

**THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN**  
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 Frank Walker.  
 "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than  
 the Weakest Ink."  
 FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1947

**The Hudson Bay Route**

The prospect of shipping western feed grains to this Province by way of the Hudson Bay route from Port Churchill, discussed by Mr. H. K. S. Hemming in a letter in the Public Forum on January 15, has caused a good deal of interest. As noted previously, the fact that ships can leave Churchill as late as November 15, thus permitting six return trips from Churchill to Charlottetown each autumn, is a matter of prime importance. Mr. Hemming at the time of writing was not able to obtain all the cost figures, which also are a vital factor; but it is hoped that these will be disclosed without delay. In the meantime, something about the Hudson Bay route, from reports submitted at the last annual convention of the Hudson Bay Route Association, may here be noted.

Agitation for the Hudson Bay route as a means of direct transportation to the United Kingdom started back in 1877. The first charter to build a railway to the Bay was granted in 1880, but it took fifty-one years before the railway was built and the seaport established. Then came drought to the West, and world-wide depression. "Npt very much happened with our new route," President Streeton concedes, "but we did send out twenty million bushels of wheat and nearly 1,000 head of cattle. We imported a few thousand tons of general cargo at a great saving in costs of shipment, thus proving beyond a doubt the feasibility of this new route. But then came World War II and the port was closed except for military use."

The port was re-opened for civilian traffic in June, 1945, but considerable difficulty has been encountered in making it available. It was to combat this opposition that the Hudson Bay Route Association was formed.

In a report to the directors and members of this organization dated last September, the secretary writes that he discussed at Churchill plans for larger grain shipments this year with many people experienced in the handling of grain. "We arrived at the conclusion," he says, "that either the Western Governments or the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool should immediately acquire control of the elevator at Churchill and the internal elevator at Saskatoon. The capacity of these two elevators is 7,500,000 bushels and they should be filled up from the 1946 crops. Much of the grain from Northern Saskatchewan farms could be shipped immediately direct from local elevators and more ships can be obtained from overseas. As soon as navigation opens next year providing the elevators referred to were filled, 35 ships which should be contracted for in April or May could enter the harbour at Churchill and carry on continued operations throughout the season. Each ship is capable of loading an average of 300,000 bushels and a conservative estimate is that we could move 30 million bushels through the port next year."

As Mr. Hemming pointed out in his letter, to date all grain shipments from Churchill have gone to Liverpool, a distance of 3,000 miles. The distance from Churchill to Charlottetown via Hudson Strait and the Labrador Coast is only 1,500 miles. This is a tremendous advantage, if it can be utilized for the benefit of our farm producers in conjunction with a storage elevator here. It is up to our Federal representatives as soon as possible after Parliament gets down to business, to make every thorough inquiry into this matter.

**Wild Ducks In Winter**

The ducks and geese of North America are now being subjected to an annual inventory covering Canada, Alaska, United States, Mexico and Central America. More than 1,000 observers have co-operated under the auspices of Federal, provincial and state governments in making this inventory between January 7 and 17, when the water-fowl are relatively stationary in their wintering grounds. In some areas, airplanes have been used for observational purposes and aerial photography has been tried.

Information will be checked by further observations on migration and nesting in Spring and early Summer before the changes to be made in the regulations governing the hunting of water-fowl are decided on.

One of the first reports to be received in connection with this inventory in Canada comes from the St. Lawrence River between Prescott and Cornwall, where nearly 1,900 wintering ducks were found on January 8 by observers. It is not considered unusual for many hundreds of ducks to winter in the swift, open water of this part of the St. Lawrence; in fact, local reports received indicate that the number of these birds in this area this Winter is less than usual.

Ducks winter on similar rapid, open water in many parts of Canada, in spite of occasional air temperatures far below zero, because, strange as it may seem, they are protected from cold by the ice-water in which they live. The temperature of this fresh water is not less than 32 degrees, as long as it does not become ice, and therefore it is frequently much warmer than cold winter air. The wintering ducks are well protected by their fat and by their plumage, with the air that is enveloped in it, so that they have no difficulty in keeping warm and healthy in a medium no colder than 32 degrees.

