

and these are followed by municipal statistics, values of building permits and statistics of currency, banking, insurance and loan and trust companies. A chapter on rural credit is also included in this section.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Public Revenue.—For the fiscal year ended March 31, 1918, the revenue on Consolidated Fund Account attained the record total of \$260,778,953 and the expenditure \$178,284,313, leaving a surplus of \$82,494,640. The revenue received enabled the Government to meet all ordinary and capital outlays, including an increased amount for interest account and pensions, and to apply the surplus to war expenditures. For the year 1916-17, the corresponding figures were: revenue \$232,701,294, expenditure \$148,599,343 and surplus \$84,101,951. Table 1, which gives the main items of the revenue and expenditure for each of the five fiscal years 1914 to 1918, shows that the revenue from customs in 1917-18 amounted to \$144,172,630, which is more than half of the total for the year, and more than what the total revenue was for the fiscal year 1914-15.

Public Debt.—On March 31, 1918, the net public debt of Canada, as shown by Table 5, was \$1,191,884,063, as compared with \$879,186,298 on March 31, 1917. Before the war, on March 31, 1914, the amount stood at \$335,996,850. On the basis of the estimated population at March 31, 1918, viz., 8,593,000, the per capita indebtedness is \$138, as against \$43 in 1914.

Re-arrangement of Tables.—Instead of repeating the financial figures for each year from Confederation, as in previous issues of the Year Book, the tables in this section have been re-arranged to provide for presentation of comparative figures of the last five years. It is proposed to continue this plan in future by adding the figures of the latest year available and omitting those of the earliest in each table. By this means a continuous annual record of recent comparative years will be furnished. Corresponding figures of the years before 1914 may be consulted by reference to the Year Book of 1916-17, pages 506 to 522, or to similar tables in the earlier issues.

1.—Receipts and Expenditures on Consolidated Fund Account, 1914-1918

RECEIPTS.

Items.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Customs.....	104,691,238	75,941,220	98,649,409	134,043,842	144,172,630
Excise.....	21,452,037	21,479,731	22,428,492	24,412,348	27,168,445
War tax.....	—	98,057	3,620,782	16,302,238	25,379,901
Post Office.....	12,954,530	13,046,665	18,858,690	20,902,384	21,345,394
Railways.....	13,394,317	12,149,357	18,427,909	23,539,759	27,172,208
Dominion Lands.....	3,036,030	2,859,715	2,299,550	4,055,662	4,443,758
Interest on investments...	1,964,541	2,980,247	3,358,210	3,094,012	4,466,724
Other items.....	5,681,702	4,518,490	4,504,796	6,351,049	6,629,893
Total.....	163,174,395	133,073,482	172,147,838	232,701,294	260,778,953