

THE GUARDIAN

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Managing Director, J. R. Burnett; Associate Editor,
Frank Walker.

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, NOV. 25, 1947

A Big Occasion

Tomorrow, Wednesday, Nov. 26, marks an
important date not only in the history of the
Prince Edward Island Hospital, but for the Province
in general. The history of the Hospital is
folded elsewhere in today's issue. It is a story of
magnificent achievement. Beginning very modestly,
the Hospital has now grown into one of the finest
institutions of its kind in the Eastern Provinces.

Tomorrow, following the formal opening, it
is the desire of the board of trustees that the
public generally will take the opportunity of
inspecting the new building, as well as the new
veterans' wing, which has been added in the past
few years. This will serve better than any
description to familiarize hospital patrons and the
public generally with what has been going on.
We venture to say that to most people the work
which is being done will come as a revelation.

St. Andrew's Night

St. Andrew's Day, November 30, falls this
year on Sunday and as a matter of convenience
it has been decided to hold the Caledonian Club
St. Andrew's night dinner this evening. At
similar festive boards throughout the world, Scots
will meet this week to pay honour to their patron
Saint, to recall the glorious traditions of their
race and to derive fresh inspiration from the
recollections.

No country ever has aroused in its sons deeper
love and devotion, and none, the Scots maintain,
is more deserving of such loyalty. Too modest
themselves to claim all the virtues which they
possess, the Scots are willing to accept the
valuation placed upon them by others, as evidenced
in the positions of trust and responsibility which
they have been given in every quarter of the
globe. There are few places to which the Scots
have not penetrated, and in doing so won honour
for themselves and their race.

One attractive feature of the traditional
celebration of St. Andrew's Day is the custom of
bringing in a distinguished Scot as guest speaker.
On this occasion the Scots of Charlottetown,
and this island, will be privileged to hear
Dr. William Bailey, Professor of Sociology at
North Western University, Chicago, who will
respond to the toast to "The Day and A' Wha
Honour It." The programme throughout is an
attractive one, and there will doubtless be a
large attendance at this time-honoured function.

That Potato Deal

Considerable credit is being claimed by
members of the Jones Government for having
been instrumental in obtaining the 3,000,000
bushel potato order from the British Government
last winter. This is rather amusing in view of
the fact that on February 7, just as Agriculture
Minister Gardiner was announcing the terms of
the potato contract in the House of Commons,
our Provincial Minister of Agriculture, Hon. W.
F. A. Stewart, was being quoted in the press as
stating: "With regard to the proposed shipment
of potatoes to Britain, it would appear from
the announcements which have been prematurely
handed out that nothing is certain about the
arrangement yet. We have tried to get
authentic information, but the whole thing
seems to be in the air yet."

This being the extent of Mr. Stewart's
knowledge of the situation at the time, how can
he and his colleagues claim any credit for putting
through the deal? Is it conceivable that Premier
Jones knew all along what was going on, yet
concealed the information from his Minister of
Agriculture? The latter's ill success in obtaining
"authentic information", and his failure to
recognize the said authentic information even after
the deal had been consummated and the terms
had been published in The Guardian, was
indicative of the complete lack of co-operation
existing between the Provincial and Federal
Governments in this matter. Fortunately for
our potato growers and dealers, the deal was
handled through other and more competent
channels, with the result that a threatened disaster
in the potato industry was averted, and our
producers came out with a fair margin of profit.

In The Doldrums

The so-called austerity programme announced
by Finance Minister Abbott last week, says an
exchange, is mystifying both in its purpose and
its set-up. Just why Canadians should now be
asked, suddenly and without notice or intelligent
explanation, to accept a new scheme of
extraordinary taxation in the middle of a fiscal
year, and also to cease buying a wide range of
commodities regarded as essential in the average
household, is a knock-out conundrum. Everyone
realizes that Canadians have been buying too
much in the United States and selling too little
in that country, with the consequence that a
heavy trade balance has been built up against
this Dominion. The adoption of some system
restricting imports, while at the same time
stimulating exports, would be rational enough to
command nearly everyone's approval. But why
restrictions, and quotas, and additional taxes,
should be applied to commodities produced right
here in Canada is something that baffles orderly

