

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, 1949

The Canso Crossing

We in Prince Edward Island can perhaps
appreciate better than most people the claims
now being pressed strongly at Ottawa for a per-
manent crossing over the Strait of Canso. This
narrow strip of water which separates Nova Sco-
tia proper from Cape Breton is at one point
only half a mile wide. The ferry connection, op-
erated by the Dominion Government since 1883,

In winter serious dangers attend the ferry-
crossing. A tide-rip of four to five miles an
hour courses through the Strait of Canso, carry-
ing heavy ice-floes. The ferries are frequently
trapped by these and are swept for miles down
the Gut before they can work free and chug
back to the landing-docks. Even then these be-
come choked with ice, thus adding more hours
of delay until the obstruction is cleared.

For the past half-century Cape Breton peo-
ple have wanted the Strait of Canso spanned
by a bridge. Today they are more hopeful than
ever. The Federal Government has had the situ-
ation surveyed by a Board of top-flight engi-
neers, and the Canso Crossing Association of
Sydney, N. S., are optimistic as to the result.

British Egg Market

Local officials in recent weeks have placed
strong emphasis on the need of cultivating the
domestic and American egg market to a greater
extent. The serious decline in our exports to
the United Kingdom, owing to the exchange
situation, has also been stressed. The following
figures released from Ottawa tell the story:

In 1947, that is, Jan. 31, 1947 to Jan. 31,
1948, Canada exported to Britain 1,993,620 cases
of shell eggs, 30 dozen to the case; 13,561,124
pounds of egg powder; and 5,130,357 pounds of
frozen egg melange — a total equivalent to
88,676,280 dozen eggs.

In 1948, that is, from Jan. 31, 1948 to Jan.
31, 1949, Canada will have exported to Britain
1,330,000 cases of eggs, 30 dozen to the case;
9,243,794 pounds of egg powder; and 10,299,488
pounds of frozen egg melange — a total equiv-
alent to 70,000,000 dozen eggs.

In 1949, the new contracts call for export
to Britain between Jan. 31, 1949 and Jan. 31,
1950, of a total of 650,000 cases of eggs, 30
dozen to the case; 6,720,000 pounds of egg pow-
der; and 8,960,000 pounds of frozen egg melange
—representing altogether 46,000,000 dozen
eggs.

Thus, in two years Canada's egg exports to
Britain have been cut in half. So far, the rise
in prices has to an extent compensated for the
decrease in value. For the calendar year 1947,
total value of eggs exported to Britain was
\$36,968,102; for 10 months of 1948, the value
of these egg exports was \$34,968,102.

But there is the possibility that with the
rapidly decreasing volume of egg exports over-
seas, the domestic market will soften unless
other outlets are found. At the moment, it is
hoped to dispose of these Canadian export sur-
pluses in other markets.

Seaway Versus Canal

An estimate of the cost of the proposed St.
Lawrence seaway and power project has been
given delegates to a meeting of the Dominion
Marine Association by Mr. Frank P. Fifer, chief
engineer of the Atlantic Division of United
States Army Engineers. He believes the cost
will be more than \$675,000,000, which, even in
these inflated times, is a considerable sum.

Mr. Fifer says the estimated costs of the
power half of the St. Lawrence development
would be approximately \$463,000,000. The na-
vigational half would cost about \$105,000,000
in the International Rapids section of the river,
and the remainder of the expenditure, \$107,000,
000, would be spread over the waterway from
Duluth, Minn. to Montreal.

To Maritimers who have taken renewed in-
terest in revived plans for development of the
canal and power resources of the Chignecto
Isthmus and the hydro potentialities of Pas-
samaquoddy Bay, these astronomical figures
should be enlightening. Compared with the St.
Lawrence proposal the cost of the Chignecto
canal project is insignificant, although construction
of the waterway between Northumberland Strait
and the Bay of Fundy is vitally important to the
future economy of these Provinces.

So far, comments the Moncton Transcript,
too much attention has been paid by Ottawa to
the St. Lawrence plan and too little to the two
Maritime projects. And in this regard Maritimers
themselves may be to blame. But it is heart-
ening to know that an office has been set up
to promote the Chignecto project, and before
long Ottawa doubtless will be hearing a lot

about its merits. However, impetus would be
added to the campaign if the elected representa-
tives from the Maritimes raise their voices in
concert on Parliament Hill in support of the
canal and power development proposal.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Foundation Day of Australia, 1788.

Prince County Progressive Conservatives
meet this afternoon in Summerside to choose
a candidate for nomination at the forthcoming
election.

Tonight entries for the Dominion Drama
Festival will be on their mettle. Adjudicators
may make their notes but audience reaction
has a far greater influence on the performance.

