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ONTARIO SPENDS GREAT DEAL MORE THAN QUEBEC ON SMALLER AMOUNT OF DEVELOPED POWER

(Financial Post.)

In view of the proposal of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario to purchase power developed by the International Paper Company the Gattineau River in Quebec, and to bring it to the industrial districts of Ontario to sell on the same basis evidently as that developed by the Chippawa plant on the Niagara, the point again rises as to the efficiency of private development in Quebec under government control as compared with the public ownership ventures in this province.

It is very difficult to get definite

information on which comparative costs of power can be based, but the accompanying figures from the Census of Industry of Canada for 1924, of Central Electric Stations for Canada, compiled by the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa, indicate emphatically that on the basis of investment the Quebec developments are much cheaper and more efficient.

A greater amount of power has been developed in Quebec on an investment nearly \$100,000,000 less than that made by Ontario.

The following summary gives the power statistics of the two provinces:

	Private Quebec	Hydro Commission Ontario
Main primary h. p.	935,883	912,450
Capital \$156,552,616.00		\$250,083,592.00
Capital per h. p. developed	167.50	275.00
Gross revenue	24,120,323.00	36,856,113.00
Est. for taxes at 17 percent, for private companies in Quebec	4,100,000.00	
Hydro and municipal tax free		
Revenue available for utility	20,020,323.00	36,856,113.00
Total K. W. hours generated	3,685,970,000	2,887,860,000
Revenue per K. W. hour generated in mills ..	5.45	13.2
No employees	2,592	5,199
K. W. hours generated per employee	1,420,000	560,000

In every respect the private utility companies are more efficient and economical than the Hydro Power Commission and associate municipalities of Ontario, despite their advantage of large concentration of high head power at Niagara Falls and unlimited credit of the province.

In capital per h. p. developed, the Hydro has cost 67 per cent in excess of all the private companies in Quebec.

In number of employees, the difference is even more marked. The Hydro and Municipalities of Ontario employ two and a half for every man employed by the private companies of Quebec, for the same quantity of power actually generated, thus indicating the relative inefficiency of government operation in Ontario.

The results to the consumer are equally pronounced. Excluding taxes of the private companies in Quebec, the average revenue per k. w. hour generated is less than 5.5 mills per k. w. hour in Quebec, as against 13.2 mills for the government owned and operated Hydro Utilities of Ontario.

Power "at cost" by Hydro in Ontario is costing much more than privately generated power in Quebec.

During the year 1925 extensions were made in Quebec aggregating over 315,000 h. p. as against 200,000 h. p. in Ontario.

"Commercial stations increased their output 19 per cent, or 950,276,000 k. w. hours; the Quebec stations accounting for 897,638,000 k. w. hours of this increase, and the increase in the output of municipal stations was 9 per cent, or 263,919,000 k. w. hours" throughout Canada.

The expansion in Quebec is over three times that of the Hydro and municipal undertakings of Canada for the past year.

These figures are from the government blue book and tell their own story of the tremendous industrial development going on in Quebec.

The Hydro Commission in Ontario is faced with big problems. Chippawa power is obviously not nearly so cheap as that which is offered in other parts of the country. The benefits of Niagara have seemingly lost through the costs of development.

The commission is, we believe, taking a wise course in purchasing efficiently developed power from a private corporation rather than undertake further heavy capital expenditures at this time.

THE ROBB BUDGET SHARPLY CRITICIZED BY SIR H. DRAYTON; CALLS IT GOLD BRICK BUDGET

Ottawa, May 10—Sir Henry Drayton (Conservative, West York), continuing the budget debate today, said he was compelled to gaze upon the minister of finance with amazement.

The minister was so "exceedingly right" about some things and so exceedingly wrong about others. He had been right in getting rid of the numerous nuisance taxes for which his government was wholly responsible, in the first place. Sir Henry was very sorry for the minister of finance with his perpetual burden of two or three portfolios as well as his ever arduous duty of keeping things straight around the privy council.

