

THE GUARDIAN

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

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, JAN. 30, 1950

National Health Week

Loss of \$135,000,000 in wages a year,
a cost of \$1,400,000,000 a year for sickness,
untimely death and accidents and loss of
education for 28,000,000 pupil-days in the
year were recently estimated for Canada in
a recent monthly letter of the Royal Bank
of Canada. Such figures show graphically
the urgent need for increased interest in
public health and wider support of immun-
ization programmes. It must always be
borne in mind, however, that ill health and
accidents are not mere statistical losses but
individual and family tragedies. To have
the bread winner incapacitated by prevent-
able disease, to endanger lives of mothers
and children because of neglect of immun-
ization is cause for individual heartbreak
as well as being part of the national cost
of ill health. The Health League of Can-
ada has proclaimed January 29-February 4
as National Health Week and Canadians
would do well to take thought of their per-
sonal health and lend support to health
activities in the community.

U. S. Farm Surplus

The main items included in the new
United States policy to throw Government-
owned surpluses of foodstuffs on the export
market are dried eggs, dried skim milk,
flaxseed, raw linseed oil, beans, Mexican
canned beef with gravy, feed barley, corn,
oats and potatoes. The dried eggs, which
the Government's agency, the Commodity
Credit Corporation, bought at about \$1.30
per pound will be sold at 40 cts. a pound. The
canned meat, which cost the C.C.C. 30 cents
a pound, will be sold for about half that
price, and the potatoes, which cost the C. C.
C. over \$2 per hundred pounds, will be sold
at the fire-sale price of 1 cent per hundred
pounds.

In the case of oats, barley, flax and corn,
the C.C.C. plans to sell its holdings at mar-
ket prices. The linseed oil will be sold at
about the same price as Canada is getting.
The effect on the market will be not nearly
as marked as it would have been had the
C. C. C. applied the same selling policy to
grains and linseed oil as it is to eggs, can-
ned meat and potatoes. Nevertheless, it is
obvious that the availability of the addi-
tional supplies will make for lower prices.

The following Canadian trade figures for
the first 11 months of 1949 are cited as
giving a fair idea of the importance of this
development to our exporters. The fig-
ures are for overseas exports only. The U.
S. market itself is not greatly affected. The
item of barley for example is feed barley,
whereas our exports to the U. S. are al-
most entirely malting barley. In potatoes,
our exports of seed potatoes will not be af-
fected as the sales by the U. S. are of table
potatoes. The figures are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Value.
Dried eggs \$4,763,457
Powdered skim milk 1,340,458
Flaxseed 9,860,574
Linseed oil 7,682,684
Barley 4,502,007
Oats 3,202,870
Table potatoes 1,182,544
Beans 498,464
Corn 142,940
Canned beef with gravy nil

Total \$33,175,998

In only a few of the items in which Can-
ada trades is the competition of the fire-
sale type. The rest is competition at pre-
sent market prices. The products which are
being sold at prices below the market are
table potatoes and dried eggs. Canada's total
sales of these commodities in the first 11
months of 1949 amounted to about \$5.94
millions.

High Peacetime Record

In Great Britain, higher production re-
cords continue to embrace more industries.
Latest report to hand deals with the ship-
building trade, in which it is expected that
shipyard completions in 1949 will register
the greatest output since the war. The es-
timated gross tonnage constructed is placed at
1.4 million tons, compared with 1.2 million
tons in 1948 and 886,000 tons in 1947.

A total of 47 per cent—over five million
tons deadweight—of the world's ocean-going
shipping on order or under construction was
in the hands of United Kingdom yards last
July, according to the recently published
American survey of world shipping. Of the
total world tonnage—10.7 million tons—44
per cent was for export, 3.2 million tons for
registry in the British Isles, 2.6 million tons
for Norway and 800,000 tons for France.

The latest statistics published by the
British Admiralty show that at the end of

October last, shipping under construction in
United Kingdom yards totalled 1.9 million
tons gross and that laid down during the
month totalled 99,000 tons. Tonnage com-
pleted and leaving the yards in October
was 139,000. Six hundred and ninety-five
thousand tons of the total under construc-
tion is scheduled for export.

It is also interesting to note that the in-
crease in exports in the British motor ship
building industry during the past two years
is one of the highest of any large United
Kingdom industry. For the first ten months
of last year the tonnage built for overseas
owners was treble the corresponding period
of 1947 and 60 per cent more than in 1948.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Number and calibre of the nominations
for civic office should prove an accurate
barometer of the state of civic spirit.

Seeing the tendency to suppress public
discussion in the City Council, it is a bless-
ing there still is a free press to which ag-
gressive citizens may have access.

The two main causes of a large number
of fires, says Fire Chief Herbert Jewell, are
carelessness and neglect, especially with re-
gard to cigarette smoking.

