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**DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS**  
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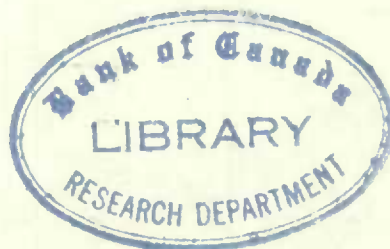
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**CHEQUES CASHED**

**AND**

**MONEY SUPPLY**

**MAY, 1947**



**OTTAWA**  
**1947**



Price  
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### CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS, MAY, 1947

Cheques cashed in Canada recorded a considerable increase in May over the preceding month and over the same period of 1946. The total was \$6,841 million compared with \$6,116 million in May last year. The increase of nearly 12 per cent was due mainly to a greater volume of productive operations and a marked increase in prices. Thirty-one of the thirty-three clearing centres recorded advances over last year, the exceptions being Halifax and Victoria. The aggregates for each of the five economic areas except the Maritime Provinces were considerably greater in this comparison.

#### Comparison with May 1946

Cheques cashed in the Maritime Provinces at \$144.5 million was considerably greater than in April but nearly 18 per cent less than in May, 1946. A considerable decline was shown in Halifax while Moncton and Saint John recorded advances of 16.5 and 17.5 per cent, respectively.

Active business conditions in the Province of Quebec, in evidence since the beginning of the year, were accentuated in May. The aggregate for the Province was nearly 20 per cent greater than in the same month of 1946. The increase in Montreal was 18.4 per cent and even greater percentage advances were shown in Quebec and Sherbrooke.

Each of the fourteen centres in Ontario increased over the same month of last year. The greatest percentage gain was shown in Hamilton where the advance was 45.2 per cent, the total moving up from \$125 million to \$182 million. The advance in Toronto was of moderate proportions, being limited to 1.6 per cent. Cheques cashed in Ottawa amounted to \$476 million against \$411 million, the increase having been 15.7 per cent.

Each of the ten centres in the Prairie Provinces showed increases in this comparison, the aggregate having been 8 per cent greater. Large percentage gains were shown in Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw and Lethbridge. The increase in Calgary was 19.1 per cent. Winnipeg, on the other hand, showed a moderate gain of 3.2 per cent, the total in May having been \$646 million.

Vancouver recorded the greatest increase of the metropolitan cities. The total at \$487 million was 28 per cent greater than in May last year. New Westminster showed an increase of 17.8 per cent, while transactions in Victoria were reduced by one quarter.

#### Comparison with the First Five Months of 1946

Thirty of the thirty-three clearing centres recorded increases in the first five months of 1947 over the same period of last year. The total was \$30,434 million against \$28,875 million, representing an increase of 5.4 per cent. Each of the five economic areas showed advances except Ontario where the situation was affected by declines in Ottawa and Toronto.



### Maritime Provinces.-

Moncton and Saint John in the Maritime area recorded advances of more than 13 per cent while the total for Halifax receded by 7.2 per cent. The net result for the area was an increase of slightly more than 2 per cent, the total in the first five months of the present year having been \$661 million.

### Quebec.-

The expansion in the Province of Quebec was relatively greater than that of any other economic area. The total was \$9,871 million, an increase of 17.6 per cent. The increase in Montreal was 17.6 per cent, the total in the elapsed portion of the present year having been \$9,006 million.

### Ontario.-

Twelve of the fourteen centres in Ontario showed increases over the first five months of 1946. The decline in Ottawa was from \$2,449 million to \$1,842 million. The recession in Toronto was somewhat less than 3 per cent. The aggregate for the Province was \$12,821 million, a decline of \$504 million from the same period of last year.

### Prairie Provinces.-

A minor recession was shown in Edmonton, the nine remaining centres showing advances in this comparison. The aggregate for the three provinces was 4.3 per cent greater. The total in the first five months of the present year was \$4,459 million, an increase of more than \$185 million. The gain in Winnipeg was of moderate proportions amounting to 1.5 per cent. The greatest percentage increase in the area was in Medicine Hat, the gain having been 23.8 per cent.

