

DRAGGER

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smiles continued for a short time; the Budget speech was well delivered but since then the leader of the Government seemed to be carrying a chip on his shoulder. It was rumored that he had been sitting on an "egg" for a while and something had gone wrong with the egg. It is well known how a clucking hen will behave under similar circumstances. The Premier showed signs of discontent and it was evident the egg was not fertile. Characteristically the Premier took his ill-humor out on the Opposition, but they were not the only ones subjected to his blast. "He has vented his anger on the farmers—that body which he was elected to lead on two occasions—and also on some of his own members," Mr. Bell said.

Alarming Debt Increase

Mr. Bell noted that when the Premier entered the House in 1935, when a Liberal administration took over, the provincial debt was \$5,260,000. In the next five years, at the end of 1940, it had increased to \$9,700,000. In 1946 it jumped to \$10,400,000. In 1947 it was \$13,305,000, or an increase of five million dollars in the last three years. The Provincial Treasurer is budgeting for an overall indebtedness for March, 1951, of \$16,939,000. This does not include the month of March, 1950. The total estimated indebtedness at the end of the fiscal year 1951 will therefore be seventeen million dollars. From 1873, when the Province entered Confederation, to 1935 the debt under all governments over a period of approximately seventy years was five million dollars. From 1935 to 1951—a fifteen year period of Liberal administration—it increased by twelve millions.

In 1935 the debt charges amounted to \$373,000, Mr. Bell continued. By 1951 these charges will be over one million dollars. He had every hope that the new Provincial Treasurer (Hon. Mr. Darby) would economize wherever possible, but the situation was admittedly a serious one. Three years ago much satisfaction had been expressed with the new Federal revenue of over a million dollars which was to accrue to this Province, Mr. Bell continued. "We got that, and it just seemed to go into the melting pot," he said. "Now we are apparently as badly off as ever, and this Fall new arrangements must be made. I don't want the Premier to give a wrong impression at Ottawa about our prosperity here. When he goes to Ottawa they may quote this article from Time Magazine which most of the hon. members have read, and which paints a very rosy and misleading picture of our finances."

Premier Jones: "Would my hon. friend suggest how we can control Time Magazine, or how we can control the Press in any case. It is no fault of the Government."

Mr. Bell: "I have been watching Time Magazine since. I trust that there will be some retraction of this statement, as I do not think it shows our correct position, and it is going to be to our prejudice later on."

Falconwood Barn

Among items of controllable expenditure Mr. Bell listed the new Falconwood barn, which could have been done at a saving of \$20,000, and the money put to other purposes. The former Minister of Agriculture (Mr. W. F. A. Stewart) had stated that a good annex to the barn could have been built for four or five thousand dollars. He said it cost about \$30,000 but there seemed to be some dispute between him and the

Premier on this point. Premier Jones: "There is no dispute. The cost has been tabulated. Let my hon. friend not be quibbling."

Mr. Bell: "I repeat that an annex to the barn sufficient for all purposes could have been built for \$4,000 or \$5,000. There is a return here showing an expenditure of \$21,000. I don't know how complete it is but I know that in many of the questions I asked, I got evasive answers, and I am more inclined to credit the Minister of Agriculture when he says it cost \$30,000."

"What do we find in this barn today? Are those good dairy cattle in this mansion? We find only the young cattle there, possibly shivering and shaking while the builder of it, the man who drew this \$15,000 cost plus contract, is basking in the hot sands of Bermuda" (Laughter).

"It appears that it was the leader of the Government that had the whole say in building this barn and letting the contract," Mr. Bell continued. "Why? We know that the Bergmann Construction Company had considerable to do with supplying this building, and we know that the head of the Bergmann Construction Company was a particular friend of the Premier's."

Mounting Costs

Mr. Bell went on to complain of the "astounding rate" at which costs were mounting in the administration of Justice. There has been very little crime in the last few years, and the costs should be getting smaller. In 1925 the expenses under this head amounted to \$23,591. In 1935 they increased to \$54,000. In 1946-47 to \$114,000, and in the 1951 budget the cost is estimated at \$139,000. A large part of the expenditure incurred here is on unnecessary salaries, Mr. Bell maintained.

Not many years ago the Justice department was run by practically one man. Today there is an

Attorney General, a Deputy Attorney General, and three Crown prosecutors, and they still have to go out and hire other lawyers to conduct some of the cases. In general government the cost in 1925 was \$55,000; in 1935 it had risen to \$81,000 and today it has jumped to \$355,000. "There is room for saving here," Mr. Bell insisted. "In salaries which have increased to a terrific amount."

