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THE CANADIAN BUSINESS TAX AMENDED

Finance Minister Explains Bill to Parliament, and Answers Questions Thereon.

Ottawa, March 2.—In Parliament today, Sir Thomas White stated that the extra war taxes would be collected for the years 1915, 1916 and 1917.

To meet the case of vested stock companies, he proposed an amendment, the first part of which declared: "That the amount paid up on the capital stock of a company shall be the amount paid up in cash."

"The proposed taxation," said Sir Thomas, "is due to the exigency of the present situation. Our debt is \$425,000,000 this year; next year it will be greater. Even if the war ends this year, it will be a long time before we get off military basis."

The finance minister then went on to take the case of companies carrying on business in Canada, which are controlled by other companies outside of Canada.

Instead of the first named companies paying their true net profits to the foreign holding companies they sometimes sold their product at less than its fair market value.

To deal with such cases, he proposed an amendment that in such cases the minister may determine the amount which shall be deemed to be the profits of such companies and in determining such amount, the minister shall have regard to the fair price which, but for an agreement, arrangement or understanding, might be or have been obtained for such product, goods and commodities.

The finance minister then answered a number of questions. He told Mr. G. H. Bolving that companies whose capital stock was less than \$50,000 but whose reserves invested in the business if computed as capital brought the amount of a greater figure, would be considered as taxable under the act.

To Mr. W. S. Loggie, who objected to the differentiation between incorporated and unincorporated companies in allowing profits, Sir Thomas said the British Finance Act of 1915 made such a differentiation. Explaining to Mr. E. W. Nesbitt the \$50,000 exemption of capital, in the case of unincorporated companies, partnership and the like, Sir Thomas said that without it, a small army of officials would have been required to administer the taxes, men to go into every village grocery store and barber shop, whereas he was confident that the present taxes could be collected at comparatively small expenses.

He also stated that in the bill would be found clauses to prevent double taxation in the case of holding companies and in other instances. The amendments were then tabled and the committee rose. They will be taken up again after they have been printed.

The text of the amendments as submitted is as follows: The definition of "non-Canadian company" in clause 1, is amended by adding the following: "or directly or through or in the name of any other company."

The following is substituted for clause 2 of the proposed resolution: "There shall be levied and paid to His Majesty a tax of twenty five per centum of the amounts by which the profit earned in any business exceeded in the case of a business owned by any other person on the rate of ten per centum per annum on the capital employed in such business. Such tax shall be levied against and paid by the person owning such business for each and every accounting period ending after the thirty first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen."

Provided, however: (a)—That the amount paid or payable by any person under the provisions of part one of the special war revenue act, 1915, shall be deducted from the amount which such person would otherwise be liable to pay and the minister shall have power to de-

Nova Scotia Doctors and Alcohol

Men Who Know Tell Its Evil Effect Upon the System.

(Ottawa Citizen) "The following resolution, passed at the meeting of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia held recently at Amherst, will be read with interest:

"That since it has been established that alcohol is not a food, in that none of its elements is incorporated into the tissues and since the heat it produces by oxidation is over-compensated for through heat lost from the blood vessels of the skin, and since alcohol is not required to aid any physiological process, and since by its excessive use all systems of the body are injured and the moral nature so altered as to lead to crime, this meeting desires to impress the community with the benefits to be obtained by abstinence from alcohol as a beverage, and recommends its use only under medical advice. This meeting would warn the public that many patent medicines containing large amounts of alcohol are neither foods nor stimulants as advertised."

This resolution was prepared by a committee of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, composed of Dr. D. Macintosh, Prof. D. Fraser Harris and Prof. A. G. Nichol.

2.—So far as the capital consists of assets being debts due to the business, the value shall be the nominal amount of those debts, except that debts proved to be such to the satisfaction of the Minister; and

3.—Accumulated profits employed in the business shall also be deemed capital.

4.—Any borrowed money or debts, borrowed or incurred in connection with the business shall be deducted in computing the amount of capital for the purpose of this section.

A question by Mr. J. J. Hughes, of Prince Edward Island, a civilian member of the Opposition, as to whether members and senators belonging to the volunteer forces could attend to their duties as officers and their duties as members and senators at the same time, was answered affirmatively in the House by the Minister of Militia. The answer was: "Yes, when they can be spared from their regimental or other military duties."