With confederation with Newfoundland in
the offing, Canada has that additional interest
in fisheries conservation. The Washington con-
ference meeting today comprises nine countries
bordering the North Atlantic who are concerned
about "serious depletion."

Jaques Greber, French architect, has pre-
pared a report in "preliminary form" for the re-
planning of the city of Ottawa, having a weight
of 35 pounds. What the final draft will weigh,
and cost, will probably stagger imagination.

The Financial Post reports that the price of
cocoa bean has dropped from 38c a pound to
26c and holds out hope that after Easter we
may again see a five-cent chocolate bar, par-
ticularly if the excise tax is lifted as candy-
makers hope.

Twenty-five persons in Saskatchewan have
been prosecuted during the past two months for
failure to pay their hospitalization tax. About
20 per cent. of the people eligible to pay the
1949 tax have not yet done so. However, despite
the increased tax rate this year, the number of
payments is about the same as in 1948.

Appropos the opening of parliament today,
Prime Minister St. Laurent is reported to have
said, "I don't think we're going to have any
more light sessions. I don't pretend to see into
the future but judging from appearances at
present these light sessions would seem to be a
thing of the past."

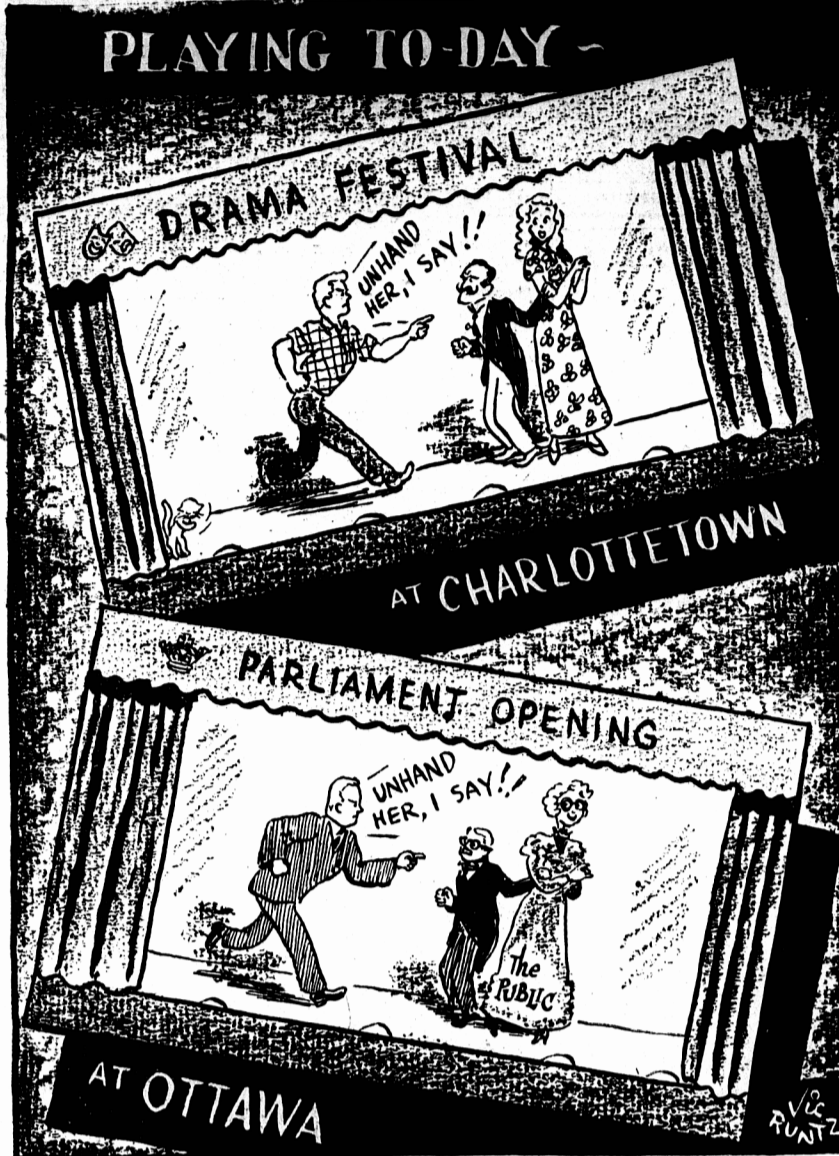
The Fall of Khartoum this date 1885. Gen-
eral Gordon was isolated there in the Mahdi re-
volt, and before relief arrived he was killed and
the town captured. The Mahdi died the same
year, and was succeeded by the Khalifa, who
ruled till 1898, when he was completely defeat-
ed at Omdurman by an Anglo-Egyptian army un-
der Kitchener.