Travelling Expenses

In 1944 travelling expenses for members and other agents of Government for trips outside the Province amounted to \$2,119. In 1946, the year of the Dominion-Provincial conference, it had understandably increased to \$3,200. In 1947 it dropped to \$3,600, but in 1948 increased again to \$4,300; in 1949 it doubled itself to \$8,990 and this year it is over \$10,000.

There was also travelling expenditures incurred locally by members of the Government. In 1944 these amounted to \$2,400, and in 1945 had increased to \$5,650. Totalling these figures up from 1944 to 1950 Mr. Bell noted that travelling expenses alone amounted to \$66,728. "I submit that this matter has got out of bounds altogether," he said.

He noted that for the most part these bills were for even amounts—\$100, \$150, \$200, etc. In only one case, that of Dr. Clark who made an investigation on turnip marketing, was there a report tabled in the House. Dr. Clark's expenses were \$319.82 but for the most part just lump sums were charged up.

Premier Jones said this was customary practice. When he went away himself he might stay a week or ten days, and he would credit \$100 or \$150 for expenses as the case might be. Mr. Bell: "We are glad to have that explanation."

Premier Jones: "And I have to pay my own liquor out of that—for treating." (Laughter). Mr. Bell maintained that a

check should be kept on these accounts by the Minister. The totals were too high. Premier Jones: "It is \$300 a day for a room at the Chateau. If I took a suite, like every other Premier of Canada, it would be \$30 or \$40 a day."

Mr. Bell recalled the Premier stating a couple of years ago that Beach Grove Inn could be obtained for the Government for \$17,000. The members approved at that time, but since then hundreds of thousands have been expended on this building. The work, he understood, was on a cost plus basis and the total cost was half a million dollars.

Not A Farmer Premier

Mr. Bell was pleased to note an increase in the estimates for Agriculture. Sometimes he thought the Premier was forgetting that he is the leader of the farmers in this Province because he was returned as head of a farmers' government and is a farmer himself.

Premier Jones: "I would like to correct that. I am leader of the Liberal party in this Province and I represent nothing else. I don't want to be put down as a lawyer Premier or a farmer Premier; I represent the people."

Dr. MacMillan: "Only 51 per cent of them" (Laughter). Mr. Bell: "My hon. friend does not like to refer to him any longer as the farmer Premier, but he designated that way, at least by his own party press. They used to call him 'the Farmers' Man of Action'."

Premier Jones: "What are you doing yourself, trying to be a farmer? You are fooling around at it."

Mr. Bell: "My hon. friend was not successful as a farmer until he became Premier of the Province in 1943; but if he has objections to my designating him a farmer Premier I am not going to get him any madder than he has shown himself to be now."

"The farmers are getting 'action' from my hon. friend all right; but they are not getting it in the right way. Instead of running in his own way, he is running full tilt from him." (Laughter).

"Sucked In"

Listening to the Premier's remarks to the Farmers' Federation delegation, Mr. Bell said he was reminded of what children say to each other in their games when something goes wrong—"You were sucked in." Why did the Federation come before the Legislature this year? Because they were invited here by the leader of the Government on more than one occasion. At a meeting in Charlottetown during Farmers' Week on Feb. 25, 1949, the Premier addressed the Federation and said he wished the farmers to take the initiative in suggesting things to benefit agriculture. Later, in March 1949, the Federation came before the House and the Premier commented on a number of items in the brief and thanked them for coming here with their suggestions, assuring them of a welcome back again next year.

"Those were the leader of the Government's words a year ago; he welcomed them back," Mr. Bell continued. "So I say that they were 'sucked in', because when they came back in response to his invitation he blasted them almost out of the Assembly room. Not only that, but his colleague in his own district (Mr. Dougald MacKinnon) got up the other day and said the Premier didn't go far enough in spanking them—he should have put a nail in the paddle!"

Premier Jones: "Does my hon. friend know who represents the farmers? We have the Agricultural Council today, a group of men who make up a brief and present it to this House annually with no fanfare at all. We try to act on that brief, and we have acted on it this year. That is a more important body than the Farmers' Federation. Their brief is better studied, in my opinion."

Mr. Bell recalled that the Federation brief of 1948 specifically thanked the Minister and Deputy Minister of Agriculture for valuable support received. They solicited co-operation and guidance and in 1949, when they came back to the Legislature, they again stated, as directors of all the farm organizations of the Province, their wish to co-operate with the Government in every way possible. The names of the various organizations were annexed to their brief.

