

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28, 1949

Notes Of Optimism

A note of optimism was sounded in New
York the other day by the Undersecretary
of the U. S. Treasury, Mr. E. H. Foley, who
said: "Opportunities for economic advance-
ment under the guidance of free enterprise
appear greater than ever before in history.

The same reassuring note was struck in
Toronto last week by the head of a big in-
vestment company, who said he was sanguine
about business for North America during
1950, and that neither the United States
nor Canada need worry about anything ap-
proaching a recession.

Commenting on these statements, the
Ottawa Journal says that despite falling off
in our exports to Britain (a temporary con-
dition) Canada is still doing a heavy export
business. It stresses as a matter of special
importance the tremendous gain in store
when the great oil and ore finds of the past
two years in Canada come to effective de-
velopment. Few Canadians have yet real-
ized the magnitude of these discoveries, which
will be potent factors in furthering our de-
velopment in the near future.

Seeing Stars

This little story was told by a clergyman
who had seen service as a chaplain in World
War I, and who witnessed the entry of
Allenby, on foot, into Jerusalem after cap-
turing it in December of 1915. It seems
that water was a scarce commodity in the
campaign and a squad had been told off to
dig a well. The digging proceeded at a fair
rate considering the temperature. The well
had reached a considerable depth when one
of the diggers shouted excitedly to his ser-
geant that he could see stars. The sergeant
thought that the man was getting a bit light
headed because the day was bright and hot.
He went down into the hole himself, how-
ever, and sure enough, looking up he could
see stars overhead. The explanation is
simple. The stars remain equally bright day
or night but fade away relatively to the
brightness of the sun. In the darkness of
the well the eyes of the soldiers were able
to see the stars as readily as though it were
night. The padre was accustomed to hang a
moral to the tale but perhaps it speaks for
itself.

On Federal Payroll

The latest summary of Federal civil ser-
vice employment and payrolls issued by the
Dominion Bureau of Statistics tells a story
of ever expanding bureaucratic activities
into fields hitherto occupied by private in-
dustry.

Between 1939 and 1949, the total number
of permanent and so-called "non-perman-
ent" civil servants increased two and a half
times from 46,106 to 123,924, or by 77,818,
as of March 31, 1949. In the same ten year
period, wages and salaries of these civil ser-
vants increased from \$69,621,000 at March
31, 1939 to \$262,980,000 at March 31, 1949,
an increase of nearly four times. These fig-
ures do not include "casual" employees
whose wages and salaries increased from
\$22,107,606.88 in 1939 to \$38,292,877.66 as
of March 31, 1949.

The grand total of all Federal employees'
wages and salaries including permanent,
non-permanent, and casual workers there-
fore increased between 1939 and 1949 from
\$91,728,865.33 to \$301,272,955.71.

Nor does this include, excepting the
Wartime Prices and Trade Board, the many
boards, royal and other commissions, and
Crown corporations, the personnel of which
does not come within the jurisdiction of the
Civil Service Act.

That this steady growth is still proceed-
ing is evidenced by the figures for the last
fiscal year. The number of permanent em-
ployees increased by 4,247 to 37,909 at
March 31, 1949, as against 33,662 at March
31, 1948. Temporary employees increased
by 1,307 to 86,016 at March 31, 1949 com-
pared to 84,708 at March 31, 1948.

There is always a turnover of civil ser-
vice employees going on but each year the
decreases are more than exceeded by re-
placements. Thus, as of March 31, 1949,
the total of 123,924 permanent and non-per-
manent civil servants represented decreases
of 1,998 during the year while increases
totalled 7,662, a net increase of 5,554.

Of the total, 123,924 permanent and non-
permanent civil servants, 37,909 or 30.6 per

cent were classified permanent and 86,015
or 69.4 per cent as non-permanent. The
total number employed at departmental
headquarters, Ottawa, is 29,172 as against
94,752 employed at other points throughout
Canada. These figures are of March 31,
1949.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Innocents' Day.

