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CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

BUSINESS STATISTICS BRANCH

CHEQUES CASHED

AND

MONEY SUPPLY

DECEMBER, 1947



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CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS, DECEMBER, 1947

Financial transactions in the form as represented by cheques cashed in clearing centres were greater in 1947 than in any other year. The total was \$74,498 million, compared with \$69,248 million in the preceding year. The previous record was established in 1946, and the total for the year recently ended was consequently 7.6 per cent greater than the previous maximum. Each of the five economic areas recorded increases over 1946, the greatest percentage advance having been shown in British Columbia. Thirty-two of the 33 clearing centres rose to a higher position. Cheques cashed in Ottawa are dependent to a certain extent upon Government transactions, and a considerable percentage decline was shown from the level of 1946.

Each of the five economic areas, except Ontario, showed greater financial transactions of this class than in any other year. The increase in the Maritime Provinces over 1946 the preceding maximum was 9.1 per cent, Moncton and Saint John each showing gains of 12.2 and 11.1 respectively. The gain in Quebec which broke all preceding records in 1947 was 10.5 per cent over 1946. A gain of 130 per cent was shown over 1938, the last full peace-time year. The advance over 1929, when the preceding major economic cycle reached a high point, was 39 per cent. While Toronto showed a gain of 1.5 per cent, the total for Ontario was slightly above 1946. The maximum in history for Ontario was reached in 1945 when the total was \$31.5 billion compared with \$30.4 billion during the year under review. Chatham recorded the greatest percentage increase in 1947 over the preceding year. The total was \$245 million compared with \$186 million in 1946.

The increase in the Prairie Provinces over the preceding year was 15.5 per cent, each of the ten clearing centres recording advance in this comparison. The largest percentage increases were shown in Regina and Medicine Hat. The total for the area was greater than in any preceding year, an increase of 181 per cent having been shown over 1938. The increase in British Columbia was nearly 22 per cent, the absolute increase being greater than in any other province except Quebec and the Prairie Provinces. The gain in Vancouver was 22.2 per cent, and marked increases were shown in New Westminster and Victoria. The increase in British Columbia over 1938 was no less than 237.6 per cent, while a gain of 123.8 per cent was recorded over 1929.

COMPARISON WITH DECEMBER, 1946

Cheques cashed in Canada during December were 14.8 per cent greater than in the same month of 1946. Appreciable increases were shown in each of the five economic areas. Only 3 of the 33 clearing centres recorded a lower standing than in the same month of the preceding year. The increase in the Maritime Provinces was 17.5 per cent, Halifax and Saint John showing gains of 19 per cent. The advance in Montreal was 17.8 per cent, contributing to an increase of 18.3 per cent in the province as a whole. Ottawa and Kingston showed declines from the same month of the preceding year. While twelve centres in Ontario recorded increases, the gain in Toronto was 10.8 per cent, contrasting with the advance of nearly 5 per cent in Ontario as a whole.

The gain in the Prairie Provinces was 28 per cent, a decline having been shown in Lethbridge. The advance in Medicine Hat was 38 per cent, while a gain of 30.8 per cent was shown in Regina. Business was active in Winnipeg, the increase in financial transactions by cheque having been 31 per cent. Marked gains in business transactions were shown in each of the three centres of British Columbia. The New Westminster total rose 70 per cent, while Victoria showed an increase of 44 per cent. Cheques cashed in the province rose from \$483 million to \$621 million, a gain of nearly 29 per cent.

DEPOSIT TURNOVER

The turnover of current accounts was 2.34 in November against 1.98 in the same month of 1946. Current deposits showed a decline while cheques cashed against current accounts rose from \$5.8 billion to \$6.4 billion. A minor recession was shown in the turnover of the savings deposits in November, as compared with those in the same month of 1946.

MONEY SUPPLY

The money supply at the end of November showed a decline of nearly 1 per cent from the same date of 1946. The notes in the hands of the public and the circulating media, including subsidiary coin, each showed an increase of 1 per cent. The notice deposits were 7.2 per cent greater, while a decline of 2.5 per cent was shown in demand deposits. The net result was a decline of 1.2 per cent in the sum of six classes of deposits considered in this connection. The minor decline of the money supply in November constitutes a reversal of the upward movement in evidence for a considerable period.

