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... and what doth the Lord require of thee, but
to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly
with thy God?—Micah 6:6.

Warming Impulses

One way for a government to increase its revenues is to reduce taxes! Does that sound like a foolish contradiction in terms? Well, it describes exactly what has been happening in Canada. In that country's 1953-54 budget, both individual income taxes and corporation taxes were cut, by 11 per cent and nine per cent, respectively. After six months of operation, this budget had brought the government some \$90,000,000 more than was the case last year when the higher tax rates were in effect. What happened, in the words of Time, is that "the tax reductions apparently sent warming impulses throughout the entire Canadian economy." In other words, Canadians saw more incentive to work hard and take financial risks — and citizens and government alike came out ahead.

How Strong Are We?

As a new year begins, it is the part of wisdom for a nation, like a business, to review its assets and its liabilities. On the credit side, the United States has an unrivaled standard of living. Our men and women enjoy wages and working conditions superior to those existing anywhere else. The tide of goods and services that flows endlessly along the American production and distribution line staggers the imagination. Materially speaking, business, agriculture and labor are doing well.

We have a political system which comes as close to being responsive to the wishes of the people as any one can conceive of. In the last presidential election the people removed from power a party which had been in control for 20 years and put another in its place. In some future election the party now in power will be replaced. But no heads roll; no purges are held; the losers are not liquidated. All are free to air their views.

The most disheartening domestic development of recent times has been the growing dependence of millions of people on government, mainly the federal government, to provide services and benefits that, if a free system is to be preserved, must remain the responsibility of the individual and the family group. There has been a blind seeking for a kind of cradle-to-the-grave security whose end, in the sweep of history, has always been the sapping of moral fiber and spiritual value and ultimate slavery. The most obvious manifestations of supergovernment are crushing taxes and mounting national debts, and the inevitable undermining of economic and political freedoms.

Another phase of the debit side is found in the long strides that have been in either socializing outright American enterprises and resources, or in subjecting them to so much government dictation and control that socialization comes ever nearer. And socialism, historically, is but the forerunner of communism or some similar system of government by oppression and terror.

It is true that our present government is pledged to reverse this deadly process. It is true that some heartening steps in that direction have been made. It is equally true that the forces that would destroy our free system and replace it with a very different kind of system are still awaiting their chance.

As a matter of self preservation we must put the welfare of the nation first in considering important national issues, because our jobs, our businesses, our farms, and our liberties depend upon the perpetuation of a strong nation of self-governing people.

What the decisions will be depends entirely upon our moral strength. Will we welcome policies and programs that are in accord with the philosophy of maximum freedom for all — and will we accept the temporary financial dislocations that such policies and programs may create? It will not be easy to end the era of do-all, give-all government. But, if the traditions and ideals to which we all pay lip service, and which have made us great and strong are to be preserved, it is necessary as the air we breathe.

Nineteen fifty-four will be a year to test whether the American people will have what it takes to maintain themselves as independent individuals.

An Easy One to Keep



Washington Newsletter

President Dwight Eisenhower has already launched his public relations effort for 1954. Starting before Christmas Ike began inviting key congressional leaders to the White House. In these meetings the President made it clear that the Republican party was on the job.

He told G. O. P. legislators only teamwork could put the Republican program over in the final session of the 83rd Congress. As some of the lawmakers sat there, listening to Ike, they themselves didn't know what was included in his 1954 legislative proposals.

The President will go before a joint session of Congress on the 7th and end the speculation. He will outline a Republican legislative program which is more inclusive in benefits and scope than any ever before offered by a Republican President. It will amount to a continuation of most of the Democratic social legislation of the last decade.

Ike feels that only if the Republican Congress now in its last year enacts much of this program will the party be sustained in the fall's congressional elections. And only if the party is sustained in this year's elections will the party be in a position to make any further record in the remaining two years until the next Presidential election in 1956.

The President knows he is dealing with two elements in his party and his hope is that harmony meetings such as he initiated

last spring will unify the party behind his program. It may be more difficult than Ike thinks, however, for it will be hard for some of the conservative members of the party in Congress to support some of the Presidential program. Considering the stakes, Ike is doing the only thing he can do — attempting to solidify support in the G. O. P. for the Presidential recommendations. It may be the toughest political job he has ever undertaken.

In spite of howls from the military, especially the Army, the Administration has gone ahead with proposed cuts and the latest report indicates the 1955 budget (which covers the year beginning July 1st) will include only about \$38,000,000,000 for defense.

This will be the recommended figure, and Congress may or may not accept it. It represents a cut of over five billions from the fiscal 1954 figures, however, and chances are excellent that Capitol Hill lawmakers will accept it.

One irony of the expected Presidential recommendations for defense is that the strength of the Army may be cut even more than ten per cent. A ten per cent manpower cut proposal some time ago brought anguish and indignant replies from some Army brass, but defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson, supported by Ike, stuck to his proposal.

Now it looks like the cuts may be larger than the original proposal

which touched off the ruckus. The Navy will also be cut somewhat, and the main emphasis will be placed on the air arm.

The major automobile producers, now pushing their 1954 lines, in most cases have just experienced the toughest selling period they have weathered in years. But the producers kept their prices high and made their retail dealers take a licking in many cases when sales weren't going as good as producers had planned.

