

Gulf Islands Driftwood

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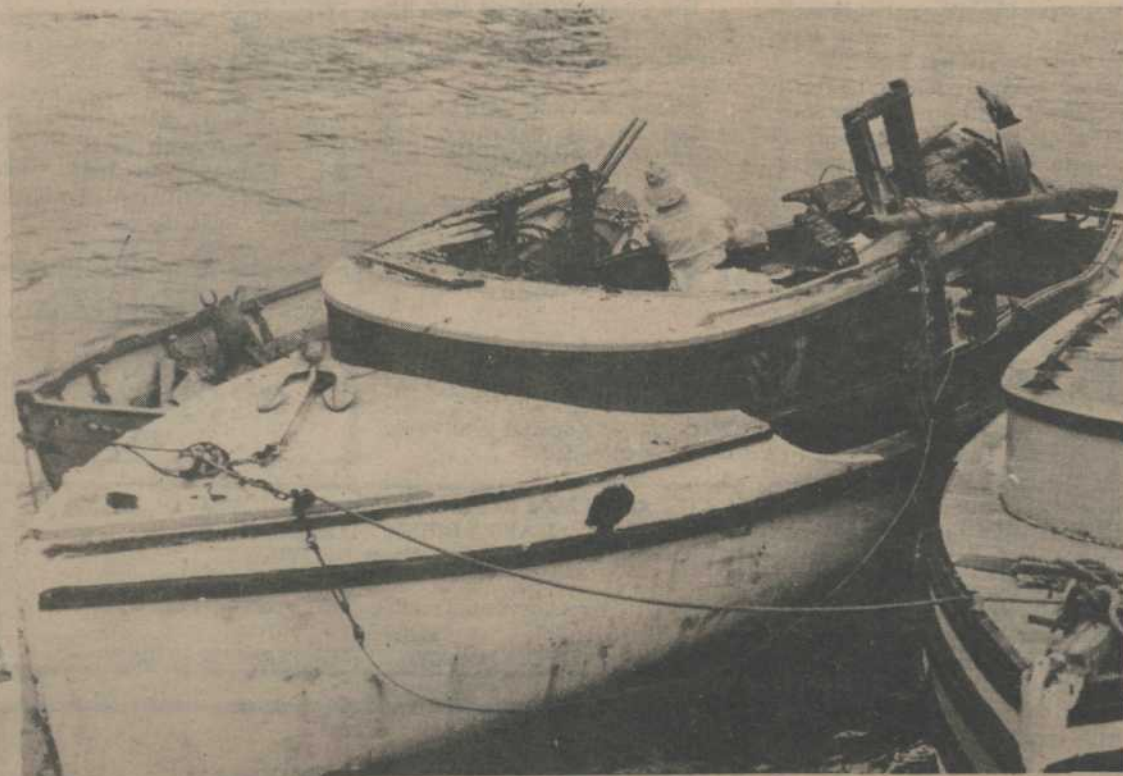
NINETEENTH YEAR, NO. 49

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13, 1978

\$7.00 PER YEAR IN CANADA, 20c COPY

Fire razes Georgeson boat



Helping hands were evident during clean-up of Georgeson's

Sophia after it burst into flames last week.

Loses everything

Islanders rally to aid of Georgeson burned-out boatman

By the week end a concerted effort had been launched on Salt Spring Island to come to the aid of Darrell Georgeson, Gulf Islands boatman who lost everything he possessed when his vessel, the Sophia was burned to the waterline last week.

Crew of volunteers, headed by Bruce Hildred, examined the hulk and decided that it could be rebuilt. In a drenching storm on Sunday eight volunteers stripped it out. On Monday Dave Jack called in at Ganges to assess the damage.

Mouat's store opened a campaign for funds on Friday and by Monday had already collected around \$100.

In general, the rebuilding project will be independent of the fund raised. The fund will be devoted to the purchase of equipment and furnishings.

Darrell Georgeson has been known among his native Gulf Islands for 60 years. In that time he has made a lot of friends on the islands.

Buses to keep off ferry

School buses are to be banned from the use of the Vesuvius-Crofton ferry. The approach to the ferry is hard on school buses. At least one has been severely damaged by the ramp, trustees were reminded on Thursday.

Ferry Corporation has undertaken to modify the ramp to avoid the damage.

If any islanders want to contribute to the fund, they may do so at Mouat's, in Ganges, at the Bank of Montreal, in Ganges, where a Boat Fund account has been opened, or to Driftwood, Box 250, Ganges.

In the meantime, Bruce Hildred has found a boat for Georgeson's use until his own is ready.

Fernwood opening in January

There will be no moving into Fernwood School during the Christmas holidays. There is still electrical work to be finished, the board learned last week and it is crowding too tightly into Christmas.

Secretary-treasurer Wiif Peck figured last week that there remained at least two weeks more work.

Looking realistically it is an early January moving date, he told trustees of Gulf Islands School District last week.

New chain saw stolen at Fulford

Roy Lee of Fulford Harbour has reported the theft of a chain saw sometime around November 27.

The new Homelite saw, valued at about \$400, was taken either from Lee's pick-up truck or his toolshed.

Georgeson boat bursts into flames

Veteran cruiser of the Gulf Islands, Darrell Georgeson's Sophia was almost destroyed by fire in Ganges Harbour on Thursday morning last week.

The vessel was tied up to the Ganges Marina dock when the fire broke out.

Cause was not ascertained. Filling had just started when there was a flash and a sheet of flame. The burning boat was quickly cut loose from the wharf and pushed out to deeper water.

Salt Spring Island Fire Department was there at once, but there is no fire boat for the department and they were obliged to wait until they could get a line on the Sophia and tow her in to the log boom lying next to the marina.

Les Wagg balanced on the logs while playing a hose on the cabin of the stricken vessel.

The cabin and most of the superstructure was destroyed before the fire could be controlled.

The owner was watching from the Shelby wharf, partially dazed while firemen applied the final spray to the flames. His hair was singed to a red-brown and he explained that he had lost everything, even his teeth.

For many years operated as a water taxi and work boat around the islands, the Sophia was Georgeson's home. With the destruction of everything in the boat, he was left with neither clothes nor a roof over his head.

The damage was not covered by insurance.

Need help!

Small ferries make big cut in business on Salt Spring

The introduction of two elderly ferries to Salt Spring Island for several weeks is destined to cut deeply into island business, Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce was warned last week.

Tom Toynbee commented that the combination tractor-trailer trucks which normally serve the island will be unable to come over next month.

The Pender Queen is not permitted to carry vehicles over six tons and the Salt Spring Queen is restricted to two-third capacity load.

Many island supplies come in from the mainland on the CPR ferry and then to Fulford from Swartz Bay, he explained.

It was decided to ask the minister to meet a delegation from the Chamber with a view to having evening runs scheduled for tractor-trailer arrivals and departures.

South Salt Spring Association has also expressed its concern for lack of ferry services to Curtis. The two groups are planning a joint approach.

It was assumed that the Salt Spring Queen could only carry two such vehicles.

In addition to the heavy transportation problems, the Chamber was reminded, there are 84 regular commuters using the vessel. The Salt Spring Queen does not even have space for them to get in out of the cold, commented Toynbee.

Heavy vehicles can not be

re-routed via Vesuvius because the ferry there is restricted to 40,000 in token of the weakness of the wharf structure, members were reminded.

Chairman

Campbell

ends six

years

Saturna Island's Jim Campbell has completed his six-year term as chairman of the Capital Regional District Board.

On Wednesday of last week Campbell handed over the gavel to Alderman Murray Glazier, of Victoria.

For six years Campbell has headed the regional board. He will still sit as director for the Outer Islands.

On Wednesday the board members voted 11-7 in favour of Glazier.

Declining a nomination as acting-chairman, Campbell assured the board that they would be hearing his voice during the coming year.

Suddenly it's Christmas

* * *

As Santa Claus comes sailing in!

Suddenly it was Christmas!

The Christmas Ship, from Bellingham sailed into the Canadian islands on Saturday afternoon to bring Christmas greetings and gifts across the international line.

Focus of the visit at Ganges was transferred from the school to the area adjacent to Mouat's Mall.

Santa Claus met a gathering of children outside Mouat's Mall and the visiting Santa was escorted to Lady Minto Hospital.

On Sunday morning the ship left Ganges Harbour for its tour of the Outer Islands. In Ganges Harbour the lights of the Bellingham ship were augmented by the 300 lights aboard Cyril Cunningham's cruiser. He followed the Christmas Ship into the harbour and then circled the head of the harbour at Ganges several times.

The Christmas Ship is sponsored by the Bellingham Junior Chamber of Commerce. It tours Canadian and American islands to bring Santa and his gifts to

children in the remoter communities.

Hospital

visiting

hours

Friends and relatives of residents in the Extended Care Ward of the Lady Minto Hospital are asked to ease up on times of visiting.

While the renovations are going on, the staff of the hospital has urged that visits be restricted to the hours of 2 pm to 4 pm.

Visitors are also urged to take residents for a ride, away from the noise and the dust of renovations.

"We trust that we will be back to better than normal very soon," commented the administrator, Malcolm Pinteau.

Reynolds takes chair as

Five past-presidents to serve on Chamber executive

When the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce elected a completely new slate of officers on Wednesday evening last week, they named five past-presidents to

the executive. Gavin Reynolds was named president. It is a dozen years since he last served in that office. To serve as directors are Tom Toynbee, Les Ramsey and Frank Richards, all of whom have been presidents of the Chamber. Fifth is Gary MacPherson, who serves on the executive in his capacity of past-president. Sandy Gordon is treasurer. The meeting did not name a vice-president. He will be selected from the

list of directors. Only one director continues in office from last year. He is Terry Elford. Elected on Wednesday evening were also Bob Nicholson, Leo Horncastle, Len Creed, Gerry Haarbrucker, and Jake Javorski. New president told the meeting that he wants to see the membership more liberally spread over the island. A large membership when he was in office last time included many retired presidents, he recalled. There had been a policy some years ago, of restricting membership to active commercial participants.

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Sea Capers is coming back

* * *

Second year's event in June again

A second Sea Capers, in a more compact area and providing a maximum of water sport is to be launched on Salt Spring next year. The decision to repeat this year's very successful two-day regatta was reached by the planning committee at a luncheon on Monday.

be located in the area between Mouat's and the K & R to bring it into the area of activities. Sea Capers consisted of bath tub races, other small boat events and water sports. Early preparation is essential to gain the interest of bathtubbers and other mariners from other communities. Meeting named a tentative slate of officers to direct the second water gala on Salt Spring. They are Commodore, Doug Foerster; Rear Commodore, water, Dale Neilson, with Terry Elford; Rear Commodore, land, Bob McWhirter, with Tom Toynbee; treasurer, Dave Hoskin.

