.0	661.6	474.9	233.4	144.7	146.8
Provincial Government	1100	00 5	00 5	105 4	100 0	110 4
Deposits		88.5	98.5	105.4	106.3	
Total Deposits (M1) Ratio of Bank Debits to	. 3,983.7	4,394.6	4,272.9	4.210.0	7,000.7	4,000.0
Deposits P.C	102.2	110.4	105.6	99.8	109.3	101.2
Bank Debits + $12\frac{1}{2}$ P.C. (MI)		5 457	5,077	4,734	5,370	
Velocity of Bank Deposits(1.24	1.19		1.2	
Bank Debits less 5 large						
centres		1,100	880	910	1,046	1,038
Cash Payments (MV)	. 988	1,223	1,156	1,119	1,277	1,186
Cash and Cheque Payments	5 ECD	6 690	6 272	5 057	6 647	6 317
(MlV1 + MV)	. 5,568	6,680	6,232	5,853	6,647	6,317
Payments	. 161.7	194.0	181.0	170.0	193.1	183.5
Money Supply (M1 + M)		5,244	5,108	5,072	5,260	5,399

x Revised so as to place statistics of bank notes and subsidiary coin on the same date.



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