comprehension. What for example does the
King Government expect to achieve in the way
of reform in the national economy by a sudden
excise tax increase, ranging from 15 to 20 per
cent, on motor vehicles that are being produced
every day in Canadian factories? And why, may
we ask further, should the average Canadian
household be suddenly required to restrict their
purchases of what are called "consumer goods",
even when those goods are made in Canada?
Surely it must be obvious to anyone who gives
the matter a moment's thought that these ob-
structions and hurdles and restrictions can only
have the immediate effect of stifling many of
the currents of wholesale and retail trade across
the Dominion. In the aggregate, they look very
like a bid for another general business depression.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Thirteen days till the election.
T.B. League on rounds for Christmas Seals.
St. Andrew's celebration and dinner by the
Caledonian Club tonight.
Contrary to the usual state of affairs oil
is causing friction between Russia and Iran.

For the next few months we will not be able
to blame inflation on skyrocketing United States
prices. American goods won't be available here
at any price.

Today the people of Morell are proudly "at
home" to visitors at the opening of their new
community centre. May it long be a focal
point for the development of community enter-
prise of which it is itself a product.

The Jones Government gives as its excuse
for not backing the building of a grain elevator
here the fact that feed grains are carried East
at the expense of the Federal Government. That
policy is a temporary one, and as soon as it is
discontinued the cost of feed will be prohibitive
if it still must make the trip by rail.

In spite of criticism of those who would like
our squares to be kept as unused beauty spots
it is to be hoped that the Playground Commission
will enable the small fry to get in a bit of
skating and hockey. By proper planning it
should be possible to provide rinks for the
youngsters in the squares and yet avoid making
eyesores of them.

The Jones Government has been taking
great credit for having borrowed at 2 3/4%
interest, claiming that it is because of the gov-
ernment's wise financial policy. Actually, of
course, it is because that is about the prevail-
ing rate today. The Town of Lunenburg, for
instance, has borrowed at 2 1/2%. That would in-
dicate that the town's credit is in better condition
than that of this Province.

Canadian railways are going to find it
harder than ever to succeed in getting their 30
per cent increase in freight rates now that they
have actually reduced rates to Portland, Maine,
so that they are now the same as the rates to
Saint John and Halifax.

Perhaps the most outstanding social record
in the Province is that obtained by Mr. Thomas
MacMillan of the Caledonian Club. He has
been secretary for thirty-five years, and has mis-
sed only one St. Andrew's night banquet in all
that time; and he intends to be present at the
function tonight. He and Mrs. MacMillan have
every reason to be proud of this, and also of the
fact that their family is one of the most out-
standing educationally and professionally in the
Province. "Leng may his lum reek."

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, Scots-American mil-
lionaire philanthropist, born this date 1835. Be-
gan life as an immigrant telegraph messenger
and rose to control the biggest steel and rail-
way monopoly in the world. He believed in
helping those who wished to help themselves, and
so provided organs for churches, swimming baths
for Y. M. C. A.'s, fees for University students,
newsletters for professors, libraries for commu-
nities and colleges (such as our own) and here
funds for the pecuniary assistance of persons in
need (or, when killed, for assistance of their de-
pendents) in saving life, a palace at the Hague
for a Court of Arbitration to replace war. He
wrote extensively, his best known works being
Triumph of Democracy, Problems of Today, etc.:
"Three generations from shirt sleeves to shirt
sleeves."

There's a sound that brings a lump to the
throat of every Scot, no matter where he
may be — and a look of agony to everyone
else's faces! It's the skirl of the bagpipes, either
leading a Scottish regiment on parade, providing
music for an eightsome reel, or piping in the
bag on St. Andrew's night. Have you ever won-
dered, when you heard that piercing wail, just
where this instrument comes from? The odds are
it was made in Britain — not in the glens of
Scotland, but in dear old London! Seems that
Mr. Henry Starck of London and his family have
been making bagpipes for three generations. His
grandfather started this career on the advice of
Queen Victoria's pipe major. During the war
Mr. Starck made 300 sets of pipes for Scots and
Irish regiments, and now he's taking orders from
all parts of the British Commonwealth. The
cloth rationing problem is one of Mr. Starck's
biggest headaches. He asked the Board of
Trade for coupons to buy flannellette, and they
just couldn't see what flannellette had to do with
bagpipes. But the answer is easy — The bag of
the pipe is sheepskin, which is greasy, and for 70
years the firm has used flannellette as an under-
lining to protect the brilliant cover of tartan
cloth. Now that's all sorted out, and Mr.
Starck's bagpipes will continue to rally Scottish
clans wherever they may be, for nobody makes
bagpipes like he does!