### British Columbia.-

Conditions in British Columbia continued active during the first five months of the present year. Cheques cashed rose 17.4 per cent to \$2,622 million. The increase in Vancouver was no less than 17.9 per cent. The total in the first five months was \$2,147 million.

### Long Term Comparison

Cheques cashed during the first five months in Canada as a whole rose to a new high position in 1947. The gain over 1929 was 58 per cent, while the increase over 1938, the last peace-time year of the inter-war period, was 156.7 per cent. A new high position was reached in the Maritimes, Quebec and British Columbia. The total for Ontario was less than in 1946 and that of the Prairie Provinces was exceeded by the maximum reached in 1944. British Columbia recorded the greatest percentage increase over 1938, while the Maritimes showed the greatest relative advance over 1929.

### Turnover of Bank Deposits

The turnover of current and savings accounts was somewhat greater in April than in the same month of last year. The increase in the cheques cashed against the two classes of deposits was greater than in the corresponding accounts. The cheques cashed against current accounts were \$5,701 million in April against \$5,426 million in the same month last year. The current deposits averaged for the year, rose from \$2,878 million to \$2,888 million. The consequent increase in the turnover was from

1.89 in April last year to 1.97 in the same month of 1947.

Savings deposits rose from \$3,204 million to \$3,628 million, but the cheques cashed against notice accounts rose to a relatively greater extent. The net result was that the turnover of notice deposits increased from 0.102 to 0.106.

### Money Supply

The money supply rose 6.4 per cent over the same month of last year to a new high position in history. The total in April was \$7,694 million against \$7,190 million, an increase of 6.4 per cent. The circulating media in the hands of the public consisting of notes and subsidiary coin recorded an increase of 2.6 per cent. Bank of Canada notes in circulation at \$1,154 million were 3.5 per cent greater than in April last year. The increase in deposits subject to cheque was 7.8 per cent, the total rising from \$6,144 million to \$6,622 million.

Interest centres on the increase in notice deposits which rose 12.3 per cent. The total in April was \$3,637 million, a new high position in our banking history. Statistics showing the computation of the money supply for recent months is shown in Table (5) Page (5).

The index of cheques cashed which had been 206.4 in May 1946 rose to 230.8 in May of this year. The indexes of the physical volume of business and employment indicate that productive operations were greater in the recent period than in April or May of last year. The percentage of unemployment is at a lower position than during the spring of 1946. Important advances were shown in wholesale prices and cost of living. Common stock prices, on the other hand, which had been at a relatively high position in May last year receded to a lower level in recent months.