The Royal Canadian Mint has offered
\$1,000 for a design for the new "nickel".
Even in China a nickel hardly fetches that
much.

One particular advantage of the kind of
winter we have been experiencing is that
the lack of snow and repeated freezing and
thawing should result in a high mortality
rate for insect pests.

One of the most important factors in
public health is care of the teeth. This is
emphasized by an advertisement in today's
issue, inserted by the division of public
health nursing, Department of Health and
Welfare, pointing out how tooth decay can
be controlled.

The Quebec Government, which has
found suitable employment for some 250
former TB patients in the last two years,
claims that with proper supervision in the
early years of recovery, such patients are
perfectly safe to associate with and no more
dangerous than the ex-measles patient.

By far the most outstanding culture
authority on the Island is Agricola, (Mr.
Blythe Hurst, Sr.) but his voice was not
heard, or even reference made to him and
his work in any of the briefs prepared for
submission to the Massey Commission on
Arts, etc.

Whether a national emergency now ex-
ists in housing is a principal point to be
decided by the Supreme Court of Canada
in hearings beginning today. The actual de-
cision may go much further and decide the
legality of practically all remaining Fed-
eral controls.

The average number of persons employ-
ed by the Canadian National System is more
than 115,000. Their occupations illustrate
the widespread and varied operations of
the country. There are, for example, tele-
graph repair men; deep sea divers; hotel
porters; sea captains; machinists of all
kinds; architects; cartage drivers; research
chemists; accountants; doctors and lawyers.

Mungo Park, Scottish explorer, left Lon-
don on his second West African expedition
this date 1805. Ten years earlier he had
already been sent, in 1795, by the African
Association to explore the valley of the
Niger, and on his return settled in Peebles
as a surgeon. On the new expedition he
was drowned at Boussa. He was the author
of the famous "Travels" published in 1799,
and his "Journal of a Mission to the Inter-
ior", published in 1815, ten years after his
death.

A direct passenger liner service between
the Clyde and Canada will begin next May.
The 26,000 ton Empress of Scotland will re-
enter the service of the Canadian Pacific
Steamships Ltd. She will sail every third
Tuesday from Liverpool for Quebec, making
a call at Greenock both outward and home-
ward, thus reviving the C.P.R.'s traditional
association with the Clyde, which had to be
suspended in 1940. The ship has berths for
700 passengers and a speed of 21 knots. The
voyage will take only five days between
Quebec and Greenock, the shortest time in
the history of the route. The Empress of
Scotland was built by the Fairfield Ship-
building and Eng. Co. as the Empress of
Japan and, before the war, was in service
on the Pacific, holding the Pacific blue rib-
bon. She was engaged for 8 1/2 years as a
troopship carrying 270,000 troops and sup-
plying 20 million meals until about eighteen
months ago when she was taken in hand
for reconditioning. The first trip leaves
Greenock on May 10th, arriving Quebec

Household words like "dynamo"
and "conjuring tricks" take on
strange and unfamiliar forms
when committed for the first time
to paper, creating an urgent de-
mand for an eraser which, if met
results in the missive being sav-
agely excoriated. There is nothing
very curious about the whole oper-
ation.

Bowed like a galley slave over
his or her child ploughs its love-
ly furrow with an air of male-
volent concentration. The desk
bears what the police would de-
scribe as "signs of a struggle"; and,
indeed, a struggle is being waged—
a struggle with the outside of the
English language, with the scatu-
rescent nib, with little tarts of
ink, with an intense desire to go
and do something else, and—soon-
er or later—with ultimate truth.

For there is a tendency for these
letters of thanks to stereo-
type themselves. The child feels that
what it has once said well it will
never say better, and the phrase
(used with perfect sincerity by Aunt
Griselda) "It was just what I

The Poet's Corner

MAN WANTS BUT LITTLE

No flocks that range the valley
free
To slaughter I condemn;
Taught by that Power that piles
me
I learn to pity them.
But from the mountain's grassy
side,
A guileless feast I bring;
A script with herbs and fruits sup-
plied,
And water from the spring.

Then, pilgrim, turn, thy cares fore-
go:
All earth-born cares are wrong;
Man wants but little here below;
Nor wants that little long.

—Oliver Goldsmith (1738-1774)

Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)

PRINCETOWN DISFRANCHISED

Legislative Council, Friday,
March 23, 1860.

