

George Wells  
R.R. #1  
Ganges, B.C.  
Feb 1 0 9 8

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TWENTIETH YEAR, NO. 22

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1979

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## Schedule is changed as island ferry no longer

*Bowen Queen* is no longer. That is, she is no longer than she was last year.

When the B.C. Ferry Corporation planned the stretching of three ferries, the *Bowen Queen* was left out. It proved that there was only time to attend to two of the ships, the *Mayne Queen* and the *Sunshine Coast Queen*.

The day is to be shorter by ferry. To compensate for the lack of increased capacity, the Ferry Corporation is putting on the *Queen of the Islands* for her greater speed. Then the ends will be gathered in a little each day. The increased speed will allow two extra sailings each day.

The last trip from Fulford to Swartz Bay each day will leave 10 minutes early. It will leave Fulford at 8.20 weekdays. On weekends it will sail at 9.40 pm.

Last ferry from Swartz Bay to

## Site found for boat ramp

Another site for a boat launching ramp on the west side of Salt Spring Island has been found, the island Recreation Commission learned Monday.

Meeting of the commission was told that public access to Booth Canal may be suitable for a ramp. Access is via Booth Road, off Rainbow Road.

The commission will apply to the Ministry of Highways for permission to construct the ramp.

Fulford will sail at 9 pm weekdays and 10.20 pm weekends.

*Size projection: 55,000 square feet*

## Proposal for recreation centre 'getting out of hand' — Borsman

Proposal for a community-cultural-recreation centre on Salt Spring Island is getting "out of hand", the Parks and Recreation Commission was told Monday.

Commission member Dr. Hugh Borsman told the meeting that a compilation of the space requirements of various community organizations had resulted in a proposal that would see a building covering 55,000 sq. ft. The Master Plan for recreation on the island suggests a centre that would comprise 7,000 sq. ft. and would be built at a cost of no more than \$270,000.

Borsman said that if they were to begin with a plan for such a large facility, they would find it necessary to "chip away at it" in order to narrow down the size. He suggested that such an approach would lead to people thinking they were losing out. If the proposal were a small one to begin with, people would feel they were gaining if and when additions were made.

The provincial Ministry of Lands has indicated that the Capital Regional District could take over the administration of Moutat Park at Ganges. The Parks and Recreation Commission learned Monday that the region would assume responsibility for maintenance of the park and its facilities if a transfer of authority were effected.

Residents of the island would have to be in favour of it and approval would be needed from the Islands Trust and from the heirs of the donors of the land.

Borsman also questioned the compatibility of a recreation-oriented facility with the social service activities of the Community Society.

"There is not much overlap between a recreation centre and a community centre," he observed.

(Turn to Page Twenty)

## Donation to school



This hand-crocheted Afghan was made by Mrs. B. Crooks of Saturna Island and donated to the grade 10 social studies class at Gulf Islands Secondary School. It will be raffled off next week with the proceeds going toward the expenses

of a field trip the students made to the Okanagan and the Kootenays recently.

Holding the Afghan are Mrs. Crooks' daughter Sandra and Kristin Bergenham. Both are grade 10 students.

## Sewage seeping at Greenwood

Effluent from the sewage system at Greenwood is already surfacing on Blain Road, within weeks of the admittance of the first residents and a week before the official opening by Lieutenant-Governor Henry Bell-Irving.

Sewage is weeping out of the field and at one point it has etched a small ravine, an inch or so wide, in the sand where the flow has carried away part of the fill.

Adjacent ditch on Blain Road is full and green, but there is no indication that this condition is caused by the Greenwood system.

When the facility was under construction health requirements prohibited the provision of a laundry in order to protect the disposal field. Disposal system is a temporary measure, set up to tide over the unit until the Ganges sewer is installed.

## Weldon Pinchin appears under two hats as

# Marina gains tentative approval

Although opposition exceeded support for a marina zone on Saturna Island, the Saturna Island Trust Committee gave tentative approval to the project on Friday afternoon last week.

The committee heard a score or so of views on the subject, of which better than a dozen expressed objection.

Most of the support for the project came from permanent residents of the island and most of the opposition was expressed by off-island residents with property on the island.

Application had been made by W. Steeves for the use of his Boot Cove land for a marina.

Lands office had asked the Islands Trust for its observations on the granting of a foreshore lease and the Trust was also considering rezoning the property. The rezoning requires a public hearing. Foreshore lease does not.

While majority of those attend-

ing were either for the proposal or against it, one speaker ardently supported both sides.

Weldon Pinchin of the Mayne Inn, on Mayne Island, told the hearing that he was present as the island's tourist director.

"I have two hats," he explained.

Hearing had already been told that all harbours where a wharf was established had been closed by reason of pollution.

Horton Bay, on Mayne Island, has a wharf and an oyster lease and there is no pollution and no restriction on swimming, asserted director of tourism Pinchin.

He expressed his philosophy on the provision of facilities for tourists.

"People are going to come anyway. It's like putting your hand up to stop the wind."

When a boat ties up in the harbour there is no way of stopping the operator from using the heads,

or toilets, asserted the speaker.

Most boaters are concerned about ecology.

### LIKE IT NO MORE

"They like to sail around in effluent no more than the man on shore likes looking at it!"

He concluded with a fervent support for the project.

"As director of tourism, I support this application and I would like to go on record."

Pinchin then announced he was adopting his second hat.

"I want to speak against it and if it goes in I feel that there is discrimination."

As the operator of a resort on an adjacent island and as the applicant for a marina zoning which had been refused, he felt that his property values were affected by the committee's decision on this particular application.

He wished to go on record as  
(Turn to Page Eight)

## First time in 12 years

# Lieutenant-Governor to open Greenwood

Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, Henry Bell-Irving, will pay an official visit to Salt Spring Island on Monday to formally open Greenwood.

Greenwood is the new intermediate and personal care centre on Salt Spring Island.

It will be the first formal visit from the Queen's representative in the province since Maj.-Gen. George Pearkes, V.C., opened Centennial Park at Ganges a dozen years ago. He was lieutenant-governor at the time.

Opening ceremonies will take place at 2.30 pm on Monday, June 4. They will be open to the public.

After the formalities members of the public will be taken on a tour of the facility by members of the Greenwood Auxiliary. Auxiliary will also serve tea during the afternoon.

# More gardens will be open to public in June

# Awards are presented at final meeting of Cubs and Sea Scouts

BY PETE MOSS

Salt Spring Island Garden Club's Open Garden program for June will feature the garden of Dr. and Mrs. W.R. Bacon on Broadwell Road at Vesuvius. The public is invited to visit this garden on Saturday and Sunday, June 9 and

10 from 1 pm to 4 pm.

Chief attraction is the large planting of roses of all types: hybrid teas, bush roses, climbers, miniatures and the old fashioned roses, about 125 all told. The garden is also planted with herbaceous perennials, many of them now in bloom.

Agnes and Bill Bacon started their garden three years ago and in that short time have made it a very attractive and interesting place. Anyone planning a new garden should receive inspiration and help from a visit to the Bacon garden. Their home is on Broadwell Road, leading off Vesuvius Road to the right as one approaches Vesuvius Bay. Their name is posted at the driveway entrance.

Other gardens open in June are Mrs. Freda Carter's on Ganges Hill by Beddis Road, and Jack and Dorothy James' garden on Langley Street at Vesuvius Bay. Visitors are welcome to browse in these gardens at any time during the summer.

The Open Gardens program is part of the Garden Club's celebration of its 25th anniversary year.

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He did his best the best and James Baines gets his award from Ray Bush.

BY PAUL MINVIELLE

Parents and friends were drawn into the fun and games of the final meeting and parents' night Thursday held jointly by the First Ganges Cub Pack and Ganges Sea Scouts.

The 29 Cubs kicked off the proceedings with a march behind a colour party into the elementary school gymnasium. After the official Grand Howl, the games started and the Red Six topped their fellow Cubs. They immediately challenged everyone -- Scouts, fathers and mothers. In the ensuing baton relays, the mothers' team emerged victorious, despite the vigorous protests of their sons.

After the games, everyone went outside to hear the Scouts give a superb demonstration and explanation of the rigging of one of their Flying Junior sailboats.

**THANKED LEADERS**

Back indoors, Cub Pack Akela Jean Hoskin thanked her leaders, Gordon Farrell, Janet Jang, Bill Simpkin, Paul Sadler and Paul Minvielle, for their assistance throughout the year. After review-

ing the year's activities, Akela moved on to the awards.

Joe Bossio presented the Lions Club trophy for the Best Six to two Sixers! Akela explained that the two groups had been in a seesaw battle all year for first place. Sixer James Baines accepted the trophy on behalf of his Blue Six, consisting of Second Bryan Farrell, Mark Jenkins, Shaun Sime, Kevin Smith and Matthew Stelter. Sixer Simon Jang accepted for his Red Six, Second David McWhirter, Peter Andress, Jason Bush, Alfie Shepherd and Kurt Thomas-Sadler.

**PERFECT RECORDS**

There was another tie when Jack Reynolds presented the Rotary Club attendance trophy. James Baines and Mark Jenkins boasted perfect records, and Mrs. Hoskin reported that eight other Cubs had missed only one meeting.

James Baines was back moments later to accept another award, this time from local branch manager Ray Bush, the Credit Union trophy for The Cub Who Did His Best The Best.

Ganges Cub-Scout group committee chairman Dave Hoskin, who was master of ceremonies for the evening, then turned things over to Sea Scoutmaster Matt Coleman, who in turn asked Gavin Reynolds to present the Chamber of Comm-

ence award for Best Sailor of the Year to Paul Betts.

**NARWHALS**

Sea Scout Leader Charles Bazzard gave the Bald Eagle Perpetual Trophy for Best Crew to David Owens, accepting on behalf of his crew, the Narwhals. The trophy was donated by former Scoutmaster Wayne Cooper, who was known for years as Bald Eagle.

Bank of Montreal manager Sandy Gordon presented his organization's award for Best Sea Scout of the Year to Hugh Coleman.

While the meeting was the last regular get-together of the season for the two groups, Cub and Scout activities will continue throughout the summer, including organized camping and sailing trips, as well as individual work towards various badges.



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It was me what done it! I had that sign on my bumper, "Vote for Whatsisname". And they did!

\*\*\*

Thinking of elections, all we've done is switched from Joe Who to Joe What?

\*\*\*

Politicians don't like each other overly much. There was a distinct suggestion during the recent election campaigns that politics has its own magnetism and that unlike poles repel. Yet, in Cowichan, Malahat and the Islands there was no suggestion of personalities. Candidates challenged each other's philosophies. They rarely engaged in personal rivalries. This was borne out to the full when Conservative candidate Don Taylor wanted to see the film, *Tanker Bomb*. David Anderson, Liberal candidate was showing the film during his campaign. Among the audience was Taylor. Liberal Anderson was fumbling with the projector and giving his spiel at the same time. Up jumped Tory Taylor and he took over the operation of the projector while Anderson went on with his program, in part, at least, aimed at electing a Liberal.

\*\*\*

And, after writing the title so many times in the past and faced with writing it so many times in the future, couldn't the Tories drop the "Progressive". There aren't any left and the name has no current meaning or historic significance. Most voters today assume that the Conservatives are belying their name and seeking to push on. But how can a conservative be progressive?

\*\*\*

Good bye ... and from him! But how many people know what they are saying when they bid somebody good bye. It is a corruption of God be with ye! This was a parting message at one time, like a dieu, or Go with God, the French alternative. So, Go with God! Or simply, God be with you!

**Names of squadron graduates announced**

A week ago the Salt Spring Island Power Squadron staged its annual banquet when the graduate sailors were presented with their certificates.

Power squadrons exist purely to inculcate safety and safety measures into their members. A trained sailor finds his way home in a whole boat. That is the purpose of the organization and its courses.

New graduates were from Salt Spring Island and Pender Islands.

They were, from Pender, Manfred Burandt, John Finnie, Glen Grimmer, Doreen Hanson, William Hanson, Elmer Hillhouse, Marjorie Madden, Fay Matty, John McKage, Willis Moore and Carl Wejin.

From Salt Spring Island were Joan and Ross Angus, Connie and Scott Bergstrom, Sheila Cooper, Don Dashwood, Stephen Davidson, Glen Hanna, Ruth Irving, Katherine Kienart, Alan Kirk, Jon Morrison, Anneke Mater, Art Munneke, Kenneth Smith and Carol Young.



**Pitch-In '79**



Stunt man of the woods, Art Williams of Ladysmith has been a well-known woodsman on the islands in recent years. He is taking to the exhibition circuits. From

**Bathtub Races**

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21-3

**GULF ISLANDS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BUS SCHEDULE CHANGES**

The opening of Fernwood School on Monday, June 4, will occasion some changes to bus schedules. Revised routes and bus stop times will be:

FERNWOOD SCHOOL	AM TIME	PM TIME
Route: Mobrae, Vesuvius, Sunset Drive, North End to Fernwood School.		
BUS STOPS		
Mobrae/Tripp	08:00	3:35
McGill Rd.	08:17	3:43
Fernwood School	08:30	
Route: Fernwood Store, Walker Hook, Stark Rd., to Fernwood School.		
Fernwood Store	08:35	3:05
Robinson/Stark	08:43	3:13
Fernwood School	08:55	3:25
<b>SALT SPRING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</b>		
Route: Cusheon Lake, Beddis Rd.		
Cusheon/Fulford-Ganges Rds.	08:10	3:40
Stewart Rd.	08:17	3:47
To school via Beddis Rd.	08:30	4:00
Route: Lower Ganges to Canal Rd. to Collins Rd. (via Atkins) back on Rainbow to School.		
Canal Rd.	08:32	4:02
Collins Rd.	08:38	4:08
School	08:44	4:14
Route: Long Harbour to School		
Long Harbour Terminal	08:50	4:20
Long Harbour/Robinson Rd.	08:55	4:25
School	09:00	

Buses will make normal stops on these routes. Times listed are tentative. Pupils should be at the bus stops five minutes prior to scheduled times.

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## Gulf Islands Driftwood

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1979

## Webster's bible

This week, we have the rather rare distinction of being in agreement with Outer Islands regional director Jim Campbell, who last week voiced his opinion on the Bennett Bay dock issue.

The subject was discussed on Jack Webster's television program Thursday morning when Webster's guest was Mayne Inn owner Weldon Pinchin.

Webster came out in support of Pinchin in his bid to construct moorage facilities at Bennett Bay and expressed the opinion that it was not a decision that should rest solely with local residents. He stated that the provincial government, if necessary, should step in and over-rule the Islands Trust's decision to prohibit the dock.

Jim Campbell, however, felt otherwise. He said it was up to locally-elected representatives to make decisions on local issues. We couldn't agree with him more, provided, of course, the wishes of the people are being upheld.

What happens on the islands is, to a large extent, up to the residents of the islands to decide, because any kind of development will affect them first. The needs and wants of the rest of the province should certainly be considered, but they shouldn't take priority over those of the islanders.

Mr. Webster seemed to think it strange that the Trust should decide against passing its "compromise bylaw" that would have permitted the dock under a new zone. But it wasn't a strange thing to do. The trustees were doing what they were elected for: representing the people. The people objected to the new zone and the Trust accordingly rescinded it.

