Britain's Huge Tax Incubus

Canadians Have Cause to Rejoice, and Say: "Lo, the Poor Britisher," When They Consider His Income Tax

That's what many editors think, at least, in surveying the budget of Chancelor of the Exchequer, Philip Snowden, which provides for a 22½ percentage of income tax, and involves, as London press dispatches advise us, a new basic rate of $1.12 on each $5 of income.

While relatively few Britons pay the full rate of the income tax, cables a London correspondent vast numbers are obliged to pay something, beginning on incomes as low as $675 for single persons and $1,125 for the married.

Under the new rates, this informant adds, an unmarried man would pay approximately $254 on an income of $3,000; $442 on $4,000; $629 on $5,000; $2,348 on $12,500, and up to $43,190 on $100,000.

A married man without children, it is further noted, would pay $528 on $5,000; triple that amount on $10,000, and up to $2,964 on $15,000.

Championing Mr. Snowden as the Chancellor of the MacDonald Labor Government, the London Daily Herald, official organ of the Labor party, declares that the budget "places burdens on broad backs." On the other hand, the London Times remarks:

'The new taxes will certainly deepen the disquieting impression that the wealthier section of the community is merely being exploited to provide for the expansion of 'social' services for which the appetite of the electorate is not likely to diminish as long as the voter is protected from the fiscal consequences of his own extravagance."

Ever since the war, writes a special correspondent in the London Morning Post, Britain has been groaning under a load of taxation. In comparing Britain's burden with that of other countries this writer cites Mr. Stanley Baldwin's Government, as having given the House of Commons in December, 1928, the following figures showing the national taxation per head in several countries:

	National Taxation per Head 1913-14			1926-27		
Great Britain	£3	11	4	£14	11	8
France	3	7	0	7	7	0
Italy	2	2	0	4	4	0
United States	1	4	0	6	6	0

This corespondent of the London Morning Post (Ind. Cons.) goes on to say:

"Great Britain was thus paying in 1927 four times as much per head as before the war, and twice as much as any of the other three countries. In January, 1930, Mr. Snowden informed the House of Commons that, according to the latest figures, British taxation was £15 1s. 5d. per head, while that of the nited States was £5 13s. 6d., so that Britain's position had become relatively still more unfavorable as compared with the United States.

"This basis of comparison suffices to give a very rough idea of the burden of taxation in different countries. It is nevertheless admittedly inaccurate as a guide to the real burden of taxation.

'For, in the first place, it takes account of the national budget and omits local taxation, the proportion of which to the national budget varies from country to country. And, secondly, it does not allow for difference in national income, which is an important factor in determining the capacity of a country to bear taxation.

"Unfortunately, exact calculations of national income are impossible, but sufficiently near estimates can be made which leave no room for doubt that Britain is the most heavily taxed of the great countries of the world in proportion to her income. The following table, based on approximate figures, shows the proportion of the national income paid out in all taxation, national and local, by five principal countries:

	Year	National Income £000,000	All Taxation £000,000	Percentage of Taxation to Income
Great Britain	1928	3,750	825	22.0
Germany	1927	3,100	625	20.1
Italy	1926	1,100	200	18.2
France	1928	2,050	350	10.1
United States	1924	12,000	1,270	10.6

"It is thus clear that Great Britain bears a substantially heavier load of taxation in relation to her resources than any of the principal European exbeligerents, and one of altogether different magnitude from that of the nited States. Both the size of the British contribution and the comparison with that of other countries speak sufficiently loudly for themselves.

"But we have not yet surveyed the whole field of taxation. Not included in either national or local budgets are the compulsory contributions paid by employers and workers to the social insurance services. This is an item—unemployment isurance, health insurance, widows', orphans' and old-age contributory pensions and workmen's compensation—which costs the employers some £55,000,000 a year, in addition to over £40,000,000 paid by the workers."

The Strong Man Of Afghanistan

The Hero of the Hour in Afghanistan, It Seems, is King Nadir Shah

Through rare courage and intellect, it is said, he is endeavoring to win for his country, peace, prosperity, and prestige.

The great revolution left Afghanistan both sick and prostrate, writes the Peshawar correspondent of the Calcutta Statesman. How King Amanullah was forced to flee with his wife and retinue to Europe, and how his successor, the "water boy," King Habibullah, was overthrown, has been told in these columns.

The new phase of Afghan progress is now called to our attention. Meanwhile this Peshawar informant points out that:

"In some respects the great upheaval resulted in conditions most satisfactory to Afghanistan as well as to the peace of Central Asia.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that the peace of the world would have been in jeopardy had it not been for the patience and great political foresight on the part of the British Government and the Union of Soviet socialist Republics.

