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*"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1946

**Grim Financial Prospect**

What will immediately strike the taxpayer reading the Ontario proposals for Dominion-Provincial financing, says the *Montreal Star*, is that they deliberately perpetuate the system of duplicate taxation which heretofore has been so costly, and which the Sirois Commission roundly condemned.

But that is not all. The Sirois Commission could not possibly foresee the extent to which the war would aggravate the basic problem. Its report was written when peacetime Dominion expenditures, 1939, stood at \$553 millions and revenues at \$502 millions; when the first war vote of \$118 millions had just been spent; when the funded debt stood at \$3.6 billions and the carrying charges thereon at \$128 millions per year. People were still thinking in terms of the First Great War when our total war expenditures were less than \$2 billions.

The hard reality of today is that in the current fiscal year the Dominion's expenditures are estimated at \$4,650 millions; revenues at \$2,515 millions. The funded debt, last March 31, stood at \$12,084 millions and the carrying charges were \$351 millions per year. The recent Victory Loan has added greatly both to the total debt and the carrying charges. On March 31, next, the debt will be close to \$16 billions and the carrying charges in excess of \$400 millions.

Expenditures on this vast scale, of course, will not continue but, when the emergency is over, the Dominion's normal budget will be not less than \$1,750 millions or more than three times that of 1939. Indeed, it is estimated by competent authorities that by 1950 it will have risen to about \$2,000 millions and that debt service will devour at least \$450 millions annually. It is unnecessary to itemize this budget. The outlay for civil government and debt service—just two items—will run to \$1,000 millions per year.

Undoubtedly the post-war budget has been swollen by social security expenditures like family allowances (\$190 millions per year) and may well be increased by additional outlays on old age pensions and health. Whether or not these items are warranted, in view of the burdens already resting on the taxpayers, is not a factor in the present argument. This is so because if all such expenditures are ignored, put aside, the Dominion's rock-bottom budget will be so great as to require to be financed in such a manner as not to cripple the productive capacity of the country. And this will only be possible if a satisfactory settlement of Dominion-Provincial financial relations is achieved.

Reviewing the above quoted figures in an article in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, Mr. Grant Dexter writes: "How is the Dominion to collect the taxes which will be required to finance the national budget? After all, Mr. Micawber's dictum holds as true of nations as of individuals. Consistently to spend more than you earn is, indeed, the path of misery. If the Dominion is compelled to rely for revenue upon indirect, regressive taxes—like the sales tax, customs duties, excise taxes, etc.—the burden on business and on individuals will be intolerable. The only way in which such vast needs can be met is by direct or progressive taxes—the income and corporation taxes and succession duties. These taxes are based upon capacity to pay. They are taxes on profits accruing after the business has been done, not on business in the course of transaction. Even so, they will be a serious burden and a discouragement to initiative until such time as Dominion expenditures decline or the national income increases."

**Australian Immigration**

Australia is making the solution of the immigration problem a question of the first importance, chiefly because the war emphasized what was tacitly recognized before—the danger of under-population. The Japs got close enough to invading the Commonwealth to impress the need of greater manpower on every Australian.

The maximum number of immigrants that can be absorbed is put at 70,000 yearly and naturally British settlers would be preferred but Britain no longer has a surplus though Australia hopes to get 50,000 British orphans. She may also seek 20,000 Poles who fought with the Royal Air Force, in addition to other European war veterans.

The Canberra government, however, is approaching the question of peopling the country from more than one angle, the most effective being the complementary one of building up secondary industries and trying to induce British manufacturers to transport plant and personnel for production in Australia. The expansion of industry, of course, would produce a better balance in economic life and meet labor fears of excessive competition.

Another plan urged by the immigration minister is a broad social service program which would encourage Australians to have larger families. At present the birth rate is decreasing, a statistical fact which, in the light of the country's war experience, stresses the importance of making immigration the primary post-war task.

Australia has had the same experience as other dominions in building up new industries under the compulsion of war—armaments and shipbuilding to mention only two, in both of

which considerable efficiency was shown. These new skills can be turned to profitable peacetime production.

A similar economic condition exists in Canada and sooner or later it will be necessary to go forward on a more vigorous plan of selective immigration.

**-EDITORIAL NOTES-**

The Week of Prayer meetings are being very largely attended by earnest and devout worshippers.