This year in their brief the Federation gave the assurance that their efforts were not those of a glorified grievance committee, but that they represented also the rural and provincial organizations and farming communities in practically every school district.

"Inefficient" Farmers

"I submit that these members of farm organizations who were coming here by invitation had no right to be insulted," Mr. Bell said. "To my mind that is what did happen to them. When the Premier of this Province tells them that over fifty per cent of them were inefficient he should be ashamed of himself, because if they were inefficient the blame should be laid upon the Government. He had been leader of the Government for the past seven years."

self who will lose pigs because the rearing of these animals changes from time to time." Hon. Mr. Baker: "Did you ask for advice?" Mr. Bell: "Yes."

Premier Jones: "Didn't you know enough to give a little iron to a young pig?" Mr. Bell: "I don't know if you grow a litter, but we raise a lot of pigs, usually sixty or seventy; and we give them iron, too."

Artificial Insemination

Continuing, he criticized the Premier for "shutting down" on the artificial insemination unit. In 1934 the Premier had said this was a modern way of raising cattle and it was at his suggestion that the unit was established in this Province. It functioned satisfactorily for a while, and it would have continued so if it had been left to go on. The last year the unit was operating, in 1949, the cost to the Government was only \$200.

Premier Jones: "I said last year that at no time did this Government ever agree to have an artificial unit here. That was turned down, and it was only by accident that they got some money from the Department of Agriculture. They got \$2,000 or \$3,000, and when they couldn't raise it for more money last year they quit. We were never into it."

Mr. Bell: "Apparently the Leader of the Government has gone back on his theory that it was a modern method. But there are many who do believe that still, and it was discouraging when they got orders from the Premier to close up."

Premier Jones: "I didn't close them up. I didn't have anything to do with it. They didn't get any money, and they closed up themselves."

Mr. Bell quoted from a report of a meeting of breeders held in March, 1949, in which the work of the insemination unit was reviewed and at which it was stated that a considerable portion of the money was used the previous year for treating cattle for vaginitis. Even today the Experimental Farm, where the unit was set up, continues to maintain it for their own Ayrshire herd and distribute seed throughout the Province to other breeders of Ayrshires.

"I remember different members of this House speaking of the benefits of the unit when it was functioning here," Mr. Bell added. "And one of the great boosters for it was your own good self, Mr. Speaker."

Mr. Bell complained that Government loans for tourist promotion seem to have gotten out of hand. It would be good policy to have an annual report giving the details of these loans, with the amounts outstanding. He understood loans had been given for overnight cabins where none had been erected.

Hon. Mr. Matheson: "No, no." Mr. Bell: "I know of one case where the Provincial Treasurer holds a mortgage of \$1,000 on the land, and no buildings have gone up."

Need For Abattoir

Mr. Bell said he understood an abattoir was to be started by private enterprise in Charlottetown some time ago, and there was some suggestion that the Government might help. This would be of great benefit in promoting Newfoundland trade, where the demand is for chilled beef. As the situation stands, there is no public slaughter of beef in Charlottetown except what is done at the Canada Packers plant. They have the veterinarian and the plant, but it is for their own benefit. Quite a lot of money was spent on the proposed plant, but it has been held up for lack of capital.

Hon. Mr. Matheson: "Couldn't they become incorporated and raise some money?" Mr. Bell: "But I think the Government could very well back their bonds. I see where the Curling Club of Summerside got a loan of \$15,000; also the Gulf Broadcasting Company got a loan from the Government."

Premier Jones said that in those cases the conditions were fulfilled, and other communities could do the same if personal bonds were put up.

Hon. Mr. Matheson: "There has not been any application, in my time, to the Government for this plant."

purpose." Hon. Mr. Baker: "What do you do with the balance?" Mr. Bell: "We purchase a sire, perhaps, for \$300 or \$400. We went as high one time as \$1,000. If we had some money over, that went to bonus young animals."

Hon. Mr. Baker: "We have requested this year that all breed organizations give us a report of what they did with the grant, and to date we have not received any." Mr. Bell: "I might say that the report for our association for 1948 was duly made."

Mr. Stewart: "Their policies always had to be approved by the Department before the money was paid out in the first place." Mr. Bell: "We never had any difficulty under the ex-Minister, and I want to congratulate him on his co-operation."

Needed Roadwork

Referring to roadwork, Mr. Bell urged that attention be given to the South Shore Road from Rocky Point, leading off from North River Corner towards Kingston, and the road from New Glasgow to the National Park.

