

# Gulf Islands Driftwood

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TWENTY-FIRST YEAR, NO. 13

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1980

25c per copy

## LAURA STEVENS

### She was told she'd never walk again...



Laura Stevens at her wood-burning cook stove.

### But on Saturday she'll enter Lions Walkathon

BY FRANK RICHARDS

It's eight years since Laura Stevens suffered such extensive injuries in a car crash at Fulford that she was told she would never walk again.

Perhaps, with two canes, she might hobble about. But no more!

On Saturday she'll be walking in the Lions Walkathon at Ganges.

And she'll be proving a point.

She will walk to prove that the mind can mend the body. No matter how badly you're hurt, if you have the mind to overcome it, your chances of recovery are tripled. She knows that side of the story. She lived it.

But she wants to make more than the simple statistics of getting better. She wants to walk in memory of the pioneers of Salt Spring Island who made it what it is by their plain, down-to-earth neighbourliness. Because right now she figures Salt Spring Island is split down the middle and many a pioneer must be turning over in his grave at the way his island is going.

Laura Stevens wants to walk as a call for harmony on the island.

"Forget your differences!" she urged, at the weekend. "Find out

how much you have in common and live by it!"

It just isn't possible to ignore Laura Stevens. She has learned so much, the hard way.

She and Grant came here with their family in 1965 to carve out a new life. They had very little money, a lot at Fulford and the determination that they were going to make it on Salt Spring Island.

They worked hard and they devoted every spare penny to building a home overlooking Fulford Harbour. It paid off.

When they arrived on Salt Spring they had a tent. And a lot.

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### Looking for a home

Being just about the only source of information for rental accommodation, *Driftwood* is grabbed early by house seekers who go to Vesuvius Bay on Wednesdays where the paper is first dropped off. For a story on some of the problems facing both landlords and tenants, see story on Page Twelve.

### Big disparity in costs

## Two island sewer projects prepared

Two sewer programs considered by the Capital Regional Board last week. Bylaws approving the regulations and rates for the Maliview system were introduced and given preliminary hearings.

The Ganges sewer system was tabled until the next board meeting in two week's time. Salt Spring Island director Yvette Valcourt, in making the motion to table the bylaw, explained that Salt Spring Island residents depended on a weekly newspaper for their information and that the delay would enable them to be informed of the proposal.

The two proposals are parallel, but very different. The Maliview system has been in operation for nearly a decade. It has been assumed by the Region at the request of the users. The rates have been established to meet the costs incurred by the district in taking over the liabilities and obligations of the system.

### NOT UNDERTAKEN

The Ganges system is in the engineering stages and has not yet been undertaken. The rates are established at the level required to install the system at current anticipated costs.

The property owners at Maliview, a subdivision lying between St. Mary Lake and Trincomali Channel, will pay a parcel tax amounting to \$38.90 per parcel. This is the standard rate irrespective of the size of the parcel.

There will be, in addition, a user charge for each property. For each single-family dwelling, or each

equivalent of a single-family dwelling there will be an annual levy of \$66 a year or \$16.50 quarterly.

The Ganges sewer project is predicated on a frontage tax instead of Maliview's parcel tax. The Ganges property will pay a frontage tax of 73c. per front foot per annum. Thus, the Ganges property of 66-ft. width will be levied an annual fee of \$48.18, or nearly \$10 more.

### USER CHARGE

The user charge in Ganges is set at \$230 per year, or \$57.50 a quarter; almost four times the cost of the Maliview system.

For the purpose of assessing the share to be paid by each connection to the system, the various properties are valued in terms of single-family units. A home is one unit. An apartment block is considered one unit for each apartment unit. A commercial building with up to three employees is considered one

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### Rolls car day after getting his license

Police said that lack of experience was the reason a juvenile lost control of his car on Mansell Road on Salt Spring Island last week.

The youth had just obtained his licence the previous day, RCMP said. The vehicle landed on its roof in the ditch. No one was injured and no charges will be laid.

### Hydro surcharge now in effect

## Transit benefits 'marginal', says Curtis; committee seeks action

Islands MLA Hugh Curtis has expressed concern that the Capital Regional Board has taken no action to exclude the Gulf Islands from the transit service area and the resulting Hydro surcharge.

In a letter to the board, Curtis said he found it difficult to accept the reasoning for including the islands when benefits from transit "appear very marginal at best".