The planners agreed that the event should be held again and staged during the second week in June. Second Sea Capers will also be centred on the waterfront and adjacent area. The beer garden will

Christmas carol service at full Galiano church

The annual Christmas Carol service was held at the Church of St. Margaret of Scotland on December 10, with the little church filled to more than capacity, and the voices of the little ones giving a special kind of love and pride as they took part in the service. Rev. John Dyer was in charge. Organist was Mrs. Ross Parminter.

service so very special to all of the ones who attended.

Between the Scripture readings by the children, carols were sung, with much gusto and reverence, making this one of the nicest services at this time.

Little Richard Bedard, in the first grade, stole the whole service, he could hardly see up to the little reading he had learned so well, all of them did so well, others taking special parts were: Adrienne Gould, Jeanne Mudie, Michelle Laughlin, Arwen Foster, Alison Stafford, Grant Overholt, Kathy Webb, Nichole Albrecht. The "Three Kings" were; Niki Godfrey, Christine Connelly, and Megan Foster.

It is a real pleasure to see the little ones all dressed up in their pretty clothes, and shining faces and eyes twinkling, making this

Raffle to be drawn on December 18

The raffle for Pat Wright's painting, "Black Horse" will be drawn on Monday December 18.

The draw will take place at Turner's Store at noon. Miss Wright will draw the lucky ticket.

This raffle, the total proceeds of which go to the Central Hall Building Fund, offers an unusual opportunity to acquire one of this artist's works, which are becoming increasingly valuable as she has now gained international recognition for her paintings of animals and wild life. Truly it is a collector's item.

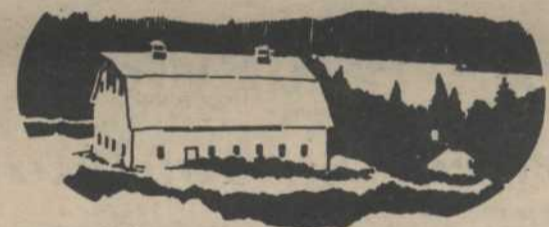
Tickets will continue on sale at the Pegasus Gallery until 11 am, on Monday, and at Turners Store up until noon.

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GENERAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 15

SEE ADVT. THIS PAGE

The Last Waltz

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GENERAL

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ADVANCE SALE OF TICKETS AT:-
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48-2





TO BE FRANK . . .

by richards

Not all churchgoers are the same size. Two men made that discovery on Sunday. They had a lot in common. They go to the same church and they like the same coats. One thing they don't have in common is size. One takes a 46 coat and the other a 42. That's the problem: they got the wrong coats. There's this guy running around in a coat like a tent and somewhere there must be another man whose coat looks like he's wearing a vest. But they don't know, yet, who they are. Let's hope they find out!

I bought a bar of chocolate because I was asked. It cost me a buck. So, to get my money's worth, I read the label. That's where it all came unstuck. The anglophone finds out from the English on the label that the bar was manufactured by the candy company in Campbellford, Ontario. And the francophone is earnestly assured that it was manufactured by the same candy company in Montreal, Quebec. And the unfortunate purchaser who can read both languages is left in complete mystification. Where was it made?

A somewhat startling observation from a municipal mayor was attributed last week to Mayor Mel Couvelier of Saanich. Daily Colonist in Victoria reported him as telling the board that it was more realistic to elect a chairman from among his peers. The electorate is apathetic, said the report and would likely simply elect anyone with a high profile to the detriment of the board. Like they did in Saanich, does he mean?

There is a growing change in television news.

At one time the television service conformed, generally, with accepted practice and each reporter told what had happened, much as he would in a newspaper. No longer is it so. Each reporter now tells what happened in his opinion and what led to it, again, in his opinion. The result is that we have television news telling us a series of opinions. It is reasonable and rational to assume that no one who watches television could possibly be capable of formulating an opinion for himself. But the world of television should not be subscribing to such a theory. If every television reporter were to observe the elementary lessons of telling it

as it is, rather than offering a subjective account, the nation would be better informed. It is a trend which is overtaking all news services to some extent, but probably more so in video. Is that invidious?

Television has done one thing for us. It has left Canadians amazed that the country still goes on, despite Ottawa.

I was in Winnipeg a year ago and heard Ed Schreyer speak at a newspaper convention. He spoke of Canada and unity. He came over at that time as a dedicated Canadian rather than the figure-head of a partisan ship. There is no question but that he will come over in the same manner in his new capacity of Governor-General. To criticize his appointment is not only empty, but an utter frustration in view of the fact that he is already named to the office. From only one personal experience and some reading of the man, I cannot entertain any doubt at all that we shall have every reason to be proud of the new Governor-General during his years of office. I don't agree with him, politically, but I didn't agree with some in the past in that area. They never expressed concern at my lack of faith!

The learning condition situation is out of hand...a delightful observation by a politician last week anent the interior schools dispute.

Late mail? Never heard of it! Kit Moulton reports the receipt of a letter in Fulford from Kenya. It was date-stamped December 1 and reached her home on December 11. Only possible answer is that with the political situation so tense in Kenya, the letter was eager to get away.

Some pictures didn't work out. I wouldn't want to point the finger, but a lot of people know what pictures I was taking on Salt Spring Island last week. And on Saturday the camera was broken. And a lot of pictures had been lost. But we're not saying whose picture actually broke the camera. It wouldn't be fair!

A very charming lady last week expressed the desire to kick me to death at the fashion show. Can you imagine a worse fate for a male chauvinist than to be fatally attacked at a fashion show? I'd never live that down!

It's Madness at Central Hall next week end

The audience will be invited to join the cast for Christmas munchies and sing-a-long at the conclusion of "Christmas Madness" at Central Hall on Thursday, Dec. 21 and Friday, Dec. 22 at 8 pm.

The show, in its fourth annual showing here, is a musical adaptation of the Dickens classic "A Christmas Carol" and features Alf Howell as Scrooge.

Also on the program will be "So That's What Happened to Captain Cook" which was seen during the Salt Spring Players' Summer Theatre '78 series.

Tickets for this "Madness Double-Header" are available at Et Cetera Store in Ganges. Pensioners and children under 12 will be offered special rates.

Duplicate bridge list

Canadian Legion Duplicate Bridge Club winners, at Ganges, for December 5 were, 1, Mayme Iverson and Shirley Love; 2, Helen Shandro and Audrey Allan and 3, (tie), Roma Sturdy with Lois Popkin-Clurman and Gordon Hutton with Norm McConnell.

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Two members have worked hard for recreation group

BY GLENN WOODLEY

The Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission recently lost two valuable members.

Walter Luth served on the commission only four months but has devoted much time and effort to the development of horseback riding on the island. He was also one of the moving forces behind the formation of the riding club and the building of the riding ring.

Hal Leighton was a member of the Recreation Commission for 10 years, serving in a number of positions such as chairman or maintenance of parks and chairman of sports and travel. Hal was instrumental in promoting swimming, softball, baseball and the development of Fulford and Portlock Parks. At the time of the election, he was organizing the resurfacing of the boat launching ramp at Ganges.

The Commission feels indebted

to Mr. Luth and Mr. Leighton who have given so freely of their time and knowledge over the years.

The Commission would like to congratulate Mrs. O. Clayton and Dr. C.H. Borsman on their election to office and is sure that the people of Salt Spring will benefit from their contribution to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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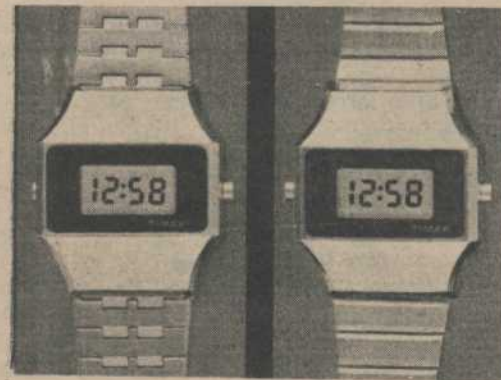
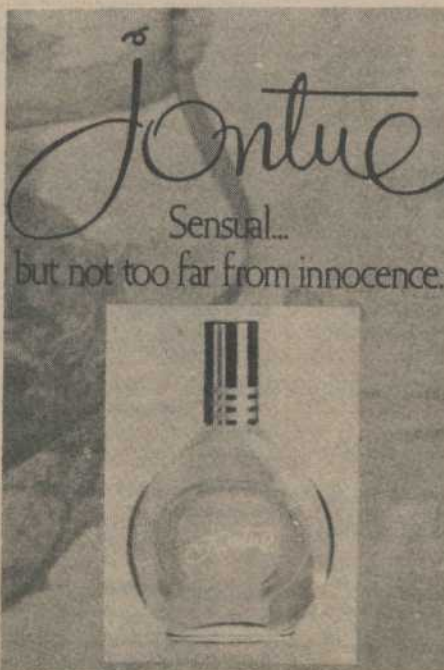
Jardley-architect architecture research planning and inspection

The office is located in expanded facilities in the Lancer Building, Lower Ganges Road, Ganges, B.C. The postal address is: P.O. Box 960, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0 telephone (604) 537-2831 or 537-9511

architecture research planning and inspection 49-3

Christmas Gifts

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MOVIE THIS WEEKEND

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Canadian



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British Columbia and Yukon Community Newspapers' Association

FRANK G. RICHARDS, Editor

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Wednesday, December 13, 1978

Christmas Ship is gone!

On Saturday the Bellingham Christmas Ship came to the islands unannounced. Some islands had sufficient warning to make last-minute preparations. Others, like Salt Spring Island, were unable to repeat previous years' activities.

It is unfortunate that the international gesture of Christmas greetings to the very young must hinge on inadequate communications.

A number of very well-meaning Bellingham citizens go to great trouble and expense to send the Christmas Ship on its way each year. Yet, the gesture is lost if no children are available to meet Santa Claus on his floating palace.

We would urge the Bellingham Junior Chamber of Commerce to give a thought to sharing their plans as well as their goodwill at Christmas.

The Bellingham Jaycees have never been good at writing letters. This year their announcement reached Driftwood on Monday, two days after their arrival in the Islands and a day after they left. But, of course, we like having them here, even when we didn't know they called!

Clement is vindicated

The report of the Regional District Review Committee contains a recommendation which will warm the cockles of the Clement heart.

Regional Director Mike Clement has been advocating some kind of rural council for electoral areas for the past several years. The review committee has made a tour of British Columbia collecting comments on the regional administrations. That committee recognized the same shortcoming in the administration of electoral areas.

