

Budgetary Optimism

The resounding note in the budget speech of Provincial Treasurer Farmer in the Legislature last evening was one of optimism. Whether this optimism will be shared by the Opposition is, of course, another question; but certainly there are aspects of the budget which are reassuring. First, it is evident that the Government has, in its controllable expenditures on ordinary account, been doing well.

For the last fiscal year it reports a surplus on this account of \$824,267, with a less-than-forecast liabilities increase of \$303,761. For the current year, the interim statement shows a surplus on ordinary account of \$1,274,949 as against the estimate last year of only \$93,347. At that time an overall deficit of \$7,441,782 was anticipated. This actually has been reduced by nearly \$1 1/2 million to \$6,013,308, the province at the same time being the richer in capital assets to the value of over \$12 million.

Expenditures for the new year, beginning April 1, include provision for expanded activities in education, industry and other departments to which reference was made in the Speech from the Throne. On current account the estimates are greater than those estimated for the present year by some \$4,742,148. But even with this increase, and with no new taxes, the 1966-67 figures provide for a current surplus of \$68,574. Capital expenditures for the coming year are estimated at \$10,677,557.

It is noted that the new Provincial Office Building is to be sold to the Prince Edward Island Crown Building Corporation, and the Corporation will be paid a rental sufficient to meet necessary operating expenses. The sale will produce a capital revenue for the year ending March 31, 1967 equal in amount to the expenditures made by the Consolidated Fund in the two years of construction. Mr. Farmer explained that though this transaction produced a decrease in liability for the year, he was not suggesting that the sale reduces the overall liabilities of the province and its crown agencies. He referred members to a balance sheet in the Public Accounts in this connection.

It is expected that under the 1962 fiscal arrangements with Ottawa the province will receive \$9,703,000 plus statutory subsidies, and the annual payment of \$3,500,000 under the Atlantic Adjustment Grants. At least \$7,980,000 in taxes, it is estimated, will be collected from provincial sources, in addition to \$2,625,000 collected for the province by Ottawa under the Income Tax Act. Also there will be further legislation this session to raise funds by way of debenture issues.

The minister emphasized, in conclusion, that the Government would continue to press Ottawa for a more satisfactory formula that would recognize the province's fiscal need problem and its tax-raising ability. Progress has, however, been made in this direction, and he dwelt chiefly on its gratifying results.

On this aspect of the situation, at least, we may expect that his Liberal opponents will be in agreement with him.

An Apt Retort

We heed in Parliament more of the urbanity which Mr. Macquarrie showed in explaining why the "blush" of embarrassment a Toronto newspaper writer claimed to have detected on his countenance when he voted in support of an NDP motion the other day was really due to his having been "blessed with a ruddy, cherubic countenance, to these 46 years," and that in any case, while life has had its embarrassments, "the act of demonstrating lack of confidence in the present government was certainly not one of them." Mr. Speaker, "at first blush," didn't think the honorable

member had a question of privilege, but the laughter which greeted our Queens MP's reply from all-sides showed that he had scored a hit. It was, indeed, in the grand tradition of parliamentary retort, worthy of the late, great Sir Winston Churchill, or of Sir John A. Macdonald himself in his heyday.

Mr. Macquarrie voted for the NDP proposal because, primarily, he felt that there was some merit in it. His party colleagues evidently felt otherwise; but that was a matter of opinion. The Conservative motion, for which he also voted, had scored high living costs as having a serious effect on the national economy, and particularly on all low-income groups, and had challenged the Government to do something about the matter.

What failed to get much emphasis in this discussion, it seems, were the regional problems involved in keeping the inflation spiral responsible for these costs within bounds. The Toronto Star—off base as it was in its snide comment on Mr. Macquarrie's countenance—strikes the right note here by insisting on the Government's prime responsibility to produce more selective controls, more refined economic instruments than fight money which discriminates against poorer people in the slow-growth provinces.

"Any policy which brakes the economy in Ontario where unemployment is at a low of 3.3 per cent and, at the same time dampens still more the sluggish economy of the Atlantic provinces where unemployment is 10.5 per cent," says the Toronto paper, "is unfair and unjust." The job for Mr. Sharp and Mr. Rasminsky is first to isolate the economic areas where a threat of serious inflation exists and to devise selective controls to deal with them. Canada's continued prosperity will depend on their skill and judgment in devising measures to tackle inflationary problems where they exist without pushing the entire economy over the edge in the process.

That will take some doing, but it is an objective which surely merits the support of all our Atlantic representatives, regardless of party affiliation.

