

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, DEC. 23, 1949

Compass Antics

Since Columbus discovered to his horror
on September 13, 1942 that the compass
needle no longer pointed to the North Star,
thereby becoming the first man to observe
magnetic variation, mankind has learned
much about the earth's magnetism.

U. S. Farm Subsidies

Increased signs of a changing attitude on
the part of United States farmers toward
the prevailing system of Government sub-
sidies are becoming apparent. A few days
ago, the Associated Poultry and Egg In-
dustries asked the federal authorities in
Washington to cut sharply their support
price for poultry and eggs because the
present level of support was causing serious
over-production.

The Brannan Plan, which Congress turned
down but which Mr. Truman is seeking
to revive, would allow perishable farm pro-
duct prices to find their own level as far as
the wholesale and retail end of the business
was concerned. Where, however, these
wholesale and retail prices were insufficient
to give the farmer a predetermined fair re-
turn for his labor, the difference would be
made up in the form of Government sub-
sidies. The parity system, on the other
hand, is determined by dividing the farmer's
cash receipts for each year by the same
year's index of the prices paid by farmers
for goods and services, including allow-
ances for interest and taxes. Thus a parity
index is established. When prices fall below
it or below a set level, the Government
steps in with loans, outright purchase or
other forms of assistance to assure the
farmer of a parity return.

In Canada, should the Government de-
cide to support egg prices it will doubtless
seek to hold the balance fairly between the
producer and the consumer. The price of
52 1/2 cents a dozen in the current British
contract influenced prices on the domestic
market. The producer received 42 cents,
the other 10 1/2 cents going for storage,
and egg crates. Possibly a floor price of
about 38 cents might be fair to producers
and consumers alike.

Canada is shipping about 35,000,000
dozen eggs to Britain this year, about one-
tenth the total production. The remainder
is consumed in Canada. If domestic prices
drop somewhat, it is likely that consump-
tion will rise, so that at least some of the
surplus will be disposed of in that manner.
At the same time, some marginal producers
may find it unprofitable to remain in the

egg business, and that, too, will have its
effect on the surplus. Whatever is done, it
is to be hoped the results will not be sim-
ilar to those in the United States, where
Washington's price policy has resulted in
the possession by federal authorities of 62-
000,000 pounds of dried eggs or the equiv-
alent of 1,232,000,000 dozen whole eggs.

All political parties in Canada are com-
mitted to a policy of giving the farmer a
fair price for his products so it is possible
the Government will be in the business of
buying food in a big way. The Agricul-
tural Prices Support board supports butter
and cheese by actually buying the products
at the floor prices and selling them to the
trade at slightly higher prices. Officials at
Ottawa are hopeful the demand for both
these foods will be sufficient so that there
will be no great drain on the treasury.

New Banking Record

Highly encouraging, as reflecting the
general level of prosperity in Canada, is the
financial statement of the Royal Bank of
Canada for 1949, which appears elsewhere
in today's Guardian. Covering the twelve
months period ending November 30, the
statement shows total assets increased by
well over \$112,000,000, to reach \$2,334,985-
354, the highest level in Canadian banking
history.

Indicative of the scale of public saving
is the steady increase in the Royal Bank's
interest-bearing deposits, which are now
over two and a half times the 1941 figure.

Steady increases are also noted in com-
mercial loans, in liquid assets, in Bank pre-
mises account, and in profits.

The Royal Bank of Canada has grown
from a single office in Halifax in 1869 to
become one of the great banking institu-
tions of the world, operating 666 branches
in Canada and with foreign branches in
Cuba and the West Indies, Central and
South America, London, Paris and New
York.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Remember the forgotten ones!

To Premier Jones and Mrs. Jones on the
occasion of their fortieth wedding anniver-
sary today, many felicitations!

Having got over the shortest day, we
have to recall that as the days lengthen
the cold strengthens.

Habitual Christmas-eve shoppers will
have to bestir themselves this year or be
content to let the thought be taken for
the deed.

Senator Sinclair's regrettable illness is
causing concern not only here but at Otta-
wa where he holds a high and honoured
place in both official and unofficial opin-
ion.

