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Notes and Comments

Bigger Money!

Should the Japanese, Chinese or some other race become strong and influential in Canada, as the French, our dollar bills may be larger to allow still another language printed on them.

Snow Removal Problem Met

There is no law by which the business area of Stouffville could be assessed for the removal of the great piles of snow that are rolled up along the curbing, thereby becoming an impediment to business, unless perhaps it could be authorized as a local improvement and paid for on a frontage basis, something council would not attempt to do. Nevertheless, it is considered a special benefit to the merchant to have the snow removed, as a means of providing better accommodation for patrons of the stores who wish to trade here.

Undoubtedly, women who otherwise might drive into town to transact business, do not do so when the street is narrowed down so that driving a car becomes a difficult job.

Many merchants had signified their willingness to contribute to the cost of this snow removal, and the splendid way in which they have responded, warrants the council in doing the job, and charging up any amount over and above that so generously paid by the merchants to direct taxation.

A wide, clean street, invites business, and is a general benefit to almost everybody, and especially the merchant. The present arrangement is a most amicable one, and will benefit the town in general.

The council's effort to plow the roads is meeting with general satisfaction, judging by the favorable comment heard from so many.

Story Has Swung to Full Circle

The story has swung to the full circle and closed. Seven years ago, the Aquitania sailed from the ancient port of Halifax with the first Canadian troops aimed at the heart of Hitler's expanding Empire and now the Aquitania has returned to Halifax with the last Canadian contingent coming home. The job is done. Hitler lies dead, his forces shattered, and mankind, freed at last from the bonds of nightmare, slowly, painfully, and with much heart searching, sets to work to build a new world out of the wreckage of the old.

The first Canadian division sailed from Halifax in December, 1939, in five steamers, including the Aquitania. Since those days seven years ago when some 15,000 men were carried into Halifax on 33 Canadian National troop trains, more than 1,200,000 on the way to war or homeward bound were transported by the C.N.R. or 3,000 special trains.

This is only part of the C.N.R. war story. As in the first World War, the heaviest transportation load of materials, as well as men was shouldered by the National System, not only because it is the largest railway in the Americas but because it is the only railway with a direct all-land, all Canadian route to the Atlantic seaboard, a fact of strategic significance.

It was through Halifax that the troops and war materials poured. From Halifax the Canadian National carried such distinguished passengers as Churchill, on two historic visits, the Earl of Athlone and his successor Viscount Alexander, Viscount Montgomery, the Princess Juliana and other notables. Halifax and the C.N.R. made history together. At one end of the story is the special train which left the port in September, 1939, with the survivors of the torpedoed Athenia, at the other end, the special bearing the European delegation to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco in April 1945.

OUR CAPITAL CORRESPONDENT

ville Tribune by M. L. Schwartz.
 Written exclusively for The Stouff-

It is evident now in Ottawa that the fight against inflation in this country is not ended and controls in some directions will be with Canadians in 1947 or until such time as the authorities decide that such measures are no longer essential, even if there are many people who seemed to believe that such controls would die at the beginning of this session.

"If there has been one thing above another that the people of this country have implored this government to watch, it has been to see that prices did not go skyrocketing after this war as they did after the last war," said in Parliament Premier King in support of the Government's price control policy.

"All the indications are that delay from now on in removing controls will cause constantly increasing difficulties," said the leader of Official Opposition, Hon. John Bracken, in discussing controls. "The moral of this is that the sooner these hindrances to production can be removed, the sooner we will get the advantage of free and full production. Until then we shall have the constant irritation of a series of price rises." However, rents, export controls and things of that sort, in modified form, had to be given careful consideration and retained, if necessary.

While no specific information is available exactly when the 1947-48 Budget will be presented in Ottawa yet it is said in usually well-informed quarters on Parliament Hill a strenuous effort will be made this year to bring down this Budget earlier than last year when it was offered on June 7 amidst much dissatisfaction.

The Canadian Government, which has completed 50,000 housing units in 1915 and 60,000 in 1916, is plann-

ing to attain the objective of 20,000 housing units for 1947. This has been disclosed in Ottawa.

The Royal Commission on Coal, in its majority opinion, has declared that production subsidies should be withdrawn completely on the abandonment of price control but in separate reports, Mr. Justice Carroll and Mr. Morrison agreed special wartime financial assistance to the Nova Scotia industry should be continued for a limited time by the Federal Government, if the companies will rehabilitate their operations.

"Indeed, I fear the exodus from Britain to Canada would be intolerable if the gates were opened," said in Ottawa Canadian-born British M.P., Beverly Baxter. "Canada was proud to share the fortunes of war with her Allies," emphasized External Affairs Minister St. Laurent in Parliament. "She expects to share with them also the task of making a just and lasting peace." "We then took recourse to individual negotiations with the provinces and we have met with some measure of success," said Finance Minister Abbott about Dominion-Provincial taxation discussions. "The Canadian Council of Churches is not an instrument of union but of co-operation," stated Very Rev. Dr. John W. Woodside in speaking at a meeting in this capital.

It is evident here that many members do not like the doubling up or two-to-the-office basis in Parliament due to the lack of offices. The clothing shortage has been brought close to the House of Commons when the new Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod for the Senate, Maj. C.R. Lamoureux, found that his tailors could not complete his dress suit in time for the opening ceremonies.

(Reproduction Prohibited, 1947. Federal Features Syndicate)

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Decision Must Be Made

Some important points were raised recently by F.A. Gaby former chief engineer of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission, in discussing the proposal to change all power circuits in Ontario to 60 cycle. His main objection was on economic grounds. Mr. Gaby's long experience with Hydro affairs gives considerable weight to his opinions.

