

large number, on the other hand, of the post office savings banks are in places far removed from all banking facilities, and where the inhabitants are only too glad to avail themselves of this means of deposit. It will be seen that the average amount to the credit of each depositor is much larger in the Government than in the post office savings banks, there being a considerable difference in the class of depositors, the deposits in the post office savings banks representing to a much greater extent the accumulations of the working classes than those in the Government banks.

946. The balance of deposits is not now required, as formerly, to be invested in Canadian Government securities, but forms part of the unfunded debt of the Dominion, and the amount of this floating capital, which is at the disposal of the Government, is necessarily curtailed by the decrease above mentioned. Disposal of
balance of
deposits.

947. In the United Kingdom, in 1891, the amount on deposit in post office savings banks amounted to \$348,492,276, and averaged \$9.14 per head of population. The number of depositors was 5,118,395, and the average amount of each account \$68.09, which, it will be seen, was a much smaller sum than in Canada. In savings banks under trustees there were \$208,661,083 on deposit, the number of depositors was 1,510,282, and the average amount of each account was \$138.16. The amount of each account, therefore, in both classes of savings banks averaged \$84.05, and the amount on deposit per head of population, \$14.62. Deposits
in the
United
Kingdom.

948. The following are particulars of savings banks in the Australasian Colonies in 1890*, the figures for Canada, in the same year, having been added for comparison:— Deposits
in Austral-
asian
colonies.

SAVINGS BANKS IN CANADA AND AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES
IN 1890.

COLONIES.	Number of Depositors.	Amount on Deposit.	AVERAGE AMOUNT.	
			Per Depositor.	Per head of Population.
		\$	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
New South Wales.....	143,826	23,021,616	160 06	20 51
Victoria.....	288,240	26,307,467	91 29	23 27
Queensland.....	45,885	8,112,019	176 78	20 63
South Australia.....	70,873	10,115,737	142 73	31 20
Western Australia.....	3,014	168,465	55 88	3 46
Tasmania.....	25,324	2,536,750	100 16	17 54
New Zealand.....	97,208	11,883,805	122 24	18 98
Australasia.....	674,370	82,145,860	121 80	21 67
Canada (1890).....	169,584	41,012,465	241 84	8 56

* The figures are taken in the first place from the "Tasmanian Official Record," 1892, p. 309, and conversions made in this office.