It proposes a rural council of four members with limited powers and limited responsibilities. This council would take the place of the present Advisory Planning Commission.

The recommendation is far from being law. It is nevertheless, the summary of an extensive enquiry throughout the province.

It also goes to prove that if he's out of step, Mr. Clement is stepping out in good company!

To protect and preserve

The Islands Trust was established with general inter-party support, to preserve and protect the rural nature of the Gulf Islands.

By and large, the islands people have favoured the philosophy behind the Trust. People outside the islands have favoured the preservation of the islands from excessive development.

When Mr. Hugh Curtis was minister of municipal affairs he was coming into an administrative philosophy which had grown up with him. As chairman of the Capital Regional District Board, he had watched the growing concern for the quality of the Gulf Islands. As chairman, he had taken part in the activities to protect the environment of the islands by planning. As minister he continued the philosophy of preservation.

Not everybody favoured the policy. Not everybody, today, yet, favours that policy.

Islanders are left in a state of uncertainty. What will be the thinking of Municipal Affairs Minister Bill Vander Zalm?

The regional boards, whose assessment has just been published by the review committee, have survived three governments so far and the Islands Trust, two.

There are few residents of the islands who may be forgiven for the suspicion that the new minister is less likely to pause over matters of aesthetics when the demands of the province are possibly more rewarding.

The welfare of the islands rests in Mr. Vander Zalm's hands. And some islanders wonder.



'To ease the overcrowding problems, we've hired this gentleman from the Tokyo Subway Corporation'

Letters to the Editor

THOSE CROWS!
Sir,

My attention has been drawn to the article "Where Are The Birds?" with the sub-head "Stone the crows....nobody knows." The article appeared in your November 8 edition, which I unfortunately missed. Apropos the opinions expressed in the article, I would congratulate the gentleman on Ganges Harbour on the accuracy of his judgement in attributing the scarcity of those delightful small birds in his area to the depredations of crows.

As one who, over many years, has made a careful study of the carrion crow and his unlovely life-style, I must confess to a reluctant admiration for the boldness and cunning of this avian predator. For instance, when others of our less desirable birds and beasts are subject to harassment by man they generally remove themselves from this vicinity. Not so the wily crow: he simply moves in with the enemy, thus severely curtailing any really effective harassment and ultimately gaining for himself a tacit if uneasy acceptance.

Although it may be small comfort for the bird-watchers and bird lovers in general on our Island, ours is not the only area in which the crow is decimating the small bird population. Victoria is having its problems and two small park-like residential areas in North Vancouver with which I am familiar have been completely denuded of their once abundant songbird populations. Residents of these latter areas have complained to their city fathers about the raucous invaders, but to no avail.

Yet another area of Vancouver being invaded by the sable avian brigands is Stanley Park. The management of this huge area is, I am informed, presently endeavouring to deal with the problem. The suggestion has been made that the crow-shoots of years gone by should be re-introduced. This system did, I understand, efficiently control just such unwelcome visitations, to the benefit of both birds and animals. The shooters were members of the various Gun Clubs in and around Vancouver.

And now, in the event that some of your readers may feel that I am exaggerating the role of the crow in our communities, let me relate just one instance of the many I have witnessed. Some years ago I lived on the outskirts of a small town in Ontario.

One delightful day in the springtime I went for a walk along the edge of a nearby wood, carrying my shotgun in the hope of bagging a crow or two. Tempted by the warm sunshine I sat down on a tree stump which provided both rest and warmth beneath scant cover. There I proceeded to enjoy the sunshine and the quiet Spring day.

Suddenly the quiet was shattered by the hysterical chirping of small birds from a nearby hedge-like stretch of bush. Cautiously rising from my scant concealment I watched a crow leisurely flying towards me along the top of the bush, hotly pursued by a frantically chirping flock of small birds. As the crow reached the end of the cover nearest me he suddenly spiralled upwards and settled on a high branch of a tall fir nearby. For a minute or two the small birds circled and scolded their enemy. Then they flew back to the bush.

Moving carefully, I was about to make a "goodcrow" of the bandit on the fir branch when another hysterical outcry made me pause. This time another crow appeared, also followed by an hysterical group of small birds. The new arrival lost no time in joining

his fellow on the fir, where he proceeded to stroke his beak along the branch where they both sat.

In a moment or two I had two "good" crows on the ground beneath the Fir. On examination, the reason for the beak-stroking became clear: the beak stroker had been endeavouring to clear his beak and the coarse hairs above it of egg yolk and blood, gleaned from the nests from which the appearance of his companion had enticed the mother-birds to give chase.

I have time and again seen this trick repeated, always with success. Have no doubt about it: the carrion crow in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter can always fill his craw, be it with eggs, fledgelings, grain, fruit, putrid flesh (animal or human) or anything else, clean or unclean, that appeals to his voracious appetite. He has lived and prospered through all attempts to reduce his numbers to at least reasonable proportions and will, I am convinced, be the last living thing left on this earth.

One thing has always puzzled me: why is the native pigeon - a grain-and-seed-eating bird of pleasant appearance, if somewhat messy on occasion - often condemned as a disease-carrying bird while that sable thief, murderer and

[Turn to Page Five]

Church Services

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1978

ANGLICAN

St. Mark's	Central	Morning Prayer	11.15 am
St. George's	Ganges	Parish Eucharist	9.30 am

Daily: Mon.-Fri.

St. George's	Ganges	Morning Prayer	9.00 am
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Weekly: Wednesdays

St. George's	Ganges	Holy Communion	9.00 am
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SUNDAY 17th December 4pm and 7pm

THE COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICES

At Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Drake Road, Ganges.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Paul's	Fulford	Holy Mass	9.00 am
Our Lady of Grace	Ganges	Holy Mass	11.15 am

UNITED

Dr. V. McEachern	Ganges	Worship Service	10.30 am
537-5817	Box 330	Fellowship Hour	11.30 am
537-5812(church)	An Hour of	Sharing and Caring	6.30 pm

COMMUNITY

GOPEL

Rev. S. Hildebrandt	Sunday Sch. all ages	10.30 am
Box 61, Ganges 537-2622, -5757	Evening Service	7.00 pm
Bible Study & Prayer	Thursday	7.00 pm

MAYNE ISLAND

St. Mary Magdalene	Sundays	Rev. John Dyer	11.30 am
Community Church	Pastor J. Rodine	539-5710	

Sunday at 3 pm in school

Bible Study Friday in the homes

GALIANO ISLAND

St. Margaret's	Galiano	Sundays	9.00 am
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Letters to the Editor

[From Page Four]

eater of indescribable filth, the crow, goes his way unchallenged as to his effect on our physical well-being? As a consumer of countless pigeon pies with no ill effects, I am indeed puzzled.

There is no doubt that the crow population on Salt Spring Island has vastly increased over the past four or five years. During the period 1971-73 there were a few relatively small flocks in the Beddis Road area. They do not appear to have increased to any great extent. However, from Ganges to the North End of the Island I have seen and rough-counted flocks numbering more than 300 birds. In Ganges itself their numbers are obvious and their presence has drawn acid comments from more than one visitor.

Will crows attack human beings? Indeed they will if one harries them, as I have good reason to know - but that is another story.

May I suggest, as the gentleman on Ganges Harbour has already done, that Salt Spring institute a series of supervised crow shoots. I am sure the members of the Salt Spring Island Gun Club would be happy to assist. These men and women are competent and safe shotgun handlers and would be of tremendous help in such an undertaking.

PATRICK McDONAGH
The Cottage Resort
Ganges
December 6, 1978

FERRY SERVICE

Sir,
I have written to Mr. B. Bouchard, BC Ferry Corporation traffic manager, concerning the Salt Spring Island ferry service. Following is a copy of my letter.

Further to my letter of October 3 and your reply of October 10, and now referring to the article in the November 29 copy of the Driftwood.

The daily commuters from Salt Spring Island realize that the inconvenience from January onwards is due to the Bowen Queen being stretched to provide better service to Salt Spring Island, but for six months we will be without sufficient service, as we have been for the last few weeks. I would suggest that some type of reservation scheme could be devised, similar to the one at Long Harbour, which the regular commuters could use to ensure they get a place on the necessary ferry to or from

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work.
In fact, many of the daily commuters suggest that a reservation system could be utilized all year round.

As B.C. taxpayers (subsidizing the ferry service at 46.6 million dollars - as you so blatantly point out) as well as daily commuters, this ferry service is our highway.

I have no doubt that if any major highway in the province (which are also subsidized) were closed, there would be a great hue and cry. You are not providing a satisfactory alternative service when the Bowen is out of commission especially between the dates April 2 and May 3.

When the Pender Island Queen and Salt Spring Queen go onto the route, will you be making arrangements to ensure that the regular daily commuters get on their regular ferry whether it be the 6.45 or the 8.30 am from Fulford or the 5.30 pm from Swartz Bay - both car and foot passengers? Will the two ferries be run together at the same times on the present ferry schedule, or will extra runs be put on in between?

Also, you must be aware that the Queen of the Islands does not take enough cars to cover the present loads, so why not run the ferry that sits at Fulford from 1pm, in between the present ferry times.

Surely the Ferry Corporation realizes that something must be done to give some service to both car and foot passengers, and this problem will have to be faced again next year when the Bowen Queen is taken off her regular route to Salt Spring for repairs, covering other runs, etc., as it is every winter.

We want a good and sufficient ferry service for Salt Spring Island.
MAUREEN B. LEASON
Rourke Road
RR 2, Ganges
December 6, 1978

A FINE EFFORT

Sir,
Early last week I was an eye witness to the whole lamentable episode in which Darrell George-son's venerable vessel the "Sophia" was almost totally destroyed by fire.

Apart from the fact that Darrell and his dog escaped uninjured from the blaze one of the most commendable parts of this incident was the speed and efficiency with which our local Volunteer Fire Department reacted to what was obviously an almost impossible situation.

On behalf of myself and a number of other onlookers I would like to extend to the Chief and his crew our heartiest admiration for a job well done under very difficult circumstances.

PHILIP H. KNOWLES
Boxc 381, Ganges
December 11, 1978

NOTICE

SALT SPRING GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICE

Holiday Schedule

DEC. 25 CALLS WILL BE MADE
SAT. DEC. 23
DEC. 26 CALLS WILL BE MADE
SUN. DEC. 24
JAN. 1 CALLS WILL BE MADE
SAT. DEC. 30

49-2

New service for small businesses

New information service for small businesses is to be introduced by the provincial government. Service will be extended to small businesses to offer advice on regulations and on services available, as well as other aspects of operating businesses.

Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce learned last week of the planned service. It will necessitate the establishment of an information office in Ganges, probably in the information bureau building, and the part-time staffing of that office.

Assistance will be provided by the provincial government. A clerk will be employed under the scheme, to provide the information. The payments from the provincial government will be on a fee-for-service basis and probably amount to about \$300 per month.

New service is intended to cut through bureaucratic red tape, explained retiring president, Gary MacPherson.

Galiano Island

BY MARY ELLEN HARDING

We are happy to report that there is a happy ending to a most rushed and exciting emergency trip by water taxi to Victoria in the middle of the night. Catharina Camilla Pattison went into labour for her baby a month early, and in the evening time, Dr. T. Armitage was called, and he accompanied her and husband, Stephen Law Pattison, right from Galiano to Swartz Bay, then by Ambulance to Victoria General Hospital. Little baby boy, with assistance from his daddy also, was born at 9 am on December 6th. All are doing well, although father is still on "cloud nine", he will survive. The Pattisons are beginning a ranch on the land bought from Tom Head, sr., and will call it "Santa Fe". Cathy was born in Brussels, Belgium, and Steve in Vancouver. They moved to Galiano four years ago. Recently they had 13 puppies born there, ten of them are males, too, so there is a rumour that the water up on the ranch has something to do with this, seeing that we have not had a boy baby born for some time on the Island.

With sadness we report that our beloved Rev. James A. Prince Daniels, who was the rector for Galiano, Mayne, and the Penders for four years, passed away at Cumberland on December 9, after just a year of retirement at Fanny Bay. He was well-liked by all, and sympathy goes out to his wife and family at this time.

There have been two sales and exhibitions of the works of talented people on the Island the past few weeks, one was the interesting Weavers and Spinners exhibition and sale for Christmas, and another of a sale of works of Island folks last week.

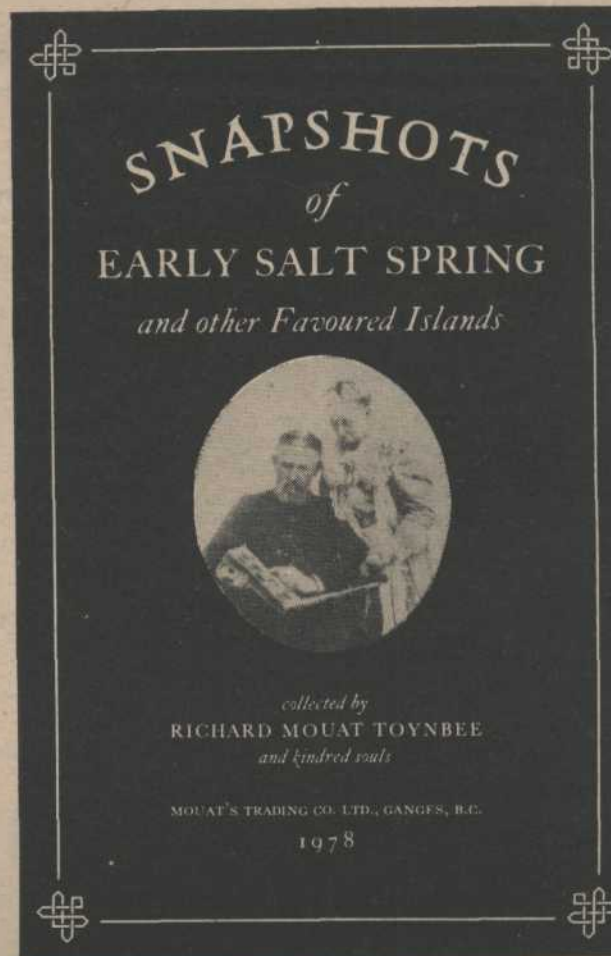
Lease is lifted

Lease on the Farmers' Institute building at Ganges has been formally released by Gulf Islands School Board.

When the institute planned to sell the property earlier in the year it was learned that a lease of many decades had never been cleared on the lot although it had long since been cancelled.

Until the encumbrance had been lifted, the sale could not go through.

HERE AT LAST!



We at Mouat's are pleased to announce that our album is now on sale at:

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- Salty Shop
- Volume II

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Special Price: \$5.85

Dick Toynbee will be on hand to sign copies and discuss the contents from 2.30 to 4.30 on



DICK TOYNBEE

Friday Dec. 15 at Mouat's
and from 2.00 to 4.30
Saturday Dec. 16 at The Mall

at which time a number of people who recall earlier times along to compare notes

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COMMUNICATIONS ARE WEAKEST POINT AS

Regional District Review says keep them going

If the review committee's findings are followed by the new minister of municipal affairs, Regional Districts are here to stay.

First recommendation made by the Regional District Review Committee is very positive, "We recommend that regional districts be retained as a regional authority and be recognized as a level of government."

Committee was appointed by the former municipal affairs minister, Hugh Curtis. He made no commitment on implementing any of its findings and it is now up to the new minister, Bill Vander Zalm to decide.

In September, 1977, the committee was set up and Curtis

commented at that time that the regional district concept had been evolving for 12 years.... "It's time we made a careful evaluation."

The review committee did not leave its recommendations at a simple, positive finding. Many changes were recommended and not the least of these was the proposal that the government adopt a policy of requiring areas to incorporate as municipalities once certain conditions are reached. In the past, it has been the role of the ministry to sit on the fence and watch the residents debate and dispute incorporation.

AREA COMMISSION

The most sweeping change recommended, as far as electoral

areas are concerned, is the suggestion that electoral areas have a commission, somewhere between a municipal council and an advisory planning commission to handle the affairs of the community. It would be financed by the regional district and most of its function would be advisory.

The proposal is very similar to that which has been proposed for several years by the Salt Spring Island regional director, Mike Clement.

Only in remote, sparsely populated areas of the province would the committee approve the elimination of regional districts. In such areas there are few residents, and planning and zoning have no value where there are no communities.

The committee has called on the ministry of municipal affairs to lay out very clearly some policy relating to regional districts and then to ensure that ministries and provincial field agencies support such a policy.

Courses on rural planning, land capability analysis and resource planning will be offered by the province for regional planning officers, if the committee has its way. Greater rural awareness and experience are needed.

A provincial Planning Act would consolidate all aspects of planning now contained in the Municipal Act.

FARMLAND REVIEW

Coming close to home in the rural communities is the recommendation that the BC Agricultural Land Commission conduct a review of all farmland designations with a view to correcting anomalies. Land identified as farmland which consists of granite cliffs would be taken out of the land reserve.

"Special conditions encountered" by the Commission in processing applications for exclusion from the reserve would be published for public distribution according to another recommendation.

The committee was thinking along the same lines as Outer Islands Regional Director Jim Campbell when it proposed that the Chairman of the regional

district board be elected at large in the region for a two-year term. He would also be given a distinctive title, in keeping with his elected position.

The committee urges that the fee structure, whereby regional districts are paid by the Land Commission for processing land commission applications, be restructured, with a greater contribution to the region. Otherwise, the Commission should be responsible for its own processing.

CENTRAL AGENCY

Minister of municipal affairs could examine the possibility of the Regional District as a centralized agency for tax billing on behalf of school boards, municipalities, hospital districts and other special purpose agencies.

The committee examined the regional district concept as well as taking a quick glance at alternative methods of administering large areas.

During its long process of public hearings the committee heard wide support for the present regional system because the geography of British Columbia makes for virtually unpopulated areas separated by mountain barriers and its highway system providing the only real communication. These factors dictate the need for a regional system peculiar to BC.

The committee examined various alternatives. It could recommend that the province revert to what was obtained before 1965. Municipalities would provide government for incorporated areas and the province would look after other communities.

There would be no form of local government in non-incorporated areas. The committee suggested that this pattern would be no step forward.

The government could incorporate new municipalities with large geographic areas to cover most of the province. There would be no regional government. Smaller rural areas would be left with the province.

NO LOCAL SAY

Like the first, it would leave

areas without local government.

Third alternative investigated would leave municipal boundaries as they are. The rural areas could then be allocated some kind of local government. There would be no regional government and interchange between areas would be on a purely voluntary basis.

A fourth suggestion would extend some municipal boundaries to include fringe areas and incorporate some new municipalities in certain populous areas. A semi-government or rural municipality would be formed for the balance of each electoral area. There would be no regional government to knit them together.

Only workable proposal is a development of the present regional district, it was recommended.

Establish regional districts with statutory powers. These could also be used by the provincial government to implement certain provincial programs. Some municipal boundaries would be extended to take in fringe areas and other populated areas would be incorporated.

Electoral areas would have a simplified local authority with jurisdiction over certain local matters. Administration of these would be handled through the regional structures. The regional district would be made up of representation from municipalities and electoral areas and would handle regional and inter-municipal or inter-area matters.

ALL BASED ON IT

The committee embraced this last proposal and all of its recommendations are based on the regional concept extended into that form.

There is a tendency to report shortcomings in all presentations of the nature of the hearings. This report is no exception, said the committee.

Nevertheless, the majority of regional district directors and staff have worked under the most unfavourable climate and with "virtually no sailing directions" have performed a fine and overall, useful and effective public service.

Call at public hearings for the abolition of regional districts was not widespread and generally reflected resistance to regulations, said the report. Under constant fire was the power of the regional director to act without consulting his home community and to commit the community to a function.

MOST SERIOUS

Unquestionably the most serious problem perceived by the public in electoral areas is land use regulation. Remoter the area, the greater the resistance.

Public hearings were criticized for insufficient advertising, insufficient notice, poor contact, lack of free discussion and questionable decisions. While the committee heard specific charges of unfair treatment, they could not be substantiated without input from both sides.

Building regulations should be tailored to fit the area's state of development, it was urged. It was also charged that regulations are used in rural areas to the degree where they become useless.

Delays, delays brought complaints, complaints.

Decisions on agricultural land [Turn to Page Seven]

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Eastern Star concert successful



An ensemble including recorders and a violin was one of the many popular features at the Order of the Eastern Star Christmas Concert held at Central Hall on

Friday. Those attending were treated to a wide variety of musical offerings during the course of the evening.

Regional District Review

[From Page Six]

reserve are made so far away that the process is responsible for much of the hostility shown to regional districts.

Election of alternate directors was suggested and an appeal procedure in zoning cases was also asked at public hearings of the committee.

MINISTRY UNDER FIRE

Regional district, in their briefs, mostly singled out the municipal affairs ministry for criticism. The cited delays in securing approvals, a lack of guidance and a lack of support from the ministry.

The committee was most emphatic about the need for greater contribution by that ministry.