Three Men Injured at Chatham Shell Factory

Conflagration Caused by Shell Falling on Oil Pipe in Nosing Department.

(Chatham Commercial) The shell factory in connection with the Maritime Foundry was the scene of a deplorable accident about ten o'clock Monday morning, as the result of which three men, Joseph Lobban, Wm. Dickens and James Moore were severely burned about the body and head.

The accident occurred in the "nosing" department which is located in a small building adjoining the factory proper. The nosing furnace is run with oil fuel, and the accident was caused by a shell falling from the die, while being put through this process, which struck the oil feed pipe in its descent, breaking it. The terrific pressure behind the oil which is said to be 150 tons—caused the oil to be spread all over the building and instantaneously the structure was a mass of flame. The boiler that supplies the heat for the main building is also located in this department.

Saturated with the oil the clothing of the three men at work there took fire before they could make the exit. The men in the other part of the factory rendered first aid to the unfortunate men. Literally tearing the burning clothing off them. Two other employees, Frank Moulton and Bert Lobban, had their hands badly burned while trying to remove the burning clothing from their fellow workers.

The three injured men were rushed to the Hotel Dieu Hospital, where fortunately there were present at the time of their arrival, four doctors, Drs. Loggie, Marven, McGrath, Newcastle, and a visiting doctor who was inspecting the hospital with the latter, so that no time was lost in giving the men every attention.

The fire department was promptly on the scene and assisted by employees of the foundry and factory, succeeded in preventing the fire spreading to the main building, which beyond the blackening of the walls in the corner adjoining the nosing department, escaped any damage. The main building resumed operations in the afternoon. The machinery in the burned portion of the factory was not seriously damaged, and the necessary repairs to equipment and building can be effected in a few days and the factory will soon be in full running order again.

Somehow in Belgium, Feb. 12, 1916 Dear Brown, Have a few hours to myself and thought I would like to tell you a few lines.

Eddie McFarlane is the only Newcastle boy in this Regiment. He is from Chatham, so am I but I like Newcastle best. I saw all the Newcastle boys from the 8th Battery. They look fine. Masson, Gifford, Ingram, Crocker, McCallum, Bate and all the rest. Feel fine and all have had their yearly pass to London for 9 days. I will get mine about May 1st, soon enough. I have been picked out of the 6th C. M. R. to be a Grenadier or bomb thrower, Suicide Club they call it, as there was a lot of fellows got killed by their own bombs accidentally, through ignorance, but

HOW THE WAR STANDS TO-DAY

German Attack at Verdun Weakening--Turkey Losing Heavily to Russia--Italian Air Raid.

The great battle for the possession of Verdun, begun by the Germans on the 21st ultimo, still progresses, without any definite result as yet.

The Germans attacked desperately for eight successive days, during that time carrying fort Douaumont, and several smaller outposts, by storm. On the 3rd instant, it was officially announced that the Russians have captured Bitlis on Lake Van, in Armenia. Bitlis, the capital of the province of the same name, has 2,000 people, and stands at a height of 4,700 feet above the sea. There the Russians captured 20 Krupp guns and a large quantity of gun and rifle cartridges. Northward the Russians are rapidly approaching Trebizond, on the Black Sea.

The Russians, under the cover of an intense supporting fire from the fleet, occupied the night of March 4th, the town of Atina, on the Black Sea coast to the east of Trebizond. Despatching rapidly southward they forced the Turks to evacuate their positions.

In the course of the action they took as prisoners two officers and 280 men, and captured two guns and a quantity of artillery ammunition, cartridges and rifles.

Detachments of troops continuing the pursuit, occupied the village of Mavraye, midway between Atina and Rizia, the morning of the 5th.

In Western Egypt, the British, on the 2nd, retook Sidi Barrani, which had been held for three months by the Senussi tribes of the Sahara offered by the Turks.

Eight hundred Austrian soldiers in barracks were killed or wounded in the raid made by Italian aeroplanes on Feb. 19 on the city of Ljubach, according to information given out on the 6th instant.