"The way in which the Afghan situation was handled by both these great Powers will go down in histry as a marvel of diplomatic skill.

"It is a mistake to think that Amanullah's reforms were the basic cause of the revolt.

The real causes were quite different, and the question of reforms and Western modes of living were only brought in to give the Shinwaris an excuse for a rising.

"Whatever the causes and the course of the revolt, it is now clear that the revolution has resulted in the establishment of a stable and strong Government, and the accession to the throne of Afghanistan of a man who is among the best that Afghanistan has so far produced.

"King Nadir Shah, who may be appropriately styled the savior of Afghanistan, has been called upon to rule and guide the Afghan nation in their hour of great misery."

King Nadir Shah, we are then advised, has many assets. The chief, it appears, are his own personality and the cooperation of his four brothers, who help him with unusual devotion to discharge the responsibilities of Government. We read:

"Two of his brothers have taken charge of the whole civil and military administration at home. One is Sardar Mohamad Hasham Khan, the Premier, and the other, General Shah Mahmud Khan, is Minister of War and Commander-in-Chief.

"Again, two of his remaining brothers have been placed in charge of the two most important centers of foreign diplomatic intercourse; Shah Wali Khan is Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James's, in London, and Mohamad Aziz Khan is Minister at Moscow.

"He has thus distributed the most important offices of State to his brothers, each of whom is to my personal knowledge most capable of discharging the duties entrusted to him."

Other salient features of King Nadir Shah's Government, this Peshawar informant goes on to say, are almost identical with those of ex-King Amanullah's Government.

But, he adds, a wise step has been taken by the present king in securing the co-operation of religious leaders in his administration. Two well-known religious personalities have been already absorbed by the Government, this narrator states, and continues:

"The Hazrat Sahib of Sher Bazar, the famous religious leader who was responsible for Amanullah's downfall, has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary at Cairo, and has already left Afghanistan to take up his duties.

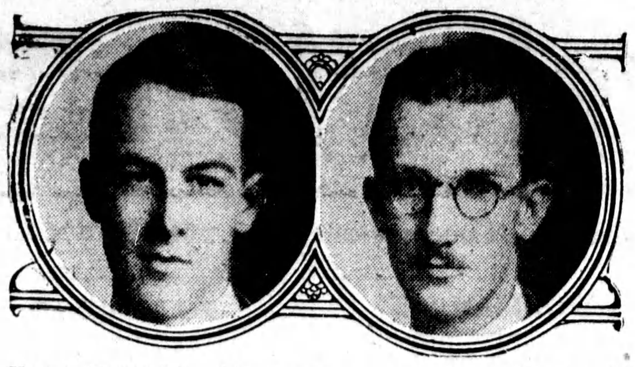
"His younger brother, the Hazrat Sher Afgha, is now Minister of Justice at Kabul.

"Again, in order to provide an opportunity for the expression of their collective opinion, the King has constituted a Jamial-al-Ulema (Grand Assembly of the Learned) which will help the Government in the discharge of their duties toward questions relating to the Shariat of Islam.

'This Assembly will indeed be helpful in maintaining the equilibrium when ever the fanaticism of the tribal masses is fanned by some sort of real or imaginary grievance.

"Persia also has such an assembly of Mujtabids, and it has proved of real assistance to the Persian Government.

"There is again the Mejlsis-i-Shoora, the Grand National Assembly, which is presided over by Abdul Ahad Khan, an experienced and able Wardak Chief. This is a sort of legislative body and works in close co-operation with the King's Cabinet of Ministers."



Hart A. Massey fellowships have been awarded by the American University, to two fourth-year University of Toronto students: Howe H. Martyn (left) in philosophy honors at Victoria College, who is the son of H. G. Martyn, vice-principal of the Stratford Normal school, and John T. Wilson (right), in physics and geology honors at Trinity College, who is son of J. A. Wilson, director of civil aviation, Ottawa.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught

Canada joins heartily with the rest of the British Empire in congratulations to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught on the attainment of his eightieth birthday anniversary. His life has been a long and active one, spent wholly, until very recent years, in the service of the Crown, and, therefore, of the Empire. As a soldier he established and retained a high reputation, and many of the reforms effected in the British army were due to his activities. He was a strict disciplinarian, but at the same time won and held the affection of all who served under him.

