

CLASS. C.

Class C

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Barry,
Glam.

1956



THE PRINCE OF
WALES'S CROWN

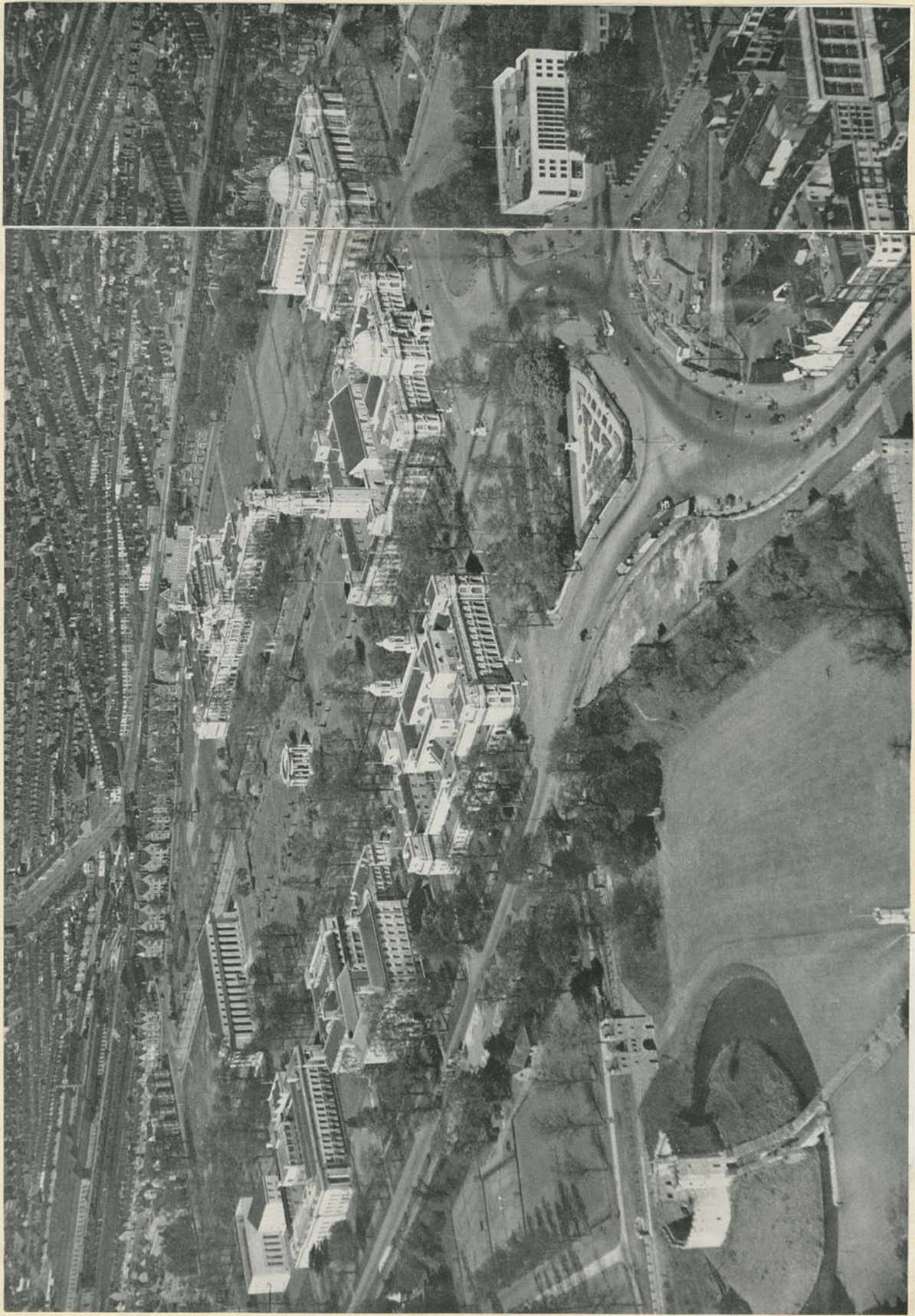
*The highest Welsh title has
always been that of Prince,
and Wales has long been
known as The Principality.
It has now become customary
for the eldest son of the
Sovereign to be created Prince
of Wales*

WALES and Monmouthshire



Your impending visit gives great pleasure, and to enable you to obtain a comprehensive picture of my country, I have arranged the following itinerary.

