

British, Canadian Tax Plans Being Observed For Results

By ELMER C. WALZER
UPI Financial Editor
New York — The United Kingdom and Canada are being watched as a laboratory to answer the question, "how valuable is a tax cut in restoring vigorous economic recovery?"

Britain is cutting taxes, Canada is raising them. This is a rare opportunity to see which method is best for the economy. And it comes at a time when things look good for a tax cut for the United States in 1960.

The trouble with economics is that it cannot set up big experiments like those of the chemists, physicists and other scientists to plan the future. There's a human element involved in economics that isn't a handicap in exact sciences. The British and Canadian actions aren't exact laboratory set-ups either but they are about as close to them as one can get.

Small Log Truckers Defend Veto of Two Bills by Hatfield

Small log truckers and logging contractors in Jackson County have defended Gov. Mark O. Hatfield in his veto of house bills 72 and 29.

House bill 29 concerned fees, payable on a quarterly basis, to the Public Utilities Commissioner, and house bill 72 concerned regulations established by the PUC for log truckers.

Governor Hatfield had been criticized for vetoing the bills. Steve Wilson, vice president of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association and owner of lumber industry operations in this area, said Hatfield's veto "saved many small log truckers and small logging contractors from almost certain destruction."

Charles R. McDonald, Trail, said the bills would have imposed additional regulation upon "those persons least able to comply and would have increased costs to the truckers, to the state government, and to the public at large. In some instances, in order to secure patronage, small independents would have been forced to buy equipment they could not afford; many would have been driven from business altogether."

Severe Hardships
He said if the bills had been adopted, they would have forced out of business "the majority of small logger truckers and caused severe hardships to those who did survive. This has been the result in those states that have passed similar legislation."

Realize Hardship
A. J. Miller, small businessman of Trail, said "few people realize the hardship already imposed upon the small trucker in keeping the elaborate records and filing the numerous reports required under Oregon law where the highway use tax is paid on the mileage basis."

Wilson pointed out that "log hauling is one of the few free enterprises in the state in which a single individual can purchase a truck and become an independent businessman. Oregon cannot afford legislation, the effect of which tends to destroy this right."

He said he believed "it is cheaper to pay a higher tax on the flat rate than to pay the costs of excessive record keeping required on the mileage basis. In most states, a trucker hauling his own merchandise is not required to do either, since his share of the cost of building and maintaining the highways is equitably spread by the cost of his truck license plates and the total gasoline tax he pays, based on the miles he operates his truck."

The same feeling was expressed by Eugene F. Burrill, owner of the Eugene F. Burrill Lumber company, White City, and Ray Offord Jr., president of SOCTFA, said if the

Several other small logging operators in the county expressed similar views.



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

Little Pig Made Good-For-A While, at Least
"Spareribs" had two strikes on him right from the start. He was, by accident of birth, the very last to be born of a litter of six razor-back pigs in the dismal scrublands near the picturesque Suwanee river.

When he first met this creature of low birth and the elongated snout, whose dubi-out ancestry was obscured and clouded with ages of questionable parentage. Probably unknown, too, what thoughts of reflected grandeur percolated through the confused mind of Spareribs.

He was a runt; small, puny, slow-moving, and nearly half-witted. When his mother, and brothers and sisters "took off" through the wastelands, he always brought up the rear, and he brought up the rear a long ways back. He never could think fast enough to get his legs going. But Fate plays some strange tricks, and Spareribs' sluggish mental processes caused him to meet nobility, and placed him in a social position none of his kindfolds could ever aspire to, or attain.

A mind as small as his could never assay the possibilities, or anticipate the advantages, for his plebeian forebears were swampfolk; his family "tree" was lower than a stunted bush.

For one afternoon Mother Razorback grunted an alarm, and followed by her brood ran for the cover and safety of a nearby swamp—all except Spareribs. The alarm was caused by a hunting party who had unknowingly come upon the pigs. As usual Spareribs was slow to take off.

But strangely enough these two, from opposite ends of the social world, laid down together, ate from the same dish, shared the same play area, and became devoted friends.

He was caught by the young son of one of the hunters, and taken home for a pet. And in the hunter's home, he met nobility, for there also lives one Ludwig W. Oden Von Techloff. Ludwig bears the stamp of an aristocrat, for his ancestors were dachshunds that hunted wild boars in medieval Europe many centuries ago.

But Spareribs, like all of his kind, was uncouth in his eating habits, and had an appetite that always drove him "foodwards." He started out at a pound and a half, but put on weight so rapidly that in a few short weeks he was as big and as heavy as his two-year-old friend "Luddy." And "Luddy" is the quickest and most convenient way of saying, "Ludwig W. Oden Von Techloff."

