

CHAPTER XXI.—PUBLIC FINANCE*

CONSPECTUS

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The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.

Section 1.—Combined Statistics of Public Finance for All Governments

Combined statistics of public finance for all governments in Canada—federal, provincial and municipal—are presented in this Section and Section 2 covers the incidence of taxation at the three levels. More detailed information for each level of government is given in Sections 3, 4 and 5.

Combined Revenue and Expenditure.—Tables 1 and 2 give details of the federal, provincial and municipal net combined revenue by source and net combined current and capital expenditure by function, respectively, for 1958 and 1959. This net basis has been prepared by deducting from revenue, and the appropriate expenditure, certain specified amounts such as grants-in-aid and shared-cost contributions from other governments, institutional revenue, and interest, premium, discount and exchange revenue. Amounts provided for debt retirement are excluded to avoid duplication since all expenditure resulting from capital borrowings is included.

Inter-government transfers such as subsidy payments by the Federal Government to the provincial governments are unconditional grants and therefore cannot be offset against any specific expenditure. These are set out separately in Tables 1 and 2 in order to prevent duplication and to provide additive totals. Because of the differing accounting practices of governments and variations in fiscal year-ends, discrepancies appear between the amounts recorded as inter-government transfers in the two tables.

* Except as otherwise indicated, revised in the Public Finance and Transportation Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.