These are the days when the small fam-
ily with a large turkey is getting just a bit
tired of it all.

The cost-of-living reached an all time
high this year but nobody has been heard
to complain that it is not worth it.

Both Premier Jones and Mr. Lester
Douglas, M.P., are prominently mentioned
as prospects for the vacant Queen's Senator-
ship.

Prime Minister St. Laurent deplores the
increasing use of the phrase "Central Gov-
ernment" but he has vetoed the use of
"Dominion", and "Federal" properly means
any aspect of a federal state, local or na-
tional.

A New Zealand yodeller who took seven
years to perfect a technique of yodelling
"with five tones all at once" was formerly,
it seems, a seaman but his captain took ex-
ception to the lad's noise and imposed sil-
ence. Who will maintain that a ship's mas-
ter is not greatly privileged?

Sydney is in a much worse way civily
than is generally realized. The city now is
without a mayor, registrar, city clerk, city
treasurer and deputy police chief. The clerk
is in hospital suffering from a stroke, the
treasurer is recovering from a stroke and
the deputy police chief died about five weeks
ago.

Present agricultural price difficulties,
the floor price for bacon and necessity of
a floor price for eggs and cheese, all dem-
onstrate the imperfections of mass buying
and selling by governments. The socialists
would have it that such methods do away
with uncertainty but experience indicates
otherwise.

Ottawa is generally regarded as a more
or less sedate capital, relatively unmoved by
the comings and goings of individuals. The
picture must be corrected in the light of
the wild rumor orgy started merely by can-
cellation of a scheduled appearance by the
Prime Minister at a newsboys' Christmas
party.

Rob Roy (Robert McGregor), the Scot-
tish Robinhood, died this date 1734. He
was outlawed through penal acts in 1691,
and pressed for debt by the Duke of Mont-
rose, he organized a notorious band of cat-
tle-raiders; was captured and submitted to
lawful authority, was imprisoned in 1722,
and pardoned five years later. He settled
at Balquhedder, Perthshire, where he lived
to a green-old age. Sir Walter Scott chose
him as the hero of his novel "Rob Roy."

Mr. H. H. Hatfield, Progressive Conser-
vative M. P. for Victoria-Carleton, had
been assured in a letter from Rt. Hon. J. G.
Gardiner, Federal Minister of Agriculture,
that restocking of New Brunswick cattle for
bovine tuberculosis would begin early in
1950. Mr. Hatfield said Mr. Gardiner told
him the New Brunswick tests would begin
as soon as similar tests now being carried
out in Prince Edward Island are completed.

The speaker of Britain's House of Com-
mons, Colonel Douglas Clifton Brown, Mem-
ber of Parliament, recently unveiled at the
Palace of Westminster a Book of Remem-
brance recording names of members and
servants of House of Commons and their
sons and daughters who lost their lives in
the war. Twenty-two wartime members of
Parliament are thus commemorated. An-
other part of the memorial scheme will be
a new stained glass window in Westminster
Hall, replacing the one at the south end
which was shattered by an enemy bomb.

The Dominion Government appears to be
concerned more about following the line
of least resistance than with any consistent
policy in the matter of farm price supports.
According to a Canadian Press despatch, the
Cabinet is "not completely in favor of price
support for cheese and bacon", not because
of the amount of money involved or appar-
ently because of the need for such support,
but because "it would leave the Cabinet
wide open for price-support requests for
other products," notably potatoes. If bacon
and cheese supports were approved, "it
would be difficult to turn down the potato
producers." This is a poor way of meet-
ing emergencies, and may account in no
small measure for the predicament our
farm exporters are in at the present time.

A MEMBER OF QUEEN'S FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE HAS SUGGESTED THAT
THE PRESENCE OF WOMEN IN THE ORGANIZATION STIFLES FREE EXPRESSION AMONG THE MEN.



AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION ALLOWING MALE MEMBERS, WHEN DANGEROUSLY
HEATED, TO RAISE THREE FINGERS AND BE EXCUSED BRIEFLY FROM THE ROOM MAY BE IN ORDER.