Barry is a seaside town within easy reach of delightful countryside, and is quite near our capital city, Cardiff. At Cardiff we commence our journey, and this will prove an admirable starting-point. Its chief features are a majestic castle and an exquisite city centre. This centre is a source of national pride with its magnificent white buildings and broad avenues. To mention but two of these buildings, you will admire the National Museum and a unique building called the Temple of Peace, from which the children of Wales broadcast annually a message of Peace and Goodwill to the children of the world. This you may have heard, for among the many replies is invariably



THE CIVIC CENTRE, CARDIFF

one from the Canadian children. ✓

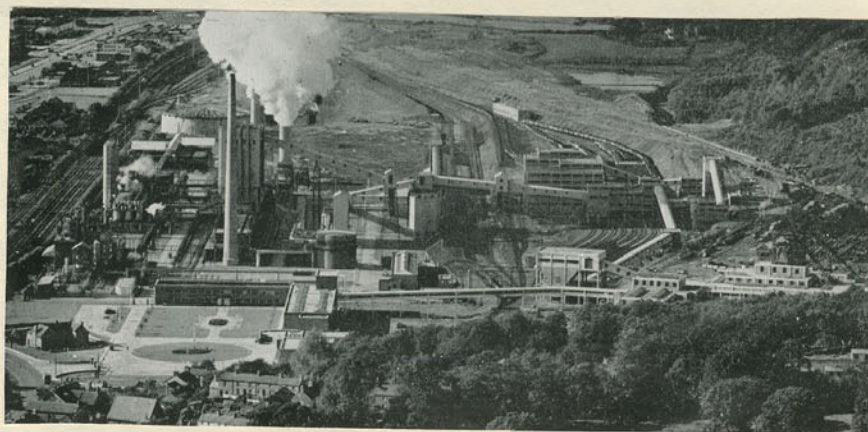
A few miles away, at St. Fagan's, you shall see the National Folk Museum, which gives a picture of rural life through the ages. There, too, are craftsmen still practising the ancient crafts of our people.

From here we shall visit a typical coal-mining valley with its long line of straggling townships. I have arranged a visit to one of these mines which provide much of our country's wealth. You will probably note a contrast between these and the mines of the Canadian Shield.

Leaving this industrial atmosphere we cross a mountain range of unparalleled beauty into the town of Brecon, which is noted for its historical tradition and its connection with the famous actress Sarah Siddons. Nearby, close to a lovely lake, lives Christopher Fry the playwright.



Coming up from the pits after a seven-and-a-half-hour shift



The modern colliery and coke ovens at Nantgarw, Glamorgan



BRECKNOCK BEACONS



The Temple of Peace Centre, Cardiff, was designed by Lord Davies of Llangatwg for the people of Wales. It was designed by architect Sir Percy

The next stage of our journey is West Wales, travelling through the Vale of Glamorgan, renowned for its delightful scenery, its castles, churches and quaint villages, each in turn revealing many influences in the shaping of our history. We shall visit Swansea from which large quantities of anthracite coal have been exported to Canada, forming a link with your country. This town, severely bombed during the last war, has now a contemporary appearance matching its imposing Guildhall where you shall see a concert room with superb murals by Sir Frank Brangwyn, R.A.

As we move westwards you will notice an increase in the daily use of the Welsh language and the influence this has on the pattern of life in this area.

From here we journey to an old, delightful county town, Llanarth. Here is an old oak tree around which a legend

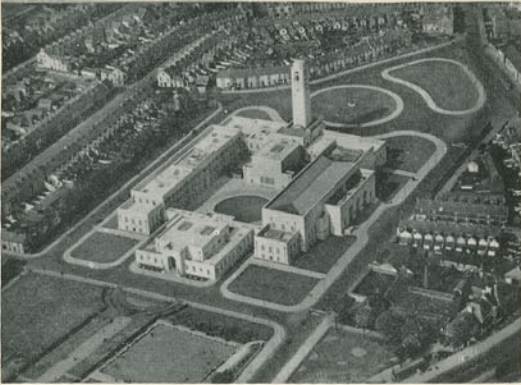
The Gower Coast, Glamorgan



Dylan Thomas by Augustus John.