He maintained that his district pays heavily in gas taxes and that they should for that reason get more attention from the Highways Department.

He commended the work of the physical fitness division of the Welfare Department and suggested that Brig. Reid be retained in full time employment in connection with organized athletics.

Premier Jones: "You are in favor of hockey matches, I suppose?" Mr. Bell: "Yes. It seems to me that a lot of children are not getting a chance to lead to play games. There is nobody to take charge in the schools, consequently when they get up to grade 8, 9 or 10 they have no training in sports. It is better for them to play these games than be jammed into motion picture theatres."

Mr. Bell urged the Government to give every assistance in the way of setting up marketing boards for potatoes, eggs, cheese and butter. He noted that there was a board set up in connection with milk in Charlottetown and Summerside through which the Premier received a good price for his milk. With regard to small fruit and vegetables he believed that the firm Matthew and Wells should be encouraged here. The farmers realize that they can grow practically any product in this Province and he believed that tobacco could possibly be grown successfully.

Ekimo Operations

He suggested that the Premier forget his "pipe dream" about the Ekimo and Newfoundland trade. The reports show that the trade slackened off in 1948-49 despite the Ekimo. The venture had not received much favor from Newfoundlanders. There were others, he said, besides the "big shots" who were against it. He read an editorial from the St. John's Evening Telegram which described the Ekimo as a "mobile department store" and an emporium, and which asked if the proprietors of the boat contributed anything to Newfoundland or ever paid a peddler's license.

He doubted if the trade was legal. Under the British North America Act, he said, this Province cannot legislate to have a steamship line with another Province. Premier Jones: "Would you have the same doubt about Nova Scotia?"

Mr. Bell replied that he had made inquiries about that and was not sure where they fit. "Anyway," he said, "there was no reason for you to follow them."

U. S. AMBASSADOR

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Allan Harrington, 26, son of U.S. Minister to Canada, Julian Harrington. He was returning to college in Virginia after a holiday with his parents here. Capt. Thomas Archibald, 34, of Union Springs, Ala., pilot of the plane and assistant air attache at the Embassy here. Lt.-Col. W. F. Trueblood, 35, U.S. Air Force, of Kansas City, Kas., an exchange officer attached to R.C.A.F. headquarters in Ottawa. Lieut. Mark Belanger, 29, U.S. A.F., New Bedford, Mass., former assistant U.S. air attache at Ottawa who was on exchange at R.C.A.F. headquarters here.

Ottawa Shocked

The crash shocked Ottawa's diplomatic corps. Prime Minister St. Laurent sent a personal message to President Truman saying he and all Canadians were shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death of Ambassador Steinhart and others aboard the ill-fated plane. In the House of Commons the Prime Minister and leaders of all parties expressed their sorrow and sympathy to the President of the United States, the people of the United States and the relatives of the victims. Mrs. Steinhart and her daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Julian Harrington all reside in Ottawa. Mr. St. Laurent said Mr. Steinhart's death meant for Canada the loss of "an understanding friend who believed deeply in the value to each other and to the world of the friendly association of our two countries, and a man who had contributed in countless ways to the strengthening of Canadian-American bonds of friendship."

Investigation Opens

U.S. Embassy officials declined information about the crash pending the findings of an investigation. This was opened by the R.C.A.F. immediately under Sgt. Ldr. H. Cobb, a technical officer skilled in investigation of accidents. The bodies were taken to the R.C.A.F. hospital at Rockcliffe and Officials at the U.S. Embassy said

Little Change In Outlook for 1950

OTTAWA, March 28 — (CP)—A forecast of a slight drop in prices and a small rise in employment this year was contained tonight in Finance Minister Abbott's budget speech. He said: "The consensus of informed views about the outlook for 1950 is that employment, output and price levels in both Canada and the United States will show no great change from 1949."

"The balance of probabilities for Canada indicates a moderate increase in the domestic and United States demand for our products offset in part by a reduction in overseas demands, with prices tending slightly downward, and employment slightly upward."

He estimated that the gross national product, which includes national income, will be about one or two per cent higher than in 1949.

Effective Dates For Tax Changes

OTTAWA, March 28 — (CP)—Effective dates of the new tax changes in Finance Minister Abbott's budget: Repeat of eight per cent sales tax on ice cream, dairy drinks and prepared whipping cream—immediately. Repeat of five per cent excise tax on toilet soaps—immediately. Repeat of eight per cent sales tax on purchases by defined class of institutions caring for orphan, aged or infirm persons—July 1, 1950. Change in application of 10 per cent corporation tax on profits of related companies—retroactive to Jan. 1, 1949. Increase from free to 15 per cent in British preferential tariff on tin plate—June 1, 1950. Other minor and technical tariff changes—immediately.