\$1,800,000,000 are to be invested in Brit-
ain's farms during the next four years. Half of
this sum is to be spent on mechanized equip-
ment. Agricultural machinery production in
Britain is now valued at \$280,000,000 a year,
compared with \$105,000,000 in 1946. The out-
put of tractors in Britain for the first nine months
of last year exceeded 82,000. About 40 per cent
go to overseas markets.

Table with 3 columns: Location, 1949, 1948, 1947. Rows include Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, and Charlottetown.

A new painkiller six times more powerful
than morphine has been produced by chemists
of Glaxo Laboratories, Greenford, England.
Heptalgin, which is the name of the drug, can
act within a few moments and rarely takes more
than a half-hour, while its pain relieving effects
last from at least three to four hours. Swallowed
in tablet form or given as an injection, it at-
tacks the seat of pain without producing drowsi-
ness or a feeling of depression. While it is
too early yet to say with certainty that heptal-
gin is in no way habit forming, it has been es-
tablished that addiction to this drug is certainly
less likely to occur than with other analgesics.
In trials carried out so far on patients, the
drug has given quick relief in rheumatic com-
plaints, pleurisy, heart trouble, sinusitis, tooth-
ache, gastric ulcers and inoperable cancers.

Always the centre of Canada, never the
Maritimes must receive consideration at Ottawa.
"Any project such as the joint development of
power and navigation on the St. Lawrence which
can open up the centre of this continent...
cannot be deferred much longer." Transport
Minister Chevrier said in an address to the
Marine Club of Toronto. During the 1948 na-
vigation season 250,000,000 tons of cargo were
carried by American and Canadian vessels on
the Great Lakes. These Great Lake fleets carry
raw materials and commodities to "the greatest
industrial centre of the world." "Huge iron ore
deposits discovered in Labrador and Quebec make
the St. Lawrence seaway project not only feasi-
ble, but also a necessity." Besides supplying a
highway of commerce, the project would un-
leash approximately 2,200,000 horsepower of
electric energy. Mr. Chevrier said further meas-
ures to assist the Canadian shipping and ship-
building industries were being studied. The
shipping industry is the very lifeblood of our
existence. Our future both in war and peace
depends upon its smooth operation. It is vulner-
able to sabotage... It is our duty to organize
for the protection of the shipping industry. But,
be it noted, all in favour of Central Canada.



The Strasser Case

(Winnipeg Free Press)
Dr. Otto Strasser, the German ex-
ile now living in Canada who has
been refused permission to return
to Germany because of his pres-
ence there would likely provoke trouble,
has curious links with the Nazi
regime, despite his criticism of and
hostility to Adolf Hitler.

Old Charlottetown

The pioneers did most of their
own manufacturing. A few iron
ploughs had been brought from
Scotland by the settlers, but most
of the plows were wooden, made by
some handy man among the farm-
ers, and fitted with irons by the
village blacksmith. The harrows
were of wood with spike teeth, and
the plow were the only im-
plements used in putting in the
crop, and the reep-hook, cradle and
scythe did duty in harvest time.
This was before the days when the
Ontario manufacturers sent the
smiling machine-agent down here
to tell us what we wanted.

The Age-Old Story

I will be glad and rejoice in
Thy mercy; for Thou hast con-
sidered my troubles, Thou hast
known my soul in adversities.

Public Forum

This column is open to the
discussion by correspondents
of questions of interest. The
Guardian does not neces-
sarily endorse the opinion of
correspondents.

The Lobster Season

Sir,—For some unknown reason
our new Minister of Fisheries has
changed the opening time for set-
ting out leaving the shore to any
time after 12 o'clock a.m. of the
first day of May. This year the
1st day of May falls on Sunday.

Trip to England

HALIFAX — (CP) — Duncan G.
L. Fraser of Acadia University and
Alexander T. Stewart, science gradu-
ate of Dalhousie University, have
been awarded \$1,600 scholarships
for post-graduate studies in British
universities by the Imperial Order
Daughters of the Empire.

Police Lose Jail

LAKE COWICHAN, B.C. —
(CP) — Provincial police were de-
prived of their office and jail here
when the structure was moved to
make way for a new highway. Until
a new building is constructed, pris-
oners are being taken 17 miles to
Duncan.

Young Curling Champions

ARBORG, Man. — (CP) — When
Michael Zacharek returned home
with his rink after winning the
Manitoba high school curling
championship the whole town turned
out to welcome the winners. A
community banquet was arranged
to honor the occasion.

Lost, One Skirt

BRANTFORD, Ont. — (CP) —
Lost, one skirt. Mrs. Daniel La-
fave of Grand Rapids, Mich., ap-
pealed to the citizens of Brantford
to look for her skirt. Last night
passing through here it was
found. It was a present—and had
never been worn.

