

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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President, Ian A. Burnett; Vice-President, Wm. E.
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Managing Director, J. R. Burnett; Associate Editor,
Frank Walker.

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1947

Preferred Hospitals

It is encouraging to note, from a statement
released for publication today by the American
College of Surgeons, that our principal
hospitals in this Province have once again been
placed on the list of approved hospitals. These
institutions comprise the Charlottetown
Hospital, Prince Edward Island Hospital, Provin-
cial Sanatorium and Prince County Hospital.

Teaching the young idea how to take
care of others is the worthwhile object of the
R. C. M. P. in organizing a voluntary junior
police force to look after traffic in the vicinity
of schools, as explained by Staff Sergt. Hellefoss
at this week's Gyro meeting. Here is hoping every
success to it.

The changes socialism brings about! A
famous English home, Himley Hall, residence for
centuries of the Earls of Dudley, has been
bought by the National Coal Board and will
fitly the board's emblem, a blue flag with a
white superscription. The residence, with its
ballroom, swimming pool and 200 acres of park-
land, were bought for the board as a staff resi-
dence. Now, where statesmen and aristocrats
reigned supreme for hundreds of years, bureau-
crats, and coal bureaucrats at that will hold
undisputed sway. All industry practically will
be in their hands, leaving international diplo-
matic affairs of State to other bureaucrats.

The Burns Concert

The Burns anniversary concert has been a
tradition in Prince Edward Island for many
years. Once again this fine old-time entertain-
ment is being offered, with local talent under
the direction of Mr. Arthur Vesey and with
the Y. M. C. A. Choral Club, the Bonshaw
Quartette, the York Players and other special
features, making a varied and interesting pro-
gramme.

Farm Prices

Prices received by Canadian farmers for
agricultural products at November 15 last aver-
aged higher than at the corresponding date in
1945, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics report,
but there was considerable variation among the
different provinces. The bureau said that the
index number of prices received for all prod-
ucts — on the basis of 1935-39 equals 100 —
was 122.9, an increase of 6.1 points over Novem-
ber, 1945, and a rise of three-tenths of a
point over October, 1946. The index number
for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New
Brunswick and British Columbia were lower than
in November, 1945, and the bureau said this
was due principally to "marked declines in
prices received for potatoes, fruits and vegeta-
bles." The index numbers for Quebec, Ontario
and the three Prairie Provinces registered
substantial increases with higher prices for live-
stock and dairy products being chiefly respon-
sible. "Grain prices are holding, generally
at levels similar to those prevailing in 1945,"
the bureau reported, "with fairly minor price
decreases in the prairie provinces due chiefly to
the lower quality of the 1946 western crop, be-
ing largely offset by somewhat higher grain
prices in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia."

Belated Notice

The Speaker of the House of Commons
received formal notice on Tuesday, January 14,
of the Halifax vacancy created last November
by the death of the late Liberal member, W. C.
Macdonald. Halifax now being officially vacan-
t with respect to one-half its representation,
the Speaker is allowed 6 months within which
to direct the issue of a writ authorizing the
necessary by-election.

Two months," comments the Sydney Post-
Record, "would seem an unconscionably long
time for the news of Mr. Macdonald's death
to travel from Halifax to Ottawa. And quite

obviously it would have taken even longer than
that, had it not been for the fact that two New
Brunswick Progressive Conservative members,
Colonel A. J. Brooks and D. K. Hazen, prepared
the necessary notice and had it delivered to
Speaker Fauteux this week. Mr. Speaker was
more promptly informed of the death of the
late P. J. A. Cardin, and the writ for the Rich-
elieu-Vercheres by-election was issued with al-
most unseemingly dispatch, polling being held
in that Liberal stronghold within 10 weeks of
Mr. Cardin's death. Manifestly the Speaker
finds out about vacancies in safe Liberal rid-
ings much more quickly than about those that
look like tough fighting ground. But Mr. King's
Government should not be singled out for spe-
cial criticism for that kind of hocus-pocus. In
postponing doubtful by-elections as long as pos-
sible it is simply following a device all main-
land Governments have practised in years gone
by."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Our neighbour to the south, judging by the
icebreaker they have sent to the North Pole, are
more concerned about the few, if any, natives
there than is the Mackenzie King Government
about the industrious inhabitants of this Island.

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undisputed sway. All industry practically will
be in their hands, leaving international diplo-
matic affairs of State to other bureaucrats.

