

THE DAILY MAIL

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER

THE MAIL PUBLISHING COMPANY — J. L. NEVILLE, Managing Editor.
Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at 327-329 Queen Street,
Fredericton, N. B.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

It is as easy to stop The Daily Mail as it is to start it. Send us a card or letter marked "refused" and your name will be removed from the list of subscribers. All arrears for subscriptions must accompany the stop request. Subscribers who do not receive their paper regularly will confer a favour on us by notifying us.

FREDERICTON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1937

The Federal Budget

The Federal budget brought down in the House of Commons yesterday by Hon. C. A. Dunning is an encouraging one and should be received with satisfaction. Not only has the overall deficit been reduced from \$159,989,000 last year to \$87,395,000 in the current year ending March 31st, but more than that Mr. Dunning forecasts a further reduction of \$35,000,000 in the forthcoming fiscal year. He also promises a balanced budget for the following year.

The pleasing announcement was made that there will be no further increase in the Sales Tax which was last year boosted from six per cent. to eight per cent. and which it was feared in some quarters would be further increased to 10 per cent. It is also announced that there will be an extension of the commodities which are exempted under this Sales Tax. The fishermen of the Maritime Provinces will be glad to learn that these new exemptions include ingredients used in canning fish. No doubt this exemption was obtained through the efforts of Hon. Mr. Michaud who has been untiring in his efforts for the benefit of the fishermen throughout Canada.

Hon. Mr. Dunning, Canada's Minister of Finance who presented the budget yesterday, predicts a balance within two years.

The tax structure remains unchanged for another year. Income, Excise, Sales and other levies remain at the levels fixed last year. The budget is the first since the beginning of the depression which has not contained some increase in taxation.

It was Mr. Dunning's third budget and he predicted a deficit next year of \$35,000,000 with the prospect of a balanced budget the following year. His prediction was based on reduction in the deficit from \$159,000,000 last year to \$87,000,000 this year.

A new trade agreement with the United Kingdom provided the majority of the tariff changes in the budget. There were a few reduction and still fewer increases apart from the agreement which provided reduction on a wide range of articles under the British preferential rates.

Hon. Mr. Dunning, as well as the Federal Government, is to be congratulated on the creditable showing made in connection with the budget which was brought down yesterday.

Production the Regulator

Among the many social by-products of the depression is the theory of a shorter working week. Most of its early advocates suggested a 40-hour week. The International Labor Congress, failing to agree on this, compromised on a 44-hour week. Various sections of organized labor in the United States have gone the limit of a 30-hour maximum, a "condition" in the demands of the United Automobile Workers' Union in the recent "sit-down" strikes.

The problems of re-employment have created widespread support for "a" shorter working week. Since the depression began to lift, many skilled laborers who would have been absorbed by the revival have been eliminated by mechanical substitutes. Recognition that mechanization is bound to go on gives further support. Increased populations and expanding production are other factors.

But the first conditions to any reduction, and the insurmountable obstacle to the radical proposals, is production itself. All the suggested "maximums" require maintenance of, or increases in, existing wage schedules. The limit of the working week, consequently, depends on the ability of production—which is earning power—to carry the additions to the pay-rolls.

The best illustration of this point is had in the demand of the British Locomotive Engineers' Union for a 36-hour week, rejected finally by the Railway Employees' Tribunal. The basis of the rejection was economic. A 36-hour week meant a wage increase of \$50,000,000 annually to the locomotive shops alone. To apply it to all employees of the operating companies would mean a \$250,000,000 annual payroll increase.

It is this economic brake that has encouraged other theorists to advocate sandwiching the 40-hour week, which they agreed as the minimum, between area restrictions to reduce the employable life of all skilled and unskilled workers. President Roosevelt has several times implied acceptance of this theory by urging that child labor be restricted by increasing the compulsory school age to 18 years and lowering the retirement age to 60 or 65 years.

As with most things in our ever-changing economic order, it is impossible to forecast very far the limitations of the working week. It may very well be that science, invention and a rising standard of living will one day realize the Wellsian 4-hour day and 5-day week. But if it does come it will do so gradually and in line with the productive ability of the nation to pay the bills and maintain the standard, regardless of the system of government in use.

Injustice to Prisoners

During its sitting in Toronto the Commission investigating penitentiaries has heard many startling allegations by witnesses; but few more disturbing than that made by an official of the Salvation Army, who said many arrested persons are not given the opportunity to communicate with their friends, "sometimes not until after conviction."

