

4.—Circulation in Canada of Silver and Bronze Coin, Dec. 31, 1901-31—concluded.

Year.	Net Amounts of Silver Coin Issued. ¹		Amounts per head.		Net Amounts of Bronze Coin Issued. ¹		Amounts per head.	
	A. During the Year.	B. Since 1858.	Col. A.	Col. B.	C. During the year.	D. Since 1858.	Col. C.	Col. D.
	\$	\$	cts.	\$	\$	\$	cts.	cts.
1916.....	1,179,516	19,768,089	14.7	2.46	110,646	1,323,234	1.4	16.5
1917.....	1,790,941	21,559,030	21.9	2.64	116,800	1,440,034	1.4	17.6
1918.....	2,329,091	23,888,121	28.0	3.87	131,777	1,671,811	1.6	18.9
1919.....	3,196,027	27,084,148	37.7	3.19	115,011	1,686,822	1.4	19.9
1920.....	1,300,703	28,384,850	15.1	3.29	208,961	1,895,783	2.4	22.0
1921.....	40,191	28,344,659	0.5	3.22	60,543	1,956,326	0.7	22.0
1922.....	-	28,151,444 ²	-	3.16 ²	11,742	1,968,068	0.1 ³	22.1 ³
1923.....	-	28,052,347 ²	-	3.11 ²	19,118	1,987,186	0.2 ³	22.1 ³
1924.....	-	27,863,502 ²	-	3.05 ²	11,430	1,998,616	0.1 ³	21.9 ³
1925.....	-	27,713,019 ²	-	2.98 ²	21,854	2,020,470	0.2 ³	21.7 ³
1926.....	-	27,433,463 ²	-	2.90 ²	23,363	2,043,833	0.2 ³	21.6 ³
1927.....	-	27,104,534 ²	-	2.81 ²	36,363	2,080,196	0.4 ³	21.6 ³
1928.....	633,429	27,737,963	6.4 ³	2.82 ²	91,461	2,171,657	0.9 ³	22.1 ³
1929.....	906,232	28,638,195	9.0 ³	2.85 ²	119,132	2,290,769	1.2 ³	22.8 ³
1930.....	-	28,562,880 ²	-	2.80 ²	6,616	2,297,405	0.1 ³	22.5 ³
1931.....	144,018	28,706,348	1.4	2.77	45,649	2,346,054	0.5	22.6

¹The figures for net amount of coins issued show the value issued less the value withdrawn and to this extent do not correspond with the figures shown in Table 2.

²The decreases shown in recent years are due to the withdrawal of worn and mutilated silver coins from circulation.

³Per capita figures for the years 1922-30 inclusive are worked out on the basis of revised populations (see p. 110).

Dominion Notes.—An important part of the Canadian monetary system is the paper currency of the Dominion Government. Under the Dominion Notes Act, 1914 (5 Geo. V, c. 4), the Dominion Government is authorized to issue notes up to and including \$50,000,000 against a reserve in gold equal to one-quarter of that amount. By c. 4, Acts of 1915, "An Act respecting the Issue of Dominion Notes", the Dominion Government is authorized to issue notes up to \$26,000,000 without any reserve of gold, \$16,000,000 of the notes to be against certain specified Canadian railway securities guaranteed by the Dominion Government.¹ Notes may be issued to any additional amount in excess of \$76,000,000, but (except as provided by the Finance Act, 1914—see footnote below) an amount of gold equal to the excess must be held. Thus Dominion notes normally approximate to gold certificates. Under the Act, the Government issues notes of the denominations of 25 cents, \$1, \$2, \$4, \$5, \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. In addition, "special" notes of the denominations of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$50,000 (first issue of the last-mentioned September, 1918) are issued for use between banks only, the purpose being as a safeguard against theft. Table 5 gives the main statistics of Dominion notes outstanding and the reserves on which they have been based since 1890, Table 6 statistics of gold held by the Minister of Finance from 1919 to 1931, while Table 7 shows the use of notes of different denominations during the past six years.

¹The following is an outline of Canadian legislation respecting the issue of notes. After Confederation, by an Act of 1863 (31 Vict., c. 46), authority was given for the issue of notes to the extent of eight million dollars. The reserve was fixed at 20 p.c. up to a circulation of five millions; beyond that, 25 p.c. to be held as reserve. The law of 1870 (33 Vict., c. 10) authorized a limit of nine million dollars. The reserve was fixed at 20 p.c., but the nine millions were only to be issued when the specie amounted to two millions. Dollar for dollar was to be held beyond nine millions. In 1872 (35 Vict., c. 7) the reserve for the excess over nine millions was fixed at 35 p.c. in specie. This was amended in 1875 (38 Vict., c. 5) by requiring dollar for dollar beyond twelve millions; for the reserve between nine and twelve millions 50 p.c. in specie was to be held. In 1876 the law respecting Dominion notes was extended to the provinces of Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and Manitoba. In 1890 (43 Vict., c. 13) the basis of the present standard was established. A reserve of 25 p.c. in gold and guaranteed debentures was required, of which 15 p.c. at least was to be in gold. The limit was raised to twenty million dollars. In 1894 (57-58 Vict., c. 21) the limit was raised to twenty-five millions, but this was found unworkable and was repealed in 1895 (58-59 Vict., c. 16), and authority was given to issue notes to any amount over twenty millions, on holding dollar for dollar beyond that sum. In 1903 (3 Edw. VII, c. 43) the Minister of Finance was required to hold gold and guaranteed debentures of not less than 25 p.c. on Dominion notes issued and outstanding up to thirty million dollars; beyond thirty millions he was required to hold gold equal to the excess. In 1914 (5 Geo. V, c. 4), assented to Aug. 22, 1914) this amount was raised to fifty millions and in 1915 (5 Geo. V, c. 4, assented to April 8, 1915) to seventy-six millions, under the conditions stated in the text. The Finance Act, 1914 (5 Geo. V, c. 3), makes provision, in case of war, panic, etc., for the issue of Dominion notes against approved securities; this emergency arrangement was made a permanent feature by c. 43 of the Statutes of 1923.