

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Frank Walker.

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1947

Prof. Janzen's Visit

A report carried in the Toronto Globe and
Mail says that a leading Dutch dyke expert, Prof.
P. Ph. Janzen, has arrived in Ontario as a guest
of the government of that Province. He will
spend a month there during which time he will
study Ontario's flood problems.

The Maritimes Provinces are also interested
in dyking and reclamation problems, particularly
in land areas surrounding the Bay of Fundy
and in the Cumberland Basin area. The Sackville
Tribune-Post comes forward with the suggestion
that the Maritimes should not let Prof. Janzen
return to the Netherlands without making an
effort to have him visit this area of Canada.

Certainly there is no doubt as to the qualifications
of the Dutch to rank as the best dyke
builders in the world. The greatest project in
the Netherlands is the projected reclamation of
the Zuider Zee. Work on this project was
commenced in 1920. A main dam some twenty miles
in length was constructed across the mouth of
the Zuider Zee. The dam was so successfully
constructed that in the space of a few short
years this vast body of water was converted from
a salt water bay to a land-locked fresh water
lake. The Netherlands had a definite pro-
gramme for the reclamation of the lands which
now form the bottom of the Zuider Zee and this
was so exact that the government could forecast
when areas now under water would be producing
agricultural products. The total area to be re-
claimed under the project totalled some 553,500
acres. This was not a new scheme to the Netherlands.
Today much of their country and
many of the islands off its coasts have been re-
claimed from the sea.

Astronomical Trade Figures

Canada's external trade for the first six
months of this year reached the unheard-of total
of \$2,602,000,000, only \$31,000,000 below that
of the highest wartime half-year. June exports
totalled \$272,000,000, highest of any peacetime
month and a gain of more than 63 per cent over
June of last year.

These are reassuring figures, but it would be
unwise to anticipate that such trade prosperity
can be maintained indefinitely. Canada's economic
relations with the United States are com-
plicated by the growing deficiency of American
dollars. Britain's necessity to balance her
external trade has already reduced her buying in
Canada and further restrictions on United King-
dom purchases in the Dominion appear inevitable
until the economy of the Mother Country
recovers. In addition, a large part of Canada's
exports have gone to Britain and to other
nations to whom Canada granted substantial
export credits. These loans are rapidly being
exhausted. Unless they are repeated or some
international arrangement is reached to main-
tain the purchasing power of other countries,
their buying from Canada will shrink. Canadians
should realize that current tremendous sales
abroad may be subject to sharp curtailment.
This has been indicated plainly enough at the
British-U. S. conference this week at Washing-
ton.

It would help, suggests an Ottawa exchange,
if the pronounced trend of Canadians to buy
increasingly in the United States and progres-
sively less in Britain, could be checked or re-
versed. The point has been reached where the
United States itself must act to counteract the
world dollar famine which is developing, and
which is cutting down the ability of many coun-
tries to buy American products. Any such move
would provide an impetus to international trade
and greatly benefit Canada.

Hudson Bay Prospects

The port of Churchill has now welcomed sev-
eral cargo steamers from abroad, the vanguard
of a fleet which, according to the Winnipeg Free
Press, is expected to mean the most active
season in the comparatively short history of the
Hudson Bay route—a short history that is, when
measured from the opening of the 2,500,000-
bushel terminal elevator in 1931. This is the
second season of regular sailings since the war
interrupted progress.

If the present objective of 5,000,000 bushels
of wheat out of Churchill can be reached, it
will be the largest amount yet shipped. This
means emptying the elevator twice. As shipping
is very scarce, the vessels plying the Hudson
Bay and Strait will probably make two round
trips apiece. An estimated 15 sailings will be
required to move the wheat.

Apart from grain, another item prominently
mentioned in pre-season plans was lumber. A
hitch developed when the British ministry of
shipping decided that, badly though it wanted
this commodity for building, it could not risk
delay in moving food from Churchill. Recent
reports indicate that this difficulty may have
been overcome, and that sufficient stevedores
will be on hand to load at least a million feet
of lumber from northern Saskatchewan and
Manitoba.

"Once again," notes the Free Press, "the ques-
tion of incoming cargo arises. The first ship
space for them all."

to reach Churchill, early this month, brought
some 500 tons, including a familiar item in Bay
route trade—liquor—as well as glass, chinaware
and motorcycles. In the list, also, were steel
castings for the mines at Flin Flon. Unfortu-
nately, it appears that once again most of the
snips will arrive in ballast. That remains the
greatest problem for friends of the Hudson Bay
route to overcome. There can be no question
that with the wider use of gyro-compasses,
radar, ice-breakers and other modern aids to
navigation in Hudson Strait, the season for the
route can be materially lengthened. This will
mean a potential expansion of eastbound traf-
fic. But unless the outgoing and incoming
cargoes can be brought much more into balance
than they can today, the Hudson Bay route can-
not serve to the full purpose for which it was
designed.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The gardens in the Square are looking their
loveliest at present.