The Jones Government contends the skating tax is nothing new; it has been in existence for years, though recently it has been in abeyance.

You can't beat daily newspapers for timeliness. Tire manufacturers ran newspaper advertisements offering new tires for sale the very day the end of rationing was announced.

France is negotiating with Canada to place about \$60,000,000 worth of orders for cargo ships in the Dominion. The orders would represent about one quarter of a credit recently opened to France by Canada.

Our provincial interests are being better attended to at Ottawa these days than for several years past. The powers-that-be realize that our representatives, both in the House and in the Senate, are on the alert.

Hunter River Catholic community are going to honour their distinguished fellow citizen, Cardinal McGuigan, by erecting a Church there. Probably His Eminence will have some part in laying the foundation, when he visits here in May or June, after his return from Rome.

Tuberculosis was dreaded for ages as the "White Plague" and was believed to be incurable. Increased knowledge of the disease has revealed that it can be cured if treatment is begun in time. Chest X-rays detect the disease before outward symptoms appear. More persons between 15 and 45 die of tuberculosis than of any other disease.

British penny postage introduced this date 1840; it laid the foundation for the great development and expansion of commercialism in the United Kingdom; and when extended to the Dominions overseas made the postal service the greatest co-operative civilizing force in the world; all sorts of organizations, commercial, political, social and religious were not slow to see the tremendous advantage offered by so cheap a means of communication: the recent war has provided a temporary set-back, but one of the first reliefs expected from Ottawa is a return to the two-cent all-over postage with one cent within a city radius.

Both the Progressive Conservative Leader and the C. C. F. Leader are of one mind regarding Premier Drew's proposals. Mr. Coldwell says that objections made by Drew to the Federal Government's Dominion-Provincial proposals were in conflict with the expressed views of Mr. Bracken. He argued that "patriotic Canadians need to be concerned with the building of one nation as well as the establishment of one world," and declared Mr. Drew's plea for the establishment of a national adjustment fund to make increased revenue available to less prosperous provinces was "totally inadequate." "He forgets that the rich province of Ontario is rich because every other part of Canada pays tribute to its financial and industrial institutions," says Mr. Coldwell. "He forgets that all Canada has the right to demand progress from these institutions for the social and economic welfare of all Canada. Col. Drew is obviously in conflict with the very explicit statements of his national leader, Mr. Bracken."

The fact that the Canadian ceiling is below the United States floor, in a season when we have a shortage of potatoes and the United States has a surplus, is incongruous, to say the least, says *Saint John Telegraph-Journal*. But it is typical of the way our potato growers have fared under government controls. And, while price ceilings have prevented them from earning anything like the amount they might have earned through the war period, their requests for a price floor—a protection extended to practically all other groups of farm producers—have not been granted. The powers at Ottawa have stubbornly evaded their appeals, and have tried to say that, if they were given a price floor, everybody would get into potato growing, clear across Canada, with disastrous consequences. Yet the United States manages to have a floor that is higher than our ceiling, while our officials continue to argue that even a low floor under potato prices is an impossibility.

For some months now we have heard reports of a great ice-breaking ferry being built in Canada for the Prince Edward Island run, says *Ottawa Journal*. By all accounts it will be something new in ships, something bigger and better and stranger. The news has got overseas. In the November issue of *The Shipping World*, foremost British publication on shipping, there is picture and comment on the "Prince Edward Island." The writer points to the extreme manoeuvrability of this ship, to its very powerful Diesel-electric equipment, to its many propellers. He adds: "The new Prince Edward Island ferry is a ship of most up-to-date design and well worth watching. The hull, the main Diesel engines and the electrical machinery, as well as the control gear, are all of Canadian design and Canadian manufacture. This is important from an export shipbuilding point of view, for vessels of this type in the past have normally been constructed in British shipyards." A little scouting on our own reveals this ship is to be 7,000 tons, will take nineteen railway cars, ninety automobiles and 950 people. It is 348 feet long, with a sixty-nine-foot beam. It is being built on order and will be owned and operated by the Department of Transport.