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

CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS				
Province and Clearing House Centres	December 1 9 4 7	November 1 9 4 7	December 1 9 4 6	Percentage of Dec. 1947 to Dec. 1946
	\$	\$	\$	
<u>Maritime Provinces -</u>				
Halifax	86,051,046	87,194,556	72,298,842	119.0
Moncton	30,044,026	28,695,598	27,028,581	111.2
Saint John	48,030,436	41,583,578	40,318,584	119.1
Total - Maritime Provinces	164,125,508	157,473,732	139,646,007	117.5
<u>Quebec -</u>				
Montreal	1,786,927,534	1,708,347,069	1,516,699,375	117.8
Quebec	199,191,916	227,759,859	162,164,866	122.8
Sherbrooke	22,238,863	20,902,971	18,688,206	119.0
Total - Quebec	2,008,358,313	1,957,009,899	1,697,552,447	118.3
<u>Ontario -</u>				
Brantford	29,817,938	28,006,653	22,951,332	129.9
Chatham	26,885,503	24,370,706	21,695,976	123.9
Fort William	20,239,696	19,782,079	19,607,255	103.2
Hamilton	162,578,521	158,375,445	138,673,837	117.2
Kingston	20,684,078	19,228,581	20,887,032	99.0
Kitchener	43,038,561	41,751,437	33,176,865	129.8
London	91,593,758	89,779,170	74,602,164	122.8
Ottawa	346,965,951	328,361,932	496,903,629	69.8
Peterborough	22,470,011	19,477,213	19,160,079	116.2
St. Catharines	30,218,895	28,991,137	22,972,033	131.5
Sarnia	25,889,480	24,390,382	25,387,011	102.0
Sudbury	19,004,868	18,615,169	14,727,321	129.0
Toronto	1,826,770,950	1,829,459,699	1,649,081,227	110.8
Windsor	106,067,949	106,432,805	82,435,905	128.7
Total - Ontario	2,772,236,159	2,737,022,408	2,642,261,666	104.9
<u>Prairie Provinces -</u>				
Brandon	11,440,241	11,357,343	8,772,876	130.4
Calgary	165,633,805	150,544,637	145,139,413	114.1
Edmonton	145,055,061	103,306,714	107,834,275	134.5
Lethbridge	12,996,412	14,347,496	13,186,501	98.6
Medicine Hat	8,645,226	9,799,323	6,259,493	138.1
Moose Jaw	20,007,276	20,711,693	15,704,756	127.4
Prince Albert	10,836,361	9,785,490	10,352,871	104.7
Regina	107,487,791	164,372,847	82,193,050	130.8
Saskatoon	39,105,051	36,793,075	31,590,980	123.8
Winnipeg	724,039,953	835,701,292	551,906,786	131.2
Total - Prairie Provinces	1,245,247,177	1,356,719,910	972,941,001	128.0
<u>British Columbia -</u>				
New Westminster	35,018,870	25,776,777	20,581,066	170.2
Vancouver	492,753,440	438,247,845	397,403,281	124.0
Victoria	93,336,506	101,800,549	64,793,242	144.1
Total - British Columbia.	621,108,816	565,825,171	482,777,589	128.7
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA ..	6,811,075,973	6,774,051,120	5,935,178,710	114.8

