

Banking Statistics—In Table 10 is given a historical summary of Canadian banking business since Confederation. In order to afford a clear view of the nature of banking transactions in Canada, bank liabilities have been classified in two main groups, liabilities to shareholders and liabilities to the public, the latter group only being considered when determining the ordinary financial position of any such institution. Assets are divided into four groups, other assets being included in the total. As of interest to students of banking practice, the relative rates of increase of capital and reserve funds may be noted, also the great increase in the proportion of liabilities to the public to total liabilities, and the gradually increasing percentage of liabilities to the public to total assets. The declining proportion of notes in circulation to total liabilities to the public is also characteristic of the evolution of banking in recent times. Holdings of Dominion and Provincial Government and of municipal securities were relatively insignificant prior to the Great War.

THE GROWTH OF THE ASSETS OF CANADIAN CHARTERED BANKS 1867-1929

(BASED ON ANNUAL AVERAGES)