The New South Wales Government is mak-
ing a great effort to check juvenile delinquency.
One of the latest moves has just been made
with the opening of 57 centers, designed to
keep more than 20,000 children off the street.
More than 400 supervisors have been trained
to teach the children, arts, crafts and sports.
Twenty-three of the new centers are in the
congested areas of Sydney, and the remainder in
the country. When the centers opened, super-
visors had to make their way through crowds of
children, who had been waiting since dawn for
the opening.

It was bound to come. The Government at
Ottawa belatedly announced that "People born
in Canada or British subjects resident here auto-
matically are citizens under the new act. If
they desire proof of this fact, they may have it
upon filling out an application form available in
all county court clerks' offices and mailing it
—with a dollar—to the Citizenship Registration
Branch, Secretary of State Department, Ottawa.
Veterans are entitled to the certificate free."
Then why all the hubbub and \$5 demand in the
first instance?

Canada's population is on the upswing,
though not in this Province as yet. Births for
1945 were 4,230 above the previous year, and
marriages were up 6,539. And during 1945
there were 2,910 fewer deaths. Live births in
Canada during 1945 totalled 288,450, compared
with 284,220 the previous year. Lower birth
rates were registered in Prince Edward Island,
Nova Scotia, and British Columbia, while Ontario
was unchanged. Increases were recorded in
the remaining provinces. Provincial rates for
1945 follow, with 1944 figures bracketed: Prince
Edward Island, 24.5 (25.1); Nova Scotia, 25.0
(25.5); New Brunswick, 29.2 (29.1); Quebec,
29.3 (29.2); Ontario, 19.7 (19.7); Manitoba, 22.1
(21.9); Saskatchewan, 22.4 (21.4); Alberta, 24.0
(23.7); British Columbia, 19.9 (20.4). Deaths
from all causes and at all ages dropped from
116,052 in 1944 to 113,142 in 1945. Rates were
lower in 1945 than in the preceding year in
all provinces except Saskatchewan and Alberta.
In the last year for which complete figures are
available, 1944, statistics showed 11,958,000 per-
sons in Canada, exclusive of Yukon and the
Northwest Territories. Of these 6,118,000 were
men and 5,840,000 women.

Notes By The Way

A Fort William man reads with-
out glasses at the age of 108. What
a tribute to the perfection of the
human organism, when one realizes
that his eyes first began to work
in 1844 and have been working every
day since, about 37,600 days.—Fort
William Times-Journal.

The Brandon Sun reports that a
Western minister asks "How can a
man be so deceitful as to mislead
his wife?" We'll admit it's diffi-
cult but given a poker face to start
with and years of practice, it can
be done—for a short time at least.
—Kingston Whig-Standard.

To use a medical term the "mortality"
in the nursing profession is
shockingly high. In other words
nurses do not stay in the profession
long after their graduation. The
married or graduate to higher paid
jobs in allied professions. One hos-
pital authority estimates the "life"
of a trained nurse is about three
years; after that she has most likely
left for more attractive fields.—
Vancouver Province.

A 22-year-old Sydney girl whose
parents forbade her to wear silk
underclothes bought a parachute to
make underwear from it in secret.
She paid nine pounds for the para-
chute at a Disposals Commission
auction. The girl said her parents
would confiscate the parachute if
she were caught. She had to un-
pick the sections and do the work
in a friend's house. She determined
four years ago to have silk under-
wear at the earliest opportunity.
Mum and Dad were very religious.
They think pretty underwear is
sinful. I was brought up very strict-
ly, and I am still deeply religious.
But I think it is possible to have
pretty underwear without being
sinful.—Australian News Letter.

Last July Mr. Strachey did a very
unpopular thing when he started
bread rationing. But he took the
step because he refused to take risks
on the supply of wheat from Amer-
ica. Promise of good crops was
grounded at the time. He was cer-
tain that the grain would be de-
livered. Events have proved him
to be right. It would have been a
gamble which could never have
been justified. If all goes well there
should now be no need to make
the threatened cut in the bread
ration. The world food position is
far better than it is. Nevertheless
we must be prepared for economic
troubles of the first order. . . . The
Minister of Food says that he sees
a gleam of light in the case of
wheat. It will be a relief unless resolu-
tion is taken. —News of the
World (London).

