

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

Forgotten Tax

The 10 per cent sales tax gets very little notice from the general public, it seems, except when it is charged at the retail level which is done in the case of a printing job. When the printer tells the lady secretary of a church group that those banquet tickets cost here \$3, plus 10 per cent sales tax, her eyes widen noticeably as she exclaims in surprised tones: "Ten per cent sales tax! Is that something new?" The printer carefully explains that the 10 per cent sales tax is not exactly new except that just over a year ago it was eight per cent.

How Maple Syrup Was Discovered

A timely topic these March days is the sap run and other relevant matters. Discussion has even gone so far as to question the legends about the discovery of maple syrup. There seems to be general agreement that the first maple syrup was found by an Indian, but how he stumbled upon it is the point at issue.

One bit of folklore has it that it was discovered by an Indian lying in a hollow on top of a big rock. What had happened was that a great gale had, in the middle of the sap run, broken in two the limb of a maple tree jutting out over the rock. The sap had dripped into the hollow in the rock and the hot spring sun had supplied the necessary heat to make the syrup.

The Midland Free Press-Herald doubts this legend. It points out that the sun would have to heat the rock to 212 degrees Fahrenheit to boil the sap; that there would have to be several pails of sap on the rock and that sap exposed to the sun sours quickly.

We prefer to stick to the Indian tale about Woksis which is flawless and cannot be disproved so easily. It is said that one crisp day in March this Indian brave got up to make a hunting trip. He hefted his trusty tomahawk, tried its edge with his thumb, and whammed it into the trunk of a sugar maple beside his tepee while he had breakfast; then, yanking out the weapon, he went off to do his hunting, while his squaw sat by the fire to embroider a new pair of moccasins.

By and by it was time to prepare dinner. Woksis' squaw had a tasty shoulder of moose, or something to boil, but she had forgotten to fill the water bucket and the spring was half a mile away. Glancing at the maple which Woksis had slashed with his tomahawk she saw that sap had dripped from the wound right into an earthenware container that happened to be standing against the trunk. So she plopped the meat into this bucket of sap and put it on the fire to cook.

After a while Woksis came home, beset with hunger. Dinner was set for him. Behold! Instead of ordinary roe-out of moose, he had a roast deliciously crusted with maple sugar. He ate his fill, congratulated his blushing squaw, and went down to the corner to chant his praises of the new confection which had descended from the trunk of the maple tree.

That was the start of the maple sugar and maple syrup business. At least we like to believe that.

Very Generous of the Government

Canadians who have their income tax deducted at the source received the joyful news the other day that the Government of Canada was going to give them back \$60,000,000 in cash. The government, it seems, overcharged them by this amount when the deductions were being made and now it is offering to refund it upon receipt of proof of claim. This is very generous of it but it would be interesting to know how it justifies the continuance of a system of income tax payments which necessitates all this re-accounting. Many people who have taxes deducted at the source are wondering why this system should continue in effect when it is obviously subject to so much inaccuracy. These people would be interested too, to know why they should be called upon to make a settlement of their income tax before their financial affairs for the year are settled. They would no doubt also like to hear some explanation of why they should have their income tax deducted at the source while all other income tax payers reserve the right to pay their taxes at the time prescribed for settling up.

Is it not a strange set of circumstances in which these people find themselves? They are deprived of the use of their full earnings during the year and forced to bow to the government's demand that they pay their income tax before it is legally due. The hundreds of thousands of dollars which are deducted from weekly, semi-monthly or monthly pay envelopes to cover taxes which are not yet due represents capital which has an earning power, the revenue from which rightfully belongs to the people it is deducted from. But do these people benefit therefrom? Are they allowed so much off their total taxes in lieu of interest on their money as a premium for having paid their income tax in advance? Such a procedure is customary with many lower plane governments which seek to have taxes paid promptly and encourage the taxpayer to do so by offering a discount so why shouldn't the same principle apply to income tax payments?

It would be interesting to know just how many people feel that the government is justified in collecting taxes from them before their due date and without offering any compensation for the hard-earned cash it confiscates.

