

44.—Gold held by the Minister of Finance during the years 1919-1926.¹

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.....	3,686,096	84,568,064	88,254,073
1922.....	3,293,287	89,939,108	93,232,395
1923.....	3,154,359	120,651,627	123,805,985
1924.....	3,308,575	107,257,428	110,566,003
1925.....	3,241,490	119,744,810	122,986,309
1926.....	3,162,930	109,369,550	112,532,480

¹ Yearly averages.

45.—Denominations of Dominion Notes in Circulation, Mar. 31, 1920-1926.

Denominations.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1.....	16,456,102	15,387,109	15,921,295	16,491,335	16,294,009	16,942,454
2.....	12,819,010	11,335,649	11,854,372	12,051,573	11,617,597	12,231,463
4.....	37,567	36,735	35,791	34,915	34,259	33,547
5.....	3,699,880	1,886,410	2,154,470	2,975,625	1,959,850	428,672
50.....	3,800	3,750	3,750	150	850	650
500.....	2,683,500	2,728,500	3,034,000	2,022,000	1,828,000	1,790,500
1,000.....	5,050,000	4,999,000	6,019,000	4,209,000	3,306,000	3,344,000
500 special.....	70,000	13,500	2,000	—	—	—
1,000 special.....	962,000	931,000	935,000	982,000	555,000	648,000
5,000 special.....	191,980,000	142,535,000	124,845,000	96,840,000	24,240,000	16,600,000
50,000 special.....	42,800,000	60,350,000	76,550,000	79,790,000	145,550,000	129,200,000
Fractional currency.....	1,293,283	1,257,163	1,275,372	1,290,715	1,301,036	1,335,494
Provincial notes.....	27,743	27,710	27,710	27,691	27,687	27,624
Total.....	277,882,885	241,461,426	242,657,765	216,625,004	206,712,868	182,583,404

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 (Sept. 1 to Feb. 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 not covered by gold or Dominion notes deposited in the central gold reserves established in 1913. The sum thus secured is 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 statistics of the quantity of circulating media in the hands of the general public, yearly averages being used where possible.