

Anne Murray, the first Canadian woman singer to have a Gold Record (a million records sold) in the United States, was born in Springhill, Nova Scotia, in 1945. She started out to be a physical education teacher but changed her mind after a year and became a full-time profes-

sional singer instead. Her recording of "Snowbird" made her an instant star in Canada and the United States. She has been called the "ideal girl next door," a description that has an added dimension for her American fans.

Oil for the Lamps of Bella Coola

The Candlefish (or Oolachen) is as naturally oily as an olive. The Nasi Indians of British Columbia squeezed them for cooking oil, burned them for light and carried the surplus inland to market along "grease trails."

The Land God Gave to Cain

When Jacques Cartier first saw Labrador he said it looked to him like the land God gave to Cain. Leif Ericson, less demanding, found it "level and wooded, with white beaches and a gently sloping shoreline." John James Audubon gave it a mixed review: "A country so wild and grand, it is of itself enough to interest anyone in its wonderful dreariness."

Blow Me Down

The favourite expletive of Popeye the Sailor Man suggests that he came from Newfoundland where "Blow Me Down" is a place name, often found where an escarpment channels the wind so that small vessels are tossed around.

Hardfist

In the Northwest Territories, an eviltempered fellow who punches out friends and strangers alike is called a hardfist.

Lightly

"You can't take show business too seriously When people decide they don't want to hear you anymore you'll know and just quit."

Anne Murray

Ghostly Bricks

Val Jalbert on the Ouiatchouane River was built to last — rows of brick houses, a hotel and pulp mill. The mill closed and the town collapsed in 1927. In 1960 Quebec converted the remaining buildings into Parc Val Jalbert.



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