Canada was fortunate in having him as Governor-General from 1911 to 1916, and he was both popular and efficient, setting a sound example of scrupulous regard for the responsibilities, as well as the limitations, of his high position. His daughter, known to every Canadian as Princess Pat, endeared herself to the people of this country by her democratic ways and her charm of manner, and her name is permanently associated with Canada's war record as Honorary Colonel of the famous Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, a regiment that made history and left a reputation that will never fade.

The Duke, while in Canada, travelled extensively, made himself acquainted with all parts of the Dominion, and frequently revealed in his speeches a keen understanding and appreciation of our peculiar problems and needs. His tact and his long military experience proved invaluable during the first two years of the war, and when he went home in 1916 he carried with him the good wishes of the entire Dominion. The example he has set the Empire of hard work is one that may be emulated by all. It is of particular significance in that it embodies the principle that royalty is no bar to service and that a man in whose veins the blood royal runs may serve as faithfully and as ably as those of lesser birth. The wish of the Empire is that His Royal Highness may be long spared to enjoy the leisure his self-sacrificing devotion to that Empire so richly merits.

The new king, it appears, has spent a lifetime in the army, is an experienced soldier, and is keen on improving and bringing to an efficient standard the forces of Afghanistan.

He knows, declares this Peshawar correspondent, that on this army as on nothing else depend the peace of Afkhanistan and the stability of the Government. Turning to educational matters, we find that:

"King Nadir Shah has lost no time in re-opening schools for boys. The education of girls is for the present out of the question.

"He has not laid down any clear line of policy with regard to the system of education in Afghanistan, but so far as I am aware, the system comtemplated by him will differ in many respects from that adopted by ex-King Amanullah.

"Although he believes that it is necessary for the Afghan youth to learn European languages, he prefers Russian and English above all others, and he is perfectly justified.

"British India and Russia are both Afghanistan's immediate neighbors, and it is with these two Powers that Afghanistan has to deal politically, socially, and economically.

"Why then should the Afghan youth be ignorant of the languages of their neighbors and let the vast field of literature, science, arts, and politics provided in these two of the world's best media remain unexplored?

"King Nadir Shah is believed not to be in facor of sending to Europe boys of tender age. He favors the saner policy of having the children educated at Kabul until they grow up and complete a standard at home not less than that of the matriculation in India. Only after such preliminary education will the boys be sent to Europe. At present there is no such item in King Nadir Shah's program, for the education budget hardly covers the expenses necessary for education at home."

Out On His Feet

Somebody has pricked the enormous bubble that was Primo Carnera. It now appears that the giant Italian's pseudo-triumphant tour of the United States has been nothing more than a clossal fake from the beginning. His opponents have fallen before his great reach and windmill arms like wheat before a scythe. Some of them, indeed, timing their falls inaccurately, tumbled to the mat before the huge Carnera's fist established contact with their chins. One held off for six rounds, which was not at all according to schedule, so one of Carnera's seconds went round to the opposite corner and whispered magic in the obdurate boxer's second's ear, with the result that the towel went into the ring instead of Carnera. As a result, his license and that of his manager have been cancelled, and now he can only fight in Alaska, the Panama Canal Zone, and the Hawaiian Islands, in American territory.

HEARTACHES

Let us awaken to the divine privilege of sharing the heartaches of our friends; of the meaning of good fellowship; of that independence of spirit that does not imitate; of courage and pride that can endure adversity with dignity, and without fear.

COURTESY

Give the other fellow a chance to talk. He'll appreciate the courtesy and you may learn something.

An architect thinks that the small houses now being built could be much improved. For one thing they might be arranged so that the rooms would fold into the walls when not wanted.

Blood-Spilling In India's Revolt

Gandhi's "Soul-Force" Campaign for Independence Runs Into British "Velvet-glove" Policy in India

Then "violence" and "the iron hand" appear.

Attempt to make a news-reel of widely scattered developments in huge Indian provinces, following the Mahatma's solemnly defiant "salt party," as told in the dispatches, would show at least:

Weazened Gandhi, on speaking tour, preaching non-violent civil disobedience, even to death for it. Individuals and crwods disobeying the salt law by making and selling salt in many places. Mrs. Gandhi, minus Carrie Nation violence, leading groups of women to persuade natives not to use liquor or patronize liquor shops. Other bands of women on picket duty in the boycott of foreign-made cloth-shops. Importing merchants joining boycott for a year. Thousands of demonstration marchers in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi streets singing the official Nationalist song "Bande Mataram" ("Hail Motherland"), but also "The Wearing of the Green." "Hartals"—both orderly and disorderly general cessation of work in factories, schools, exchanges, and business houses. Protesting crowds outside trial courts, as well as strikers, throwing stones in conflict with police. Riot fatalities and arrests by the score. Hunger strikes among salt-making prisoners.