Civic Centre - Swansea.

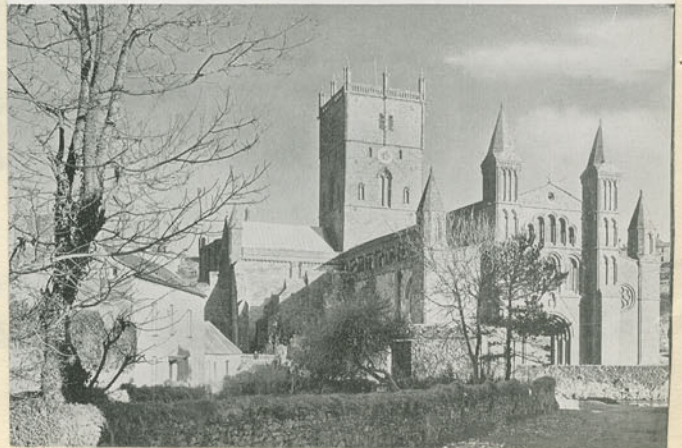


Cockle gatherers at Ferryside

A Welsh
Coracle



St. David's Cathedral, Pembrokeshire



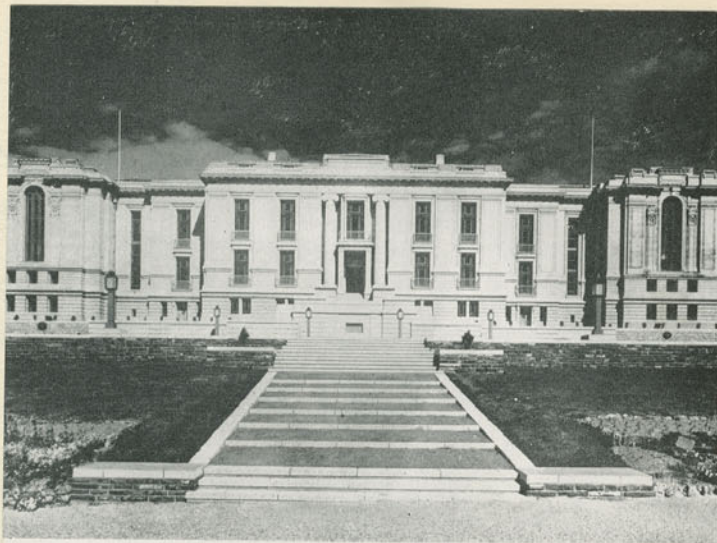
has grown. It states that the town will survive as long as the tree stands. This is also the centre of the rich dairy-farming area.

Now we pay a speedy visit to St. David's in Pembrokeshire to see the Cathedral and shrine of our patron saint.

As we proceed northwards we pass through a most picturesque part of Wales. We will ~~see~~ see salmon fishermen who still use the ancient coracle, a light basket-like boat. On our way we can enjoy bathing at some delightful cove on the West coast of Wales.

Having reached the University town of Aberystwyth we may visit the National Library which houses a vast collection of ancient and modern books and manuscripts. In this town there are also the headquarters of the Welsh League of Youth, a movement which accomplishes so much in encouraging our youth to revere and preserve the best in our rich culture.

Still moving northwards, there is a noticeable change in



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES, ABERYSTWYTH



*Beautiful Scenery in the
Snowdonia National Park*

the scenery, the mountains becoming more rugged and lofty, resembling closer some of the scenery of your own country. We are now in the midst of awe-inspiring beauty and romantic castles. These northern mountains have a tremendous appeal to keen mountaineers, especially Snowdon, the highest peak. If weather permits, we, too, will make the ascent.

Caernarvon will be our next stop. Its Norman[?] castle was the birth-place of the first Prince of Wales, and has ever since been the scene of the investiture of succeeding Princes. This town also honours David Lloyd George, one of the sons of Wales who became Prime Minister.