Contrary to what the government would have the public believe there had been very large increases in the income tax.

Discussing the income tax changes, Sir Henry Drayton said that a very large part of the development in this, or any country, is through the activities of companies and commercial corporations.

Dividend Tax Doubled.

"But the taxes on their dividends are practically doubled," he continued. "Liberal policy, as declared, is to obtain new money for development by subjecting money so invested to an extra tax. In other words, the capital the most useful to the country—the capital which supplies work, which supports the national payroll—is to be the most heavily taxed."

Was the only justification for the new tariff commission to give a few men jobs? asked Sir Henry. If it was intended that the new commission should function surely the automobile tariff should have been subject to its scrutiny before the change was made.

Premier's Word.

"Has anyone the right to take the word of the Prime Minister as meaning anything?" he asked. Surely statements made in the Speech from the Throne ought to be observed. The

government's declaration that a tariff commission would be appointed was taken to mean that this commission would investigate and report upon the tariff before important changes were made. In the case of the automobile duties, however, this had not been done.

"The shocking thing about the automobile duties is that they seem to indicate that the government is above all ordinary considerations of honor or honesty," said Sir Henry. The government had not even arrived at the net protection which was being enjoyed by the automobile manufacturers before cutting the tariff.

Americans Exempt.

"With reference to the income tax, Sir Henry said that he understood that it was only the Canadian investor who suffered from the income tax on dividends. Dividends paid to the Americans were not subject to the tax.

Members of the government had been taking credit for a return to prosperity. "They would, with far greater justice and accuracy, have shown how greatly this government have retarded prosperity and industrial growth," said Sir Henry. The Minister of Finance had referred to it as a prosperity budget; but, in Sir Henry's opinion, it was a "gold brick" budget.

Taking "the minister's own yardstick" of railway business to indicate prosperity, Sir Henry said that the Minister of Finance forgot that the improved showing was due to railway economies. "The whole betterment is owing to decreased costs of operation and notwithstanding smaller revenues. The National Railways' revenue of 1925 is \$244,971,202 while for 1923 it was \$253,135,487." Not only had the country been denied the inevitable progressive improvement from 1923, but there had been actual retrogression because the total freight carried by Canadian railways had decreased from 1923 to 1925 by 7,518,00 tons.

SHAD FISHING SEASON OPENS ON MAY 17TH

(Saint John Globe.)

There will be no early opening of shad fishing, Hon. Dr. W. E. Foster has been informed by the Deputy Minister of Marine & Fisheries, in response to inquiry following a petition of some fishermen that an early opening be granted. The deputy minister advised that the department was endeavoring to conserve and increase the species and that had a bearing on the question of early opening. In addition, there had been no run of shad reported, so that nothing would be gained by advancing the date.

Shad fishing is scheduled to open on May 16. B. B. Brittain, jr., federal fisheries inspector, stated this afternoon. Since the date falls on Sunday, the opening will take place on Monday, May 17. The opening date applies to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia tidal waters. The closing date is June 20 inclusive, applying to the Saint John River and its tidal tributaries, including Saint John harbor. There is an exception allowed for the Bay of Fundy and its tidal tributaries outside of Saint John harbor and river, and in the Bay, shad fishing is permissible until September 30. The reason for exception in favor of the Bay is to enable Lorneville fishermen to catch Fall shad.

No permit to fish shad is required in Saint John harbor but for the Bay and river, a permit must be secured, costing \$1 for the season.

GETS 2 HENS FOR A FORD

Chicopee, Mass., May 11—Two setting hens were traded here for a Ford automobile. To obtain the hens, Vic Valcourt, assistant custodian at City Hall, gave his 1917 model flivver to Armand Blanchard. A record of the transaction was sent to the registrar of motor vehicles.

DIETITIAN AT VICTORIA HOSP. HAS RESIGNED

(Continued From Page Eight.)