Of course they must have plenty of suitable food to enable them to maintain their body heat, but they winter only where that food is to be found, and, strangely enough, a great

deal of their food throughout the Winter consists of insects. One is not accustomed to finding many insects out-of-doors in Canada in Winter, but these ducks find them because they look for them in suitable places, that is, on the bottom of comparatively shallow water in the open areas where they are wintering. The larvae of such insects as caddis-flies and dragon-flies are to be found there in great quantities, and these insect forms, together with crayfish, are the principal winter reliance of the majority of the ducks found at this season on open areas of Canadian streams.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

Zero hour in coal situation.

Exception is being taken by farmers to direction of farm organizations by officials in Ottawa. It was ever thus: beginning in a democracy and ending through negligence in an autocracy. Eternal vigilance is the price of safety.

The question of continuing Government control on life's essentials, food, clothing and rentals will provide the main subject for discussion when the debate on the address opens on Monday. Associated with this will be the terms on which Canada can provide the Mother Country with much needed supplies of food-stuffs. Here the opportunity offers to get a market for our surplus potato crop instead of dumping it, as Washington decided to do.

The Federal Government is in a dilemma over what to do with Dr. David Shugar, former Health Department physicist who was acquitted on a spy probe charge. He has applied for re-employment, but the powers-that-be seem reluctant to acquiesce, claiming that as his appointment during the war was only temporary he has no right to be re-employed. But the United Electrical Workers think differently, and have approached the C. C. F. to bring the matter before the House.

"Admiral" William Duff, Senator, is once more off to the battle front at Ottawa, where he intends entering active forthwith in the interests of the fishing industry. He intends to call for an international agreement including Canada, the United States and European countries for the conservation of fisheries along the Atlantic seaboard. Senator Duff said in an interview that beam trawlers and druggers, operating unrestricted on Nova Scotia's fishing grounds, were "ruining the fishing industry" and that it's "only salvation is to return to the dory schooner."

Ben Jonson, English dramatist and poet, born this date 1573; began life as a brick-layer and, after a most brilliant career in literature and drama, died in poverty due to killing a fellow actor in a duel, for which he was branded and deprived of all his estate, being left penniless in a poor state of health. His tomb in Westminster Abbey bears the inscription "O Rare Ben Jonson." He wrote extensively, much in collaboration with Inigo Jones, his masterpiece being *The Alchemist* in which Sir Epicure Mammon is a gem of character portrayal—the situations are good, the story absolutely coherent, the minor parts worked out admirably. As a song writer, he is best known for his "Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes." "True happiness does not consist in the multitude of friends, but in the worth and choice."

The enterprising employees of the E. B. Eddy plant at Hull, Que., who utilize their positions to redeem used food ration coupons and sell them to their friends, are still appearing before the courts to answer for their black market activities. The plant superintendent, described as the "king-pin" of the operations, has been fined \$800, while three women have been fined \$350, and \$150 each respectively. Six others have been granted a week's delay. Cpl. R. W. James, who with other R. C. M. P. officers investigated the disappearance of coupons from the Eddy plant vats where they had been sent for processing into other paper products, described how one accused had obtained food coupons from the pulping machine and later sold them for \$12.

Lord MacMillan, who was a personal friend of the late Hon. and Mrs. J. A. Mathieson, and whose guest they were when they visited England, has resigned his office of Lord of Appeal in Ordinary. The King has approved the appointment of Lord Normand as a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary in succession. Lord MacMillan, son of a Scottish Presbyterian minister, was called to the Scottish Bar in 1897. He afterwards went to London and practised at the Parliamentary Bar until he was made a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary. Lord MacMillan, who is in his 74th year, told a reporter that he was not retiring for health reasons. "I have completed my full 15 years service," he said, "and 50 years at the Bar." He added that he would remain a Lord of Appeal, and his services could be used from time to time if called on.

