

The Bureau is at the present time engaged in making a more exhaustive analysis of the finances of the provinces, including extraordinary and capital as well as ordinary revenue and expenditure in the survey beginning with 1927.

### Subsection 1.—Provincial Revenues and Expenditures.

**Ordinary Revenues and Expenditures.**—The total ordinary revenues of the nine provinces for their latest fiscal years for which final data are available ended 1931 were \$179,143,480 as compared with \$188,154,910 in 1930, \$183,598,024 in 1929, \$132,398,729 in 1925, \$92,653,023 in 1920 and \$50,015,795 in 1916. The total ordinary expenditures in 1931 were \$190,754,202 as compared with \$184,804,203 in 1930, \$177,542,192 in 1929, \$136,648,242 in 1925, \$88,250,675 in 1920 and \$53,826,219 in 1916. Thus the total ordinary revenues of the provinces show an increase of 258 p.c. in the short space of 15 years, while the total ordinary expenditures show an increase of 254 p.c. in the same period.

Considering individual provinces, the largest revenue for 1931 is that of Ontario, \$54,390,092, Quebec being next with \$41,630,620, and British Columbia third with \$23,988,199. As regards total expenditures for the same year, that of Ontario was highest, \$54,846,994, Quebec second with \$40,854,245, and British Columbia third with \$27,931,866. In 1931 British Columbia raised the largest revenue per head of population, *viz.*, \$34.55, while Prince Edward Island had the lowest, \$13.06. (For statistics of revenue and expenditure in 1930 and 1931, see Tables 24 and 25, and for figures showing the absolute and per capita growth of ordinary revenue and expenditure see Tables 26 and 27.)

**The Growth of Provincial Taxation.**—Whereas in earlier years the Dominion subsidies, together with the revenues arising out of the natural resources of the provinces and from fees for specific services rendered to the citizens, nearly sufficed to cover the whole expenses of government and rendered a resort to taxation for provincial purposes practically unnecessary in most of the provinces, the great increase in the functions of government since the commencement of the present century has put an end to this state of affairs. The aggregate amount of taxation for provincial purposes in the fiscal years prior to 1916 is unfortunately not available. Since that time provincial taxation has increased, according to the analyses made in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, from \$15,025,281 in 1916 to \$92,550,438 in 1931, exclusive of liquor traffic profits, licences, etc., an increase of over six fold in 15 years.

The increase in the use of automobiles, both for commercial purposes and pleasure, is clearly demonstrated by the growing revenues from licences and permits issued by the Provincial Governments. In 1921 the total revenue of all provinces from automobile licensing amounted to \$7,857,751. It increased to \$9,290,900 in 1922; to \$13,020,607 in 1925; to \$15,822,339 in 1927; to \$21,735,827 in 1929; decreasing to \$20,321,307 in 1930 and to \$19,952,575 in 1931.

The growth of revenue from the gasoline tax still further demonstrates the increasing use of motor vehicles. In 1923 Manitoba and Alberta were the only provinces showing a gasoline-tax revenue, the total being \$280,404. In 1924 the five provinces of Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia collected gasoline-tax revenue to the amount of \$559,543, while in 1925 the same provinces with Ontario added, collected \$3,521,388. In 1926 all pro-