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Taking time out from his political tour which has taken him from the east to the west coast, George Drew, right, Progressive Conservative leader, is shown instructing Norman Greves, age four, in the art of fishing. Mr. Drew met Norman while he was campaigning in Galt, Ont. With the two ardent fishermen is Karl K. Homuth, P.C. candidate for Waterloo.

Drama Festival Ass'n Activities

Following is the report of the retiring president, Mrs. Harold Laird, submitted at the recent annual meeting of the P. E. I. Drama Festival Association:

"In reviewing the activities of our Provincial Drama Festival over which I have had the honor to preside for three years, I feel that we are concerned with something unique in the field of Canadian dramatics. I am informed that in no other Province is there a Provincial Drama Festival. Regional festivals? County festivals? Church festivals? Yes, but no drama festival such as we have, open to all the rural organizations of a province, and in time, we hope, to town young peoples organizations.

"The idea, you will remember began four years ago in a district convention area, as did the Musical Festival. Six plays were presented that year with local adjudicators judging the plays.

"The following year, which we shall call the first year, the festival was declared open to any Women's Institute group on the Island. The district convention area was chosen for grouping the plays, and although the idea was sound, such organization later proved too cumbersome. Rules and Regulations, therefore, were much simplified the same year and the Drama Festival Executive was made responsible for the grouping of play-offs, semi-finals and finals.

"In the second year, too, the Prince Edward Island Libraries co-operated with us and issued a catalogue of one-act plays from which groups could choose and send to the Libraries for plays for reading and selection. (I hope Mr. Chandler will give some figures to prove the success of this undertaking and the growth of interest in dramatics.)

"Mr. Chandler, as Drama Festival Executive, was instrumental in having Mr. Wetmore, dramatics adviser for Nova Scotia, come over and give a dramatic school course during the winter of 1948. Members of the Little Theatre Guild were also able to avail themselves of this course. Again in 1948 through the efforts of Brig. Reid and Mr. Chandler, and at our request, Mr. Melikjahn, dramatics adviser for the Dominion came to Charlottetown and held a short course. This course also was open to members of the Little Theatre Guild, although, of course attendance had to be limited. All expenses of the two courses was borne by the Provincial Physical Fitness branch of Adult Education for which we were most grateful. This branch also gave us last year a grant of \$100 to help us carry on and before that we shared with the Music Festival in grant of over \$300 donated to the two festivals by the Dental Clinic under the direction of Mrs. Wyand. This year we are especially happy and grateful to our Government, which through the efforts of Dr. Shaw, has seen fit to give us a grant of \$600.

Broadened Horizons
 "This year, too, we broadened our horizons. Under the chairmanship of Mr. Norman Macdonald, C.D., we have organized a Junior Drama Festival, open to all Prince Edward Island schools. Due to several delays, the rules were somewhat late in getting to the schools. However five groups participated and we felt it was a successful beginning. We believe this festival will grow from year to year. Dr. Shaw has kindly promised introduced into the curriculum of the

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summer school for teachers. This is a step in the right direction, and should bear fruit.

"This year much effort has been put into both publicizing our Festival and interesting groups in dramatics. As convener of arts and literature in the Women's Institute, I prepared a paper on our drama festival work which was sent as program material to all our Institutes, in slightly altered form this paper was sent to Mrs. Leslie Ramsay, our C.W.L. Liaison officer who distributed it to C.W.L. groups. A short newspaper article was also prepared which was distributed by Mr. David Murphy Y.P.U. Liaison officer and by Mr. Leo McIsaac to Junior Farmers' organizations.

"What was the response to this effort? 15 groups entered the Provincial Drama Festival, but also some fell by the wayside, others were consumed by the cares of this world such as house cleaning etc. and eight only held fast to the end. I think we all can appreciate the difficulties encountered in holding a cast together for several weeks. I only hope that no cast gets a case of nerves and withdraws for that reason. We may have lots of wounds to lick after the Festival is all over but what of that — the Festival is interesting, educational, hard work, and lots of fun.

"Our Festival play-offs began May 20th, and more than we had planned or anticipated. Four groups each competed in Queens and Prince Counties. It is to be regretted there were no entries from Kings. Groups winning first and second place in each county then competed in the finals at Summerside. The oratorical contest of the festival was held the first night of the Festival. Mr. Wetmore of Nova Scotia judged the Festival finals, and in the oratorical contest was assisted by Prof. Frank MacMillan and Mr. Norman Macdonald. For the play-off and semi-finals we are grateful indeed to the following adjudicators who gave so generously of their time and ability. Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Scantlebury, Mrs. Smallman, Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. Dr. Miller, Hon. Mr. Large, Mr. Barry Bugden, Mr. Morton Dew, Mr. Cassidy.