**Notes By The Way**

If you are impatient at the slowness of any policy or program now being tried, remember if you can the surprise of 1945—and keep your fingers crossed.—*Vancouver Province.*

If inflation comes, says a columnist, you will need a basket to take home your "take home" pay, but you won't take the pay home because you will have to spend all of it to buy the basket.—*Owen Sound Sun-Times.*

Politics should be divorced entirely from the appointment of judges. This branch of the administration should be reserved for the best legal minds obtainable. Capacity and character should be the only test. In that way Canada's sound legal prestige can be maintained and increased.—*Vancouver Province.*

The latest figures published by the registered building societies show that more than 1,300,000 people in the United Kingdom are living in houses through building societies. Whereas, however, many workers become so much scrap-iron in peacetime, the mine-locator can be adapted to useful peacetime service. It will be used to locate nails in wood planks before the wood goes to the sawmills, and the presence of nails in walls and floors can be easily determined. Police and customs officials are using the locator with great success to search for hidden metal articles, such as gold coins, which might be smuggled out of the country.

United States artists didn't get hysterical when Mr. Greber was called on to draw plans for making Philadelphia more attractive. Artists of a dozen other countries have been with outstretched hands when he arrived, because he is a great master in his field. Yet when he travels to Ottawa, to complete a job he started years ago when he laid down the original Greber plan for development of the Capital, he is called a "Canadian artist." We can't quite understand it. We wish they had more confidence in themselves. We wish they appreciated the over-statement because if they did they wouldn't be so thin-skinned.—*Saint John Telegraph-Journal.*

Vegetables don't need the ultra-fast freezing stressed by commercial producers. After existing in the New York State agricultural experiment station at Geneva and the Cornell University school of nutrition, they state after comparative tests. Texture, color and flavor are little affected by the rate of freezing, they state according to Science Service tests on peas and snap beans, nearly instantaneous freezing was achieved. The Cornell University school of nutrition declares, after existing in the New York State agricultural experiment station at Geneva and the Cornell University school of nutrition, they state after comparative tests. Texture, color and flavor are little affected by the rate of freezing, they state according to Science Service tests on peas and snap beans, nearly instantaneous freezing was achieved. The Cornell University school of nutrition declares, after existing in the New York State agricultural experiment station at Geneva and the Cornell University school of nutrition, they state after comparative tests. Texture, color and flavor are little affected by the rate of freezing, they state according to Science Service tests on peas and snap beans, nearly instantaneous freezing was achieved.

A speaker at a meeting of the Ottawa Authors' Association complained that "Canadian publishers are entirely unsympathetic toward authors." He said that he had written a book and that his publisher's attitude is not untypical, but is based on the very practical ground that books are made to be sold and a publisher's job is to sell them. He said that he had written a book and that his publisher's attitude is not untypical, but is based on the very practical ground that books are made to be sold and a publisher's job is to sell them.

**Tel Aviv, City of Unrest**  
 (P. W. Luce in the Vancouver Province)  
 Geographers of a generation ago made no mention of Tel-Aviv. The city didn't exist, as a city. It was nothing but a fishing hamlet in the barren hills facing the Mediterranean Sea, and it had probably been that for hundreds of years. It was too trivial to be recorded in the history of Palestine.

Today Tel-Aviv is a prosperous city of nearly 150,000 souls. Practically all the inhabitants are Jews, and most of them are highly educated and intellectual. It is the only metropolis in the world wholly by Jews, and it is the headquarters of that element which is giving the British so much trouble in this thriving city. The majority have come from Russia, Poland and the territories laid waste by the Nazis in the last few years. Thousands more would like to settle there, but are kept out.

With the exception of some war boom towns on this continent, Tel-Aviv has grown faster than any other city in the world. It is a city that has rebelled in population since 1930, and it bids fair to rank with the most important harbors of the Mediterranean when the port has been improved and modernized. Of the required \$750,000 for this purpose, five-sixths was raised by public subscription, and the rest contributed by large interests.

The first modern settlers came from Jaffa at the beginning of the century, driven from that ancient place by excessive rents and lack of sanitation. Their intention was to establish a suburb of Jaffa. Instead, they founded a town that has completely overshadowed their original home.

At one hour before sunset on Friday evening a trumpet blows his horn in the streets as a warning that the Sabbath is at hand. The streets and buses stop. Stores and offices close their doors. The machinery in the Japs and china factories is shut down. Bargaining is suspended for 24 hours. The synagogues overflow with worshippers returning thanks that they have at last found a place of refuge in a place they call

**'Gossip Technique' In Government**

We view with not a little alarm that announcement by the Dominion Statistician, Mr. Marshall, that 300 part-time enumerators are busy taking "samples" of facts having to do with the way Canadians "work and live" all this for "the new central research and development organizations of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics."