There seems to be general agreement on the superiority of 60-cycle frequency over the 25-cycle type from a technical standpoint. Those in the know say that most industrial processes can be performed more efficiently with 60-cycle power. The higher frequency gives a more even flow, which increases the efficiency of the equipment used. Furthermore, 60-cycle equipment is considered standard and therefore cheaper and more readily available.

The discouraging part of the change-over is the cost. It is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$200 million. Very often the completed job runs in excess of the original estimate. It is an expenditure that should not be undertaken until the project is studied carefully from every angle.

Fog on the Financial Front
 (Family Herald and Star)

It is very difficult just now, to pierce the fog which surrounds the financial battle-front in Canada. One of the chief difficulties is that the activities themselves are so many and so intermingled, that they cannot be separated.

The hugely swollen pay-rolls of the Dominion Government, its enormous expenditures, and the half-hearted nature of the efforts being made to reduce them, are among the main points to be examined. Closely tied up with them are the long drawn out and confusing negotiations between the Dominion and the various Provinces. Intimately affected by both these points is the whole subject of taxation.

It is reasonable, and we believe just, to remind all concerned, whether actively engaged in these negotiations, or merely passively suffering from taxation, that these three subjects cannot be dealt with separately.

Provincial and Dominion Governments do not seem to realize the flimsy unreality of much of their talking and negotiating. To read the newspapers, one might suppose that it was Governments of different countries which were negotiating! One might also suppose that all these Governments were taking the money they are bargaining with from some newly discovered hoard of gold, and that the only question was who was to have how much!

When we read the accounts of these negotiations we should never forget that all these different Governments represent the same body of people,—the citizens of Canada. Do not let us forget, either, that no new mountain of gold has been discovered,—that there is only one source of the money for which these ten Governments are squabbling, and that is us,—the workers and taxpayers of Canada.

And in this connection, it is well to remember also, that even we, the tax-payers, have no money. We only have our labor and our brains. All the money which the Dominion is "giving" to the Provinces, represents nothing whatever except so many hours of labor by men and women who are citizens of those same Provinces, as well as of the Dominion!

While there may, and should be, a certain transference of wealth from the richer central Provinces to the handicapped Western and Eastern ones, this is a comparatively small matter and does not affect the argument that we are all one body,—that we are arguing about taking money out of one pocket and putting it into the other, that any money spent or "given" or "received" by the Dominion Government or a Provincial Government, is merely hours which we, the tax-payers, will have to work without getting any wages for ourselves!

County Tax Rate Down Slightly

But County Reverts to Issuing First Debentures in 15 Years

York County tax rate for 1947 is slightly lower than 1946, because items of expenditure were placed on debenture issue, one for roads, and one for an addition to the South York registry office a slight reduction in the 1947 tax rate was revealed in the finance committee's report to County Council last week.

The general purpose mill rate was set at 5.19, a reduction of .26. The equalized assessment for 1947 upon which the reduced mill rate was set amounted to \$170,808,430. This figure gave a proposed mill rate of 4.60. Special hospital grants amounting to .59 of a mill raised the final rate to the 5.19 mark.

Reason for the reduction was attributed to the fact that debentures for a five-year period have been issued resulting in a \$35,000 reduction in levy this year.

Debentures were issued to cover road construction amounting to approximately \$75,000 as well as an addition to the South York Registry office estimated at \$51,000.

The total budget for the year, \$936,857, will allow for expenditures of \$785,718 for county purposes. It was stated the county completed 1946 with a surplus of \$48,741, with no outstanding bank loans at Dec. 31.

The year 1946, the report added, is the 14th consecutive year in which the county has balanced the budget. During the 14-year period the net debenture debt has been reduced approximately \$1,100,000.

The 1947 budget for the Toronto and York Roads Commission was estimated at \$419,592. A \$1,500 increase in the grant to the Royal Winter Fair increased the grants to agricultural societies to \$4,150. Council also voted a \$3,000 increase in the grant to the York County Hospital at Newmarket.

Grants to the York County secondary schools were increased this year. The schedule submitted by the chairman of the finance committee, Reeve Hugh Griggs of Mimico, called for a budget of \$172,816 as compared with the \$142,873 required for 1946.

A break down of county expenditures for 1946 was as follows: Toronto and York Roads Commission, 02.93 per cent; capital hospital grants, 15.90 p.c.; Children's Aid Society, 14.57 p.c.; education, 12.93 p.c.; debenture debt, 8.89 p.c.; administration of justice, 7.72 p.c.; hospitalization, 6.23 p.c.; municipal government, 1.86 p.c.; House of Refuge, 1.49 p.c., and registry office, 1.39 p.c.

New Playings! Friday and Saturday, Feb. 14-15
"STRANGE TRIANGLE"
"MASQUERADE IN MEXICO"

Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 17-18
"Road To Utopia"
 Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, D. Lamour
"MOTHER-IN-LAWS' DAY"
 Edgar Kennedy Comedy

"FOTO-NITE"

"Tomorrow is Forever" Thursday!
 Claudette Colbert, Orson Welles
\$165.00 OFFER!

Wednesday and Thurs., February 19-20

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21-22
"BLACK BEAUTY"
 Mona Freeman, R. Denning
"HOT CARGO"
 Wm. Gargan, Phillip Reed

STOUFFVILLE STANLEY Theatre of the Stars!

Coming! Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 24-25
"KID FROM BROOKLIN"
 Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo

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