It must be apparent to the board, he continued, that the appropriate time to include one or more of the islands is when some form of bus service is introduced in the area.

Curtis pointed out that the executive council of the province could not intervene and adjust the boundaries of the transit service area. That could only be done if action was initiated by Capital Region directors, he said.

It would have been a different matter had the three-cent gasoline tax been imposed instead of the Hydro surcharge.

"In that instance I am confident the cabinet would have moved to

exclude the Gulf Islands from that tax levy," Curtis said.

"I must indicate my very strong support for the many individuals who have already contacted me expressing their dissatisfaction with the impending introduction of this surcharge in the absence of bus service on one or more of the islands."

### Most will be closed Friday

Easter holiday this weekend will see most businesshouses and stores closed for one day, Good Friday. Local banks will open Monday, with the exception of the Credit Union, which will open again Tuesday. The latter will also be closed on Saturday.

Post office will be closed both Friday and Monday.

*Driftwood* office will open Monday and a paper will be published, as usual, on Wednesday.

He asked the board to re-examine its position and "to respond with consideration for the very large majority of Gulf Islands residents and Hydro consumers".

He added that it would appear that the same observation could apply to the far western portion of the Capital Region, Port Renfrew and Jordan River.

### WRITTEN CURTIS

Meanwhile, the Salt Spring Island Transportation Committee, an advisory body to the Islands Trust, has written Curtis to request that he take action to prevent the islands from being included in the transit area.

The letter, signed by chairman Ken Arnott, points out that the Capital Region's transit committee has never surveyed the islands to determine the feasibility of bus service on any or all of the islands. He charges that islanders have never been polled for their feelings on being included and that the

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# Saturday will be a full day at Ganges

## Lark in Park and Sparks after Dark

"Everyone's busy polishing up their acts and it's shaping up to be a thoroughly entertaining evening," *Driftwood* was informed Monday of the forthcoming Sparks After Dark at Ganges this weekend.

Earlier in the day the Easter Bunny is expected to put in an appearance at the Lark in the Park. Both events, to take place Saturday, are part of the Super Salt Spring Sampler Jamboree being staged by the newly-formed Inter-Island Performing Arts Co-operation Society (I-PACS).

The Lark in the Park will be held in Centennial Park between 11 am and 3 pm, weather permitting. Featured on the program are clowns, games, a trampoline, story-telling, apple-bobbing, parachute games and an earth ball.

The Family Centre will be providing food for the occasion and there will be people on hand to paint faces.

Adults will supervise games and



Jeff Murray inflating the "earth ball" for Saturday's Lark in the Park in Ganges. The special event for children is being sponsored by I-PACS (Inter-Island Performing Arts Co-operative Society).

people are being invited to set up stalls to sell crafts, flowers, food or whatever.

Organizing the event is Jeff Murray of I-PACS. He pointed out that he and his fellow workers are not sponsoring a babysitting service and parents are being requested to keep an eye on their children.

At 8 pm the evening's program gets under way at the Activity Centre.

On the bill are Kenny Grossman and Friends, Anonymous Theatre,

Marianne Grittani, the Dewitt Ob-long Ensemble, Duncan Bray and the Loyal Central Salt Spring Temperance and Dixieland Jazz Ensemble.

Advance tickets are \$4 and are available through Annie's Music Box and et cetera. Admission to I-PACS members and OAP's is \$3.

Door prizes include \$15 gift certificates to Annie's Music Box and Kanaka Place and a \$10 value hair cut or style at Rocking Horse Hair Styles.

## Walkers will be going for the gold Saturday

Walkers, hikers, runners and joggers will be congregating at Ganges Saturday for the Lions Club's 13th annual Walkathon.

The 12-km. walk gets under way at 1 pm at Centennial Park and finishes at Drummond Park in Fulford.

The theme of this year's walk is *Go for the Gold*. Walkers obtain pledges before the walk and find sponsors who will pay so much for every kilometre they complete.

Walkers don't receive the money from the pledges but they are eligible for prizes. Walkers who get \$500 worth of pledges will receive a \$100 1976 Olympic gold coin and those who get \$200 worth of pledges will receive a \$20 bag of coins. A number of other prizes will also be awarded.

Participants will be provided with refreshments at the half-way point and also at the finishing point at Fulford.

