

BUDGET: PUT THAT IN YOUR PIPE AND SMOKE IT!

People in Downing Street, waiting to give the Chancellor the usual budget send-off, expected a few tax increases,

~~but when the Chancellor announced that the duty on tobacco was to be increased from two pence to three pence and four pence~~
~~and that the duty on beer was to be increased from one penny to one penny and two pence~~

but what Hugh Dalton really had up his sleeve - or rather in the bag - nobody so much as dreamt. The man with a song in his heart has put the smoker's heart in his boots. He was going to tell us that income tax was eased off and beer let alone this time. And we can still win our fifty-thousand on the Pools and keep it all for ourselves. So that ~~just~~

just left this little business about tobacco. All the wise chaps queued up the day before to avoid the twopence extra they expected. But who on earth ever imagined three-and-four for twenty.

Betting in all forms goes scot free, till somebody can find a way that's fair all round. So the State isn't touching the millions that go down the drain of open gambling. Meanwhile careful men are thinking how to shift some of the tax burden.

The Chancellor then said that the ~~increased duty on tobacco~~
~~could raise the price of cigarettes to three and fourpence~~

for ~~twenty~~.... Hm! That's pretty steep. Well, ~~after this,~~ ^{never mind,}
~~one,~~ just ~~give~~ give up smoking!

Then he's on the way to being a rich man!....

Good! Beer's free! But ~~why~~ Give that up and be richer still!... And with no tax on Pools, he may become a millionaire.... But ~~what's~~ what's this?... ~~So~~ ~~tax~~ on his ~~new~~ Millionaire 's have to pay super tax! Well, that just shows that nowadays, no matter what you go without you've got to pay, ~~one way or another~~. His dreams ~~of being~~ a millionaire vanish, and he 's not even back where he started.

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The Chancellor, then said that the increased
import duty on tobacco, would raise the price of
cigarettes to three and fourpence for twenty.

There would be no increase of the beer duty.