Mr. Marshall held a "press conference" to tell the public about it. These workers, he says, are mainly housewives, and such women are used for the extraordinary reason that they are supposed to have "the knack of asking questions without causing resentment." A woman, thus, can ask an important question and get away with it; a man asking the same question would be thrown out of the parlor. Mr. Marshall's enumerators are to use "the technique of gossip over the back fence" many of their first sets of questions had to do with employment; they are to progress to "more personal questions, such as details of family income." Mr. Marshall thinks that with experience his housewives will become so skilled that they can give "satisfactory" answers to intimate questions "without appearing to be nosy."

Mr. Marshall claims (this is no Gallup Poll) because it is concerned not with opinions but with facts, that he is not a Communist, and is objectable. The Gallup Poll is a commercial enterprise operated for profit, and we can treat it accordingly. The Marshall Poll is being run by the Government, is paid for out of public funds and is official. Great numbers of Canadians, we are sure, will resent this new scheme for an official probe into their private affairs.

We have been regulated and enumerated, controlled, directed, advised and in general ordered about our lives by the Government for innumerable years. We have filled out innumerable forms for the dusty archives of government departments and agencies, for the Census, and rationing, the discomforts of travel and the limitations upon the spending of our money. We have earned. We have seen a man's house made his tenant's castle. We pay taxes beyond all precedent.

We accept all this, but it does not mean we will accept anything. We will not draw the line when the Government calmly sends out a lot of women trained to pry into private affairs for the public records, to be trained to wheedle answers to pertinent questions without appearing nosy, to use the gossip technique to acquire an assortment of information which, if useful, the government already has available through its own machinery. We will not acquiesce in the Government's right to pry.

The "Gallup" is called a "new and important development in the business of cataloguing the population of a nation." It is a new and unwholesome venture in official impudence on the theory that war-controlled nations now will stand for anything.

Time was when the main business of the statisticians was to take a census of the population every ten years. Gradually the questionnaire came to be longer and longer, and the statisticians who seemed to have little practical value except for the making of voluminous questionnaires now the trend comes to full flower. All this may be necessary to make war between enemies, but it is not the business of statisticians. It's clerks and enumerators, but we think Canadians should make a sharp protest against this official invasion of their private lives.

Let Mr. Gallup do his Galluping; let the Government stick to government. The practice of minding other people's business has gone altogether too far.

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**The Poets Corner**

**THE LOST POET**

Forlorn he lived and as the lean years passed  
 He forged his tenuous chains of  
 The guest that came not, and  
 He fed on dreams, and walking  
 Made valiant music to forget the cold.  
 He sought for Joy, yet stood without  
 His bed was empty and his face  
 He fed on dreams, and walking  
 He learned there was no road so  
 rich as Want.  
 For when Love came belated, deep  
 and long  
 He drank of that dark wine, and  
 knew content.  
 But, finding life itself so like  
 a song,  
 He wondered where the other  
 music went.  
 —Arthur Stringer in Toronto Saturday Night.

"The Hill of Spring."  
 Life is comparatively pleasant  
 for Jews in Tel-Aviv, but it has its  
 anxious moments for the Anglo-  
 Saxons within its walls. Police and  
 soldiers walk in fear of death. None  
 know when an assassin's bullet will  
 speed in his direction.

There are nearly 5000 Britons in  
 the Palestine police, trying their  
 best to keep order between Arab  
 and Jew. Most of these are re-  
 cruited from the army. Some of  
 them travel on camels, and some  
 are safer in armored cars. It de-  
 pends on where they happen to be.  
 In the past nine years 150 of them  
 have been killed in the line of  
 duty.

Sometimes the killer is a Jew,  
 sometimes an Arab. In either  
 case he belongs to the extremists  
 of his party which believes that  
 when diplomacy fails, murder is  
 a natural means of protest.  
 The policeman is at a distinct  
 disadvantage. Under British law, he  
 is not permitted to use his gun  
 unless he is absolutely sure his life is  
 in danger.

By that time it is too late. The  
 extremist has beaten him to the  
 draw.

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A Pullet	24	20
Grade B	28	24
Grade C	22	18

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