St. Bartholomew. The twelfth Sunday after
Trinity—"His compassions fail not."

There were more people in the City yester-
day, notwithstanding Old Home Week is over,
than there has been for many a day.

Closing banks 11 a. m. on Saturday will not
signify much to the public, but opening them
at 9 a. m. instead of ten will mean considerable
to bank clerks.

At last a champion of the comic book has
arisen. One Josette Frank stated in Chicago
that they are actually benefiting children. The
theory is that after thumbing through innumerable
comic books the addicts finally learn to
read.

Some idea of the magnitude of Russia's man-
power losses in the war is given by the fact that
she is now making strong efforts to repatriate
Russians and descendants of Russians from all
over the world. Conscientious, of course, are par-
ticularly interested in the campaign to induce
Ukrainians to return to their country.

An interesting contrast of attitudes appears
in two reports from Lord pressed Britain. Mr.
D. R. Rees Williams, Labour M. P., suggested a
reduction of population by mass emigration as a
solution to Britain's difficulties. On the same
day the redoubtable Mr. Churchill called upon
intending emigrants to "Stay here and fight it
out."

Various means are being suggested to help the
British in their crisis. Establishment of a Cana-
dian-wide Aid-to-Britain fund to which subscrib-
ers would donate proceeds of an hour's work a
week for one year was proposed by Maj. the Rev.
John Weir Foote, V.C. of Orillia, Ont. He made
the suggestion at a memorial service in connection
with a re-union of the Royal Hamilton Light
Infantry.

The fishing, lumber, mining and other activi-
ties of the thriving port of Prince Rupert, B. C.
are attractively set forth and illustrated in a
special edition of the Prince Rupert Daily News,
just received. Our western contemporary is to
be congratulated on its initiative. The issue was
published on the occasion of the annual conven-
tion in Prince Rupert of the Associated Boards
of Trade of Central British Columbia.

Sir Astley Paston Cooper, English surgeon,
born this date 1768; professor of comparative
anatomy in Royal College of Surgeons, and Presi-
dent of the College from 1827 to 1836; he per-
formed the famous operation of tying the ab-
dominal aorta for aneurism; author of still
popular works on anatomy, the best known being
Hernia, and Fractures of the Joints.

The veto may be a curse, (says Montreal Ga-
zette) but at least it lets the world know where
it stands. It educates in realism. If it dis-
courage hopes, it at least prevents illusions. And
if it should ultimately kill the hopes of the
United Nations as an organization, it may also
make clear the broad basis of the alliance that
will succeed it.

Mohammedans are compulsorily prohibition-
ists, yet a Turkish physician and psychiatrist, Dr.
Zem G. Vassof now in Montreal en route to
Turkey has been studying at Arlington, Mass.,
the tonic effects of insulin in acute alcoholism
having published his first paper on the subject
in 1946. Now, with his wife and 16-month-old
boy, he is returning to Istanbul to help cure
acute alcoholism there.

There are more wonders being revealed these
days than the average mind can comprehend.
Take the ear of a dog for instance; it is so
tuned that it can hear a sound so high pitched
and distant that no human ear can hear it, and
that is why in the silence of the night a watch
dog so frequently pricks its ears. Then there is
the flying of the blind bat. It puzzled scientists
how that bird could fly unscathed through woods
and forests sightless. But the discovery of radar
during war solved it. Ornithologists found that
bats are equipped with a radar beam which keeps
them warned of any object in their way just as
in shipping and airplaning.

This week's Time magazine contains an ap-
preciative write-up of the Province in connection
with the inauguration of the Abegweit Ferry
services. It concludes: "There has been no
wave of immigration since the early 1800s, and
today Islanders of English, Irish, Scottish and
French extraction make up a homogeneous
society. But because the island is small and
all its land is occupied, many native sons and
daughters leave home (an estimated 1,000 a
year) and the population total is almost static."
Say the Islanders: "We have three exports—
potatoes, fish and brains." The Abby will have
used.

Notes By The Way

Sarna's gives us an almost in-
credible story of police court pro-
ceedures. A motorcycle rider has ac-
tually been found there for having
no muffler on his machine. —Wind-
sor Star.