Notes By The Way

If all the aspects of the admin-
istration of Indian affairs are to
be broomed under onto separate
ground, there is a good deal to be said
for bringing them under the Depart-
ment of Health and Welfare rather
than under Natural Resources. —
Vancouver Province.

A Mexican literacy law makes it
compulsory for each educated citizen
between eighteen and sixty
years old to teach one illiterate
person between six and forty to
read and write. All children be-
tween six and fourteen and all il-
literate adults between fourteen and
forty are required to learn. — Bri-
tannica 1947.

"The United Nations Appeal for
Children offers individual men and
women throughout the world a
unique opportunity to take a di-
rect part in the work of the United
Nations. It has in fact the most re-
sistible of all causes: the plight
of hungry, homeless, hopeless chil-
dren, innocent victims of war and
famine." — Trygve Lie, Secretary-
General, United Nations.

The function of an editorial
page is to point with pride, view
with alarm and occasionally recom-
mend. Accordingly, we have our
gloomy moments, for too often our
pride and alarm are not shared
and our recommendations are ig-
nored. Days pass, at times, with-
out so much as a minor success.
We do not like such days — we
view them, we might even say,
with alarm. But then comes the
compensation: a matter we recom-
mended heartily is actually suc-
cessful for such days. — New York
Times Tribune.

If those elements in this coun-
try that seem to believe Canada
may soon be teetering on the edge
of an economic abyss would give
more thought to the means by
which they could contribute to
the defeat of any imported econ-
omic or political ism and less to the
expressions of their apprehensions,
they would be serving their own
and the nation's best interests.
Surely it will not be necessary to
learn all over again by hard ex-
perience so much as by the ex-
periences of others. — Victoria Times.

The authorities have always
been puzzled how Bathurst and
Melville Island aborigines have
been able to stage beer drinking
parties, even when Darwin was
destitute of all beer. Now they
have discovered that a vessel fly-
ing the Panamanian flag and load-
ed with a cargo of beer, was bom-
barded by the Japanese during the
war years and sunk off the west-
ern coast of Bathurst Island. When
the wreckage was salvaged, the beer
from the wreck and have glorious
spreads. — Australian News Letter.

It's easy to say that farmers are
making lots of money and that the
price of food shouldn't be going
up. But when the farmer is faced
with losses in any phase of his
operations, he is anxious to get
producing just for the fun of the
thing. That is shown by the action
of an oldtime dairy farm at Natal.
Here the cost of feed and the
shortage of labor resulted in clos-
ing down a dairy which had given
good service to consumers for 17
years. The fact is that there are
phases of farming these days which
are so unprofitable that many
farmers are being driven out of
business. — Lethbridge Herald.

The THE FEED GRAIN SITUATION
Sir.—In his letter in Saturday's
Guardian Mr. L.P. McIsaac, assist-
ant secretary, P.E.I. Federation of
Agriculture, tells the farmers of
the Island that the Prairie farm-
ers are selling their grain at a
"feed grain for higher prices. That
is no doubt quite true, what they
have done has been simply to sell
their grain for cash at the Govern-
ment market and then to buy it
back at a higher price. We have
asked no questions as to who
the buyers might be.

It is the Federal Government
that has been caught in a trap by
the Prairie farmers. They decided to
buy all the feed grain they could
get, and in doing so they have
injured by the closing of the
Winnipeg grain exchange, have
planned for years to retrieve their
loss when the grain controls were
removed. Realizing that there
would be no risk in buying barley
and oats at ceiling prices, and
watching the growing demand in
Parliament for the removal of all
grain controls, they decided to buy
all the feed grain they could get,
no doubt obtained the necessary
funds from the chartered banks,
who have lots of money to loan
these days at low rates of interest
when the security is good.