Last year 135 people signed up for the walk. First home were two

young runners, Mike Cannon and Neil Anderson. They covered the distance in 52 minutes and 45 seconds.

The greatest amount to be pledged on a walker was \$508 obtained by Ricky Andrews.

## Hummingbirds are early

The arrival of hummingbirds on Salt Spring Island was very early this year, according to Fulford resident Lillian (Horsdal) Dalziel.

She told *Driftwood* recently that she saw the first, a male red rufus, on March 19.

## From here to eternity by free bus and free ferry

Bus passes for the aged and others needing them in transit areas will be usable at all times. And could be from here to eternity, it was suggested last week.

Capital Regional Board approved the general use of the passes at last Wednesday's meeting despite a warning from transit committee chairman Norma Sealey that peak periods are already a headache to the Victoria Services.

Human resources has agreed to undertake the cost of the passes, which had been borne in past years by B.C. Hydro.

Committee had earlier mooted the possibility of restricting their use of off-peak periods.

It was also noted that a pensioner in possession of a pass could travel from Sooke to Swartz Bay with a pass. He could then travel on the ferry free of charge to Vancouver.

In Vancouver he could travel on

the buses with his pass and take a free ferry ride to Nanaimo.

Director John Mika was indignant at any criticism of such a faculty. If he is in need, then it might be his only chance of getting away from home, urged the Saanich director.



Ten pounds of plutonium, the size of a grocery bag, is enough to blow up a city half the size of Vancouver.

— *New Age Magazine*

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### THE SALT SPRING ISLAND LIONS CLUB 13th Annual

## LIONS WALKATHON

Saturday, April 5

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# To Be Frank by richards



Spencer Marr doesn't know I know his eye is bigger than his office. When he acquired a new accounting desk a week or so ago he had it delivered to Ganges and then discovered it was on the large side to get into the building. The desk went to the workshop en route to the office and was chopped down to size. It makes me feel better because when I had a large bookshelf made last year I had to saw it in two to get it up the stairs. \*\*\*

Clem Such is a former mariner who is now a member of a Lions Club in Victoria. Last week he spoke to the Salt Spring Island Lions Club and referred to the different degrees of need felt by different people in need. He described the visit of a Lions International figure to a leper colony in the Hawaiian Islands. After meeting a Lions club within the colony, the vice-president of the international service club was given a cheque for \$400 for the service fund. The visitor was reluctant to take it, recalled Such. The leper colony had its own urgent need for help, he countered. There are people worse off than us, he was assured by the club president, himself a sufferer from leprosy. \*\*\*

Compassion is, I think, a condition developed by the infant human brain over a 20-year incubation period. It usually takes another 15 years or so to get rid of it. \*\*\*

Thinking of compassion, where did the Brits get to? Where did they all go to, those warm and welcoming protectors of the weak who filled the pages of my school books? The haven and asylum for the oppressed and the fearful seems to have undergone a change. I can remember the days when the Brits didn't hate blacks or Jews or Frenchmen or Pakistanis. In fact, those days were the ultimate achievement of British history when national hatred was reserved solely for those who threatened your pattern of living, like Bolshies or Radicals. But that is probably the heart of the whole problem. We only resent those we fear and Victorian England feared no man. \*\*\*

If you say them quickly, the Czar and the Shah sound about the same. And they were about the same. The Czar ruled Russia and the Shah ruled Persia, in the past. Then the Czar was deposed and eliminated. The Shah was more fortunate. He saw the end and withdrew before the arrival of the mob. The parallel, of course, goes further. The rule of neither would be tolerable in an enlightened state. And with the departure of each, a chaotic condition ensued in each land. \*\*\*

Mankind has always reacted violently to intellect. Primitive man distrusted the intellectual and poets were always the oddball in the gathering. As they are even today. But the 20th century brought an end to this long distaste for brains. The levelling-down process of modern education, aided and abetted by radio and television messages, for 24 hours a day, has assured us of a standard man, average in strength, in courage and in intellect. As the end of the century approaches, we can no longer recognize intellect and may, even now, be signalling its demise in our society. And that will end one irritant which threatens the perfect mediocrity of the future. \*\*\*

You tell her you can't walk and Women's Lib says, And you can't talk, so you say Let's forget the talk and get on with the walk. And, of course, the doctor says, You can keep talking but no way you'll keep walking: let's fix the walk. So the walk comes first and you lie on your back, every muscle bound and he says, we got it fixed, lovely job! Which means for a week it's agony to walk; then the stitches are out and you get home and Women's Lib says, Well, what about the talk and you say, Love of my life, you walk too much! And that's all there is to a hisnia!