"The volume of complaints about the ministry of municipal affairs is an aspect which cannot be overstressed by this committee.

"It is from this ministry that regional districts expect support, encouragement, help and guidance.

"By and large, they have not received support.

"Such support, together with their own efforts would place them in a much better position in relation to municipalities and other government agencies.

"If they can be given the power to make local decisions; if they are looked upon by the staffs and senior officials of other provincial agencies as mature, responsible, local governments their effectiveness will be dramatically improved.

"If they do not have adequate support they will drift, confronted by municipalities who are fearful of losing their powers and by representatives of provincial ministries who will probably continue to treat regional district directors and

staffs as inept."

The committee urged the minister to look closely into the support enjoyed by regional districts.

BETTER COMMUNICATION

Throughout the report the call is for better communications at every level. There is a need for better relations between the provincial ministries and regional district as well as between the regional districts and their component parts.

There is a desperate need for public relations. The regional board should look good as well as administer effectively.

The communication between regional boards and rural residents is one of urgency. In this area, the committee asks for better descriptions of property in published notices regarding public hearings. Map references convey little to the reader.

It should be clear to island readers that although they may have many criticisms of the Capital Regional District Board, the criticisms voiced in many parts of the province apply least to the Capital Region.

The Capital Regional District has already recognized and corrected some of the critical features of the report.

Recommendations cover 117 pages of typescript. Highlights are listed here in order to convey to readers a sense of what the committee learned and what it recommended which may have an influence on island living.

Members of the committee were Chairman Rendina Hamilton, Alfred O. Hood and Ronald Thompson. Mr. Thompson is a local trustee on the Islands Trust for Galiano.

Ron Puhky advocates prevention

Former Salt Spring Island physician, Dr. Ron Puhky was critical of Canadians who take no exercise or are overweight, when he spoke to a Kamloops weekend workshop in preventative medicine recently.

Dr. Puhky was closely identified with preventive medicine when he lived on the island. He is now with the Victoria Holistic Health Centre.

Most degenerative diseases

which are killing and maiming Canadians could be prevented through a change in life style, he urged.

His statistics were impressive. Eighty-five per cent of all deaths from heart disease are preventable, he asserted. The answer is to lose weight, lower the cholesterol level, stop smoking, take exercise and lower the blood pressure.



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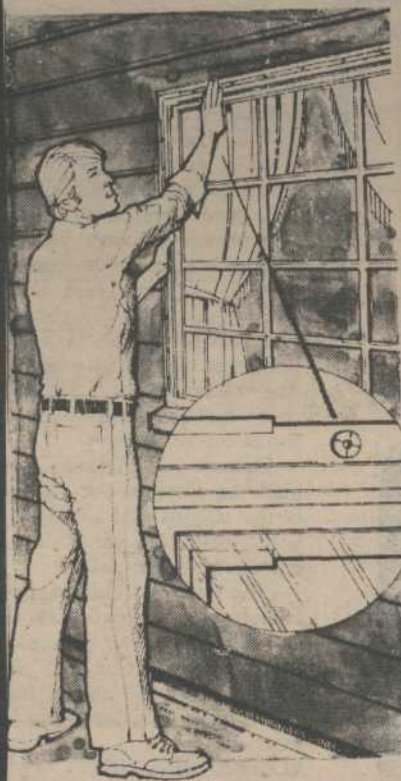
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48-2

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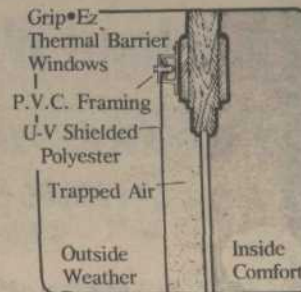
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Harold Derbitsky

tfn

Gulf Islands area

Summary of Islands economy comes from provincial ministry's index

Interesting summary of the Gulf Islands comes from the provincial ministry of economic development. Gulf Islands area comprises Subdivision A of the Capital Census Division, explains the British Columbia Regional Index.

The islands have a land area of 75,338 acres. Population was 6,462 in 1976.

Details of the population distribution are lost, by virtue of the fact that the communities listed total 2,531 and the remaining 3,931 are unaccounted for. While the islander might well assume that they dot the hills between Fulford, Ganges and Vesuvius, there is no clear

indication.

The report explains that the Gulf Islands area includes the communities of Fulford Harbour (116), Galiano Island (480), Ganges (444), Mayne Island (480), North Pender Island (709), Saturna Island (178), South Pender Island (84) and Vesuvius Bay (80).

In 1976, reports the index, the population of the Gulf Islands was 6,462 persons, an increase of 41.4% from 1971. The largest centre of population of the Gulf Islands was 6,462 persons, an increase of 41.4% from 1971. The largest centre of population is Ganges, an unincorporated com-

munity that is the service and retail trade centre for the Islands.

TOURISTS AND RETIREMENT

A small number of fishermen are based in the area and there is also some farming and logging activity, the reader learns. However, the local economy is largely supported by tourism and retired residents.

The area has the highest population aged 65 or over in the province. Improved ferry service between the Gulf Islands, the lower mainland and Vancouver Island has been a major factor in the recent growth. A small number of workers commute daily to larger centres, but the emphasis to date has been on residential subdivision for summer homes and permanent residences for retired persons. There are fears that continued growth will destroy the character of the area and a concerted effort is being made to provide appropriate controls.

There is little manufacturing in the area. Largest employer, in 1974, was located on James Island, Canadian Industries.

Forestry provided employment for about 60 persons in 1976.

DECLINING

Historically, agriculture played a large part in the local economy, but over the past two decades the industry has rapidly declined. The 1976 census revealed 53 farms on 11,345 acres. That was an increase of 16 farms and decrease of 2,658 acres from 1971. Sales of \$5,000 or more in 1975 were reported by only 10 operators.

Mixed farming predominates and production in 1976 included sheep, cattle, milk, poultry, hogs, potatoes, hay and other fodder.

TOURISM

The Gulf Islands are an extremely attractive group of large and small islands offering recreation in a completely rural and tranquil atmosphere, yet located only a short distance from three-quarters of the British Columbia population. With the increase in ferry services during the 1960's the islands became much more accessible with the result that there was a boom in subdividing for retirement and vacation cottages.

A concerted effort is now being made to preserve the atmosphere of the islands and to ensure that sufficient land is set aside for the enjoyment of the public.

The water surrounding the Gulf Islands provide excellent fishing and boating. These features, combined with the excellent climate, suggest that the tourist industry will remain a major factor in the local economy.

ACCOMMODATION

At the end of February, 1977, there were two hotels, with 29 units; 28 motels with 283 units; seven campgrounds with 101 campsites and a trailer park containing 15 sites.

An estimated 27 commercial fishing vessels were based in the islands in 1976. They provided employment for about 48 persons. There was one small fish processing plant on Salt Spring Island.

The index lists all regions in the province.

Hospital is Lady Minto and there is provision for 25 beds and six bassinets. With 38% of the area population over 55, the proportion of bassinets is impressive at 25%.

-FGR

Sick room equipment rental is available at Lady Minto

Several meetings held in the past month between The Canadian Red Cross Society and The Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital, has brought about "Sickroom Equipment Loan Service", for the Gulf Islands.

This is a service whereby equipment is available, without charge, for short periods of time to a maximum of three months.

Preferably, requests for equipment should be made to Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital through representatives of the medical or nursing profession or by recognized social service organizations. When made by a family member or friend, the Lady Minto Hospital seeks the recommendation of the attending physician before lending the articles requested.

SHORT-TERM NEEDS

The established loan period is sufficiently long to meet the needs of the short term patient, or to allow time for permanent arrangements to be made for the long term patient. Responsibility for making permanent arrangements for the latter category of patient, rests with his family.

Supplies presently available for loan are: - canes, crutches, commode chairs, invalid walkers,

wheelchairs, bed pans, urinals, raised toilet seats.

This service is made possible by funds raised through voluntary contributions to The Canadian Red Cross Society and any contributions may be made through the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital.

Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital has all the necessary particulars on the loan service.

New secretary for Saturna

Secretary is needed at Saturna School.

Last week the Gulf Islands School Board accepted the resignation of Maggie Hayes, who is leaving Saturna Island for Salt Spring.

Secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck and the school principal were authorized to make an appointment.

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CLOSED — Jan. 4 - 23 For Holidays

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Order early for Christmas & New Years
49-2

No pollutants left

Innovative sewage treatment plant is described at Salt Spring meeting

Fred Brooks was on Salt Spring Island Monday night to talk to approximately three dozen residents about a sewage treatment-water purification system that he's been working on for 16 years.

Brooks' firm, APT Industries Inc., has set up offices in Vancouver and Nanaimo following a 16-year stint in California dealing with garbage problems down there.

Brooks spent about two hours outlining the basics of his invention, which is designed to separate the solids from the liquids immediately and dehydrate the solids to activated carbon for purification of the liquids in the system.

"It's the only simple, complete tertiary treatment plant that's been patented, as far as we know," Brooks said Monday.

SYSTEM ADAPTABLE

The system, the inventor claims is adaptable to a single household or an entire city, depending on the need.

Brooks' system evolved out of necessity. Originally he was commissioned to come up with a method of dealing with San Francisco's garbage problem.

"And this system evolved from there," he told the meeting, "because I found that after I'd come up with a treatment system for the garbage I was left with large quantities of liquid. Necessity was the mother of invention. I actually originally had no intention of getting into the sewage field."

Brooks claims that with his system the water purified in it is

drinkable following treatment. He suggested that if people didn't want to drink it it could be used for a variety of purposes, including irrigation, heating systems filling swimming pools or, in large quantities, resale to industry requiring large quantities of water.

NO REGULATIONS

Brooks told the meeting that the plant design for the system is 30 to 40 feet high, and would take up no more property than a regular

lot size. An added plus, he noted, lies in the fact that because no pollutants would be discharged the installations do not fall under the control of the pollution regulations.

Brooks told the meeting that such a plant would take six to nine months to construct, and it would cost roughly \$400,000 to service a community of 2,000. The cost estimate didn't include the cost of the collection system to get the sewage to the plant.

Beauty and the Beast

* * *

Traditional English pantomime

Beauty and the Beast will be in Ganges this week.

Salt Spring Players have taken the ancient fairy tale and converted it into a lively play for children and adults.

The presentation is based on the traditional English pantomime with its exaggerated roles and a comic influence in every stage of each tragedy.

The pantomime is a musical farce and a light opera all in one.

Beauty and the Beast is no exception.

The presentation is not simply a musical play. It is a challenge to every function in the players' range. They have been called upon

to provide magic mirrors, glowing treasure chests, snakes, spiders and other creatures of a good pantomime.