The west is rallying to the support of the East in connection with feed shipments. The *Winnipeg Tribune* said Eastern Canada's entire livestock and dairy production programs are in imminent danger of collapse due to lack of Western Canadian feed grains. A virtual embargo against shipment of Western feeds to Eastern Canada has existed on all railroads throughout the present crop year which began August 1, the paper added. Last week, the Canadian National Railways clamped a rigid embargo on feed grain movement east in order to turn all railway equipment to movement of food grains to Atlantic and Pacific ports for export to Europe. The East had been importing between 140,000,000 and 180,000,000 bushels of feed, wheat, oats, barley, low-grade rye, screenings and mill-feeds from Western Canada each year. The *Tribune* said a telegram from J. F. Davidson, feed administrator for Canada, to Winnipeg, reported that feed reserves stocks in Eastern Canada were "practically all used up."

**Notes By The Way**

As in other Winters, children are still losing their lives as a result of fires which break out in the absence of their parents. The law should be made something to say about that.

The seed catalogues are coming in again. They are always welcomed as a promise that spring will be along in due time. The seed companies, incidentally, do more than sell seeds. In producing seed, by themselves, or with the assistance of selected growers, they do much to improve varieties of fruits, flowers and vegetables and to find the kinds best suited to the climates and general conditions of territories in which they sell.—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

The conventional method of freezing ice is slow and expensive because of the extremely low heat conductivity of both water and ice. Now a machine has been developed that will freeze ice more than 100 times faster than present conventional methods. The Rotarian Magazine reports. A thin layer of ice is formed over a revolving core of drum and is continuously scraped off. The ice may be used in cake form or by simple pressing, molded into ice cubes or cakes of any desired size.

Incidentally, Canadians must be about the worst letter-writers in the world, thinks The Ottawa Journal. Immediately we take pen in hand to drop a note to a friend (our business letters are unmentionable) we become stilted, fall into stammering, humping words, forget that a good letter should be simply good talk. Above all, a good letter should be clear, precise, simple, free from pomposity and attempts at fine writing, and sincere. Indeed, if a letter is sincere with its author speaking the truth as he sees it in a good-mannered, civilized way, it can't be other than good. John Bright set a good example in this—in both sincerity and reality—in evolving an immunity to a man he distrusted, he wrote: "You may whatever respect is due to you, John Bright."

Almost all our thinking about immigration is for granted that Britain is a dependable source of new citizens. Even those in the highest official positions are apparently proceeding on the theory that this reservoir may be tapped at any time we get around to using it. A new aspect is revealed with word from the Old Land that Britain is herself out after immigration. This is understandable, with the need there for a reversal of usual procedure that comes as something of a shock. This trend must be taken into consideration here, and it should spur Canada to really get on with immigration policy. If any delay too long, we may find the United Kingdom actually reaching out to this country for settlers.—Windward Star.

The Forty Plus organization which in the years before the war was actively engaged in finding employment for men who had attained the age of 40 or more, is now likely to be affected first. Services is again rising during the war years, when the demand for workers, regardless of age, was so great that anyone who wished could find work of some sort, and job agencies were at a low ebb. But with competition for jobs rising, as a result of the shift in employment conditions since the end of hostilities, men in middle life and beyond are faced with a situation similar to that which prevailed in the years prior to the war. Individuals with little or no training in any particular field of activity are the ones most likely to be affected first. Those who took advantage of the opportunities offered during the war to learn a trade or profession are better situated to meet competition from younger workers.—Boston Post.

—Most bowlers wondered at one time or another what would happen if they got their thumb stuck in the ball. There is even a legend about a character who did get his thumb stuck and followed the ball the length of the alley on his stomach, beating the ball out at the last second to make a strike with his head. Recently a well-authenticated case of this Jack Horner type of fun was reported. A lady bowler approached the manager of a bowling alley and told him she would thank him to remove the 10-pound ball which insisted on hanging on her finger. The lady was taken to a woodworker's shop where the ball was attacked with drills. After considerable boring and reaming the ball and finger were parted and the lady went on her way. Certain cynics have not failed to point out, however, that the ball will never be the same again.—Winnipeg Tribune.