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## Program brought back to life

The permission to enter private dwellings has been modified in the Capital Regional District.

Last year a proposal by the board to adopt the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation standards for rehabilitation of residential buildings brought an explosion of protest from the region.

Under the terms of the proposal, all homes in the region would have to provide storm doors and the building inspector would be entitled to enter any home to ensure that it was being kept up to an arbitrary standard.

CMHC had ruled, last year, that if the district wished to make use of the national rehabilitation program for older housing the standard bylaw had to be adopted. It was not taken up and the rehabilitation scheme was not applicable in regionally-controlled areas.

The national corporation has since changed its stance and has ruled that the bylaw may be adopted by a participating authority to refer solely to homes taking advantage of the program.

On Wednesday the board approved the motion to accept the CMHC standards in all areas where the new program was to be applied.

Assistance for renovating older homes is available to all areas of the region under this new agreement.

God wouldn't have given us feet if he didn't mean for us to use them.  
Walk.



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Tony Richards, Editor

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1980

## The double-edged sword

For several weeks the directors of the Capital Regional District have been debating a salary increase. The remuneration paid to elected representatives is not considered as salary or wages, but rather as a compensation for the time devoted to public affairs and thus lost to the normal pursuits of the representative.

That municipal representatives be awarded such compensation has been an accepted part of public administration for decades. The extent of the remuneration has been debated and disputed wherever there is an elected council.

The critics will assert that if a man has anything about him he will offer his services to the community for nothing. The opponents of the free service concept point out that if a man is fit to serve his fellows, then, worthy of his hire, he should be compensated.

And that is the only reasonable answer. Nobody should be expected to work for nothing. The precise amount paid to any director or alderman, school trustee or Islands Trust representative is up to the governing body. If they make a mess of it and award themselves a ridiculous salary, they won't be in receipt of it for very long.

The only really odd thing about the Capital Regional debate on salaries is that it has taken so long. A second strange aspect is the ranging level of rates of compensation. Directors are paid one of five rates, according to the assumed extent of their work for the district. There was a great deal of work devoted to the preparation of that sliding scale. It is strange that the ratio of compensation payable to directors from adjacent communities should merit so much detail.

It would be easier to understand and more rational to divide the total paid among the recipients and strike an average just as any other administration rewards its members. The sliding scale suggests that the amount each member gets is of paramount importance and we hope it is not.

## Statements 'misleading'

Sir,  
Upon reading your article "Horst Klein critical of plans for base" I find one very unfortunate mistake.

" 'In the meantime we rescued the boy,' Klein said."

This is not correct. The boy in question was not saved.

Furthermore I have the following observation:

Statements made by officials of the Coast Guard or DND in regards to search and rescue are very misleading and in many instances simply not true. It is absolutely beyond my comprehension how in the world these officials are continuously bamboozling the public and get away with it. They had been asked time and again to a round-table discussion with the press attending. So far they have always declined.

HORST E. KLEIN,  
Port Washington, B.C.  
March 28, 1980.

## Plane trip condemned

Sir,  
I wish to publicly condemn the action of the school trustees in promoting and authorizing the charter of two planes to transport grade three students to Vancouver for a "field trip". (Driftwood, March 26).

The pressures of inflation from all directions are being felt by the taxpayer, and it would be interesting to know the true cost of this trip and the return on investment that was realized in promoting such a venture for a handful of small children.

R. W. LOCKHART,  
R. R. 3, Ganges.  
March 30, 1980.

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This Week,  
Says the Salt Spring  
Island Chamber  
of Commerce.



## Letters to the Editor

### Application denied by commission

Sir,  
I would like to thank all the people who supported me in my unsuccessful attempt to set up a parcel delivery-courier service on Salt Spring Island. The Motor Carrier Commission, after all the necessary procedures had been gone through, decided that such a service would not be in the public interest.

The reasons the commission gave for refusing the licence are:  
1. The fact that I've never run a

- freight service and don't know how to do it,
- 2. "The lack of acceptable and substantial evidence of the need of the service,"
- 3. Salt Spring Freight is providing adequate service,
- 4. My licence would "imperil" Salt Spring Freight's business, which would not be in the public interest.

