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**Notes and Comments**

**Reserves are a Good Thing**

Last week the town of Lindsay authorized the sale of \$10,000 worth of bonds belonging to their hydro system, in order to meet increasing capital expenditures. This money was part of savings totalling over \$50,000, which, had such savings not been accumulated, a loan would have had to be negotiated, with its attendant added costs.

Over the past two years Stouffville Hydro System found it necessary to deplete reserves of \$19,000 to something like \$11,000, the money spent being for capital outlay. It's a fine thing to have a reserve at a time like this, when every municipality is expanding, which calls for capital outlay.

There was a good deal of criticism levelled against the H.E.P.C. by municipalities in the past years for forcing the councils or local commissions to lay in a reserve, but the wisdom of that move is now proven to have been a wise and prudent one.

Stouffville water works has a small reserve of \$5,000 or \$6,000 which could all be spent in one year if the necessary expansion of the system could be proceeded with at this time. The new rates effective with the next billing should provide more working capital, so that the system may be brought more nearly up to standard.

**Not Ready For It**

Health insurance on a comprehensive basis is not likely to be adopted for some time to come because Canadian hospitals cannot meet the needs even under present conditions, let alone the vastly expanded needs that would result from a system of state health insurance.

Health Minister Paul Martin gave some idea of the magnitude of the problem that will have to be solved to meet present requirements. Answering a question in the House of Commons, he stated that 27,000 more hospital beds are needed. Of this number 8,000 are needed for acute cases that cannot wait to be treated.

In addition to the shortage of beds, there is the shortage of nurses. It is estimated that nearly 9,000 more nurses are needed to meet present requirements. Also the number of doctors, especially in some parts of Canada, is far below minimum community health standards.

**Let the Lash Speak**

One cannot help but wonder what the world is coming to. Things are badly out of joint not only in the international scene but also in our own country.

In Canada, normally a country where violent crime is comparatively rare, we are witnessing an epidemic of hold-ups. And this at a time when there are employment opportunities for all who want to work. There are in our midst lawbreakers who prefer to prey upon society rather than do an honest day's work. They will employ desperate means too, in order to gain their evil purposes as was shown by the slaying of a guard in the attempted robbery of a bank at Ailsa Craig.

After the First World War a wave of banditry swept the country but it hardly reached present proportions. The crime epidemic in those days was reduced noticeably when the courts began meting out lashes to those convicted of armed robbery.

A warning should be sounded by the courts of the land that the lash awaits those who persist in making a dangerous living by pointing a gun. The holdup gentry must be made to understand that crime does not pay.

The lash brought those with criminal intent to their senses on a former occasion. No doubt its more general use would do so again.

**Who Sets Tax Levels?**

There is a great deal of truth and sense in this editorial from the Windsor Star which says:

"Many people can well take to heart the lecture delivered by Hon. Douglas C. Abbott, in which he laid responsibility for tax levels on the people. For the second time during the budget debate, he became rather severe with those who clamor for extra governmental services, and at the same time demand reduction in levies. Obviously, this is a senseless attitude, but one that is exemplified by entirely too large a proportion of our population.

The government, however, cannot slough off all its own responsibility in this way. Mr. Abbott probably went a little too strong on the unreasonable demands of the taxpayers. He said too little about other factors bearing on the load that is laid on the citizens. His lecture was good politics, but it was not entirely fair.

The impression to be gained from what he said was that the demands of the people for services have everything to do with tax levels. That is, of course, not so. The government itself can do much to lower imposts, by introducing economies which are entirely within its power.

The cuts in income tax contained in the last budget were substantial. Opposition sniping has lost much of its effectiveness, because, generally speaking, the people are pleased with the savings passed on to them.

But the limit in reduction has certainly not been reached. The government has taken a step toward economical financing, but it still has far to go. There remain too many evidences of extravagance. On this depend further decreases for which we hope in the future.

True, we have, as Mr. Abbott pointed out, many bills from the last war that must be met. Nothing can be done to reduce that indebtedness other than to pay it off as quickly as practically possible, through revenues from taxation.