We hope that Mr. Webster will continue to regard *Driftwood* as his "bible". Furthermore, we trust he will study these scriptures this week and find Truth therein.

## An excellent choice

It's the first ever!

Sandra Klein, queen of storm, has been awarded a national recognition for her work on the water.

She's not writing a book, but the story of the Pender Island volunteer rescue service reads like a best-seller.

The Klein family have been active in helping the beleaguered sailor since the first day they came to the islands. This concern for others has grown from a regular offer of assistance to the rescue workers to a carefully planned and equipped rescue service with small vessels equipped for the worst seas and every electronic and radio device to keep close contact between sea and shore.

Sandra is the Queen of Storm when the emergency arises. The pictures of Sandra at the wheel of her Boston whaler show the young island girl at speed, hair flying and eager to reach the target...another boat in trouble. The picture which nobody sees is the whaler running full-bore through the night, bucking the very seas that have brought peril into somebody's life; cold, wet, miserable but still eager.

Island boaters have always been on the alert for other boatmen in trouble. The island water taxis have long since picked up the unwary and the rash and the foolish and towed in their unseaworthy craft. But no islander has devoted the time and effort and equipment that has built up the Klein family's operation.

This family rescue service has been molded into the Rescue Co-ordination Centre on the coast and it is recognized to the extent that the *Queen of Storm* will be invited out to a rescue.

Islanders will all share in the indebtedness of the province and the nation to this island family. The dozens, perhaps hundreds, of sailors who have survived disaster thanks to the prompt response of the Klein family will echo a heartfelt amen to the presentation on Friday of the national transportation award of valour.

And they will be moved as other islanders are moved by the realization that there is no adequate means of expressing appreciation. What can you say in response to the devotion to their fellows shown by Sandra Klein and her father, Horst and their family?

We can only say that the award in Ottawa on Friday by Governor-General Ed Schreyer and the forthcoming award on Thursday are well merited.

It was an excellent choice.

## Sail past at Ganges Harbour



It was over three weeks ago that the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club held its sail past in Ganges Harbour. Although this picture was taken at the time, it shows some of the activity that normally takes place around the club's facilities at Douglas Road.

## Letters to the Editor

### HARMFUL TO LAKE?

Concerning the proposed 10 hp restriction on St. Mary Lake, several issues come to mind.

MILFOIL - this is the issue that resulted in the recommendation "that the use of motorboats on St. Mary Lake be restricted to resident motorboats only with less than 10 hp engines" (*Fisher-Patrick Report*, June 1978). The concern was that powerboats could bring milfoil to the lake from another infested lake. Why was the limit set at 10 hp? At least equal concern should be directed to the increasing number of small motors being brought to the lake. St. Mary Lake residents who only use this lake should be exempt from the restriction.

Are there other ways that milfoil is spread?

It has been shown that milfoil in Cultus Lake has spread to five other interior lakes by Canada Geese. It was also discovered that a youngster's face mask carried milfoil from Okanagan Lake to Sproat Lake. Another interesting fact is that dried out milfoil may revive when placed in water.

SAFETY AND NOISE - Some concern has been expressed over the safety of swimming in the lake. This concern is justified and should be dealt with by the RCMP. It should not be a reason to ban powerboats on the lake. After all, cars are not banned from island roads because of a few idiots.

If noise is a concern to many people, and since small outboards can be as noisy as large outboards, perhaps a time restriction could be placed on the lake for all motorboats. One suggestion might be to restrict motorboats before 11 am and after one hour before dusk.

POLLUTION - pollution has been presented as an issue in the proposed 10 hp restriction. The Patrick report of January 1979 stated that "oil from powerboats could possibly contribute to the problem". All outboard motors

could put oil into the lake. Why is the proposal not concerned with all outboard motors? Since stern drives do not put any oil into the water, and these boats are over 10 hp, there is no relationship between amount of pollution and size of horsepower.

The Patrick report also states that senior governments are studying "the problem of deteriorating quality of their water supplies" and "there must be a wealth of literature on the subject available. This should be researched...."

Has the Islands Trust studied this research? Or is the 10 hp issue considered convenient, and the first step in implementing the Patrick report philosophy that "public use of the lake is incompatible with its use as a source of domestic water.?"

I challenge the Islands Trust to show the residents of St. Mary Lake research showing that powerboats with motors of 10 hp or larger are harmful to the lake.

If this cannot be shown, then the proposed restriction cannot be justified.

R. DUNN  
St. Mary Lake  
May 26, 1979

### ONLY THE MAILMAN

Sir,  
As the school bus driver on the Penders I could only resort to a giggle on reading the article in *Driftwood* May 16, page 27, "No Bus No School".

If I found that one of our students became uncontrollable while on the South Pender run, about the only person who might come to my rescue on a regular basis would be our mailman and he only goes to South Pender Monday, Wednesday, Friday!!!

CHRIS WADE,  
Port Washington,  
May 25, 1979.

### DANGER IS OBVIOUS

Sir,  
Simultaneous demonstrations against the Trident submarines are to be held at the Blaine Peace Arch and the Trident base at Bangor, Washington on June 9 at 2 pm. Civil disobedience is slated for the latter.

For those unfamiliar, the resort town of Bangor was selected in 1973 by the US Pentagon as the base for a fleet of nuclear-powered Trident submarines, a system capable of "first strike" aggression against Soviet urban centres and underground missile silos. Each submarine, approximately four storeys high and two football fields in length, is equipped with 408 nuclear warheads atop 24 missiles. The US Navy hopes to have 30 of these submarines operating out of Bangor by 1990.

The danger of a Trident fleet, especially in our own back yard, is obvious. First, a collision between one of the submarines and any one

(Turn to Page Five)

## Church Services

SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 1979

<b>ANGLICAN</b>			
St. Mark's	Central	Holy Eucharist	11.15 am
St. George's	Ganges	Family Eucharist	9.30 am
St. Georges, Ganges	Mattins	Mon.-Fri.	7.15 am
<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC</b>			
St. Paul's	Fulford	Holy Mass	9.00 am
Our Lady of Grace	Ganges	Holy Mass	11.15 am
<b>UNITED</b>			
Dr. V. McEachern	Ganges	Worship Service	10.30 am
537-5817	Sunday School during church for ages 3-10		
537-5812/Box 330		Fellowship Hour	11.30 am
<b>COMMUNITY GOSPEL</b>			
Rev. S. Hildebrandt	Sunday Sch. all ages		10.30 am
Box 61, Ganges	537-2622	Evening Service	7.00 pm
Bible Study & Prayer	537-5757	Thursday	7.30 pm
<b>MAYNE ISLAND</b>			
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 homes		
<b>GALIANO ISLAND</b>			
St. Margaret's	Galiano	Sundays	9.00 am

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Chamber of Commerce.

# More letters to the editor

(From Page Four)

of the various kinds of craft plying the narrow Juan de Fuca Strait is a distinct possibility; second, a malfunction in or discharge from one or both of the submarine's two nuclear reactors cannot be ruled out; third, in the event of superpower hostilities the threat of nuclear attack in the Pacific northwest, specifically at Bangor, has been multiplied; and finally, a Trident fleet only adds to the surfeit of world-wide nuclear weaponry and, consequently to the inevitability of a nuclear holocaust.

Persons interested in travelling to Blaine or Bangor or willing to offer rides may contact me at 537-9391 after 6 pm.

**BILL UNDERWOOD**  
Ganges  
May 22, 1979

## PERFORMING PUPPETS

Sir,

Well now that the hoopla of the elections is finally over, what does it leave us with? Not much I'm afraid. Both the federal and the provincial governments are dedicated to near give-aways of Canada's resources and a no-ceiling limit on corporation rip-offs. This is intended to provide some kind of a solution to our economic woes, but can it?

The only thing this approach gives us is an immediate, short-term, band-aid solution. It will never get to the root of the problem, where real solutions can be wrought in a fundamental way. And I say this not because I am a confirmed NDP, but because the evidence seems self-evident. People need only to examine what is really happening around them to see that the give-away approach of our right-wingers is madness.

All that our new governments have vowed to do, really, is to protect big business. Certainly there is little in their position to indicate that they can protect small independent business. Yes, the key to Canada is being turned over into the loving care of Big Business.

Most likely there will be very few sales and the prices will continue to escalate till more of us are struck down. Lest people be mistaken in believing that the poor are just lazy slackards, I remind you that more

and more people from the highly qualified categories are finding trouble in gaining employment. And those of you who are living well but finding steadier encroachments into your gains, consider that corporation profits went up 58% last year, while your budget shrank. You can't blame hippies and the NDP for that!

But we'll see. I'm sure that with these new governments, we'll find that we'll be back right where we started from; with a runaway inflation, where we as Canadians have no control of our own economy.

And who is in control? Well, why don't you go and ask Robert Bonner, of B.C. Hydro and Trilateral Commission, who is in control? That should be a clue. In case you are unaware of it, the Trilateral Commission is that association of esteemed tycoons, that cream of the Multinational Corporation Crop, those 600 plutocrats who have united to rule this world through oligarchy.

Thus we have had the great election foofarah in which both Bill Bennett and Joe Clark came off looking suspiciously like marionettes.

When it comes to performing puppets, the Multinationals know how to pull the strings. So if you had a strange feeling that our elected leaders looked rather like hollow men who were just putting on a show, well, they were!

So, what are these men going to be able to really do, to get the Canadian economy to thrive to the benefit of all Canadians? Well, you elected them!

A vote for the Socreds, for the Tories, was a vote for Multinational Corporation control of the Canadian economy. Perhaps we will experience a few brief moments of respite as they reward us with cookies and lure us with carrots, but basically, folks, the Multinationals have the squeeze on us and they will continue squeezing, until they wring us dry.

Unless, of course, we chop off their fingers which we can yet do, if we play our cards right, if we seize control of all facets of our economy and become the masters in our own house. If the Arab nations can seize

control of their economy through themselves regulating their oil rather than Exxon, why can't we do it with our much sought after lumber, electricity, water, petroleum, ores and wheat? Why do we back governments which allow the Multinationals to walk off with a 48% increase in profits from our resources, while more and more Canadians are sliding below the poverty line?

Far, far better, to be the captain of our own clunky Canadian merchant freighter, than the simple-minded cabin boy being kicked around on the luxury liner, "U.S. Exploiter".

Finally I'd just like to say that I wouldn't be surprised if the majority of shares in the B.C. Resources Corporation get bought up by foreign interests. It would be interesting to see an exact tabulation of share sales. One wonders if Premier Bennett is open to informing us who comprises the board of directors and of course, who controls that decisive 52% of management votes. Are people aware that they need 100 shares to vote and 52% of the votes for company control? Looks like most of us won't have much influence over the use of B.C. resources, after all. Five free shares! Hah! I'd say we've been had. Right down the river, again.

**JEZRAH HEARNE,**  
RR#1 Fulford Harbour,  
May 23, 1979.

## LIBRARY SHARES?

Sir,

As Salt Spring Island knows our splendid library is seeking to raise \$75,000 to enlarge the building and extend the Library facilities.

I believe that some people, for one reason or another, are reluctant to avail themselves of the Government's offer of five free B.R.I.C. shares. Could they be persuaded to apply for the shares and then donate them to our Library?

The individual allocation of five shares has its limitation but an aggregate of such shares would form a valuable "block" which could be traded on the market and the proceeds would give a massive lift to the building fund.

A gift of five shares would not only honour the Library founder, the indomitable Mary Hawkins, but acknowledge our gratitude to the many women (and men, too) who have so selflessly given hundreds of hours of their time to work for no other reward than that of knowing that they have enriched

The departure of Agriculture Minister Cyril Shelford from the Legislature in Victoria will not be seen as a great loss to a number of people, myself included.

His recent condemnation of the Greenpeace Foundation shows an attitude that we trust is not shared by his fellow party members.

Shelford condemned Greenpeace for its "scare campaign" with regards to the proposed spraying program to combat the gypsy moth in Vancouver. Shelford said the chemical Carbaryl "has been cleared by specialists" in Canada and the U.S.

Why, then, is the U.S. considering banning carbaryl if it has been cleared?

Shelford also said that provincial legislation may be needed to be amended to make organizations such as Greenpeace financially responsible for the results of the actions they have taken. I think legislation making the government financially responsible for damage caused by its ignorance would be more appropriate.



**Tony Richards**

The following is a quotation from Bowen Island's newspaper, *Undercurrent*.

"Les Keen is president of the B.C. Social Credit Party. It is apparent that the members of that party are also less keen."

*Driftwood*, according to *Undercurrent* editor L.V. Reid, is one of *Undercurrent's* favourite newspapers. And *Undercurrent* is one of our favourites.

...

Has the Chief Electoral Officer been a little slow paying his bills?

We tried to get a poll-by-poll breakdown of the voting in the federal election but the returning office in Duncan was having problems.

Returning officer Beryl Fink said Tuesday she and her staff were in the middle of post-election chores when all their office furniture was taken away. Desks, chairs and adding machines were all removed by the Victoria company that was renting them out for the election.

So until the returning office finds a few adding machines, no voting information will be available.

(But we all know it went the wrong way anyhow... isn't that enough?)

the quality of life for the fellow Islander.

The Library has received re-

cently a magnificent gift of \$37,000 from the Provincial Secretary, Hugh Curtis. This sum must encourage us to increase our efforts....there is still a long way to go to \$75,000.

**MARY GATLEY**  
Fulford Harbour  
May 29, 1979

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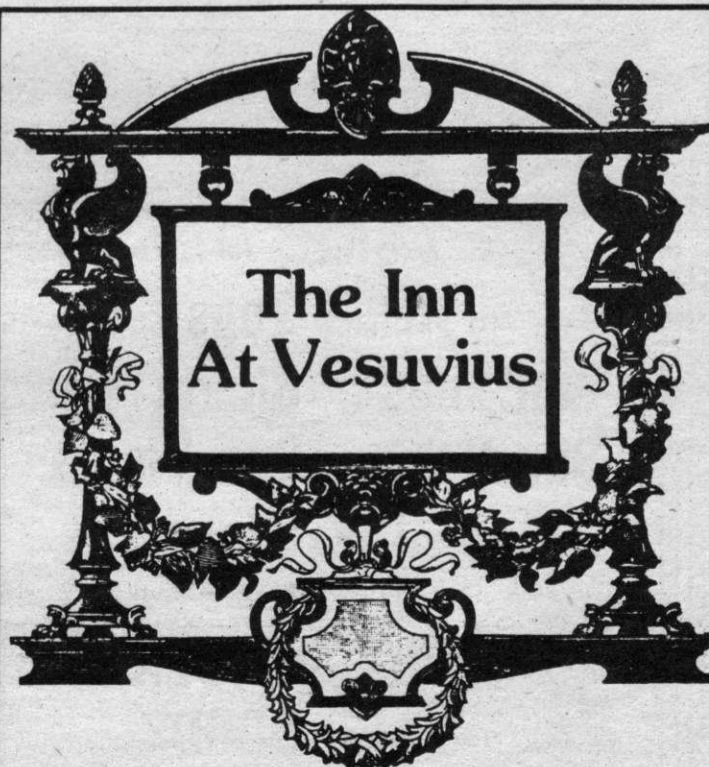
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## Islands Trust hears some comments

# An analysis of administration in the Islands

The islands of British Columbia are a logical centre for a new regional district, assert many critics of the administration.

