

The Evening Times-Star

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THE BUDGET.

A balanced budget and something to spare, a considerable reduction of the duties on instruments of production in the basic industries, and a reduction in the sales tax including an extensive addition to the free list—these are the outstanding features of the budget speech delivered yesterday by Hon. Mr. Robt. acting Minister of Finance. The changes are too great to suit the Conservatives, and too small to please the extreme low tariff group. They do something for the general consumer, more for the farmer, the lumberman, the fisherman and the miner, but especially the farmer. The sales tax cuts are a measure of relief to the average Canadian. There is no reduction of the income taxes, and no change in the British preference to further promote trade through our own ports. The Minister estimates the taxation relief as amounting to \$24,000,000. He makes a reassuring statement as to the large and steady increase in our foreign trade. The idea behind the principal reductions, as Hon. Mr. Robt. says, is that to promote the prosperity of our basic industries is to promote prosperity for the country at large.

The new budget is a further installment on account, in line with the famous platform on which the Liberals went into power. It will detach some support, but undoubtedly the Government will gain more than it will lose. Already the press comment shows a sharp division of opinion, largely along political lines. There is some speculation to the effect that their budget will tend toward the restoration of the two-party system and divide the country more sharply along low and high tariff lines. There will be general satisfaction over the balancing of the budget and the fact that a surplus is in view. The Government could not stand pat on taxation. It might well have given some income tax relief and given the ports and the railways a bit of help through the British preference.

The general tariff on moving machines, repairs and binders is cut from ten per cent. to six, and this reduction is applied pretty generally to farm implements and machinery and the sales tax on these articles is removed. The old general tariff rate on fertilizers was ten per cent. and they are now made free. The manufacturers of farm implements will get their pig iron, bar iron and steel free in lieu of a drawback of ninety-nine per cent. The reduction on farm implements and machinery is given also to the lumbering, mining and fishing industries in about the same degree.

The sales tax comes off cereal foods, salt and smoked meats, rice and other articles and is cut by fifty per cent. on books and shoes, including rubber footwear. The sales tax generally is reduced from six per cent. to five—and here the cut might well be greater, but it is at least removed from those instruments of production in the basic industries to which a measure of tariff relief is also given.

It is by no means a revolutionary tariff, and the principal objection will come from the implement and machinery manufacturers upon whose complaints a Conservative campaign will be founded.

THE ONTARIO "TOLLGATE."

What has been described as Ontario's "Tollgate" scandal, the provincial end of the Home Bank scandal, has reached a point where all hands and the cook are calling for a still deeper probe and the punishment of the thus far mysterious receivers of secret commissions to the limit of the law. Hon. Manning Doherty, U. F. O. leader, declares that matters have now reached a point where criminal prosecution is both inevitable and desirable, a statement which the Toronto Globe endorses, adding that the people of Ontario are demanding that the guilty be exposed and punished regardless of political or other influences. The U. F. O. executive are asking that the investigation be pushed to the limit, exposing that public morality and the requirements of public life demand it, and that "if the evidence justifies such action then let punishment be swift and sure, and of such exemplary nature as shall serve as an example for a generation to come."

Who got the money? There was \$37,000 in secret commissions, paid by the Home Bank, partly under the Hearst government and partly under the Drury government, in order that this bank might sell the provincial bonds. But who constituted the tollgate? The story of mystery contains some peculiar coincidences. In September, 1923, the Hearst government issued \$4,000,000 ten-year five and one-half per cent. bonds. The Home Bank offered to buy them at 94.46. Hon. T. W. McGarry, Provincial Treasurer, accepted that offer on the day it was made—September 23. The transaction, as Mr. McGarry has testified, was not completed until November 20, after the Hearst government went out of office. The records prove that he is right in

artificially the United States merchant marine, and its operation is likely to be brief."

"Prestige," says the London Times, "denotes ability to get things done without resort to force; but in the Orient, at least, there must be force in the background. The truth is that the British Government has incurred tremendous commitments all over the world, moral as well as material. It must be ready to face its responsibilities, or decline to influence and in strength. If there is to be no immediate progress in the work undertaken at Singapore there must at least be no irrevocable reversal of policy."

Press Comment

TIME ENOUGH.

(Victoria Colonist.) It will be time enough to think about building the Hudson's Bay Railway when the Canadian National Railways are on a paying basis. The Dominion is in no financial position to contribute millions towards a venture which it has not yet been shown will lead to practical returns.

ELECTIONEERING COME-BACK.

(Observer in the Observer.) In case of emergency he would not doubt have proved as equal to the occasion as another eminent politician who, while addressing his constituents, had a turnip thrown at him. Calmly picking it up, "I perceive," he remarked, "that one of my opponents has lost his head."

BRITAIN'S REVIVAL.

(Toronto Globe.) Industrial conditions in Great Britain are not normal, but figures in the mass are apt to convey a misleading impression. Not only is the volume of unemployment decreasing, but the bulk of it is in a few trades, principally engineering and shipbuilding. The monthly average of involuntary idleness among all British trade unions was 2.1 in 1913. In the first quarter of 1923 it was 1.8—a disquieting figure. In February, 1924, it had declined to 0.6. But if engineering and shipbuilding be excluded the percentage in the latter month was only 0.5 per cent., or a little more than double the average of 1913, which, excluding the same two trades, was exactly 2 per cent. The trade union unemployment percentage is the lowest since February, 1921.

