

Appropriations Call For \$4,528,100,000

Top Peacetime Spending Forecast For Fiscal Year

OTTAWA (CP)—Record peacetime spending by the federal government is in prospect for the 1956-57 fiscal year. The government told Parliament Thursday its initial and basic spending program calls for just under the post-war high of 1954-55, and this will inevitably be boosted. Finance Minister Harris' main estimates for the year starting April 1, tabled in the Commons, call for budget appropriations of \$4,528,100,000, compared with the peacetime peak for a year's spending of \$4,564,600,000.

Of the various service branches, the RCAF will take an \$8,000,000 appropriation cut to \$872,000,000 and the army a \$23,500,000 reduction to \$476,738,000. The navy's share is increased by \$1,700,000 to \$325,000,000. But the biggest jump is the rise of \$26,500,000 within the Defence Research Board, which would be allocated \$79,900,000.

Estimates of defence spending for 1956-57 are held almost exactly even with the current year—\$1,774,983,713. This is an increase of only \$380, smallest change in the history of defence appropriations. Officials said defence spending may continue at that level for several years, barring major changes in the world situation.

The all-time high for spending was \$5,322,000,000 in the war year of 1954.

One factor regarded as certain to increase the main estimates for the coming year is a deficit in the old age pension fund, which is raised by special taxation. The government does not count as budget spending the amount collected by these taxes but it does charge in the deficit which in the 1955-56 year led to an increase of \$63,000,000 in the initial estimates.

WOULD HIKE TOTAL
If the estimated figure of \$378,155,000 for old age pensions from the special taxes were counted in, this first estimate of budget spending would be boosted to \$4,907,615,000.

Also not tallied up in the budget expenditure is \$15,287,000 in various types of government loans and advances which have to be voted by Parliament but which are regarded as assets in the government balance sheet.

Even without these non-budget figures, the 1956-57 main estimates are higher than those for the peacetime year of 1954-55, when the government initially asked for \$4,491,800,000 in its main estimates. Last January, when Mr. Harris presented his first set of main estimates after taking over as finance minister, he asked for \$4,380,300,000 for the 1955-56 fiscal year, representing the first spending reduction in seven years. Supplementary estimates have hoisted the current year's figure to \$4,474,300,000 and officials say there will be further supplementary estimates for the year is closed out March 31.

The Local Office has some interesting employment figures covering the year 1955. During the year, the office was asked by employers to fill 1,755 male vacancies and 1,670 female vacancies—an average of 285 a month for a total of 3,425.

DEFICIT SLASHED
In his budget speech last year Mr. Harris forecast actual budget

During the year, Employment Officials also called on 313 employers to solicit jobs, or to offer applicants to the employers who were thought competent to fill certain positions.

Guy Mollet To Attempt to Form French Gov't
PARIS (Reuters)—Socialist leader Guy Mollet Thursday accepted the task of forming France's 22nd post-war government. The 50-year-old former teacher announced his acceptance after President Rene Coty made the official invitation. He made his decision in the face of lessening assurance on the part of observers that he can gain a hold—sufficient support from the newly-elected assembly.

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LACKS MAJORITY
The republican front claims to have "won" the election although it failed to get an independent majority in the assembly. It appears able to muster 133 "sure" votes in an assembly of 595 members.

The staff of the Local Office has been working overtime since early in December, in spite of the fact that seven extra people have been engaged to help out during this busy season. Every office in the Maritimes, it is explained, faces similar conditions each winter, and each office is given extra help according to the number of claims dealt with each week.

Coming Events
Rummage Sale Kirk lower Hall Friday 7th at 2.30 p.m.
W. I. Card Party Stanley Bridge School, Friday, Jan. 27th.
Rummage sale basement Trinity United Church, Saturday 2 p.m.
Regular skate at North River Rink tonight, skating 8.30 to 10.30.
Regular weekly dance, St. Marys Hall, Souris, Tuesday, January 31. Chiff Peters orchestra.

It is explained by officials of the Local Office, that it is not always possible to obtain certain types of workers such as skilled plumbers, skilled mechanics, carpenters, bricklayers, and very often the right type of sales people or competent stenographers. It was also pointed out by the officials that employers do not always accept the people who are referred to them, and in many cases applicants for jobs refuse positions because of working conditions and wages are not deemed suitable.

Annual Congregational meeting in St. John's Anglican Church, Milton, on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. Please attend.
Showing at Mt. Stewart Friday and Saturday—Kiss Me Kate. Comedy with music starring Katherine Grayson and Howard Keel.
Crappad Rink school skate 2 to 4. School hockey tonight, North Tryon vs. Augustine Cove 8 p.m. All school children 10 cents admission, adults 35.