Beauty and the Beast will be in Ganges at Mahon Hall on Thursday Friday and Saturday of this week at 7.30 pm.

It is offered early in the evening to encourage parents to bring their children to what is, traditionally a children's treat.

Custodian

Custodian has been named for Fernwood School.

He will be Ed Bettis. Appointment was made last week by Gulf Islands School Board.

Fashion show draws crowds



Fashion show presented by Gulf Islands School Board was very successful on Thursday night.

Terry Elford, treasurer of the Gulf Island School Band parents, welcomed the audience, thanked them for coming and said that the money raised would be used for uniforms for new band students and stand lights. Then, the lights dimmed, soft music played by Dave Barnes and Wilf Davies and out onto the stage came commentator Mrs. Pat MacPherson. Thus began Carolee's Fashion Show, last Thursday, Dec. 7.

The setting was a Christmas one, complete with fireplace, hanging stockings, large hanging snowflakes, a Christmas tree and a beautiful bank of poinsettias, courtesy of Flowers and Wine.

Down the runway came the models: Rita Dodds, Heather Adshhead, Jane Rooke, Eva Marcotte, Ann Harrison, Penny Quesnel, Fran Quesnel, Jo-Ann Smith, Caroline Reynolds, Connie Cunningham, Jean Barnes and Marjorie Cade. Their hair was dressed by June and Celia, of the Hair Shop and their make-up courtesy of Artistry II, Pat MacPherson and Norma Andrews, of Victoria. The carpet they walked on was by Keith Interiors.

CO-ORDINATOR

The fashion show co-ordinator was Teresa Rooke. Mrs. C. Nestman and Mrs. M. Adshhead co-ordinated the intermission tea. Mrs. D. Fraser and Mrs. B. Elford co-ordinated decorations and publicity.

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What's happening at Salt Spring Elementary?

BY IAN JUKES

Three days to go and counting - Christmas fever has undoubtedly hit the classroom - decorations, songs, and restless children - all signs of impending holidays. So much to be done and so little time in which to do it. Oh well - excitement will surely be followed by holiday calm - won't it?

The past few days have been typical - typically hectic - Wednesday - chocolates passed out for our annual "World's Finest Chocolate Sale", proceeds of which go towards supporting field trips, skating, swimming and the like.

Meanwhile, chess championships finish - grade winners being Robert Johnson - grade 1; Tamra Spar - grade 3; Sean Albhouse - grade 4; Andrew Archer - grade 5; Alex Hoeschmann - grade 6; and Blair Calkins - grade 7.

PUPPETRY DEMONSTRATIONS

Thursday - a visit from the ever popular Raincoast Puppet Theatre - an excellent show - well attended and well received, and as a finale, something different, a play put on by students and a demonstration of

puppetry techniques. Very interesting!

Friday, the girl's volleyball team took on the women teachers and, surprise, surprise, the girls won two of three games. That afternoon Mr. Watson, Mr. Chase, Mrs. Sadler, Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Jukes travelled to Wilcuma Lodge in Duncan together with staff members from all other elementary and secondary schools in the district for a French immersion weekend. Needless to say Grade 9 French skills and English-French were sorely tested.

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, the first annual Salt Spring Fernwood Invitational Volleyball Tournament, with teams from Fernwood (two), Pender, and Mt. Breton joining two teams from Salt Spring to hold a day of spikes and serves in the high school gym.

In a highly competitive round-robin Pender emerged as winner, followed by Mt. Breton, with Salt Spring and Fernwood tying for third.

One sour note - a broken finger for Trene Kaye while diving for a ball.

A well organized day by Mr. Marsh and Mr. Taylor.

While this was all transpiring, last week the house volleyball league concluded. Overall winners were Stallions, followed by the Broncos, Mustangs, and Colts. Standings for the year have Broncos leading, with Mustangs, Colts, and Stallions close behind. We now take a rest until after Christmas.

CONCERT PREPARATIONS

Elsewhere around the school, preparations continue for the Christmas concerts this week - every class will be participating in the festivities. From all reports it should be quite an event. Primary concert is Wednesday afternoon, Intermediates is Thursday.

A more immediate cause for celebration (or remorse) were reports, which were mailed out on Friday - an early Christmas present for some.

Briefly, some of the other events that have gone on in the past week included a band concert by the highly polished secondary band. A programme of pop and Broadway, certainly enjoyed by staff and students; boys vs staff volleyball game - close but the teachers win; and finally, an Oldie but Goldie photo contest - to delight and mystify students and teachers with the question - what did you look like when you were a baby?

ART AIDE RESIGNS

Odds and ends - congratulations to Samantha Dixon - winner of the Driftwood Christmas essay contest (and \$25). Full information in next week's paper.

Sorry to hear that Sheri Hickman, the popular art aide in the school has resigned to devote herself full time to her craft.

Saanich elders assure class of pending native action

BY DEBBIE DAVIES

The Continuing Education Native Awareness class was very pleased to welcome back the two Saanich elders Mr. Bartleman and Mr. Elliott. These very active men, have taken time from their busy schedule to keep us informed of their latest concerns - the Cowichan suicides and the intended lockout of Mission school children.

With regard to the Cowichan suicides some very positive steps are being taken. The Saanich elders are meeting in Saanich to discuss possible directions of approach, then they will meet with the Cowichan adults to express their concern and their proposed direction. This direction will be

Finally for those who are wondering; Fernwood will be with us in January as the school is not yet complete. As the schools have been very happy room-mates this presents no difficulty.

And there it is - and this is it - What's Happening takes a rest for the holidays - won't be back until January 3 (when school opens) Before we go, on behalf of staff and students at S.S.E., let me extend our wishes and hopes for a happy holiday season.

Three island students pass lifeguard exams

Salt Spring Island now has three more residents qualified to fill posts as lifeguards.

Under the instruction of Wayne Mackey at the Sidney Panorama Leisure Centre, Marvin Foerster and Ross McFadyen passed their Bronze Cross exams, and Donna McFadyen passed her Cross and Bar exams. The trio were members of a class of seven, all of whom passed their finals on Friday.

The course passed by the students is the first level taken allowing one to lifeguard at a pool. It covers a variety of skills, including basic skin diving and the procedure and follow-up of a rescue.

towards a rejoining of youth and adult by regaining control of family and educational discipline. The cultural background of the native has always been one of a sharing and caring society. This was instilled in them because of family discipline maintained when several families lived in one long house and all were responsible for the discipline and education of those younger. This attitude spread to the band and then throughout the nation. No one was poor then, everyone shared. There was no greed, in fact there is no Saanich word for greed. This communal organization resulted in a natural sense of self-discipline and of responsibility. This self-discipline is lacking in the modern, typically European, family unit as experienced by many natives. They may feel family ties but generally these cultural trends (not only among natives) are noticeable:

An uncoupling of youth and adult - old people feel they aren't wanted, young feel they aren't a part of the old.

An apathy for anyone outside the family unit.

Rich and poor people live side by side.

Increased alcohol consumption Broken homes.

With regard to the Mission school lockout of Indian children the native concerns are these - much of the local band money goes to pay for the education of native children - sixteen to eighteen hundred per child - but the Indian input into how this money is spent is nil; and there is little or no acknowledgement by our society that the natives, who pay all taxes except land taxes, are paying anything at all for the education of their young. In fact, revenue from crown lands owned by the band is sent to Ottawa and is then doled out for various things including education.

The members of the class would like to thank all those native peoples who responded so energetically by coming over to Salt Spring, often at their own expense, to participate in the class. We'd especially like to thank Ariadne Sawyer for her tremendous efforts and success at bringing the whole thing together. See you at the next session.

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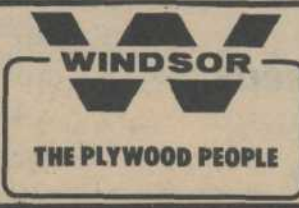
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Golf club plans special party for New Year's Day

The Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club celebrated their Christmas party on Saturday, Dec. 9. Seventy-five members and guests enjoyed the skit presented by Reg and Marilyn Taylor titled "No, I'm Herbert"

Our 1979 year starts off with a sock and toque party on New Year's Day. 10 am tiger juice, 11 am nine-hole, four-ball golf, followed by a sandwich lunch.

Prizes for golf and best socks and toques. Tickets available at Pro Shop by December 20.

If you have something for this column: call Elsie Brown at 539-2480

Mainly Mayne

BY ELSIE BROWN

Children of all ages are looking forward to the arrival of the Christmas Ship Sunday morning at 10 am. It is an annual project of Bellingham Jaycees and very much appreciated by islanders who are always ready to welcome Santa and his reindeer. In charge of arrangements are Fred and Margaret Bennett assisted by the Lions.

The post office is a busy place with lots of mail coming and going. Betty Klatt has been acting postmistress since the retirement of Ken and Joy Smith several months ago. They will lend assistance when needed. Paul Klatt continues

as rural route courier. Ken found it necessary to retire from the post office due to health problems.

Welcome to new owners of Foye's former home at Miners Bay, Vic and Marlene Fraser of Vancouver.

LIONS HOST DINNER

The Lions and their wives will host a Christmas Dinner for senior singles at Mayne Inn, Wednesday, December 20 at 6.30 pm. For further information contact Jerry Medcalf.

Another project of the Lions is their monthly bingo held at the Agricultural Hall on the third Saturday of the month. Christmas Bingo will be held at the Agricultural Hall, Saturday, December 15 at 8 pm. There will be two \$100 games, merchandize prizes, turkeys, hams etcetera.

A large number of interested art students gathered at the Agricultural Hall, Friday, December 8 to see the Grumbacher film, "Water colour landscape" by the celebrated California artist Rex Brandt. It was sponsored by the Paint and Sketch Club. The 45-minute film gave instruction in the various techniques of water colour painting.

CHURCH SERVICES

The carol service held at St. Mary Magdalene church, Sunday, December 10 was well attended. A programme of Christmas carols was presented by Mayne School vocal ensemble under the direction of Mrs. Nita Flick. The first item was "Silent Night", followed by "Little Donkey", by Eric Boswell, "On Christmas Day" by Gladys Davenport and "A Star was His Candle," by Teresa Del Riego.

Singers were, Alanna MacLennan, Katy Tauber, Alana Morbin, Cammie Pugh, Beatrix Nord-Leth, Leslie MacArthur, Melissa MacArthur, Irene Tamboline and Ingrid Wickham.

The above programme was repeated at the Community Church at the school Activity Centre at 3 pm conducted by Rev. John Rodine assisted by Bill Sawyer.

The Mayne School vocal ensemble were very well-received and were given high praise for their efforts.