Miss Fradham Resigns.

The resignation of Miss Margaret L. Fradham as Dietitian was presented, and after consideration was accepted with regret.

Two applications for the position were received and will be considered later by the House Committee.

Refrigeration.

A. W. Coombes from committee reported respecting refrigeration at the hospital by the dry process. Mr. Coombes and his associate, Ald. McKnight, explained advantages of the proposition as presented by Mr. Inchits promoter. Subsequently Col. Loggie and Ald. Davidson were added to the committee and time extended.

Those in attendance included the president Dr. Ross, the vice-president Dr. M. L. Jewett, Mrs. C. D. Richards, Mrs. D. Richards, Col. T. G. Loggie, John A. Reid, His Worship Mayor Clark, Alderman C. N. Goodspeed, Alderman Ivan McKnight, Alderman A. Davidson, Coun. Rowley Manzer, A. Wilfred Coombes.

Home Market Lessening.

No country can be said to be prospering with a diminishing home market. On the minister's own yardstick our production is less. Smaller production with increased exports and lessened imports indicates no general prosperity, but rather a lessened domestic activity, a "shrinking home market and a shrinkage national payroll."

Sir Henry quoted the immigration and emigration figures for January and February of this year. In the first two months of the year there were 7,200 immigrants, according to the government's figures, while, according to the Labor Department of the United States, 13,204 Canadians had gone to that country—"nearly double what we have been able to get into this country with all the millions we are spending."

A THREE YEAR ROTATION TO DESTROY WEEDS

(Experimental Farms Note.)

In 1912 a three-acre plot of land was allotted at the Experimental Station, Charlottetown, for the purpose of demonstrating the efficacy of a short-time rotation in eliminating weeds.

This land was badly infested with golden daisy (solidago sp.), yellow, ox-eye daisy, yellow daisy or black-eyed Susan, couch grass, etc., and had been in common for many years.

A three-year rotation was outlined as follows:

First year—Hoed crop. This crop received 15 tons of manure per acre. Probably the most satisfactory method to apply this is on the clover stubble the previous autumn, and plough down.

Second year—Grain crop, seeded down with 10 pounds red clover, 2 pounds alsike and 6 pounds timothy per acre.

Third year—Clover hay. Immediately after the removal of the hay crop, the land was manured and ploughed in preparation for the next season's hoed crop. After ploughing, the land was rolled and then topworked during the balance of the season to prevent any growth of weeds. It is strongly recommended that the land be ridged up in the autumn.

This rotation was carried on at the Station until the season of 1920, when it was discontinued. In the meantime, it had been demonstrated to a marked degree that such treatment would suppress the various weeds mentioned. The solidago, yellow, ox-eye daisy and black-eyed Susan had entirely disappeared. Traces of couch grass occasionally would appear and it might be well to point out that the treatment will not prove effective unless the land is efficiently topworked after ploughing the clover sod for hoed crop.

It might not be amiss to point out also that where large areas of rough or permanent pasture lands are available, this makes a fairly suitable rotation for stock raising.

As to disadvantages, it offers little or no opportunity for pasturage, and there is, relatively speaking, too much land under hoed crop for the average farmer, but in limited areas it may be strongly recommended as a satisfactory means of cleaning up land heavily infested with weeds.

PLAINTIFFS GET VERDICT IN INSURANCE CASE

(Continued from page eight.)

he put were as follows:—1. What was value of merchandise contained in stock lost by fire? 2. Did the plaintiff Jewett fraudulently overvalue the stock? 3. Was the fire caused by willful action or consent of plaintiff? 4. At what sum do you assess the damage to stock in respect to the fire and at what to the fixtures? 5. Did the plaintiff Jewett fraudulently overvalue the furniture? 6. At what do you assess the damage to the furniture?

While the jury was out a memorandum of \$711.46 was sent in to the jury room as the amount of overstatement of claim agreed to by counsel.

Dr. Gerrard

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