Two high officers of the staff of Archduke Eugene, commander in chief of the Austrian forces operating against Italy, are said to have been killed. One of the Italian aeroplanes was destroyed.

President Wilson, on the 29th, decided that he could not negotiate with the Teutons unless he was assured of the support of Congress. He therefore demanded that both houses of congress declare whether or not they agreed with him on his stand that American citizens should not be warned to keep off belligerent passenger ships, which the Germans have now threatened to sink.

On the 3rd instant, the Senate by a vote of 68 to 14 carried out the President's wish and tabled Senator Gore's resolution to warn Americans off armed belligerent ships.

The British press is well pleased with the President's victory in the Senate.

Sweden obeys Germany and on the 4th, issued a warning against any of her citizens embarking on armed merchantmen.

TWO WEDDINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST

RYAN—WHELAN The marriage of James Ryan and Miss Beatrice Whelan, both of Newcastle, took place in St. Mary's church yesterday afternoon. Rev. Father Murdoch performing the ceremony. The young couple were attended by Leo Mitchell and Miss Mary Ryan.

WHITE—MOUND The marriage took place on Monday evening last, March 6th, at St. Andrew's Church, Newcastle, of Burk Ingram White, of this town; and Miss Elizabeth Mound, of Bridgetown, Newcastle, and formerly of Manchester, England. A number of friends were present to witness the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. W. J. Bate, the rector of the parish. The bride, who carried a Book of Common Prayer, was attractively gowned in a suit of royal purple, and was attended by Miss Jessie McTavish, whilst the groom was supported by Charles Johnston. After the service the wedding party and guests proceeded to the bridegroom's house where supper was served.

The 58th Howitzer Battery has been authorized and will be recruited in New Brunswick and mobilized at Fredericton.

From the Boys in the Trenches

Stirring Letters From Canadian Boys Doing Their Bit on the European Battlefield.

From Dan Curtis, of Curventon

Somewhere in France Dear Mother, I was glad to get your letter and hear that you were all well. It was so long since I had heard from you, I thought you must be sick or something.

I am feeling fit and well, and have been back having a rest for three weeks but a back once more in the firing line. I was glad to get the photo of Sadie and Huggie and I would not have recognized them at all if you had not told me who they were.

I got a parcel the other day with socks in it, and very much appreciate it, as socks are just what we need mostly out here. If a fellow can keep his feet dry he is not so badly off.

Everything is pretty quiet along the firing line just now. I think both sides are preparing for a big offensive in the spring. I only hope we drive them back into Germany and finish the war.

We had a good time at Xmas and New Year's, plenty to eat and it was really wonderful what a good time we had considering the number of troops there is here.

I am sending you a photo of myself and three of my pals, that I had taken when on pass to England. I am on the transport now, so a little safer than when in the trenches. Have many of the boys around home enlisted yet? There is a big bunch of Canadians out here now, and a lot more training in England. Canada is doing fine for the war.

We have been having pretty good weather since the New Year, not so much rain as formerly, and things are drying up quite a bit. We have had no snow here this winter so far, but we might have a little before Spring yet.

Well I must close now, hoping that you continue in good health. I remain, Your loving son, DAN.

From J. C. Woods of Newcastle

West North, Patriotic Fund W. J. Jardine, Treasurer of West Northumberland Canadian Patriotic Fund, acknowledges the following amounts subscribed at Geo. Burchill & Sons Camp to Patriotic Fund, on March 1st, 1916:

Table listing names and amounts: John English, Foreman \$2.00; Geo. Bell 1.00; Thos. Nixon 1.00; Edward Carroll 1.00; Joseph Stewart 1.00; Richard Sonier 1.00; Ben. Deroche 1.00; Jos. English 1.00; John Hubbard 1.00; Jos. Richardson 1.00; Marsh Hubbard 1.00; Rundle Crocker 1.00; Mat. Carroll 1.00; Arthur Eagle 1.00; David Bell 1.00; Elmer Trevors 1.00; Wm. Murphy 1.00; John Trevors 1.00; Jas. Ullock 1.00; Hudson McLean 1.00. Total to date \$9,753.20

BORN At Newcastle, March 7th, to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Woods, a daughter.