

THE GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office
Department, Ottawa.
The Island Guardian Publishing Co.
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Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, NOV. 22, 1949

Haida Helps To Even The Score

Canada is frequently indebted to the
United States Coast Guard service for
bringing aid to Canadian ships in distress
on both coasts. In the nature of things it
must be so. The oceans are large and our
ships few. Even if this country were to es-
tablish a coast guard of our own it would
not be practical to have vessels within range
of any possible disaster. That being so it
is peculiarly gratifying that three Canadian
warships, the Magnificent, Haida and Swan-
sea should have been able to assist in the
search for survivors of the B-29 which
crashed last week off Bermuda, and that
H. M. C. S. Haida should bring the 18 sur-
vivors to port after they had been spotted
by an American search plane.

Surely Not A Moses!

We are told from London that million-
aire Lord Woolton has been chosen to be a
Moses to revive the Conservative Party.
Surely this is an inapposite comparison. The
Conservative Party is not in Egypt nor can
the Labour Government be considered slave
drivers. Besides, the Israelites had to live
forty years in the wilderness after being led
out of Egypt, and surely the Conservatives
do not contemplate such a pilgrimage before
they get back into office.

Are We Becoming Tropical?

Are our seasons changing to the tropi-
cal? Professor G. H. T. Kimble and Pro-
fessor F. K. Hare, both of McGill Universi-
ty's department of geography, says the
Telegraph-Journal, have been studying
meteorological reports kept through the
years at various Canadian centres, in an
effort to find out what's happening to our
climate. After long and exhaustive re-
search, they've come up with the verdict
that summers are getting longer and hotter,
and winters are getting milder. They say
that this trend has prevailed for at least
three-quarters of a century and has re-
cently been growing more marked. Of
course, they qualify their findings with the
statement that the available data does not
go back far enough to be conclusive, since
it only covers seconds on the clock of the
earth's progress. But they seem to think
we are at last at the tail-end of an ice
age which was at its depth 1,500,000 years
ago. They note that glaciers are receding
and that the permanently frozen subsoil
of northern Canada is slowly melting. All
this is unlikely to make very much differ-
ence to this generation, or the next, or the
next, or the next. The change in climate
won't be that rapid.

Mr. Howe's Problem

In a revealing speech to the Canadian
Exporters Association recently, Mr. C. D.
Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, in-
dicated the Government's thinking about the
prospective drop in Canada's overseas ex-
ports. He feels, in brief, that an abundant
domestic market in Canada will go far to
absorb products formerly shipped abroad.
"The maintenance of a generally high level
of domestic prosperity," he said, "is a mat-
ter of prime importance to exporters, as
well as to everyone else. It has meant in
many cases that a profitable domestic mar-
ket has been able to fill the gap created by
restrictions in our export markets." He
cited figures in this connection in the case
of automobiles, farm implements, and office
and electrical equipment.

"It has to be realized, however," says the
Winnipeg Free Press, "that the abundant
domestic market which is absorbing more
and more of our Canadian production is
abundant mainly because our export trade
is high. When Canadian farmers, lumbermen,
miners, fishermen and factory workers can
sell their products outside Canada they have
money in their pockets to buy Canadian
goods.

"As proved again and again throughout
Canadian history a serious drop in foreign
exports instantly impoverishes a large part
of the Canadian population, reduces its con-
sumption of Canadian as well as foreign
goods and thus slows down the whole na-
tional economy.

"The same effects must follow any large
reduction in export trade now. The most
obvious fact of the Canadian economy is
that it has been built to fit export trade,
that large amounts of its products can not
be sold in Canada (wheat being the most
notable example) and that the domestic
market cannot possibly replace any large
segment of the foreign market.

"Mr. Howe's problem as Minister of
Trade and Commerce is not primarily to

stimulate the demand of Canadians for
goods, since that demand is, assured so long
as the country is prosperous. His problem
is to stimulate exports which alone are cap-
able of keeping the country prosperous and
the demand for Canadian goods high."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Britain had only 3,300 unemployed at
October 10.

