revenues became more and more inadequate to meet the increasing expenditure, while the wave of economy in the United Kingdom after 1815 made it impossible any longer to supplement these revenues from military sources. On the other hand, the purely provincial revenues collected under the authorization of the Provincial Legislature showed an increasing surplus. The power of the purse thus began to pass into the hands of the Legislatures; further, in 1831 the British Parliament passed an Act placing the customs duties at the disposal of the Legislatures.

Under the Act of Union, a consolidated revenue fund was established. All appropriation bills were required to originate in the Legislative Assembly, which was forbidden to pass any vote, resolution or bill involving the expenditure of public money unless the same had first been recommended by a written message of the Governor General. The British Government surrendered all control of the hereditary or casual revenues, which were thenceforth paid into the treasury of the province to be disposed of as its Legislature should direct.

At the interprovincial conference which took place prior to Confederation, it was decided that the new Dominion Government, which was to take over permanently, as its chief source of revenue, the customs and excise duties that had yielded the greater part of the revenues of the separate provinces (direct taxation being as unpopular in British North America as in other new countries), was also to assume the provincial debts and to provide out of Dominion revenues definite cash subsidies for the support of the Provincial Governments. (See Tables **15** and **16**.) Until the Great War, which made other taxes necessary, the customs and excise revenue constituted the chief resource of the Dominion Government for general purposes—the Post Office revenue and the Government railway receipts, which are not taxes at all, being mainly or entirely absorbed by the expenses of administering these services. Indeed, for many years preceding the War, customs and excise duties, together with the revenue from the head tax on Chinese immigrants, were the only items of receipts which were classified as taxes by the Department of Finance. In the last pre-war fiscal year these two items aggregated $126,143,275 out of total receipts on consolidated fund account amounting to $163,174,395, the Post Office and Government railways furnishing between them $26,348,847 of the remainder, offset, however, by expenditures on these two services amounting to $27,757,196. Miscellaneous revenue, largely fees, amounted in that year to $10,682,273—a comparatively small fraction of the total. As both customs and excise taxes were indirect, the average Canadian felt but little the pressure of taxation for Dominion purposes.

The War enormously increased the expenditure, and this increase had in the main to be met by loans. It is, however, a cardinal maxim of public finance that, where loans are contracted, sufficient new taxation should be imposed to meet the interest charge upon the loans and to provide a sinking fund for their ultimate extinction. This war taxation was begun in Canada within the first weeks of the War when, in the short war session of August, 1914, increases were made in the customs and excise duties on various commodities, including coffee, sugar, spirituous liquors and tobacco. In 1915 special additional duties of 5 p.c. *ad valorem* were imposed on commodities imported under the British preferential tariff and 7½ p.c. *ad valorem* on commodities imported under the intermediate and general tariffs, certain commodities being excepted. New internal taxes were also imposed on bank circulation, on the income of trust and loan companies, on insurance in other than life and marine companies, on telegrams and cablegrams, railway tickets, sleeping-car berths, etc., also on cheques, postal notes, money orders, letters and