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

CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS				
Province and Clearing House Centres	May 1 9 4 7	April 1 9 4 7	May 1 9 4 6	Per- centage of May, 1947 to May, 1946
<u>Maritime Provinces</u>	\$	\$	\$	
Halifax .....	70,621,959	63,376,061	112,970,039	62.5
Moncton .....	28,233,828	25,278,993	24,231,717	116.5
Saint John .....	45,611,175	44,257,173	38,831,478	117.5
Total - Maritime Provinces	144,466,962	132,912,227	176,033,234	82.1
<u>Quebec</u>				
Montreal .....	2,048,267,252	1,728,461,916	1,730,373,756	118.4
Quebec .....	191,402,067	160,649,864	137,421,188	139.3
Sherbrooke .....	20,400,775	18,089,412	16,939,326	120.4
Total - Quebec .....	2,260,070,094	1,907,201,192	1,884,734,270	119.9
<u>Ontario</u>				
Brantford .....	29,570,889	26,596,634	24,490,572	120.7
Chatham .....	19,365,912	15,884,930	14,983,188	129.3
Fort William .....	15,887,797	16,542,840	14,628,735	108.6
Hamilton .....	181,937,872	134,717,202	125,334,596	145.2
Kingston .....	19,578,544	17,310,525	17,413,846	112.4
Kitchener .....	37,897,214	34,931,015	33,280,359	113.9
London .....	90,163,928	76,154,464	74,350,043	121.3
Ottawa .....	475,970,315	479,435,817	411,328,120	115.7
Peterborough .....	20,656,286	18,058,362	17,419,349	118.6
St. Catharines .....	25,984,938	23,571,222	21,421,793	121.3
Sarnia .....	23,941,090	18,812,943	18,505,802	129.4
Sudbury .....	16,375,316	14,743,434	13,039,973	125.6
Toronto .....	1,699,376,073	1,631,265,829	1,671,916,423	101.6
Windsor .....	104,068,751	85,895,794	85,831,158	122.0
Total - Ontario .....	2,760,774,925	2,593,921,011	2,543,943,957	108.5
<u>Prairie Provinces</u>				
Brandon .....	9,568,826	9,150,217	8,889,360	107.6
Calgary .....	148,349,613	139,436,946	124,600,098	119.1
Edmonton .....	107,414,763	101,588,594	99,759,059	107.7
Lethbridge .....	14,739,030	14,363,535	11,877,460	124.1
Medicine Hat .....	8,054,437	7,717,350	5,868,676	137.2
Moose Jaw .....	18,581,534	15,277,872	14,582,931	127.4
Prince Albert .....	8,719,933	9,010,823	8,473,166	102.9
Regina .....	94,660,144	93,186,206	80,699,739	117.3
Saskatoon .....	35,338,897	31,500,677	30,259,190	116.8
Winnipeg .....	646,097,786	475,122,163	625,935,914	103.2
Total - Prairie Provinces.	1,091,524,963	896,354,383	1,010,945,593	108.0
<u>British Columbia</u>				
New Westminster .....	23,074,121	21,379,056	19,589,702	117.8
Vancouver .....	486,511,428	426,305,137	379,903,572	128.1
Victoria .....	74,729,205	65,159,895	100,492,546	74.4
Total - British Columbia .	584,314,754	512,844,088	499,985,820	116.9
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA ...	6,841,151,698	6,043,232,901	6,115,642,874	111.9

TABLE 2. - CHEQUES CASHED IN ECONOMIC AREAS-SHOWING TYPE OF ACCOUNT & CUMULATIVE TOTALS

Type of Accounts	CURRENT ACCOUNTS		SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	
	May, 1947	April, 1947	May, 1947	April, 1947
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Maritime Provinces .....	135,485,188	125,257,305	8,981,774	7,654,922
Quebec .....	2,136,206,989	1,814,953,732	123,863,105	92,247,460
Ontario .....	2,594,338,783	2,445,432,874	166,436,142	148,488,137
Prairie Provinces .....	1,041,906,807	847,611,522	49,618,156	48,742,861
British Columbia .....	534,208,503	467,622,900	50,106,251	45,221,188
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA ..	6,442,146,270	5,700,878,333	399,005,428	342,354,568

TABLE 3. - CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST CURRENT AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS \$ 000

	1946			1947	
	April	January	February	March	April
Cheques Cashed, Current ....	5,426,499	5,894,883	5,307,938	5,411,880	5,700,878
Current Deposits - Average .	2,877,820	2,934,916	2,904,427	2,834,521	2,888,442
Velocity of Current Accounts	1.89	2.01	1.83	1.91	1.97
Cheques Cashed, Savings ....	328,161	320,957	288,772	325,242	342,355
Savings Deposits - Average .	3,203,844	3,501,077	3,559,548	3,602,793	3,628,301
Velocity of Savings Accounts	0.102	0.092	0.081	0.090	0.106