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

	Twelve Months 1 9 4 7 \$	Twelve Months 1 9 4 6 \$	Increase () Decrease (-) \$	Percent- age of 1947-1946
<u>Maritime Provinces -</u>				
Halifax	932,830,407	870,735,782	+ 62,094,625	107.1
Moncton	310,451,042	276,711,273	+ 33,739,769	112.2
Saint John	507,373,274	456,571,211	+ 50,802,063	111.1
Total-Maritime Provinces	1,750,654,723	1,604,018,266	+ 146,636,457	109.1
<u>Quebec -</u>				
Montreal	20,611,366,139	18,828,185,425	+ 1,783,180,714	109.4
Quebec	2,077,761,098	1,722,532,681	+ 355,228,417	120.6
Sherbrooke	230,782,121	198,641,707	+ 32,140,414	116.2
Total - Quebec	22,919,909,358	20,749,359,813	+ 2,170,549,545	110.5
<u>Ontario -</u>				
Brantford	321,206,951	269,742,168	+ 51,464,783	119.1
Chatham	244,616,255	185,640,451	+ 58,975,804	131.8
Fort William	209,576,526	185,151,376	+ 24,425,150	113.2
Hamilton	1,735,130,215	1,460,388,257	+ 274,741,958	118.8
Kingston	213,911,998	205,647,350	+ 8,264,648	104.0
Kitchener	435,651,884	363,577,527	+ 72,074,357	119.8
London	1,013,241,572	871,610,947	+ 141,630,625	116.2
Ottawa	3,919,695,689	5,170,462,037	- 1,250,766,348	75.8
Peterborough	231,700,861	197,282,253	+ 34,418,608	117.4
St. Catharines	307,934,247	253,814,244	+ 54,120,003	121.3
Sarnia	267,231,455	244,695,664	+ 22,535,791	109.2
Sudbury	191,809,314	153,372,708	+ 38,436,606	125.1
Toronto	20,210,585,424	19,907,026,302	+ 303,559,122	101.5
Windsor	1,131,583,994	933,544,600	+ 198,039,394	121.2
Total - Ontario	30,433,876,385	30,401,955,884	+ 31,920,501	100.1
<u>Prairie Provinces -</u>				
Brandon	114,364,031	104,139,525	+ 10,224,506	109.8
Calgary	1,779,369,851	1,602,017,603	+ 177,352,248	111.1
Edmonton	1,313,138,121	1,213,183,915	+ 99,954,206	108.2
Lethbridge	168,987,463	146,971,392	+ 22,016,071	115.0
Medicine Hat	98,231,596	74,791,412	+ 23,440,184	131.3
Moose Jaw	207,671,843	185,849,046	+ 21,822,797	111.7
Prince Albert	108,770,342	104,869,722	+ 3,900,620	103.7
Regina	1,286,895,569	977,251,230	+ 309,644,339	131.7
Saskatoon	394,914,872	349,200,751	+ 45,714,121	113.1
Winnipeg	7,381,392,595	6,366,405,086	+ 1,014,987,509	115.9
Total-Prairie Provinces .	12,853,736,283	11,124,679,682	+ 1,729,056,601	115.5
<u>British Columbia -</u>				
New Westminster	289,113,363	226,075,659	+ 63,037,704	127.8
Vancouver	5,321,162,167	4,354,229,708	+ 966,932,459	122.2
Victoria	929,640,699	787,288,421	+ 142,352,278	118.1
Total - British Columbia	6,539,916,229	5,367,593,788	+ 1,172,322,441	121.8
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA ..	74,498,092,978	69,247,607,433	+ 5,250,485,545	107.6

TABLE 3. - CHEQUES CASHED IN CLEARING CENTRES IN THE TWELVE MONTHS, 1925-47

DOLLARS

Year	CANADA	Maritime Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia
1925	28,126,060,756	572,499,530	8,475,224,491	11,236,043,641	6,000,047,283	1,842,245,211
1926	30,358,034,918	604,739,672	9,909,471,809	11,998,343,651	5,885,646,068	1,959,832,818
1927	36,093,503,098	627,744,049	12,643,906,315	14,641,811,031	6,126,986,036	2,053,055,667
1928	43,476,959,100	745,467,795	14,912,657,749	17,312,849,249	8,006,712,808	2,499,271,499
1929	46,670,981,848	797,957,813	16,483,667,262	18,543,268,230	7,922,806,296	2,922,782,247
1930	37,491,301,766	708,350,777	13,137,058,339	15,044,340,286	6,279,080,873	2,322,471,491
1931	31,586,468,262	652,543,469	10,550,072,979	13,376,840,349	5,201,211,730	1,805,799,730
1932	25,844,288,293	519,170,814	7,766,200,564	11,258,872,279	4,797,205,735	1,502,838,901
1933	29,981,465,494	481,013,532	8,567,070,260	13,027,437,905	6,414,353,624	1,491,590,173
1934	32,866,672,922	534,251,057	9,449,709,866	14,919,504,095	6,337,239,720	1,625,968,184
1935	31,546,066,341	574,052,860	8,977,529,023	13,876,626,476	6,445,395,764	1,672,462,218
1936	35,928,606,743	630,402,014	10,938,647,731	15,778,679,837	6,505,518,677	2,075,358,484
1937	35,166,061,138	733,359,446	11,568,421,542	15,939,149,497	4,827,021,407	2,098,109,246
1938	30,924,362,732	639,682,953	9,965,182,391	13,810,063,008	4,572,383,521	1,937,050,859
1939	31,617,351,831	679,947,972	9,820,399,452	13,618,490,448	5,478,229,879	2,020,284,080
1940	34,437,474,479	824,489,836	9,973,030,607	15,384,003,480	6,118,407,201	2,137,113,355
1941	39,242,957,184	940,712,152	11,068,666,580	18,214,788,841	6,591,645,027	2,427,144,584
1942	45,526,254,202	1,075,736,890	12,751,093,627	22,136,164,250	6,722,376,622	2,840,882,813
1943	53,796,714,727	1,243,762,861	15,373,881,025	24,681,702,142	9,199,963,592	3,297,405,107
1944	60,676,954,407	1,327,660,964	17,222,287,360	26,902,944,561	11,488,439,812	3,735,621,710
1945	68,384,813,161	1,553,590,758	19,309,332,983	31,543,361,615	11,562,164,231	4,416,363,574
1946	69,247,607,433	1,604,018,266	20,749,359,813	30,401,955,884	11,124,679,682	5,367,593,788
1947	74,498,092,978	1,750,654,723	22,919,909,358	30,433,876,385	12,853,736,283	6,539,916,229