The United Farmers of Canada, at their recent convention in Regina, passed a resolution calling on the Dominion Government to pass legislation authorizing the Bank of Canada to create interest-free credit (money) for the use of municipalities and governments. The financial editor of a Toronto newspaper, in explaining the resolution, says that for every hundred dollars the banks have on deposit or in reserves, they can lend a thousand dollars; and that this additional credit will cost nothing but the expense of making the book-keeping entry.

If this theory is correct, why be so niggardly in applying it? Why confine the benefits to municipalities and governments? Reports to the Department of Finance show that the deposits and reserves in the chartered banks at the present

**PUBLIC FORUM**

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The *Charlottetown Guardian* does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

**GROWING PICKLING CUCUMBERS**

Sir.—Considerable interest is now being taken in the production of cucumbers for pickling purposes in this Province. This interest has been stimulated by the knowledge that a ready market now exists for such crops at guaranteed prices. The profits from this type of enterprise depends more on the volume of fruits marketed, within certain size limits, than on total tonnage. Premium prices are paid for cucumbers in the smaller sizes while large cucumbers, approaching maturity, are in small demand and are paid for at low prices. To be profitable to both the company contracting and the grower the bulk of the fruits harvested must average well below the inches in diameter. The crop, while not difficult to handle, does require a considerable amount of labour for harvesting. This, for most farmers, would seem to be the limiting factor in determining the acreage to plant. The crop is harvested over a period of some seven or eight weeks and requires at least two pickers to handle the crop from one acre.

Small large acreages of cucumbers for pickling purposes are not commonly planted in this province, little is known regarding profitable yields or profits. In other provinces, particularly in Ontario, yields of from three to five tons per acre are common and returns in excess of two hundred dollars an acre are possible.

The land for cucumbers should be fertile and well drained. Cucumbers are heavy feeders and require plenty of barnyard manure for best production. When manure is not plentiful it is customary to place the available supply in furrows where it is covered and mixed with the soil. Manure placed in such a way should be well compacted to prevent drying out. For furrow applications, use only well rotted short manure. To supply the available supply of manure commercial fertilizers are used. Amounts of from 500 lbs. to 1,800 lbs. of a 5-10-10 or a 4-8-10 can be used profitably, the amount to use depending on the fertility of the soil. The amount of manure on hand, heavy concentrations of commercial fertilizers near the rows may injure the tender seedlings and should be avoided.

Seeding should be delayed until the soil is warm to the touch. The usual time for sowing, depending on the season, would be from June 1st to June 15th. The rows are usually made from six to seven feet apart and the plants in the rows spaced to eight inches. When sowing by hand, place four or five seeds at intervals of eighteen inches apart. The plants are then thinned to one or two per foot. The seed bed should be covered to a depth of about one inch. The amount of seed to use depends somewhat on the method of seeding, but usually from 1-4 lbs. to 2 lbs. is sufficient. Use only seed recommended by the company contracting for the crop. In thinning the plants should be disturbed as little as possible and it is therefore advisable to cut out rather than pull out the surplus plants.

Frequent but shallow cultivating is carried out until the plants cover the ground. Disturb the vines as little as possible during these operations. Cucumber plants require plenty of moisture and it is necessary to have a fine dust mulch at all times during the growing season. Harvesting is begun just as soon as the first fruits are formed which in this province would be about August 1st. At first two or three pickings a week will be all that is necessary. Later when the vines come into full production it may be necessary to pick every day. The vines will continue to bear until the first killing frost.

Insects and diseases are not usual with cucumbers in P.E. Island at present but may become distinctive as larger acreages are planted. Cucumber beetles and mosaic are the two troubles most common to this crop. When diseases or insects are found it would be well to communicate immediately with the officer-in-charge, plant pathology division or entomology, Charlottetown Experimental Station, Charlottetown.

I am, Sir, etc.  
 G. C. WARREN  
 Assistant to Superintendent  
 Dominion Experimental Station,  
 Charlottetown.