TABLE 4. - RELATION OF CHEQUES CASHED TO OTHER FACTORS

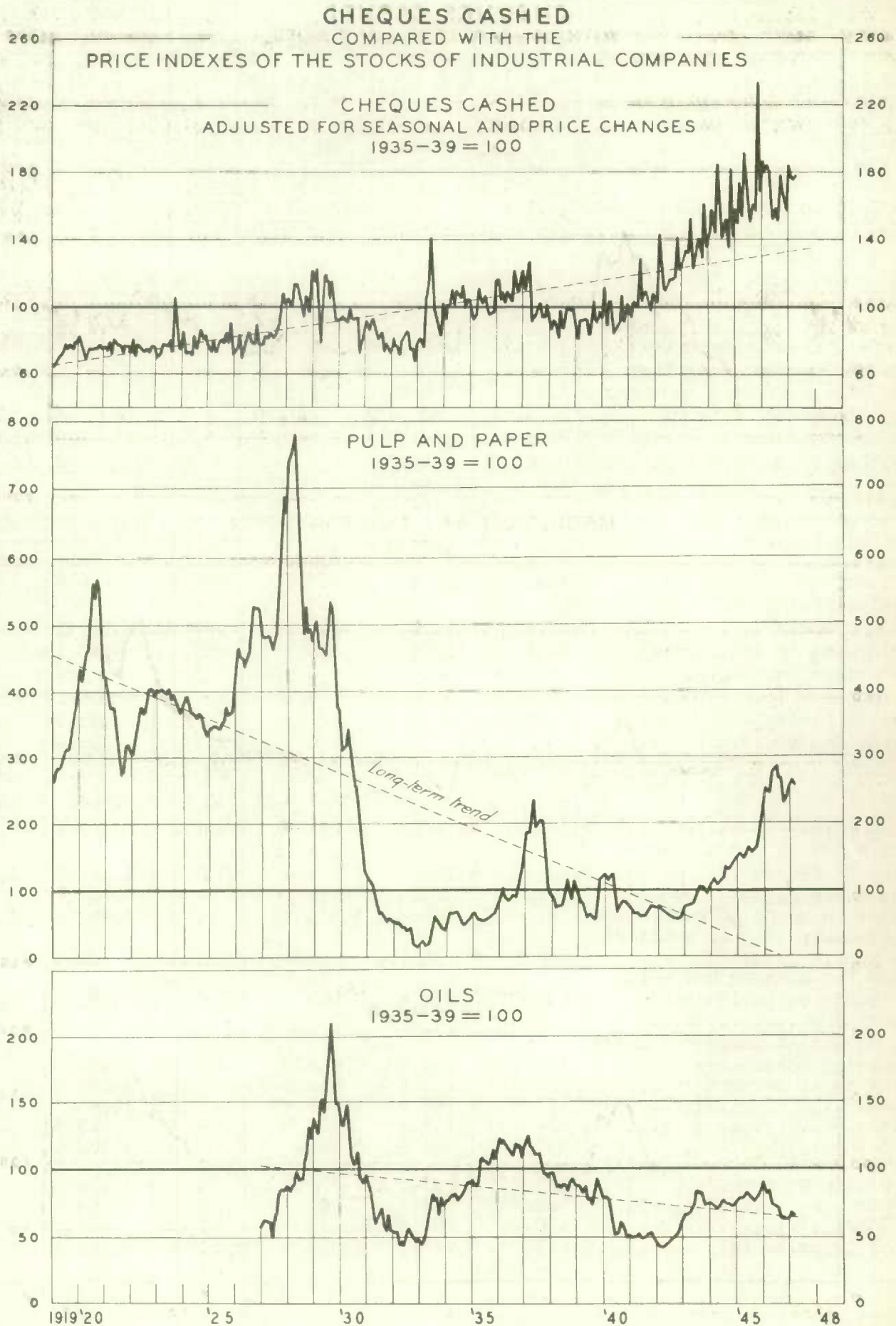
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Economic Indexes	1946		1947			
	April	May	Jan.	Feb.	March	April
Cheques cashed adjusted .	222.1	206.4	236.3	229.4	226.9	232.4
Physical Volume of						
Business .....	192.8	184.3	194.2	187.9	190.1	193.6
Employment (8 Industries)	155.5	155.9	166.7	166.4	166.1	166.4
Percentage Unemployed ...	5.8	4.6	4.9	5.2	4.8	3.9
Wholesale Prices .....	140.5	141.0	148.2	153.3	156.2	159.5
Cost of Living .....	120.8	122.0	127.0	127.8	128.9	130.6
Common Stocks .....	125.1	124.4	106.2	109.4	106.4	104.8