FOR PARENTS ONLY

(By Nancy Cleaver)

"LETTING OFF STEAM" or OUTDOOR PLAY

Do you remember A. A. Milne's poem "Busy" in which the small boy imagines he is a Muffin Man, a Postman, a Tram, a Traveller, escaping from a bear, an elephant, a Ticket Man, a Doctor, a Nanny, a Puffy and last but not least a Camel? The first middle and last verses are the same and are an excellent description of a child indoors "letting off steam"—

"Round about  
And round about  
All round about I got—  
All round the table—  
The table in the nursery—  
Round about  
And round about  
And round about I go."

(The poem makes no comment on the effect on his mother's nerves while he tramped around the table!)

It is the surplus physical energy of children, small and large, which presents quite a problem to parents. Children in normal health seem to possess spurts of amazing vitality. Boys and girls in excellent condition have a seemingly inexhaustible supply of "pep". Youngsters love activity. They enjoy a noise—the louder the better!

Grownups are often weary after their day's work and they long for a restful atmosphere and quiet. Because children are so different from adults, parents have a tough time renting an apartment or competing with childless couple for living quarters.

What can parents do about the tendency of their children to "let off steam"? It is useless to try to repress it completely. The "heavy hand" tactics result in an angry, rebellious child. Too strict prohibitions are only successful for short periods of time.

Neither can parents completely ignore their child's surplus physical energy. They realize that he is like a young colt eager to gallop around a field. The boy or girl needs to find expression for his pent-up spirits—but mother and dad also need a certain amount of relaxation and peace at the end of the day under the home roof.

If parents could see school children rushing out of school at recess they would realize that this "yen" for noise and activity is found in most youngsters. The scholars come bursting out of the school doors as if they were shot out of guns. They are so glad to be free from adult supervision and restraint that they yell and jump in the air and jostle against each other and run like deer.

Indoors is a poor place for children to "let off steam" unless they have a "rumpus room" or a play area of their own. If because of very bad weather or ill-health a child must play inside, mothers must provide material for play and some supervision to prevent "mad house". The out-of-doors is an excellent setting for children's shouting and play. Quite apart from the benefits of physical exercise in the fresh air and sunshine,

play time out of doors gives children the chance to use some of their stored up vitality. The opportunity to call out and laugh, without incurring the wrath of their parents or other adults gives them a marvellous feeling of release.

Every boy or girl should have an outdoor play space and some durable play equipment. The child on the farm or the youngster living in a village is fortunate in his comparative freedom. Even a little yard at home is a great boon to children and parents alike.

"A place for the children to play outdoors is more important to me than a lovely view" one mother who was house-hunting said frankly. "Children who are cooped indoors are bound to get into mischief and wear out their mother's patience!"

In large towns and cities parks, school and district playgrounds, swimming pools and skating rinks under other responsible sponsorship fill a very great need. In the movement of population from the farms into the industrial centres the necessity for children to have room in which to run and play has far too often been forgotten.

Lack of housing facilities and crowding of families into small quarters has had a serious effect on home life. It is almost impossible for the average family on a small or a medium income, to provide adequate play for their children, especially as they reach the older public school age and enter adolescence.

It is not good for a child to feel that he is a nuisance or in the road when he is playing. If homes have insufficient play area, parents should co-operate with other parents and public minded citizens to see to it that outdoor recreation is provided for.

The chance to "let off steam" in a legitimate way at any age level is one way to secure good emotional health. Some families living in a crowded area cultivate a walking hobby. Mother and dad and the children all delight in going on hikes. Adventuring in the out-of-doors is a satisfying experience.

Skating, skiing, tobogganing, sleigh riding, swimming and boating, roller-skating, tricycle and bicycle riding—the varied outdoors sports of modern youngsters present quite an array. Equipment sometimes seems rather expensive to parents harried by the high cost of living. But supervised athletics is one of the finest channels for physical energy. They build strong physiques and attitudes of good sportsmanship under the direction of trained leaders.

"The busy child is the happy child" is quite true—and it also follows that "the idle adolescent may easily become a recruit for the juvenile delinquent group!" The Germans have an old saying "You can do anything with children if you play with them." In terms of growth and of "letting off steam" the chance for outdoor play is an important part of a child's heritage.