The film, "Glory in the Highest" dramatizing the Christmas story was shown. Refreshments were served following the service.

No services are planned for December 24 and 31.

MAYNE ISLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Mayne Island Agricultural Society was held at the hall, November 30 at 7.30 pm.

President Margaret Haggart gave the annual report and financial statement concerning the year's activities. The fall fair was very successful with the usual good attendance and large number of exhibits. Other projects are the maintenance of the hall, operation of the thrift shop and the museum.

Among the donations made to various organizations were, \$1000 to the Intermediate and Personal Care Society; \$500 to St. Mary Magdalene Church; Volunteer Firemen, school activities and other island activities.

The election of officers followed the meeting. The present slate of officers were re-elected; president, Margaret Haggart; vice-president, Margaret Bennett; secretary, John Dought; correspondence secretary, Elsie Brown, treasurer, Maude Smith.

[Turn to Page Twenty-Six]

Book early, avoid disappointment



Christmas Holiday Schedule

ROUTE 9 MAINLAND-GULF ISLANDS

The following schedule will be in effect on these days only:

- Sunday, Dec. 24
- Tuesday, Dec. 26†
- Wednesday, Dec. 27
- Sunday, Dec. 31, 1978
- and
- Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1979†

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Lv SALTSRING IS.	6:40 am	12:20 pm	4:30 pm
PENDER IS.	7:15	-	5:15
MAYNE IS.	7:40*	12:55	5:45*
GALIANO IS.	8:10	1:25	6:15
Ar TSAWWASSEN [▲]	9:05	2:20	7:05
Lv TSAWWASSEN [▲]	9:20	2:35	7:30
GALIANO IS.	10:20	-	8:25
MAYNE IS.	10:50*	-	9:00*
PENDER IS.	11:15	-	9:30
Ar SALTSRING IS.	12:00 n	3:50	10:10

* 5 Interconnections to and from Mayne island

Lv SATURNA IS.	6:40 am	-	4:10 pm†*
Ar SATURNA IS.	12:15 pm	-	10:00*

•Note: On Sundays, Dec. 24 and 31 only, departure time from Saturna Is. will be 4:00 pm, and arrival 10:50 pm.

▲ Met by bus.

† Except Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1978 and Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1979.

PORTS OF CALL: Long Harbour (Saltspring), Otter Bay (Pender), Village Bay (Mayne), Sturdies Bay (Galiano), Tsawwassen (all Mainland points).

Normal schedules will be in effect on all other days.



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Christmas HOLIDAY SCHEDULES GULF ISLANDS

To permit as many members of our crews and terminal personnel as possible to be with their families during the Christmas holiday season, the following schedule changes will be in effect:

ROUTE 4 FULFORD HARBOUR-SWARTZ BAY

The following sailings will be cancelled Christmas Day and New Year's Day:

Lv Fulford Harbour	Lv Swartz Bay
6:45 am	7:30 am

ROUTE 4A FULFORD HARBOUR-OTTER BAY-SWARTZ BAY

Supplementary route - no sailings Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

ROUTE 5 SWARTZ BAY-OUTER GULF ISLANDS

The following sailings will be cancelled Christmas Day and New Year's Day:

Lv Swartz Bay	5:30 am
Saturna	6:40
Village Bay	7:20
Montague Harbour	8:00
Otter Bay	8:45

ROUTE 6 VESUVIUS BAY-CROFTON

Saturday schedule will be in effect Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

ROUTE 12 BRENTWOOD BAY-MILL BAY

Sunday schedule will be in effect Christmas Day and New Year's Day.



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She objects to system of raising funds by students

One Salt Spring Island mother was indignant when school children brought home candy to sell.

On Thursday of last week the Gulf Islands School Board heard a criticism of the policy of school fund raising when a letter was read from a Ganges resident.

The Spell-a-thon had cost her \$25, she told the board. In addition, was the cost of school supplies and now students were selling candies.

She had been taken aback,

coming here from Vancouver, she wrote. She was particularly critical of the selling of candy.

"It is not my idea of a permissible project," she wrote.

The board has no policy on the subject, it was agreed.

If the subject is left without controls it will reach saturation point, suggested Norma McCallum.

It is a school administration problem and will be left to the principals, board decided.

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Hospital rubber stamps?

Regional hospital boards have become rubber stamps.

Regional District Review Committee released its report recently on provincial administration.

Among the comments listed from various sources is the observation that the regional hospital districts have become little more than an approving authority for provincial decisions.

Many associated with hospital administration have endorsed the charge.

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Joy Johnsen drills her group during practice sessions.

There will be lots of Joy in this year's carol services at Ganges

BY SHIRLEY CULPIN

The inter-church carol service that has become a tradition on Salt Spring Island over the years has not only a group of enthusiastic choir members this year, but an equally-enthused conductor.

Joy Johnsen's enthusiasm no doubt stems from the fact that she's spent a good deal of her life in musical circles. She hasn't done much in that area since she retired to Salt Spring seven years ago, but the desire to turn out a first-class group obviously hasn't died.

"It was just one of those things," she shrugs. "Word about my background got out, and I was asked to conduct the choir this year. My only regret is that I haven't had more time to work with them."

There can be little doubt that Joy is eminently qualified to whip this year's choir in to shape for the inter-denominational worship service. Almost all of her working life was devoted to music.

"I used to teach in the States," she explains. "I spent 33 years teaching music appreciation and music aesthetics, mostly in provincial schools."

Before entering the work force, however, Joy got a thorough education herself in the field. She earned her Bachelor of Music Education in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, then went on to complete a Masters in the same subject at De Paul University in Chicago.

In addition to her work with choruses, orchestras and bands Joy was responsible for the production of several musicals over the years. And she spent several summers teaching vocal techniques.

Joy also put in time as a music

therapist with the mentally retarded at San Jose State Hospital in California, and acted as church organist on and off over the years.

The memories of all those years in music, of course, are multitudinous. Joy can reel off stories of hilarity for hours.

"There was one time when I was teaching in Chicago," she recalls. "I had a chorus of 200 students one year. It was so large that one girl borrowed a stepladder from her father to get to her position at the back -- that was the only way she could manage it."

After dealing with numbers like that, Joy finds the Salt Spring group of 28 fairly easy to deal with.

"It isn't all that difficult," she says. "I'd like to have more time to work with them. But they're eager, and they work so hard, you know."

Members of three Salt Spring churches are involved with the

choir this year. And once again, because the services are so popular two will be held.

"We started doing the double bill about four years ago," says Rev. Peter McCalman. "because it had become so popular. About 300 people go each year, and they come from all walks of life."

This year the services will be held at Our Lady of Grace Church on Drake Road on December 17 at 4 pm and 7 pm. Each of the services lasts about 1 1/4 hours.

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Poor have to pay harshly

BY MARY C. WILLIAMSON
 Sunday was Human Rights Day. Sadly, it conflicted with Bible Sunday. And, according to many speakers in Ottawa, Canada pays scant attention to human rights at the best of times. June Callwood pointed out that the only public protest aroused by the exposure of illegal acts by some members of the RCMP was indignation that such a fine body should be attacked.

In The Real Poverty Report, written by staff members of the Croll Special Senate Committee on Poverty, this passage appears:

"The most powerful illusion in this country is that Canadian governments are committed to democracy and to the value that is at the heart of the democratic ethic - the principle of political equality. According to this ideal the ultimate power rests, not with the few, but with the whole of society....."

In this country, nothing could be further from reality. The poor have had to pay harshly for the way the economy is mismanaged. They are the first to lose their jobs when unemployment is high, and they suffer most from cutbacks in government spending. They are also the ones to suffer most from the government's refusal to tackle structural faults in the economy. The most direct effect of government refusal to manage the economy has been to create a climate in which corporations have been giv-

en free rein to pursue their self-interests, without regard to society's interests, and most often

More Food for Thought

the government itself has been left to pay the bills."

NO FREE MARKET

Meanwhile, south of the border.....

"SEVEN-UP AGREES TO PHILIP MORRIS'S BID OF \$48 A SHARE"

"R.J. REYNOLDS BUYS DEL MONTE FOR \$582 MILLION"

"PILLSBURY IS BUYING GREEN GIANT"

I am indebted for these headlines to a special report put out by The Agbiz Tiller, a monthly magazine which monitors the activities of agribusiness. They affirm: "no longer do producers, processors, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers operate within a competitive free market system to bring food to our tables."

This is not news to anyone who has studied the material issued by the World Relief and Development committees, but it is always refreshing to read confirmation from an independent source - in this case, in San Francisco.

Leading economists report: "The old simple concept of food as a staple, basic commodity and of a sovereign consumer with a clearly defined demand for food is being cast aside. Industry seeks to create consumer demand for differentiated products - and then to tailor the marketing and production processes accordingly. This is a process that has been used effectively in the production and marketing of automobiles, TV sets, and numerous consumer items."

They continue: "four corporations control more than 90 per cent of the ready-to-eat cereal market. There is no competition on price or product quality, nor on the efficiency of the manufacturers. The cereals are essentially the same, with only artificial differentiation such as colour or shape. A few years ago, after the hullabaloo about the lack of nutritional cereals, the Big Four quickly capitalized on the concern and began marketing "fortified" cereals, introducing the hot new items with a 21-gun ad campaign.

CONSUMERS PAY

Ultimately, consumers pay for such campaigns. General Mills, for example, added less than two pennies worth of vitamins to a 12 ounce box of Wheaties and marketed it as Total. Yet consumers today pay 55 per cent more for a box of Total than they pay for a similar

size package of Wheaties. In 1977 the Big Four spooned out \$591.1 million in advertising.

The suggestion that government should break up the cereal trust is not taken too seriously.... "The combined advertising budget for General Foods, General Mills, Kellogg's and Quaker Oats is 12.5 times the 1979 annual budget for the Anti-Trust Division

of the U.S. Justice Department and nine times the budget of the Federal Trade Commission."

Incidentally, a friend bought a Star Wars toy for her son last week. As they took it out of its plastic "bubble" it fell apart. It cost \$5, so she returned it to the store and it was exchanged. I mention this because, although it was made in Hong Kong, the distributor was General Mills of Ontario.

New contract invited at Pender

New bus contract is due for Pender Island students.

The contract with the present operators of the bus is reaching its close and the board is to ask for tenders.

Trustees expect a number of tenders for the transportation system.

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MOUAT'S

Wrong way home

No bus for alternate class as schedules are changed

How do students in the Fernwood area get to school at Ganges for the Alternate Class? Question was raised on Thursday afternoon by Tom Hall, spokesman for the Educational Alternatives Society.