It is simply a case of the self-
ishness of human nature taking
advantage of the inexorable law of
supply and demand.
Mr. McIsaac speaks of a confer-
ence to be held in Ottawa early
in December where the farmers
of Eastern Canada will ask the
Government to do what they can
to assist. Now that they have lost
control of the grain, it is not easy
to see what the Government can
do. They have already done a
great deal in banning the export
of feed grains, for which there is
an enormous demand in the out-
side world at very high prices.
Possibly Mr. Abbott, as Minister
of Finance, might use the Govern-
ment's own Bank of Canada to
bring pressure upon the Chartered
Banks to call the loans they
have made to the speculators, on
the plea that the latter are dis-
rupting the established trade of
Canada and jeopardizing the live
stock trade.

In addition they are interfering
with the Government's contracts
to supply bacon to Britain and
protein food to starving Europe.
Of course, Wall Street might step
into the breach and advance the
money to the grain men. That,
however, would strengthen the
banking system of Canada, and
the Canadian reserve of American dol-
lars, on account of which we are
all being punished today, with ex-

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to
the submission of questions and
opinions of general interest. The Charlottetown
Guardian does not necessarily
endorse the opinion of
correspondents.

PEN-FRIENDS WANTED

Sir.—My principal idea in writing
to you, as the Canadian Trade
Commissioner in Sydney suggested,
was to obtain pen-friends. But after
he had given me your address
and I was sitting in front of my
typewriter waiting for inspiration,
I took another look at the address
and blinked. You see, about 9 years
ago, when I was in primary school,
I used to read the "Ann of Green
Cabnet's" series by L.M. Montgomery,
and you know these are all situated
on P.E.I. and in the dramatization
of these books at present being
broadcast by one of our stations,
Ann is in Charlottetown on an er-
rand of kindness, as usual.
I know this delightful creation of
Montgomery lives only in the pages
of books, yet what I saw the name
of your paper, it brought back
nostalgic memories of those dear
days when I was younger and far
more care-free. But this is taking
me away from my original idea.
I hope there is some boy
and girls, or grown-ups, as long as
they are above 16 or 17, who do not
mind writing to me from time to
time to one who has long known
and loved their Island through the
works of its best-known writer. I
am 18, height, weight and colour of
eyes and hair supplied on request;
hobbies tennis, swimming, books,
photography and chemistry and
the writing of letters for the bet-
tering of international relations
and the obtaining of information.
I rest my letter and leave my-
self in your hands,
Yours truly,
HARRY BRUNEN
Box 56, The Union,
Sydney University,
N.S.W., Australia.

Old Charlottetown

One of the most interesting ship-
ments made for a long time left
the Clyde on Saturday last for
Prince Edward Island. The ship-
pers were Messrs. Gardiner, Rich-
ards and Boyer, three gentlemen
from that colony, and the pur-
chases of the former included, the
Glasgow short let three-year-old
horse "Lucky Lad," 5184, one of
the best horses exported from Scot-
land for a long time, and a good
3-year-old filly named "Jubilee,"
and got by "Bellet Knight" 1398,
out of a Lochfargus champion mare.
Mr. Richards' purchases were a
lightly-coupled well-made horse
named "Knight of Ardowan" 5114,
purchased from Mr. Imrie Black-
hill, Maryhill, and got by the
famous prize horse and breeding
sire, "Top Gallant," 1850, out of a
prize mare, and two capital fillies,
one a 3-year-old, got by "Lord
Blantyre," 2242, and the other a
3-year-old got by "Dundee," 2747.
Mr. Boyer's mare was the best
of the lot. She is named "Myosotis"
and was got by "MacGregor" 3789,
out of "Bell of Barcheskile" 3789.
Good judges declare her to be one
of the best Clydesdale mares that
has yet been exported.