I personally believe that governments can be wrong, and that the many people that wrote me letters of support really do need a less expensive way of getting things

that are not available here, or for getting their goods to market. Accordingly, I am now investigating the possibility of organizing a co-operative society to buy a truck and use it on a non-profit basis for hauling goods. If anyone has any information or is interested in such an idea, I would appreciate being contacted by you.

DAN EVANISHEN,  
Box 771,  
Ganges.  
March 31, 1980.



## Tony Richards

I'VE NOT GIVEN UP COMPLETELY on this column, but damn near. No doubt many have rejoiced while few have wept over its absence. But I will keep trying to get one done as often as possible. We may, of course, have to sacrifice the odd letter to the editor to do so.

ONE OF THE THINGS that has prompted me to write this week is the apparent need for some kind of review of all the entertainment there has been on Salt Spring recently.

It was my mother's birthday almost three weeks ago so we went pub-crawling, covering about 25 miles in the process. The activity on that Friday night was startling, to say the least.

There was a lady playing the guitar and singing at the Fulford Inn, there was a band at the Vesuvius Inn and there were two groups playing at the Harbour House Hotel. And every place was almost packed.

Everywhere we went the music was good and our only complaint was the noise level of the band at the Harbour House pub. But then I think I'm in a minority when it comes to dislike of high-volume music.

One of the island's best-known bands, Sea Biscuit, played their last performance at the Harbour House a couple of weeks ago. They were about the best local band Salt Spring has ever seen.

Finally, the Harbour House featured the Marg Messer Trio last week. Apart from the fact that I can't stand that modern country music, they were good. Their one major fault was that Marg Messer (a distant relative of the well known Canadian musician Don Messer) only played about three fiddle songs.

I've never had the opportunity of hearing such fine fiddling. It was too bad she didn't play that fiddle all night.

And that, for what it's worth, is all I'm going to say about island entertainment. (If you don't like it, don't read it).

SOME TIME AGO I mentioned in this column that a law in the prairie province of Saskatchewan prohibited a man from gambling away his farm without written consent from his wife.

Shortly after, I received a postcard from Joe Ashfield, a reader in Barbados, who disagreed with my reference to Saskatchewan being the province of Saskatchewan.

He wrote: "Even down here in Barbados we know that Saskatchewan is the city of Saskatoon, not the province of Saskatchewan."

He also notes that the law I wrote of is part of the Homesteads Act. "The home in which a man's wife has lived, be it in town or part of the home quarter-section, cannot be sold without the wife signing a legal approval."

But as far as the name Saskatchewan is concerned, my original informant, a native of the province, insists that it is another name for Saskatchewan, not Saskatoon.

THE FOLLOWING was passed on to me by a local real estate agent, who wished to remain unnamed.

Old realtors never die: they just get listless.

## Health department is 20 years behind in its thinking

Sir,

In your paper this week I was reading some of the opinions expressed about the sewer. I had been thinking also that the land needs the nutrients and organic substance.

In our climate the rainfall occurs mainly in the winter months and this leaches out the soil so it needs a constant replenishment and building up again. In dryer climate or those where rainfall is more evenly balanced the problem is not so severe.

I put the blame mainly on the health department for bad feelings between people in Ganges. They are still twenty years behind in their thinking in Victoria. Victoria has no satisfactory sewage system - not yet.

There should be a better way and there is. The only obstacle is the solidly entrenched civil servant with a closed mind. Dr. Coulthard found this out when he tried to design a system for Ganges. Too experimental, it was said to be. It would be better if all those people were to relinquish their jobs and let others take it on who are not afraid of change.

If technology can put men on the moon surely it can come up with a satisfactory solution to this one.

Ganges should be a great opportunity to design something more satisfactory than has been done so far. If they don't, a great opportunity will have been lost. Septic tanks and drain fields that malfunction are not uncommon. Channeling out can be prevented or corrected by building retaining walls of concrete or other suitable material. When the field is fairly level it has a better chance of working as the moisture in the soil is then distributed more evenly over the entire area. When I was

building, the drainfield was on a slope so after levelling I felt that something more should be done. There was clay left over from the basement excavation so I used the clay material to seal the field by adding 10 feet to its area on the low side and built a rock wall as well.

