On Jan. 1, 1940, the Small Loans Act, 1939 (3 Geo. VI, c. 23), passed by the Parliament of Canada, came into force, by which the above-mentioned small loans companies and money-lenders licensed thereunder making personal loans of \$500 or less, are limited to a rate of cost of loan of 2 p.c. per month on outstanding balances, and unlicensed lenders to a rate of 12 p.c. per annum, including interest and charges of every description.

5.—Assets and Liabilities of Small Loans Companies Chartered by the Dominion Government, as at Dec. 31, 1933-44

Note.-Figures for the years 1928-32 will be found at p. 838 of the 1942 Year Book.

	ASSETS						
Year	Loans Receivable	Cash on Hand and in Banks	Other	Total			
	8	\$	\$	\$			
1933	1,228,180	327,760	14,019	1,569,959			
1934	2,353,862	284,761	22,111	2,660,734			
1935	2,962,580	194,406	30,403	3, 187, 389			
1936	4,145,066	214,363	32,961	4,392,390			
1937	4,875,596	261,864	37,092	5, 174, 552			
1938	4,764,032	412,594	32, 182	5, 208, 808			
1939	5,081,320	342,578	42.781	5, 466, 679			
19401		381,061	181,806	6,829,203			
1941	7,557,414	269,943	91,569	7,918,926			
1942	8,485,590	246,629	328,0433	9,060,262			
1943	9,768,506	412, 429	415, 4314	10,596,366			
1944	11.548.308	542,359	507, 1794	12,597,846			

	LIABILITIES									
Year	Liabilities to Shareholders				Liabilities to the Public				Total	
i ear	General Re- serve	Reserve for Losses	Capital Paid Up	Other Lia- bilities	Total	Borrowed Money	Un- earned Income	Other Lia- bilities ⁵	Total	Lia- bilities
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1933	18,000	295,361 351,850 421,488 517,9867	976,750 976,750 976,750 1,001,750 1,001,750 1,234,250 1,234,250 1,234,250	76,518 163,923 2,771 237,643 441,718	1,118,827 1,231,734 1,426,179 1,759,701 2,056,829 2,653,766 2,907,579 3,361,177	1,330,797 1,681,062 2,581,710 2,920,840 2,653,334 2,265,834 3,708,366 4,258,853	171, 817 222, 643 315, 678 361, 315 348, 355 369, 723 Nil ⁶	17, 181 21, 742 37, 559	1,519,795 1,925,447 2,934,947 3,378,059 3,119,797 2,770,281 3,921,624 4,557,749	2,638,622 3,157,181 4,361,126 5,137,760 5,176,626 5,424,047 6,829,203
1942 1943 1944		565,1107	3,735,000	2,393,312 2,970,071				314, 249 406, 251	3,884,944	10,596,366 12,597,846

¹ First year Small Loans Act in operation.

³ Includes \$200,000 bonds, debentures and stock.

⁴ Includes \$250,000 bonds, debentures and stock.

⁵ Includes taxes.

⁶ No unearned income; since from 1940 small loans have been on an earned basis.

7 Including business other than small loans.

The Small Loans Companies chartered by the Dominion Government show a substantial increase in business for 1944 as compared with the previous year. The number of loans made to the public during the year increased from 144,521 to 162,242 or by 12.3 p.c. and the amount of such loans rose from \$19,328,551 to \$23,684,406. The average loan was approximately \$146 compared with \$134 in 1943. At the end of 1944 the loans outstanding were 107,732 to an amount of \$11,548,308 or an average of \$107 per loan.

Licensed Money-Lenders.—In addition to the above-mentioned small loans companies, 50 licensed money-lenders furnished annual statements of their business, showing, for 1944, total assets of \$11,922,641, of which balances of small loans