

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, DEC. 27, 1949

Operation Corkscrew

All members at Stonington base join
together in forwarding a special Christmas
message to Reuters requesting them to send
Christmas greetings to all peoples of the
British Empire from the most southerly
community. So runs a message from 11
scientists who have been marooned for three
years on ice-bound Stonington Island, Gra-
ham Land in Antarctica. The relief expedi-
tion, consisting of the British ship John
Biscoe, the tanker Gold Ranger, and the
Norwegian whaler Thorshov, is sponsored
by Britain, Norway and Sweden and in-
cludes at least one Canadian scientist, Dr. E.
F. Roots of Vancouver, who is senior geolo-
gist to the party. In addition to relieving
other stations, the expedition is attempting
to take off the men from Stonington base
together with their equipment and records.
They set up an air base on Deception Island
and the John Biscoe and Gold Ranger at-
tempted to cut through the pack ice to
Marguerite Bay. F/O Peter Borden St.
Louis, R. C. A. F. of Ottawa, a Canadian
bush pilot, was to make the 400 mile flight
from Deception Island to "Base E" where
the party is marooned. In approaching De-
ception Island, the expedition ran into diffi-
culties, one course having to be retraced
through mist and snow following a trail of
red paint scraped from the side of the
John Biscoe on the inward journey. The
rescue has not yet been accomplished but it
is noteworthy that one man, Brian Jefford,
who has been two years surveying in the
King George Islands has volunteered to join
the expedition as dog driver. If he can't
he wants a job surveying in the Northwest
Territories of Canada. Who will say that
the spirit of adventure is dead?

The Wrong Solution

In an attempt to solve the teacher short-
age problem, common to all the Provinces,
an Ontario Royal Commission on Education
recommends a relaxation of academic qual-
ifications, payment of grants to teachers in
training and, in the case of married persons
who may be induced to enter normal
schools, payment of a form of family allow-
ance upon proof of need.

To the first proposal, namely that of
relaxing academic qualifications, the Cana-
dian Teachers' Federation takes strong ob-
jection. "Teacher shortage", it maintains,
"will not be solved by a watering down of
standards. What is needed is a bold step by
Departments of Education to put techniq-
ue on a truly professional level which will
attract the better graduates of our universi-
ties and high school. The solution lies in
higher qualifications, better living and work-
ing conditions and, above all, salaries that
will enable teaching to compete with other
occupations in attracting and retaining the
right people."

These are laudable objectives to aim at
in every Province. The question is how,
without Federal aid, the less wealthy Pro-
vinces are able to do much when even On-
tario finds the going difficult. Isn't it time
for a Dominion-Provincial conference on
education?

Report On Britain

"There is little wrong with the sale of
Old Country products in Canada that a
dozen Canadian advertising agencies could
not cure—if only the people across the At-
lantic would put their selling methods on as
modern a basis as they have their manu-
facturing." This is the considered opinion
of a shrewd Canadian business man, Mr.
Andrew D. MacLean, president Hugh C.
MacLean Publications Ltd. Mr. MacLean,
who bases his views on a recent personal
visit to Great Britain, goes on to say:

"Britain wants to sell us, most of all,
the following: small cars, trucks and trac-
tors, machine tools, steam and oil engines,
sewage and water plants, equipment and
rolling stock for our new subways, aircraft
engines and oil refineries . . . and all are
in agreement that they should not invade
Canada with goods that compete with our
own factories. The Federation of British
Industries and the Canadian Manufacturers'
Association are working in complete har-
mony.

"The fact is that Canada imported \$400
millions of machinery in 1948 and only \$28
millions of this was from Britain. The Brit-
ish mean to increase their share and their
efforts are showing surprising results. The
unfavourable balance of trade between
Canada and the United States and between
the United Kingdom and Canada can only
be answered by Canada buying more of
what she now buys in the United States

from Great Britain."
Britain, Mr. MacLean emphasizes, "is
not dying but growing. We expected to
find, and were on the watch for, 'feather
bedding' practices among workpeople; we
found little in industry. We expected com-
placent management content with the old
ways of doing things; we found new ideas,
research and eagerness to try out new
methods—and labour glad to help manage-
ment with experience from the shop. We
expected also to find uncomprising pride in
old-fashioned skills; instead we found a
great pride in the doing of traditional hand-
work by modern power tools. We found
among the craftsmen of industry an eager-
ness for new, faster, better methods. Biased
reports from unfriendly correspondents—
motivated more by home politics than con-
cern for truth—had given us prefabricated
judgments that were all the wrong shape."