Quebec City merchants have petitioned
the City Council to allow all stores to open
Friday night as preferable to Saturday
night.

It is sobering to realize that there are
39 blind citizens in Charlottetown. They go
their way without clamouring for aid and
attention but deserve both.

Hardly conceivable. The British Food
Ministry has accused a twenty-six-year-old
cattle dealer of having sold it nine cows
with false teeth. The Ministry claims that
the front teeth of all nine had been pulled
and replaced with heifer teeth.

The chartered M. C. A. aircraft which
took a full load of Islanders to and from
the Royal Winter Fair should be the pre-
cursor of many such flights. The farmer
cannot afford to be long away from his
farm during busy seasons but he has much
to gain by attending such fairs.

The Senate is taking notice of the far-
cical Daylight Saving Time situation in this
country. Generations ago we achieved the
benefits of standard time zones but these
are largely lost by the practise of individual
municipalities going their own way altering
the clock.

"In time we hope to have a new naval
reserve division in Charlottetown," De-
fence Minister Claxton has told the Com-
mons. Naval minded Islanders have had
that hope for some time and had further
hoped that the Government had got as far
as intentions.

In London the Archbishop of Canter-
bury, Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, delayed making
a speech at the Authors' Club because he
had left his pipe at home in Lambeth Place.
"I cannot make a good speech without my
pipe," he explained. A hurried call to his
home brought the pipe—by taxi.

The Communist Party in Britain had a
registered membership of 40,161 at the end
of March, 1949, the party executive report-
ed recently. The report, covering the period
from February, 1948, to July, 1949, said
that so far 70 prospective parliamentary
candidates have been selected.

A story with a moral. "Woodrow Wil-
son," says The Public Speaker's Treasure
Chest, "was once asked how long he took
to prepare a ten-minute speech." "Two
weeks," he said. "How long for an hour
speech?" "One week." "How long for a
two-hour speech?" "I am ready now."

Thanks to the many Government com-
missions giving employment to highly paid
counsel at the public expense, in 1947
lawyers earned the highest income, with an
average of \$7,822 per annum; the doctors
coming next with \$7,666; engineers and
architects third with \$7,452. Then there
was a drop to \$2,156 to employees in busi-
ness enterprises.

The continued arrival of unauthorized
immigrants from Baltic countries provides a
headache for immigration authorities. Their
courage and determination in crossing the
Atlantic in inadequate vessels augurs well
for their prospects as citizens, but to permit
them to do so would mean that others would
be encouraged to follow, perhaps to meet
with disaster.

Fluorescent lighting, like Minerva from
the head of Jupiter, seems to have arrived
fully developed into the modern world. Most
of us, however, are hardly yet accustomed
to this means of illumination which is seen
everywhere. What is urgently required is
some means of being properly introduced to
this phenomenon so that we will neither ex-
pect the impossible nor be imposed upon be-
cause of ignorance.

Another Jenny Geddes but with an um-
brella instead of a stool. A rumpus oc-
curred in the French network station of
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in
Montreal when a middle-aged woman
entered the fourth-floor office of the radio
station, demanded to be shown a producer,
an announcer and a program in production,
berated the station for the quality of its
program, and brought her umbrella down
on the head of a young French-Canadian
actor. CBC officials kept mum about de-
tails of the incident apart from admitting
the visit was a bit more unusual than most
of their visits from the public. The lady
was ushered out quietly.

A Need Being Met



The Poet's Corner

THE LONG HILL

I must have passed the crest a
while ago
And now I am going down—
Strange to have crossed the crest
and not to know.
But the brambles were always
catching the hem of my
gown.
All the morning I thought how
proud I should be
To stand there straight as a queen.
Wrapped in the wind and the sun
with the world under me—
But the air was dull, there was little
I could have seen.
It was nearly level along the beaten
And the brambles caught in my
gown—
But it's no use now to think of
turning back.
The rest of the way will be only
going down.
—Sara Teadale.