This, if so, is a serious business. If wrong, the matter should be cleared up authoritatively by the police. It seems incredible that a man under arrest is handicapped in any way in consulting his relatives or friends. The old law still stands: that a man is presumed innocent until the charges against him are investigated in court. If the police are indifferent to the right of any accused person to notify friends of the trouble he is in, it looks like a presumption of guilt.

But even guilt should not deprive a prisoner of this right. The Army officer contended that "relatives of prisoners should be notified without undue delay after their arrest," and the argument is sound, both from the points of view of common justice and of ordinary kindness.

SNAPSHOTS

Citizens would do well to watch the progress of the Police Commission bill when it comes before the Legislature on Wednesday next. Watch the Aldermen who support and who oppose the bill.

Citizens do not want the closed door arbitrary Police Commission methods.

Thrift, like other virtues, can be carried to excess, as in the case of the New York man worth \$500,000 who has been found on relief.

The pursuit of happiness is your right, but no man becomes great and useful till he quits it.

You can tell whether a new enterprise is noble or sinful. If the members lose interest in three months, it is noble.

How to reorganize a government: first abolish the office that interferes with spending.

You can tell how a man ranks in the organization; the farther he is from the top, the less reverence he shows for the boss.

By going modernistic, architects are making themselves seem unnecessary. Anybody can design a box.

Meals

(Continued from Page One)
not have to worry, however. They will be fed by the chef and members of the catering staff of a large ocean liner. Some of them may recognize the waiters who serve them as their table stewards during their voyage from Canada to Southampton aboard the Empress of Australia.

The chef and his staff from the Empress of Australia will set up a temporary kitchen in the Canadian Pacific's London offices at Trafalgar Square. About 200 people, most of them Canadians, will see the procession from cushioned seats at the windows of these offices. They will have to be there early in the morning and will be served with breakfast and lunch by the Empress of Australia's staff. Many of the seats have been already booked, but 100 of them are still reserved for Canadian Pacific travellers.

Routine

(Continued from Page One)
municipality of Edmundston, also a bill respecting the Barrister's society of Moncton.

Hon. Mr. Dysart, premier, asked for leave of absence for Hon. Dr. W. F. Roberts, Minister of Health on account of illness.

W. V. Foster asked for leave of absence for Mr. MacDonald of Kings on account of illness.

Canada's Position

(Continued from Page One)
the average of other countries. I think it is not unreasonable to interpret this as clear evidence of the success of the government's trade policies.

The figures just given show that Canada established on merchandise trade account a very substantial net credit balance. If to the export figures already given we add, as we should, the gold earmarked during the year and held by the Bank of Canada, for clients abroad, that is, gold of our own production which would otherwise have gone abroad and is, in fact, owned abroad and paid for, then the excess of our exports over our imports would have amounted to the very impressive total of \$452,000,000.

The credit balance on commodity trade alone, excluding gold, was \$326,900,000 and was the largest recorded since 1925.

Tourist

(Continued from Page One)
469,437. Automobiles entered for periods up to 48 hours totalled 2,280,265; automobiles entered for 60 days totalled 1,192,935, and cars entered for six months numbered 1,323.

Ontario retained its unchallenged lead among the Provinces with 2,655,027 visiting automobiles, more than half the total movement. The three leading ports of entry—Windsor, Port Erie and Niagara Falls—maintained their respective positions in 1936, all with increased traffic.

At Windsor a total of 842,679 tourists' automobile permits was issued, 597,416 for 48 hours, 245,212 for 60 days, and 51 for six months. Port Erie issued 327,413 permits, of which 659,453 were for 48 hours, 167,779 were for 60 days, and 181 for six months. Next in order, Niagara Falls issued a total of 704,472 permits, 554,563 of which were for 48 hours, 149,892 for 60 days, and 17 for six months.

Tourist traffic from Canada also increased, the number of Canadian cars reported outward for touring purposes during 1936 totalling 689,674 an increase over 1935 of 30,415.

OBSERVER TAKES ISSUE WITH EDITOR ON THE POLICE COMMISSION

But Agrees That as at Present Constituted It is a Travesty and a Joke

(Note: The Daily Mail while interested in "Observer's" articles, does not necessarily agree with what that writer publishes. Sometimes the views expressed are entirely at variance with our own opinions.)

Impending legislation concerning the City of Fredericton is naturally of much interest to all citizens. There are several bills of this nature to come before the Legislature this session, and one of them, at least, is of a decidedly vital nature. I refer to the bill to abolish the Fredericton Police Commission.