"For the finals of the Junior Drama Festival to Mrs. Leslie Ramsay, Rev. S.J. Davies and Mr. Ross MacKenzie.

In December, a 15 minutes round table discussion on dramatics was given over CFCY with the following taking part, Mrs. Scantlebury, Mr. Arthur Vessey, Mr. Norman Macdonald, Mr. David Murphy and myself. Interesting items on dramatics appeared from time to time in the press and Institute News, many of them supplied by the P.E.I. Libraries.

"We may not have grown so much larger in numbers, although twenty entries in all is a healthy number, but I do feel that the interest in dramatics has increased 100% since our Festival work began. Nova Scotia has requested we give them the history of our organization, and our ways of financing it. They are interested in starting a similar movement. I think the Festival and the Little Theatre Guild are building friendship and co-operation between city and country people. We appreciate the Guild's interest in us, and we are very much interested in their organization.

"In this my last report to you as President, I would like to say thank you very very much to all of trial and error, for we have literally felt our way along. Mrs. MacLeod has been a most loyal and faithful secretary treasurer and Mrs. Gates and Mrs. Herring a lower of strength. To all then who

IN MEMORIAM
MRS. FRANK HOWARD

Sunday evening, May 22nd, after attending service in Cornwall Church and as she was about to retire, Mrs. Frank Howard was suddenly stricken with paralysis, which left her conscious, but speechless until her death on June 1st.

Mrs. Howard was born at North River, Oct. 3, 1869, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Balderson. After her marriage she moved to Cornwall where she has been an esteemed resident for over fifty years.

During her life of eighty years she was a true christian woman; in her home a devoted wife and

mother, and where her hospitality was famous and unbounded; in the community as a neighbour and nurse during many serious illnesses; in the W. M. S. of which she was a life member, and at the May meeting reviewed a book on China very acceptably and in her church as an organist for upwards of thirty years and where she served as an elder until her death. Truly it might be said of her "She hath done what she could."

The funeral service was held in Cornwall United Church on Friday, June 3rd, Rev. J. R. Skinner a former pastor who visited her while ill, read the scripture, Rev. T. Wilson, Covehead, offered prayer, and Rev. M. K. Charman, her pastor, whom she recognized to the last as he tenderly sang and prayed with her, addressed the large audience.

His opening sentence "I have preached many sermons, but for the two years I have been with you, I have witnessed a living sermon in the person of Mrs. Frank Howard" was sufficient if no more had been said, but he

fittingly said more and admonished all to "Come."

The hymns sung were: Lead Kindly Light and Nearer My God to Thee and Mrs. Douglas Macdonald very sweetly sang "The Christian's Goodnight" with Mrs. Gordon MacMillan as organist.

The host of friends who called to offer sympathy, and the hundreds of people at the funeral service conducted by Mr. Cutcliffe, all were a token of the high esteem in which she was held.

She leaves to mourn, a sorrowing husband, two sons, Hazen of Cornwall, Victor of Edmonton, Alberta and one daughter Mary Mrs. Frank Hughes, Covehead.

One son, Cyril, predeceased her in his early manhood, also six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

One sister, Mrs. Laura MacRae, Seattle, Washington, survives her. The session of Cornwall Church of which she was a member walked in a body to the church viz: Golden Smith, Colin Murray, John Boyle, Gordon MacMillan, Harry Hyde and Stephen Ackland.

The honorary pallbearers were: Lea Howard, Chester Cox, Robert Frizzell, A. P. McEachern, Harry Crosby, Lorne MacPhail, Peter Inman, Seymour Scott, Ivan Clow, Jack MacPhail, Colin D. MacPhail, Hubert Hughes, John Miller, Harry Pethrie, Colin A. MacPhail, Russell Hyde, Kemson MacKinnon, Wilbert Drake, Albert Hood, Arthur Stone, Mack Vickerson, Lem Drake, Louis Macdonald, Fred Dunstford, Harold Donahue, Norman MacFadyen, Vernon Drake and Frank Boyle.

The active pallbearers were: D. J. MacArthur, Walter Boyle, John F. Heartz, James Doyle, Norman Hyde, Leslie MacEwen. Interment was in the church cemetery.

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