

56.—Commercial Failures in Canada, by Provinces and Classes, for 1919, with totals for 1908-1918. [From Dun's Review.]—concluded.

Provinces.	Trading.		Other Commercial.		Banking.	
	Num-ber.	Liabilities.	Num-ber.	Liabilities.	Num-ber.	Liabilities.
		\$		\$		\$
Newfoundland.....	3	30,000	1	2,000		
Total 1918.....	590	5,142,397	51	1,111,273		
“ 1917.....	777	8,417,239	59	2,369,132		
“ 1916.....	1,237	12,290,368	85	3,982,120		
“ 1915.....	1,888	21,696,890	118	5,588,017	1	-
“ 1914.....	2,164	18,677,935	120	5,303,968	1	250,000
“ 1913.....	1,216	8,681,419	51	1,505,224	1	125,000
“ 1912.....	975	6,906,665	59	853,656		-
“ 1911.....	986	7,606,891	5	1,124,289	1	71,194
“ 1910.....	947	6,943,579	23	540,850	2	2,546,871
“ 1909.....	1,059	7,867,287	29	1,181,575	-	
“ 1908.....	1,171	8,242,436	43	712,856	2	2,137,242

NOTE.—Newfoundland included in totals 1908-1918.

**Analysis of Commercial Failures.**—In Tables 57 and 58 Bradstreet's and Dun's records of commercial failures are analysed according to the method suggested by Kemmerer. First the total number of concerns doing business is indicated, and secondly the number of failures with the percentage of these to the whole, the latter being stated in the form of an index number of which the base is 100 as representing the figures of 1900. Thirdly, the assets and liabilities are set forth and analysed. It will be noted that the average liability for each year is indicated; this is necessary because the extent of demoralization caused by business failures is proportioned to the size of the failure, the failure of one large concern often causing a stronger business depression than the failure of scores of small ones. The relation of liabilities to assets is also significant. Lastly as a rough balancing of results the index number indicating the proportion of failures to the number of concerns in business and the index number of the size of the concerns failing are averaged, and the result given as the barometer of business depression. This number reversed is a barometer of business confidence. The records of Bradstreet and Dun are not on the same basis, but the general tendency of the two records is the same, the differences in results being usually only a matter of degree.