The Lancer Building is a beautiful example with retaining walls along two boundaries as the lot is fairly small. I suggest that the regulations governing septic tanks be rewritten to increase their effectiveness and that retaining walls should be built anywhere it appears necessary. There should be an inspection one year after completion to see that all is well or if not to fix the trouble.

In areas such as around St. Mary Lake all septic tanks should be inspected every five years and extra care should be put into their construction as well to safeguard the water supply. Waterfront lots along the ocean should also be made to put in adequate systems.

I see that nearly everywhere now there are contaminated shellfish signs. A lot of money goes into building the big fancy house and then they skimp on putting in an adequate sewage system. All this could be prevented if the health department was doing their job. Their own office in Ganges is an example of the type of skimping I'm talking about. The overflow from the drainage field goes under the road and out by the log dump.

If they had done a good job on their own it would be a good example for others to follow.

This is why I felt I had to write this letter.

**GEOFF HOWLAND,**  
Ganges.

March, 1980.

P.S. Jim Campbell is doing a good job as far as I can see.

## Engineering data should accompany proposals

Sir,

I read with interest Pat Irwin's letter in the March 19 *Driftwood*, and it made a lot of sense. Other letters in the past have also advanced the thought of using sewage sludge for agricultural humus, and this seems like a valuable use of this material. This prompted me to ask questions of a knowledgeable and experienced engineer in this field, who told me the following: it is true that much sludge is recovered for farm purposes in England, and Canadian authorities have been looking at this seriously. There are flaws in the English system, which they must ignore, because of the pressure of their highly concentrated population, but their conservation and pollution authorities are worried about the build-up of metals contained in the sludge, and also about the incomplete sterilization of all organisms.

The English system does not kill enough bacteria to meet Canadian health standards.

It is interesting to note that considerable study and research is going forward in Canada to develop a system that will separate the metallic material and eliminate the bacteria. Such a system will require staff and equipment far beyond the small quantity of sludge that will come from Ganges, but it is part of the Ganges sewer proposal to arrange for the movement of their sludge to the mainland to allow it to be used in the

much larger composting plant that will be built as soon as the technical difficulties are solved.

It is also interesting to note that the metal and organisms are now entering the soil from our septic systems and from the pumped out sewage, and the raw sewage now flowing into the harbour.

And now, Mr. Editor, don't you think we have had enough in the way of alternative solutions by "arm chair experts" or wild-eyed mumbling thesis writers? Don't you think it is about time that you insist that all letters suggesting an alternative sewage system be accompanied by engineering data showing the methods proposed, the firms prepared to do the installation and the cost involved? In the past six years, I have seen and heard many, many proposals by people who have no experience, yet tell us glibly what should be done. Why not insist on full back-up by experienced and trained technicians in sewage disposal before publishing such material. Many competent engineers combined their experience to produce the Ganges sewer system as approved by the Pollution Control Board, but the delaying action still carries on, in the hopes that the cost will become too high to be borne.

Incidentally, I invite you to read the report of the meeting at the Capital Regional office on March 6, as reported by an on-the-spot reporter in the *Colonist*. Many of

## THE ANARCHIST

# Tunnel is the final factor in our rendezvous with destiny

### More salvation than solution

There are times of singular significance, when events in time coalesce around a particular set of circumstances to produce a transcendent moment of greatness. Our small universe of exotic islands and savage seas stands poised, on very tiptoe, the fibres of our collective being trembling at the approaching gusts of collective emotion rising to hurl us into that greater future which lies just ahead.

But first, consider the elements in this drama-to-be:

1. The unexpurgated horror of the Sewer Chronicles,
2. The imminent collapse of Air Sea Rescue services, as envisioned by one Horst Klein, and
3. That most dread of all man-made ills, The Inconvenience Syndrome.

There is breathtaking disparity here, but press on, and we shall see revealed the design of destiny.

The Sewer Chronicles need little comment, indeed, they are unequalled in length, depravity and boredom by the combined talents of Boccaccio and Xaviera Hollander, and as in the worst excesses of those two, a certain basic utilitarian function has been over-emphasized, and much distorted in the process. In any event, we now find ourselves facing choices and problems which beggar the mind and the pocket-book, while legislated constipation looms as a grotesque and ultimate threat to the heretofore benign regularity of our lives. In short, we still need a sewer system.