At the present time the islands lie in various regional districts and are governed, in terms of land-use, by the Islands Trust.

When the chairman of the North Salt Spring Island Waterworks District expressed his views on incorporation of regions and Trust recently, trustee Bud Kreissl invited him to commit those views to paper.

He did and here are Ken Patrick's comments on the merging of interests in the islands.

\*\*\*

Now that our government has decided to postpone the imposition of taxes and levies on regional districts to help finance an Urban Transit Authority, there is time to re-examine the whole role of regional districts as they apply to the Gulf Islands.

If some form of association of separate geographical entities to solve common problems has value, is the concept of the regional district as it now exists, the best one for the Gulf Islands? Is it wise to split the Gulf Islands three ways, some to one, some to other regional districts?

Should the Gulf Islands be forced to submit to urban-dominat-

ed authorities where they have but a minor voice? Should such an association be compulsory for all functions? Hasn't the time come for Gulf Islanders to make their wishes known, loudly and clearly?

Failure to do so will result in the continuation of the present (or worse) situation where our desires or protests are drowned, issue by issue, in the louder voice of the city dwellers whose interests and life styles are completely different from ours.

### ISLANDS ARE DIFFERENT

Let us face it. The whole attitude of Gulf Islanders toward what they want from any type of association is different from that of their urban cousins.

Most of us came here to free ourselves from the restrictions that are a necessary part of urban living. Our lives are different.

Most are retired on fixed, and I believe, modest incomes. We hoped, when we left behind the pressures of making a living, to be able to live with dignity in an area where costs were more reasonable and the word, "freedom" still had meaning. We willingly gave up the amenities of city living to achieve these. We felt that so long as we harmed no one we could have what we wanted, a new and to us, a better style of life.

So we came to the islands where such seemed possible.

Now it is being threatened. What can we do about it?

### NO CITY HERE

There can be no doubt as to the lack of full city amenity on the Gulf Islands.

Shopping is limited, there are no real theatres, no street lights, no public garbage disposal system, water supplies are limited, there are no, or very few city-type paved roads, no bus service, most people live far from the nearest store, access to the rest of the province must be by ferry which, while adequate, is far from as handy as a road connection.

We willingly accept this, in fact we like it because we realize this is the necessary price we must pay to avoid becoming urbanized, a fate we shudder to think of.

We value other things far more. Our priorities are freedom of choice, of neighbourliness, of outdoor living close to nature, of friendly gatherings with others of similar tastes and interests.

How can city folk, even with the best intent in the world, even begin to understand, let alone sympathize?

### RIGHTS ARE PARAMOUNT

Rights of the individual are paramount and should only be infringed on when it is clearly

demonstrated that such infringement is necessary to protect the rights of others.

It is the individuals affected who alone should decide what is best for themselves. We of the Gulf Islands have but few wants.

However, one of them, probably the most important one, is to be left alone to work out our own destiny within the framework of our country and our province to whom we enthusiastically give our allegiance. But to be dictated to by an urban based authority is intolerable.

### WHY FORMED?

Let's go back to the beginning of regional districts. Why were they formed? For what purpose?

It is unlikely these can be fully answered but, from the viewpoint of those who must bear the costs and who naturally expected to reap the benefits, surely the major reason was to achieve a higher degree of efficiency than previously existed.

Adjacent local governments, the theory must have run, having problems of similar nature, should be able to solve them better and more economically by joint action than by acting independently of each other.

Doubtless this makes good sense when such problems overrun common boundaries. The particular ones that come to mind could include water supply, sewerage, drainage, main roads, and the like.

But there is another condition that might well lend itself to common and co-ordinated action, even where there are no common boundaries. That is where local areas, though separate from each other (by water) have similar characteristics, both in their environment and in their inhabitants.

Here, planning, zoning and the like could be pursued jointly with common goals to great benefit.

But other functions such as water supply, sewerage, hospitals,

recreation and many more could also yield benefits by joint deliberation and action but only if such was desired by the people concerned. But where local areas are separated (by water) and also are very different from each other in character both physically and in the temperament of the people, any attempt to artificially put them into the same bed together will not only fail to produce benefits but will result in serious harm, especially to the minority partners.

These differences of the Gulf Islands and Gulf Islanders from their city cousins were recognized by the provincial government when it established the Islands Trust and again, later, when it enlarged its role.

It now has jurisdiction over many of the common problems of the Gulf Islands. It seems only logical to further extend this philosophy by expanding the legislation on the Islands Trust to allow it to embrace all the functions for the Gulf Islands and simultaneously releasing the islands from their respective regional districts.

### A BETTER VEHICLE

The basic Islands Trust legislation seems a far better vehicle than that of regional districts for the purpose, particularly due to its mandate to preserve the rural and residential character of the islands.

Such expanded legislation should provide some form of local government for each island to attend to the purely local functions. This could be through and by the local trustees thus eliminating potential conflict and the establishment of still another level of

(Turn to Page Fifteen)

## Community Dance

SATURDAY - JUNE 9

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**Book Review**

**Island man is author of new book on wild plants**

**BY TONY RICHARDS**

Food that is free for the foraging is, to quote the author, the main focus of the newest book on gathering and using wild plants.

*Your Own Food, A Forager's Guide* is Salt Spring Island writer Dan Jason's latest book and it is the second he has written on this subject. His first, *Some Useful Wild Plants*, was a very detailed reference book that concentrated on edible and medicinal plants native to B.C. *Your Own Food*, however, is intended to cover the most common, "the easiest to find, and best plants and mushrooms in Canada".

Included are about 25 plants that nearly everyone knows about, says the author in the introduction.

"What most people don't know is how valuable these plants can be."

He goes on to explain that the plants he recommends for alleviating various ailments are, for the most part, ones he can verify through his own experience.

About one-half of the book covers the 25-odd plants with information on where and how to find them and how they can be used. Also included are detailed

drawings of every plant by Moira Weinreich.

Jason also takes a brief look at fruit, nuts and seaweeds in the first part of the book.

As with the plants, the mushrooms described are the most common and easily-identified. And, says the author, they are the best, edible ones to be found in Canada.

Instructions on gathering, preparing and cooking mushrooms precede the individual descriptions.

Towards the end of the book, Jason touches on a few other related subjects, such as growing your own vegetables, making yogurt and inexpensive sources of protein.

For anyone unacquainted with, but interested in using wild plants, this book is probably about the best introduction around.

And anyone who is not interested in the subject should consider it next time they pay a dollar or more for a head of lettuce.

Jason says the dandelion is a good example of how far we have removed ourselves from our own food. Although many people spend a great deal of time trying to rid their lawns of this weed, it can provide us with salad greens "infinitely more nutritious and tasty".

*Your Own Food, A Forager's Guide*, by Dan Jason. 117 pp. Intermedia.

**Trail and Nature Club schedule**

Salt Spring Island Trail and Nature Club's program for June includes the following trips:

On June 5 there will be a trip to East Sooke Park, where Bob Ball will lead a hike to Babington Hill.

Nancy Keith Murray will lead a waterfront walk, members are asked to arrange their own transport if possible. Those unable to do so, can contact Bob Ball as Val Keys will be away. Meeting place, 9 am Vesuvius ferry.

On June 12 a hikers' choice led by Fred Maybee; a walk led by Mrs. Lott in the Drakes Road area. Meeting place, Centennial Park, 10 am.

On June 19 there will be a general meeting for club members in Ruckle Park at the picnic area near the point. Following the meeting Bob Kertland will lead a hike and Ruby Alton will lead a walk.

Meeting place is Centennial Park at 10 am: Drummond Park, 10.15 am.

On June 26 there will be a combined walk and hike in Arnell Park led by Tom Fraser. Meeting place is Centennial Park at 10 am.

Club members who are going on the Olympic trip on June 26, 27, and 28 will be contacted by phone regarding transportation and time of departure.

Members of the Trail and Nature Club are invited to tea at the home of Jack and Vida Webb on Sunday, June 17, 2 to 4 pm.

**Senior citizens get nod at hearing**

Saturna Island Community Plan is to be amended to provide for the construction of a senior citizens' home on Payne Road.

On Friday afternoon Saturna Island Trust Committee approved the proposal, after no objection had been raised at the public hearing to enquire into the change.

There had been some talk of acquiring adjacent property for possible future expansion. There are no funds available for such purchase, reported Jim Money.

Reaction of the hearing was hard to ascertain, commented John Gaines, because there was none."

**Car rolls**

Datsun pickup driven by Elichi Sakata of Steveston sustained damage amounting to \$2,000 in a single-vehicle accident on Galiano last week.

Driver lost control of the truck on Porlier Pass Road on May 21. It turned over.

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# Hearing looks at Saturna Island marina

## From Page One

opposed to the project.

John and Joan Robinson had sent a letter to the hearing and their views summarized the opposition.

They had acquired their Boot Cove property when they were looking for a peaceful environment, they told the hearing.

### POLLUTION

They felt that the proposal would have a detrimental effect on the ecology at the cove, particularly in terms of pollution.

Jack T. Rush cited noise and pollution of the waters.

Frank G. Copeland had no

objection and W. Graham could not accept any threat to the environment because the cove has already been used by loggers, boaters and even aircraft.

Dave Jack supported it as a measure to relieve congestion at the wharf in Lyall Harbour.

E.L. Mogg had no objection, but Bill Jarvis was still concerned about pollution and noise. Increased boat traffic in Boot Cove would destroy what most residents came to find, he asserted.

Dwight Peretz was concerned about the existing marine facilities. Residents' boats are tied up on a year-round basis at Saturna Wharf and there is no room for transients

to tie up. Neither could he see the economic viability of the project.

It would represent a big investment to serve a dozen boats, he submitted. Letter from Rafe Mair, Minister of the Environment, suggested that the lease would allow for a dozen or so.

Unnamed speaker felt that the economics were not the concern of the hearing.

### LARGER SCALE

Applicant Steeves explained that previous applications had been on a larger scale and had been turned by the departments and ministries concerned.

Present application provides for a small number of boats owned by Saturna residents and not living aboard. There will be no pollution.

"How anybody could object is beyond me," he told the hearing.

Winter moorage is year-round moorage, commented trustee John Gaines.

Gaines, general trustee, explained at the outset that he was sitting as a local trustee for the purpose of this hearing.

Ed Morgan told the hearing that there are boats tied up in Boot Cove and that human excrement floats by his beach.

Brief exchange ensued between chairman John Rich and islander Ed Morgan.

Joan Tweedie objected to the fact that her letters on the subject

had not been read to the hearing. She had not asked that they should, countered planner Dave Morris.

### "EXTRAVAGANZA"

She was objecting to this "extravaganza" and is concerned with boats, garbage and oil slicks.

Her home is in Vancouver and her property is on Saturna. How is she to know what is being done or contemplated on the island?

After some enquiry, the chairman suggested she either join a property owners' association to be posted or else she might read *Driftwood* with its reports of meetings and hearings in the islands.

Unidentified speaker was prepared, as resident and as boat owner, to put a boat in Boot Cove to be safe.

Minister had suggested a lease to permit the winter moorage of a dozen boats, but the water lease could accommodate 40, said Dr. Peretz. How would this be policed?

If the terms of the lease are not followed, it may be cancelled by the lands branch, said planner Morris. The bylaw is not definitive in respect of control by seasons, he observed.

### LIKELY TERMS

Letter from the minister to Dr. Peretz stated that the likely terms of the lease would be to accommodate about a dozen boats, the property of island residents. There

would be no sale of petroleum products.

Bob Hindmarch commented that boats can't be prevented from anchoring.

G.R. Howarth is a boat owner and has kept his vessel anchored. Although the facilities would be valuable, he would hate to see the cove ruined. He cited Browning Harbour and Bedwell Harbour as examples.

There is no good scavenging in Boot Cove, he asserted and the effluent stays there.

C.D. Heath, operator of an oyster farm, feared that the lease might destroy the amenities he now enjoys.

"If the application is approved, I shall take further steps to oppose it," he told the hearing.

### NO OBJECTION

At the subsequent committee hearing, Jim Money had no objection to the plan.

"We have no control over anchor-outs and I feel they are safer tied up."

John Gaines felt that good moorage and pollution could be incompatible. Boot Cove is a natural harbour. There is a crying need for increased moorage facilities on Saturna. He proposed that the committee give it two readings. Before it comes up again for further readings the committee will know the terms of the lease to be granted by the lands branch, he suggested.

A small marina in Boot Cove would be an asset to the island, he urged.

Gordon Wallace was prepared to favour the proposal because it conforms with the island community plan; it falls in line with the Trust marina policy, is small and limited to residents; is in the interest of the province, generally.

He would go along with Gaines as long as the lease was as outlined to Dr. Peretz.

If it's not as outlined, then the matter is an "entirely new ball game".

Chairman Rich supported the proposal to limit support to the two readings until information is forthcoming on the terms of the foreshore lease.

Jim Money asked that his vote in favour be recorded.

## Policemen are different

\* \* \*

### New officer to arrive in July

Const. Turner was in Ganges last week looking for a home on the island. Const. Turner is posted to Ganges and will join the islands RCMP detachment on July 10.

And the only difference between the new police officer and the man who is leaving, Darrell Simmonds, is that Const. Turner is Bernie Turner and Bernie is short for Berniece and Berniece is the only officer on the island who will be accompanied here by her husband.

Her arrival will follow Const. Simmonds' departure for the drug squad in Kamloops and Sgt. Ray Stelter's departure, on June 27, for Ashcroft.

Also leaving the islands is Cpl.

Terry Driscoll, who has been posted to Quesnel, leaving the Pender Islands detachment on June 28.

New officer in charge of the Pender detachment is Cpl. Harry Danyluk, who comes to the islands from Regina.

## Bicycle paths are to be examined

The Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission agreed Monday to approach the Ministry of Highways on the possibility of putting in bicycle paths alongside major thoroughfares on the island.

Jack Albhouse told his fellow members that there had been a lot of bicycles on the island last weekend and that something should be done to accommodate this traffic.

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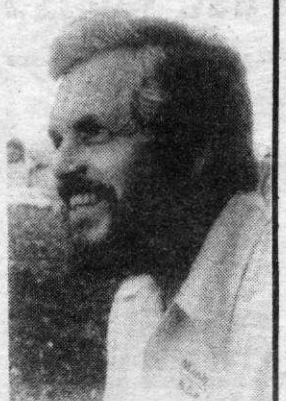
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## GARDENING WITH BRYAN SMITH

# He can grow tomatoes at \$50 each

Regular readers of *Driftwood* may or may not recall that a year ago I wrote a trifle called *Help, I'm being invaded*. In precis it portrayed my endeavours as a "would-be gardener" to combat the odds to grow my own vegetables and beat the inflation game.

In response to many requests, including my neighbour Hugh Archer's, herewith is a sequel, or rather, *The battle of the veg, 1979*.