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Spareribs made a hog of himself, outgrew his new found home, and began pushing his dachshund friend around. There could be but one final outcome. He was given to a pig farm. The little razorback had, for a little while at least, lain in the lap of luxury, and briefly kissed the robe of nobility.

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actions aren't exact laboratory set-ups either but they are about as close to them as one can get.

The New York Federal Reserve bank in its current monthly review sets forth the British and Canadian actions but does not classify them as a laboratory for us.

But the bank does have some interesting comments on the two situations.

Noting that the British budget's provisions for tax concessions comprise the largest tax remission ever made in the United Kingdom in any single fiscal year, the bank observes:

"While the scheduled reductions in taxes will affect both the consumer and the businessman, the major effect will be a substantial addition to consumer purchasing power."

The bank notes that Britain made the tax concessions because her economic activity has shown little vigor over the past three years while in Canada the economy has pulled out of the 1957-58 recession and economic expansion is once more under way.

One thing Britain, Canada, and the United States have in common is a treasury deficit. Also all three have very high taxes. Britain, like the U. S. has a national election ahead and currently the two have price stability and only moderate treasury requirements in the form of new money.

Canada's Situation
Britain's current tax cuts are raising her budget deficit. Canada is cutting her deficit through higher taxes.

Canada is finding growing competition for funds from business in financing its capital requirements and the tax rise has resulted in declines in its long-term bonds.

Britain's aid to businessmen comes in the form of "investment allowances" which permit businessmen to deduct for tax purposes 20 per cent of the cost of new plant and machinery and 10 per cent of new industrial buildings in the first year, in addition to applying regular annual depreciation charges against total outlays.

American businessmen have been asking better treatment on depreciation allowance is said to be too low in view of the high cost of replacement of facilities.

Interesting To Watch
In Britain a 20 per cent investment allowance permits a businessman to treat a 1,000 pound asset for depreciation purposes as though its original cost had been 1,200 pounds sterling.

It will be interesting to watch these two tax plans. The U. S. often has copied Britain on tax increases. Perhaps, the country may see fit to emulate her on tax concessions.

Not a few of the experts look for a cut in our tax burden next year—if for no other reason than its a national election year. The United Kingdom results may provide a better reason.

6 MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. Tuesday, May 19, 1959

Slight Thawing Of Cold War Positions Seen

Geneva — (UPI) — There were growing indications today of a slight thawing of the East-West cold war positions despite strong statements on each side.

The first official hint from the Communists came from East German Foreign Minister Lothar Bolz who let it be known the Russians would drop their insistence on a German peace treaty as the price of a Berlin settlement.

The West continues to stand by its package plan but it, too, has broken the ice by disclosing readiness to negotiate an "interim settlement" on Berlin pending a final accord in the wider frame of global and European cold war settlements including German unification.

Guarded Moves
Both sides have thus tentatively—and very guardedly—moved toward a possible Berlin arrangement in Geneva without prejudice to their respective overall policy stands and even before a summit conference.

The Communist fallback was foreshadowed by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in recent private talks with British Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery in Moscow.

Montgomery reported the Soviet leader had agreed in principle to drop the demand for a German peace treaty as a preliminary to a Berlin accord. Official Moscow remained silent.

Hedges on Point
Soviet Foreign Minister Valerian Zorin hedged on this point when challenged at a press conference in Geneva last week.

The Soviet price no doubt will be Western discussion of the Berlin crisis without strings attached, more especially without any advance commitment on German reunification.

The West stands heavily committed to its package deal but could move toward separate Berlin talks without having to untie the strings that hold its peace plan together.

Papers' Jobless Pay Stand Rapped

Portland — (UPI) — George Brown, political director for the AFL-CIO in Oregon, charged Monday night that newspapers were acting, as spokesmen for employers who are conducting an anti-unemployment insurance campaign in Oregon.

Brown told members of the Central Labor council here that "they do not have the slightest conception of what a good unemployment compensation program is, and they couldn't care less." He said "they will not rest until they have destroyed the unemployment law—if possible."

He charged that newspapers and employer groups were seeking elimination of many covered workers and reductions in benefits in order to decrease rates they pay into the fund.

"The time has come when labor unions will have to start negotiating across the bargaining table with employers on unemployment insurance if they are going to emasculate the law," he said.

PLANS KREMLIN THEATER
Moscow — (UPI) — Russia plans to build a 5,000-seat modern theater in the Kremlin by 1967, the 50th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, Premier Nikita Khrushchev disclosed Monday.

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Private Rites Held For Cantors' Daughter

Hollywood — (UPI) — Private funeral services were held Monday for Marjorie Cantor, eldest of Comedian Eddie Cantor's five daughters.