The matter of Mr. Klein's long-standing and open criticism of the performance of Coast Guard personnel and procedures is somewhat different. Full credit to Mr. Klein for his efforts on behalf of others,

but his comments suggest a level of self esteem little short of infallibility, and a degree of hostility which raises a question as to whether he was competing with the Coast Guard, or co-operating with them.

The fact that the 200 other volunteer skippers of the C.M.R.A. do not find it necessary to endorse his criticism, or emulate his example by withdrawing from the organization is perhaps enlightening, and the best response on behalf of the personnel of Coast Guard and Air Sea Rescue who cannot respond publicly to his unfair tactics.

Rescue on this coast has been notoriously short of resources, but that is the fault of politicians and the public, not the professionals Mr. Klein attacks. The conditions of saving life at sea can sometimes benefit from either on-the-spot solo virtuosity, or a bit of luck, but an effective system requires control and delegation of information, resources, and responsibilities by professionals, in co-operation with a well trained volunteer force.

However, for the purposes of our proposed scenario, we will take Mr. Klein's dire version of an hostile sea without promise of succour save a lone slow Coast Guard vessel, too far away; ergo, we need immediate close assistance.

The third element in our drama, the Inconvenience Syndrome, arises from that great assemblage of minds gifted with tunnel vision which make up the present Sacred government in Victoria (you will note that as of last week the species became extinct in the rest of the country). This lot, faced with rising use of the ferry fleet, find them-

selves looking to the day when the system will reach capacity use, and the terminals will be plugged by long lines of indignant tourists and taxpayers in the throes of Inconvenience.

This terrifying vision of irate voters provoked the leading tunnel-mind, one Patrick McGeer, to endorse, what else?, a tunnel to Vancouver Island. So there you have it, the final factor in our rendezvous with destiny, a tunnel, in our very own Gulf Islands, and just in time. Faced with these fortuitous circumstances, we shall forthwith:

1. Demand design and fabrication rights to employ the indigenous folk.
2. Demand branch tunnels to all communities with over 17 inhabitants.
3. Demand rescue shafts to the surface every half mile on land or sea, each shaft to be manned by local personnel with salvage rights to all vehicles or vessels in distress. The personnel will be designated members C.C.G. (Car and Coast Guard), and will be under the command of Commodore Horst Klein.
4. Each community will set its own tolls to cover exit and entrance charges.
5. Ganges will use its tunnel connection as a sewer.

This last item will produce a most startling result as the mixture of sewer gas and automobile exhaust fumes will create an explosion which will remove the lower half of Vancouver Island from the landscape, thus ridding us, once and for all, of any more stupid Sacred governments.

## There may be light at the end

Sir,

I read and listen with considerable amusement, that here in this province that can't manage to build another crossing of the mighty Fraser, there are those who would actually construct a tunnel from the mainland to Vancouver Island. Even more interesting, is the suggestion of one would-be argonaut that Salt Spring Island be used as a link-up point.

Alas, there may be a light at the end of this proposed ninth wonder (the eighth, of course, being the B.C. Ferry Corp.). This pipe dream could be the end-all solution to the great Ganges sewer dilemma that has puzzled islanders for so many years. Simply turn a valve and

we were present, and agree that the report is factual. Now read the report released by Director Valcourt in the *Province* of March 7, and note how much it differs. Why must she distort the facts to prove her own points? Why did she make no mention of the problems of the hospital or the school as given at that meeting? Why must we go to the official minutes of the Capital Regional Board to find the truth of what happens? Surely our director can give us an impartial and complete story of what happens.

**FRED BROOKBANKS,**  
R.R. 2, Ganges.  
March 14, 1980.

away go troubles down the tube!  
**EDWARD ARMSTRONG, Jr.,**  
Box 64,  
Ganges.  
March 27, 1980.

## They make it a delight to read

Sir,

What makes your paper a delight to read is the frequent baffling statements and quotations that you print with a straight face.

For instance, last week you reported damage to a hydro pole as \$3,500, no wonder our Hydro rates are going up!!

Under 'Lost' in the classified section is "a young top cat", apparently wearing mascara. My mind boggles at this one!

And this from the Recreation Commission: "It has already been decided that a letter will accompany payment of grants stating that a new policy about which they will be informed will come into effect and this year's payment will not constitute a commitment for payments in the next year."

I am relieved, I think, or am I?  
**DAVE LOTT,**  
R.R. 2, Ganges.  
March 28, 1980.

