

**Cheque Payments.**—A monthly record of the value of cheques charged to customer accounts at all chartered bank offices in 35 major clearing-house centres of Canada is available from 1924. Except for a minor setback in 1938, the value of cheques cashed shows a continuously upward trend from 1932, the low point of the depression years. The total \$293,784,342,000 in 1961 was a record, 850 p.c. greater than in 1938; the increase equalled the gain in gross national product during the same period. The advance was well distributed throughout Canada's five economic areas. British Columbia showed the largest gain with an increase of 955 p.c. The Prairie Provinces were second with an advance of 896 p.c., followed by Ontario with 876 p.c., the Atlantic Provinces with 819 p.c. and Quebec with 775 p.c.

Value of cheques cashed in 30 of the 35 centres was higher in 1961 than in 1960. Payments in Toronto showed the same 7.8 p.c. gain over 1960 as over 1959 and Montreal rose by 7.4 p.c. In comparison, Winnipeg advanced by 10.8 p.c. and Vancouver by 14.5 p.c.

**17.—Cheques Cashed at 35 Clearing-House Centres, 1957-61**

Clearing-House Centre	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Atlantic Provinces</b> .....	<b>4,253,883</b>	<b>4,438,573</b>	<b>5,119,612</b>	<b>5,499,101</b>	<b>5,876,687</b>
Halifax.....	1,862,262	1,952,996	2,240,973	2,470,454	2,765,782
Moncton.....	610,987	644,873	687,497	703,300	725,886
Saint John.....	974,095	974,038	1,240,454	1,292,907	1,282,369
St. John's.....	806,539	866,666	950,688	1,032,440	1,102,650
<b>Quebec</b> .....	<b>60,153,466</b>	<b>63,318,152</b>	<b>70,466,038</b>	<b>80,114,230</b>	<b>87,213,839</b>
Montreal.....	54,937,930	57,779,114	64,370,687	73,203,832	78,593,811
Quebec.....	4,675,309	4,994,969	5,515,388	6,285,281	7,912,527
Sherbrooke.....	540,227	544,069	579,963	625,117	707,501
<b>Ontario</b> .....	<b>92,469,365</b>	<b>102,798,608</b>	<b>117,852,356</b>	<b>125,319,946</b>	<b>134,719,363</b>
Brantford.....	587,965	611,026	692,885	688,254	693,833
Chatham.....	552,229	639,883	618,778	655,467	654,195
Cornwall.....	405,239	400,905	430,320	406,526	455,088
Fort William.....	455,892	458,694	483,014	454,425	483,450
Hamilton.....	4,355,968	4,681,253	5,784,746	5,730,223	5,988,206
Kingston.....	449,613	499,922	530,388	520,401	561,700
Kitchener.....	978,856	1,050,153	1,212,701	1,268,458	1,321,571
London.....	2,489,582	2,756,333	3,248,221	3,438,475	3,728,758
Ottawa.....	3,823,158	4,823,537	5,441,744 <sup>1</sup>	5,428,618 <sup>1</sup>	5,923,469 <sup>1</sup>
Peterborough.....	533,262	534,561	597,133	588,320	566,260
St. Catharines.....	795,132	800,629	847,322	861,905	959,735
Sarnia.....	571,840	589,935	610,219	631,965	701,576
Sudbury.....	641,458	613,037	646,385	650,352	711,292
Toronto.....	73,497,633	82,217,905	94,286,069	101,652,499	109,570,868
Windsor.....	2,331,538	2,120,835	2,422,431	2,344,058	2,399,362
<b>Prairie Provinces</b> .....	<b>32,060,427</b>	<b>34,490,157</b>	<b>37,804,428</b>	<b>40,667,168</b>	<b>45,540,898</b>
Brandon.....	222,039	229,039	247,763	255,007	269,028
Calgary.....	8,319,489	7,646,109	8,528,838	8,773,941	10,326,214
Edmonton.....	4,876,157	5,149,339	5,823,946	5,975,975	6,672,384
Lethbridge.....	421,533	441,664	498,787	488,953	501,226
Medicine Hat.....	193,145	201,480	226,498	225,390	243,630
Moose Jaw.....	340,910	392,210	394,040	407,835	379,010
Prince Albert.....	185,407	204,351	229,736	235,304	247,306
Regina.....	3,233,572	3,622,192	3,859,211	4,377,349	4,869,831
Saskatoon.....	849,665	971,924	1,085,023	1,101,592	1,170,588
Winnipeg.....	13,418,516	15,631,849	16,910,586	18,825,822	20,861,681
<b>British Columbia</b> .....	<b>16,621,206</b>	<b>16,244,464</b>	<b>17,626,917</b>	<b>18,018,609</b>	<b>20,433,555</b>
New Westminster.....	742,305	824,007	925,926	863,876	2
Vancouver.....	13,523,017	13,143,566	14,230,065	14,653,833	17,766,910
Victoria.....	2,356,084	2,276,891	2,470,926	2,500,900	2,666,645
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>205,558,447</b>	<b>221,289,954</b>	<b>248,869,351</b>	<b>269,619,054</b>	<b>293,784,342</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes some debits reported in preceding years.

<sup>2</sup> Included with Vancouver.