"It is unfair," Mr. MacLean concludes,
"for Canadians to call every British indus-
trial development 'socialistic.' Their state
medicine is costly, but on a per capita basis
is little different from our 'baby bonus.'
The Conservative press of Britain was
shocked to learn of the losses of their 'na-
tionalized' railways. Losses were approxi-
mately those we have become accustomed to
in the Canadian National Railways. Let me
say as an employer of labour and having
talked with many publishers in Britain, that
I saw little to choose between our problems
—except their profits before taxation are
much greater than ours!"

EDITORIAL NOTES

Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

Now that Christmas is passed and no
one particularly cares about snow we will
probably have any amount of it.

France's budget is due to be passed by
Dec. 31 and its failure of acceptance will
almost certainly result in an election rather
than the selection of a new coalition govern-
ment to succeed that of Premier Georges
Bidault. From a Canadian point of view it
would seem to be about time.

The \$10,000 paid out in six months by
the P. E. I. Workmen's Compensation Board
cannot represent very much after salaries
and expenses are deducted. The Board's ef-
forts in cutting down the accident rate by
advising the use of safety devices will prob-
ably be its chief reason for existence.

Nova Scotia Highways Minister Merrill
Rawding says that the Province "will fare a
lot better financially than we had expected"
under the Trans-Canada Highway proposals.
The reason is Federal payment for hard
surfacing already accomplished. Had the
Island commenced its road building pro-
gramme immediately after the war's end we
should have fared equally well financially
and had the benefit of paved highways.

Charles Lamb, English essayist, died this
date 1834. He is recognized as one of the
most lovable characters and writers in Eng-
lish literature, his essays, written in a
unique indescribable style, mingling quaintness
and delicacy, humour and pathos. He ranks
high as a literary critic. Professionally, he
was a civil servant, but that did not inter-
fere with his literary production. His prin-
cipal publication is his book of essays on a
variety of subjects under the name of
"Elia".

The Windsor Star quotes what is, per-
haps, the perfect answer to those who would
defend Communists in the teaching profes-
sion. "Academic freedom consists of some-
thing more than merely an absence of re-
straints placed upon a teacher by the college
that employs him. It demands as well an
absence of restraints placed upon him by his
political affiliations by dogmas that may
stand in the way of free search for truth,
or by rigid adherence to a party line that
sacrifices dignity, honour and integrity to
accomplishment of political ends."

This advice from the Vancouver News-
Herald is applicable to us as well as the
Vancouverites. "Auto court and resort
owners of British Columbia are in Vancou-
ver to talk over their problems. They have
plenty. Auto courts built ten years ago
are now out of date. In the United States
—from where most of our motor tourists
come—the motorist is accustomed to hotels
which are clean and attractive and mod-
ern, surprisingly reasonable in price. There
are some visitors, true, who like to rough
it, but they are few. They want, gener-
ally speaking, the same kind of accommo-
dation they find in their own country, at
the same reasonable rates. The day is
past when visitors will put up with un-
screened cottages where flies buzz in every
direction, where walls and woodwork, bed-
ding and floor coverings may be soiled, or
inadequate, where there's a privy at the
end of a bramble path, instead of gleaming
indoor plumbing."

The Poet's Corner

FROM LOLLINGDON DOWNS

Wherever beauty has been quick in
clay
Some effluence of it lives, a spirit
dwells,
Beauty that death can never take
away
Mixed with the air that shakes the
flower bells;
So that by waters where the ap-
ples fall,
Or in lone giena, or alleys, full of
flowers,
Or in the streets where bloody tid-
ding call.
The haunting waits the mood that
makes it ours.
Then at a turn, a word, an act, a
thought,
Such difference comes; the spirit
apprehends
That life's glory; for where
beauty fought
Under the veil the glory never
ends;
But the still grass, the leaves, the
trembling flower
Keep, through dead time, that ever-
lasting hour.

—John Masfield.

Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)

VOLUNTEER BRIGADE

Reference has been made in
this column to the volunteer rifle
corps which were formed through-
out the Island following the re-
peal of the Militia Act of 1853.
The first review of the Volunteer
Brigade was held May 24, 1860. In
1865 the Adjutant General, Lt.
Col. P. D. Stewart, reported that
the number present at the annual
inspection of that year were 742,
an increase of 104 over the pre-
ceding year. He listed the follow-
ing various companies and com-
manders, with remarks on their
standing:

