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Opposition Leader Stresses Serious Financial Situation

Concluding his speech on the Budget in the Legis ature on April 8, Hon. Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan, leader of the Opposition, recalled that last year he had requested information with regard to old age pensioners in the Province. He was refused that info mation. "I had to content myself," he said, "with the list of old age pensioners within the riding which I represent. I don't know what the idea was. They evidently though that it was not safe to give me a complete list, notwithstanding the fact that I was head of the Government which introduced old age pensions in this Province. I said last year, and I say again, that I would not have any intention of trying to make political capital out of old age pensions. I have no complaint to make regarding the administration of this office. I would like to compliment the superintendent and assistant superintendent. Mr. Campbell and Mr. McLaren, as being most competent officials. Iask you what this Province would do today if we did not have the old age pensions."

In this connection Dr. McMillan quoted from the superintendent's report showing that $2,944 had been paid to the Infirmary and that the expenditure for 1940 of $271.542, the net cost to the Province was $68.-136, plus $4.000 for blind pensioners. There should not be any reproach on any age person, he said, who found it necessary to accept old age pensions.

Continuing, he comp'imented Hon. Mr. Dennis, Minister of Agriculture, the "oldest representative on the wrong side of the House," and the most respected man in it. The Minister had endeavored to do what he could for our farmers but the situation was very difficult one to improve. Fertilizer and l me bonusing was a good policy which might well be extended.

The Marketing Act was a problem. He thought the Premier was taking the only log'cal course when he said its validity would be referred to the Supreme Court. A measure of this kind shou'd be worth while. A system of orderly marketing of livestock would seem to be very necessary, and he hoped progress would be made in this direction.

Commend Minister

He commend the Agricultural Minister on promoting the establishment of vegetable gardens in fishing communities. This showed what it was possible to do.

Dr. McMillan expressed the hope that something could be done to remedy the condition in cheese and butter production, which was far from satisfactory.

He emphasized the value of the tourist trade, but pointed out that last year's trave'ing expenses of the supervisor of the bureau amounted to $1.700, which were "pretty high." This year he noted, the estimates are for less than half that amount.

Commending the efficiency of the R. C. M. P., he said this service, for which the Province pays $20.000, had proved a "good bargain" for the Province. It had been instituted under the Conservatives in the face of a considerable amount of criticism.

Dr. MacMillan thought it strange that there should be conflict between the Criminal Code and the provincial law regarding cancellation of motor licenses for drunken driving. He believed the Province should have the power to regulate this matter. A man who proves a public menace on the highways should have his license cancelled for good.

Authority has been taken by the Government to borrow another million dollars this year. "We should," said Dr. MacMillan, "very seriously endeavor to curtail the expenses of the Government, so that this necessity will not arise in the future. The great cause of this borrowing in other years has been the Public Works Department. Every member of the House knows that money has been wasted by the thousands of dollars in that department." He was referring particularly to the army of overseers and "straw bosses" whom it was the practice to employ under all governments. Last year, however, there was other evidence of extravagance. "What," he asked, "was the necessity for buying $30,000 worth of road machinery?" This money went principally to purchase two snow plows. The past winter has taught us that when heavy snow comes it is impossible to keep the roads clear."

Heavy Expenditures

In the past four years the Department had spent $178,000 in road machinery. It was not much wonder that the debt was rolling up. Unless the heads of departments are prepared to keep expenditures down to the minimum, there is little prospect of effecting any improvement.

Continuing, Dr. MacMillan called attention to the value of proper marking of roads, with regard to which there is still some confusion.

"We understand," he said, "that there was a great curtailment in the Government's road programme last year. Can the Acting Minister of Public Works(Hon. Mr. Cox) tell me why the government garage last year cost $56,000 compared with $32,000 the year before?"

Premier Campbell: "There is a credit to it."

Dr. MacMillan: "There may be, but it is not shown here. I think it is all ordinary expenditure.

"There is another thing about which I am curious," he said. "When the Public Works Department have to buy parts for their machinery they have to go to a coal merchant, Mr. Alfred Pickard to buy them. What kind of business is that? Can anyone defend the logic behind it?"