Communism isn't the only maker
of athletes. What do you suppose
the practice of throwing a Sunday
school picnic is aimed at? —Win-
dorsburgh Examiner.

English nursery schools condemn
the story of Little Red Riding Hood
Europeans, so curiously popular with
modern wolves don't look like you
grandmother. — Stratford Beacon
Herald.

Prices must come down or houses
will stop going up. Increased pro-
ductivity not only in the building
trade, but in all the pipe lines lead-
ing to it, is the only thing that will
reduce costs without affecting
wages. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

We think, in any event, that the
public should be on guard against
this name-calling business; that it
should take a dim view of the ugly
practice, so curiously popular with
certain writers and speakers, of
dubbing every radical a "Red" and
every conservative a "Fascist."
Such terms are alien to this
country, represent a little more than
a farce imported from Europe,
where having skeletons about the neck
of ideological hates—ruled a mood we
should want to shun and an, in-
tellectual poverty we should de-
spise. — Ottawa Journal.

The vast miswrecking operation
which is making the oceans safer
again for world shipping is now
again in competition. The fleets of
19 nations are co-operating in this
work of which the largest share
has fallen to Royal Navy. It is the
biggest job of mine clearance in
history and aims at freeing all
movement of shipping by next year.
Today—after two years of patient
labor—always under the threat of
sudden danger—140,000 square miles
are now entirely clear of mines. —
UK Information Office.

Regina's public was not permitted
to see a picture that had hung for
weeks in the National Gallery at
Ottawa and by British exhibitions
before that. Directly in the Cana-
dian National Exhibition are will-
ing to show it, but previous book-
ings for the touring collection of
pictures make this impossible. Un-
happily, for some on "Reclining
Nude" will take on the same sin-
gle significance for some in literary
circles follows the burning of a
book. — Vancouver Sun.

Because the job is primarily a
teaching one, it is perhaps not
hard to find that the provincial
government has finally chosen a
teacher and not a medical doctor
to head the collection of the
dividual and collective in the
matter of alcoholic beverages.
H. L. Campbell, chief inspector of
schools, has been appointed to this
new post at an under-proof salary
of \$3,000 per annum. This is
somewhat less than the \$4,000
year which failed to attract a com-
petent medical expert. But it is
promised that Mr. Campbell will
have access to the best medical
advice he goes about his task. —
Vancouver Sun.

Reliable motorists will find little
surprise in figures on the causes
of traffic fatalities issued by Dr.
J. M. Rousseau, medical profes-
sor, whose grim duty it is to
make post-mortems and testify
at inquests—the ugly after-effects
of highway crashes. Fifty percent
of all fatal accidents in the provin-
ce are, he says, the result of
drunken driving, and since Dr.
Rousseau has been called upon for
15 years to medically examine death-
ly drunk motorists, he is in a position
to know. — Montreal Gazette.

Just as true as they were the
day they were written are words
of Ellis Widdow. "There
are two kinds of people in the
world today—the people who lift
and the people who lean." Leavers
are by no means small in number. Half
do the hard work and watch the other
half to care who does it. We do not
know some one does it and that it
gets done in a way or other. But
we may be thankful for the literal
and grateful for the metaphorical
form so capably and we know their
efforts are not in vain, for they
have made this country what it is. —
Calgary Alberta.

Hallstones are particularly severe
in Italy and cause millions of lire
of damage to crops, says The New
York Times. Hence the president
of the Milan Fair Association has
offered 10,000,000 lire at next year's
exposition to anyone who can devise
a method for preventing hall-
stone storm. Two suggestions have
been made and announced un-
acceptable. One is an anti-aircraft
type of stone to explode in the
middle of the stone's flight. The
other is the use of the new
family atom bomb. The stone bomb
seems to be running first as a uti-
litarian panacea for all men's ills.

DISGUISE IT
Since many children do not like
milk, health authorities suggest it
be included in their diet by serv-
ing milk in soups, puddings, sauces,
cereals, mashed potatoes and other
foods with which it mixes well.

BEFORE SO'S
Before the letters SOB were
adopted generally as a distress sig-
nal at sea, the letters CDQ were
used.

Power For The People

(In Saskatchewan News)

By 1945 the deficit accumulated
during the Power Commission's
first 16 years of operation had
been whittled down to \$74,582.52,
and the stage was set for post-war
expansion.
Shortly after becoming Minister
of Natural Resources, Hon. J. L.
Phelps assumed responsibility for
the Power Commission. When L. A.
Thornton, Chairman of the Com-
mission since its inception, was
superannuated in January of
1945, Mr. Phelps appointed H. F.
Berry to succeed him. Mr. Berry
came to the post following years of
experience in the power utility
field in Saskatchewan and Iowa.