- City Artillery: Capt. Thomas
Morris. Company in good stand-
ing.
Prince of Wales: Maj. R. R.
Hodgson. Arms returned to the Armoury
prior to inspection.
Dundas: Capt. Henry Beer. Com-
pany in good standing.
West: Capt. Henry McIntyre.
Company in good standing.
Belfast or Thistle: Capt. Donald
Fraser. Company falling off.
Highland: Capt. Donald McLeod
Company falling off.
Mounted Rifles: Lieut. J. W.
Holman. In good standing.
Pownal: Lieut. William Acorn.
No Muster for Inspection; in dis-
organized state.
Wood Islands: Capt. H. C. Mc-
Millan. Improving.
Renfrew: Capt. N. E. Matheson.
No Muster for Inspection; dis-
organized.
Scotia: Capt. Duncan McRae. In
good standing.
Thistle or East River: Capt.
James Wyatt. In good standing.
Victoria: Capt. John Robertson.
In good standing.
New London: Capt. James Pid-
geon. No Muster; Company dis-
organized.
Vernon River: Capt. John Dun-
can. In good standing.
Brunswick: Capt. T. E. Carson.
Falling off.
Royalty: Capt. George Wright.
In good standing.
Bayfield: Lieut. Angus Darrach.
Falling off.
Little York: Capt. Ralph Mabon.
An excellent company.
Fort Augustus: Capt. Francis
Kelly. Newly organized.
Queens Own: Capt. John Has-
zard. Falling off.
Tryon: Capt. A. E. C. Rolland.
Improving.
Westmorland: Capt. Thomas Ives.
A good company.
Cascumpe: Capt. Benj. Rogers.
No Muster for Inspection; disor-
ganized.
Summerside Artillery: Capt. C.
McLennan. Falling off.
Malheur: Capt. P. McNutt. Im-
proving.
Lord Clyde: Capt. M. McLeod. In
good standing.
New Perth: Capt. J. McDonald.
A good company.
Dalmeny: Capt. George Mc-
Kenzie. No Muster; disorganized.
Bohally: Capt. Ewen McPhee.
Falling off.
Souris: Capt. Alex. Leslie. In
good standing.
Duncan and Kaye: Capt. Ephraim
Jenkins. No Muster; disorganized.

A Sturdy Invalid

(Hamilton Spectator)
A family doctor advised an elderly
couple in Kansas City that
they should no longer walk up
and down stairs in their home.
There were symptoms of heart
trouble; and he therefore urged
them to try to live on the ground
floor of their house.
The aged husband and wife had
full confidence in their doctor
and they proceeded to observe the
rules he laid down for them. But
they found it awkward not to go
to the upper floors of their home.
With that quaint fund of logic
that sees nothing extraordinary in
such behaviour, the husband reas-
oned that an elevator was the
only practicable solution—and
he had his own solution. His
good wife was disposed to agree.
To her mind, though, the cost
would be prohibitive and thus the
improvement was out of the
question.
The husband didn't press his
point, but he was not convinced.
Why not build one, then? That
is precisely what he did. With
no outside help, and in six weeks,
he completed the contrivance. He
assembled a set of gears from an
old water pump, a hickory drum
holding a cable woven from piano
wire, an electric motor of one
quarter horsepower, and several
yards of hemp. He also installed
specially designed braking me-
chanism. When finished the eleva-

It's Time To Straighten Out This Maze
I'M STARVING—
WHERE WILL I FIND
SOMEONE TO SELL ME
FOOD??
WHERE WILL
I FIND SOMEONE TO BUY
THE FOOD I NEED
TO SELL??
HONEY-
FOREIGNER
CANADIAN
PRODUCER
COMPLICATIONS
OF
INTERNATIONAL
FINANCE
WELL?
"IMPOSSIBLES
ALREADY
ACCOMPLISHED
FLIGHT
FASTER
THAN
SOUND"

Mr. Gardiner's Failure

Agriculture Minister Gardiner
has served his country ill and his
farming community worse. He has
labored to create a condition in
which, for the time being at least,
we cannot do business with our
best customers for foodstuffs. He
has brought his abortive regime,
as the Big Boss of Canada's food-
producing enterprises, to a dead stop
in an atmosphere of uneasy mis-
trust between this Dominion and
the Mother Country. He condemns
Canadian farmers to their fate,
with only a vestige of former mar-
kets abroad left to them, with no
substitutes in sight and with not
even a gesture toward creation of
a safeguarding domestic policy for
the great industry which he first
bedeviled and now abandons.
Confessing that Britain would
get none of our egg and apple
surplus and none of our bacon
unless some of the wheat that is
cancelled to make way for their
items in the appropriation for
cereals, the Minister confesses that
there is no other market in sight.
And while arguing that Canada
cannot get along without the
British market, he also argued that
we should not be expected to buy
more British goods than the
United Kingdom's finance food
purchases from us. He "advised"
Western farmers to convert 13.5
per cent of their wheat acreage to
feed grain production—presum-
ably to expand beef output for an
American market which is much
better than seasonal and which
characteristically produces its own
surplus.