The Stalin Myth

In the frenzied celebration of
Marshal Stalin's seventieth birth-
day the Communist party of Rus-
sia is completing the age-old cycle
of all dictatorships—the transfor-
mation of a man into a myth. Like
Alexander in the Elysian temple,
like the later emperors of Rome,
like Hitler on his Viking pyre,
Stalin is becoming a god.

But since Communism denies
all gods and rejects the super-
natural, this latest repetition of an
historical necessity is a purely
artificially created myth. Communism is creat-
ing its great myth but cannot de-
cide precisely what it wishes to
create. Is the apotheosis of Stalin
to be a social revolutionary, a sol-
dier, an economist or, in the
words of the Marxists, the kindly
father of his people? On his birthday
the myth is still blurred.

For the moment Stalin is re-
presented as a combination of all
the virtues, violent and peaceful.
He is the supreme revolutionary
who has led the masses to power and
outdid the master in building the
classless society. He is the su-
preme soldier who won the second
World War, with minor help from
the tottering capitalist powers. He
is the supreme economist who,
single-handed, solved the social
riddle of the ages (providing a
standard of living lower than that
of any major capitalist country).
And, in his later years he has be-
come the Little Father—simple,
domesticated, the milk of human
kindness—in the fashion of every
czar before him.

No single man can carry such
a diverse load of myth. In the
end the god must take on a clear-
er outline to serve his purpose.
It is a confusion of what is real
with the ideal to establish the legiti-
macy and permanence of the Com-
munist system.

There can be no such clarity on
this birthday because there is no
clarity in Stalin's own public pol-
icy. It is a confusion of what is
real with the ideal to establish the legiti-
macy and permanence of the Com-
munist system.

While this confusion is delibe-
rately maintained in public to
baffle and undermine the outside
world, a blurred myth must serve
temporarily to disguise the true
historical figure which, in fact, is
a reiteration of countless con-
querors moving out of the east
against the west.

As gunman of the revolution, as
political manipulator who suc-
ceeded Lenin against Lenin's will,
as liquidator of Trotsky, as man-
ager of the largest military opera-
tions in history, as caucus boss of
the Politburo, as the devious inter-
national negotiator of Teheran,
Yalta and Potsdam, as author of
the cold war, Stalin has lived
seventy years and crammed into
them as much, perhaps, as any
man in history—a figure who will
be remembered so long as history
is written.

Yet in all this time he has main-
tained an inner mystery beside
which his most recent counter-
parts, Napoleon and Hitler, are
open books, legible in all lan-
guages. In making himself all things
to all men he has no rival.

Trotsky saw in him a primitive
peasant who fled from the high
councils of the revolution to
smoke his pipe in the Kremlin
kitchens. Harry Hopkins found
him a congenial bourgeois poli-
tician under Communist trim-
mings. To the younger Churchill
he was a bloody tyrant, to the
Churchill of the war years a
mighty general and to the aged
Churchill a second Terrible Ivan,
more dangerous than the first.
And Roosevelt, who had charmed
and tamed the politicians of the
democratic world, imagined at
Yalta that he could melt the steel
of Stalin into the agreeable wax
figure of Uncle Joe.

Notes By The Way

A spiritualist says he has made
contact with the spirit of Hitler.
That shouldn't be too difficult in
Germany these days. — London
Free Press.

Invention of an astounding new
metal—cast iron that bends—
which can be manufactured eco-
nomically and is several times as
strong as ordinary cast iron, was
disclosed at the annual meeting of
the Gray Iron Founders' Society
at Chicago. Unlike ordinary cast
iron, the new miracle metal is not
brittle but can be bent or
twisted. — Sydney Post-Record.