Throughout the winter of '78 I realised that the year had failed because of inadequate planning. Admittedly, I had taken certain measures to beat Mother Nature and her allies but it required a thorough all out offensive (or is it defensive?) plan of action.

I found a book in the library which tossed aside all conventional ideas of using earth as a growing medium. The author had perfected a system using large boxes filled with either peat moss and sawdust or sawdust and sand or moss and sand or all three. The first hurdle incurred the scrounging or purchase of sand. Last year a friendly resort owner turned a blind eye whilst I loaded up enough sand to cover the pyramids of Egypt.

### DRIED MUD

This year I descended on the gravel pit out at Rainbow Road. It was difficult. The new sand seemed to be directly imported from

## Battle of the veg, 1979

Kitsilano beach in Vancouver. It was a delicate shade of dark grey resembling dried mud. However, I did find a fringe supply of good old beige sand.

Before all this I had filled two boxes with moss and sawdust. The directions clearly stated no tamping down. Into this mixture (a mere \$20 or so) I lavished \$30 worth of all the goodies as instructed in the book. Soak thoroughly with rain water and you are all set. Then it happened. I accidentally fell off the rim of the largest box. Did you ever see Mary Pickford in that silent movie up to her pretty arm pits in a swamp?

Nothing daunted I planted 12 tomato plants I had nursed from seed since February and then covered them with a home-made cloche of wood and plastic film. I rubbed my hands with glee. No more weeds, no more insects. I never bargained for Australia because that's where they must be sprouting right now!

### FOUR SURVIVED

Back to the boxes. Layers of sand now inserted and as my arm only sank up to the elbow I had myself a firmer growing medium.

In another box of this mixture I planted nothing but scarlet runner beans. Being near the sea and because a cold nor'easter sprang up one night, only four survived. Next to it is another box with good old garden soil and more beans. At the moment they are enjoying 40 winks until the weather really warms up.

Where had I gone wrong? I retrieved the book from the library and there was the author grinning at me with a 20 lb. cabbage in his arms. The next move was netting. I have an area of roughly 30 feet by 10 feet and it is sealed off completely, top and sides. An individual mesh is just over one inch by one inch.

### GOBBLED THEM ALL

To my amazement, one day a tiny yellow bird flew through the mesh and after gobbling up my entire line of peas flew off to tell his pals he had struck gold. As for the deer, I discovered that wearing a red shirt and making a noise like a gun shot works wonders. Then I read somewhere that beetroot likes salt water and so I prepared a bed of seaweed, crushed clam shells and earth. Cutworms and slugs are no longer a menace but the crabs

outnumber the plants!

I have been inundated with seed catalogues and brochures warning me for the umpteenth time it's my last chance to buy a rototiller for a mere \$1,500. Add a new-fangled, revolving bin compost for \$200 and a greenhouse for \$600 and I reckon you might succeed in growing tomatoes for a mere \$50 each!

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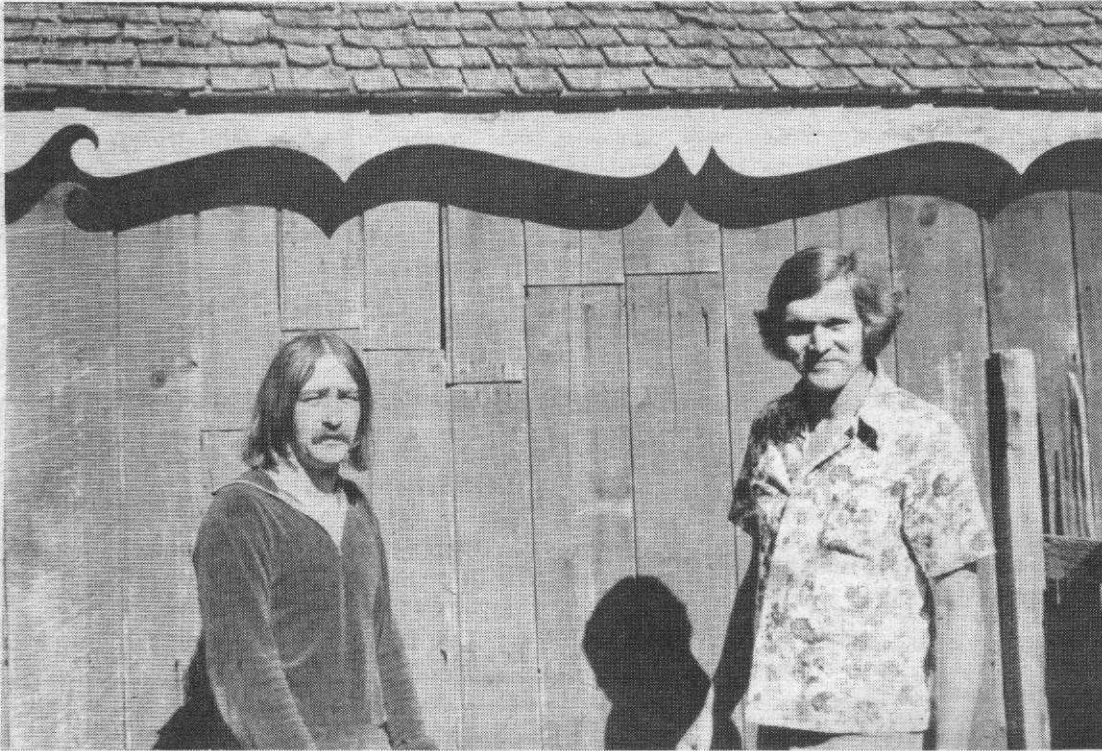
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## 'Economical way to beautify your home,' say Gingerboard Men



BY TONY RICHARDS

Want to change the appearance of your home? How about a Bavarian chalet look? Something Victorian? Or perhaps a new more modern sort of design?

If it's a change you want, you could try a new service being offered on the Gulf Islands: gingerbreading by the Gingerboard

Men, Pat Dickson and Randy Blanchette.

The two Salt Spring Islanders are providing a means of softening square corners and edges on a house with fascia boards cut in various gingerbread patterns.

Dickson, who came to Salt Spring six years ago, has been working with wood, including carv-

ing, for almost 10 years. He describes the gingerbread technique as "a good, economical way to beautify your home".

His partner, Randy Blanchette, arrived on the island at about the same time and has acquired some experience in woodworking through his father, who is a carpenter. And after working for four years at the Harbour House pub, he feels he has "learned how to serve the needs of the people of Salt Spring Island".

### LIKE IT SO MUCH

They started their new venture a couple of months ago when they did some work for island resident Colin Dowling. He liked the appearance of the new fascia board so much that he had the Gingerboard Men gingerbread his whole house, plus about three or four outbuildings.

Using a variety of different woods, including cedar, fir and pine, the two woodworkers cut out the designs with a jig saw after a design is developed and a template made.

Any kind of house can have its appearance improved with the gingerbreading, they say, and it "looks good anywhere": on verandas, eaves, or around windows and doors.

Blanchette and Dickson feel there is a trend towards old-fashioned styles these days. And gingerbreading is certainly not a new innovation.

So if you want to try a new look, talk to the Gingerboard Men. They claim they can "work magic on people's houses".

Total of forest fires in B.C. so far this year is up to 295, compared to 198 for the same period last year. Fifty-five fires were still burning late last week.

## Tenders for gravel, asphalt cold mix

Tenders have been called and will be opened on May 31 for a contract to prepare and deliver 6,975 tonnes of crushed gravel and 14,000 tonnes of asphalt cold mix to stockpiles on Salt Spring, Pender and Galiano Islands.

On Salt Spring, 4,600 tonnes of gravel are to be delivered to the highways yard north of Ganges, as well as 2,000 tonnes of gravel to the Horel pit south of Ganges.

On Pender Island the contract calls for preparation and delivery of 800 tonnes of asphalt cold mix, and on Galiano, 600 tonnes of the mix.

The materials will be used on highway maintenance and improvement on the islands.

Delivery of such materials is by barge.

## Gold pin to mark quarter century

Don Spence is a veteran of telephone service.

BC Telephone Company staffer on Salt Spring Island has served a quarter-century with the same firm. To mark his long service he has been presented with a gold pin.

He wasn't always with the BC Tel. He started out with Government Telephones and transferred his allegiance to the company in June, 1954.

That was in Quesnel and he was engaged as a groundman. In September of the same year he started an apprenticeship as lineman and 10 years later was appointed installer-repairman.

In 1968 he came south, moving from Quesnel to Duncan and in March of 1974 he came to Salt Spring Island as a combination man.

## From deer into ditch

Ford sedan driven by Terry Christianson, of Vesuvius Bay Road, on May 24 sustained damage estimated at \$300 when he skidded off the road.

Christianson reported that he was driving south on Fulford-Ganges Road when he hit a deer. He lost control of the car and skidded into the ditch.

## Driver charged

Driver was charged with failing to keep to the right side of the road when a 1968 Cortina rolled into the ditch on Isabella Point Road on May 23.

Police estimated the damage at \$1,000 to the car driven by Doug Underwood, of Fulford.

## Nothing taken

Nothing was taken when the cab of a Cubbon Lumber truck was forced during the past week. The papers in the truck had been rifled, but it was reported that nothing was missing.

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## Dr. Ronald Puhky

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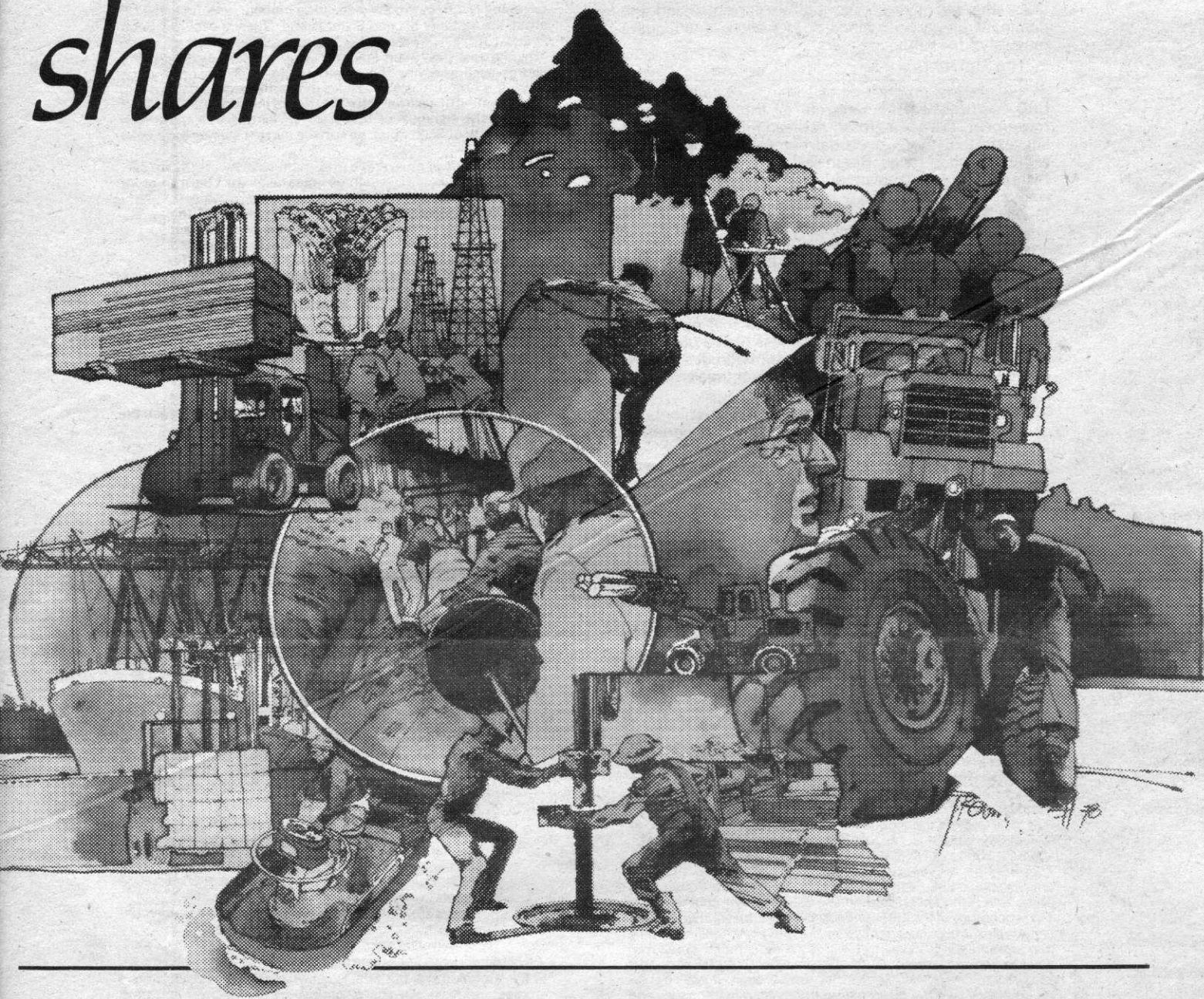
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# BRIEF regarding the GANGES SEWER OUTFALL INTO GANGES HARBOUR

Submitted to the  
**Pollution  
Control Branch**  
of the  
Government of  
British Columbia  
**Dr. Hermann Kirchmeir**  
RR3 Ganges  
Saltspring Island

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This brief is in protest against the discharge of effluent from the Ganges sewer into Ganges Harbour as proposed by the Capital Regional District.

We object to this discharge because of the fragility of the marine environment of the bay, because of the continuing massive contamination of its waters even when the plant would be in operation, because of the adverse impact of the effluent upon the marine life in Ganges Harbour, because of the continuing concomitant health risk, and because of the waste of private and public money on an ineffectual attempt to clean up Ganges Harbour through the proposed outfall.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the permit for the discharge of effluent from the Ganges sewer system not be granted
2. That the effluent shall be discharged into Trincomali Channel
3. That, as a first step towards this goal, the Capital Regional District be ordered to forthwith commission an independent feasibility study for this outfall
4. and that the best route to this outfall be explored and a cost estimate given
5. That a public hearing be held.

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12. Survival of some viruses in the sea-water samples collected from the Gulf of Gdansk, Blawat et al., Bulletin of the Institute for Marine Medicine, Gdansk, Poland, 1976
13. Driftwood, the Gulf Islands weekly newspaper; the edition of 7 March, 1979, is referred to.

In the text, the numbers between parentheses following references correspond to the numbers in this bibliography.

## I. The Marine Environment of Ganges Harbour

Ganges Harbour has a thriving marine life of — apart from its intrinsic value — great commercial and recreational importance. It is a prime spawning area for herring and a rearing area for both herring and salmon, sustaining a valuable commercial herring fishery and an all-season sportfishery for salmon as well as cod, rockfish, sole, and others. Benthos and shellfish abound: oysters are periodically harvested commercially; and mussels, oysters, other shellfish and crabs are taken year-round by residents and visitors. Boating and swimming are enjoyed in the summer. The scenic beauty of the Harbour rank it

among the great attractions of the Gulf Islands.

A. The harbour is extremely shallow. Its upper half is less than 10 m deep, and only the entrance reaches a depth of 20 m.

B. Its waters are already turbid, due to the generally muddy substrate and the rich plankton growth. Visibility in the water is, especially in summer, very low, often not more than 50 cm (2 feet) (1).