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OTTAWA LETTER

By J. E. Smith, M.P.

Main-interest here in Ottawa as throughout the country centres in the national budget which will be presented by Hon. D. C. Abbott on Tuesday, April 8th.

The national budget, like a household budget, or a business budget, estimates the revenue and expenditures of the coming year, and in this case fixes the extent and nature of the tax levies to raise the necessary money for the ordinary administration of our country's affairs, our defence effort and our numerous social services.

The budget will show a substantial surplus in the present year's operations. This surplus may be the subject of considerable criticism and controversy and there is ample room for debate and differences of opinion on the subject. However it is pretty generally recognized that the present healthy and sound state of the national treasury has contributed greatly to the strength of the national economy. It has reduced the burden of our national debt and strengthened Canada's credit in the eyes of the world. It has indeed been one of the major factors in attracting capital from abroad for Canadian development and enabling the Canadian dollar to rank as one of the strongest currencies in the world today.

Estimates

Canada's national business is now in earnest big business. The estimates of expenditure for the coming year tabled in the House this week totalled nearly four and a half billion dollars.

The estimated expenditures in detail of all departments are presented to the House in a printed volume. The book contains 602 pages of finely printed details of national expenditures planned for next year.

The main estimates total 4 billion 336 million dollars. This represents by far the largest program of expenditure in Canada's history. By far the largest increase is in the department of defence.

Over-all, the three departments directly concerned with national defence—the Defence Department, the Defence Production Department and the National Health and Welfare Department which administer civil defence—are down in the estimates to spend \$2,106,000,000 one-fifth more than last year's \$1,728,000,000 and very nearly one-half of the outlay for the whole government. To this can be added a further \$45,000,000 for the cost of security, atomic research and other defense-angled activities

of other departments.

Once again, the R.C.A.F. gets the lion's share. \$759,310,300, about \$87,500,000 more than last year. The army is up by more than \$72,000,000 to \$531,600,000 and the navy by more than \$38,000,000 to \$268,224,932. Mutual aid for Allied forces in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is billed at \$324,000,000—\$158,000,000 higher.

The air force's biggest item is for aircraft, just over \$223,500,000—but it is some \$27,000,000 lower than last year's estimate. Building comes next, with \$113,500,000 higher by nearly \$11,500,000, reflecting the cost of hangers and barracks for stations that are being reopened; repair and upkeep of equipment is the third biggest item, with \$97,000,000—a massive \$39,000,000 higher than last year. Pay and allowances are fourth, with \$76,000,000, nearly \$11,500,000 higher.

The finance minister now having presented the estimates or accounts to be paid in the year will tell on April 8th how he proposes to raise the money. The extent of the demands for the coming year make it abundantly clear that no substantial tax reduction can be expected.

World Affairs

There is a very definite feeling of increased optimism here regarding the condition of world affairs. Despite this feeling, however the fact is that we still are a long way from being out of the woods of danger. There are nevertheless encouraging signs that the extensive defence preparations of Canada and our allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is paying off in international affairs. If we can avert an outbreak of hostilities the burden of taxation will be more than worthwhile.

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DAYS of YORE

From the Files of The Tribune 29 Years Ago

At the regular meeting of town council Drs. Dales, Free and Ball were on hand and claimed that the post office was a menace to the community and unfit for business. Dr. Dales said that the office was a place to disseminate flu and other diseases while Dr. Free claimed that the building was very drafty.

Monday saw a great change in the weather after the continuous zero spell which lasted nearly all last week. Last week a big battle was waged in town between the Liberals and Conservatives, with the former coming out victors. The argument really wasn't of a serious nature as the setting was in the curling rink, and the fight was waged by means of the usual past time waged in at that place. This has been a record year for curling as there has not been an off day since the season commenced through soft ice. While carrying a piece of heavy machinery, one of our citizens, Cleave Pearson, unfortunately slipped and received a badly sprained ankle with ruptured tendons in the left foot.