It is wrong that taxes which ap-
ply generally should be so com-
plex that a taxpayer of common
intelligence cannot understand
them. Our income tax system is
crucially complicated, and taxpay-
ers who do not want or cannot
afford expert advice in making up
their returns are quite likely to
find themselves in unforeseen and
expensive trouble. Such com-
plication adds a new and painful
twist to the milking which tax-
payers now have to endure. If a
tax regulation is too complicated
for Mr. Abbott it is too com-
plicated to go on the statute books.
—Peterborough Examiner.

The monoclature of courts in
this country has always been
rather awkward. At the present
time themselves of the provinces have
"supreme courts", the exceptions being
Quebec, Saskatchewan and
Manitoba, where other titles are
in use. This is a little confusing,
especially where, as in Alberta,
the provincial courts are divided
into "supreme court, trial divi-
sion" and "supreme court, ap-
pellate division." The average
layman has quite a bit of trouble
getting these tongue-twisting titles
straight, and figuring out which
court really is "supreme." Alter-
native titles are not hard to sug-
gest for the provincial tribunals.
For the appellate branch the sim-
ple designation "court of appeal"—
already in use in two provinces
—seems best. As for the trial sec-
tion, which goes on circuit through
its province and actually tries im-
portant civil and criminal cases,
several names are available—
circuit court, assize court, high
court, or as in Saskatchewan and

on institutions, laws and folkways.
It can be based on personalities
because their life is too short
Alexander could proclaim himself
a god in the desert but his empire
fell to pieces instantly at his
death. The peaceful age of Au-
gustus ended with its master. The
hordes of Genghis Khan were
sucked back to Asia in disorder
when their leader died. Hitler's
Germany dissolved in chaos when
his single unifying force, the Fue-
hrer, shot himself in his bunker
and ordered his body burned as
the final act of the heroic myth.
Can Stalin's system survive such
perils?

On his birthday Stalin is inter-
esting enough as the most power-
ful single man of his century. He
is more interesting as the centre
of the latest experiments in dic-
tatorship and mythology. Amid
the well-organized hysteria of this
birthday celebration the real Stalin,
the man behind the grey
mask, must be asking himself if
the experiment will succeed. Mortal-
ity denies him an answer.

Manitoba, Court of King's Bench.
But perhaps the most satisfactory
is the title used in Quebec—
superior court. District court,
superior court, court of appeal,
Supreme Court of Canada—that
makes a good "ladder," easy for
anyone to remember and under-
stand at a glance. — Edmonton
Journal.

The Age-Old Story

For we, are the circumlocution
which worship God in the Spirit,
and rejoice in Christ Jesus.

The Poet's Corner

SONG
The lark now leaves his watery
nest,
And climbing shakes his dewy
wings.
He takes this window for the East,
And to implore your light, he
sings—
Awake, awake! the morn will never
rise
Till he can dress her beauty at
your eyes.
The merchant bows unto the sea-
man's star,
The ploughman from the sun his
season takes;
But still the lover wonders what
they are
Who look for day before his mis-
teries wakes:
Awake, awake! break through your
veils of law!
Then draw your curtains, and be-
gin the dawn!
—Sir William Davenant (1606-68).

Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)
HOPE MILLS

Advertisement appearing in the
Royal Gazette, Oct. 8, 1833:
"WILLIAM RENNELS hereby in-
forms the Inhabitants of Prince
Edward Island that he has erected
a Fulling, Dressing, Dying, Press-
ing and general Woollen Estab-
lishment, under the name of Hope
Mills, at the Eight Mile Stream,
Princetown Road, where he hopes
to conduct the business after the
present system of manufacturing
fine and second cloths in Great
Britain. The practice acquired by
W. R. leaves him not the slightest
doubt but that every satisfaction
will be manifested by those who
may be pleased to favor him with
a trial of this Winter's clothing.
Prices as follows:
"Fulling homespun, 4d. per yd.;
fulling and dying homespun brown,
8d.; fulling and dying homespun
blue, 10d.; fulling and dressing
died homespun, 12d.; fulling and
dressing blanketing, 4d.; fulling
and dressing flannel, 4d.; washing
and scouring blankets, 4d. each.
"For the convenience of per-
sons situated at a distance from