The Department of Transport shows
little flair for naming its ships. The S. S.
Edward Cornwallis will inevitably be con-
fused with H. M. C. S. Cornwallis, and the
name of the ice-breaker C. D. Howe will
supply its own confusion.

The ten-year-old British "Intellectual"
magazine Horizon is suspending publication
for one year because of increasing costs of
production. Suspension, in such a case, is
a euphemism. A more down to earth pub-
lication would be said to have folded.

Samuel Smiles, British author and
biographer, born this date 1812. He first
practised medicine; later took to journalism,
and became known on two continents for a
series of books for boys, of which "Self-
Help" had a most notable success, and still
is recognized as the standard for real suc-
cess in living and prospering.

The U. N.'s International Society of
Criminology is to study sociocriminogen-
esis, biocriminogenesis and psychocrimino-
genesis, being theories of crime-causing fac-
tors, social, hereditary and psychological.
Canada is not a member of the society and
writers of newspaper headlines are happy
about it.

Congratulations are due to Mr. J. S. Des-
Roches, K.C., of Summerside and formerly
of Charlottetown, whose appointment to the
King's County Court bench is announced
in today's issue. A war veteran as well as
an experienced lawyer, Judge DesRoches' ap-
pointment restores the Acadian representa-
tion in the judiciary and should give gen-
eral satisfaction.

Provincial Treasurer C. M. Fines says
that Saskatchewan was the only province to
reduce its total debt in the fiscal year end-
ed last March. For verification Mr. Fines
quoted the latest figures released in the
statistical summary of the Bank of Canada,
which showed Saskatchewan's total debt at
\$153,300,000—about \$3,500,000 less than the
1947-48 figure.

The Poet's Corner

THE CAROL OF THE POOR CHILDREN

We are the poor children, come out
to see the sights
On this day of all days, on this
night of nights;

We are the poor children, our lips
are frosty blue;
We cannot sing our carol as well as
rich folk do;

We do rejoice, we do rejoice, as
hard as we can try;
A fine star, a new star is shining
in the sky!

Are we naked, mother, and are we
starving-poor;
Oh, see what gifts the kings have
brought outside the stable door;

Are we cold, mother, the ass will
give his hay;
To make the manger warm and keep
the cruel winds away.

Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)
EPISCOPAL VISITATION

The Honourable and Right
Reverend the Lord Bishop of
Nova Scotia arrived on an Epis-
copal visitation to this part of his
charge on Wednesday last. He
was received on the Wharf by the
military of the garrison, who pre-
sented arms on his landing, and a
salute of 13 guns was fired in
honour of the occasion, from
George's Battery.

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Gallup Poll Complex

(Ottawa Journal)

Lately the Dominion Bureau of
Statistics has been reporting on
family expenditures in some Cana-
dian cities, this is on the basis of
"sampling". That is, the Bureau
gets answers to its questions from
a group of families and on that
"Gallup Poll" basis works out
what is conceived to be the general
situation in that community.

We have before us copies of the
questionnaire used by the Bureau
in these surveys—one for general
purposes, one for farm operators—
and have studied them with some
amusement, but with growing ex-
asperation. Each form has more
than 400 questions having to do
with a family's income and ex-
penditures in the 12 months to Au-
gust 31, 1948. It wants to know
what the family spent on housing,
on running the home—such things
as baby sitters, matches, mouse-
traps, floor wax and cigarettes—
on food and furniture, on clothing,
medical care, travel, recreation,
taxes. There are 40 items for wo-
men's clothing alone and women
can have no secrets from the stati-
stician—they are asked to tell
how much they had spent on
dresses and hair-ribbons but for
intimate things like brassieres and
panties. Men get by with 32 ques-
tions but the Government wants to
know all about their expenditures
on shirts, bathing trunks, hand-
kerchiefs and overcoats.

The next morning he proceeded
to New London, accompanied by
the Rev. A. M. Wiggins, where
he was received by the Rev. W.
Walpole, the officiating clergyman.
The church was consecrated in
the afternoon of the same day,
and confirmation administered to
16 candidates. The following day
his Lordship, attended by all his
clergy, arrived in Town. The
weather proved uncommonly fine,
and the Bishop expressed himself
delighted with the beauty and
fertility of the country through
which he passed. In St. Paul's
Church, on Sunday, he preached
three times. In the morning 54
persons were confirmed, and in
the evening 29.