C. Extensive intertidal mudflats accompany its shores, home to shellfish and other littoral life, and a playground to old and young.

D. The harbour slopes are increasingly densely settled. The unavoidable run-off and seepage from this development feeds a considerable amount of contaminants into the bay. The existing pollution is indicated by the coliform count: excessively high figures at the head of the harbour and at Walter Bay (mid-harbour), and still ranging between 2 and 79 MPN in the outer half (3). Depressed benthos indicates the existence of an anaerobic region in the upper half.

E. The flushing is extremely poor. The irregularity of the tides, the peculiar pattern of the currents, and the dominant up-harbour winds do not allow an adequate renewal of the harbour waters.

## 1. The Currents

In the information meeting of 1 March 79 called by the CRD, a CRD officer referred to the "limited tidal movement" (14) — a grossly misleading statement, as it suggests that there is a tidal current all right though within a limited range. But in reality many tides that are theoretically due do not produce any transportation of the waters.

In mid-harbour (the proposed discharge location) the tide current runs maximally at 0.12 m/sec (3), that is 430m/hr, or in the approximately 5 hours between slack tides no more than 2 km, half the harbour length. Now, that is the maximum velocity, at the full height of the tides.

Examination of the tidal charts shows that out of the annual 730 falling tides 180 drop less than a quarter of the full height. Another 300 or so are half-tides or less. And only 160 are full ebb tides (the rest range around ¾ h.)

To these diminished ebb tides — the vast majority — corresponds a proportionately diminished transportation of the surface waters.

## 2. The Winds

No measured wind data are available for Ganges Harbour; as a make-shift those for the Victoria International Airport are used.

Since winds create surface currents of a velocity that is 3% of the wind speed, wind-drift is a decisive factor in surface water movement.

At the given maximal tidal current velocity of 430 m/hr, a wind of no more than 14 km/hr (a mere 9 miles/hour) will suffice to stall the current. Any stronger winds will reverse it.

## II. Effluent dispersal in Ganges Harbour

The spreading of a sewage cloud in the receiving water is essentially a function of the depth of the outfall and the movement of the water.

A. The depth of the proposed outfall is barely 9 meters, resulting in a short diameter of the sewage plume at the surface.

B. The movement of the water is a product of the basic currents — tidal and otherwise — and the winds.

Discharge of effluent being proposed at only ebb tides, the winds that blow towards the mouth of the bay are favorable to dispersal. Favorable winds — N, NNW, WNW — occur 18% of the time, with shearing winds — NNE, W — for another 20%. These winds are weaker (10 and ½ km/hr mean) than the unfavorable — ESE, SE, SSE, S — which also blow more often, 29% of the time, with shearing winds — E, SSW — for another 9%. The topography of the harbour causes all the unfavorable winds to be funneled and consequently compressed and intensified, while the favorable winds travelling towards the wider mouth spread out and lessen in force. Local observation corroborates this calculation: residents know that up-harbour winds by far predominate over the down-harbour ones both in frequency and force.

To this is added the effect of the inherent bay configuration. The favorable winds have a run over the water for just the length of the harbour, and thus can only begin to build up a surface current outwards or support it. The unfavorable winds reach the mouth of the bay after a free sweep of 35 km up from the San Juan Islands and drive the water with great force into the harbour.

It must be pointed out that the assertion in the Simon report that "during low range tides the effect of winds from the SSE, SE, ESE directions would predominate over the effects of the surface currents" is greatly misleading, by dint of omission:

Even at the highest-range tides a contrary wind of only 14 km/hr will stall the tidal current, that being the annual mean windspeed for these directions; and all winds above this mean speed turn the strongest tidal currents back into the bay.

**The unfavorable winds up-harbour greatly prevail over the favorable in force and duration. They slow down ebb tide currents, completely stall at least 1/3 of them, and very often reverse them.**

The Simon report, significantly, attempts to turn vice into virtue: "when combined with an ebbing tide, these winds would probably produce higher ebbing current velocities in the lower layers running counter to the wind driven surface currents. This shearing action would tend to increase the initial plume dilution..."

Unfortunately, the attempt aborts. All that this "shearing action" results in is merely a more elongated sewer cloud — travelling at speed into the inner harbour.

**Thus, the proposed discharge at only ebb tide would not remedy the disastrously poor flushing.**

## III. The Continuing Contamination

### A. Head of the harbour

Because the proposed system is to collect sewage only from downtown Ganges, the quite densely settled area contiguous to it will continue to contaminate the bay waters through run-off and seepage. According to CRD engineer Howard (13) it will continue to do so to such a degree that "there would be a dramatic improvement if everybody hooked up to the system."

In other words, Ganges will continue to unload a dramatic amount

of polluting matter into the bay.

## B. Outer Harbour

After secondary treatment the effluent will contain 15 mg/l suspended solids  
15 mg/l BOD  
the greater part of the nutrients  
those pathogens that have passed through unscathed, and  
the host of persistent chemicals.

At the proposed outfall site, the retention ratio has been calculated to range from 0.26 at a mean maximum tide range of 2.5 m to an appalling 0.41 at a mean maximum tide range of 1.5 m. (3)

To assess the reliability of these figures, it must be emphasized that they are the outcome of a chain of calculations that pile assumption upon assumption, and also that these calculations are based upon wind data that are borrowed from Victoria Int'l Airport and much too low for Ganges Harbour.

But even if the ebbing were satisfactory, it would be of little avail:

"the most prominent current pattern is near the harbour mouth. It consists of a large clockwise gyre" which is present "over most of the tidal cycle."

sweeping NW from the SW side of the harbour, around to the NE coast, the SE tip of Second Sister Island. "thence east past Scott Point." (3)

"Thence east past Scott Point" is again a blatant half-truth. The figures accompanying the assertion, No. 2, 3, 4, and 5, upon which it is based, all show besides the partial escape pattern also the beginning of a partial return pattern of the eddy into the bay. It is of decisive significance that precisely for this area, the crucial sector south of Scott Point, no surface current studies have been made.

The eddy swirls at an average maximum velocity of 0.31 m/sec, that is a full 1½ km/hr, over three times faster than the maximum ebb flow.

**Consequently, a portion of the quantity of the effluent — and considering the predominant winds, a substantial portion — that is transported down-harbour, will be speedily returned to the Harbour and the contaminants will accumulate to a much greater extent than that given in the report.**

## IV. The Health Risk

This increasing pollution of the waters of the bay constitutes a permanent health hazard, whose magnitude depends upon the kinds and amounts of the pathogens and noxious chemicals carried by the effluent.

### A. The Pathogens

Which, and how many, will survive the treatment and reach the sea?

Enough to cause the health officer of the CRD, Dr. Arneil, to veto the disposal of the effluent on the land. At the information meeting on 1 March 79 he "spoke at length on the subject of land disposal" and its possible health hazards, warning that "bacteria still living in the sewage" could spread to people living near a spray irrigation site: "Salmonella, which is quite common here, will live from 15 days to 9 months, roundworms up to 7 years after being sprayed onto the soil." He was rightly concerned about the dangers disposal.

Strangely enough in view of the fact that discharge into the sea is envisaged, Dr. Arneil did not speak at length, if at all, about the much greater concern of pathogen survival in the sea.

The Simon report posits 24 hours for T<sub>90</sub>, the 90% reduction of pathogens in the sea water, assuring us that this is a "conservative value."

Hardly so.

The phenomenon of microbial survival in the sea is extremely complex. Many factors affect it, and their fluctuations cause an enormous range in survival times. The main factors are:

1. Nutrients: the autochthonous as well as the allochthonous, the latter chiefly contributed by run-off and seepage and massively by sewage discharge into the sea
2. the biotic components: algae, protozoa, microbes as competitors for the nutrients, and as excretors of their metabolites
3. insolation, particularly the ultraviolet component, which penetrates maximally only 20 cm (8")
4. turbidity, which reduces even more that short-distance penetration
5. temperature of the water: the lower this, the longer the survival
6. heavy-metal salts and the concentration of toxic ions.

Very little work has been done in this respect on the coastal waters of British Columbia, but what is known from these Pacific waters studies and from elsewhere compels us to exercise the utmost caution. Too many errors in the matter of the impact of human activities upon the environment and man himself have been made up to the present by the authorities. The damage done — under government negligence or licence — by DDT, PCBs, or mercury stands only as representative for the still spreading deterioration. And we are finally becoming aware of the fact that we can no longer afford to err on the side of harm.

The wide range of survival times for pathogens in the sea is documented by an impressive array of studies extending over a span of more than two centuries and many countries. Wherever and whenever researchers have looked into this problem, they have found that the sea is not a reliable killer of disease-carrying bacteria, viruses, or other organisms. Among the results of their work are the

Coliform survival has been reported for Puget Sound at an average rate of 22% in one day, but the individual results of the series of experiments were extremely inconsistent (4). Elsewhere, 8% survived for 2 days (5) 10% for 1.9 days in the summer 10% for 4 days in the winter (6) 22% for 2 days (5).

A 1% survival for 17 days has also been reported.

The cholera vibrio survived for 4 days (7)

Salmonella typhosa for 9 days (7)

Paratyphoid for 21 days (8)

R+ E. coli — the strains that have developed resistance to antibiotics — survive at the same rate as the non-resistant. This is of the gravest concern, as they are capable of transferring their resistance to other bacteria, and particularly those that are resistant to more than one antibiotic (some of them to as many as eight), and again those that are resistant to ampicillin, which is a broad-spectrum antibiotic. Medical science has no remedy for these new and most vicious strains, many of them causing serious and often fatal diseases.

Viruses persist for even longer times in sea water.

The polio virus lived at a rate of 10% after 58 hours (10), and at a rate of 1% after 72 days at 4° (11)

the adenovirus lived in 1.5° to 23° C water for 50 days

the vaccinia virus at the same temperature for 35 days (12).

Pathogens in sea water infect man either through direct contact

(swimming, wading, boating, spindrift), or via sea life collected and eaten (fish, crabs, shellfish, shrimps, etc).

Shellfish in particular accumulate pathogens suspended in the sea and become important carriers of disease. Hepatitis of nearepidemic proportions has been traced to contaminated shellfish.

The source of almost all these pathogens surviving in sea water ultimately is human waste.

**B. Toxic Chemicals**

may pass through secondary treatment unaffected, and a significant number of them persist in the sea, pesticides, herbicides, chlorinated hydrocarbons, PCBs, and heavy-metal salts being some of the most noxious.

Like the pathogens, many of them are absorbed and stored by aquatic organisms, which take them directly from the water with their food, or receive them in already concentrated form in the lower organisms they feed on. Some of these higher life forms, especially again shellfish, accumulate the toxic products to concentrations of stunning proportions of up to 100,000:1. This fact refutes the argument that the extremely high dilutions in which the poisonous substances eventually end up in the sea nullify their effectiveness. For the damage done by so many of the non-biodegradable toxic substances, DDT stands representatively as a classroom example. All forms of life in the food chain from plankton to man are adversely affected by this increasing cumulative acquisition of poisons. That many of them are carcinogenic hardly needs mentioning any more.

Accordingly, bathing in sewage-polluted sea waters carries with it a health risk, in spite of the enormous dilution of the contaminants, and so does the eating of sea food taken from these waters.

**IF LAND DISPOSAL IS VETOED, THEN DISCHARGE INTO GANGES HARBOUR MUST BE EVEN MORE SO.**

**V. The Outcome**

If the CRD proposal to sewer downtown Ganges - and that, and only that, is what the 2.7 million dollars are budgeted for - were to be accepted, then the following situation would result:

1. The pollution of the inner harbour would be reduced, but no more than to leave a "dramatic" amount of contaminants still reaching it.
2. That amount of the contaminants which would pass through the treatment unaffected would be transferred into the outer harbour.
3. From there, during most of the flood tides and at least a third of the ebb tides adverse winds would drive the effluent back up into the inner harbour.
4. That portion of the effluent that reaches the mouth of the harbour would be drawn into the giant eddy, which would return a substantial, and possibly the greater, part of it to the harbour.
5. Thus the retention rate would be intolerably high, long-living pathogens and persistent toxic chemicals would accumulate in the bay, resulting in an unacceptable health risk.
6. The downtown parcels of land not built over would be free for application for development permits, to the exclusion of their owners' competitors in the unsewered area.

**VI. The alternative:**

**Discharge into Trincomali Channel**

At the CRD's information meeting in May 78 my request to plan discharge into Trincomali Channel was dismissed ex-cathedra: "That would cost a fortune" - with no documentation proffered - for the simple reason that there is none.

Recently, the North Saltspring Water District completed the laying of a 1 1/3 km length of 20-cm. pipe, including rockwork, at a cost of \$18.50/foot, equalling about \$58/m, which would amount to \$300,000 - \$400,000 dollars for the overland route of 4.5 km required to reach the Channel. There an outfall of less than a kilometer will reach a depth of 20 - 30 m. The presently proposed pump plant would have to be upgraded, at no exorbitant cost, to overcome the head of approximately 70 m. of the route. In every respect - depth of outfall, size of body of water, marine life, speed of tidal currents, resulting flushing and effluent dispersal, recreational use of the waters, and settlement of shores, - the odds are overwhelmingly in favor of Trincomali Channel as compared with Ganges Harbour:

GANGES HARBOUR	TRINCOMALI CHANNEL
DEPTH OF OUTFALL	8 m 20 - 30 m
WIDTH OF CHANNEL	1 - 1 1/2 km 4 km
DEPTH OF CHANNEL	20 m. max. over 100 m.
LENGTH OF CHANNEL	4 km. practically unlimited.
BODY OF WATER	INSUFFICIENT HUGE
MARINE LIFE	VALUABLE BY FAR NOT RESOURCE SO MUCH
SPEED OF TIDAL CURRENTS	430 m/hr. 1800-5400m/hr.
RESULTING FLUSHING & EFFLUENT DISPERSAL	HIGHLY INADEQUATE MORE THAN ADEQUATE
RECREATIONAL USE	HIGH LOW
SHORE SETTLEMENT	INCREASINGLY VERY LOW DENSE

That sewerage promotes growth is a universal experience. The intense development that is certain to follow the sewerage of downtown Ganges will within a very few years exceed the capacity of the proposed system, whose effluents would reach the harbour in addition to the already existing run-off and seepage into Ganges Harbour.

Not only the collection and treatment system proposed, but also the environmental acceptability - contested in this brief - is predicated upon the maximum capacity of 450,000 liters (90,000 gall.) per day. When that capacity is reached, it will no doubt be over-run, until finally the overloading of the harbour will compel a new solution. Land disposal being banned, this solution will perforce be the Trincomali Channel. The money by then spent on the Ganges Harbour outfall would have been wasted. (Upgrading of the treatment and/or extension of the outfall would not improve matters satisfactorily, not to speak of the additional cost of installation and operation).

The prime objective of the Islands Trust Act is to protect the environment and amenities of the Gulf Islands. In order to assure this protection, the Islands, because of their unique nature and great vulnerability, need environmental standards that are higher than those commonly applied.