As a result some retailers had to scramble to sell cars at cost to get their money untied. Others got disgusted with the process and gave up dealerships. This was rare, admittedly, but in some lines it was done.

The producers felt justified in making their dealers buy the cars in October, November and December. After all, most dealers had enjoyed fine profits and ideal selling conditions for years. They had made nice profits and didn't have to go out and exhibit any salesmanship to net these gains.

The producers know they can't continue to feed dealers too many cars, though, and must do one of two things. 1. They can cut the number of sales and thus lower the unit cost. 2. They can make less automobiles. So far producers have been reluctant to lower prices, even though they have advanced considerably in recent years, but they may be heavily tempted to take such action in 1954, if sales aren't up in the coming months.

News of the Negro Population

(By Mrs. Maude Korngay)

Miss Irene Johnson of Washington, D. C., spent the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Nona Johnson.

Dr. T.M. Rivera left a few days ago for a two-weeks vacation in New York, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Wynn of Trenton, N. J., and Miss Lois Saxton of Topeka, Kan., were guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thad Wynn, Sr., during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Clark and daughters of Lumberton spent Friday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Grady. Mrs. Grady celebrated her birthday on that day. They returned Friday night. Funeral services for Mrs. Fannie Artie McMillan, wreck victim, were held Wednesday evening at 2:00 o'clock at Wynn Chapel with the Rev. Moses Korngay officiating. Burial followed in the Benevolent cemetery. Surviving her are her husband, Raymond McMillan, three sons and five daughters.

The board of directors of the community center held their monthly meeting Wednesday night at the center. Officers for the new year were elected. New members added to the board were George McCain, Morris Newkirk, Solomon Elliott, Mrs. Matthew Bryant, and Mrs. Lizzie Korngay. Committee for the float in the Christmas parade made their report in this

meeting also. Total amount collected in the community chest drive was \$570.55. It was apportioned in the following manner: community center, \$190.18; kindergarten, \$152.14; child-feeding program, \$114.11; and scouting program for boys and girls, \$114.11. The chairman wishes to thank everyone who contributed to this drive.

Miss Dolores Dawson has returned to her home in New York after visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dawson, for the holidays.

Miss Rayonette Rivera, a teacher in the Winston-Salem city schools, and her brother, T. Monte Rivera, a student at Shaw University, Raleigh, were home for the holidays.

MILITANT MINORITY

The minority are those who try to sink the ship just because the majority refused to steer as they suggested.

To Our Customers and Friends

As it is now time to plan for your 1954 crops, we are ready to book your orders for pepper seed, seed beans, seed potatoes, cuke seed and any other kinds of seeds of the highest quality obtainable. We sell the seeds that produce the kind of crops which we wish to buy. We can also supply you with plant bed materials, soda and a complete line of Baugh's High Quality Fertilizers. We also have on hand Bed Fume, Dowfume and other supplies for gassing tobacco plant beds.

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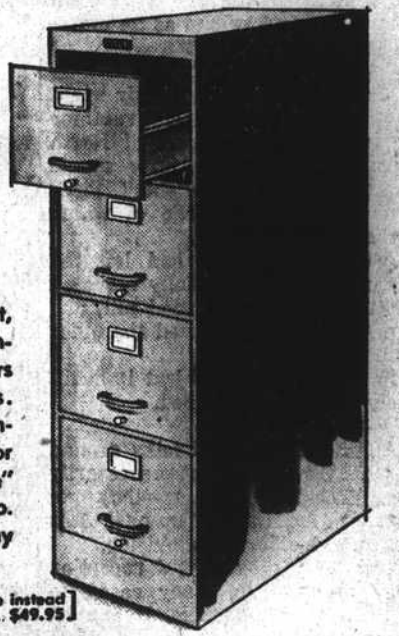
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News For Veterans

Persons in active military service on and after June 27, 1950, are automatically covered against death in active service for \$10,000, less any other Government life insurance in force at the time of death, Veterans Administration said. This Government insurance protection is provided under terms of the Servicemen's Indemnity and Insurance Acts of 1951.

For persons called to active duty 31 days or more, this free indemnity protection continues for 120 days after separation or release from active service. After their separation from service, these veterans may obtain two types of post-service Government life insurance under certain conditions.

The first type is a 5-year-level premium term policy that is renewable every five years at the premium rate for the then-attained age without medical examination. This type of term policy is not convertible to any other form of Government life insurance.

Veterans who may apply for this insurance are those who were ordered into active duty for 31 days or more and who were entitled to indemnity protection while they were in service. They must have been released from such active service.

These veterans may apply to VA for the insurance within 120 days of their separation or release. While they do not need a physical examination, they must pay the required premiums. They may take out up to \$10,000 of this term insurance, less any other Government life insurance in force at the time of application.

The second type of insurance is available to eligible disabled veterans. This coverage is a special form of Government life insurance, in either term or permanent plans, similar to those of Nation Service Life Insurance, except that the premiums are on a different basis, the insurance pays no dividends, the benefits upon maturity are different because they are based on different actuarial tables.

Veterans eligible for this special insurance are those released or separated from active service on or after April 25, 1951, under other than dishonorable conditions and who are found by VA to be suffering from a service-connected disability or disabilities for which VA compensation would be payable if the disability is 10 per cent or more in degree. They must not be suffering from non-service-connected disability or disabilities that make them uninsurable.

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... and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?—Micah 6:6.