TABLE 5. - MONEY SUPPLY - MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

	April	May	Jan.	Feb.	March	April
Money Supply (M+MI) .....	7,189.8	7,105.5	7,545.4	7,555.3	7,502.7	7,694.1
Bank Notes in Circulation -						
Bank of Canada .....	1,114.4	1,109.5	1,138.6	1,137.9	1,153.2	1,153.9
Chartered Banks .....	24.1	23.7	21.1	20.9	20.7	20.5
Notes in Hands of public .	984.0	995.6	1,016.7	1,029.6	1,026.6	1,009.6
Subsidiary coin in hands of public .....	62.0	62.7	63.0	63.4	63.8	63.4
Total Circulating Media in hands of public (M) ...	1,046.0	1,058.4	1,079.7	1,093.0	1,090.4	1,073.0
Deposits .....						
Deposits with Chartered Banks						
Dominion Government .....	359.6	248.6	452.0	299.3	435.6	368.7
Provincial Government ....	122.3	120.2	161.3	140.2	137.3	183.9
Demand .....	2,178.5	2,207.0	2,086.6	2,145.4	1,995.7	2,166.2
Notice .....	3,237.5	3,305.7	3,532.8	3,586.3	3,619.3	3,637.3
Total .....	5,897.9	5,881.5	6,232.7	6,171.3	6,188.0	6,356.1
Deposits with Bank of Canada -						
Dominion Government .....	183.3	87.1	150.1	215.7	159.8	195.7
Other .....	62.7	78.4	82.9	75.3	64.6	69.3
Total .....	246.0	165.6	233.0	291.0	224.4	265.0
Total Deposits (MI) .....	6,143.9	6,047.1	6,465.9	6,462.2	6,412.4	6,621.7