Old Dances Come
Back
(Si Thomas Times-Journal)

According to a Scottish
paper, old-time dances are
"sweeping the country", and not
only in Scotland, but are spread-
ing into many countries far away.
The movement was started after
the war to counteract the wave
of "interurbans" and other types of
hasty stepping.

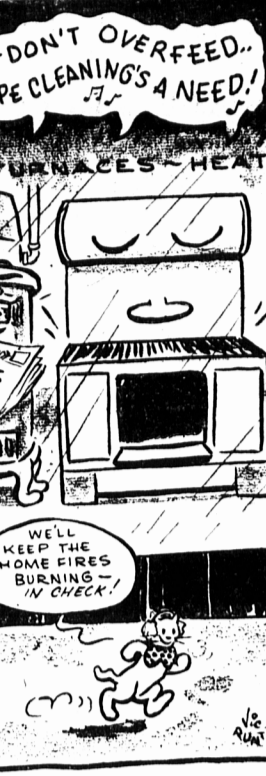
The Scottish Country Dance
Society was formed, and now has
8,000 members, 42 branches and
63 affiliated clubs. They dance
reels, strathspeys and other
dances that were common to the
ball-room until the innovating of
the tango about 45 years ago.
There are branches in London,
Manchester, Wolverhampton, New-
castle, Rochdale and Southport.

Scots have carried these dances
to foreign lands, and there is an
enthusiastic group of old-time
dancers in Delhi, capital of India,
the native women dancing eight-
some reels in sari dress. In
Shanghai there are several hun-
dred dancers, including Chinese.
They are dancing in Paris, in
Spain, Italy, Belgium and the
Middle-East.

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glasses for the correction of
ocular defects.

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Song Of The Stoves



The Age-Old Story

(Ottawa Journal)

As many as are led by the Spirit
of God, they are the sons of God;
for ye have not received the spirit
of bondage again to fear; but ye
have received the spirit of adop-
tion, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

The strength of this survey. And
how much dependence are we to
place on Bureau reports when we
read in a questionnaire addressed
to the housing industry that what
is wanted is a "forecast of repair
and capital expenditures 1949 and
estimate of the actual expendi-
tures in 1948," that this "informa-
tion" will be made available to the
Department of Reconstruction
and Supply "to provide basic data
as a guide to general policy".

The Bureau says in a foreword
to its family expenditure document
that it wants "to find out more
about the budgets of Canadian
families"; that this information
interests not only the Government
but trade unions, welfare agen-
cies, consumer groups, business
men and the general public. We
have not detected any insatiable
curiosity concerning all these in-
timate items of family life that are
of so much concern to the Bureau
of Statistics. We may be wrong
in that, but we do not think so. In
fact we hold very strongly that the
Government could do better with
its time and our money than to
probe and pry into our affairs. It
is the people's money, and what
the people spend on baby sitters
and brassieres and mousetraps
ought to be the people's own busi-
ness.

RUSSIAN AMBITIONS
BOSTON, Dec. 21 — (AP) —
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, chief
of United States naval operations,
said today there is "ample evi-
dence" of a reawakening of Rus-
sian "maritime ambition." In a
speech prepared for delivery to the
Boston Chamber of Commerce,
Sherman said that Russia has
more cruisers in active service
than the U.S., and that Soviet
shipbuilding capacity reportedly is
double its 1940 level.

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Notes By The Way

A percentage of people just
don't care. What does it mean to
them, for example, that Coleridge
wrote it? "Water, water every-
where, nor any drop to drink."
They go right on saying: "Water,
water, everywhere, nor any drop
to drink." They just can't
bother to understand that Laur-
ier's name was Wilfrid and not
Wilfred; and that the name of
the Boy Hero of Jutland was
Cornwall, not Cornwall; and that
the name of the Premier of this
province is spelled Ma-donald
(not McDonald or MacDonald). To
them, the name is Maid Marion,
when it should be spelled
Marian. They keep on "gliding"
the lily when they should be
"painting" it. And you simply
can't get them to quote it cor-
rectly. "They shall grow not
old..."—Halifax Chronicle Her-
ald.