Statistics of output and foreign trade also show an upward trend. The output of coal in February, 1924 was 28,000,000 tons, compared with the monthly average of 22,1 in 1913; of pig iron 622,000 tons, compared with 789,000 tons monthly in 1913 and 542,000 tons monthly in the first quarter of 1923; and of steel 724,000 tons (February, 1924), compared with 590,000 tons monthly in 1913 and 672,000 tons monthly in the first quarter of 1923. British exports in February, 1924, were 268,000,000, compared with a monthly average of 244,000,000 in 1913. Imports were 297,000,000 and 264,000,000 respectively. Even making allowance for the rise in prices, the volume of foreign trade is not greatly

below that of the pre-war year, and it has increased substantially during the past year.

The worst is past for British trade and industry, unless some unforeseen catastrophe occurs, such as a strike epidemic at home or some new revolutionary turmoil in Central or Eastern Europe. Britain is emerging from the slough of post-war depression financially sounder than any other great European country because she has balanced her Budget, reduced her debt and protected her currency. She has done this at great sacrifice, but apparently she is about to reap her reward.

THOSE WHO LIVE LONGEST.

Mr. A. W. Tibby, writing in The Nineteenth Century, gives the result of a task he set himself to discover what type of man lives longest. From an examination of tests of mortality he has discovered, says The Nineteenth Century, that distinguished men, on the whole, live longer than ordinary men, and that men of action live longer than those of the contemplative type. He has picked out 108 men of action—soldiers, statesmen, Popes and Archbishops—and among these he finds the average life to be over 73 years. Among 138 contemplative men—authors, musicians, artists, scientists and saints—he finds the average is only just over 64 years. The longest lives of all he finds are Speakers of the House of Commons and his men of action surpass all the contemplatives except the scientists. The Nineteenth Century says: "The authors Mr. Tibby places almost exactly on a level with ordinary actuarial humanity. His figures seem to prove that man the novel writers is not Nature's darling. On the other hand homo sapiens, in the person of the scientist, enjoys her distinct favor; but above all, her patronage is reserved for her Aristotelian offspring, the political animal."—Ex.

FINED IN LIQUOR CASE.

In the police court yesterday afternoon Joseph Lynch was fined \$200 for having intoxicating liquor in his shop, Marsh bridge.

A shaving brush with liquid shaving soap in the centre has been invented.

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A fine food for boys

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126

Boy's Suits

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Our buyer, while in Montreal last week, searched the clothing factories to bring you home a real snappy Easter suit. After two days' hard work he finally persuaded a high grade manufacturer to give him these 126 Suits at a worth-while reduction. They were rushed here by fast freight. Now the opportunity is yours—a wonderful opportunity to outfit your boy in a real quality suit at a big saving.

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On sale Saturday morning. All sizes, but come early and make sure of yours, as we anticipate a very busy day while these last.

See These in Our Window.

BOYS' SHOES

Our Boys' new Shoe Dept. in the Boys' Shop has just received a dandy new spring lot—Shoes the boy will be proud to wear—and they will give long wear too—don't miss them—\$3.00 to \$5.95.

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I WOULD GO BACK

(Ottawa Citizen.) Once more afar I hear their stren call. The old familiar voices of the spring. The throb and thrill of leafy whispering. Of ancient sylvan solitudes, whose thrilling, enchanting, bound remotest youth with all the glory of lost Eden. Still they sing. Low, mystic melodies whose echoes bring Ancestral memories older than the Fall. O Youth and Spring, I would return to you! Fain would forswear the city's luring wile. Strange spell of Circe that imprisons me To feed on husks, who once the lotus knew. I would go back to you and dream a while. The unremembered dreams of Arcady.

HOTPOINT

Heating and Cooking Appliances are High Quality.

Call and see them.

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IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Overheard on The Train
"Is your wife still by herself?"
"I don't know, I'm moving with her when she is by herself, but it hardly seems possible that she is still even then."

"I mean is she still without a cook?"
"Oh, I see! Well, no, that's when she has to be most active."

Two Skulls For One

First Englishman—"Charlie, did you hear that joke about the Egyptian guide who showed some tourists two skulls of Cleopatra, one as a girl and one as a woman?"
Second ditto—"No! let's hear it!"—Royal Magazine.

Harrowing Now

"I'm thinking of sending Josephine abroad to have her voice cultivated."
"Well, I don't know of any voice that needs it more."

Long Distance, Please

"Are you sure these field-glasses are high power?" asked the lady potential customer.
"Madame," replied the ambitious salesman, "when you use these glasses anything less than ten miles away looks like it's behind you."—American Legion Weekly.

Beating Him

"Heck Tarpy stopped me in the big road as I was coming home from town yesterday, and I beat him out of a dollar."

How'd you do that?

"He wanted to borrow a dollar from me, and I didn't have it."—Kansas City Star.

FOLEY'S STONE BEAN POTS

For good rich BAKED BEANS use plenty of clean water and ALWAYS BAKE in the OLD FASHIONED BEAN POT

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The FOLEY POTTERY

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Kellogg's Bran—because it is ALL bran—brings permanent relief. Nothing but ALL Bran can be 100 per cent effective. That is why Kellogg's Bran, cooked and krumbled, is universally recommended by doctors. They know it brings results.

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Kellogg's Bran, cooked and krumbled, is a delightful surprise to the taste—particularly if one has tried ordinary unpalatable bran. Kellogg's Bran has a delicious, crisp, nut-like flavor—an exclusive flavor. It is most enjoyable with milk or cream, sprinkled over other cereals or cooked with hot cereals. Try it in bread, muffins, griddle cakes and other recipes given on every package.

Have your children eat it regularly—two tablespoonsful daily—in chronic cases, with every meal, Kellogg's Bran is made at Toronto, Canada and sold at all grocers. It is served in individual packages by the leading hotels and clubs. Ask for it at your restaurant.

Like it's behind you."—American Legion Weekly.

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"Heck Tarpy stopped me in the big road as I was coming home from town yesterday, and I beat him out of a dollar."

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