The Daily Mail puts the case for abolition very strongly, and I am firmly of the opinion that a commission organized as the present one is should be abolished. I am not so certain that the solution lies in having the police controlled by a committee of the city council. I mean no disrespect to the city council, but I can foresee a grave danger in letting the council control the police. At the present time the Police Commission has the power, theoretically at least, to arrest any citizen of this city, irrespective of rank or position, from the Mayor on down. Now I cannot visualize a body of police that is hired by the city council ever taking any action against a member of that council.

I do not mean to imply that any member of our council is, or is likely to be, a candidate for police action; at least in respect to anything of a criminal nature. But suppose Alderman A. has parked his car in the wrong place. Is he going to get a summons? He most emphatically is not. Or suppose that Alderman B. has a friend that has offended against some city ordinance. Alderman B's friend will see the alderman and ask him to square it. Alderman B will see the chief of police and tell him to forget about the offence. And it will be forgotten. The ramifications of such squaring of offences can be carried out to the nth degree. It would soon develop that any person of any influence or standing would know someone who would know somebody else who knew one of the aldermen well enough to ask him to square it; and so it goes.

Now I do not believe in any police commission such as we have at present, of which the police magistrate may be a member. It is to my mind a monstrous travesty of justice that the official who has most to say about the hiring and activities of the police can then be called upon to hear a case against a person whom those same police have arrested. What kind of a body should we then have to direct police activities?

I still think it must be an independent body of some kind. Why couldn't a body be established who would be answerable to the City Council in matters of finance, but who would have independent control in the actual administration of justice? It seems to me that there are possibilities in that direction.

I don't know whether the Editor will print this or not, for I don't expect he will agree with me. But I am, after all, only a humble seeker after knowledge. I don't pretend to know just what would be the right thing to do under the circumstances. The most I can do is to go on record as being opposed to placing the control of the police unreservedly in the hands of the City Council, for the reasons mentioned above.

At least, if the Editor prints this it will prove that he is not Observer, an allegation he has often been called upon to deny.

By the way, what has become of the person who was so anxious to underbid a local public functionary and steal his job? Just previous to the regular meeting of a public body recently, every member of that body received a circular letter from this

applicant asking for the job of one of the salaried officials employed by the body. The applicant offered to take the job for considerably less than the present official is getting. The present holder of that position is a very competent official and greatly respected by all, and had expressed no intention of resigning. In addition the applicant, who seems constitutionally unable to obtain or hold employment of any kind, had been taken in by the man whose job he tried to steal, and for charity's sake had been given some odd jobs to do around the office. It was in this way that the applicant picked up enough of the routine of the job to feel entitled to apply for it. Now he is not only without the coveted job, but needless to say will never get any more charity jobs from that source.

The above incident is Number One of a new series I am inaugurating to be entitled "Queer Quirks of Human Nature." The next in the series will follow at an early date.

OBSERVER.

Federal Budget

(Continued from Page One)
down to \$87,000,000. A year ago, he said, he hoped he would be able this year to plan for a deficit of \$50,000,000 in 1937-38 and a balanced budget the following year.

In view of the good showing in the present year, however, he felt safe in predicting total revenue of \$485,000,000 and total expenditures of \$520,000,000 for the coming year, or a deficit of \$35,000,000. This would leave the cherished goal of a balanced budget within easy striking distance for 1938-39.

Mr. Dunning said he would be greatly disappointed in the deficit next year were not less than the deficit of the Canadian National Railways which must be met by the treasury.

Outstanding Feature

The outstanding feature of Canada's recovery movement during the past year had been the expansion of foreign trade, said the minister. The government took satisfaction in seeing its policies of freer trade accomplishing results although admittedly some of the recovery was due to better world conditions.

Passing the \$1,000,000,000 mark, Canada's foreign trade in 1936 reached the highest level since 1929. Figures for January showed the upward movement was continuing at an even greater pace than during the past year.

Lumping together the favorable balance of trade, the estimated favorable balance on tourist traffic and exports of gold bullion produced in Canada, Mr. Dunning said a total credit balance abroad of \$617,000,000 had been built up during the year. This gave Canada an ample supply of foreign exchange with which to meet payments due to foreign creditors.

The first year of operation under the Canada-United States trade treaty brought increased imports from and exports to that country, said the minister. Trade with the United States had increased more rapidly than trade with other countries, demonstrating the soundness of the government's trade policy.