Long Overdue

Few of our citizens will object to Canada's 220,000 Indians receiving a new deal from Ottawa, and this is what is involved in the announcement by Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing of a five-year \$112 million program to improve Indian reserves. Besides new houses, the recipients will benefit through spending on water and sewage disposal systems, electrification and better roads. Indians working and living off the reservations will be able to take advantage of normal lending facilities in the purchase of homes.

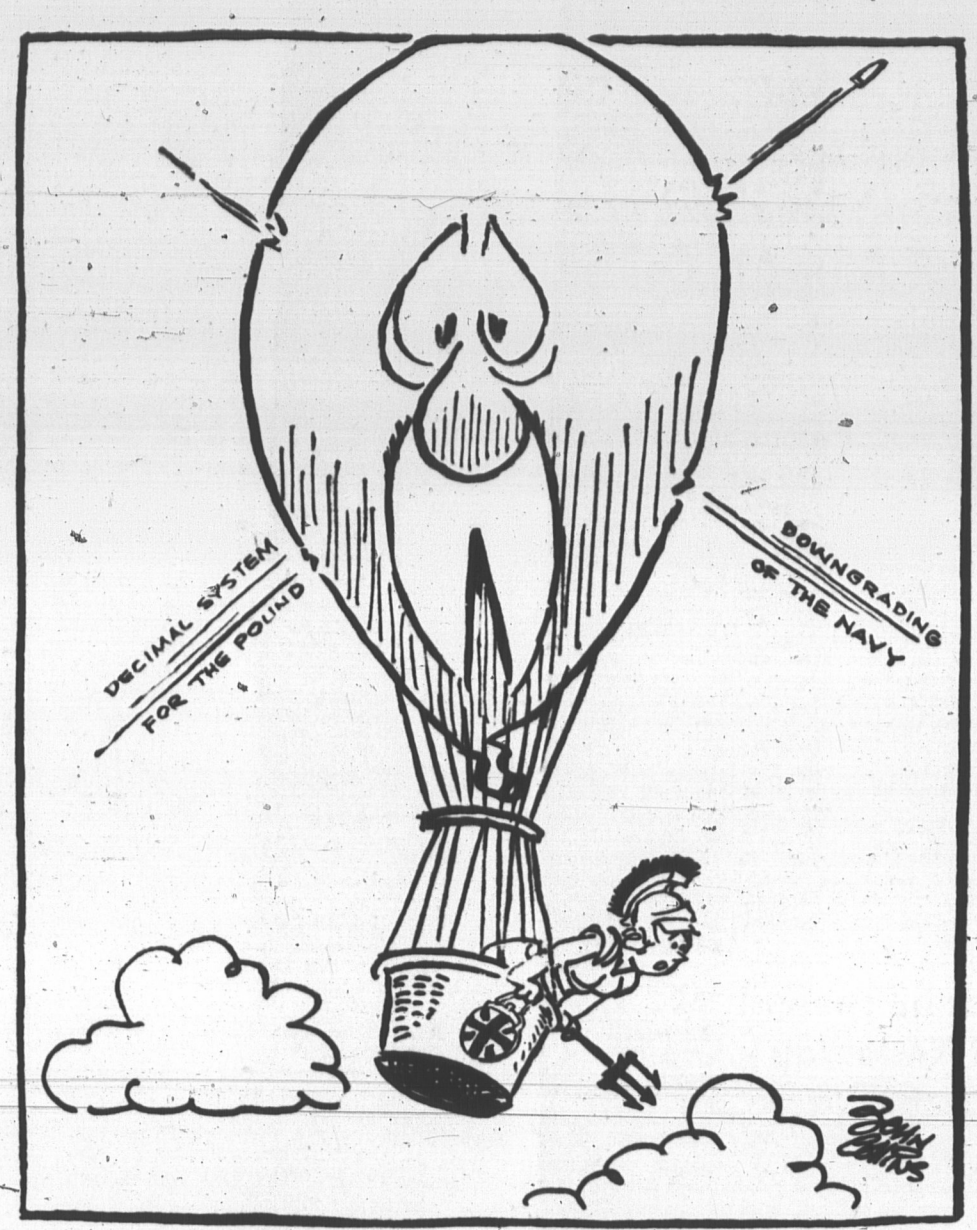
For altogether too long the country's native population has been neglected and its living standards treated with indifference by government and public alike. Neither Peace Corps nor Company of Young Canadians is required in this war on poverty; the Indian affairs branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration has all the first-hand knowledge necessary to undertake this program of rehabilitation and modernization.

