

The biggest headaches in Dry Lake City were acquired by statesmen whose job it was to figure ways to meet the ever-soaring costs of government, and by Martin whose problem was to get a 5 per cent return on \$7,500 shovels.

The impoverishment of some Dry Lake citizens in the midst of vast wealth, has already been noted. The city council was unable to account for this strange phenomenon, due, as some claimed, to the inscrutable ways of Providence, but it felt that it ought to do something. It therefore legislated with great fury, setting up costly public works projects and relief programs, each with its appropriation, to care for shorn lambs.

While Martin sat in his office and waited for somebody to come in and pay shovel rent, Dry Lake City's shopmen, merchants, bankers and factorymen hustled for what they got. Martin was galled by the discovery that some of them earned more than 5 per cent on what they had invested. This, Martin felt, was because the shovel-holding industry was so overburdened with taxes that his \$7,500 shovels did not pay their proper dividends.

It was clear that what both the city council and Martin needed was a just tax bill which would at the same time yield more revenue to the city and relieve the overburdened shovel owner. The bill, prepared by Professors