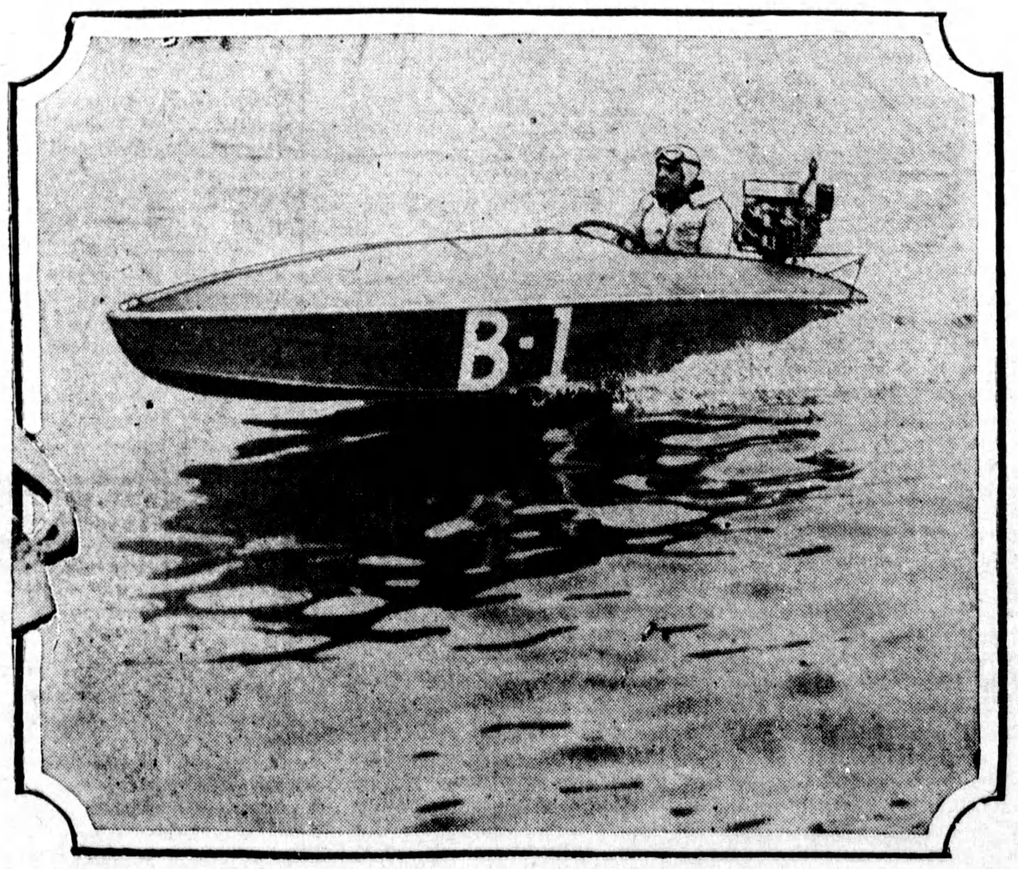
Martial law prevailed in cities where protest meetings and general strikes had been called and broken up. Then a band of revolutionary raiders attacked Chittagong a river port of Bengal, looted the armories of the police and auxiliary forces, killing seven persons, and fled back to the hills. Whereupon troops from Calcutta were ordered to the scene for pursuit, and Viceroy Lord Irwin reimposed the ordinance enabling Bengal authorities to arrest and intern suspects without warrant or trial. Thus emerges "the iron hand."

News dispatches come from a few city-centers and may be subject to censorship, yet they give the impression of spreading revolt, subject to many cross-currents. Correspondents report:

"Nationalist campaigners adapt propaganda methods learned from Soviet Russia and China revolutions. There are more kinds of revolt than ever previously attempted in India—economic, educational, religious, social, feminist, and political. Communist leaders attack Gandhi's disobedience program as futile and visionary. Some Moslem leaders refuse to co-operate. A caste anti-revolutionary party has appeared. Ruling Princes of native States have come together seeking additional privileges from Government. Besides Viceroy Lord Irwin's strategy in refusing immediately to make Gandhi a martyr, but interning his chief lieutenants and taking necessary military measures to suppress 'riots," it is surmised that the report of the Simon Investigation Commission, withheld for two years in London may be thrown into the ring for a compromise settlement, short of independence at an opportune time."