The fact that appointments to
the Garter are heretofore to be
made on the initiative of the King,
as with the Order of Merit, will
presumably save Prime Ministers
from some of the embarrassments
of the past, as for instance in the
case of the hungry Grenvilles in the
middle of the 18th century. Lord
Temple having obtained an earldom,
his next object (wrote Rosebery)
was the Garter; George II detested
him and refused the request with
asperity, so Pitt had to be brought
in. He demanded the Garter for
Temple as a reward for his own
services, but still the King refused.
Then the last reserves were brought
into play. Temple resigned the
barony and the ground was cleared.
The Garter was denied. The King
had to yield but could not repress
his anger. He threw the ribbon to
Temple as a bone is thrown to a
dog. "What does he want now?"
asked a gleam of light in the case of
another important peer, "a Garter
for his other leg?" —Manchester
Guardian.

When the mercury holes up in
the thermometer, when the
wind seems determined to remove
the one loose brick in the chimney
top and the snow is both deep and
drifting, then the buckwheat cake
in the farm kitchen is at its brown
and seasonable best, enhances The
New York Herald Tribune. There
are few things equal to the buck-
wheat cake—when properly organ-
ized and multiplied—to bulwark
man against a zero morning and a
spell with the snowplow. Where the
buckwheat cake is indigenous and
has literally sprung from the thin
soil of the farm's poorest baro-
cose lot, the buckwheat cake is quite
capable of standing alone at break-
fast, with little more added than
a dash of coffee and a sprinkling
of syrup top. This delightful sufficiency
of the farm buckwheat cake is
the result of the unlimited way it
can be supplied from a two-handed
sizzling iron griddle and a couple
of hundredweight of buckwheat flour
"soaked" in the milk. Butter is
liberally layered between the hot cakes
offers no problem while Guernseys
live and although last spring's sug-
aring was not of the best, there
are always enough gallon cans of
syrup to last until the end of Feb-
ruary.

To "get one's name in the Social
Register" has long been the great
ambition of every social climber
in the United States. The selection
of names for the Register was sup-
posed to be in the hands of an
"advisory committee." Now Collier's
Magazine reveals that there isn't
any advisory committee at all. The
selections are made by the man-
aging editor of the book, Miss Bertha
Stammond. She is the daughter of a rail-
way conductor, and started life as
a stenographer, but she seems to
have no hesitation in dropping blue-
bloods from the list whenever they
fail to meet with her approval.
Money has more to do with the
matter than the Register would prob-
ably like to admit. There is a
horrible story that it once decided
to prepare a list of Minneapolis
"socials" and selected a thousand
well-to-do families. A notification
of this honor was sent to each, to-
gether with a bill for \$5. Only 150
sent cheques. Since then no lists
for Minneapolis have been prepared
so far as the Register is concerned
it has no society. Incidentally, it

PUBLIC FORUM

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

FARMERS' INCOME TAX

Sir: I offer my opinion concern-
ing farmers' income tax. I consider
that there should be no income tax
imposed on what the farmer pro-
duces on his farm but if he has
any other source of income I don't
stand to defend that. I think it is
a queer policy for the Government
to appeal to the farmers to increase
production to feed a hungry world
and then have such a damper as
an income tax on any surplus that
the farmer through extra effort may
have produced, giving him reason
to exclaim "I'm not going to strive
to increase production and have to
pay it out in income tax." Hence
the farmer has a very poor account
to stall production; it takes away the
incentive for ambitious men to
speculate and invest in ventures
for production. You don't know
how many of these deserted farms
might be picked up by enterprising
men and managed by the unem-
ployed and become an asset. If the
farmers are to be encouraged to
expand it will have to be by the
removal of the income tax from
their annual farm production.

If the incomes of all the farmers
on this Island were correctly fig-
ured out there would be a very
small percentage of them having
a taxable income. Farmers are not
generally bookkeepers and many of
them when they get to the end of
the year, and these papers are
trust before them to be filled out,
do not know where they are. They
can remember a good deal of what
they sold off of the farm because
it was sold mostly in quantities,
but most of the famous water-
account of what they bought because
it was bought in items mixed up with
their living expenses and every-
thing else, and they don't know
where they are. They don't know
where to get their deductions and
they are tortured to death with
these things. It is being discovered
that through world conditions of
high cost of labour and other es-
sentials required in production,
farmers are some of the poorest
living under cost of production, which
leads farmers to feel that they
might as well go easy as exert
themselves to produce more and
have to pay income tax on it. Farm-
ers' incomes may add a little
to the revenue but it is a barrier
to increased production and the
prosperity of the farmer.

I would invite any who would
feel concerned in this matter to
comment on it and either approve
or condemn my theory.
I am, Sir, etc.