# CHEQUES CASHED WITH COMPARISONS CONCLUDED

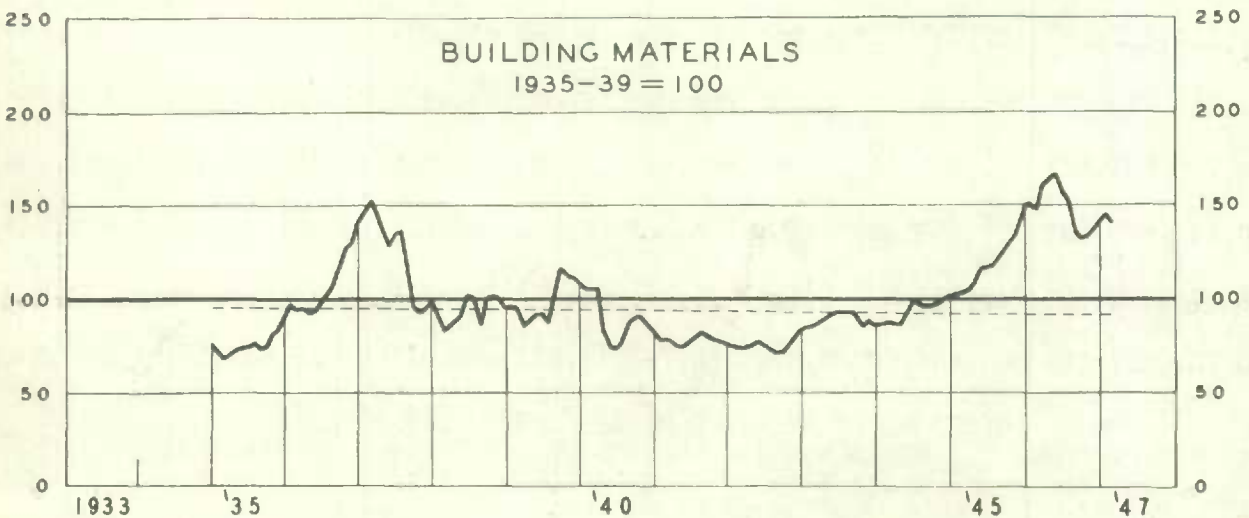
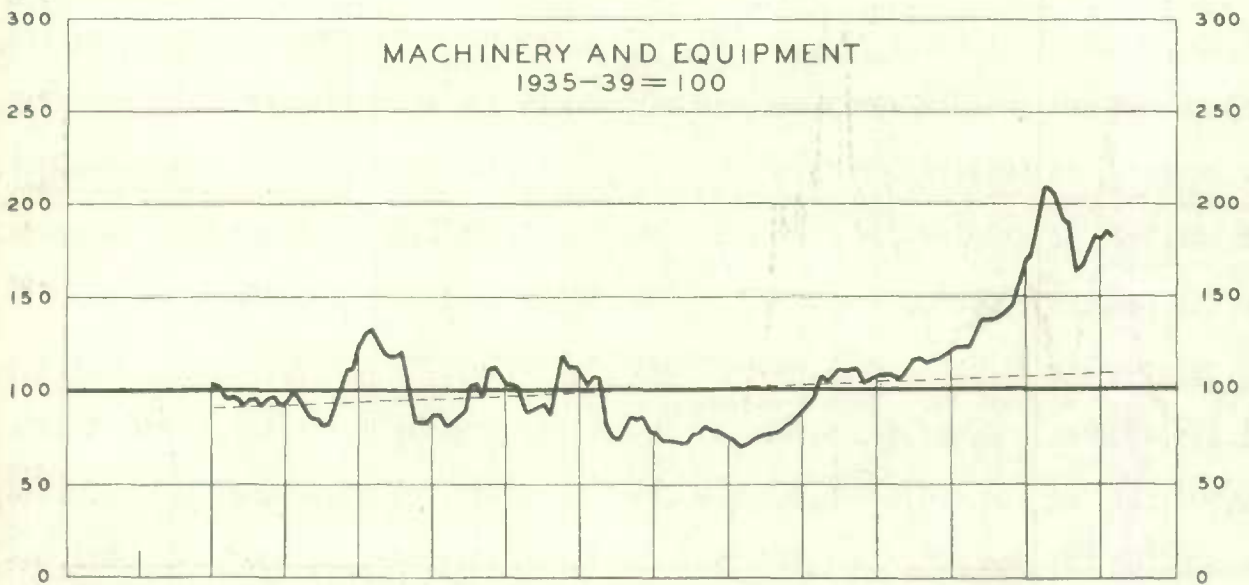
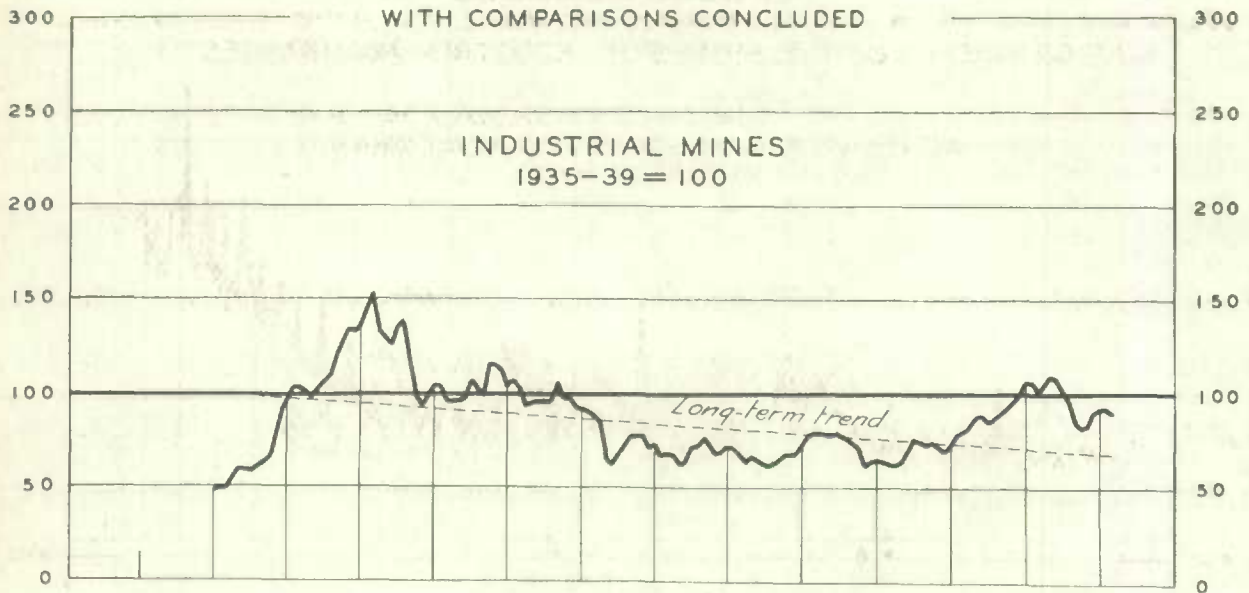


