

A Number of Quebec Municipalities Are Now in Default

According to the Municipal Commission, the Amounts Are Approximately \$15,062,725—Educational and Religious Corporations Included in the List—Record Better Than Ontario.

MONTREAL, March 9—Gross municipal debt in default in the Province of Quebec amounts to approximately \$15,062,725, according to a list of defaulting municipalities furnished by the Quebec Municipal Commission. The list, comprised of 79 municipal, educational and religious corporations, is published herewith.

The Quebec record is considerably better than that of Ontario, where nearly \$100,000,000, or almost 20 per cent., of the municipal debt is in default. In Quebec, the Financial Post estimates that approximately three and one-third per cent is in default. Figures on the total debt for recent years are not available, but in 1930 the funded municipal debt was \$396,078,156. This is estimated to have increased to at least \$450,000,000; and default of some \$15,000,000 of this would mean a proportion about three and one-third per cent.

LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD UNDER FIRE IN HOUSE

When C. T. Richard, Gloucester Opposition, asked that the books and records of the New Brunswick Liquor Control Board be made available for perusal by the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature, it resulted in a heated discussion in the meeting this morning of that Committee.

A. D. Taylor, Sunbury, Government, chairman, ruled the motion out of order and on a vote along straight party lines the ruling by the chair was sustained 7 to 5. Mr. Richard, the financial critic of the Opposition made the motion which was seconded by W. S. Anderson, Northumberland Opposition.

Mr. Richard pointed out that the salaries of the Liquor Control Board were shown in a lump sum of \$43,031.24 for the fiscal year 1932-33. This was a large item, he said, and more information should be had as to whom it is paid. The same thing applies to general expenses of the Board. The committee and public had been refused detailed information on the ground of public policy said the Opposition critic. A similar attitude had been adopted in regard to a bank loan of \$150,000 made to the Board by the Bank of Nova Scotia. He said there was no reason for withholding information on the ground of public policy.

Mr. Richard declared that the Board last year totalled over \$2,000,000 in sales.

The Public Accounts committee will consider the accounts of the Department of Public Works at its next meeting.

SIGNED AWAY HER LIVING

Reading, March 9—Mrs. Jeanette Huey, brought suit for nonsupport. In defense, her husband submitted this contract:

"For and in consideration of the sum of \$200, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, it is agreed that I, Jeanette Maurer, of Reading, Pa., on marriage to Harold D. Huey of West Chester, will not sew or claim of him support for myself or any child born of this union."

The court is thinking it over.

WASHINGTON NEWS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON, March 9—It looks as though Sir Ronald Lindsay, giant ambassador from Old England, is to become dean of the diplomatic corps—the sixth dean that fast-shifting outfit has had since 1930. Cabledispatches indicate Ambassador Ahmet Muhtar of Turkey, now dean has been picked for legislative work in the Turkish National Assembly.

March 9—The Fletcher-Rayburn bill to control the stock markets is being restudied by its friends with a view to possible modifications. Those desiring its enactment at this session of Congress also seek to smooth off some of the edges to prevent conflict which might throw it over to the next session.

LIFE SAVED BY GASOLINE CAN

Rushworth, Australia, March 8—An abandoned gasoline can was the means of saving the life of a man lost in the bush.

In the last stages of starvation, he stumbled across the can, scratched "Help!" on it and crawled under a tree to die.

Two woodmen found the can on their way home and discovered the sufferer.

THE TERRIER AND THE RABBIT

Santa Cruz, California, March 8—Like Alice in Wonderland Jack English's terrier dog followed the rabbit down its hole but couldn't shrink when the going got narrow.

The dog, which the nine year old master said was missing for eight days, was found stuck in the hole four feet underground, after its whines had attracted attention of a passerby.

A veterinarian took charge of the case and said the terrier, though weak from lack of food and water, will recover.

THE SENATORS ARE IN NEED OF MORE WORK

Have Very Little To Do During Early Part of the Session—Some Suggestions Made.

OTTAWA, March 8—The total cost of the inquiry carried on under the Combines Investigation Act into the importation and price of coal from the United Kingdom was \$40,451. The inquiry was prosecuted by F. A. McGregor, registrar under the Act. The information was given in the House of Commons today.