He also noted that no matter what kind of building work the Government has to do, there seems to be only one contractor capable of getting the job. Page 114 of the Public Works report showed an expenditure of $3.536 for an agricultural classroom, which was pretty expensive. The contractor was Mr. A. T. McKinnon. There were also expenditures of $4.220 for fire escapes and balcony, men's division at Falconwood, $2.842 of which was paid to Mr. McKinnon; $1,620 for fire escapes, women's division; $3,920 for fire escapes, infirmary; $2,000 for new laundry and recreation hall.

"Going all through this Public Works report," said Dr. MacMillan, "you will find the name of A. T. MacKinon sticking out. He seems to be the only competent contractor. My hon. friends will say he got the work by tender. I know a case where he did not get it by tender in the first instance; but the tenders were called in and new tenders were submitted, and he got it on the second chance. This contractor got the work on this building, and the Court House, and the Navy Legaue, and every job the government has had to do for the last four years, and I submit that he is not an economical man either."

Serious Debt Situation

"It has come to the time when anyone with any concern for the interests of this Province must be seriously alarmed. Our debt is nearly ten million dollars. What is the outlook for the farmers and fishermen of this Province, with debt increases rolling up year after year? It is absolutely necessary that this Government pare expenditures to the bone. I don't care who the man is, minister, deputy minister, or any one else; if his salary can be reduced, it should be cut in proportion to the burden which our taxpayers are carrying." In England, he noted, they are taking as much as 97 per cent of a man's income when it reaches a certain point. We must take an example from the Old Country. This war has not hurt anyone in Prince Edward Island. We ought to thank God every day of our lives that we live in Prince Edward Island, in this most peaceful part of Canada. The least we can do is to economize in our governmental expenditures, so that we can have more money to help the Mother Country in this, the greatest hour of her need. (Loud applause).

Funeral services for Late W. D. Ross Held yesterday

Funeral services were held yesterday for Walter D. Ross, 64, farmer in the Queen's County district. The services were held from his home to St. Andrew's United Church, Orwell. The Rev. A. S. Weir officiated.

Mr. Ross lived at Kinross most of his life. He was prominent in farm organizations, not only here but in provincial groups.

He was stricken with a paralytic stroke a week ago. For a time his condition improved slightly then became worse again. Prior to his last illness he had not been ill a day for many years, it was learned.

He was secretary of the Uigg Livestock Shipping Club since its organization in 1923 and for a time was president of the Central Farmers' Institute in this province. More recently he was secretary of the institute, a position he held at the time of his death.

He was one of the leaders in farm practice and farm organization work in his neighborhood and in addition was known to farmers in almost every part of the province.

Mr. Ross was educated at his native district school and at the High Shool in Uigg, a neighboring community. In his early life he intended taking up a profession but returned to the old homestead when one of his elder brothers became unwell and unable to continue farming.

Surviving are his wife, formerly Miss Matilda MacQueen of Kinross and a daughter, Miss Marion Ross in Boston and a son, Douglas Ross, formerly of Toronto and now with the Canadian Army.

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CENTRAL GUARDIAN

This column is reserved for news of local interest, but advertising of a newsy nature may be inserted at 5 cents a word, strictly payable in advance.

CRASWELL for Photographs.

CONFEDERATION LIFE INSURANCE. L-9789

WOMEN'S MUSIC CLUB requests programme Charlottetown Hotel, Tuesday, 8.30 P. M. Admission 25c. L-735-4-14-21

BARGAIN in started chicks at day old prices. Dillon & Spillett, Charlottetown, P. E. I. L-745-4-14-31.

SERENADERS CONCERT — St. Pauls Hall, Thursday, May 1st. Auspices Canadian Legion Auxiliary. Admission 35c. L-724-4-12-31.

WILTSHIRE Y. P. U. MEETING —On Thursday evening, April 3rd, the Young People's Union met at the home of Reta Easter for a social evening. The meeting opened with hymn 'All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison and the Responsive reading No. 700 led by Muriel Toombs. The Scripture, Luke 6, 27-49, was read by Lynetta Brown and this was followed by prayer by Lillian Deacon and readings by Hilda Noye Dorothy Easter and Gertie Toombs. The hymn "More Love to Thee" brought the worship period to a close. There were 20 members and several visitors present. One new member paid his dues and the offering amounted to $1.20. Readings were given on "Our Defence" by Mary McKenzie. "Look to the Future" by Lynetta Brown and "The London Churches" by Mrs. Toombs. This was followed by hymn test, games and contests, after which a delicious lunch was served by the ladies and the meeting closed with the National Anthem.

