

FINANCE

Canadian Excise Tariff.—The following is a statement of the Canadian excise tariff, as amended by Parliament during the session of August 18-22, 1914:

Spirits—		Tobacco, per lb.	\$0.10
When made from raw grain, per proof gal.	\$2.40	Cigarettes, weighing not more than 3 lb. per m., per thousand. . . .	3.00
When made from malted barley	42	Cigarettes, weighing more than 3 lb. per m., per thousand.	8.00
When made from imported molasses or other sweetened matter free of Customs duty, per proof gal.	2.43	Foreign raw leaf tobacco, unstemmed, per lb.	0.28
Malt, per lb.	0.03	Foreign raw leaf tobacco, stemmed, per lb.	0.42
Malt, imported, crushed or ground per lb.	0.05	Canada twist tobacco, per lb. . . .	0.10
Malt liquor when made in whole or part from any other substance than malt, per gal.	0.15	Snuff, per lb.	0.10
Vinegar, per proof gal.	0.04	Cigars, per m.	3.00
Acetic acid, per proof gal.	0.04	Cigars when put up in packages of less than 10 each, per m.	4.00

Consumption of Alcohol and Tobacco.—The separate sources of revenue for the years 1911 to 1916 are set out in Table 16. The two largest sources of inland revenue are spirits and tobacco, which in 1916 together accounted for over eighty-four p.c. of the total. Tables 18 and 19 show that the consumption of alcoholic liquors and of tobacco has tended annually to increase, both absolutely and relatively per head of the population, up to the year 1913. For the year 1912-13 the consumption of spirits reached its highest point, viz. 4,999,937 gallons, or 1.112 gallon per head. For the year 1913-14 the consumption of malt liquor rose to its highest point, viz., 56,060,846 gallons, or 7.2 gallons per head of beer. But under the influence of the war and resulting legislation a marked decrease is apparent, and for the year 1915-16 the consumption of spirits fell to 3,629,324 gallons, or 0.745 gallon per head, as against 4,021,090 gallons, or 0.872 gallon per head in 1914-15 and 4,762,618 gallons, or 1.061 gallon per head in 1913-14. The consumption per head of wine was 0.062 gallon in 1915-16, as against 0.095 gallon in 1914-15 and 0.124 gallon in 1913-14. In the case of malt liquor, the consumption in 1915-16 was 39,638,877 gallons, or 4.95 gallons per head of beer, as against 47,963,225 gallons, or 6.071 gallons per head of beer in 1914-15. At the same time the excise revenue from spirits and malt has been maintained at or near the former levels as a consequence of the increased taxes imposed upon the outbreak of the war. In 1916 special provincial temperance legislation took effect in Ontario and in other provinces, the influence of which should become more apparent in the near future. Of tobacco, the quantity consumed in 1915-16 was 23,937,785 lb., as compared with 24,444,380 lb. in 1914-15. The number of cigars consumed was 207,647,808 in 1915-16, as against 236,866,542 in 1914-15. The consumption per head of tobacco, including cigars, was 3.329 lb. in 1915-16, as against 3.427 lb. in 1914-15, 3.711 lb. in 1913-14 and 3.818 lb. in 1912-13, in which year the highest point was reached.

Electric Light and Power.—Electric light and power companies are subject to registration and inspection under the Electricity Inspection Act, 1907 (6-7 Edw. VII, c. 14), and the production of electrical energy