The Oldest Church In France

(By Daniel Rops)
Returning from my holidays I
was much tempted to turn aside
to visit the charming church, the
dainty masterpiece on the banks
of the Loire, which seventeen
centuries have failed to destroy,
the Carolingian chapel of Ger-
migny des Pres. Tourists go in
flocks to visit St. Benoit sur Loire,
the wonderful Abbey church of
Fleury. But too few visitors re-
member that three miles away,
there stands a monument of beauty
and mystery, whose tower reminds
us of the minaret towers of Arabic
Spain and whose mosaics can well
stand comparison with those of
Ravenna and Byzantium.

You arrive on a small empty
village square. Behind the light
foliage curtain of tamarisks the
church stands in its brown and
pink structure with two antique
columns in front of it and topped
by its unadorned tower.
Straightaway its impression
strikes us: small though it is, the
size of a mere roadway shrine,
the building radiates strength,
sole majesty. The combination
and balance of the masses are
perfect. It is history itself, it is
the past, which here upholds the
building and makes it indestructible.
Quietly sitting in its rustic
garden this miniature chapel chal-
lenges time.

It was some time near 800 A.D.
perhaps about 806-811 that Theo-
dulf, an illustrious scholar, a re-
fugee from Spain (whence he had
fled to escape the terrors of the
Emperor Charles, who adopted
him as one of his favorites. Having
taken holy orders Theodulf had
been invested with high
dignities: "Abbot of St. Benoit sur Loire,
bishop of Orleans, a witness to Char-
lemagne's will. He was a person
of importance. Germigny was his
country seat, and the church we
are visiting his oratory, which
Odo of Metz, one of the builders
of Aix-La-Chapelle, helped to set
up.

Let us enter the building. The
Greek cross of the original de-
sign was clumsily altered in 1869,
but the other 3 arms remain, as
well as the cupola. Almost at once
our attention is caught by the half
cupola behind the altar, standing
on rows of perfect arches, and in
which a soft light suffuses a
splendid decoration.
How fresh, how vivid is that
mosaic, after having so long been

The Age-Old Story

Lord, who shall abide in Thy
tabernacle? Who shall dwell in
Thy holy hill? He that sweareth
to his own hurt and changeth not.

covered with a coating of plaster
and whitewash: a real picture of
glass, a maze of delightful details.
Gold, azure, sapphire, emerald,
purple, green are the outstanding
colours. Two great angels whose
bodies follow the shape of the
vaulting, incline towards a sort
of mysterious casket held up by
two smaller cherubs; it is the
Ark of the Covenant. The techni-
cal treatment of the subject is per-
fect. Neither at Ravenna,
nor at St. Sophia in Con-
stantinople, nor at Palermo
can anything better be found. The
only place whose splendour and
gracefulness can be compared to
this jewel is the delightful chapel
in Ravenna which was the ma-
soleum of Galla Placidia.
And while we meditate at
length in the quiet and beauty of
the old shrine, we are moved to
render thanks to the man who has
devoted his life and energy to re-
store maintain and magnify this
masterpiece: the Abbe Totti, vicar
of Germigny, whose zeal in mak-
ing known the little marvel is
equalled only by his archeological
learning. It is to him that we
owe the possibility of viewing the
mosaic in its admirable light, to
see in the windows the exquisite
transparent sheets of alabaster, to
breathe the atmosphere of fidelity,
of mystery which so entirely de-
lights those of us who possess the
sense of the permanence of the
past.

AUSSIE PENSIONERS GIVEN FREE ADVICE

CANBERRA, Nov. 21 — (CP) —
The government, under a new
scheme, is giving free legal advice
on pension problems to Australia's
600,000 old age, invalid, unem-
ployed, sickness and other pen-
sioners. To do this it's using the
legal service bureau, which for
seven years has been giving free
legal advice to all ex-servicemen.
The bureau, with branches in all
big towns throughout the Domin-
ion, is believed to be the only
thing of its kind in the world. Its
service is free to all war veterans,
about 200,000 of whom use it each
year. Last year, for example, legal
service bureau advocates in Sydney
made nearly 1,800 court appear-
ances helping veterans in hous-
ing arguments.