But the government could rid itself of other effects of the war without the expenditure of a cent. It could divest itself of the extravagant thinking which grew up under emergency conditions. It has been too slow to do that.

We have, for instance, a civil service establishment more than twice as large as in the immediate prewar period. It is ridiculous to argue that this could not be substantially cut, and in this matter, public pressure to maintain the wartime level is virtually non-existent.

The plain truth is that the government has not been able to get back to a peacetime psychology in respect to expenditures. This is its own responsibility, and part of the mental readjustment must show itself in the ability to resist pressure from the people for extra services. We have a right to expect an access of grace in this important field

**OUR CAPITAL CORRESPONDENT**

Written exclusively for The Stouffville Tribune by M.L. Schwartz

Ever since President Truman of the United States visited Ottawa, there has been a flood of rumours in circulation how these two friendly neighbours intend to bring about an even closer collaboration between them in defence, production and finance in order to aid one another in this post-war period not only in their own interests but for the benefit of other "friendly nations," including the United Kingdom as well as other allies in the war. With Canada's supply of United States funds dwindling at an ever-increasing rate and demands for Canadian goods as well as other aid, including financial, growing steadily, some momentous measures are expected here, though up to this time any hints of such possibilities have been merely rumours, including one which received wide circulation lately that United States might assume Canada's wheat contracts with Britain and be paid in U.S. funds and applied against the U.S. loan, though this, it must be stressed, was just a rumour.

"There are in this land today many people who believe that one way of answering world stability in the future, one way of avoiding a third world war, is for the peace-loving nations to have a reasonable degree of unity and reasonable strength," said External Affairs Minister St. Laurent in the House of Commons. "We have had the bitter experience of the late thirties with its policy of appeasement, a policy under which we hardly dared to say 'no' if somebody else shouted loudly 'yes'. We had the bitter experience of that policy, and, therefore, I think a policy of ensuring that we have maximum co-operation and strength in order to maintain a peaceful world by co-operating with other nations which we know to be friendly is a sound and practical course to take."

"Price controls have all gone out of the window but they have maintained the controls behind the scenes that protect the capitalists of this country," charged in the House of Commons a CCF MP, Clarence Gillis. "I am not concerned about the wealth that Canada Packers, Swift Canadian Company or any of the rest of them have. The thing that I have always protested against is the power that they exercise behind the scenes to stop the people of this country from creating new wealth themselves."

A suggestion has been made in Parliament that an excise tax on sales by Canadian manufacturers should be applied instead when the goods are in the hands of retailers since, it is claimed, the present system of taxation caused a pyramid which gave the Government in revenue much less than the consumer paid as a result of the tax, with the proposal being that stamps might be used to indicate that the retailers had paid the tax. However, the Government has rejected this suggestion because it would make the Government deal with a great many more licences. Stamps, in addition, were costly. In fact, the Government had saved about \$40,000 a year by cutting out a tobacco tax that required stamps.

There are strong hints in unofficial quarters in Ottawa that the ration book may be just another wartime souvenir in a relatively short time and this is a reaction here to the recent decontrol and de-

rationing announcement on a large number of items, including food-stuffs such as butter, jams, jellies, etc. Moreover, it is hinted that the end of sugar rationing may come sooner than it is generally anticipated since under the new conditions the usefulness of sugar rationing is disappearing as the de-rationing of jams and marmalades means more coupons will be available for straight sugar buying.

"I came to this country when I was eighteen," said Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell. "I never took a nickel from anybody in this country and I went to work the day after I got here."

"The attack on the trade unions in Quebec is something we cannot afford to ignore, we live too close to Quebec," Col. David Coll, M.P., addressing the Civil Liberties Association meeting in Ottawa.

"The Greek people are eternally grateful to Canadians for the help your country sent us during the war especially because it was given voluntarily and again 'without strings,'" declared Prof. Gregory Asimatis, professor of the law school of Athens and member of Parliament, who visited the capital.

**W.P.T.B. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Q.—I went to the hospital with a broken arm and had to remain overnight and part of the next day. My bill was \$27 which I paid. A week later I received a doctor's bill for \$30. Does the hospital bill include the doctor's fee? Can a doctor charge any price?