Ships Collide In Heavy Fog

NEW YORK, March 28 — (AP)—Heavy fog caused two ship collisions along the Atlantic coast today, delayed the Queen Elizabeth and other incoming liners and disrupted airplane traffic in New York. No injuries were reported in either of the collisions. The major crash occurred when the liner Santa Monica, groping through the thick mist toward New York, rammed Ambrose Light ship, the vessel that marks the entrance to New York harbor. A hole was torn in the lightship's starboard hull below the water line. A Coast Guard cutter relieved her.

In the second collision, the Norwegian freighter Brant Count and the Sun Oil Company tanker Southern Sun collided in Delaware Bay. The Coast Guard said the vessels reported they "bumped a little."

The liner Queen Elizabeth finally docked after being prevented by fog from coming in Monday. Several other ships had to remain outside the harbor until the fog lifted.

Guay Decides Against Appeal

QUEBEC, March 28 — (CP)—J. Albert Guay, the 32-year-old Quebec jeweler convicted two weeks ago of the murder of his wife in an air crash which killed 23, had decided against appealing his conviction, his counsel announced today. Guay was convicted March 14 and sentenced to be hanged June 23 for engineering the air disaster by means of a time-bomb in an airliner. The plane crashed at Saulx Au Cochon Sept. 9 and Mrs. Guay was one of the 23 victims.

In a statement made public by defence counsel Bertrand Marcotte, Guay said that "I have instructed my lawyers, Bertrand Marcotte and Gerard Levesque, not to appeal my case for reasons which are known only by myself."

they knew of no funeral plans as yet. Wreckage was scattered over 200 yards. All around lay brief cases, unopened parachute packs, cushions, bits of metal and even a golf bag, its fabric burned and its clubs twisted. Master Sergeant Long, who was crew chief on the flight taking Ambassador Steinhart to New York on business, landed 500 yards beyond where the plane crashed but in the same field. He staggered out of a snowbank, complaining of a leg injury.

First to reach him was Russ Scharf. "He told me the pilot had tried to keep the aircraft high enough so everyone could jump." He quoted Sergeant Long as saying "our motor pranged." "The pilot told us all to be calm, and he would give us enough height to jump. I tried to get the rest of them out the door but he said they would stick with the air craft."

"I knew we were going in. I knew we had to jump or die. I finally tried to push them from the door but they would not go." It was then, with the plane rapidly losing height, that Long jumped. Air Force officials who visited the scene said it was possible the plane exploded just before it crashed. With an engine on fire, it was probable that the wing and line tanks would explode.

THE EASTER STORY BY GREAT ARTISTS



TODAY, NO. 5: CHRIST BEFORE PILATE

No reproduction in black and white, however skillfully engraved, does justice to the work of Tintoretto, whose dramatic and lyric genius in color and composition make him one of the greatest of the Old Masters. It is declared, "Some of the compositions of Tintoretto are together with the works of Michelangelo, the most formidable pictures designed by the human mind." Tintoretto, whose real name was Jacopo Robusti, painted the tall white figure of Christ before Pilate on a wall of the Hospice of the Scuola di San Rocco, in his native Venice. Describing the composition, one artist wrote, "Christ appears among sombre Jews, like a shining white flower on the dark roots of a craggy mountain." It is one of a series portraying the whole of the Passion upon which Tintoretto worked intermittently from 1660, when he was 42 years old, till 1587. They that had laid hold on Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane led him away to the palace of Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and elders of Jerusalem were gathered. There, as told in St. Luke 22:66-23:16:

And as soon as it was day, the elders of the people and the chief priests and the scribes came together, and led him into their council, saying, Art thou the Christ? Tell us. And he said unto them, If I tell you, ye will not believe: And if I also ask you, ye will not answer me, nor let me go. Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God. Then said they all, Art thou then the Son of God? And he said unto them, Ye say that I am. And they said, What need we any further witness? For we ourselves have heard of his own mouth. And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King. And Pilate asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answered him and said, Thou sayest it. Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people, I find no fault in this man. And they were the more fierce, saying, He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place. Then Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man was of Galilee? And he answered and said, I am not Galilean: but I was born and bred in this town of Nazareth, which is a little town in Galilee. And Pilate said unto him, I will therefore chastise him, and release him.

(Tomorrow: CHRIST DENIED)