The following petition was pre-
sented to the House by the Hon.
Mr. Palmer, and the same was
received and read:

"A petition of divers inhabit-
ants of Prince George's County, setting
forth that although nearly a cen-
tury has elapsed since Princetown
was originally laid off as the
County Town, only one or
two buildings have hitherto been
erected on the site of the said
Town; that the Act 19th Vic. cap.
24 virtually disfranchised Princetown
by adding Township No. 13
thereto, thereby conferring upon
that portion of the County a rep-
resentation of two members in the
House of Assembly, a privilege to
which, from its natural posi-
tion and relative resources, it has
no just or equitable claim; and
praying the House to sanction
such an alteration in the present
Election Law as will transfer
the right of returning two re-
presentatives to the House of
Assembly, hitherto enjoyed by
the district aforesaid, to the in-
habitants of Township No. 17, em-
bracing Summerside and St.
Eleanor's, and to make such other
provisions in the premises as the
House, in its wisdom, may deem
meet."

Thank You, Thank You

(The Times, London)

King Lear may have been right
when he exclaimed:
"Here sharper than a serpent's tooth
it is to have a thankless child!"
Many mothers, and not a few
nannies, whose pride and joy
stands scowling at its hostess's
calves (round which a howling
draught from the open front door
savagely whips her skirts) and re-
fuses to say, "Thank you for
your nice party," know exactly how
King Lear felt.

But it is not much fun, either,
having a child whose energies are
temporarily diverted into being
thankful. Just as every rose has a
thorn, so every Christmas present
from the outside world involves a
letter of thanks.

Most children, though prepared
to recognize—on an academic
plane—the justice of this, take a
good deal of convincing, when the
time comes in their own case
justice really needs to be done.

On Christmas morning, up to
their hocks in coloured paper and
shavings, they were full of good in-
tentions and the spirit of recipro-
city. When their mother ex-
claimed "But how kind of Aunt
Griselda!" they would write her
"especially nice letter" it was with
true sincerity that they echoed
"Yes, I must."

But that was a long time ago
now. They still think well of Aunt
Griselda's generosity, but there
are better things to do than sit
down and write her a letter. Be-
sides, aren't they going to see her
at the pantomime next week?

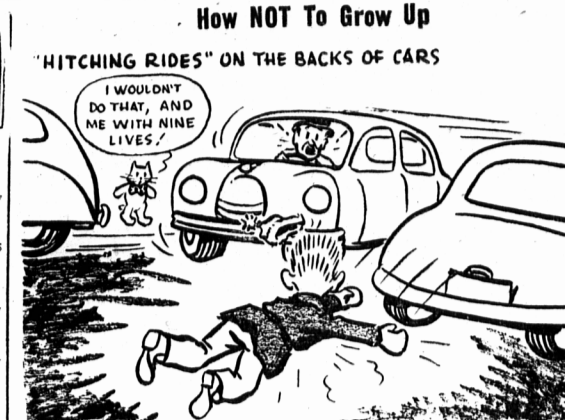
As for the old gentlemen who
sent them the long book by Shake-
speare, they don't even know him,
at least they can't remember what
he looks like. Surely you ought not
to write to people whom you do not
know?

When at last these quibbles have
been disposed of formidable ad-
ministrative problems are sent
themselves. Ruled paper, so indis-
pensable at this stage of the letter-
writer's development, is less pre-
sented at home than at school; and
when it has been found a certain
impetuosity in the scribe's ap-
proach to the task in hand, results
in ink being upset, often in quan-
tities large enough to necessitate
a partial change of clothing.

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and "conjuring tricks" take on
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TAKING RISKS ON UNSOUND ICE OVER PONDS, STREAMS



Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

THE ELECTION (First Installment)

LONDON, England—After all
the agitation of past months—
all the uncertainty and the won-
dering when the General Elec-
tion would take place—now
we know. But I doubt if we are
any better off for knowing. The
knowledge doesn't seem to have
made much difference to the ordi-
nary man and woman of this is-
land, as far as I can see.
A little while ago I wrote about
a man who complained that busi-
ness was not so good, and who
blamed—amongst other things—
the uncertainty created by the ex-
pectation of a general election
without the knowledge of when it
would come. Yet, as I said then,
the mass of our population are
easily influenced by things that
might happen this week or next,
or next month or six months hence.
It was then, as it is now, a case
of getting on with the routine
business of living and taking in
our stride whatever comes along.
If a general election happens to-
morrow, well, what of it? The
fact is that comparatively few
people really expect that the re-
sult of the election will have much
effect on their lives. It may be
that we are somewhat cynical, or
perhaps we have learnt that life
isn't subject to violent change for
the ordinary folk whatever the
colour of the government, at least
during the past few generations.
The Socialist Government which
we elected in 1945 has wrought
some pretty severe changes in our
national policies domestically, but
the changes haven't made much
difference to our lives. We may see
the result of these changes in years to
come, for better or for worse, but
if we notice anything at all it will
probably be down to a normal
process of evolution, and few
people apart from those who have
an axe to grind will bother about
causes.

