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REDUCTION IN COST OF GOVERNMENT

For many years there has been an insistent demand from many sections of the community for a drastic reduction in government services in Canada. With the taxpayer groaning under the terrific burden of ever-mounting levies, attention has been turned towards this subject of duplication in governmental operation.

And there is no section of the community that would welcome the use of the pruning fork more than the farmers of Ontario. They are, without a doubt, paying heavily for the right to lose money farming. Therefore, it was with pleasure that most people picked up their morning papers a few days ago and read the statement of Premier Hepburn that he proposed to lay before the Dominion government a plan to eliminate duplication of services maintained by both governments. Mr. Hepburn was not making a political speech when he delivered this address; he was giving his own opinion as a public administrator charged with the responsibility of collecting money from the public and spending it on maintenance of public services.

There is no doubt about the need for such a reform. A saving of millions could be effected if there were mergers of inspector branches in the health, labor and agricultural fields. The Dominion provides machinery to do exactly the same kind of work that Ontario does. Why hasn't something been done up to now? Well, there is the hoary question of precedent. It just never has been done before that's all.

But the Toronto Evening Telegram, staunch Conservative organ and arch-enemy of the Hepburn regime, said editorially the other day, in commenting on the Premier's address, that it was an excellent idea and one which should be followed up by action. And it said that Mr. Hepburn was not noted for his blind allegiance to precedent and that in this case it was a good thing that he did not have fears of breaking new ground. To have the Telegram approve anything said or done by the Liberal regime is surprising, to say the least. That newspaper has been the most energetic critic of all, and never hesitates to say in very plain language just what it thinks of Premier Hepburn, his government and the policies enunciated.

Mr. Hepburn has the right idea. Anything that will tend to lower the volume of taxation will be greeted by three hearty cheers and a tiger from the populace. They could stand some relief themselves. But the big problem is to get the Dominion government and the other provinces of Canada to agree. When the Premier pays his visit to Ottawa on December 9th to attend the inter-provincial conference on finances, he will lay his plan before the delegates and seek to obtain their endorsement.

UNEMPLOYMENT IS DIMINISHING STEADILY

Substantial improvement in Canada's employment situation, arising from the increase in foreign trade and the efforts of the National Employment Commission, are indicated in statistics supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Labour.

October employment figures gathered by the Bureau from 10,020 firms in Canada showed working staffs aggregating 1,044,178 persons. This was an increase in regular employment of 28,539 over October 1st, 1935. A Bureau report states:—

"The most outstanding features of the October 1 survey of employment were the unusually pronounced increases in manufacturing, in which the co-operating establishments absorbed nearly 15,600 additional workers, and in logging which directly provided work for 16,700 more persons than at September 1st. The expansion in each of these industries was greater than at October 1 in any other year for which statistics are available."

Improvement Nation-wide

Analysis of the September employment figures shows improvement evident in each of the Economic Areas of Canada. Using the calendar year 1926 as normal for an index number of 100, the area indexes for September were:—Maritime Provinces:—114.4; Quebec:—103.0; Ontario:—108.1; Prairie Provinces:—107.4; British Columbia:—109.3 and all Canada:—107.1.

The comparable analysis according to chief industries shows the following index numbers:—Manufacturing:—105.9; logging:—82.7; mining:—104.2; communications:—86.0; transportation:—89.4; construction:—109.0; services:—137.5 and trade:—126.3. Although three of the industries are still below 1926 levels, each of them showed improvement over 1935.

Latest trade union reports to the Department of Labour, place unemployment among their membership at 10.8%, compared with 14.2% a year ago, and 21.4% in August 1932.

Most recent reports from employment offices in Canada show the following:—

Workers placed during month:—	
Men	23,082
Women	7,569
Total	30,651
Regular employment provided ...	21,646
Casual employment provided ...	9,005

The number of persons receiving public relief has been declining steadily. There was no intelligent collection of relief statistics prior to December 1935 and, so, authoritative comparisons are practically impossible. Last December a comprehensive system of data collection was inaugurated by Hon. Norman Rogers in co-operation with provincial relief officers. Statistics for that month showed 1,212,262 persons in Canada on relief. The comparable figures for July 1936 showed a decrease of 148,716 relief recipients.

The King government has regarded unemployment as its most serious administrative problem since assuming office last October, and has endeavoured to meet the problem with rational methods. Temporary measures to ameliorate the lot of the families of unemployed Canadians were adopted at the 1936 session of Parliament in the form of budget grants totalling many millions of dollars for relief expenditures.

Last winter the government announced that it had made arrangements with the two transcontinental railways for the employment of more than 10,000 single men, and largely upon the basis of this deal the government was able to close down the "relief camps" on July 1st.

The government's chief arm in the attack on the un-

employment problem is the National Employment Commission, which was set up under parliamentary authority last session and commenced operations on June 1st, 1936. The function of this commission is to advise the government upon practical methods of providing work with wages for presently unemployed persons. The Commission, recognizing that provincial authorities are closest to the actual problem, co-operates fully with unemployment and relief bodies set up by the provinces.

Since the Commission assumed office last June more than four hundred individual proposals have been placed before it by persons and organizations interested in the employment problem and every one of these proposals has been considered and investigated by the Commission.

One of the most successful of the Commission's recommendations has been the Farm Improvement and Employment Plan for winter employment. Under this plan work is being provided in farm homes throughout Canada for men and women who are unable to find regular employment through the winter months. Each worker is paid five dollars a month, with provision for a bonus if he remains on the farm for a stated number of months. Suitable clothing and transportation are also provided. Each co-operating farmer receives five dollars a month for each worker provided for by his establishment. Under this plan the worker receives employment, home life, healthful working conditions and a small grant of cash. The farmer receives the services of a worker to assist in improvement of farmstead conditions and a small cash grant to help defray boarding costs.