Second reading was given in the Senate today of the Canada shipping bill and it was sent on to committee. The bill provides Canada with a marine law of her own, and was made possible by the Statute of Westminster, which freed Canada from the necessity of complying with the Colonial Laws Validity Act and the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act. The coastal shipping law, passed last session, but never brought into effect, is incorporated in the new bill, but it will not be reopened this session.

A Canadian and British insurance bill was introduced and given first reading in the Senate. Senator Meighen explained that it was exactly analogous to the foreign insurance legislation introduced into the Senate earlier this week.

Senators Complain

Senate leaders joined today in deploing the lightness of their legislative activities in the early weeks—and months—of the parliamentary session. Following up the motion of Hon. Chas. Murphy that the Government initiate more legislation in the Senate, both Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, Government leader, and Hon. Raoul Dandurand, Liberal leader, voiced agreement with Mr. Murphy. Various proposals designed to bring more work to the Senate were discussed.

The suggestion was thrown out that more senators might be appointed to the cabinet, which circumstance would enable more legislation to be initiated in the Red Chamber since a Minister would introduce bills affecting his own department in the House of which he was a member.

Paralleling this suggestion was one that Ministers with seats in the Commons be permitted to address the Senate from the floor of the Upper House and explains to the elder statesmen the bills which these Ministers had piloted through the Commons. The senators thought that any Ministers appointed from their number might be accorded a like privilege by the commoners.

COUGHED UP A DIAMOND

Akron, Ohio, March 9—A pair of suspects accused of burglary in eight Ohio towns were arrested here and in the home of one police found an assortment of goods ranging from light bulbs to jewelry, basketballs and road lanterns.

Detective Denny Murray says he became exasperated at the answers of one of the men and slapped him. The man coughed and a diamond ring was added to the collection of goods now all in the debyethet etacoin etacoin now held by the police.

THE ONTARIO SURPLUS DUE TO ACCOUNTING

A Change Was Made In the System During 1933

RELIEF IS CAPITALIZED

An Increase of \$2,489,567 In the Public Debt

Toronto, March 8—The Financial Post carried the following:

Publication of the public accounts of Ontario reveals that some important changes have been made in the method of handling accounts for direct relief expenditures. As a result of these changes, ordinary expenditures for the year ended October 31, 1933 are shown as \$50,896,626 and revenues at \$51,373,051 indicative of a surplus of \$476,425.

Had the same system of accounting of direct relief outlays been employed as in the 1932 year, a deficit of at least \$2,489,569 would have been recorded. The size of the deficit or surplus depends on the proportion of direct relief outlays charged as ordinary expenditure. In 1933, the entire cost of direct relief for the year was charged to capital account, and the scheme to write off one fifth of the 1932 direct relief costs each year was dropped, after only one year's use.

If provision had been made for writing off \$784,937 of 1932 outlays for direct relief as had been planned, and if one-fifth of 1933 expenditures for this purpose had been written off, a deficit of \$2,489,569 instead of a surplus of \$476,425, would have resulted. Another change in accounting practice that makes a big difference in the deduction in 1933 from relief expenditures of \$2,485,657 due from the Dominion. In the two previous years this item was not anticipated in their manner.

NOVA SCOTIA TO BOOST PRICE OF GASOLINE

HALIFAX, March 8—Permissive legislation to enable the government to increase the gasoline tax from six to eight cents a gallon in Nova Scotia was brought down in the provincial legislature today.

Hon. A. S. MacMillan, Minister of Highways, introduced the measure, an amendment to the Gasoline Tax Act.

Reference to the government's intention of increasing the tax on motor fuel was made in the Speech from the Throne, read last week. The increase will counterbalance a previous reduction in motor vehicle license fees.

BEAR HUNTERS COME TO GRIEF

Oakland, Cal., March 9—It was all in the day's play for seven-year-old Edward Miller and his little brother, Albert, 4. They ran away to hunt bears, made camp with a blanket behind a billboard and were captured by police, who placed them in the women's ward of the city prison. Then they very loudly and enthusiastically "played jail" until their father, Edward Sr., CWA worker, came for them.

LIKE SO MUCH DROSS TO THIEVES

Denver, March 9—Police wonder what thieves will do with \$503 worth of gold stolen from the office safe of Dr. J. M. Jorgensen, dentist.

