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THE DEBT QUESTION

According to Provincial Treasurer Cameron's budget, the rising increase in liabilities will bring the province's total net debt to \$41,762,272 at the end of next fiscal year; but according to Opposition Leader Matheson the debt is already almost sixty million dollars, and goodness knows what it will be by March 1965. Surely this question, at least, could be gone into by the public accounts committee and disposed of in some more satisfactory manner than it has been left at present.

In New Brunswick this week, they budgeted for a revenue surplus but also for a debt increase of over twelve million dollars. This despite an additional \$8,200,000 from Ottawa. The reason given for the expenditure is a programme of cost-sharing programs with the federal government, it will provide New Brunswick with capital works of much greater value. The opposition is attacking this argument by citing government pre-election pledges.

In Manitoba, the debt in recent years has increased by over 200 per cent. Last week's budget showed that at the end of the 1963 fiscal year it had risen to \$570 million; but the Opposition claimed that if properly totalled to include all the province's obligations, the true figure for December 31 last would be no less than \$610 million.

So it goes. The figures everywhere are getting into the astronomical category, and sparking heated arguments among the politicians. But the trouble is that the bigger they get the more unreal they tend to become to the ordinary taxpayer. A few millions of indebtedness, more or less, seem inconsequential compared with getting the kind of service from the government he thinks he is entitled to.

So long as this attitude prevails, we shall continue to have a rendition of the "budgetary blues" at every legislative session.

ARMS RACE GOES ON

Perhaps the world has gone on hope of achieving disarmament. Certainly little public interest was shown in the deepening of the stalemate in the Geneva disarmament talks last week, when William C. Foster, chief United States negotiator, announced that he and Ambassador Tsarapkin, chief Soviet negotiator, had failed to agree on an agenda for the conference. As a consequence, Mr. Foster flew back to Washington, leaving his deputy, Adrian Fisher, to carry on.

For 18 years of negotiations, the Soviet Union and the United States have achieved no agreement for even a little real disarmament. They have, it is true, taken steps to whittle away at the risk of war, but that is all. The first of these steps was the antartctic treaty of 1959, which banned military operations including nuclear weapons and nuclear tests from the antartctic continent.

out of the long deadlock in the Geneva arms negotiations and the Cuba missile crisis, and resulted in an arrangement for exchanging messages by press wires because diplomatic channels were too slow.

The third step, the limited nuclear test ban agreement of July, 1963, was followed last October by a U.S.-Soviet agreement looking at United Nations resolution calling on all nations to refrain from placing weapons of mass destruction in outer space. This last had a hollow ring, inasmuch as military experts say it is impractical at present to put nuclear weapons into orbit.

So far as formal agreements for substantial disarmament are concerned, the prospects are still in the unforceable future. Meanwhile the arms race is going steadily on. Destructive power is believed to have increased several fold in the last three years. In terms of the destructive load of one airplane it has increased a million times since World War II.

VAST POWER PROJECT

The proposed hydro-electric project for Hamilton Falls, Labrador, is the subject of a Bank of Montreal business review, and it is indeed a theme over which even sober bankers can get excited for waxing lyrical. Its possibilities are staggering, and could go far to ensure that lack of power will not retard the future development of Eastern Canada.

Estimates of the power available at Hamilton Falls run as high as a million horse power, which would place it in the same category as the world's largest hydro electric power project, Bratsk, in the Soviet Union, or the combined capacity of the hydro plants on both sides of the Niagara River, the largest existing hydro power complex in North America.

Definite plans for development of this vast energy source have yet to be announced. But the Consolidated Edison Company of New York recently deferred plans for the construction of an additional major power plant in New York City, announcing at the same time that it was negotiating with various Canadian interests for "a large block of firm hydro-electric power."

Canada has immense hydro resources which, in spite of the many projects that have been completed, are still largely undeveloped. The remaining known potential sources of power are located in areas which in the past have been considered too distant from possible markets to make their use feasible. Recently, however, experiments with long distance transmission of power at very high voltages, have been successful and it may now become practicable to make a fuller use of more remote sites.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Some New Yorkers are experimenting with the smoking habit by puffing a fake cigarette called a cizaren. The plastic-made, filtered, smokeless substitute has a mental container inside that according to its sponsors, satiates the urge to smoke. Its resemblance to the real McCoy, unlike the candy cigarettes consumed by children, also makes it socially acceptable.

OUTMORDED SIGNS

There is no place in Canada more beautiful than the Island. We folks who spend only four or five months there each year surely are aware of the great progress which has been permeating every nook and corner of the island. One of the annoyances which could be easily corrected, I refer to the outdoor highway signs made of wood instead of metal and often placed on the sides of the road in hidden bushes, and often too far apart.

Let me say that the towns of Kenaston, Alberton, Montserrat, Georgetown and others should be encouraged to make use of street signs. Tourist houses, motels, gift shops in these towns are advertised with a street indicated. It is this combination of wood and out of town signs that is annoying to not a street sign.

