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Ontario Budget The 1959

The 1959 provincial budget tabled recently in the Ontario Legislature offers nothing spectacular and from the government viewpoint it could be considered a safe election budget. It is expected the Frost government will seek a new mandate from the people of this province sometime in May or June.

Taxes remain unchanged, expenditures will rise moderately, and a surplus of \$259,000 on ordinary account is expected. No new formula in the relations between the province and the municipalities is proposed. The grants system will not be altered in principle, and the municipalities will continue to shoulder much of the expenditure for social services and education.

The pressing problem of rising education costs will still continue to plague property owners across the province. Education costs now make up 50 per cent to 60 per cent of the expenditures most municipalities have to meet. This is certainly true in the case of Richmond Hill where education costs in 1958 amounted to 60 per cent of the town's total expenditures. Yet the only important change is that the provincial government will now pay grants toward the cost of cafeterias as well as ordinary classrooms. Harassed ratepayers in the municipalities will scarcely feel the difference.

The new appropriation for construction and maintenance of highways, at

Wake

and Read

every 2,754 people.

Canadians - who rank near the bottom in the world in their amount of reading - have become the target in an unprecedented national campaign to stimulate more active reading.

Supported by people ranging from Prime Minister Diefenbaker to interested volunteers across Canada, the campaign is designed to snap Canadians out of lethargic reading habits. The theme "Wake Up and Read" will be promoted by citizens' committees in hundreds of Canadian communities until the campaign culminates in Canadian Library Week, April 12 to 18.

Its sponsoring group - librarians, publishers and other interested parties formed into a Canadian Library Week Council point out that almost 40 per cent of the Canadian population is not served by a public library, according to the latest government survey. Of the 61 per cent within a library's area, the rate of book borrowing is a lowly 3.4 volumes a year on the average.

Similarly, with one book store to every 18,125 people, Canada ranks four-

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\$261,300,000, is only \$23,000,000 higher than last year. That means the rate of construction will be about the same; there will be no great leap forward. For the increase will do little more than help the government keep pace with Ontario's expanding population.

BUREAU

JRCULATIONS

The budget is symptomatic of Ontario's continuing growth. For the first time, the capital investment and repair expenditure program of the province, municipalities and various commissions will total more than \$1 billion in one year. Last year, the figure was \$950 million. To that extent, the budget is a source of satisfaction. Not so satisfactory is the fact that Premier Frost clearly has no intention of relieving the municipalities of the burden of social welfare and education costs so that local governments, which depend mainly on real property taxes for their revenue, can devote their attention to the services that benefit property.

Budgeting for a surplus, the provincial government can have but a weak case for a revision of federal-provincial tax agreements in Ontario's favor, especially in view of the large deficit faced by the Federal authorities. On the other hand, the case of the poorer provinces may become stronger. Ontario's 1959-60 budget will undoubtedly have a national political impact, the results of which will be watched with interest.

teenth among the world's nations in book shops per capita. By way of comparison, Austria has a book store for

Furthermore, the most recent Gallup Poll on reading habits showed that 32 per cent of those surveyed had not read a book in a full year or more.

"This is a shocking record," says Canadian Library Week Council Chairman Dr. J. R. Kidd, National Director of the Canadian Association for Adult Education. "Sir William Osler used to say that "money invested in a library gives much better returns than mining stock." But it is pretty clear where Canadians put all their investments. A famous editor once wrote that "Canada has the money, but would rather spend it on whiskey than on books." Naturally we know Canadians must spend money on other things than books and libraries, but our aim is to improve the lamentable situation of reading in Canada with an active "Wake Up and Read" Campaign."



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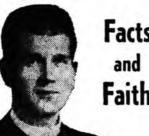
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A Weekly Comment On Christian Life And Action By Calvin H. Chambers -

THOSE GIANTS OF FEAR In our highly sophisticated age we do not believe in literal giants. Fascinating stories of monstrous creatures stalking the earth belong to the realm of childhood fantasy. But while literal giants no longer molest us, there are giants of no less significance. The disturbing fears which take hold of our minds are often more devastating to our morale than many

We have fears of the unknown, of loneliness, insecurity, disease and death. These fears take hold of our minds, taking on gigantic proportions. Some fifty years ago a writer like George Coe could state in a scientific journal, 'Men have ceased to fear, We have our unsolved problems as did our fathers, but they awaken in us little fear." These words were written 54 years ago. Since then the atomic bomb and guided missiles have brought an end to such confidence. Two world wars in twenty-five years with a third one staring at us, has awakened the profoundest and deepest kind of apprehension in men in every walk of life. Everywhere there are people who are fretful, nervous, depressed, sleepless. Our fears are affecting our bodily health, as well as our spiritual

It is only natural then that we should be concerned to overcome the giants of fear, which menace our peace and happiness. How we be victorious in an age which threatens to destroy us. Certainly the Bible has the key

o overcoming fear.

We must first of all face our fears, whatever they are. Fears thrive in darkness or in half darkness. Our fears often lie in our sub-conscious and dog us like shadows. To "speak out" our fears to Christ, is to set in motion the possibility of being freed from them. There are many people who try to master their fears by never thinking of them. This is the futile method of the proverb-ial ostrich with his head buried in the sand. There are those who try to master fears by adopting a proud, defiant attitude. Both methods are bound to fail.

