

Pay As We Go

Time to Call a Halt on Borrowing to Finance the War—By John Kennedy

I have been wondering how long the great plain people, the workers of Canada, the tillers of the soil and the local business men in general are going to stand for the suicidal policy of borrowing practically all the money to finance the war.

Great Britain, it is stated, is paying as she goes by a method of direct taxation about 60 per cent. America, according to report is paying about 40 per cent. Canada has done little or

nothing in the way of paying as we go, up to the present time. We now have a debt of over \$1,000,000,000. Every year of war added will mean about \$400,000,000. Interest alone, will soon amount to \$100,000,000 per annum. Then, is it not about time we were starting to "pay as we go." Why do we not pay as we go? We are able to do it and do more if necessary. Then, in the name of all that is good, let us stop so much borrowing and stop

contracting such enormous debts to be met in the future that bear heavy interest and other expenses that mean lost money, besides subjecting the workers of Canada to a continued annual debt for many years to come in paying that interest to a class, many of whom may have done little or nothing to win the war. Those that have done nothing more than buy war bonds have done little or nothing to win the war. It is a well-known fact that many moneyed men put their money into war bonds to escape the income tax, a splendid opportunity for the moneyed men so inclined to escape paying their just share in the defence of the nation!

Surely this is an expensive method of

financing the war, compared with that of a direct tax on all incomes, all wealth as well as all profits, and last, but not least, the taxation of land values and the value of all other natural resources. It has been estimated that a tax of one per cent. on all natural resources will place \$50,000,000 or more annually in our public treasury without any added expenses. Then, is it not plain to be seen that it would not require a very heavy tax on profits and wealth or income to make up the balance necessary to pay as we go? Then we would avoid any further future contracts and have no interest to keep up. In the continued paying of interest for a number of years we will have paid the full amount of the debt, and still owe the greater portion of it.

By a direct method of taxation, every man will have to pay his share, and it will not cost anything like as much to finance the war, and surely, now is the time to pay, when we have such a period of war profits. We will not always have war profits and they cannot stop too soon! We may never again find it as easy to pay as it can be done now. It is a well-known fact that the deposits in our banks are greatly increased over what they were before the war, and it is estimated that since the war started we have in the three western provinces spent nearly \$100,000,000 in automobiles, including oil, fuel and other expenses, and if it had not been for the war the amount spent in automobiles would have been very small. Business all along the line has improved at a tremendous rate and now is the time to pay for the war. It would be well for all people to realize that there will come a time when there will be no war profits to keep good accounts up in the banks. There will come a time when the profits of the farm will not pay interest on the heavy overhead investment that is mounting every day by the rising price of land and the rising price of everything that is necessary to work the land, and we are bound sooner or later to come back to the conditions that existed before the war. Farmers know too well that there was little or no profit before the war, and it must be acknowledged by all sound-thinking men that when the farmers' profits are small all other profits are small, that is, if no person is getting more than his just portion of the general profit.

No man will attempt to justify borrowing practically all the money to pay for the war, and no man will attempt to say that we cannot pay as we go. Borrowing money to pay for the war, means a continuation of the old system of taxing the masses for the benefit of a class. Let us hope the war will stop this barbarous system, and, if it does, then it may be that the war did not come too soon, for nothing short of a war apparently will bring us to realize the injustice of the present economic condition under which we are now living. As Russell, the Irish co-operator, so truly has said in his last book, called "The National Being," "until there is economic freedom, there truly can be no other freedom" and he further says, "judging by past history, there was a time when true brotherhood of man may have existed, but that principle has been departed from many, many years ago. Now, we are struggling as individuals each one for himself, no one caring for the other fellow, and in this individual struggle for existence we are working against a true national spirit, and clearly against divine teaching."

Let us have a direct method of taxing all natural wealth as well as all wealth by individuals over a certain amount by a graduated means that will tax every man according to his means and ability to pay. There may be those who will say "this means 'confiscation.'" Well, we said on December 17 last in no uncertain way: "confiscate life if necessary, as well as wealth," and it would be a bold man that would say nay!

Let us pay for the war as we go. No fault to find with what we have done up to the present time, but it is time for a change. Pay as we go, while we are able to do it. Let our statesmen lead the way.

By this SIGN you will know

the B-H Dealer



If PAINT were paid for in WHEAT

DO not excuse a lazy neglect of painting this Spring by the mistaken view that present paint prices make painting an extravagance. That argument does not bear examination at all—because paint prices are not high, as compared with other necessities. The farmer's wheat, fixed in price at \$2.25 a bushel, will buy more paint today than a bushel of wheat ever bought before. When paint was cheaper, wheat was cheaper; and so with other farm produce and dairy produce too. It all brings more today than in pre-war days. For proper protection of his home exterior—to prevent decay and weather-damage—the farmer cannot afford to neglect his Spring painting; nor can he afford to use cheap paint. It's economy in the long run to use a paint so good as

B-H "ENGLISH" PAINT 70% Pure White Lead (Brandram's Genuine B.B.) 30% Pure White Zinc 100% Pure Paint

This is the paint we guarantee to possess as its important basis the above correct formula.

This formula, printed on every can, and guaranteed over our President's signature, commits us to this standard. High in cost as white lead has become, we must use it in the same proportion as heretofore. To use less of it, would necessitate the removal of the guarantee from our cans—and to do that would injure the reputation that these paints have acquired by reason of their superior ingredients. It is by using pure white lead and pure zinc in such liberal quantities that we have been able to produce a paint that truly excels in covering capacity—and that stands the severe climate test of Canada in a way that spells true economy for all who use it.

Other B-H Products of Sterling Worth

For Interior Varnishing

The name "China-Lac" suggests a china-like finish—and that is just the kind of finish you get from the use of China-Lac—the perfect varnish stain. Being transparent, it preserves the "grain-beauty" of the natural wood—at the same time giving splendid color effects. Easy to apply—not affected by either hot or cold water.

For Staining the Roof

Our "Anchor" Brand Shingle Stains are especially prepared to preserve

wood from decay. Easy to apply—on rough surfaces they give a better effect than paint. Shingles may be dipped or brushed on. Come in 19 different colors.

For Plaster Ceilings and Walls

Use Fresconette—a flat tone oil paint. Fresconette comes in a variety of shades. It is absolutely sanitary, for it may be cleaned with a damp cloth or thoroughly washed at will.

For Varnishing a Floor

Our "FLOORLUSTRE" finishes a floor with a lustrous coating of the most durable enamel. Will stand hardest wear—will not show scratches. Excellent for interior floors. For Porch Floors, Ceilings, Posts, etc., where surface is exposed to the weather, use B-H Porch Floor Paints.

Imperial Barn Paint affords a convenient protection for barn and outbuildings, made of good material, covers well, dries hard, goes furthest and lasts longest.

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