

Fiscal periods dealt with are as nearly coincident as is possible in view of the variations in provincial fiscal year-ends. For example, figures shown for 1947 are for the following fiscal year-ends: Nova Scotia, Nov. 30, 1947; New Brunswick, Oct. 31, 1947; and all other provinces, Mar. 31, 1948.

Subsection 1.—Revenues and Expenditures of Provincial Governments

Tables 37, 38 and 39 present a general summary of provincial government finance by combining ordinary and capital account revenues and expenditures on a net basis. These tables provide a more valid comparison than those based on ordinary account alone because they eliminate incomparabilities that arise through variations between provinces and between years in the types of expenditure made from capital account. In Table 37, 'Net General Revenues and Net Combined General and Capital Expenditures', subject to changes in procedure which follow, has the same meaning as the heading which appeared over this table in the 1948-49 Year Book. 'Net General Revenues' is arrived at by deducting from 'Gross General Revenues' shown in Table 40: (a) all institutional revenues; (b) interest, premium, discount and exchange; and (c) grants-in-aid and shared-cost contributions received from other governments. While the surplus position is the same in both the gross and net presentation, the former tends to emphasize the gross administrative burden of services and the latter shows the net cost of those services. When calculating 'Net Combined General and Capital Expenditures', amounts similar to the deductions from revenue described above are deducted from the pertinent function of expenditure, and all capital revenues are offset against gross capital expenditures. It follows that, at the net stage, only general revenue as shown in Tables 37 and 38 remains.

Sinking-fund earnings are not included in revenues. In 1947, by provinces, they were: Prince Edward Island, \$57,000; Nova Scotia, \$543,000; New Brunswick, \$598,000; Quebec, \$2,003,000; Ontario, \$2,000; Manitoba, \$571,000; Saskatchewan, \$1,067,000; and British Columbia, \$698,000. Previous to 1946 amounts similar to those shown in Tables 38 and 39 as 'Non-Revenue and Surplus Receipts' and 'Non-Expense and Surplus Payments' amounting to \$3,075,000 and \$1,619,000 were excluded. Revenue previously described as 'Public Domain' is nearly all included under 'Privileges, Licences and Permits—Natural Resources'; the remainder now appears under 'Sales and Services'. Likewise, 'Liquor Control' revenues are now shown under five different headings: 'Taxes—Alcoholic Beverages', 'Privileges, Licences and Permits—Liquor Control and Regulation', 'Fines and Penalties', 'Contributions from Government Enterprises—Profits (Liquor)' and 'Other Revenue'; the latter category includes confiscations under liquor control. The distribution of moneys received from the Federal Government as between taxation agreements and subsidies is also worthy of emphasis.

The expenditures classification is also changed considerably. 'Legislation' is now a sub-caption under 'General Government'; 'Highways, Bridges and Ferries' is now under 'Transportation and Communications'; and 'Public Welfare' is now referred to as 'Health and Social Welfare' with a more detailed analysis than heretofore. Some expenditures previously included under 'Education' are now shown under 'Recreational and Cultural Activities'. 'Public Domain' becomes 'Natural Resources and Primary Industries' with a comprehensive analysis which includes 'Agriculture' (previously a main heading). Whereas in past years, expenditures on debt retirement were excluded, they are included in these tables for the years 1946 and 1947.