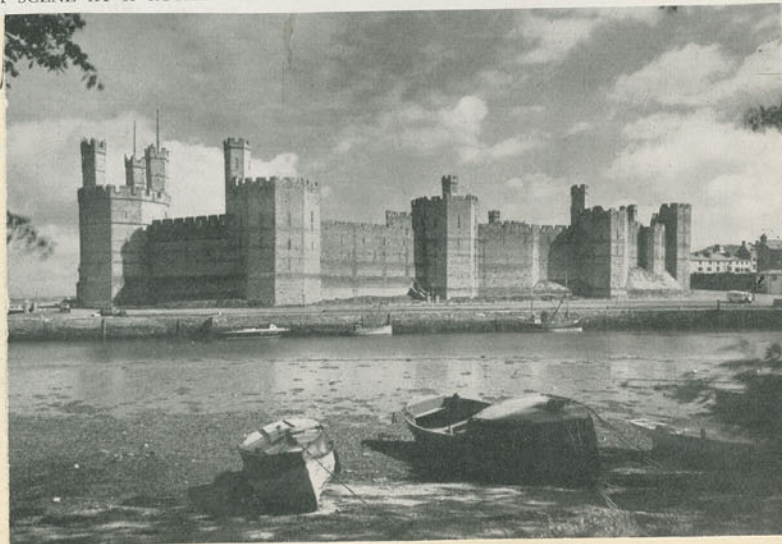
We now cross the Menai Straits to Anglesey, affectionately known as "Mona, Mother of Wales." This year it is the home of the National Eisteddfod. Here you will experience some of the ecstasy of our poetry, music and bardic tradition.



Nearing the summit of Snowdon



A SCENE AT A ROYAL NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD



Caernarvon
Castle.

There are many other places of equal interest such as Llangollen, venue of the International Festival of Music and Dancing; the Slate Quarries of the North; and when the visit is over, I trust that Wales, a land of small dimensions yet rich and vast in its store of natural and cultural wealth will have made a lasting impression upon you.



HARLECH CASTLE



The Promenade and Bridge, Llangollen.



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HARPIST IN CARDIFF CASTLE

125, Port Road East,
Barry,
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South Wales.

Dear John,

It is an exciting proposition to contemplate a visit to your country, for it presents a vast and bewildering choice to an inhabitant of such a small country. Canada is a country of contrasts both in its climate and pattern of life, and I should find it most interesting to experience the varying facets of your country. Some of the things which appeal to me most are those which are not to be found in my own country of Wales. For instance, trains fascinate me, and it would give me a great thrill to watch the changing countryside from the observation platform of a long-distance train, and to examine the huge locomotive, so different from the our own trains, which seem so tiny in comparison. Then again, I would love to visit the rich, fertile plains of the Canadian wheatlands, which afford a great contrast to the frozen wastes of

ice, Civic
as the gift of
landinam to
the Welsh
Thomas

the far north.

Your country, like mine, is a has a bi-lingual feature, which is especially interesting to me. Here, both Welsh and English are spoken, while in your country it is French and English.

It would be interesting for me, therefore, to see ~~whether~~ this has an influence on your way of life comparable to that in Wales.

I hope it will be possible to share in some of your sporting activities. I have often envied the fortunate Canadian children enjoying their winter activities. And then, how exciting it must be to visit the great forests and enjoy the wonderful fishing and canoeing facilities available in your country. I should especially like to be there during the "Fall", for I gather from my reading and from films that this is the most delightful time of the year to be in your country.

Like all visitors to your country, I should certainly hope to see Niagara Falls, which must be an awe inspiring spectacle, especially to one who is unused to such spectacles.

It would be of particular interest to me to visit those cities to which link so closely your history and ours. This, of course, means a visit to that wonderful old city of Quebec.

Finally, there is the 49th. parallel which, I feel, has an important message in these days when so much emphasis is laid on frontiers and barriers. Your country has so much to offer that I could not possibly enumerate all of these. May these visits help to form a closer link between your country and mine.

Best Wishes,
Gareth Davies.

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