By all accounts most of the
world is taking a keen interest in
our performance at the forthcom-
ing poll. We hear that Australia
and New Zealand, having recently
rejected their own Socialist Gov-
ernments are anxious to see if we
shall do the same. We hear that
the Big Business interests in the
United States would be very pleas-
ed if we did. We hear from Mos-
cow that if we have any sense at
all we shall vote Communist, but
I don't think we shall have much
of that kind of sense.
The reports of all this excite-
ment may be exaggerated. One
thing is certain—there is not much
excitement over here. Not yet, any-
way. But then, campaigning has
not yet started; maybe we shall
live up when polling day is near-
er, when the leading men of the
opposing parties have had their
opportunities of telling us what
miracles they will work for us if
they are elected.

Even so, I suspect that the
only people who will be really ex-
cited will be the politicians them-
selves. The rest of the country
will listen to them on the radio,
at meetings up and down the
land, will read their articles in
the press, and will eventually
stand along to the polling
booths to register votes in ac-
cordance with private decisions
made months ago. For that is an-
other characteristic of John Bull
and his politics—he makes up his
mind early whom he is going to
support, and his loyalty takes an
awful lot of shifting. If he decides
to vote a certain way, hell will
do anything to get that way, and
few speakers can argue themselves
black in the face and never change
his opinion!

That, however, is not to say that
those who voted for Socialism in
1945 will do the same on February
23rd, or that those who supported
the Conservative or the Liberal or
any other party five years ago will
not have changed their minds.
There may have been a good deal
of mind changing one way or an-
other, but there have been five
years for it. Many, if not most,
voters make up their minds slowly,
whilst a particular government is
in power, and having reached a
verdict about that government's
efficiency or otherwise in the light
of experience, they are not easily
swayed by promises about what
will be done in the future.

So, when election campaigning
begins in real earnest, millions of
people will take note of everything
that is being said. If they agree
with the speaker's politics they will
agree with what he has to
say; if they don't intend to vote
for his party anyway they will
listen with their tongue in their
cheeks, and consider that he
doesn't know what he is talking
about.

Most of the general excitement
is likely to come after the votes
have been counted and the result
announced. It will be more inter-
esting then—almost like a soccer
game—to see if you supported the
winning side or not... and then to
go to work next day just the
same, and to carry on as if noth-
ing had happened.

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Notes By The Way

The traditional pagantry and
color of British public life which
is being restored after the nec-
essary wartime austerity will
receive a further contribution to
its full revival from the decision
that foreign ambassadors going
to Buckingham Palace to present
their credentials to the King will
in future travel in a State car-
riage, sent for them from the
Royal mews and driven by Royal
coachmen wearing scarlet coats
and gold-laced top hats, and they
will be attended by footmen in
Royal livery. — UK Information
Office.

The worst fears of the oppon-
ents of the United Nations plan
for Jerusalem are confirmed by
the Israeli government's decision
to move its offices to its ancient
capital. While the U. N. Trustee-
ship Council is going through the
motions of drawing up an inter-
nationalization statute, the city
itself continues to exist as an
actuality, not as a blueprint. It is
distressing to find the U. N. thus
disregarded, but it is hard to see
what else the architects of the
internationalization plan could
have expected. — New York Her-
ald Tribune.

A free market for Canadian
farm produce offers the best hope
for the future. The proper func-
tion of the government is not to
act as a buying and selling agent
for Canadian produce, as it has
been, but to concentrate its at-
tention on helping open up mar-
kets. The dwindling of the Brit-
ish contract markets has had one
advantage at least in that it has
conspicuously demonstrated the
danger of bilateral bulk trading
arrangements as a continuing
policy. There is something rad-
ically wrong with such a plan when
it can only be maintained by
subsidies. — Regina Leader-Post.

There are some good things
about an open winter, even if win-
ter rye doesn't think so. Partic-
ularly aren't urged to a diet of
apple buds, as in white nights of
drama, the universities, literature—
there's salvation in each of them,
according to its advocates. If only
the commission can persuade the
government to spend money, and
preferably a great deal of money,
on its development.

But we suspect the commis-
sioners are immunized by this time
and don't catch culture easily. We
should rather think of them that
on trains and in their off hours
they play bridge, read "Whodun-
its", doze, and that anything else
so much as mentions culture is
fined a round of shall we say tea
and toast.

The Age-Old Story

I will turn my hand unto the
and I will purely purge away the
dross, and take away all the filth

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Grid of professional cards including:
J. S. TAYLOR, Optometrist
Joseph R. MacMillan, B.A., LL.B.
M. Alban Farmer, MONEY TO LOAN
MacPhee & Trainor, B.A., LL.B.
Dr. A. L. MacIsaac, DENTIST
Palmer & Haslam, A. J. HASLAM, B.A., LL.B.
Dr. W. R. Carson, Chiropractor
Chas. R. McQuaid, B.A.
Electrical Contractor
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