Giants can only be defeated by a power greater than they are Fear can only be destroyed, by love. John reminds us that "per-fect love casts out fear." We must bring our fear burdened hearts to Christ. The power of His expul-sive love is sufficient to put an end to the fears which often torment us.

The next step in mastering fear, is by faith. Now faith by itself is powerless. Faith by itself is like an electric switch not yet plugged in. Faith must be in contact with the source of power and victory. God Himself. Your fears are not too great for the God who has defeated the sin of the world, and has brought life and immortality to light by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Trust in Him, and commit your fears to Him. This is not cowardice, but true childlike-ness. God is able to deliver His trusting children from their fears. David, the Shepherd boy, defeated the great Goliath, not merely with small stones from the brook but with big faith in a Great God In the war for the liberation of

the Netherlands in 1573, the Prince of Orange wrote to Dietrich Sonoy, the governor of the Northern Province, "You ask if I have entered into a treaty with any great king or potentate, to which I answer, that before I ever took up the cause of the oppres-sed Christians in these provinces I entered into a close alliance with the King of kings, and I am firmly convinced that all who put their trust in Him shall be saved by His almighty hand." If such a nobleman as the Prince of Orange found this true in the battle for Holland's freedom, can it be any less true for you and me as we do battle with the fears of life?

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Over Hill, Over Dale by Cicely Thomson

OF OUR INCOMES.

As the male hippopotamus and the female hippopotama sing in their touching love duet by Donald Swan and Michael Flanders: Mud, mud, glorious mud,

Nothing quite like it for cooling the blood . . Alas the automobile and the pedestrian of the order of homo sapiens do not take with such relish to the cooling stuff . . . even if strewn along their way there are bathtub size basins of the stuff . . . and little hand-sized basins of it too, sometimes quite close together, and on ever so many streets . . . you don't even have to go out of your way to find one.

Seriously though, it seems the roads that had \$xx,xxx spent on them when they were built don't develop these small lakes and roads costing \$x,xxx encourage an annual crop of what are unkindly called potholes, which have to be repaired each year at a cost of \$xxx paid by the roads department. The car owner also contributes but indirectly with \$xx on each vehicle after the usual six week period of the hippopotamus wallow effect. If every man in every car could contribute his \$xx towards the initial \$xxx,xxx then the roads would not swallow up an additional \$xxx each year and if x equals \$5.00 somebody could work out which way would be cheaper (adding of course a suitable sum such as \$x,xxx that might otherwise be paid out by the car drivers for medical and psychiatric treatment, and \$x for lost rubbers). As long as nobody mentions the y factor which is bound to have some influence on public

At any time in Richmond Hill being the roads commissioner (if that's his title) must be a thankless job, but from March 1 to May 1 it must be more thankless than at other times . . . and from being more thankless it must reach the pure abusive stage if the winter has been a very bad one, such as the winter of '58-'59.

No matter how good one's frame of mind as one pulls out of the garage by the time one has dodged and jogged and jigged and spludged for half a mile and been subjected to a continual barrage of spraying and splashing and sometimes downright mudshowering from fast moving panel trucks, one's disposition tends to change. And after a mile more one feels ready to join in the mu slinging at the unfortunate who having indicated that he was in some measure secure in public popularity (at the polls in December) was then assigned the "ROADS" and henceforth fought the great fight to retain at least some public support until he could get back to next year's polls and if successful then using his seniority to see that someone else took over the task.

So does it all go back to not having the \$xxx,xxx to spend on the road from A to B in '50, because that same year another two roads (let's say from C to D and one dissecting the A-B road from M to N had to be built . . people were objecting to having land they couldn't get at) had to be built and the one sum had to be cut into three pieces? and the Yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus sentiment does not apply to municipal budgets, seemingly, especially where roads are concerned?

I remember when there was expressed a feeling that there was some discrimination where the new areas of the town were concerned and a civics conscious teacher of one class sent the children out to investigate this. One team of two covered the town by bicycle and announced that there certainly was discrimination . . . you could bicycle anywhere in the "new" areas, the roads were smooth and broad and flat, but oh! dear me! when you tried to get around in the "old" section . . .

What that proved I don't really know, but it did bring once more sharply to mind that it used to be a good thing to use discrimination, it was a sign of balance and clear thinking to be able to discriminate. Now perhaps we'll not be able to use that word for a long, long time it, has a dirty feel to it.

But I keep thinking of that poor roads department. with all the snow and ice still in the ditches and the weather forecaster being pessimistic with "snow at night, changing to rain by mid-morning", and dire forebodings and Cassandra-like prophesyings of what sudden thawings could do, and all the roads department knowing that even if they do have every culvert cleared of ice the roads will still be impassable at the worst of times and impossible on normal days as the deep frost comes out of the ground and the water rises, and the mud thickens and the blood boils and every twentyfour hours brings its quota of angry telephone calls or letters to the editor.

Let's for instance discuss Markham Road . . . oh well, it wouldn't be printable anyway.

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