A.—Hospital bills do not generally include the doctor's fee. The charge of \$27 would be for your room and meals, nursing care, use of operating room, etc. There is no ceiling price on professional services. It would be impossible to fix a ceiling on any service which depended entirely on individual skill and knowledge.

Q.—Could you tell me how much the cost of living has gone up since 1939?

A.—Since August, 1939, the cost of living has increased by 32%.

Q.—As I have a boarding house would I be entitled to extra sugar for canning? I enclose the numbers of the ration books I hold for my boarders.

A.—When the first canning sugar coupons became valid the questions pour in concerning the use of these coupons. Frankly a ration book belongs to the person to whom it was issued and you cannot remove the canning sugar coupons without permission from the owner. If your boarders remain at your home for six months we feel they should allow you to use half their canning coupons.....if they remain for the year you should have the use of all sugar coupons. However, we must make it clear that these arrangements must be made between you and your boarders as there is no WPTB regulation governing this matter.

Q.—Why do they remove the ceiling on butter when it is already so expensive?

A.—The ceiling was removed in line with the policy of the Government to remove controls as soon as possible. There is a fairly good supply of butter in Canada at the present time and you should not find much, if any, increase in price. During the winter months butter is always less plentiful and it would have been a poor time to decontrol.

Q.—Our church is planning a gar-

Now Playing! Friday & Saturday, June 20-21  
 "Time of Their Lives"—Bud Abbott  
 "Dangerous Millions"—Kent Taylor

Monday and Tuesday, June 23-24  
 "I've Always Loved You"  
 MARIA OUSPENSKAYA AND PHILIP DORN

Thursday!  
 "One More Tomorrow"  
 ANN SHERIDAN AND DENNIS MORGAN  
 Wednesday & Thursday June 25-26  
 \$185.00 OFFER!

Friday & Saturday, June 27-28  
 "TANGIER"  
 Maria Montez—Preston Foster  
 "SEVEN WERE SAVED"  
 Richard Denning—Catharine Craig

STOUFFVILLE STANLEY Theatre of the Stars!

Coming!

den party on Friday, June 27 would we be allowed to sell hot dogs and hamburgs on that day?  
 A.—No.....Friday is a meatless day and you could not serve any meat whatever. Why not sell sandwiches instead.....these could be made up without meat.

ALBERT CHAPMAN DEAD FARMED AT VICTORIA SQUARE  
 Well-known citizen of Richmond Hill and a town councillor in 1929-30, Albert A. Chapman, aged 73, died at his home there last week. Born in Markham village, Mr. Chapman lived there until he was seven. In 1881 he moved to Toronto where he resided until 1900. Resident of New Liskeard in Northern Ontario until 1914 Mr. Chapman was employed by the Bell Tele-

phone Company and by various mines. Following the purchase of a farm at the Square, he lived in that community until 1921. He finally settled in Richmond Hill, where he conducted a trucking business until his retirement four years ago. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Welti, and two sisters, Mrs. Ralph Haight, Glendale, Calif.; and Mrs. William Hutchinson, Detroit, Mich.

**GLASGOW**

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Byer and family of Markham visited with Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Smith on Sunday. Garth Stewart and Shirley Vail of Toronto spent Monday with his parents. Miss Marie Pike spent the week-end with her parents at Sunridge.



**Street CARNIVAL and DANCE**

Under the auspices of the Stouffville Lions Club in

**STOUFFVILLE**

**Wed., June 25th**

**Over \$500 in Lucky Draw Prizes**

Electric Washing Machine, Axminster Rug and other prizes

**BINGO BINGO**

Featuring Lions Bruce Clark and Jack Smits at the Mike.

GAMES

FISH POND

REFRESHMENTS

**Monster Street Dance**

**BILLY HOLE and his LIVE WIRES**

PROCEEDS FOR LIONS WELFARE WORK

Over 5000 feet of excellent Dance pavement

Lion Truman Baxter, Dance Chairman  
 Lion Bruce Clark, Games Chairman.

Lion Telf Rennie Ticket Chairman  
 Lion Elmer Daniels, Street Chairman