

44.—Gold held by the Minister of Finance during the years 1919-1923¹.

Years.	Gold Reserve held on Savings Bank Deposits.	Gold held for redemption of Dominion Notes.	Total Gold held by Minister of Finance.
	\$	\$	\$
1919.....	4,909,675	118,489,692	123,399,367
1920.....	4,067,897	98,751,773	102,819,670
1921.....	3,666,009	84,568,064	88,234,073
1922.....	3,293,287	89,939,108	93,232,395
1923.....	3,154,358	120,651,627	123,805,985

¹ Yearly average.

45.—Denominations of Dominion Notes in Circulation, March 31, 1919-1924.

Denominations.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1.....	15,217,261	16,550,738	16,456,102	15,387,109	15,921,295	16,491,335
2.....	12,161,480	13,238,915	12,819,010	11,335,549	11,854,372	12,051,573
4.....	39,439	38,299	37,567	36,735	35,791	34,915
5.....	4,772,455	3,434,275	3,699,880	1,886,410	2,154,470	2,975,625
50.....	4,200	3,950	3,800	3,750	3,750	150
100.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
500.....	1,868,500	2,596,000	2,683,500	2,728,500	3,034,000	2,022,000
1,000.....	4,146,000	4,773,000	5,050,000	4,999,000	6,019,000	4,209,000
500 special.....	124,500	95,000	70,000	13,500	2,000	—
1,000 “.....	992,000	1,159,000	962,000	931,000	935,000	982,000
5,000 “.....	213,505,000	234,105,000	191,980,000	142,505,000	124,845,000	96,840,000
50,000 “.....	44,000,000	34,650,000	42,800,000	60,350,000	76,550,000	79,700,000
Fractional.....	1,200,120	1,260,872	1,293,283	1,257,163	1,275,372	1,290,715
Provincial.....	27,743	27,743	27,743	27,710	27,710	27,691
Total.....	298,458,698	311,932,792	277,882,885	241,461,426	242,657,765	216,625,004

Bank Notes.—Bank notes form the chief circulating medium in use in Canada. Under the Canadian Bank Act, the banks are authorized to issue notes of the denominations of \$5 and multiples thereof to the amount of their paid-up capital. These notes are not in normal times legal tender.

In addition, during the period of the movement of the crops (September 1 to February 28-29), the banks may issue “excess” circulation to the amount of 15 p.c. of their combined capital and “rest or reserve” funds. In the event of war or panic, the Government may permit the “excess” to run all the year. The banks pay interest on the excess at 5 p.c. If a bank desires to extend its circulation, it may also do so by depositing dollar for dollar in gold or Dominion notes in the central gold reserves.

In case of insolvency, the notes of a bank are a first lien upon its assets. They are further secured, in case of insolvency, by the Bank Circulation Redemption Fund, to which all banks contribute on the basis of 5 p.c. of their average circulation, the sum thus secured being available for the redemption of the notes of failed banks.

The figures of bank note circulation are given in Table 46. Table 47 brings together the results obtained above as to the quantity of the circulating medium in the hands of the Canadian public.