COMMON SENSE

Meals should be so
convenient and
reasonable hours. The digestive
tract functions better, like other
parts of the body, if placed on a
regular schedule.

Old Country Letter

By John Dauphinee
(Canadian Press Staff Writer, London)

Stald Russell Square is a muddy
mess, the old houses need paint and
repairs, commercialism has come
to the famous old square. "Intel-
lectuals" have left Bloomsbury.
This is the district north of Ox-
ford Street and east of Tottenham
Court Road where, in the 1920s,
Virginia Woolf used to entertain
her famous parties as Bertrand
Russell and Maynard Keynes; where
Jacob Epstein used to have his
studio; where long-haired students
dressed in contrived slovenliness
used to argue in the cafes.
Now, they say, there's scarcely
an intellectual left in the "Oxford
of London" though there still are
struggling young writers and artists
in the narrow alleys and dozens of
learned societies have their offices
around London University and the
British Museum.
The elegance of Bloomsbury has
gone.
London University has grown;
but the students have quit the
Bloomsbury lodgings for the sub-
urbs. The boarding houses—what
few are left—cater to transients
instead.
The only hope for old Blooms-
bury is London County Council's
post-war replanning scheme. That
would stop commercial penetra-
tion of the area and the houses left
in its squares and terraces would
revert to domestic use as student
hostels. No one knows yet whether
the plan will go ahead.

Red Lion Square already is in
the hands of Holborn Borough
Council. The benches of Gray's
Inn have opened Gray's Inn Square
to the public for part of each day
and the borough is making it into
a children's playground. Regent
Square and McKlenburgh Square
suffered the worst war damage and
may be interesting to note that the
Vanderbilts have been dropped from
the 1947 Register. It is not clear
whether they have suddenly joined
the proletariat, or whether they
forgot to mail a cheque.

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE
CONVENTION
of the 3rd District of Queen's to nominate can-
didates to contest the next General Provincial Elec-
tion will be held in the Legion Hall, Charlottetown,
at 1:30 P.M. sharp on Friday, January 31st.
Poll Chairmen will please hold meetings and
appoint five delegates from each Poll to attend.
B. R. HOLMAN, President.
C. R. McQUAID, Secretary.

The Poets Corner
HAUNTED
The rabbit in his burrow keeps
No guarded watch in peace he
sleeps;
The wolf that howls in challenging
night
Cowers to her lair at morning light;
The simplest bird entwines a nest
Where she may lean her lovely
breast.
Couched in the silence of the haunt
But thou, O man, what rest hast
thou?

Old Charlottetown
(And P.E.I.)
"A GOOD POOR MAN'S
COUNTRY"
"There are no manufactures
carried on in the Colony, except
domestic ones for the use of the
farmer's family. The settlers gen-
erally make of their wool a very
useful cloth, called homespun, worth
from 4s 6d to 5s per yard, which
serves the men for jackets and
trousers, while a finer sort sup-
plies the females with gowns for
winter use; they also manufacture
blankets, stockings or socks and
mittens. The wool is simply dyed
with indigo. Some families make
the greater part of their table, bed
and personal linen from flax, often
using with it cotton warp of Amer-
ican manufacture. Leather is
tanned by most settlers from their
own hides; and there is need of it,
shoes being very expensive to pur-
chase. The Colonists make a great
part of the soap and candles they
use, but the greater number burn
fish oil for light. People generally
do not procure for themselves half
the comforts they might enjoy with
a little more exertion and persev-
erance. All that a farm will produce
in England for the farmers' table
may be produced here, and of ex-
cellent quality. There is amongst
the settlers a great deal, however,
of that spirit of hospitality which
is pleasing in every country,
but more particularly grace-
ful and useful in a young one.
Many of the settlers live very much
on fish and potatoes, oatmeal por-
ridge and milk, but its people gen-
erally are getting into more ex-
pensive habits in food, dress, dwellings
and furniture.
"Here we may pause and exclaim
vehemently, this is a good poor man's
country! Here a settler may begin
farming without a shilling in his
pocket, and obtain employment at
such wages as will not only enable
him to live, but also to succeed
with his farm in a country where
the unfortunate but industrious may
find a refuge, with a certainty of
food and raiment, and save himself
from being brought to day-labour
or forced to seek parochial relief
in the place which once witnessed
his prosperity."—From "Brief Ac-
count of Prince Edward Island",
1830 by J. L. Lewellyn.

QUICKIES
By Ken Reynolds
"Yep, I've worn out three teachers in four months—now
Daddy is gonna sell my violin with a Guardian Want Ad!"

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