Public Forum

SEED POTATO SITUATION IN THE MARITIMES

Sir, — Many will be surprised
when they realize that the Mari-
time Provinces plant yearly such
a very heavy percentage of all the
certified seed potatoes grown in
Canada. In Charlottetown the re-
cords for 1920, 1940, and 1948 in
1920 P.E.I. planted 886 acres, Nova
Scotia 379, New Brunswick 1,413,
amounting to 2,678 acres, with all
of Canada planting in 1920 a total
of 7,613 acres. In 1940 P. E. I.
planted 24,114 acres, Nova Scotia
1,494, New Brunswick 16,183, or a
total in the Maritimes of 41,791
acres out of a total all over Can-
ada of only 48,111. In 1948 P.E.I.
planted 38,743 acres, Nova Scotia
1,378, New Brunswick 20,748, a
total of 60,867 acres, when the
grand total for Canada in 1948
was only 70,561.

When they talk about a surplus
of potatoes in Canada, in my op-
inion they should segregate seed
from table stock; but this is im-
possible for Ottawa to consider
because we in the Maritimes are
up to all the cute tricks in the
potato game and are running the
business by our own methods in-
dividually. It is about time we
realized that the future of the
seed potato industry is our prob-
lem to straighten out. It is not
closely connected with either a
surplus or a shortage of table
stock potatoes in Canada or the
United States.

We have the soil; we have the
advantage of being able to ship by
water; we have the experienced
and conscientious grower who is
depending on us, and just because
we are fighting with each other
trying to sell a great quantity of
potatoes by cutting prices we con-
sider ourselves smart operators.

In my opinion we need to form
a Maritime Association for the
seed industry of those actively
engaged in selling seed and if we
got to know each other better, to
work with each other, it would
not be a difficult task to have the
present low price on seed ad-
vanced a dollar a bag.

I am sure that the three Mari-
time Departments of Agriculture
would support such an organization
and that at Ottawa they would be
overjoyed because the Department
at Ottawa could look back over
similar problems of marketing that
engaged when those actively en-
gaged stopped passing the buck and
looking for financial assistance
from the Federal Department, and
I refer to the following:

Twenty-five years ago last
month a small number of whole-
sale fruit people from different
parts of Canada met in Montreal.
Their big problem was duty on
imported fruits and vegetables
from the States which was chiefly,
in those days, on a percentage
basis. There were those in Can-
ada importing whose invoices did
not check with a fair market value.
Nothing could be done by the De-
partment; the competition was
very unfair, and an association was
formed in Eastern Canada which
later on became affiliated with an
association in Western Canada, and
all their problems in respect to
duty on imports were soon
straightened out when the dealers
themselves were united together
and made recommendations to Ot-
tawa through their secretary. That
association is known as the Can-
ada Fruit and Vegetable Jobbers
Association.

In September, 1948, after eight
delegations from New Brunswick,
Nova Scotia and Prince Edward
Island at different times went to
Ottawa to have the ceiling on seed
potatoes raised, as it was con-
sidered too low, one individual
from the Maritimes obtained the
necessary credentials, took just a
few with him, presented the case,
bringing the three Maritime Pro-
vinces together on it, and the

the above Establishment, the fol-
lowing agents are appointed to
collect and deliver the cloth, viz.:
Mr. George Aitken, Three Rivers;
Mr. Peter McCallum, St. Peter's;
Mr. Thom Thomas, St. Yvon; Mr.
William Compton, St. Eleanor's;
Mr. James Sinclair, Malpeque; Mr.
James Pidgeon, New London; Mr.
William Glover, Five Lanes End,
Princetown Road. Merchandise
grain will be received by them in
payment, at the following prices:
Wheat, 5s. 6d — Barley, 3s —
Oats, 1s. 6d. per bushel.
"J. B. Wanted, a Journeyman
Dyer and Fuller at the Establish-
ment."

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129 Elm Ave. Phone 10633

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