An important additional point was made recently by Ethel Brant Monture, Indian consultant to the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, when she urged that the program be not top-heavy with (white) authority. She hoped that Indian leaders would be allowed to share in the making of decisions, otherwise "the program would mean nothing." This underlines a basic need for boosting the morale of the people, and giving them a sense of pride and achievement as their resources are re-developed. Too many of these decisions in the past has been made for the Indians—not with them. No doubt this point will be given the consideration it deserves.

EDITORIAL NOTES

From Bonn comes the report that American trade experts were stumped by a phrase that kept coming up in a discussion of European Common Market problems—"inedible horticultural products." Experts and interpreters put their heads together, and finally reached a conclusion. The phrase means flowers.

Laudably we're spending money to help educate the people of less favored lands, so that they may improve their lot and contribute to world stability. But it comes as a shock to learn, on the authority of the Canadian Association for Adult Education, that a million Canadians can't read well enough to understand the instructions on a cake-mix box.



LAST DAYS OF COLONEL BLIMP

COUNTER-INSECT CORPS

More James Bonds And Rub-Out Men

Federal Agriculture Minister Gerth, Ont.

"We, in Agriculture—and this longer be found anywhere in the state. SAME TECHNIQUE

In what has been unofficially dubbed "the coddling moth caper," entomologists in my department are now applying this same technique to control this vicious fruit pest in British Columbia orchards.

It may also interest some of you to know that during the 1964-65 fiscal year work on developing a diagnostic test for the hog affliction, Aujeszky's disease—sometimes known as "the mad itch"—was brought to a successful conclusion. The Health of Animals Branch is also doing research on "John's disease"—a serious affliction of cattle.

The last name of this particular John was not given in the annual report and I'm afraid to ask. There's quite a bit of high society in the agricultural world, too. The constant jockeying for

social triumph among the purebred livestock breeds is well known. I'm told that some in the Holstein set, for example, wouldn't be caught in an Ayrshire pasture for love nor money. The Angus may speak to the Hereford, but the Charolais speaks only to the Charolais.

ANOTHER VILLAIN Even the production of pedigree seed is complicated by the need to prevent intermarriage. The villain in the script is the "rogue" pollen and the complication arises from the need to prevent cross-pollination of different varieties of the same crop. If the wind happens to be in the wrong direction at pollination time or if the bees get their navigation mixed up, there goes the pedigree. Which just goes to show how complicated this business of the birds and the bees—and even the wind—can get once you're in Agriculture.

'Subversive' With A Camera

Washington Star

This is the era of the strobe light, the infrared film that takes pictures in the dark and the Life photographer whose badge is a tiny camera with a lens like a cannon.

One miracle succeeds another in the photographic art; equipment has become so complex that there's even a special "idiot" signal that flashes red to warn an amateur he doesn't have all the levers set properly on his camera.

In the midst of all this prosperity this has brought the camera makers, however, a menace has arisen. His name is John J. Loughlin, a 66-year-old bachelor in New York City who has been steadily winning prizes in defiance of all the rules.

Loughlin uses a Kodak Brownie he bought 47 years ago for \$1. It's a battered antique, held together with plastic and tape. The camera boasts no mysterious little levers or intimidating numbers on its lens. You just push a button and hope.

This dangerous man won his first prize money at the 1939 world fair, elbowing aside the professionals with their Leicas and exposure meters and trenchcoats.

To prove in his irritating way that this was not a fluke, he proceeded to capture a string of other awards in subsequent newspaper contests. His work will be displayed on Park Avenue this month.

Gentlemen of the photographic industry, need we say more? Your multi-million-dollar business is threatened, not to mention the self-respect of all of us who, despite costly equipment, keep on taking blurred and murky slides to show our friends.

You must buy off Loughlin before he undermines matters any further.

Remember The Woodpile?

Ottawa Journal

Half a century ago a woodpile had real meaning. Before oil and electricity brought their magic to rural homes, a forehanded man made sure of his fuel. A woodburning kitchen stove and a woodburning parlor heater required many cords between early autumn and late spring.

There are some human beings who seem to be happy on love and green wood, but good husbandmen didn't want plumes of heavy, dark smoke rising from farmhouse chimneys. In the late fall and early winter before snow was deep, a man and his sons cut maple, oak and ash and piled it in the woodlot. They did not forget a cord or two of white birch or cedar or even a hick or a mother could have a quick hot fire to make biscuits for summer suppers.

In late winter the wood was hauled down and stacked in the backyard. The sawyer came with his steam engine outfit, the screams of whirling teeth hitting into touch knots echoed across the fields. A 14-year-old knew that he had future work splitting clear-grained chunks for the kitchen stove. He tossed knotty chunks into a pile for the parlor heater.

