

1145. The increase in the number of Post Office Savings Banks, during the year, was 26, distributed as follows :—Ontario, 10 ; Quebec, 7 ; Nova Scotia, 1 ; New Brunswick, 2 ; Manitoba, 1 ; British Columbia, 5. There was no increase in Prince Edward Island and the Territories.

The number of depositors in the post office savings banks increased by 2,745, and the amount on deposit by \$1,104,674. The average amount for each depositor increased by \$4.48, and the average amount per head of the population by 16 cents. The number of depositors in 1894 is the largest of any year in the history of these savings banks.

1146. The other savings banks under Government management had an increase in number of depositors of 776 ; in the amount on deposit of \$81,680, and a decrease in the average amount to each depositor of \$301, but was higher than any year since 1887, with the exception of 1893. There were decreases in the number of depositors in Ontario and Nova Scotia, and increases in New Brunswick, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia.

New Brunswick has the largest average amount to each depositor of any province, both in the Post Office and the other Government savings banks.

1147. As compared with 1893, the year 1894 shows, for both kinds of Government savings banks, an increase of \$26.14 per depositor in the Province of Ontario ; \$7.88 in the Province of Quebec ; of \$4.48 in the Province of New Brunswick ; of \$21.11 in Prince Edward Island ; of \$22.13 in the Territories ; of \$2.65 in Nova Scotia, and of \$7.99 in Manitoba. British Columbia has a decrease of \$9.53 in the average amount to each depositor. The general average of the whole Dominion shows a decrease of \$1.67 per depositor.

1148. The amount on deposit in the Government savings banks (postal and other) in 1894, 1893 and 1892 per head of the population, by provinces, is given in the next table :—

PROVINCES.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Ontario.....	8 53	8 38	7 78
*Quebec.....	2 83	2 70	2 52
Nova Scotia.....	18 49	18 41	18 19
New Brunswick.....	23 13	22 32	21 22
Manitoba.....	4 27	4 32	4 58
British Columbia.....	8 91	9 15	10 61
Prince Edward Island.....	21 01	20 67	19 61
*The Territories.....	0 82	0 59	0 65

\*Post Office Savings Banks only.

The balance of deposits is not now required (as it was 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, necessarily fluctuates.