School bus will no longer run into Ganges to meet the times of classes. Traffic will be northwards, taking students to the new Fernwood School.

The matter was referred to principals to consider.

There were three alternatives, trustees decided. The students could be given a car allowance or they could be collected and dropped at the point nearest their homes. Or they could arrive in school 10 minutes late.

Return home is worse, the board heard.

Parents who decide to put their children in special schools should assess the problems, suggested

Chairman Tom Davidson.

They should be treated like other children, retorted Tom Hall, they have the same worth.

Juveniles charged

with theft of

\$50 from purse

Two Salt Spring Island juveniles have been charged with theft of money after about \$50 was taken from the purse of a woman living in Ganges.

The victim told Ganges RCMP that the youths had asked to use her washroom, and while one was in the bathroom the other went through her purse.

The youngsters have been referred to juvenile authorities.

Over the Hog Line

— By R. Blondell

The Curling Club on Salt Spring Island is far from being a dead issue. At a recent gathering at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Mackay, a new steering committee was formed to add impetus to the formation, and put on a drive for more members, even though the number of people who have paid their \$5 to show their interest is around 180.

The seven people attending this meeting were Dr. and Mrs. MacKay, Don and Joan Macdonald, Mrs. Jean Hadden, Gordon Hunter and Robert Blondell.

On a motion from Gordon Hunter, it was unanimously agreed to appoint Don Macdonald to chairmanship of the steering committee. Mr. Macdonald volunteered to come up with a tentative form of rules and by-laws for the club.

CHANGE IN NAME

Due to much interest from the outer Gulf Islands, a change in the name of the Salt Spring Curling Club was changed to the Gulf Islands Curling Club.

It was pointed out that several people from the Outer Islands had indicated their interest by paying the initial \$5 per person and having their names added to the growing list of prospective members.

Some of them pointed out that they could catch the 12 noon ferry, curl from 1 pm to 3 pm, and return on the 4.30 ferry from Salt Spring, without ferry fares.

At the meeting of the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Committee, under the chairmanship of Bryan Johnston, a professional recreation planner, the subject of curling was the first item on the agenda. I would like to state very clearly that the Curling Club is not looking for any tax money from Salt Spring Islanders or any other islanders.

It is their desire and intention to be completely self-supporting.

They are hopeful, however, of receiving an initial grant from the recreation funds from the provincial government toward constructing a curling rink. This has been done in the case of many other curling rinks on Vancouver Island, and conceivably could be done here.

WHAT IT MEANT

I think this is what the Driftwood meant when they reported in

last week's edition that the Curling Club would or should be looking for public funds. No one, not interested in curling will be asked to contribute any money, tax-wise or otherwise to the support of this organization.

Any former or present curlers from any of the Gulf Islands or any one interested in taking up this fabulous sport, from the ages of 19 to 90, may submit their names, addresses and telephone numbers to the membership chairman, Robert (Bob) Blondell, or leave them together with your \$5 contribution at the Ganges Harbour Groceries Ltd. store. You will receive a receipt by return mail, or you may get one at once.

Happy Curling, folks!

Weight loss

slows down

in November

TOPS, at Mayne Island, are meeting regularly on Monday mornings.

Attendance has been good and interest is running high. Losses seem a little slower when winter weather limits activities.

However, when month-end tallies came in for November it was found that three members tied for the title of "Best Loser for November". They were Val Baldwin, Margaret Bennett, and Jessie Craig.

Fortunately the fruit basket was piled high enough for them to share.

Val Baldwin also was "Best loser of the week".

Plans have been finalized for the third anniversary celebration on Wed., Dec. 13. This will take the form of a luncheon at "The Five Roosers", Mayne's newest dining establishment.

The Graduation ceremony for new KOPS will follow, as well as the presentation of various awards.

Norah Garrick will be reinstated as KOPS, since she has kept her weight within leeway for the required 13 weeks.

Tested on Monday

There is more mineral in Island water than enough

Salt Spring Island residents may be getting a little more in the way of minerals than they'd counted on.

Informal tests run on a variety of island water samples by Nanaimo engineer Fred Brooks Monday evening revealed that in most cases mineral content of potable water is far above the allowable limits.

The maximum allowable limit for mineral content in potable water is 500 parts per million. A sample drawn from the tap at Central Hall turned up a reading of 1,200 parts per million, as did a second sample taken from a private, unchlorinated water supply at St. Mary Lake.

A reading taken from a sample from Swanson Pond levelled off at 1,100 parts per million, while a reading of 800 parts per million was turned in for a Cusheon Lake sample.

ACCEPTABLE

The only acceptable sample received was from Maxwell Lake, which tallied a reading of 40 parts per million, well within the allowable limit.

Although the mineralization counts are high, however, it does not necessarily mean there's a health hazard to people drinking from those water supplies.

"It depends on what it is that's causing the high mineral count," a Capital Regional District spokesman told Driftwood Tuesday. "There are an awful lot of things that would have to go into a study of it before anyone could make any comment."

NOT ALL THAT HIGH!

Mike Larmour, of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, said that a report on the amount of

dissolved solids in St. Mary Lake prepared by the water resources branch in 1974 revealed that readings "weren't all that high."

"It could have changed, but I don't think it could have changed that rapidly," Larmour said.

Larmour said that Dr. A.S. Arneil of the Capital Regional District health unit is expected to attend a meeting of the waterworks district Thursday afternoon.

"I think I'll seize that opportunity to ask him to do some testing for us," Larmour concluded.

Thanks to Hugh Curtis

When the residents of Wallace Point on Pender Island were joyously hailing the arrival of power lines last week, their spokesman was Jim Peters, whose home now lights up the eastern side of Salt Spring.

He expressed the "grateful thanks" of officers and members of the Trincomali Property Owners Association on North Pender to Provincial Secretary Hugh Curtis, MLA for the Islands, for his "untiring efforts in bringing together all government ministries concerned, the BC Hydro and the developers of the new subdivision.

The results of Mr. Curtis interest led to the construction of a new gravel road, built by the developers as well as the stringing of Hydro power lines into the subdivision, he noted.

POSTSCRIPT

To heck with the cynics

BY SHIRLEY CULPIN

I couldn't help but chuckle last week when it was announced that Ed Schreyer had been appointed Canada's new governor general. To be sure, the appointment came as a complete surprise to almost everyone in the nation. But it didn't stop the political pundits from coming up, admirably quickly I thought, with their usual joyless and sarcastic slant on things.

One grump from the University of Manitoba ventured (on CBC national radio, no less) that the major reason Schreyer had won the prestigious appointment was because Pierre Trudeau desperately wants to win the next federal election. This particular chappie figured that the appointment was little more than a wise political move on the part of the national Liberal leader. There was no credit allowed for Schreyer, his accom-

plishments, or his potential.

Actually, there were mercifully few voices of doom heard when the appointment was made public. Darn near everyone in this country seems thoroughly happy at the prospect of having a representative of the Queen who is not only young, but dynamic.

GOOD MOVE

There can be little doubt that the appointment is a good political move for the federal Liberals, but just this once I can't honestly be cynical about Trudeau's motives. And that's because I think he's come up with a fine man for the job.

By now everyone has heard of the former Manitoba premier's attributes, so I won't repeat them in this space. Suffice to say that it's time for a change in this country, and the appointment of Schreyer is the first step in the right direction.

There will no doubt be some

consternation among the dyed (or is that died?) -in-the-wool monarchists at the thought of the patter of little feet at Rideau Hall. There will no doubt be questions about Schreyer's ability to wed his socialist politics to the cause of the monarchy. And there will no doubt be those who will wonder how a governor-general who is neither English nor French will handle the delicate unity issue facing this country today.

NO SQUABBLES

Personally, I don't think Schreyer will have problems with anything along those lines. He's a fresh, new countenance without a side to go to bat for, and there couldn't be anything better for Canada at this particular time in history. There can be no squabbles over partisanship with a governor general who is non-partisan.

And that, if nothing else, is good enough reason for me to believe that Trudeau has made not only a popular choice, but a wise choice - whether it was politically motivated or not.

Mayne Lions prepare big Christmas program

BY LEO MAYNE

Carrying on traditions of previous administrations, Jerry Medcalf's Mayne Island Lions are very active this Christmas season.

On Saturday, Dec. 16, the Christmas Bingo is slated to be the biggest and best of the year, with turkeys, hams, free dinners, hampers and other valuable prizes for lucky winners.

Then, on Wednesday, Dec. 20, the Lions are inviting their ladies and selected single senior citizens to be their guests for dinner and

entertainment at the Mayne Inn.

This month the Mayne Island Lions Club will also assist the Silver Maynes Carpet Bowling group to pay off their debt, and will make their annual contribution to the Christmas Ship.

Merry Christmas to all!

No change at Pender

When trustees of Gulf Islands School District recommended that the Pender Island school bus omit South Pender from its schedule and extend its run along McKinnon Road, there were objections expressed to the former.

Secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck tried out Clam Bay Road with the bus and reported that it was not adequate for a bus.

Last week the original recommendations were reversed.

Uncle Jake

On frosty mornings when I wake, I think about my Uncle Jake, Whose mattress made him stiff and tense, So he sleeps on a wire fence, And when he rises bright and early, His limbs, once straight, are now quite curly.

- John Healey

Tennis tourney set for Boxing Day on Salt Spring

BY BEVIS WALTERS

Salt Spring Tennis Association is dedicated to the advancement, enhancement and enjoyment of tennis on Salt Spring Island. To this end the Association is initiating the "First Annual Boxing Day Tennis Tournament" to be held at Portlock Park on Tuesday, December 26. Expectations are high that this will become the annual event of the winter season.

Restricted daylight hours dictate the necessity for limiting the number of players to 30. Interested participants must pre-register by calling Warren Wilson, between Thursday, December 14 and Thursday, December 21.

Scouts to sell Christmas trees on Saturday

Salt Spring Island Sea Scouts will be selling Christmas trees, ranging in price from \$4 - \$8 at the Farmers' Market on Saturday between 10am and 1pm.

The scouts are hoping to raise \$250 which will go substantially towards the cost of the materials to build a sailboat for use next spring. Deliveries can be arranged for shut-ins.

Health permit needed

Cooking facilities sought in Salt Spring elementary school by the Alternate class are part of the program, reported Tom Hall to Gulf Islands School Board last week.

Last week the board of trustees of Gulf Islands School District heard a request from Health Inspector Darrell Anderson for more information.

"I am at loss to understand the nature of the lunch program," he wrote.

Any provision in the alternate class must conform to the same regulations as the home economics room, trustees were warned.

Provision of a stove and hot and cold water will await approval from Mr. Anderson's office.

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