Personals

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Spencer, Saint John, N. B., are spending the Easter holiday in Charlottetown.

Mrs. A. R. Wise, city, is spending the week in Halifax, the guest of her daughter, Mrs. C. W. Dompier.

Sergt. J. Alfred MacEachern was a passenger returning to Halifax this morning after spending Easter at his old home at 47 Prince Street, City.

Camillus Costello of the R.C.A.F. has returned to his duties after visiting his wife and family in Charlottetown. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter, Mrs. Lawlor, as far as Cape Tormentine.

Monthly Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia, March-April, 1941

The United States is in the process of transition to a wartime economy based on the principle of "total defence" according to the current Monthly Review of The Bank of Nova Scotia. The Review, which presents a survey of the U. S. defence effort, points out that the program as planned at present will involve expenditures in excesss of the colossal figure of $37.000 millions, and it adds that "the program is growing rapidly".

This figure, however, represents the summation of a variety of projects, some of which will not be completed for several years. Actual defence expenditures up to the end of February were $2.900 millions and the outlay for the present fiscal year (ended June 30th next) is expected to be around $5,500 millions. For the coming fiscal year, expenditures are likely to be well above $15.000 millions and perhaps as much as $20 000 millions.

These may appear to be astronomical figures, but relative to national income they are smaller than war outlays in Canada and much smaller than those in Britain—which is natural in view of the fact that the United States is not at war and has only recently embarked on an all-out defence program. During the fiscal year 1940-41, defence expenditures in the United States should be equivalent to about 7 per cent of the national income as compared with about 20 per cent in Canada. In 1941-2 the proportion in the United States may be as high as 18 per cent or 20 per cent, while in Canada the figure may be around 33 per cent and conceivably as much as 40 per cent.

The Review states, however, that the U. S. defence effort is growing rapidly and the proportion will certainly not stop at 20 per cent. Moreover, the United States has the greatest war potential of any country on earth and even an effort equivalent to one-fifth of her national income might have a decisive influence, provided that it takes the form of planes, ships and arms quickly enough.

The demands of defence and war have been the chief factor behind the recent marked expansion in industrial activity. This expansion has lifted the Federal Reserve Board's index of industrial production by more than 20 per cent and the official index of factory employment by about 15 per cent since last May, and both indices are at the highest levels on record. The capital-goods industries are faced with an enormous backlog of unfilled orders which ensures an exceptionally high rate of activity for some time to come. Furthermore, a huge volume of plant construction and extension is under way. It is estimated that the production of manufacturing facilities may reach $3.500 millions during the present year and this would represent much the largest annual addition to the factory equipment of the United States that has ever occurred.

The degree to which expansion has been concentrated in the metal and machinery industries is shown by the very sharp increases in employment since the outbreak of war. Employment in the aircraft industry has advanced by 229 per cent, in the engine and turbine industry the rise is 144 per cent in machine tools 95 per cent, and in shipbuilding 94 per cent. Most branches of the steel industry and nonferrous metal industry record gains of 35 per cent or more—in the case of brass, bronze and copper, forgings, and wirework the increases are 60 per cent and greater.

The latter part of the Review is devoted to a discussion of the ship and plane programs. In regard to planes, considerable progress has been made: military deliveries in January were 957 as compared with some 600 planes per month in the last quarter of 1940 and 250-odd machines in the first quarter of that year. The rate of production is scheduled to rise steeply during the present year and production for 1941 was recently estimated by Mr. Knudsen at 18.000 planes. For 1942, plane output is currently estimated at between 30,000 and 35.000 machines with yet higher totals for the following year.

In the sphere of aircraft production, the United States is trying to do more in two years than Germany did in six. The problems are numerous and difficult but are being gradually overcome. As was inevitable, much of the effort in the air program as in most war industry has thus far been concentrated on making and preparing the tools and the factories to make the "tools" of war. But production is rising and will rise much more rapidly as the year progresses. By 1942 the determination of the United States to become "the great arsenal of democracy" will have become translated into fact.