The facts here adduced make the proposed outfall into Ganges Harbour unacceptable. With the still generally existing unknowns about the impact of sewage effluent upon the marine environment and with the given nature of the Harbour, we must opt for the far safer disposal into Trincomali Channel now, at the outset of installing a sewer system in Ganges.

**VII. We Recommend Therefore**

1. that the Capital Regional District be ordered to forthwith commission an independent feasibility study of an outfall into Trincomali Channel and a route to reach it.
2. that the permit for an outfall into Ganges Harbour be not granted.

Respectfully, Dr. Hermann Kirchmeir

# The Capital Regional District responds

Dr. Hermann Kirchmeir, R.R. No. 3, Ganges Harbour, Saltspring Island, B.C.

Dear Dr. Kirchmeir:

A copy of your well reasoned and researched brief has been received from the Pollution Control Branch. Our reply is presented below:

It is noted that, in your opinion, flushing of the effluent from Ganges Harbour is likely to be inadequate by virtue of the small tidal movement and prevailing up-harbour winds. We would like to point out that all the sewage for which treatment is proposed is presently appearing untreated in Ganges Harbour, and has been doing so for a considerable period, yet the Harbour, as a whole, has generally not turned into a stinking cesspool, devoid of all life. The treatment proposed will reduce the quantity of deleterious material reaching the water, which should improve the less than ideal situation which presently makes such areas as the boat basin so unpleasant.

With respect to wind, you criticize the Simons Report for alleged assumptions, yet immediately follow this criticism by making your own assumption (not supported by data) that "these calculations are based upon wind data that are borrowed from Victoria International Airport and much too low for Ganges Harbour". We would be pleased to know the source of the wind data used in Section IIB of your brief. Wind data for Ganges Harbour would not be significantly different from Victoria International Airport in the wind speed range that would affect the surface current flows. Furthermore, the winds at the Airport are recorded several metres above ground which would give conservative results when applied to water level at Ganges. It is a well established pattern that sea breezes are predominant in summer afternoons (when the public is out on the water) and land breezes are predominant earlier in the morning and late at night (when most people are indoors) and hence accounts for observations of "residents" which you mention in Section II B of your brief.

In spite of the "longer duration, higher intensity" of up-harbour winds you allege, the projected rate of effluent discharge is not high enough to produce unacceptable accumulation of effluent within the embayed area of the Harbour.

Furthermore, it must be remembered that discharge from the outfall diffuser will be at the Harbour floor, and will be so arranged that the effluent will be intimately mixed with the surrounding sea water, and will not appear as a plume at the surface. This being the case, onshore winds are beneficial. The reasoning behind this statement is as follows: The onshore wind drives the surface water towards the head of the Harbour. Since WATER DOES NOT PILE UP, AN EQUAL VOLUME OF WATER MUST BE MOVING SEAWARD below the surface as a return current. This will tend to carry any material in the subsurface water out to sea, where it will be caught up in the gyre off the harbour mouth and mixed with an extremely large body of water.

**Retention Ratios**

You mention under Section IIIB of your brief, the retention ratios of 0.26 and 0.41. The significance of these numbers may not have been made adequately clear. What is meant here is that the maximum retention for any one tidal cycle will not exceed 41 percent and, in fact, is usually less than this figure, falling to a minimum of 26 percent. It must be stressed that these percentage retention ratios are NOT cumulative, and the 0.41 ratio is the maximum that can occur. Thus, at worst, of the sewage injected into the Harbour on any one TIDE, (and there are usually two tides per day), only 41 percent could remain by the next TIDE; only 17 percent (41 percent of 41 percent) approximately by the TIDE after that; only 7 percent (41 percent of 17 percent) approximately by the following TIDE and so on. Thus at the end of four or five tides, almost all of the sewage injected on the first tide would have left the Harbour. Clearly, the rate of loss of sewage from the Harbour is actually very high and not cumulative, which probably accounts for the Harbour's present relatively good biological health, except for areas at present grossly contaminated.

These retention ratios, referred to above, are based on the dy studies of September and November 1978, one of which covered a period when TIDE RANGES WERE AT A MONTHLY LOW AND WINDS WERE PREDOMINANTLY UP-HARBOUR. Records from Victoria International Airport yielded a total distance of 109.4 KILOMETRES FOR UP-HARBOUR COMPONENTS OF THE WIND and 62.4 KILOMETRES FOR DOWN-HARBOUR COMPONENTS OF THE WIND during the study.

Analysis of dye concentrations measured during the study and upward adjustments of the measured concentrations to allow for the proposed diffuser location and for deviation of spot concentrations from mean concentrations, did not produce unacceptable concentrations. Since the adjustments to the mean concentrations were based on the observed variations during the dye studies when adverse winds were blowing into the Harbour, the effects of the wind are included in the adjustments. Using the period of lowest tidal range for a year's recorded data, the dilution level at the head of the Harbour did not fall below 44:1. This level would rapidly increase again after a day or two because the tide range increases rapidly after that time, causing increased flushing and dilution.

It is our contention that your statement that "contaminants will accumulate to much greater extent than that given in the report" is just not supported by the field dye study measurements or the meteorological records.

Under Section IIIA, you point out that areas not on the collection system will continue to pollute the Harbour. Unfortunately, this is true, and will continue to be true until such time as the whole island can be hooked up to treatment plants. However, as the cost per hookup is low for urban areas and high for areas with more

dispersed populations, and as at present it would be economically unfeasible to hook up the whole island, a cutoff point has to be decided on. Even though there can be a great deal of argument about which areas shall be included and which excluded, it is an unarguable fact that some areas will not be hooked up at present. If these areas contain faulty septic systems, they will go on polluting, not only the Harbour, but also the land across which they drain. Some concern should be given to identifying the faulty systems which are causing the problems and having these systems repaired.

**Current Studies**

Under Section IIIB you refer to the current studies. Here again, the relevance of the movement of surface water is moot, since the sewage will be entrained in the subsurface water. Nonetheless, you are probably aware that in any research project, cost is a governing factor, and hindsight is always better than foresight. It is a well known saying among researchers that the right way to undertake a project is only known after completing the work. The current study done by Dobrocky Seatech was one of the most comprehensive and thorough that could be done with the budgetary restraints that existed. There is no doubt that they could have spent a lot more public money and done an even better job, but again, the expenditures must be cut off somewhere.

A common practice in current studies, where nothing is known of the area, is to lay out a regular grid of study points. Where there is some pre-existing knowledge of water movement in the area, as in the Harbour, the regularity of this grid can be appropriately modified by an experienced hydrologist. However, even with this advantage, no study can be perfect. Also, where a study must of necessity be done at separate points, the effects expected at intervening points must be arrived at by interpolation, as can be done for the Harbour on the basis of the Dobrocky study. Your prediction that contaminants will accumulate may be further studied if visualization of what is happening in the water of the Harbour is attempted.

As sea water moves past the outfall, a volume of sewage is injected into it. This volume will displace the same volume of water, and since water does not pile up, it is displaced seaward. However, since we are dealing with extremely tiny relative volumes of sewage, this effect can be ignored. Therefore, we need only consider the mass movement of the sea water with its entrained sewage. The water moves around the Harbour, driven by tidal movements, the wind, the shear of the gyre outside the Harbour, and by other forces. All these forces tend to mix the sea water with its sewage with other water, thus diluting the sewage until, over time, that volume of water is evenly dispersed throughout the entire body of water surrounding Salt Spring Island and, eventually, throughout the entire Pacific Ocean. In the meantime, the sewage entrained in the water is undergoing changes. Particulate matter is eaten by detritus feeders, primarily, since very few living organisms can survive the passage of the treatment plant. Nutrients are assimilated by phytoplankton and macrophytes, from which they make their way up through the food web, with each level in the web making a contribution of feces and debris to the detritus feeders. In short, the sewage disappears into the natural biological system. Since the input of material from the sewage is extremely tiny, relative to the normal inputs from the biological systems of the sea, and from other external sources, the effect of this sewage input, even in such a small area as Ganges Harbour, especially considering the short retention time in the Harbour, is negligible.

It might be instructive to quantify the relative amounts of material we are dealing with. The volume of sewage being considered is 90,000 Imperial gallons per day, or about 408 cubic metres. The approximate volume of Ganges Harbour, from the head of the Harbour to the 2125 metre section where the outfall is planned to be sited, is 19,800,000 cubic metres (from Table I in the Simons Report). Allowing an average tidal change of two metres, 4,400,000 cubic metres of water move into and out of that inner half of the Harbour with each tidal change. It is apparent that the dilution of the 408 cubic metres of effluent is enormous.

Under Section IIA, you refer to a sewage plume at the surface. As mentioned above, the sewage would be dispersed throughout the water volume and thus would not appear at the surface as a plume. This obviates the argument you make under Section IIB. Up-harbour winds will effectively disperse the sewage through the action of the down-harbour subsurface return current.

**Sea Water is More Effective**

In Section IV A you quote Dr. Arneil's concern with the survival time of pathogens on land, noting periods of 15 days to 9 months for Salmonella, and up to 7 years for roundworms. You also make reference to various studies on survival times of coliforms and pathogens, all of which report survival times in days. The longest reported survival time in your figures is 21 days for paratyphoid, though in this case, you do not state to what extent the bacilli were reduced. Surely a comparison of these durations should suffice to indicate that sea water is much more effective at reducing the number of pathogens than is land spraying. You also do not consider that the whole purpose of the sewage treatment plant is to reduce pollutants and kill pathogens. It is widely accepted that the methodology proposed for this plant is as close to 100 percent effective at killing bacteria as can be attained. It should be noted that the sewage effluent from the proposed plant, while not up to the standards of local drinking water, is actually better than the quality of rivers used for drinking water in many parts of North America and Europe.

With respect to the possible presence of pathogens which might survive the treatment, you should also consider the concept of the minimum effective dose. It is well established that to contract a disease, a person must be exposed to considerable numbers of the appropriate pathogen, and that the presence of a single organism is not usually sufficient to establish the disease. Considering the dilution calculated above, it is apparent that a person would need to drink, or otherwise come into intimate contact with many thousands of gallons of sea water to achieve contact with sufficient pathogens to do the person any harm. This presupposes that such pathogens could pass through the treatment plant unharmed, and not be eaten by any of the billions of tiny animals feeding on bacteria and other small organisms which live in the plankton.

In this context, it is accepted that bacterial contamination of shellfish is a serious health problem. This is why Ganges Harbour is presently closed to shell fish harvesting, and why it will remain closed in the foreseeable future. However, it will remain closed, not because there will be a treatment plant cleaning up part of the sewage that presently finds its way into the Harbour, but because the plant will not be able to deal with all the sources of contamination that are present in the surrounding Harbour area.

**Toxic Chemicals**

In Section IV B you deal with toxic chemicals. The usual sources of heavy metals and PCBs are industrial. Since Salt Spring Island does not have any industry that we are aware of which would likely be producing these wastes, we do not feel that concern about them is warranted. The other substances you mention are mainly agricultural chemicals. Since seepage from farms and gardens is not usually treated in sewage plants, it is not logical to condemn

(Continued on Page Fourteen)

## TREATMENT PLANTS (Cont'd.)

(From Page Thirteen)

such plants for failing to remove these products. It also seems irresponsible to condemn sewage treatment plants for failing to remove such chemicals since, for the most part, the only effective way to remove them is to evaporate the water from the sewage. Even this is not effective where the chemicals are volatile. While distillation may be practical from small volumes of water, the energy required to evaporate 90,000 Imperial gallons of sewage a day is somewhat excessive. The only effective way of dealing with these chemicals is the THE PUBLIC NOT TO USE THEM. We face this unhappy fact whether we discharge to the land as is now practised, to the Harbour, Trincomali Channel or elsewhere in the environment.

### Estimates Were Carried Out

With respect to your suggestion that the point of discharge be Trincomali Channel, cost estimates were carried out before the Ganges Harbour proposal was selected. These costs have been further refined with the assistance of Contractors' and Consultants.

The components of a system to Trincomali Channel would be a forcemain at a cost of \$800,000; an outfall at \$650,000; a treatment plant and pump station at \$438,000 and \$100,000 for oceanographic and environmental studies, for a total of \$1,988,000. This compares with the estimate of \$394,000 for treatment plant and pump station and \$600,000 for the outfall for a total of \$994,000 for the proposal to Ganges Harbour. Clearly, an extra expenditure of public funds amounting to almost \$1,000,000 is involved in implementing the Trincomali Channel alternative.

Discharge to Sansum Narrows was also considered and cost estimates for this alternative indicated an additional expenditure of \$500,000 over the Ganges Harbour proposal.

Costs associated with the Trincomali and Sansum Narrows alternatives are high because of the rocky terrain, long and inaccessible forcemain routes, outfall construction problems due to high currents and steep cliff slopes.

A further solution, namely extending the length of the proposed outfall into Ganges Harbour to a point beyond Second Sister Island was also considered. The additional cost of this arrangement was estimated to be \$1,250,000. However the benefit associated with it is extremely doubtful. There is no doubt that the treated effluent from the proposed plant could be upgraded for far less money than that outlined for the above alternatives.

Commenting on your statements in Section V, you say:

1. That pollution of the Inner Harbour would not be entirely remedied. True. However, proper maintenance of septic tanks and fields, and strict enforcement of existing laws regarding provision and maintenance of marine toilets on pleasure and fishing craft will go far to eliminate the problem that remains after the sewage plant goes into operation.
2. That contaminants will be transferred to the Outer Harbour. True - as are two corollaries, (a) that such transference already occurs, as is indicated by the fact that, with local exceptions, such as the boat basin, the Inner Harbour is not yet grossly polluted, and (b) that transferring such contaminants to the Outer Harbour where they are more readily accessible for dispersion to, and dilution in the larger waters outside the Harbour, is the whole point of exercise.
3. That adverse winds would drive the effluent back up the Harbour. It has been mentioned above that this is not likely to occur. However, even if it were to occur, the quality of the effluent is so high, and the dilution of this effluent is so great that there would be no visible, or even measurable adverse effect.
4. That the gyre off the Harbour mouth would return a substantial part of the effluent. Due to the dilution effects produced within the gyre, again, should such a return occur, no measurable effect would be found.
5. That pathogens and toxic chemicals would accumulate. Since there is, at present, little evidence of such accumulation, and because of the rate of exchange between the Harbour and the waters surrounding it, it is believed that this will not constitute a problem.
6. That discriminatory development practices would ensue. The problems facing real estate development as to who shall receive sewerage and who shall not is one to be settled by the local ratepayers. It is not relevant to the questions as to whether there should be sewage treatment, or where the outfall should go.

In Section VI you proceed to advance the idea of dumping the effluent into Trincomali Channel.

In the initial stages of consideration of the Ganges Sewage Treatment Plant, three alternatives were considered, Trincomali Channel, Sansum Narrows, and the Harbour. After considering construction and operating costs, problems of maintenance of equipment, and benefits to be gained, Ganges Harbour was selected as providing adequate and suitable disposal facilities, with minimal risk to health, damage to the biota, and aesthetics. In conclusion, it is apparent that an additional one million dollars of public funds would be involved in implementing your Trincomali Channel proposal over Ganges Harbour - an expenditure for which there is no appreciable gain.