To Restore Salary Cut

Government employees throughout the country learned the depression was over for them. Mr. Dunning announced the five per cent. deduction from civil servants' salaries would be restored from April 1, the start of the new fiscal year. At first the deduction was 10 per cent. but it was partly restored a year or two ago.

"If I cannot bring you greater brevity than last year perhaps I can bring you greater cheer," said the finance minister as he began his budget speech. He said his efforts to shorten the annual financial statement had failed.

VOICES FROM THE PAST

(Continued from Page One)

affairs to exist in a city such as Fredericton and no amount of argument on the part of John Reid or Moses Mitchell or Warren Maxwell will change the minds of ninety-five per cent. of the people in regard to the Police Commission. At the Council Board last fall only two of the Aldermen voted against the resolution to abolish the Commission. One of these Aldermen, F. S. Mundie, afterwards came to The Daily Mail and asked us to state that he had changed his mind. He said that "The good Lord should have intervened to prevent him from voting in favor of the Commission." H. Ralph Gunter has been at the Council Board for several years and is now a member of the Legislature. As ninety-five per cent. of the citizens of Fredericton, and ninety-five per cent. of the Aldermen, are in favor of abolishing the Police Commission, it is the duty of ex-Alderman Gunter, now a member of the Legislature, to back up public opinion in this regard, or at least give an expression as to how he stands in the matter.

CAPITOL

NOW PLAYING

Hopalong Cassidy leads his daring men in a spectacular cattle drive to rescue the drought-famished plains country.

Adolph Zukor presents

Clarence E. Mulford's
"TRAIL DUST"

A Paramount Release with

William Boyd
Jimmy Ellison

GEORGE HAYES
GWYNNE SHIPMAN
STEPHEN MORRIS

Thrilling romance against the thrilling background of men fighting men and ruthless nature. Extra Attraction —

The Jones Family
IN THEIR BEST PICTURE

"BACK TO NATURE"

Jed Prouty Shirley Deane
Dixie Dunbar Spring Byington
Kenneth Howell George Ernest
Florence Roberts

HERE MONDAY

Ray Milland

— with —
"Bulldog Drummond Escapes"

City of Fredericton Assessment Notice

Notice is hereby given that persons failing to file assessment returns on or before March the first, 1937 will become liable to the terms set forth in Section 50 of the City of Fredericton Assessment Act, 1926.

PETER FARRELL,
Chairman, Board of Assessors.

City Hall,
February 24th, 1937.

Classified Ads.

RATE: 25 words 25 cents per insertion. Each additional word 1/2 cent.

We will have some special values in second hand radios traded in on New DeForest Crosley machines from now until the end of the year included are five to eleven tube cabinet and mantle radios, of the electric type, and a few battery operated machines. All these machines have been thoroughly reconditioned and are sold under a guarantee.—S. Locke & Co.

"Viewing the situation broadly in the light of the progress of the past year and the major underlying forces at work, I believe I can fairly say that since 1929 no new year has dawned with brighter promise for Canada. I shall be greatly disappointed if by this time next year Canada has not moved substantially further along the road to economic recovery."

Mr. Dunning then reviewed business and economic statistics and pointed to improvements all along the line during 1936. Leading industries all reported increased output, both domestic and foreign trade was up, farm prices were better although crops were not all they might have been, dividend payments were higher, low interest rates had encouraged new bond flotations.

Special Round Trip Bargain Fares

— TO —

WOODSTOCK, N. B.

GOING: FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1937

Return Limit: Monday, March 8, 1937

\$2.30 from FREDERICTON

Chipman \$3.30	McAdam \$1.05
Minto 3.05	Welsford 2.25
Fredericton Jct. 1.85	Norton 4.15

Tickets good in day coaches only.

No baggage checked.

Corresponding Low Fares from All C. P. Stations

Full Information from All Agents.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

GAIETY

NOW PLAYING

THE GREATEST HIT
by the PRODUCERS of
"SAN FRANCISCO"



Also —
FOX NEWS SILLY SYMPHONY
CARTOON

HERE MONDAY!

"GOLD DIGGERS OF 1937"

— with —

Dick Powell
Joan Blondell

LIBRARY BOOKS

For Sale at 20 cents each.
All other merchandise going at big reductions.

CALL AND SEE

Phone 547-1 131 York St.

NOVELTY SHOP

VIOLETS, ORCHIDS, ROSES,

and other Spring Flowers.

BEBBINGTON'S GARDENS

PHONE 254

834 CHARLOTTE ST.
"The Home of Beautiful Flowers"