Canada's Life - Blood: Trade

VII. THE GREAT MIRAGE: THE AMERICAN MARKET

By
E. L. R. Williamson, M.B.E.

In previous articles we have seen that there is no basis for a Can-
adian trade-policy which assumes either that there will be a gen-
eral return to free multi-lateral trading or that there are any vast, new pat-
terns of trade awaiting development. In other words, Canada's trading
relations must continue to be principally with those countries with whom
we have for so long traded: the Sterling Area, (that is, Britain and the
Commonwealth), and the United States.

2. We also have seen, however, that those relations cannot con-
tinue on an ad hoc basis. Selling to the Sterling Area, and buying from
the United States. In the future, the Sterling Area will be able to buy
in Canada only as much as Canada buys from the Sterling Area; and
Canada will be able to buy from the United States only as much as the
United States buys from Canada. This means that if we are to buy from
the United States on the same scale as we now are buying there, Canada
must sell more to the United States. Alternatively, if we expect the
Sterling Area to continue to buy from us on the old scale, we must buy
more of our requirements in the Sterling Area.

3. Thus we are brought face to face with the crucial question: As
international shopkeepers, whom do Canadians regard as the more im-
portant to our trade—the American salesmen, or the British customers?
4. There is a section of opinion which holds that our American
sources of supply are more important than are our British markets; that
the American salesmen are more important than the British customers.
But if this view is to be practical, we must find in the
U. S. a market for the things which we now sell to the Sterling
Area; there is NO other way in which we can maintain employment
and income in Canada.

5. Are there American markets for our agricultural produce? The
first factor, and one which is frequently overlooked in Canada, is the
United States itself has been shipping vast quantities of agricul-
tural products to Europe and other parts of the world. The high prices
and shortages in America, (which for the past three or four years would
have made the U. S. a lucrative market for Canadian farmers), have
been created by these huge American exports. But American overseas
markets for foodstuffs and grains rapidly are drying up. When those
markets are gone, and they will terminate with the Marshall Plan,
America will have large, unsaleable surpluses of all the grains, both
bread-grains and feed-grains. There will be no room in the American
market for Canadian grain.

6. Is there a market for our meat? American meat-herds reach
of their minimum about two years ago but they now are rapidly being
increased, and the abundant supplies of American corn (maize) give the
American cattle-raiser an immense advantage over his Canadian coun-
terpart. There is no reason to believe that there will be any appreciable
American market for Canadian cattle, beyond a limited market for
"feeder" stock, and we know from experience that even this market
might be closed at the critical moment, when it would hurt the Cana-
dian producer most.

7. With regard to pork and pork products, it is sufficient comment
to note that, instead of our being able to export pork to the U. S. mar-
ket, the U. S. is trying to sell pork to Canada, and the Canadian Gov-
ernment within the last few days has found it necessary to re-impose
bans upon the importation of American pork into Canada.

8. That important Maritime crop, potatoes, is another example of
rising surpluses of American farm products. The Canadian Govern-
ment's export ban on potatoes was imposed at the request of Washing-
ton, and to forestall action by the American Government.

9. Similar conditions surround all other Canadian farm products
of which we have exportable surpluses. Indeed, the American farm pro-
ducts "price-support" policy, just re-enforced by Mr. Truman's re-lease
whenever it even appears that there may be an American surplus. If
they did not do so, they, in effect, would be using the American tax-
payer's money to support Canadian farm-prices.

10. What then of an American market for Canadian manufactures?
The shortages in the U. S., created by the needs for European recon-
struction, have obscured the facts concerning manufactures also. The
American labour force—those actually engaged in production—has in-
creased more than 50% since 1939, now stands at 64 millions, whilst
the population has increased only 12%; in other words, there now are
more producers in proportion to the population than before the war.

11. The mechanical-plants at the disposal of American industry have
been similarly increased; e.g., steel capacity, despite the present short-
age, has been increased 63% over pre-war. Large increases in capacity
for the production of machinery, tools, electrical goods, cloth, rubber,
and many other items, also have been achieved in excess of population
expansion.

12. Further, the capital-equipment installations, the training of the
huge working-force, and the creation of trained executive staffs, all
have been achieved as a charge upon war-costs. As a result, peace-
time production in America is free of these charges, and thus in a
substantially stronger position competitively.

13. These circumstances all combine to give the United States a
productive capacity — agriculturally and industrially — far in excess
of America's peace-time domestic requirements, and a competitive power
exceeding that of any other nation. Given any reasonable period of
peace, the United States will be seeking markets for herself in all fields;
not providing markets for others. It is beyond reason to assume that
the United States would be prepared to provide employment for Can-
adians whilst Americans stood unemployed.

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