

"The Dominion Government proposes to share with the provinces, on a fifty-fifty basis, the costs of any approved programme for the control or treatment of cancer which the provinces may undertake. The grant will be divided on a per capita basis between the provinces....

HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION

"Before Health Insurance can be established on an adequate basis, another development is essential. At the present time there is a tremendous shortage of hospital beds in Canada. If, as the first stage in Health Insurance, hospital insurance were now to be introduced on a contributory basis, the demand that would arise for hospital accommodation simply could not be met. This situation was recognized in August, 1945, when the Dominion Government offered to make available low-interest loans to assist the Provinces in increasing hospital accommodation. Since 1945, the situation has not improved. The shortage still remains, amounting now to an estimated 60,000 beds of all kinds.

"It is felt that the provision of low-interest loans would not at this time be a sufficient inducement to hospital construction on the scale required. Consequently, the Government will seek an appropriation for outright grants towards the construction of additional hospital accommodation. These grants will amount to \$1,000 per bed for active treatment beds and \$1,500 per bed for chronic or convalescent beds.

"One condition which it is proposed to attach to hospital construction grants is that the Province shall match the Dominion contribution or better it, and that the Dominion contribution shall not in any case exceed one-third of the total cost per bed in any project.

"The Government hopes that the provinces and local communities will take the fullest possible advantage of these grants, in order that, with the least possible delay, the deficiency which presently exists in hospital accommodation may be overcome. The Government accordingly is prepared to recommend the appropriation throughout the next five years of the substantial sum of \$13 million annually for hospital construction grants.

"It is estimated that the expenditure for the entire health programme of which I have just given particulars, will require an appropriation by Parliament over the next five years of some \$30 million a year."

CANADIAN IS CHAIRMAN: Progress made during the last two years in freeing air travel from red tape was outlined at the opening of the second meeting of the facilitation division of the International Civil Aviation Organization, Monday, May 17, at Geneva, by Dr. Edward Warner, President of the ICAO Council.

Dr. Warner said that this progress is apparent in that the time spent by aircraft on the ground is now much shorter than two years ago.

Lorne Young, from Canada, was elected Chairman of the Conference which will review progress in ICAO member states in eliminating border crossing formalities, study progress made in implementing ICAO recommendations and discover what difficulties were encountered in bringing the recommendations into force.

CANADA'S GOOD WISHES: The Department of External Affairs released May 20 the text of a telegram sent by the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, to Signor Luigi Einaudi, first President of the Italian Republic. Text of the telegram follows:

"It affords me exceptional pleasure to extend to Your Excellency, on the occasion of your election as first President of the Italian Republic, best of wishes on behalf of the Government of Canada. My colleagues and I look forward with confidence, during your tenure of this high office, to the strengthening of the bonds of understanding and friendship between our two free democracies."

43 YEARS WITH HIGHLANDERS: Quartermaster Sergeant Oscar P. Ardagh, MBE, 60, of Toronto, still serving in the Canadian Army Reserve Force after 43 years with the famed 48th Highlanders of Canada, will receive the first of the new Reserve Army certificates for "devotion to duty during the War 1939-1945," Army Headquarters announced on May 20.

The certificates are being issued to those whose military service was in the Reserve Army only during the Second World War, and records reveal that QMS Ardagh has been a member of the former N.P.A.M. and present Reserve battalion of the 48th Highlanders for the past 43 years, without a break, and is still with the same unit. He was awarded the MBE for his service during the past war and he also has the Efficiency Medal with Clasp.

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vinegar; slight modification of tax schedule applying to matches; exemption of 16mm. projectors from 25% excise tax; exemption of wheel chairs for invalids, hay presses, crushed stone and crushed gravel and one or two other items from 8% sales tax.

No changes in tax on liquor and tobacco.

3. Succession Duties

General exemption increased from \$5,000 to \$50,000, thus relieving 90% of all estates entirely from this Dominion impost;--revenue loss in full year estimated at \$5,000,000.

Limit of 50% of the total estate now imposed on the exemption for bequests to charity removed.