

9. The Chamber at the same time invited its member Boards and Chambers to endorse a similar recommendation and forward its endorsement to the Minister of Finance. During the subsequent three weeks some sixty representative public meetings were held across the Dominion at which in both the larger and many of the smaller centres, the requested action was taken.
10. When the Minister of Finance on April 24th replied to the Chamber pointing out the extent of Government economies, the Chamber again wrote Mr. Rhodes on May 1st intimating, that while acknowledging economy on the part of the Government, the Chamber did not believe that the Federal Budget, although adding to the heavy burden of taxation, indicated that economies had been adopted to the degree necessary to meet the present serious conditions.

The Chamber went further and suggested to the Finance Minister that some Committee along the lines of the May Commission in England might advisably be appointed by the Government, and if so decided, the Chamber would be prepared, if desired, to assist in its selection.

This recommendation was further referred to in follow-up letters to Mr. Rhodes under dates of May 18th and May 31st. To these communications, Mr. Rhodes replied on leaving on June 1st for England:

"....As I am leaving today for London, accompanying the Prime Minister to attend the World Conference, I am simply acknowledging your communications, and may say that the question of expenditure has received, and is receiving, the most careful consideration of the Government."

11. The Minister's address in Toronto on June 1st was widely quoted. The tone of the speech was an indication that Mr. Rhodes was aware of the growing public opinion in favour of economy. He moreover stated that he looked favourably on the work being carried on by The Canadian Chamber of Commerce and its members, and trusted that their good work would continue.
12. The organization of the Ontario Provincial Committee under the auspices of the Toronto Board deserves special noting. A very representative group from the principal centres of Ontario was set up, and the Committee's releases on provincial finances have carried the campaign into every important centre of Ontario and its work has also made a perceptible impression on the Ontario Government and Opposition.

Provincial Committees have also been active in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

13. It is also encouraging to report that various municipalities under the leadership of the Boards of Trade have these last few months instituted special inquiries into their local finance. There may be mentioned: Charlottetown, Kentville, Edmundston, Toronto, Brantford, London, Peterborough, Oshawa, Woodstock, Hamilton, Belleville, Fort Erie, Quebec, Ville Marie, Sherbrooke, St. Boniface, Selkirk, Bassano, Red Deer, Terrace and Prince George.

This work merits special emphasis these coming months.

14. There is reported hereunder the actual reduction in Federal and Provincial Budgets for 1933-34:

Federal Government	\$ 6,227,000	
Budget announcement of		
10% cut on Department estimates	<u>\$14,000,000</u>	\$20,227,000
British Columbia	1,964,078	
Alberta (estimated)	3,000,000	
Saskatchewan	2,146,623	
Manitoba	650,000	
Ontario	14,000,000	
Quebec	5,000,000	
New Brunswick	<u>1,067,000</u>	\$27,827,701
Prince Edward Island estimated increase	82,000	48,054,701
Nova Scotia estimated increase	<u>3,000</u>	85,000
Total estimated decrease		<u>\$47,969,701</u>