An accelerated Power Commis-
sion program envisioned by Mr.
Phelps was three-fold:
1. Implementation of the pro-
gram recommended by the Royal
Commission on Saskatchewan's
Power Resources in 1928, namely,
to utilize the province's power re-
sources as a publicly-owned utility.

2. Construction of a provincial
grid of transmission lines to re-
place the disorderly conditions pre-
vailing under several independent
companies;

3. A system of lower and uni-
form rates for comparable consum-
ing areas, to replace the chaotic
rate structure which faced consum-
ers, both within the independent
utilities and the commission's sys-
tems.

3. A system of lower and uniform
rates for comparable consuming
areas, to replace the chaotic rate
structure which faced consumers,
both within the independent utili-
ties and the commission's sys-
tems.
Originally conceived as a
single ownership of all power sys-
tems in the province was pushed
two steps closer to fruition during
1945. The common stock of the
Dominion Electric Power Company
was bought by the Commission, and
for over a year the company was
operated as a wholly owned sub-
sidiary before being completely
absorbed by the Power Commission.
In November of the same year the
Prairie Power Company was pur-
chased outright for \$1,462,000.

These two purchases, together
with new construction, added 860
miles of transmission lines and
almost doubled the number of
Commission customers.
High rates which had applied be-
cause of patchwork generation and
transmission system hampered con-
sumers' ability to use more elec-
tricity until the reduction of the
Commission instituted its first rate
reduction in May, 1946. It covered
practically all towns and villages on
the Commission system, and coincided
with the first step in bringing a
uniform rate structure into effect
in towns formerly served by the Do-
minion Electric and the Prairie
Power Company systems and those
acquired by the Power Commission.

Despite the loss of revenue result-
ing from the closing of military
and air force installations and the
lower rate, the Commission's
profit jumped from \$32,477.37 in 1944
to \$16,835.15 in 1945, slashing
two-thirds from the accumulated
deficit at one stroke.

A banner year was rolled up in
1946. On June 1 the second rate
reductions became effective. Electrical
revenues increased approximately
50 per cent over 1945 as a result
of a 60 per cent increase in retail
sales. The new lower rates encour-
aged people to use more elec-
tricity. When the year closed, the books
showed a surplus of \$414,282.64,
which cancelled the deficit accumu-
lated over the years and chalked
up the first accumulated surplus in
the history of the Commission,
amounting to \$338,700.12. For the
first time since its establishment
the Saskatchewan Power Commis-
sion was out of the red.

An extensive construction pro-
gram during the year brought the
Commission's transmission system
up to 2,651 miles of line serving 259
towns and villages, with 28,014 cus-
tomers as well as the cities of
Saskatoon, Swift Current, and
North Battleford. New connections
during 1946 totalled more than
those made during the 10-year pe-
riod 1931-1941.

In three years the Commission's
capital assets increased from \$9,097,-
535 to \$13,126,840.

A highly significant step in trans-
mission line construction was taken
during 1946. The line from Estevan
to Stoughton, first 66,000 volt line
to be constructed in Saskatchewan,
was built and put into operation.
When the trunk line is extended
north through Grenville, Melville,
Yorkton and Canora to Sturgis,
power generated at low cost in
the Estevan coal fields (more
cheaply than by diesel engine) will
be distributed throughout the whole
eastern portion of the province.

Estevan's coal fields are already
benefitting Saskatchewan power
users much more than before the
purchase of the Dominion Electric
and Prairie Power Companies.
Previously, coal mined at Estevan
was shipped to power plants in the
larger cities for conversion into
electrical energy, and in one case
the power was transmitted back
to within 26 miles of Estevan. But



THE BLIND

His darkness held no colour and no
beauty;
No harmonies of green—no chang-
ing sea;
No moon shone in his night how-
ever lovely;
It shone on Gallies.
Perhaps his soul cried out for
loveliness;
Groping along the joyless, lonely
years;
But who was there to heed a poor
man's need?
Or dry a poor man's tears?—
Until one came who walked with
fishermen;
He turned aside and listened to the
plea;
That echoes and reechoes from the
past;
"Oh Lord, that I may see!"
—Lucy Gertrude Clarkin.

Old Charlottetown

(And P.E.I.)