MILK PRICES

Sir.—Many people have contact-
ed me regarding consumer milk
prices in other Provinces. Following
is a report dated Nov. 16th, which
I received from Mr. Alphonse Savoie,
secretary, Quebec Dairy Commission,
Montreal.
Pastorales per quart:
Montreal 16-12; Quebec City 16c;
Three Rivers and Sherbrooke 15-2c;
St. Hyacinthe, Drummondville,
Magoy and Stovell 15c; Huntingdon
and Valleyfield 14c.
The above are a few of the re-
gions mentioned in Mr. Savoie's re-
port. I might point out that in the
Quebec area the price is highest,
due, no doubt, to the increased
costs of distribution.
In synoptical review and compar-
ed with our prices the situation is
largely the same. Our prices are
higher than our price of 15c per
quart here in Charlottetown,
thirty-two pay 15c per quart which
is equal to ten paise, and ten paise
per quart which is one cent less
than our present price.
The above report would indicate
that the local milk board in un-
animous agreement set a price of
15c per quart which, I believe, is
recognized by all fair minded
people as a fair, reasonable, and
equitable price for producers and
consumers of fluid milk.
I am, Sir, etc.,
W. R. CARSON
201 Prince St.,
Charlottetown.

Family Quarrel

(W. L. Clark, in Windsor Star)
The Conservatives are trying to
make the most of the split among
the Liberals in Prince Edward Is-
land. It is one of those clashes of
personalities that can lead to dis-
aster at the polls.

The row goes back some years.
In the 1940 Dominion general
election Hon. Cyrus MacMillan topped
the polls for the Liberals in
Queens, P. E. I. That constituency
elects two members, J. L. Douglas,
Liberal, being the other.

When Dr. MacMillan was in Ot-
tawa he unwittingly offended Hon.
J. Walter Jones, Liberal Premier
of Prince Edward Island. This
burned up Mr. Jones.
When the 1946 Dominion gen-
eral election came along, Mr. Dou-
glas was re-elected at the top of
the polls for the Liberals, but Dr.
MacMillan was defeated, finishing
third behind Mr. Douglas and W.
Chester S. McLean, now Conserva-
tive M.P. for Queens. Friends of
Dr. MacMillan blamed Premier
Jones for the defeat.

Now, with the Prince Edward Is-
land general election called for
December 11, some of Dr. MacMil-
lan's friends think it is their turn
to teach Mr. Jones a lesson. In-
stead of working for a Liberal vic-
tory, they are pulling for a defeat
for Mr. Jones.
This is one of those family rows
that gets into political households.
It is not going to help the Liberals
at the coming voting.

H.K.S. HEMMING

P.S.: If the above Banking could
not be carried out, the Govern-
ment might come to a compromise
arrangement with grain dealers to
buy back all the feed grain at a
fair price above cost and then re-
sell it at a reasonable figure to the
farmers of Eastern Canada. —
H.K.S.H.

THE PEOPLE AND DEMOCRACY

Sir.—Democracy has never
been better defined than by Ab-
raham Lincoln: "Government of
the people, by the people, for the
people." The excellence of that
definition is that "the people" is
three times repeated, being as im-
portant as any other element in
democracy.
In any criticism of the econ-
omic system, poverty must be
placed first. Secondly, no country
can be a true democracy if it al-
lows inequalities of wealth and
rank, except such as are based on
differences of worth. A commu-
nity that allows its poorest families
to live at the semi-starvation line
(Continued On Page 15)



FAR, FAR FROM SCOTLAND

Were you not weary in your distant
places,
Far, far from Scotland of the mist
and storm,
In drowsy airs, the sun-smile on
your faces,
The days so long and warm?
When all around you lie the
strange fields sleeping,
The dreary woods where no fond
memories roam,
Do not your sad hearts ever cease
come leaping
To the highlands and the lowlands
of your home?
Let torrents pour then, let the
great winds rally,
Snow-silence fall, or lightning
blast the pine;
That light of Home shines brightly
in the valley,
And, exiled son of Scotland, it is
thine.
For you have wandered over seas
of longing,
And now you drowse, and now you
well may weep,
When all the recollections come a-
throbbing
Of this old country where your
fathers sleep.
—Neil Munro

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(Continued On Page 15)

SOCIAL SECURITY
Friend and Protector to millions of people in all walks of life, the
Life Insurance Companies play a vital part in the welfare of Can-
adian citizens, and in the National Economy.
It is a privilege of the Life Underwriters to help make people
future more secure. Consult the Great-West Life man for a suit-
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