TABLE 5. - CHEQUES CASHED IN CLEARING CENTRES, FIRST FIVE MONTHS - 1924-1947

DOLLARS						
Year	Canada	Maritime Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia
1924	10,408,420,712	249,262,680	3,201,134,693	4,310,877,916	1,951,100,801	696,044,622
1925	10,661,057,911	221,015,267	3,240,831,980	4,291,261,712	2,195,318,711	712,630,241
1926	11,856,499,734	251,898,942	3,789,457,814	4,822,541,789	2,197,924,464	794,676,725
1927	13,138,481,883	239,788,359	4,403,936,452	5,547,993,159	2,148,647,046	798,116,867
1928	17,245,088,401	299,545,955	6,142,867,784	6,950,332,501	2,821,247,931	1,031,094,230
1929	19,255,760,508	324,975,787	6,694,400,345	7,987,367,438	2,956,913,209	1,292,103,729
1930	15,627,429,158	285,818,569	5,471,189,934	6,399,227,089	2,449,116,514	1,022,077,052
1931	13,731,605,923	270,954,517	4,830,270,354	5,919,720,024	1,944,215,227	766,445,801
1932	10,334,207,968	220,955,447	3,152,681,767	4,537,890,858	1,778,240,439	644,439,457
1933	10,212,854,401	185,967,777	2,942,259,762	4,489,120,160	2,038,790,798	556,715,904
1934	12,840,586,718	206,416,275	3,767,551,591	6,022,735,135	2,179,017,693	664,866,024
1935	12,505,824,733	210,180,826	3,573,680,560	5,816,365,518	2,244,929,163	660,668,666
1936	14,111,283,238	239,320,891	4,336,309,590	6,161,516,505	2,540,325,555	833,810,697
1937	15,294,091,178	312,368,361	5,049,977,344	7,082,369,539	1,956,020,093	893,355,841
1938	11,854,490,632	250,817,221	3,789,441,192	5,547,378,016	1,527,437,490	739,416,713
1939	12,302,221,566	256,416,542	4,010,268,289	5,608,487,987	1,616,452,307	810,596,441
1940	14,320,105,567	338,111,366	4,323,525,503	6,235,611,504	2,541,803,137	879,054,057
1941	14,569,469,692	353,928,594	4,047,143,733	6,877,713,514	2,397,489,357	893,194,494
1942	17,824,665,027	437,711,916	4,954,576,436	8,797,612,074	2,538,181,095	1,096,583,506
1943	21,117,778,009	505,841,904	6,022,708,213	10,088,088,821	3,199,370,618	1,301,768,453
1944	24,707,661,544	530,940,821	6,941,607,435	11,085,504,651	4,566,149,499	1,583,459,138
1945	26,581,559,602	603,979,289	7,658,763,903	12,330,828,015	4,318,138,592	1,669,849,803
1946	28,875,048,503	647,075,804	8,396,107,795	13,325,118,752	4,273,716,192	2,233,029,960
1947	30,434,057,131	660,663,067	9,870,579,771	12,821,406,931	4,459,024,381	2,622,382,981
Percentage increase of 1947 over 1929 and 1938						
P.C. to	Canada	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	B.C.
1929	58.1	103.3	47.4	60.5	50.8	103.0
P.C. to						
1938	156.7	163.4	160.5	131.1	191.9	254.7