FIRST BRITISH SUBJECT

The first British subject born
in Prince Edward Island is be-
lieved to have been one John
Webster, Jr., of St. Peter's Bay.
The date of his birth was October
24, 1760. The family name is still
held by a large number of people
in St. Peter's Bay and vicinity.
The father, John Webster, sr.,
with his wife lived at Fort Am-
herst until the reduction of the
military forces. During the Amer-
ican Revolution he had charge of
the Commissariat Department in
Charlottetown and was sub-
sequently elected to the House of
Assembly in 1784 and 1785. After-
wards he moved to St. Peter's,
where he died in 1813.

with the present Commission dis-
tribution system, power generated
on the Estevan coal fields is being
transmitted throughout the whole
southern area as far west as Lead-
ersville on the part of the provin-
cial utility for peak loads. With
completion of the Estevan-Sturgis
high-voltage line, consumers in the
eastern part of the province will
also benefit from the Estevan
lignite deposits.

Following a recommendation from
the Saskatchewan Reconstruction
Council that the Port a la Corne
Hydro project be included in the
province's post-war reconstruction
program, Mr. Phelps asked H. G.
Acres and Company to review their
1931 report in the light of present
conditions. They reported that
if the provincial demand for elec-
trical power increases from the
early 1946 level of 225 million kilowatt
hours per year to a potential
of 400 millions, the hydro develop-
ment (which would now cost \$28,-
000,000 due to higher construction
costs) could complete successfully
with steam-generated power, as-
suming then-current fuel costs and
an interest rate on invested capital
of three and one-half per cent.

Commenting on this revised re-
port, Mr. Phelps declared: "The
changing factors outlined in this
report will be the subject of con-
tinuous study by power commission
engineers, so that appropriate ac-
tion can be taken when conditions
are favorable for construction of
this project."

(To be concluded)

The symbol is the oldest known
musical instrument made of brass,
in isolated communities of Central
America as late as 1880.

BITTER MONEY
Chocolate was common currency
in isolated communities of Central
America as late as 1880.

The Kingston Break

(Globe and Mail)

When three desperate criminals
can walk out of a Canadian peni-
tentiary as easily as prison auth-
orities at Kingston acknowledge
they did on Monday morning, it
does not require an experienced
criminologist to conclude that
something must have been lament-
ably wrong with their protective ar-
rangements. So many events in the
chain of circumstances surrounding
the escape point to official laxness
that it is impossible to dismiss
them as merely an unfortunate
series of coincidences.

First was the letter written to
this newspaper by one of the con-
victs and posted thirty-six hours
before the escape. Penitentiary
Commissioner R.B. Gibson has ex-
pressed surprise at the fact that
such a letter could be "smuggled
out" of Kingston Penitentiary,

whereas it is a common boast of
convicts that they were able to
communicate with their families
quietly while serving their sen-
tences. The Windsor Star has re-
vealed that it received a letter from
a Windsor convict. Some time ago,
The Globe and Mail received two
letters from a convict in the
Even this limited evidence sug-
gests that the practice of smuggling
letters out of the prison has been
far too common. It could become
so only if there was negligence in
the security of visitors and dis-
charged convicts or there was as-
sistance on the "inside."

A second consideration is that
the escaped prisoners made their
way to freedom by having their
supposedly "saw-proof" cell bars
blades before they could reach the
prisoners, if they were brought in
from the outside. Supervision must
have been virtually non-existent to
permit the actual sawing to pro-
ceed without detection. If, as of-
ficials have surmised, the task took
several days, it is beyond under-
standing that the condition of the
bars themselves was not noticed.
It is equally astonishing that the
absence of the men from their cells
was not discovered until they failed
to report for breakfast in the
morning.

Finally, to make their escape, the
three prisoners climbed the outer
wall only a few feet from one of
the guards' towers, thus adding a
parting insult to the injury they
were already inflicting on the peni-
tentiary's reputation. It is now
suggested that only two of the
escapees were manned on the night
of the "break." The public is en-
titled to know if this is true and,
if so, why.

That there will be an investiga-
tion of the circumstances sur-
rounding the triple escape at
Kingston Penitentiary is a fore-
gone conclusion. In view of the
grave breaches of security implied
in reports made public to date,
it is equally certain that a thoro-
ugh investigation cannot be
considered adequate. Only two
conclusions can be drawn. Either
there has been gross negligence
on the part of the penitentiary
staff or there has been outright
conspiracy with the prisoners.

The public will not be satisfied
until it knows what was the case.
A full-scale public inquiry is in
order and, if it is to serve any
purpose, it should not be confined
to the escape itself. The whole sys-
tem of prison administration which
made the "break" possible must be
brought under review and drastic
steps taken to ensure against the
slightest possibility of its being
repeated.

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