—The Islander, Sept. 27, 1944.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

IN RICHMOND BAY

In the capacious Bay of Rich-
mond are a great number of is-
lands, two of the principal of
which are called, in the unpoetic
verbiage of the country, 'Hog' and
'Fish' Islands. These islands are
noted for the profusion and variety
of berries which grow on them.
In the month of September, they
are visited by persons from set-
tlements to the distance of fifty
or twenty miles, either for
pleasure, or for a supply of the
fruits of the place; so that at
times twenty or thirty boat-loads
of people, chiefly young persons,
may be seen on one of these in-
sular situations, and it is said that
many a curious and laughable tale
might be furnished from scenes
and transactions connected with
these expeditions.
"However, these places are not
so much resorted to now, as for-
merly; for some grave and im-
portant personages, who discount-
enance all pleasure or recreation
— innocent though it be — have
ventured so far as to describe
these trips as irregular, because,
as they say, some of the parties
indulge in conduct reprehensible.
But it may not be unnecessary to
say, that these are calumnies ori-
ginating from a meddlesome cen-
sorious disposition.
"From Hog Island there is a
commanding prospect of the sur-
rounding country. A century ago,
here might be heard the war-
whoop and the savage yell of the
wild Indian; where now are erect-
ed numerous places of public
worship, from which ascend of-
ferings of grateful adoration.
Where then might be seen the
ferocious beasts of prey, prowling
and ranging, now may be seen
droves of lowing herds and bleat-
ing sheep. And where then the
untamed aboriginal inhabitants
erected their ready huts, circum-
vested by the dense forest, now
are seen neat and elegant build-
ings, surrounded by extensive
and cultivated fields, giving an
idea of comfort and competence.
And even in this bay, where then
the rudely constructed canoes
were piled by untutored and un-
civilized savages, now may be
seen entering stately barques,
loaded with the produce and lux-
uries of foreign and distant climes,
guided by intelligence, and the
finger of science pointing them to
their destined ports."

—The Islander, Sept. 27, 1844.

CHURCHES ARE BURNING

During the ten year period from 1938 to 1947, there were
26,000 church fires in the United States and Canada, according
to statistics published by the National Fire Protection Associa-
tion, international non-profit educational organization devoted to
fire control. Other properties, such as schools, institutions, stores,
warehouses, factories and homes are also burning by the thou-
sands. During the year 1948 the aggregate fire losses were up-
wards of a Billion Dollars in United States and Canada, besides
the tragic loss of life.

Many such losses were due to common hazards and human
error, including delayed alarms.

Every citizen should do his utmost to eliminate, or at least
greatly reduce this terrific waste and also safeguard their finan-
cial interests by carrying adequate insurance in strong reliable
Companies.

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Notes By The Way

A farmer in Norway has dis-
covered an easy way to keep his
potato patch free from weeds. He
keeps reindeer in his field. These
animals follow the rows and nibble
away the weeds. Apparently they
don't like the potato plants and
leave them alone. Now that the
secret is out, Santa Claus had bet-
ter keep an eye on Blitzen and the
others this Christmas. — Fort Wil-
liam Times-Journal.

In Lake Michigan nylon nets
"fiendishly efficient" are being
used that catch 12 times as many
fish as other nets. They consist
of threads so thin that they re-
semble a woman's hair-net, but
they are stronger than ordinary
nets. They do not need to be dried,
don't mildew, are not affected by
marine organisms, gasoline or oil,
and do not have to be reeled-up
after use. They trap so many fish
that 30 per cent is waste. If things
go on like that, a convention will
have to be called to outlaw these
nets and make regulations to

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