Climixing this topsy-turvy mix-
ture of confused thinking and
factual failures was the admission
that he is not the end of his
ability to continue exports on the
basis of Government-to-Govern-
ment sales. He also was peeved that
the Agricultural Prices Support
Act had not been renewed; agreed
with suggestion that substitutes
should be more liberally used. A
part from that, his major sug-
gestion is that farmers on their
own find ways to increase domestic
consumption of their wares.
The Government as a whole
must share responsibility with Mr.
Gardiner for this grim picture.
Unrealistic financial and economic
policies, before and since devalu-
ation, undoubtedly were a major
factor in placing our exportable
surpluses beyond the reach of effec-
tive British purchasing power.
Moreover, they have been the
limiting factor in connection with
our ability to finance sales to
Britain.

Both Mr. Gardiner and his col-
leagues knew for years back that
Britain would have neither gold
nor dollar reserves to maintain
adequate food purchases. In the
circumstances, the Minister of Agri-
culture's problem was to make
ment arrangements with the United
Kingdom. The only alternative
was to make a similar arrange-
ment with other even more dollar-
starved customers on still more
liberal terms. Obviously, it would
have been preferable to deal with
Britain, which is a punctilious
debtor as well as our best and
most friendly market.
Even yet it is desirable that
Canada accommodate her food-
selling policy to Britain's temporary
dollar shortage. Neither Mr. Gar-
diner nor the Cabinet of which he
continues to be a member seems
disposed to make so much as a
token move in that direction.

for functioned smoothly, was pro-
nounced safe and capable of carry-
ing a maximum load of 250 pounds.
It runs from a basement work-
shop to a study on the second floor.
The study on the second floor
feels so well that he believes he
could really walk up and down
stairs without harm. His wife re-
minds him, however, of what the
doctor said. But something they
both don't know is what the doc-
tor said when he saw the eleva-
tor and learned who made it.
There are times when silence is
the best eloquence.

LOST-COST MONEY

MONTREAL — (CP) — McGill
University's \$8,100,000 drive for
funds was completed recently at a
cost of \$90,844, or 1.12 per cent,
the university announced. Prin-
cipal F. Cyril James said it was
"a notable record."

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& Son
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tive British purchasing power.

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Notes By The Way

If more people had invested
money in housing, there would
be no housing shortage and rents
would be less. There is a hous-
ing shortage because there aren't
enough landlords. And it is rea-
sonable to suppose that there
would be more landlords if in-
vestments in rental houses were
more attractive. — Vancouver
News-Herald.

A milestone in the development
and progress of Maxville was
reached with the formal opening
of that village's modern com-
munity hall. Built at an estimated
cost of \$35,000, the hall will house
municipal offices and will have
facilities for dancing, public meet-
ings, concerts, etc. Construction
of the excellent new hall marks
another forward step in the pro-
gressive community of Maxville,
which has attracted national at-
tention during the past two years
for being the home of the fam-
ous Glangary Highland Games. —
Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

The significance of adult educa-
tion as a beneficial influence on
those directly concerned has been
imply proved. Of no less im-
portance are its indirect results.
We are told, for instance, that
cures for adverse social trends in
children — the so-called develop-
ment of juvenile delinquency —
can be checked best in the home.
But how are the children to learn
in the home if low standards and
relative ignorance prevail among
their seniors about the family
hearth? — Victoria Times.

Nothing but sheer force has
hitherto kept pan-Germanism in
check. It is still a strong force,
and most Germans seem to think
that they lost World War II chief-
ly through mismanagement. The
alleged democracy of West Ger-
many is really pretty thin. Actual-
ly, the Bonn Government looks
more like a one-man rule than
anything. To get Germany into
the European family of nations is
undoubtedly desirable. To give
Germans too much rope, too soon,
is to repeat our former mistakes.
— Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

Provided ready markets can be
found for Canadian steel there is
a possibility that electric smelt-
ing of iron ore may result in great
expansion of the industry in
shorter time than is now con-
sidered possible. There is talk of
such a project at the Head of the
Lakes where there is an abun-
dant supply of cheap hydro pow-
er and the nearby Sleep Rock ores
have proven in tests to be particu-
larly adapted to the direct re-
duction process. — Winnipeg Trib-
une.

In Quebec province, motorists
with licence numbers under 2,000
repeatedly have joyfully immunity to
parking tickets and other troubles
to which ordinary folks, unblest

with official favor, are prone. An-
other item of privilege which is
nation-wide is ranking — free use
of the mails. It costs about \$41-
millions a year. Our interest in
the matter was considerably arou-
sed on seeing a letter sent by the
wife of an MP asking the addressee
to buy tickets to a concert. The
envelope carried the House of
Commons postmark and the magic
words "Free-Franco." — Toronto
Financial Post.

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DENTIST
Pickard Building
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