Let's do these things, folks. This will be an important summer. I am Sir, etc.



THE MANTLE OF CARTIER

OTAWA CEREMONIAL

The Pomp And The Power

Financial Times of Canada

We shall never disagree with M. Andre Laurendeau with respect to the ceremony, but we do not think it is a good idea to have the Prime Minister and his cabinet members at the ceremony. The ceremony is a national one, and it is not necessary to have the Prime Minister and his cabinet members at the ceremony.

So we are, though the ceremonial has its roots far earlier. It dates from the time when the monarch had the executive power, and the Parliament was trying to curb it. It is a reminder of the monarch's claim to control the executive power. It is a reminder of the monarch's claim to control the executive power.

PUBLIC FORUM

THIRTEENTH YEAR

Sir,—On entering the 13th and Lassies Pipe Band's 13th year we wish to thank all those who have shown an interest in our band. We are proud to say that we have carried on for 13 years. We are proud to say that we have carried on for 13 years.

To answer many inquiries as to whether our band will participate in the events of Centennial Year, we will take part in as many events as we are requested to and it is possible for us to participate in. We already have appeared in the Burns Concert on January 25th and our next appearance will be in the Burns Day Parade on March 17.

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Hay Fever In Dogs

By Dr. Theodore B. Van Dellen  
Northwestern University medical school has a unique cloy of allergic dogs—three terriers and an English bulldog. They are sensitive to ragweed and develop an itching dermatitis during the hay fever season. Other symptoms include nasal congestion, cough, asthma, and conjunctivitis.

The canine lives in the medical school and is kept in a cage with other dogs with similar allergies, brought in by veterinarians and owners who report symptoms during the pollinating or ragweed season. They have been given various treatments, including antihistamines, but with no success.

When these dogs are exposed to ragweed pollen or extracts, they develop not only respiratory symptoms but dermatitis. It is not known why the skin is involved in dogs in contrast to human hay fever victims. The answer may be that these animals scratch themselves and some of the pollen in the air settles on the irritated areas.

These dogs are used as laboratory models of human allergic allergy. Tests can be made to determine if there is human allergic patients. The results of these studies may give vital information on fever, asthma, hives and eczema. These data will help 1.5 million of persons who spend considerable time, money, and energy trying to get relief from their hay fever, wheezing and itching caused by hypersensitivity to ragweed and other allergens.

One of the other in all probability, your distress is a form of allergic reaction. It is a form of allergic reaction. It is a form of allergic reaction. It is a form of allergic reaction.

Sweden, a leader in telephone research, has transmitted calls at a density of 40.3 per hour in Sweden. This is a record for any country. It is a record for any country. It is a record for any country.

Next-building maps are an Australian problem. To be a bird's pick small threads from telephone wires, causing phones to ring. This annoys subscribers, who answer and hear not a peep from the other end.

LAKE REFLECTS SIGNALS  
Telephone signals are beamed over Lake Ontario by microwave radio. The lake is a weather condition the lake reflects the signals, causing false signals to be received.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Hundreds of men are switching from cigarettes to pipe smoking these days and the first thing they have to learn about is the new smoke is that what counts is a good tasting brand of matches—Ottawa Journal.

U.N. Cyprus Force

By Carman Canning  
Canadian Press Staff Writer  
The Turkish representative, glanced around the circle of reporters, tapped his fingers on the desk and mused: "But what do you think of 900 rifles in the hands of irregulars?"

The reporters gathered in the press conference room at United Nations headquarters had no ready answer. Or, apparently, have the planners setting up a peace force for Cyprus.

The thought of those rifles, and the men who carry them, might be causing nightmares for the diplomats charged with raising and supervising a peace force between the Greek and Turkish-Cypriots.

At a largely attended convention in the board room of the City Building today, Messrs. J. Augustus Macdonald, K.C. and Samuel Kennedy, M.B.E., Charlotetown were nominated unanimously as Conservative candidates to contest the Third District of Queens in the next provincial election.

Three YACHTS  
The first section of the silver foils of American Yachtsmen breeders brought a top of \$2 for full silver at the sale conducted by Lampton, Fraser and Hunt. This was unchanged from the January level.

When any, count 10 before you speak.  
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"How was the wedding?" asked the preacher's wife. "It was fine until I asked the bride if she would 'obey' me and she said, 'Do you think I'm crazy?' That's when things really began to happen."—Saratia Observer.

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SCANDINAVIAN

ARE GORGEOUS

Montreal photographer Gabriel Desmarais, or Gaby, as he is known professionally, has always believed it difficult to beat "the photogenic freshness" of Canadian girls, but after a three-week visit to Scandinavia he has changed his mind. His exquisite color portraits of Scandinavian beauties, on view in your Weekend Magazine this week, will leave no room for argument.

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THE EVENING PATRIOT

WEEKEND

WITH STILL ONLY