HEAR
W. G. Hogg
Confederation Life Manager for P. E. Island
Discuss
"WHY AN INSURANCE TRUST?"
Over Radio Station CFCY 7.15 p.m.
MONDAY, APRIL 14th

HARRY F. PATTERSON, whose appointment as Executive Vice President of The Bank of Nova Scotia is announced.

Mr. Patterson is a native of New Brunswick and entered the service of the Bank at Campbellton, N. B. In succeeding years he served at Newcastle, Chicage, Toronto and Ottawa. In 1914 he became Agent of the Bank of New York and in 1921 Superintendent of Branches at Toronto. He was appointed Assistant General Manager in 1923 and General Manager in 1934.

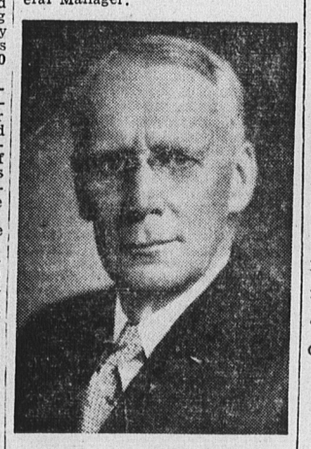
HERBERT D. BURNS, whose appointment as General Manager of The Bank of Nova Scotia is announced.

Mr. Burns was born in Digby, N. S., and entered the service of the Bank at Moncton, N. B. At an early age he was appointed Accountant at Montreal Branch and in succeeding years held the following positions:

Manager at Kentville, N. S.
Manager at Woodstock, N. B.
Manager at Vancouver, B. C.
Supervisor of Western Branches, with headquarters at Toronto, Ont.
Manager at Toronto, Ont.

In 1923 he was appointed an Assistant General Manager and since 1934 has been the senior Assistant General Manager.

With the appointment of Mr. H. F. Patterson as Executive Vice President he now becomes General Manager.



EDWIN CROCKETT, whose appointment as senior Assistant General Manager of The Bank of Nova Scotia is announced.

Mr. Crockett is a native of Prince Edward Island and entered the Bank at Charlottetown. In succeeding years he served at Halifax and at Toronto, where he became Superintendent of Branches in 1913 and was appointed Assistant General Manager in 1934.

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KELVIN GROVE SCHOOL

Following is the report for March:

Grade IX—1 Elmer Cotton. 2 Ralph Waugh, 3 Leslie Waugh.
Grade VIII (Jr.) 1 Eleanor MacMurdo, 2 Ruth McNeill, 3 Irving Millar.
Grade VI—1 George MacMurdo. 2 Edgar Millar, 3 Roy Stavert.
Grade V—1 Gladys Picketts. 2 Kathleen Picketts, 3 Audrey Waugh
Grade IV—1 Lois MacMurdo 2 Phyllis Court, 3 Marion Picketts.
Grade III—1 Alison MacMurdo, 2 Claude Paynter.
Grade II—1 William Caseley. 2 Claude Waugh, 3 Marion Millar.
Grade I (a) 1 John Picketts, 2 George Caseley, 3 Arthur Court.
Grade I (b) 1 Ian MacMurdo.
Grade I (c) 1 James Forbes, 2 Everett Court, 3 Gerald Millar.
Grade I (d) 1 Wilfrid Waugh. Teacher, M. M. Mill.

MARGATE SCHOOL

Honor roll for March:

Grade X—1 Reggie Dennis.
Grade IX—1 Ruth Woodside. 2 Evelyn Tuplin, 3 Florence Dyment.
Grade VIII—1 Thelma Adams 2 Wyman Howard.
Grade VII—1 Doris Henderson. 2 David Henderson, 3 Ralph Adams
Grade VI—1 Philip Henderson. 2 Wallace Henderson. 3 Tom Major.
Grade V—1 Ruby Henderson, 2 Louise Crane, 3 Eileen Howard.
Grade IV—1 Helen Semple, 2 Clair Mayhew. 3 Lorne Adams.
Grade III—1 Royden Dyment.
Grade II (Sr.) 1 Gene Crane and Arthur Henderson (equal).
Grade II (Jr.) 1 Freda Mayhew.
Grade I—1 Mary Kaye Mayhew.
Teacher, Wendell Le. Mayne.
(Patriot Please Copy)