Miss Cantor, 44, died Sunday after a two-year battle against cancer which she kept secret until seven weeks ago from her father and her mother, Ida. Both parents suffer from heart ailments and have been placed under sedatives since learning of her death.

Volunteers Sought For 'Bell Ringers'

Lawrence C. Shaw, Portland, state chairman of the Mental Health association, has issued an appeal for volunteers to participate in the community's "Bell Ringer" march May 25.

Shaw said he hoped to enlist about 300 volunteers for two-hour door-to-door solicitation which will provide funds to help maintain progress in the fight against mental illness.

Man Avoids Highways But Injured Anyway

Sunningdale, England — (UPI) — Sir Arthur Morse, chairman of the British Travel and Holidays Association, decided to avoid the highways jammed by millions of his countrymen for Whitsun holiday travel.

He stayed home — and Monday fell and broke a leg while clipping a hedge.

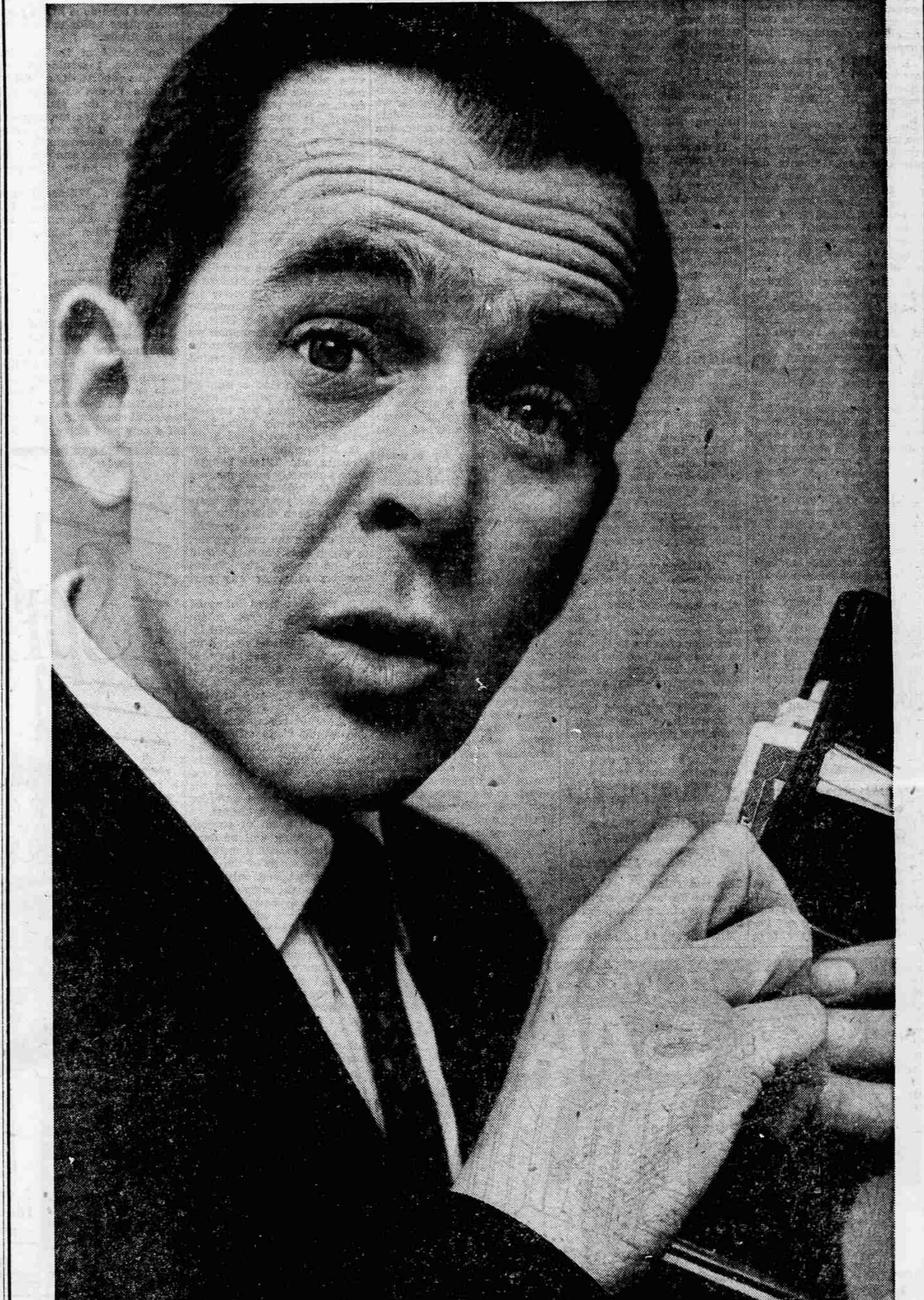
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