Percentage increase of 1947 over 1929 and 1938

P.c. to						
1929	+ 59.7	+119.4	+ 39.1	+ 64.1	+ 62.2	+ 123.8
P.c. to						
1938	+140.9	+173.7	+ 130.0	+120.4	+181.1	+ 237.6

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

Type of Accounts	CURRENT ACCOUNTS		SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	
	December, 1947	November, 1947	December, 1947	November, 1947
Maritime Provinces ..	156,043,782	149,168,194	8,081,726	8,305,538
Quebec	1,884,196,558	1,847,689,135	124,161,755	109,320,764
Ontario	2,617,860,586	2,584,485,384	154,375,573	152,537,023
Prairie Provinces ...	1,198,728,900	1,297,378,966	46,518,277	59,340,945
British Columbia	568,859,392	512,556,979	52,249,424	53,268,192
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA	6,425,689,218	6,391,278,658	385,386,755	382,772,462

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

	1 9 4 6			1 9 4 7		
	November	December	August	September	October	November
Cheques Cashed, Current ..	5,836,163	5,590,455	4,926,324	5,545,663	6,757,891	6,391,279
Current Deposits - Average	2,945,564	2,991,043	2,636,199	2,632,258	2,661,218	2,730,178
Velocity of Current Accounts	1.98	1.87	1.87	2.11	2.53	2.34
Cheques cashed, Savings ..	375,332	344,724	310,003	388,712	451,060	382,772
Savings Deposits-Average .	3,468,438	3,464,734	3,731,345	3,789,946	3,779,294	3,731,567
Velocity Savings Accounts	0.108	0.099	0.083	0.098	0.119	0.102

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

	1 9 4 6			1 9 4 7		
	November	December	August	September	October	November
Cheques cashed, adjusted	205.2	201.0	204.6	227.0	240.1	223.8
Employment (8 Industries)	168.2	170.7	177.3	177.6	179.2	181.8
Percentage Unemployed ...	3.0	4.0	1.8	1.7	2.0	2.8
Wholesale Prices	143.8	144.6	169.7	173.6	180.8	184.9
Cost of Living	127.1	127.1	136.6	139.4	142.2	143.6
Common Stocks	102.5	106.4	105.5	104.1	105.5	107.3

TABLE 7. MONEY SUPPLY - MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

	1 9 4 6			1 9 4 7		
	November	December	August	September	October	November
Money Supply (M+M1)	7,612.8	7,501.8	7,476.7	7,468.7	7,618.6	7,544.5
Bank Notes in Circulation -						
Bank of Canada	1,161.1	1,186.2	1,158.9	1,172.2	1,179.4	1,182.3
Chartered Banks	21.7	21.4	19.2	18.9	18.6	18.4
Notes in hands of public ...	1,042.4	1,030.8	1,033.8	1,021.1	1,055.1	1,052.4
Subsidiary coin in hands of public	65.1	64.7	65.2	64.5	65.5	66.5
Total Circulating Media in hands of public (M)	1,107.5	1,095.5	1,099.0	1,085.6	1,120.6	1,119.0
Deposits -						
Deposits with Chartered Banks						
Dominion Government	600.2	365.9	238.0	108.6	139.3	340.2
Provincial Government	119.8	126.0	115.3	115.2	128.1	102.2
Demand	2,181.8	2,290.8	2,058.2	2,163.3	2,263.1	2,126.4
Notice	3,460.1	3,469.3	3,774.0	3,805.9	3,752.7	3,710.4
Total	6,362.0	6,252.0	6,185.5	6,192.9	6,283.2	6,279.3
Deposits with Bank of Canada						
Dominion Government	63.9	60.5	133.6	128.2	143.4	84.2
Other	79.4	93.8	58.7	62.0	71.2	62.0
Total	143.3	154.3	192.2	190.2	214.7	146.3
Total Deposits (M1)	6,505.3	6,406.3	6,377.8	6,383.1	6,497.9	6,425.6

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