War Savings Sales

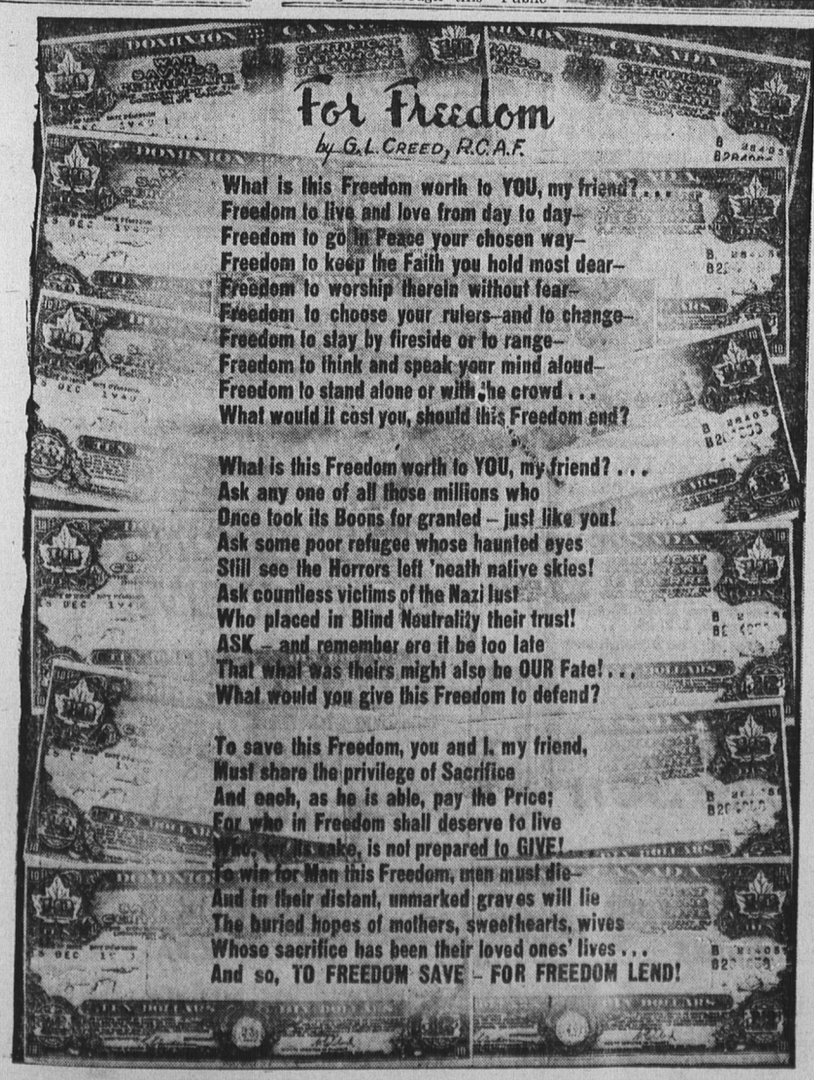
Following is an official statement of regional War Savings sales for the month of February and for the period May 27, 1940 to Feb. 28, 1941

Region	February 1941 Money value	Average per capita	May 27-40 to Feb. 28-41 money value	Average per capita
P. E. Island	$ 43,476	$ 0.46	$ 176,176	$ 1.85
Nova Scotia	474,700	0.86	1,936,952	3.50
New Brunswick	254,448	0.56	1,210,468	2.68
Quebec	1,484,516	0.46	6,780,288	2.11
Ontario	4,598,272	1.22	17,660,716	4.71
Manitoba	708,188	0.97	2,966,484	4.08
Saskatchewan	618,504	0.65	2,435,924	2.57
Alberta	544,212	0.69	2,477,160	3.14
British Columbia	677,276	0.87	3,962,640	5.12
Yukon	2,340	0.58	35,192	8.80
Canada	$9,405,932	$ 0.83	$39,642,000	$ 3.50

(Per Capita Data:—Based on population estimates for 1939; the latest year for which provincial population estimates are available.)

Complete harmony exists between the commands of Canadian forces in England and those of the United Kingdom forces, Defence Minister Ralston told the house of commons.

Britain's crack new aircraft carrier, the Formidable, which received "three direct hits" in the Rome radiocasts, went into the Alexandria naval base without a scratch.



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