**Farmers Want Real Money**

(From The Scene)

A farmer friend, who has saved a modest sum of money in forty-five years of farming, sends us the following: "The United Farmers of Canada, at their recent convention in Regina, passed a resolution calling on the Dominion Government to pass legislation authorizing the Bank of Canada to create interest-free credit (money) for the use of municipalities and governments. The financial editor of a Toronto newspaper, in explaining the resolution, says that for every hundred dollars the banks have on deposit or in reserves, they can lend a thousand dollars; and that this additional credit will cost nothing but the expense of making the book-keeping entry.

**Whitehall Notebook**

By Stuart Underhill,  
 (Canadian Free-  
 Staff Writer)

Home Secretary Chuter Ede, the calmest man in the Commons—who can soothe Labor members anxious about Fascists and Communist-lives worried about Communist-custodian of that precious jewel, British citizenship. Like all who have gone before him, Ede does nothing to cheapen it. For the ordinary alien, British nationality is not easily obtained. He must reside in the United Kingdom for at least five years before he makes application and then every reference he provides is checked.

In the end he is visited by a special branch officer from the home office who makes a final review of all the information assembled—some of which might surprise the applicant in its completeness. If the application is approved by high authority, the word is sent by post, with the request for \$38 for a naturalization certificate, this being added to the £1 paid at time of application.

When he receives the certificate the alien hustles around to a commissioner of oaths where it is signed and attested for a fee of 2s 6d. Peter MacLaren, others prominent in the organization were James MacDonald, Daniel Gordon, Peter Robertson, W. D. Stewart and Robert Shaw.

**Antarctica: Britain's Position**

(United Kingdom Information Office)

In view of the present public interest in Antarctic exploration and, as its accompaniment, the ventilation of claims of different countries to territorial sovereignty in the South Polar Regions, the following details of the United Kingdom Position and United Kingdom scientific activities may be appropriate. The Antarctic Continent was first discovered by Edward Bransfield of the Royal Navy on January 30, 1820, when he sighted Trinity Peninsula in Graham Land. The only Antarctic area for which the United Kingdom Government is responsible is the Falkland Islands Dependencies, embracing the South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands, South Orkney Islands, South Shetland Islands, and Graham Land.

Britain's title to the Falkland Islands Dependencies rests on the fact that the islands were first sighted by British ships in 1775 and 1776. Secondly the continued administration of the Dependencies to the extent necessary in view of their character.

In international law there are broadly three different types of claims to sovereignty over new territory. Firstly, a claim by virtue of discovery. This confers an inchoate or provisional temporary right to acquire territory by occupation. Secondly, commencement of occupation, which also confers an inchoate right, only effective for a limited time, to perfect a claim by administrative action. Thirdly, the completed acquisition by occupation, that is the establishment of the administration for the territory as suited to local conditions.

Britain's claim to the Falkland Islands Dependencies is based on completed acquisition by occupation. Similarly, New Zealand's claim to sovereignty over the Ross Dependency, that of Australia in the area extending from Victoria Land to the Antarctic, and that of Norway for Queen Maud Land and of France for Adelle Land are considered by the United Kingdom Government to be well-founded. The U. S. A. Government officially recognizes claims to annexation.

The Chilean and Argentine Governments have each put forward claims in the South Polar area. The Chilean Government has claimed the continent, fresh action by the Chilean Government was reported on January 22nd. Insofar as these claims conflict with those already published in the Letters Patent by the United Kingdom Government they are not recognized by Britain.

The United Kingdom Government's scientific and survey work in the Falkland Islands Dependencies is carried on by the "Fitzroy" and the "Eagle", established in the outbreak of war, was resumed in the summer of 1945-1946 when an expedition employing two ships, the "William Scoresby" and the "Fitzroy", was sent out. Fully equipped with a new base at Hope Bay in North Graham Land. Again during the 1946-1946 season a third expedition with three ships, the "Trepassey" replacing the "Eagle", established a new base at Cape Geddes on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys and at New Fjord on the island in Marguerite Bay of Southwest Graham Land, the southernmost base of all. The organization was now termed the "Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey" and placed under the control of the Colonial Office.