Yours very truly,  
N. Howard, P. Eng.  
Chief Engineer,  
Capital Regional District

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## Citizenship Day

# Awards presented at two schools

BY D.E. JAMES

Citizenship Day at the Gulf Islands schools was observed on two days this year. Members of the H.M.S. Ganges Chapter IODE sponsored ceremonies at Salt Spring Elementary School on May 17 and at the Secondary School on May 18.

The program on the 17th opened with the *Lord's Prayer* and *O Canada* followed by a brief introduction by Tom Watson, principal of the elementary school.

The guest speaker, Frank Richards, gave an arresting portrayal of the stupidity of prejudice.

Mrs. A. St. Denis presented *Men of British Columbia* by Derek Pethick; this was accepted on behalf of the school library by Allison Albhouse.



An award for the high school library is presented to Ed Rithaler, school librarian, by Jessie Sayer. Part of the annual Citizenship Day ceremonies of HMS Chapter, Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire is to provide a library book every year for island schools. Ceremony took place at Gulf Islands Secondary School recently. Top picture shows the presentation. On the left, Chris Lake is presenting Francie Byron with a special students' award for her father, staff teacher Mike Byron.

Bottom picture shows Deirdre Leighton, left, receiving her Art award from Cathy Ogilvie. Mrs. Ogilvie, as Cathy Fraser, received the same award some years ago.

Mrs. J.W. Mayo presented *Men of the Saddle* by Ted Grant and Andy Russell to the Fernwood School library; it was accepted by Peter Andress.

The IODE assembly on the following day began with the introduction by R.D. McWhirter.

### EXCELLENT BAND

Selections by the excellent school band, directed by Mr. Davies, drew enthusiastic applause. This group won two awards at the Vancouver Island Festival and a trip to Portland is anticipated soon.

The regent, Mrs. E.J. Searles, described the aims of the IODE and some projects accomplished.

On behalf of the chapter, Mrs. P.G. James presented a cheque for the Band Scholarship won by Guy Elford.

The Art Prize was presented to Deirdre Leighton by Mrs. Martin Ogilvie.

Mr. E. Rithaler accepted the book for the school library from Mrs. R.L. Sayer.

The guest speaker, Frank Richards, whose subject was unity, wittily recalled experiences from his own life as illustrations, ending with the reminder that no part of Canada can exist without the rest - we must all hold together.

### TOKEN OF UNITY

Fred Brookbanks, on behalf of the Lions Club, presented Susan Prentice with a scholarship, and called attention to how a smile can be a token of unity all over the world.



A delicious tea was served in the art room, where guests enjoyed the wide range of clever art displayed by the students.

The next IODE meeting will be the annual luncheon June 8 at Harbour House to make final plans for the annual Garden Coffee Party, June 27, at the St. Mary Lake home of Mrs. George St. Denis. The theme will be the Year of the Child.

It is this effort which enables the chapter to achieve its aims through the generosity of island residents.

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Quick survey of opinion

Islands Trust no regional district urges Thompson

Don't make the islands a regional district.

At a recent general trust meeting, Galiano Island Trustee Ron Thompson told his colleagues that the Islands Trust would not be effective as a regional district.

Thompson was one of the members of the Regional district review committee which took a close look at the urban administration in British Columbia.

Communications among the islands are difficult and slow, explained the trustee. He looked at the possibility while the committee was examining the provincial picture and the committee was not convinced that it would be an effective means of administering

the islands.

He cautioned that any such measure should only be taken if it would make for a better job or as good a job more cheaply.

"I don't believe in making the Trust a regional district," he stated flatly.

BUD KREISSL

Question was raised by Bud Kreissl, of Salt Spring Island. He recalled some problems he had experienced in communicating with the island regional director.

He suggested that the islands might be better administered as a self-contained regional district and he recalled that when the question was raised with the people of Salt Spring Island they voted 2-1 to show preference for the Islands Trust as against the Capital Regional District.

The regional district is urban-orientated, suggested the Salt Spring trustee.

"In some instances," he added, "the regional directors have been more concerned with enjoying the limelight than with getting things done."

He referred to the report of the

committee on regional districts and its constant reference to the distinction between urban and rural demands on the regions.

The regional district provides building inspection and health services to the islands, said Kreissl. The Trust as a regional district could better direct the flow of tax moneys to the islanders' needs.

NOT URBAN PRESSURE

The Trust is not directed by urban-dominated interests, he urged.

Islanders are different by choice, Kreissl told his colleagues, and have more in common with each other than the remainder of the regional district.

One trustee saw an Islands regional district as very large and no more wieldy than other large districts.

Gordon Wallace, of Pender, didn't agree that such a change would have much effect. It wouldn't be any larger than it is now, he suggested.

The Trust committee will give further consideration to the future administration of the islands.

Island students first and second



Two students at Gulf Islands Secondary School have been awarded the top prizes in the poster contest of the Canadian Forestry Association of BC.

They are Tracy Stibbards and Sheralin Cook, both of Ganges.

Having won first and second prizes, respectively, in the provincial contest, the two girls are now eligible for the national contest

awards.

Contest is an annual event and is now in its 29th year.

The theme of this year's contest was *The Giving Forest*.

Winning entries have already been sent to Ottawa for the national awards. They will subsequently be sent to Spokane for entry in the Western International poster contest.

Analysis

(From Page Six)

government.

Some difficult questions would have to be resolved. Should the functions of such an expanded Trust be limited to only those where co-operative action is deemed essential, with local questions being left to the local trustees to solve or should there be provision for the Trust to take on these local problems if and when requested? WHAT REACTION?

How would the provincial government react to this proposal? Could it be persuaded to consider such a concept as a worthwhile experiment in local government that, if successful, could be used elsewhere to advantage?

Would there be sufficient enthusiasm amongst the islanders to induce the people with expert knowledge and experience to contribute voluntarily to the efforts of the Trust?

There is such a vast pool of top grade successful people with time on their hands now resident on the islands it seems a shame not to tap it.

Then, finally, would the people of the islands support such a concept, throw their considerable weight behind it enthusiastically or would there be a breakdown into warring factions ending in chaos? Or worse still, would the whole idea die away from lack of interest? In what way could these possible negative results be avoided? These are questions that must be answered.

IT IS ACCEPTED

It is generally accepted in all English-speaking nations that laws must stem from those governed. In the microcosm of the Gulf Islands this should be as true as at other higher levels.

If Gulf Islanders are incapable of draughting legislation acceptable to themselves and the provincial government, there must be grave doubt as to their ability to manage their own affairs. And if they cannot, it is inevitable that others will.

They will be forced to endure the dictates of those unfamiliar with or unsympathetic to their needs, hopes and aspirations.

If this paper prompts open discussion it will have served its purpose. If it is greeted with enthusiasm, maybe the door has opened on a new era for the Gulf Islands.

Clam Bake SATURDAY - JUNE 9

SALT SPRING SEA CAPERS

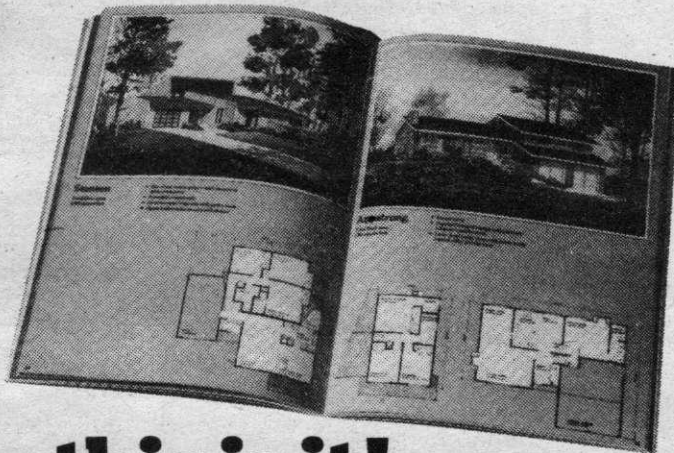
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## Beth Hill to speak to historians

The regular meeting of the Gulf Islands Branch of the B.C. Historical Association will be held at the Community Hall, Saturna Island at 1.30 pm Sunday, June 10.

The speaker will be Beth Hill of Salt Spring Island who will speak on her book, *The Search For Frances Barkley* and will also show slides.

## Fernwood School enters its first track meet

BY TOM WRIGHT

Fernwood Elementary School entered 48 athletes aged from eight to 14 years in the Vancouver Island Invitational Track Meet held Friday evening and Saturday at the University of Victoria stadium.

The team impressed its supporters with its enthusiasm and good showing. For a small school the results were very impressive as was the team's sportsmanship and effort. A full list of results will hopefully appear in next week's paper if they are received from the organizers. Of special mention was our young 10-year-old lady shot putter Elizabeth Gay, who finished second of all competitors, and Phillip Kitchen, second place finisher in senior boys high jump. Also of note is the fact that as team co-captains Phillip Kitchen and Tony Hedger picked up eight ribbons between them.

### EXCELLENT PERFORMANCES

Other excellent performances were registered by Leona Irwin with ribbons in senior girls shot put and 200 metres and Lynne Spittle's ribbons in 11-year-old girls shot put and long jump. Elizabeth Gay also picked up a ribbon in the high jump.

However, the entire team is to be commended for the way in which they competed throughout the day often in the face of adverse weather conditions which ranged from heavy rain to bright sun and strong winds.

The team was accompanied by coaches Alan Marsh, Jim Prendergast and Donna McWhirter and by many parent supporters. A special thank you from the Fernwood Flyers to Mrs. Quesnel, Mrs. Wiebe, Mr. Nordine and Mr. and Mrs. Lacey, who helped drive the team to and from the meet.

Incidentally, we offer our congratulations to our sister school, Salt Spring Elementary, which also had an excellent day at the meet.

We all thrilled to Jason Bush's victory in the 100 metres, to Kara Cruickshank's strong showing in the 200 metres and to the many other fine performances. All in all, a fine showing by these young athletes from both schools.

\*\*\*

## Fernwood School news

BY DAVID BREMNER

(Grade Five)

### SCHOOL EDITOR

There will be an Intermediate Track and Field meet at Salt Spring Elementary on June 14 and we will compete as the Fernwood Broncos.

We will also have an Intermediate Fun Day at Fernwood on the 25th of June.

There will be a Kindergarten Fun Day on June 26 and a Primary Fun Day on the 21st of June.

Don't think that just because we are having all these fun days we are not doing any work. Everybody is working extra hard trying to impress their teachers, as report card time is coming shortly.

On the 16th of June the grade sixes will be going to Strathcona for five days. More on this later.

On the 31st of May and the first of June the grade fours will be going to camp Yawaca for a nature study camp.

If you see some strange faces around the island, it's probably the kids from Silver Star Elementary. They will be coming on the fourth to the eighth. They will visit Victoria and also study sea life around the island.

The kindergartens went out to Fernwood on Friday the 25th. They enjoyed themselves thoroughly. One of the new toys was a large stuffed bear sitting in the teacher's chair.

Having logical minds they naturally assumed that if they were getting a new school that they were getting a new teacher!!

## To upgrade swimming facilities

Swimming facilities at Blackburn Lake are to be upgraded, the Salt Spring Recreation Commission decided Monday.

The commission voted in favour of spending up to \$150 on materials needed to repair the float at the lake.

## Three life members at hospital



All three are life members of the Lady Minto Hospital Society. Standing are Doug Cavaye and Joan Purchase. Seated is Barbara Hastings.

All three have been close to the development of the islands hospital.

Mrs. Hastings was the driving force behind its inception in 1958. She was chairman of the board of management at that time and she officiated at the formal opening of the original structure.

Last week she officiated at the formal opening of the new extension. Her companions were the original regional directors for the islands. Regional director Cavaye represented Salt Spring Island and

regional director Purchase was from the Outer Islands.

Last week they gathered for a picture to mark their contribution to islands hospital services.

Before 1958 the 67-year-old hospital stood on Ganges Hill. The hospital building was later acquired by the Gulf Islands School District for use as a dormitory for Outer Islands students. It is now the Community Centre.

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**SATURDAY JUNE 2**

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**SALT SPRING**  
**SEA CAPERS**

# Keep public servants honest by exposing them to public gaze

BY MARY C. WILLIAMSON

It's easier to get on a track than off it.....I thought I had finished my exploration of white-collar crime until I picked up an old *Time*

magazine (July 4, 1977).

I've heard a good deal in B.C. about rumoured welfare fraud. (In England, of course, there used to be more talk about "the idle rich" than "welfare bums".) But it seems in the good old U.S. of A., they contrive to combine the two.

In New York, in a six-month period, nearly 1,000 indictments were handed down against individuals who had bilked the government of four million dollars! In two years, the U.S. Attorney's office indicted 320 welfare cheaters. In Chicago, after 92 people managed

will clean our own sticky fingers. **INCREASING NUMBER**

It's encouraging to note that the number of ministers of religion running for public office is on the increase. Let's hope they will give the lie to Malcolm Muggeridge, who told us on his last visit to Salt Spring that there was no such thing as an honest politician. He, and many others, believe that power corrupts - invariably.

The bureaucracy which does the real governing is a corruptible machine. But at the risk of appearing naive, I maintain it is possible to retain one's integrity within the system. Difficult certainly, but possible.

And one way to keep public servants honest is to expose them to the public gaze.

It is our bounden duty to expose any civil servant or public employee who is dealing less than honestly with us, with our neighbours, or with our taxes. And when we turn a blind eye to our own short-cuts, we encourage corruption all the way to the top.

White-collar crime often has innocent enough beginnings. But, like the innocuous morning-glory, planted against a fence, before you know it, it takes over the whole garden.

\*\*\*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2**

This has been set aside, in the Diocese of British Columbia, for a day of celebration of and by our children.

Children from all over the diocese will meet in Beacon Hill Park on Saturday morning, have a picnic lunch, and then take part in a pilgrimage to Christ Church Cathedral, where the service will be conducted by the Bishop, Roy Gartrell.

Alice Andress or Marguerite Sargent can supply further details.

## Third edition of senior citizens' guide

The third edition of the *Senior Citizen's Guide to Services in B.C.* has just been printed. This 52-page booklet gives information on health and social services, benefits, recreation and educational opportunities and other special services for the older person living in B.C.

Included is a list of senior citizen centres, activity programs, health units and offices of the Ministry of Human Resources throughout the province.

**NOTICE**

**THE GULF ISLANDS**

### Intermediate & Personal Care Society

The Annual General Meeting of the above-mentioned organization will be held on the following islands at places herein designated, immediately following the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital Annual Meeting.

MAYNE ISLAND	MEDICAL CENTRE	MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1979
GALIANO ISLAND	COMMUNITY HALL	MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1979
SATURNA ISLAND	COMMUNITY HALL	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1979
NORTH & SOUTH PENDER ISLANDS	SCHOOL HALL	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1979
SALT SPRING ISLAND	ACTIVITY CENTRE	
	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1979

**AGENDA**

1. To receive the President's Report.
2. To receive the Financial Report for the year ending March 31, 1979.
3. To elect five members to the Board of Trustees, four members from Salt Spring Island (Zones 1 and 2), and one member from North and South Pender Island, Prevost Island and all islands immediately adjacent thereto (Zone 3).
4. Appointment of Auditor.
5. SPECIAL RESOLUTION:  
That the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Society shall be held on a day in June determined by the Board.
6. Any other business that may come from the meeting.