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Medical Browsing

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

An 18-month follow-up study of 173 persons whose peptic ulcers were treated by freezing the wall of the stomach was far from encouraging. At the end of this time, 92.5 per cent had a recurrence of their symptoms or so much trouble that surgery was advised.

The early results with gastric freezing were good. A balloon connected to a tube was swallowed and a solution chilled to below freezing was inserted into the apparatus. The wall of the stomach was then subjected to a 50-minute gastric freeze.

The ulcer distress subsided quickly and tests revealed that the stomach acidity was reduced. But the excellent results were temporary, including those needing more than one treatment. Many had months of relief, but the unfavorable results may mean the end of gastric freezing.

Dr. Oscar L. Frick of the University of California School of Medicine made an excellent suggestion at a meeting of the American College of Allergists. He discussed current methods of immunizing against allergies. At present we are desensitizing those allergic to pollens with pollen extract, and against dust, with dust extracts. In other words, a special extract must be used to desensitize against each offending agent.

Dr. Frick hopes to find a common denominator in allergens to develop a single extract that will desensitize all allergic persons. Drugs such as antihistamines, ephedrine, and cortisone provide temporary relief of most allergic symptoms. The clue may come from more research in this field.

We received a letter from a woman who has a nice husband and two lovely children. "Since my marriage I cannot go out alone as it makes me nervous. How can I overcome this phobia?" This is a problem for a psychiatrist, but she may be interested in what an English woman did about her agoraphobia—fear of open spaces.

According to Medicine at Work, she had not stepped out of her front door for 15 years. She forced herself to travel and to engage in outdoor activities. She started an Open Door Club that has 1,500 members with a similar program. Her advice to them is: "Practice going out after dark—you will feel less panicky."

S. M. G. writes: If a person suffers from headaches as a child, will she have them all her life?

REPLY No. Migraine headache, for example, rarely continues after the menopause even though it begins early in life.

S. D. writes: Would a miniature film, as in a mass chest survey, disclose a lung tumor?

REPLY Yes, and this is another reason why these surveys are of value. A larger film is suggested to study the abnormality in detail.

VIRAL PNEUMONIA M. E. writes: Is virus pneumonia contagious?

REPLY All pneumonias are infectious but are not transmitted from one person to another as readily as are measles and scarlet fever.

DISLOCATED KNEE H. T. writes: I continue to dislocate my right knee. Is there any way it can be anchored in place permanently?

REPLY Yes, but the repair job must be done by a skillful surgeon. TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—Develop and express your talents.

(NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

China Policy Debated

By Arch MacKenzie Canadian Press Staff, Washington

The United States debate on China policy, while offering something to both the pros and the cons, has cut across longheld policy lines. President Johnson and his advisers say they take comfort from the refusal of any of the prominent academic authorities heard so far by a Senate committee to propose abandoning South Viet Nam. They claim to follow the formula of Chinese "containment without isolation," outlined early in the congressional testimony.

But the onus is clear on the Chinese, the Johnson group says. "Communist China is a paper tiger and likely to remain so for 10 years," Gen. Griffith told the Senate foreign relations committee. This view and other dissent from official policy are endorsed in a statement signed by 100 China authorities, who include Donald E. Wilmott, associate sociology professor at the University of Toronto.

"That the formal China policy of the U.S. has long since been out of date is widely recognized and tacitly accepted even by officials of the American government," the statement begins. Comments President Johnson: "Until there is some change on China's part, I doubt that these academic discussions will do much more than satisfy people's yearnings for information."

The reply, voiced by various witnesses including a retired Marine brigadier-general, Samuel Griffith, is that each constitutes part of the old Chinese empire and that even Nationalist China agrees with the Communist claim.

As for North Korea, said the general, China attacked there because it was threatened and the same thing could happen if North Viet Nam is further threatened.

None of the witnesses pretends anything the U.S. does

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files)

Twenty - Five Years Ago

(March 25, 1941)

Gen. Italo Gariboldi replaced Marshal Rodolfo Graziani as Governor of Libya and commander of Italy's North African troops, who once marched into Egypt but were driven back into Western Libya by a British counter-offensive.

Scouts of the empire, were unanimous in deciding that Lord Somers should take over the title of chief scout in succession of Lord Baden-Powell.

Ten Years Ago

(March 25, 1956)

Vincent Massey resumed his visit to Resolute Bay, Cornwallis Island, an Arctic outpost, to become the first Canadian governor-general to fly across the top of the world.

British actor, Robert Newton, 50, famous for his screen and television role of Long John Silver in Treasure Island, died in Beverly Hills, California.

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