Milkman Hero
Edward Chipman, 33-year-old Montreal milkman and father of three children, receives the George Medal for heroism from Governor-General Massey. Chipman risked his life to rescue three Indian children from a burning home on the Caughnawaga Indian reservation near Montreal. (CP from National Film Board)

Estimates Tabled In Commons

Federal Payments On Tax Rentals Expected Higher

P. E. I. Items In Estimates For 1956-57

OTTAWA (CP)—Following are the public works appropriations for the Maritimes contained in the 1956-57 estimates:

- Public buildings
- Prince Edward Island
 - Charlottetown—public building—to complete \$650,000;
 - O'Leary—public building \$25,000;
 - Souris East—public building \$75,000.
- Harbors and rivers
- Prince Edward Island
 - Ellerslie—wharf \$16,000;
 - Georgetown—railway wharf—towards reconstruction \$300,000;
 - Graham's Pound—breakwater extension \$26,000;
 - Howard's Cove—fishing harbor—to complete \$75,000;
 - North Lake—dredging \$37,000;
 - Point Prim—harbor improvements \$68,000;
 - Poverty Beach (Murray Harbor North—breakwater and landing facilities—to complete \$140,000;
 - St. Peter's Harbor—improvements \$20,000;
 - Savage Harbor—improvements to complete \$30,000;
 - South River—wharf repairs \$35,000;
 - Victoria—wharf repairs \$78,000;
 - Wood Islands—towards improvements \$100,000.



Charlottetown Legion Elects Officers

Officers who were elected for S.L. last evening were: left to vice-pres. F. Leightizer; rear, Sgt. 1 Branch, Canadian Legion, E.E. ter; president, V. Bowlan; 2nd vice-pres. F. A. Rush. (Guardian Photo)

Half Million More For P.E.I. Is Forecast

OTTAWA (CP)—Federal payments to provinces in the final year of the existing tax rental agreements, expiring March 31, 1957, will increase by an estimated \$35,850,000 to \$354,200,000, the government reported Thursday. Largest share of the increase, \$14,200,000, would go to Ontario. Expected outlays under the agreements were included in estimates for the 1956-57 fiscal year tabled in the Commons. The provinces will receive an additional \$20,271,887—an unchanged amount—in statutory subsidies provided by the British North America Act and other acts. Newfoundland will be paid an additional \$2,250,000—a decrease of \$850,000 from the current year—as a transitional grant under the terms of its union in 1948. Present tax rental agreements, in effect with every province except Quebec, expire at the close of the 1956-57 fiscal year. Federal payments are made for the exclusive right to use direct tax fields—personal and corporation income tax and succession duties. Early this month federal proposals for a new tax-sharing plan were sent to the provinces but none has yet been decided on.

Unemployment Figures Are About Same As Year Ago

According to figures available at the National Employment Office, Charlottetown, between 2,300 and 2,400 people are now drawing Unemployment Insurance Benefits in Rigs and Queens Counties. This also includes the city of Charlottetown. No figures are available at the Local Office for Prince County which comes under the control of the National Employment Office in Summerside. The local figures are approximately the same as they were one year ago.

The Jobs Campaign being carried on by the Local Office, in meeting with some success, with quite a number of householders engaging interior decorators and carpenters. With far from complete details available, the office has listed fifteen householders and business establishments which have undertaken to do necessary work at this time of year, rather than to leave it until Spring or Summer. Several business houses are discussing ways for carrying out work but have not yet made a decision. There is a possibility that one Dominion Government Department will also approve some winter work.

EMPLOYMENT ELSEWHERE
One hundred and forty-nine people were selected for jobs in other parts of Canada, and interviewers gave a fine evidence of the willingness of these two groups to work together in whatever improved plans in marketing and distribution that the growers might initiate.

More than a thousand special special cases including many handicapped people were handled and these required considerable more time than the ordinary case. All told, the Employment Branch handled 27,551 employment transactions. These figures do not by any means cover all the work carried out in the Employment Division.

COMING TALKS
Mr. Shaw spent some days in Ottawa where he conferred with top authorities regarding the potato situation. He intimated that discussions will shortly take place with representatives of the industry and Government agencies for the purpose of giving further exhaustive examination into industry problems.

From Ottawa, W. Shaw, returned to Hamilton and the Annual meeting of the Canadian Institute of Agriculture where he was invited by C.B.C. Farm Division to chair a panel on the subject, "Are there alternatives to wheat growing?" Questions were presented to the meeting from the floor of a large number of representatives attending from all over Canada. The discussion was outstandingly successful and brought out a great mass of valuable information on an issue of importance to every Canadian farmer.

PAIDMENTS
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FOOD SURPLUSES ARE DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE
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Fisheries Dept. To Have Wharf Adjoining Navy Site
OTTAWA (Special)—The Department of Public Works has purchased a piece of land at Charlottetown from S.P. Paoli for \$5,500. It was set forth in an answer to a question asked in the Commons Thursday by Neil A. Matheson, Liberal M.P. for Queens. The land purchased will be used by the Fisheries Department for winter storage of Departmental patrol boats, motors and equipment. It will replace the present rented accommodation.

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Kaoting Island Shelled As Invasion Fleet Masses
TAIPEI, Formosa (AP)—Red China's mainland guns blasted Kaoting Wednesday night and invasion craft are massing just north of that tiny Matsu group island, the official Central news agency said Thursday.

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National Health Plan Statistics
OTTAWA (CP)—Here are a few of the statistics that would apply if a federal health insurance plan now before the Commons is adopted:

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