

MISCELLANEOUS LEVIES

These are not generally referred to as taxes but they are similar to taxes in some ways.

- Canada and Quebec pension plans The Canada Pension Plan is a compulsory pension program operated by the Federal Government under which each contributor builds up a right to a pension, the amount of which is related to his earnings up to a specified level. This graduated benefit will supplement the universal old-age security pension, which is paid out of the Government's general tax revenues. It operates in all provinces except Quebec, where a similar pension plan is operated by the government of that province. Both plans feature disability and survivor benefits. The maximum amount contributed by an employee under the Canada Pension Plan for 1973 is \$90. The amount of an employee's contribution is matched by his employer.
- Unemployment insurance Canada operates a national program of unemployment insurance. The program provides benefits to qualified persons who are temporarily without work, including persons unable to work because of sickness, disability or pregnancy. The program is administered by a federal commission appointed for this purpose.
- The fund is generally financed by contributions from both employees and employers. However, when the national unemployment rate exceeds 4 per cent or, in certain circumstances, when the regional unemployment rate exceeds the national unemployment rate, the Federal Government bears costs arising on these accounts.
- The amount of an employee's contribution is calculated weekly at a rate of 1 per cent of earnings, to a maximum of \$1.60 a week. The employer's rate of contribution in respect of an employee varies according to the "risk of lay-off factor", which varies according to the employer's type of industry. Both the employee's and the employer's contribution rate may be scaled down if the employer provides his employees with a sickness and disability insurance plan that meets specific standards. Furthermore, the program provides a reduced scale of contributions for groups of employees brought into the unemployment insurance plan for the first time in 1972.
- Workmen's compensation Legislation in force in all provinces provides compensation for personal injury suffered by workmen as a result of industrial accidents. In general, these provincial statutes establish an accident fund administered by a board to which employers are required to contribute at a rate proportionate to the hazards of the industry.