TABLE 7. - BANK DEBITS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS AT THE CLEARING HOUSE CENTRES  
OF CANADA DURING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1947 COMPARED  
WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 1946

Province and Clearing House Centres	First Five Months 1 9 4 7 \$	First Five Months 1 9 4 6 \$	Increase (+) Decrease (-) \$	Percent- age of 1947-1946
<u>Maritime Provinces -</u>				
Halifax .....	331,321,176	357,056,970	- 25,735,794	92.8
Moncton .....	121,923,109	107,015,974	+ 14,907,135	113.9
Saint John .....	207,418,782	183,002,860	+ 24,415,922	113.3
Total, Maritime Provinces.	660,663,067	647,075,804	+ 13,587,263	102.1
<u>Quebec -</u>				
Montreal .....	9,006,393,087	7,659,383,437	+1,347,009,650	117.6
Quebec .....	778,749,799	662,650,825	+ 116,098,974	117.5
Sherbrooke .....	85,433,885	74,073,533	+ 11,363,352	115.3
Total - Quebec .....	9,870,579,771	8,396,107,795	+1,474,471,976	117.6
<u>Ontario -</u>				
Brantford .....	127,500,639	108,208,758	+ 19,291,881	117.8
Chatham .....	97,413,747	72,782,805	+ 24,630,942	133.8
Fort William .....	77,489,353	68,144,186	+ 9,345,167	113.7
Hamilton .....	688,385,368	582,325,088	+ 106,060,280	118.2
Kingston .....	84,434,734	82,287,462	+ 2,147,272	102.6
Kitchener .....	175,223,595	151,847,569	+ 23,376,026	115.4
London .....	396,287,104	353,620,797	+ 42,666,307	112.1
Ottawa .....	1,841,512,109	2,449,203,469	- 607,691,360	75.2
Peterborough .....	88,373,149	76,042,202	+ 12,330,947	116.2
St. Catharines .....	118,928,328	95,434,465	+ 23,493,863	124.6
Sarnia .....	105,477,407	89,405,456	+ 16,071,951	118.0
Sudbury .....	71,002,059	56,997,036	+ 14,005,023	124.6
Toronto .....	8,517,740,951	8,769,170,276	- 251,429,325	97.1
Windsor .....	431,638,388	369,649,183	+ 61,989,205	116.8
Total - Ontario .....	12,821,406,931	13,325,118,752	- 503,711,821	96.2
<u>Prairie Provinces -</u>				
Brandon .....	39,746,830	37,901,688	+ 1,845,142	104.9
Calgary .....	668,605,711	592,599,735	+ 76,005,976	112.8
Edmonton .....	500,693,674	513,270,403	- 12,576,729	97.5
Lethbridge .....	66,141,635	56,258,135	+ 9,883,500	117.6
Medicine Hat .....	34,258,702	27,683,229	+ 6,575,473	123.8
Moose Jaw .....	75,866,343	71,398,852	+ 3,867,491	105.4
Prince Albert .....	43,322,000	40,335,907	+ 2,986,093	107.4
Regina .....	406,206,039	354,988,341	+ 51,217,698	114.4
Saskatoon .....	144,880,667	135,692,865	+ 9,187,802	106.8
Winnipeg .....	2,479,302,780	2,442,987,037	+ 36,315,743	101.5
Total - Prairie Provinces	4,459,024,381	4,273,716,192	+ 185,308,189	104.3
<u>British Columbia -</u>				
New Westminster .....	102,941,114	89,114,227	+ 13,826,887	115.5
Vancouver .....	2,146,654,793	1,820,220,967	+ 326,433,826	117.9
Victoria .....	372,787,074	323,694,766	+ 49,092,308	115.2
Total - British Columbia.	2,622,382,981	2,233,029,960	+ 389,353,021	117.4
GRAND TOTAL FOR CANADA ...	30,434,057,131	28,875,048,503	+1,559,008,628	105.4



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