On Monday our esteemed citizen, Mr. Isaac Reaman, suffered a slight stroke while at the breakfast table. His one side was affected, also his power of speech, but he is recovering nicely we are pleased to report.

Wm. Lewis who lives on the townline, west of Stouffville is a practical joker, and sometimes develops some real amusement for himself and the neighbors. On April Fool day he prepared a number of five or ten pound bags, filled with cabbage leaves and straw, carefully tied up, and one at a time placed them on the main road from town. The traffic was quite heavy, and the way those bundles were snapped up by passing motorists was astonishing. The joke was kept up until the supply of string for tying them was exhausted. In all the stops made by cars the action was the same—car stopped, motorist jumped out, rushed back and snapped up the bundle; but never stopped to examine it. One man who realized what he had picked up threw it out the door after going a mile or two and it was grabbed up by someone else and carried back to its original starting point.

A horse and cutter belonging to Edw. Cook, west of Stouffville, went through the Main street on Saturday afternoon at a 20 mile clip when the lines broke and the big horse became excited at not being guided in the customary way. A halt was effected before any damage was done.

This week the local stores resume their former custom of opening three nights a week, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The big farm stock sale on Noah Stouffer's place 10th concession Whitchurch was well attended considering the extremely cold day. Total receipts were \$3,300 with cattle selling especially high. Ordinary grade heifers sold as high as \$102.

20 Years Ago

Eggs sold for 14c a dozen on Stouffville market last Thursday, a new low price for some years. One reason for it is that the hens are laying more eggs. Obviously there is no profit when the hens do not lay and also none when they lay too many.

A committee of the Stouffville Bowling League composed of F. L. Button, Jas. H. Ratcliff and W. E. Morden was named to secure plans and costs of a proposed new club house to be erected across the south end of the green. If erected it will include plumbing and kitchen facilities. The 1932 officers are Hon. Pres. F. L. Button; President, E. M. Still; Vice-Presidents, P. Spofford; F. E. Rae; Sec.Treas., W. E. Morden; Assist. Sec., J. S. Dougherty.

A very unusual and serious accident fell to the lot of little Kenneth Hamm, son of Mr. and G. W. Hamm of Whitechurch. The lad was endeavouring to open a knot in his shoe lace with the aid of a table fork, when the fork slipped upward and pierced his right eye over the sight. He was rushed to hospital where it is expected that he will recover.

On Tuesday morning a rather bad accident happened on the 8th concession of Markham when Herman Reesor and his son Frank of the 10th concession were driving north and crashed into Frank Pipher coming out of his lane. Herman Reesor was thrown through the top of his car while Frank was pinned under the wheel. Both cars were quite badly damaged but the occupants were not injured seriously in any way.

Earl Cook, who went south some weeks ago to practise baseball with the Maple Leafs down in Kentucky has evidently been making good according to latest reports.

The accumulation of the win-



Tops For Sports

Buses are the real thing when your school or club is playing a game or having a social evening out of town. They're handy for shows and other events too. If your crowd is large enough, you can make your own schedule with chartered buses.



FARES ARE LOW ROUND TRIP

(Subject to change)

MONTREAL	\$16.15
TORONTO	1.90
HAMILTON	4.05
DETROIT	13.35

Tickets and Information at STOUFFVILLE MOTORS PHONE 170



ter's dirt was removed from the pavement on Main Street on Tuesday afternoon.

Gordon Lehman was one of the many local fishermen to go for suckers last week down in the Rouge River. He came home with a catch of 97.

The unpaid taxes in Markham village amounts to \$900 which compares favorably with the amount outstanding here in Stouffville.

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Under Auspices of  
Stouffville Business & Professional Women's Club

DISTRICT NO. 6, MILK PRODUCERS

Annual Banquet

in the BUTTONVILLE HALL on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH, 1952

GUEST SPEAKER — MR. EVERETT M. BIGGS, Ontario Dairy Commissioner

ENTERTAINMENT — LUCKY DRAWS

7.00 p.m. — Tickets \$1.50

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM DIRECTORS

George Smith, Pres. Don Raymer, Sec'y.