Canada has already paid dearly
for not putting conservation mea-
sures into effect in time. The
antelope was almost wiped out be-
fore it was protected. The wood
cock is seldom seen outside of our
national parks. Moose will soon
be a memory if stringent laws
for its protection are not im-
mediately enforced. Even the
great herds of barrenland caribou
that roam over Manitoba's hinter-
land are being thinned out at an
alarming rate. Hunting from aero-
planes should be prohibited by all
provinces and penalties for in-
fraction of game laws should be
made more severe. It is the
business to kill the goose that
lays the golden eggs. — From Win-
nipeg Tribune.

Ontario, with double the yearly
precipitation we enjoy, has in the
past been wasteful about water.
Ontario drained the swamps, til-
drained the fields in order to
make the land fit for raising a
crop. The efforts of the early
settlers to get their fields dry
enough to plant must have re-
sulted in a public consciousness
that there was water aplenty and
therefore no need of conservation.
Now Ontario is beginning to value
water because it is getting scarce.
Throughout Southwestern Ontario
water levels are dropping. Walk-
erton recently had to ration water
supplies and drill its community
wells deeper. Then Georgetown,
west of Toronto, discovered it had
only one foot of water remaining
in the lower reservoir, and water
was cut off to trains, garages and
ice arena. — Lethbridge Herald.

There are very few men whose
birthdays have drawn together so
distinguished a gathering as met
in London to honor Dr. Chaim
Weizmann, first President of the
Israel, and none of them can have
better earned his place in the
world. He was born in an obscure
little town in White Russia 29
miles from a railway or a metal-
lic road, and escaped from this
to enjoy a dual career, as a states-
man and as a scientist, either
facet of which would have been
enough to give him an interna-

Fifty former servicemen of Bir-
mingham (England), tired of en-
dless waiting, got together and de-
cided that, working as a team,
they would build their own bung-
alows. They got expert advice
and assistance from a local archi-
tect, applied for licences and
overcame all local obstacles. Each
man contributed 20 pounds to-
wards buying a lorry, a concrete
mixer and other equipment, and
obtained the support of a build-
ing society. Then, for over six
months the men went into train-
ing. Every week-end, every even-
ing was spent in learning how to
construct walls, how to mix con-
crete and all the various jobs
involved in building a bungalow.
The scheme is one of voluntary
labor, and the only professional
is a builder's foreman who helps
and inspires his team of amateur
builders. All through the Sum-
mer the men worked at every
available moment. They refused
to be discouraged by difficulties
that arose from time to time. En-
gineers, mechanics, clerks, they
have gone right along, digging
the draining ditches, plumbing
and welding, putting in window
frames. The bungalows are al-
located to men on a point system
arranged by themselves, according
to the greatest need. But a
family moves in, each man con-
tinues working until the whole 50
families are happily and com-
fortably housed. — Washington
Post.

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Charlottetown
Branch
Canadian Legion
B. E. S. L.

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SEND A GIFT to a Hospitalized War Vet
THEY GAVE, WILL YOU?
The City Branch of the Canadian Legion, assisted
by the Contact Club and Overseas Nursing Sisters As-
sociation, is sponsoring an appeal to provide CHRIS-
TMAS GIFTS for all War Veteran Hospitalized Patients
from P. E. I. All you need to do is PURCHASE OR
MAKE the article. Purchases may be made in ANY
STORE ANYWHERE, but MUST BE PLACED UN-
DER THE CANADIAN LEGION CHRISTMAS TREE
located at MOORE & McLEOD LTD.

200 Gifts Are Needed
HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS
These Are Articles Suitable For and Desired by
These Hospitalized Veterans
CIGARETTES TOILET ARTICLES SOCKS SWEATERS PENS PENCILS SHAVING KITS RAZOR BLADES ZIPPER BILLFOLDS CRIBBAGE BOARDS
HANDKERCHIEFS PLAYING CARDS CANDY AND FRUIT PHOTO FRAMES SLIPPER MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS WRITING PAPER ADULT GAMES PIPES AND TOBACCO POCKET NOVELS
PLEASE REMEMBER!
MAKE IT YOURSELF! BUY IT ANYWHERE!
But, Place It Under Christmas Tree at
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Leod's on which you should fill in the contents of parcel, and
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Your Co-operation in this Plan
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