If they keep their loot they'll be violating the antifgold hoarding law. They can't sell it at the mint without showing an affidavit telling from where it came.

Police were pretty sure, though, they wouldn't return it.

Many Anxious To Buy Shares in The Central Bank

The Minister of Finance Is Already In Receipt of Scores of Letters From Probable Investors; The New Bank Is Evidently Going To Be a Popular One.

OTTAWA, March 9—The Bank of Canada—the central reserve institution—is evidently going to be a popular concern. Scores of letters are being received by the Minister of Finance from people anxious to subscribe for shares. For the most part, they apply for one share of a par value of \$100. In some cases, certified cheques are sent.

Applications, while indicating a healthy interest in the bank and its purposes, are premature. The legislation is just now in its initial stages. It may be months before it gets to the statute stage. Probably not before next summer will subscription be invited. Then, it will likely be on prescribed forms.

The proposal to establish a central bank is generally approved throughout the country and the principle of the bill will be supported by all parties in Parliament.

FOREIGN NEWS AT A GLANCE

MOSCOW:—American Ambassador Bullitt returned from a trip to the United States definitely prepared to take up his duties in earnest.

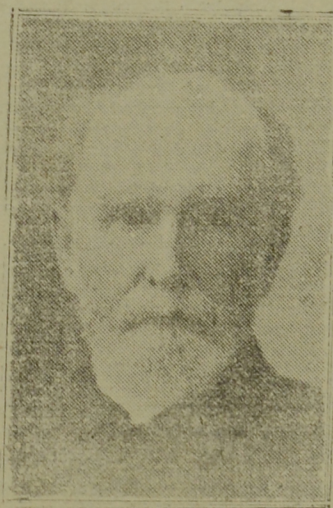
WARSAW: — Representatives of Germany and Poland met to sign a peace protocol ending an 8 1/2 year tariff war.

PARIS:—Prof. Petit completed an examination of a so-called sea monster found near Cherbourg and decided it was merely a huge dogfish.

Bpxton:—The Hon. Mary Ada Pickford, member of Parliament for the North Hammersmith district of London and one of England's most brilliant women, dies of pneumonia.

PARIS:—A pretty young mannequin figured prominently in a search for the late Serge Stavisky's missing jewels—jewels which police hoped might aid them in learning what happened to some of the money lost in his Bayonne municipal pawnshop.

Ends Long Career



REV. Wm. RYAN, D.D.
Who Died This Week At Auburn, N. S., In His 100th Year.

CUT FOOT WITH AXE

Mr. Smith of Nasonworth, was admitted to Victoria Public Hospital today suffering from severe injuries to his foot received while chopping wood.

LOCAL FREIGHT SERVICE GETS WHACKED AT

Already criticism is heard of the service rendered by the joint concerns of the C.P.R. and C.N.R. It is pointed out that the joint freight service is very unsatisfactory, goods being allowed to lie in cars at the station for days because of the inability of the small number of employees to cope with them. Mr. R. L. Phillips of the Board of Trade has protested to the two railways and has demanded that something be done to improve the service.

The following is the letter addressed to the general Freight Agent, C. N. R., and C. P. R., Moncton and St. John, N. B., re complaints received regarding freight service.

Dear Sir:—Our merchants, one and all, are complaining of the freight service through the Union Station on Regent Street, and after investigation this committee feels that said complaints are fully justified and the faults complained of subject to comparatively easy correction.

Formerly when small shipments of freights arrived in Fredericton on a morning train they were available by dinner time. Now, they are not available the same day and some times not on the second.

The impression is that the staff in the freight sheds is not large enough to handle the job satisfactorily.

Please give the matter your attention with a view to having freight shipments to Fredericton merchants made available in a reasonable time.

Signed
R. L. PHILLIPS,
Chairman Transportation
Committee, Fredericton
Board of Trade.

HOBO MAKES SLIGHT ERROR

Atlanta, March 9—Harvey Kelly, Negro hobo, knew all about the sunny South. It was cold in Mahan, W. Va., so Kelly hopped a freight train for a warmer climate.

When he arrived here he was so badly frozen he couldn't talk. Railway officials sent him to a hospital to be thawed out.

Kelly made the error of riding south in a refrigerator car.