Most of our papers find it difficult to understand how Gandhi's psychology can possibly win, although many continue to emphasize its amazing character, and hedge enough to suggest that what wouldn't go in the West may or may not go far in the East. Uncertain editors agree that the one certainty seems to be that Britain has one of her hardest empire nuts to crack.

Wins 133-Mile Dash For Sputtery Sea Fleas



THESE INTERESTING SMALL CRAFT ARE GAINING WIDE POPULARITY

J. E. Wilkinson in his outboard, after winning 133-mile race down Hudson river, from Albany to New York, in record time of three hours, 27 minutes and three seconds.

Chicago's Amazing Gang Merger

Amazement Greets the Announcement that Chicago's Gangs Have Amalgamated to "Reduce the Overhead."

"To the man in the street it will seem curiously fantastic that 'Al' Capone and "Bugs' Moran, notorious leaders of notorious gangs, should have the hardihood to perfect a merger of their criminal interests, and tell Chicago all about it," declares the Portland Oregonian.

It does seem incredible, but the Chicago Herald-Examiner assures us that "the erstwhile violent leaders of the half-world armies have arranged to pool their interests and their forces, to amalgamate into one mighty syndicate for the 'orderly' control and operation of gambling, booze, and vice." And Capone, we are told, "has elected himself unanimously — and without opposition—to the chief of all the works."

"All for Al and Al for All"—that is the slogan of the new combine, according to The Herald-Examiner, which then proceeds to tell us more about this strange development in Chicago's "racket":

"Under the terms of the agreement the gang coalition contemplates maintenance of what might accurately be described as a 'community chest.'

"Into this chest will be poured all of the earnings of all of the gang's units—earnings from vice resorts, from gambling tables, from whiskey and beer distribution, and from labor rackets.

"Out of the chest will come the protection funds required, and, it has been decided, these fees will not be scattered indiscriminately, as heretofore, but will be paid to certain designated individuals, powerful enough to keep off the petty graft colectors."

"The amalgamation of interests now supposed to have been effected was a characteristic Capone coup," writes Owen L. Scott, Chicago correspondent of the Consolidated Press Association. "It means reduced overhead and enhanced profits, inasmuch as the maintenance of private armies is about the costliest feature of the gang business. Good gunmen draw about $100 a week and keep. The number of men on payrolls could be cut sharply with peace."

Close behind this news came the announcement, in the Chicago Tribune, that Capone, who recently completed a year's term in a Philadelphia jail, was "seeking new realms of profit, and had invaded the stronghold of political patronage, planning to seize public jobs, public contracts, control of budgets, and the power that attends it all." Reading further:

"The plan, as it has been described, has been to have a Capone man appointed commissioner of the Bureau of Plumbing, with power to hire and fire the city plumbers, to create restrictions and rules for building installations, resulting in a czardom over all plumbing work in the city."

Meanwhile, Capone men were reported to be "muscling in" on the labor unions. The police saw a temporary setback in this scheme when a lone gunman entered a barroom and shot to death three alleged members of the Capone gang.

News of the Chicago crime merger seems to shock some of our editors, but most of them write of it in an ironical vein. Thus the New Orleans Item wonders whether it will bring an investigation by the Department of Justice "to determine if the anti-trust laws are violated."

The Economic Crisis in Canada

Review of Reviews (London)): The fall in wheat, wool, copper, cotton, and other products will not in itself prove to be a bad thing eventually; but, temporarily, its effects are disastrous. It has caused serious embarrassment to the chief producing countries like Argentina, Canada, and Australia. In the first-named country the gold standard has had to be suspended for the time being, but that country, unlike Canada through its wheat pool, was wise to sell its wheat and other products at whatever prices they would fetch. Canada unwisely decided to hold wheat off the market in the hope that the price would improve. The opposite has happened and the situation in Canada is serious. The funds of the banks are tied up in wheat, etc., and the resultant credit strain is serious. It is the more serious owing to certain scandals which the Canadian authorities are trying to hush up.

Public and Private Enterprise

Lord Melchett in the Windsor Magazine (London): It is hard to see how the efficiency of production could be increased simply by the industry being conducted by Government departments instead of private individuals (and there are very good reasons which indicate that it would actually be less efficient), although I agree that the efficiency of production in this country at present is not on the highest possible standard. Nevertheless, the whole issue between "private enterprise" and "public enterprise" seems to be tremendously over-exaggerated. After all, the vital question is not who is conducting industry, but how is industry conducted; not one of political theory, but one of industrial expediency.