Since the resumption of survey work five bases have been established. They are re-provisioned time after time over six billion dollars according to the newspaper editor's way of thinking, this should put the banks in a position to lend a total of sixty billion dollars—enough to take care of all the financial requirements of all the governments of all the corporations and all the private individuals in Canada.

**The Poet's Corner**

**THE SILENT LAND**

Waking one morning  
 In a pleasant land,  
 By a river flowing  
 Over golden sand:—

Whence flow ye, waters,  
 O'er your golden sand?  
 We come flowing  
 From the Silent Land.

Whither flow ye, waters,  
 O'er your golden sand?  
 We go flowing  
 To the Silent Land.

And what is this fair realm?  
 A grain of golden sand  
 In the great darkness  
 Of the Silent Land.

—James Thomson

**Old Charlottetown**

**NEW PERTH DEBATING SOCIETY**

A pioneer organization in its field in Prince Edward Island was the "Mutual Improvement Association" formed at New Perth, Sept. 28, 1869, with the following staff of officers: President, John Hamilton; senior vice president, John McMillan; junior vice president, James McDonald; secretary, Duncan A. W. Kennedy; treasurer, James E. Robertson; assistant secretary, Peter MacLaren. Others prominent in the organization were James MacDonald, Daniel Gordon, Peter Robertson, W. D. Stewart and Robert Shaw.

There was a well-stocked library in connection with this society, which came into existence on the eve of stirring events at home and abroad and developed into a lively debating society. Among the lecturers credited to active members were: "Practical Philosophy" by Daniel Gordon; "Women" by John Hamilton; "Covetousness" and "Atmosphere" by James E. Robertson; "Education" and "Natural Philosophy" by W. D. Stewart; "Geology"; "Davies-Stewart Government"; "Man, his Nature, physical, intellectual and moral"; "Art of Speaking"; "Grecian Education"; "The Old World and the New"; etc., by C. Stewart; "Geography", teacher of New Perth School.

Lectures by visiting speakers all duly noted in the minutes of the Society, including "Lord Macaulay" by J. H. Fletcher; "Scotland" by C. Stewart; "Geography"; "Ancient Asia and Africa" by John MacNeill; "Readings" by Rev. Dr. Grant, afterwards principal of Queen's University; "Philosophy and God"; "The Genius of the Ancients"; etc., by Rev. D. Knox, the most eloquent of Island clergymen of his time. Among the questions debated were "Were the Southern States Justified in Seceding from the Union?" "Should Slavery be abolished?" and "Will the award of the Land Commissioners benefit the Tenantry?"

Throughout the history of Antarctic exploration and scientific research Britain has played a leading part. Of 168 exploratory expeditions launched between 1843 some 75 were from the United Kingdom. Of 22 major scientific expeditions which have wintered in the Antarctic half were from the United Kingdom. No other country has sent more than two or three such expeditions.

The London Times in a recent leader observed "valuable scientific research is being carried out in Antarctica, and it would be a misfortune if the tradition of friendly international cooperation were to be broken by the intrusion of political rivalries, which only serve to interfere with genuine research. In the Antarctic there is room for many and it is quite clear which countries have been responsible for its discovery and development in the past. Britain has nothing to fear from an impartial review of her own claims on their merits, since they are well supported by her record of discovery, settlement and administration."

LONDON.—(OP.—) Sir Adrian Ballie, sixth baronet of Polkmet, died from pneumonia. He was Conservative M.P. for Lintithgow from 1911 to 1935 and for Tonbridge, Kent, from 1937 to 1946.

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**GOLD COAST COCOA**  
 ACORA, Gold Coast—(OP) has been established in the Gold Coast and Nigeria to purchase and sell a whole crop so that profits of marketing as well as producing will remain with African farmers. These colonies produced 37 per cent. of the world cocoa exports just before the war, 42 per cent. coming from the Gold Coast alone.

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