**VOTING PRIVILEGES**

- (1) All Zone Members (persons who own land and pay taxes thereon in Zone 1-North Salt Spring Island, Zone 2-South Salt Spring Island, Zone 3-North and South Pender Island and Prevost, Zone 4-Saturna Island and Samuel Island, Zone 5-Mayne Island, Zone 6-Galiano Island, or spouses of such persons) who had made written application for membership in the society. Applications will be made available prior to the call to order of the Annual Meeting.
- (2) Annual members: Members who have paid \$1.00 for membership during the year 1979 to May 11th/18th, 1979 as applicable.

(Signed) M. Pinteau, Secretary/Treasurer  
Board of Trustees

21-2

**NOTICE**

### THE LADY MINTO GULF ISLANDS HOSPITAL

The Annual General Meeting of the above-mentioned organization will be held on the following islands at times and places herein designated.

MAYNE ISLAND	MEDICAL CENTRE	MON., JUNE 11	1.00pm.
GALIANO ISLAND	COMMUNITY HALL	MON., JUNE 11	3.30pm.
SATURNA ISLAND	COMMUNITY HALL	WED., JUNE 13	1.30pm.
NORTH & SOUTH PENDER ISLANDS	SCHOOL HALL	WED., JUNE 13	3.30pm.
SALT SPRING ISLAND	ACTIVITY CENTRE		
	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MON., JUNE 18	8.00pm.

**AGENDA**

1. To receive the Chairman's Report.
2. To receive the Financial Report for the year ending March 31/79.
3. To receive various reports.
4. To elect Society members and 3 members to the Board of Management, 2 members from Salt Spring Island (Zones 1 and 2) and 1 member from North and South Pender Island, Prevost Island and all islands immediately adjacent thereto.
5. Appointment of Auditor.
6. Special Resolutions will be presented to amend the Constitution and Bylaws. A copy of the revisions is available for inspection at the hospital or by contacting Outer Island Board members.
7. Any other business that may come from the meeting.

**VOTING PRIVILEGES**

- (1) All Zone Members (persons who own land and pay taxes thereon in Zone 1-North Salt Spring Island, Zone 2-South Salt Spring Island, Zone 3-North and South Pender Island and Prevost, Zone 4-Saturna Island, Samuel Island, Zone 5-Mayne Island; Zone 6-Galiano Island, or spouses of such persons) who had made written application for membership in the society.

Applications will be made available prior to the call to order of the Annual Meeting.

- (2) Annual members: Members who have paid 50¢ for membership during the year 1979 to May 11th/18th, 1979 as applicable.

(Signed) M. Pinteau, Secretary  
Board of Management

21-2

## Announcement

**Ronald B. McQuiggan**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC**  
**GANGES**

9.30 - 5.00

Monday to Saturday

**537-5521**

or Box 570, Ganges

19-4

# Gus looks a long way back



Gus Abbonen has a long way to look back.

He can look back on his 84 years. He can look back on 70 years of living in Canada. Or he can look back on his 14 years growing up in his native Finland and that's a long time and a long way.

Gus Abbonen is a well-known figure in the Fulford area of Salt

Spring Island. Today his garden takes most of his time. In the past he has spent most of his years logging or berry farming elsewhere in British Columbia.

A few years ago he came to Salt Spring to live with his sister, Mrs. Jenni Shaw on Sunnyside Drive.

He has made a lot of friends in the past several years.

## Latest additions to library

New books in the Mary Hawkins Library include the following:

### Fiction

*Shibumi*, by Trevanian; *Mr. September*, by John Trengrove; *The Pigeon project*, by Irving Wallace; *The Matarese circle*, by Robert Ludlum; *Good as Gold*, by Joseph Heller; *Ice quake*, by Crawford Kilian; *The night lords*, by Nicholas Freeling; *Proteus*, by Morris

West; *The crimson chalice*, by Victor Canning; *The unmade bed*, by Francoise Sagan; *The praise singer*, by Mary Renault; *The Blackheath*, by Julian Symons; *Silence at Salerno*, by Francis Steegmuller.

### Non-Fiction

*Lady Sackville*, by Susan Mary Alsop; *Philip II*, by Geoffrey Parker; *Orient Express*, by E.H. Cookridge; *The great mutiny*, by Christopher Hibbert; *The crime and punishment of I.G. Farben*; *The collapsing universe*, by Isaac Asimov; *Beyond reason*, by Margaret Trudeau; *A hundred different lives*, by Raymond Massey; *The developers*, by James Lorimer; *Elinor Wylie*, a biography by Stanley Olson; *Stravinsky in pictures and documents*, by Vera Stravinsky and Robert Craft; *How to be your dog's best friend*, by Monks of New Skete; *Book of Canadian Antiques*, edited by Donald Webster; *The north runner*, by R.D. Lawrence.

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# What's happening at SALT SPRING ELEMENTARY ?

BY IAN JUKES

As the line states something must be "happening" at Salt Spring Elementary. So much, in fact, that I wasn't able to find time to write a column last week. In 10 words or less I'll try to summarize the events of the past two weeks as well as let you know what will take place in this, the last month of school.

The major topic of discussion last week was the Victoria Invitational track meet where, despite blustery winds and heavy rains, 60-plus students from the school competed against the best from Vancouver Island.

For some the event was a real eye-opener, being the fastest or strongest here doesn't guarantee the same success away from home. In particular, the students from Fairburn of Victoria were awesome.

### NOTABLE SUCCESSES

Nevertheless, we did have some notable successes, including: Jason Bush, first in the 100 m; Sean Logan, second high jump, third long jump, and fifth in the shot; Kara Cruickshank, third in the 200 m and eighth in the long jump; and Shane O'Donnell, third in the 800 m and sixth in the 200 m. Over 25 ribbons were won in all.

For next year the game plan is to use the hopefully completed Portlock Park track to hold a Salt Spring Invitational Meet, as well as two or three cross-country meets, with the hope of developing a strong track program to complement our other areas.

The next major school event is the house track meet scheduled for Thursday, June 14. More on this next week.

### RETURN VISIT

Otherwise, there are many things to report on (as I will try to do very briefly). First and foremost, on Monday Silver Star Elementary from Vernon comes to visit for five days in a return of the exchange started earlier this year. Their plans include a trip to Victoria, a beach and tidal study at Beaver Point and a flora and fauna study in Montague Harbour. Many students are eagerly awaiting the visit of new-found friends.

Meanwhile, the grade fours are off to Camp Yawaca for an overnight experience and the Alternate Class is off to Mystic Beach (Sooke) for a camping safari.

Otherwise, a reminder that the dental team will be here for a brush-in (I wonder if that's like a sit-in?) on June 1; class pictures will be taken June 5 (Tuesday); the Coast Guard will be here for a water safety instruction early next week, and the grade six students are off to Strathcona on June 17.

### ONLY 20 DAYS

When you consider that there are only 20 school days left before summer adjournment; and that report cards, testing and year-end wind-down must be completed during this time, you can see that the school is a very busy place at the moment.

In putting this column together I have also overlooked many things that have come before: the school carnival which netted \$1,500 for school events; the Safety Bear who won the hearts of our little ones; our I.O.D.E. assembly; the grade five Vancouver field trip; and our very successful Professional Day. Just because they weren't mentioned doesn't mean they weren't important.

And finally, throughout the year we have lived (and died) with Fernwood. It's been a start-stop relationship, hopes go up, hopes go down. Finally it appears that the move really is going to happen.

It's a happy time in that so many of their students have been

waiting for this day. But at the same time it's really quite sad as we lose our friends and year-long neighbours. (This, of course, doesn't apply to Alan Marsh, chief provocateur of the Fernwood staff).

May good luck (not septic waste) overflow your halls.

## Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY - JUNE 10

# SALT SPRING SEA CAPERS

## YEAR-ROUND SCHEDULE RESUMES

Effective Monday, June 4, 1979

# GULF ISLANDS

## SALTSPRING ISLAND-VICTORIA

via Fulford Harbour

ROUTE 4

via Swartz Bay

Lv Fulford Harbour

Lv Swartz Bay

6:40 am  
8:00  
9:20  
11:15  
12:30 pm  
2:20  
3:40  
5:00  
7:00  
8:20  
9:40\*

DAILY

7:20 am  
8:40  
10:00  
11:50  
1:10 pm  
3:00  
4:20  
5:40  
7:40  
9:00  
10:20\*

\*Fridays year-round and Sundays (June 24-September 3) except on holiday Monday weekends, when on Sunday preceding, the Saturday schedule will be in effect. The late sailing will occur on Monday, July 2, August 6 and September 3.

ROUTE 4.5

Between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay with stops at Otter Bay, North Pender Island.

Monday to Friday only†

Lv Fulford Harbour (Saltspring Is.)	6:45 am
Otter Bay (Pender Is.)	7:45
Swartz Bay (Vancouver Is.)	9:10
Fulford Harbour (Saltspring Is.)	10:00
Swartz Bay (Vancouver Is.)	11:30
Otter Bay (Pender Is.)	12:30 pm
Ar Fulford Harbour (Saltspring Is.)	1:30

†Note: Every second Wednesday of each month sailings subject to interruption due to dangerous cargo.

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SALTSPRING 537-5131

OUTER ISLANDS 629-3222

VICTORIA 386-3431

## Parks are permanent problem to harassed island residents

Marine park is an asset to any island, decided Saturna Islanders on Friday.

It is only when the park is within reach of an island that trouble ensues.

Saturna Island Trust Committee was considering the foreshore lease of the 3,000 ft. by 1,200-ft. parcel on Saturna which has been allocated for park purposes. It was acquired through a grant from the Devonian Institute.

Jim Money raised the issue when he told his colleagues that there had been no report on what is planned with the marine park.

"Here we are, kicking about Steeves getting a few hundred feet and here is another outfit getting half a square mile," said Money.

### SUPERVISION

John Gaines expressed some

concern about the supervision of parks. It is a marine park and there is no intention of developing the upland for camp sites or anything like that.

A park is good if there is no access by road, observed Gordon Wallace, and it is bad if there is access.

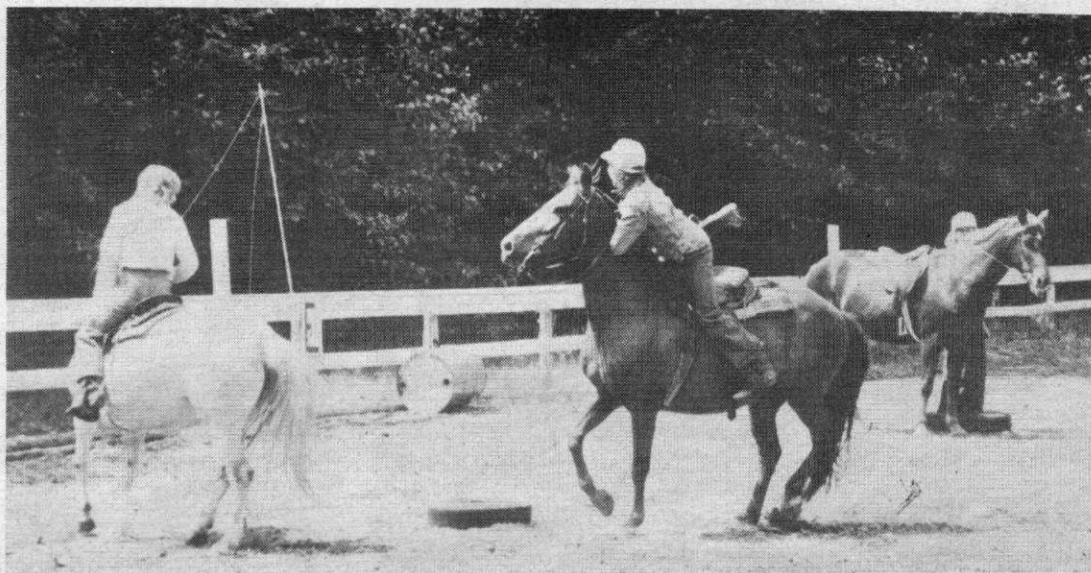
He looked at home.

Prior Park on Pender is accessible from land is a problem to islanders, he recalled. Beaumont Park is not accessible from the island and is no problem at all.

"I am definitely against parks if we don't get custodianship," he told his colleagues. "Otherwise we have a zoo on our hands. Even with a Corporal police officer on the island."

Trust will discuss the park with the parks branch next week.

## Riders stage season's first Play Day



On Sunday the Salt Spring Island Riding Club staged the first of three Play Days planned for the season and several new games were added to the program.

Proceedings were started with

the entertaining spectacle of riders attempting to eat doughnuts dangling on the end of a string. The day was concluded with a buck event won by the smallest competitor, Jennifer Lacy, with her tiny pony

Dusty. Melinda Jones, with Pal, heads the race for the high points trophy for the time being.

The next Riding Club activity will be on June 23 and 24 with a Heather Woods Clinic; the next Play Day will be on July 22.

## Walk-on-Water

SUNDAY - JUNE 10

# SALT SPRING SEA CAPERS

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## Centre proposal 'out of hand'

(From Page One)

Looking at the various requirements submitted by some of the groups that have indicated interest in the centre, Borsman's chief question was, who is going to pay?

Salt Spring Fibres, he said, wanted 2,280 sq. ft. Considering that construction costs would amount to at least \$40 per sq. ft., its space would cost around \$90,000. He estimated the operating costs would come to \$6,000 a year.

"Will they (Salt Spring Fibres) pay \$6,000 a year rental? If not, who pays?" he asked.

The Potters' Guild, he continued, wanted 3,280 sq. ft. Operating costs for that space would cost each member \$200 a year.

Borsman also observed that the Recreation Commission was not in the business of providing space for commercial operations or factories to manufacture different articles.

He stressed that there was a

need to talk about the concept of the facility.

Looking at the Community Society, Borsman said they wanted 5,233 sq. ft.: a capital cost of about \$200,000 and maintenance of \$15,000 a year.

### LONG-TERM PLANS

It would be necessary to know the long-term plans of the Ministry of Human Resources before space could be provided for the society, he said.

"Suppose Human Resources decides to stop funding. The community is left with a space that is not particularly useful for recreation."

Regional director Mike Clement pointed out that perhaps it would be more efficient for the community service groups to rent space at various points on the island.

He also said that the commission had specific duties to perform and would have to change the terms of its mandate in order to make a move towards providing

facilities for social services. He suggested the "community service people" be asked for a brief.

To get into a capital (spending) program on their behalf is beyond the scope of the commission, he said.

There was another route, said Clement.

"Disband and become a municipality."

### FUNDING

Meanwhile, executive director of the Capital Regional District, Dennis Young, has written to the commission in reply to a request for funding for a feasibility study of a recreation centre.

Young said in the letter that money would be available subject to certain requirements. A clear statement of the objectives of the centre would have to be prepared. He suggested that representatives of the commission meet with him to put together "a comprehensible package" for presentation to the regional board.

The proposed facility will be the main topic at a special meeting of the commission in two weeks.

# TALK'S CHEAP THIS WEEKEND.

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ALL DAY

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