Home Improvement Plan

Second major recommendation of the Commission which the Government has accepted is the "Home Improvement Plan." The chief aim of this activity is to stimulate the construction industry and its affiliates by assisting present and prospective home owners to repair, modernize or build dwelling premises. This end is being achieved through the extension of federal government financial assistance to those who wish to secure loans for housing purposes. The plan has met with universal approval throughout Canada, and estimates as to the value of construction which will flow from it vary from \$50,000,000 to \$200,000,000.

Youth Employment Committee

A special Youth Employment Committee has been appointed by the Government to work with the National Employment Commission on matters particularly concerning the placing of young people in suitable employment. According to press reports the Youth Committee is about to recommend far-reaching schemes of reforestation, rural rehabilitation and industrial apprenticeship.

Under the terms of the legislation creating the National Employment Commission provision is made for the appointment of a special Women's Employment Committee. This committee has been named recently and is now engaged in making a special study of unemployment among women.

WITH THE LITTLE FOLK

THE RESCUE

When Neepawa knew his father would be coming home through the woods, he would stand in front of the tepee and call like a robin and his father would answer like an owl—"too-who, too-who, too-who!" Sitting around the fire later, Big Chief would tell his son Neepawa stories of the bear and the deer, and other furry people of the woods.

One night Big Chief promised he would bring him home a baby deer for a playmate, with great brown eyes and ears that were wide open.

All day he watched, and in the evening came word that Big Chief was lost. "I shall find him," said Neepawa, and taking the hand of an Indian brave he set forth. Many hours they wandered through the vast forest. When it was night again they came to a place where the great hills rose to meet the clouds. "Hush, I hear a sound," said Neepawa. "It is a baby deer crying because it is hungry," replied the Indian brave.

They went on and on. "Hush, I hear a sound," said Neepawa. "It's the rain falling on the stones," he replied. "It is a man trying to light a campfire," said Neepawa.

"Hush, I hear a bird hooting," said Neepawa. "It is only an owl," answered the brave. "No, No! It is my father," shouted Neepawa. On they went, and Neepawa kept calling like a robin, and the answer came back—"too-who, too-who."

At last they found him. The Big Chief had fallen down the stony mountain side with a baby deer in his arms, and had broken his leg. Very carefully and tenderly they brought him back to the tepee.

After many days, Big Chief was strong again, and one day he called Neepawa to him.

"Neepawa," he said, "you are a brave boy. After this you shall be called 'Little Chief,' and taking his great crown of feathers from his head he placed it on the boy's head. All the Indian boys and girls came running through the woods, calling: "Little Chief, Little Chief! Neepawa shall be our Little Chief, and teach us to hear the little rabbits in the grass and to sing like the birds in the trees."

NOT A BAD IDEA!

Doctor — "Your husband must have absolute quiet. Here is a sleeping powder."

Patient's wife—"And when do I give it to him?"

Doctor — "You don't give it to him—you take it yourself."

If you don't believe in co-operation, consider the banana—every time it leaves the bunch it gets skinned.

BIG GAME HUNTING
 Before the game begins, cut out pictures of animals and birds from advertisements in old newspapers and magazines. Cut each picture into sections—arms, legs, head, body and tail—and put all the pieces into a box.
 Shake the box well and then pass it around, inviting the players each to take one piece, until the box is empty.
 The game is for each boy or girl to form an animal with the pieces they have drawn. The funniest animal wins.

The old gag that married folks don't live longer than single ones—it only seems longer—is the bunk. Insurance statistics for the United States and Canada reveal that married men and women actually do live longer than single persons and that married people register lower death rates from nearly all the important causes of death than do bachelors and spinsters.

Canadian National Money Orders for sale at Herrington's Office — quick service — no waiting.

VILLAGE OF RICHMOND HILL TREASURER'S SALE OF LANDS IN ARREARS OF TAXES

By virtue of a warrant issued by the Reeve of Richmond Hill dated the 10th day of August, 1936 and to me directed, commanding me to proceed with the collection of arrears of taxes, together with the fees and expenses, I hereby give notice that the list of lands liable to be sold has been prepared, and is being published in the "Ontario Gazette" under the dates of September 1st, October 1st and November 1st, 1936 and that, unless the said arrears of taxes and costs are sooner paid, I shall, on the 15th day of December, 1936, proceed to sell the said lands to discharge the said arrears of taxes and the charges thereon.

The sale will be held on the above date at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon in the Municipal Hall in the Village of Richmond Hill. Copies of said List may be had at my office.

A. J. HUME,
 Village Treasurer.
 Dated at Richmond Hill, August 20, 1936.

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The Best Things in Life

IT'S EASY to say that "the best things in life are free." But think a moment. Aren't the things you value most the ones you've worked and planned and saved for?

This very day, perhaps, you're looking forward to making some purchase that will mark another milestone in satisfaction and achievement. It may be something comparatively costly, like a new home—a car—a vacation spent in travel. Or it may be simply a party dress—set of breakfast china—new curtains for the living room.

You can take real enjoyment in the anticipation of such an investment. But be sure the realization doesn't disappoint you. Before you buy, read carefully the advertisements in this newspaper. Consider real values. Weigh the merits of one product against another. Find out where and when you can take advantage of price reductions.

Then buy with confidence. You can always be surer of high quality and fair price when the article you purchase is advertised by a reputable firm.

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