## Recent trip 'unqualified success'

Sir,

I write to give public acknowledgement of our gratitude to the employees of B.C. Ferries who helped make our recent trip to Prince Rupert such a success.

Thirty-one residents, friends and employees of the hospital and Greenwoods recently went on a three-day return trip to Prince Rupert on board the M.V. *Queen of Prince Rupert*.

The crews of both vessels went far beyond the call of duty to accommodate our party and make the trip so enjoyable. They were always available to assist with wheelchairs and luggage, etc. without being asked to do so and were courteous and helpful in every way possible.

We would also like to thank the employees at Long Harbour and Tsawwassen terminals for their assistance.

The trip was the first of its kind for our organizations and because of the efforts of all concerned, and particularly those of the employees of B.C. Ferries, it was an unqualified success, which we hope to repeat for other handicapped residents.

**MALCOLM PINTEAU,**  
Administrator.  
March 26, 1980.

From Page One

# Laura Stevens learned a lot the hard way

They had some neighbours: there was Norman Shaw, the coloured stone wizard and there was Alf Sheffield, veteran electronics technician. That was about all in the immediate neighbourhood. Their lot on Hilltop was in the sticks.

## WITH AN AXE

Today, Grant can recall with a grin the day he felled a tree. He warned Laura to stand clear, but she had enough faith in his skills to stay right where she was when the tree crashed down just about where it was supposed to. That tree was dropped with an axe. None of your chain saws around Hilltop in those days!

"Why did you cut it down?" she asked her husband.

That was destined to be the first lumber to be used in their new home, he explained.

The new home was an A-frame. The original home is lost now, in the complex home of stone and rustic wood that has developed from its humble beginnings.

A mixture of antique furbishings and forest-fresh timbers, the Stevens' home is an attractive part of the whole legend of living in Fulford. It is spacious, modern and traditional in one sweep.

Eight years ago the Stevens family was sitting pretty. They had

carved a home out of nothing. They had made a home out of a plot of land and a few trees. And they were completely happy in the chosen mode of living on the island of their choice.

## IT ALL CHANGED

The serpent in their garden of Eden was a Victoria automobile. The car was driven in a hurry to the Fulford ferry and the Stevens family met it on a curve. In one flash everything changed.

The three occupants of the Stevens car landed in hospital. Father and son were subsequently released without any aftermath. But Laura Stevens saw her life shattered.

The woman who had stood side-by-side with her husband as they built and cut and nailed was in bed for four months. Both knees were gone. She suffered injuries to almost every part of the body. For four months she could move one hand and arm. That was the limit of her movement.

The damage to her body was serious, but the damage to her mind was worse.

"I was sorry for myself," she recalls. "I resented the fact that it had to happen to me."

It was five years before she was to walk another step. For five long years she was helpless, in bed or in a wheelchair.

## INEVITABLE

Bitterness was inevitable. It was not relieved when she learned that the driver of the car that crippled her for five years was duly arraigned and fined \$25. It didn't seem to bear any relationship to the suffering she had endured.

There was always hope. There was the orderly at Royal Jubilee who constantly assured her that he had taken 20 years to recover and now he was looking after others.

There was Dr. Jerry Nestman who never for one moment let her waver from the conviction that one day she would walk.

The plate in her leg and the pin in her knee were all part of the new life she had taken on. The deterioration of her right leg and the final cutting it three inches short were part of her ordeal.

Hospital bed to wheelchair to home: it was all the same routine. For five desperate years.

The pain was constant and the desire to live was weaker and weaker.

What was there to live for?

Finally, it was not her sore-suffering body that fell victim to the long process. She suffered a nervous breakdown. Her mind could no longer take it and she was back in hospital for psychiatric care.

## SHE WALKED

That was the turning point. She forgot the immediate past and when she was warned she could not walk, she ignored the advice and walked. In due course the mind and the body healed each other. She recovered from the breakdown and discovered that she could now walk.

So much is in the mind, she tells her friends today. You can walk if you have a mind to. And she walked.

That was three years ago. She has gone steadily ahead. She has a mind to.

Little more than a week ago she suffered a sharp set-back. Shopping in Ganges, she suffered a fall while leaving a store and she fell on her knees. She hadn't known pain like it since the day she sat in the small car on Fulford-Ganges Road and another vehicle ploughed into the front and crushed her knees.

It was the end. She was ready to be let into a home where she would be accepted as a helpless cripple and looked after as a patient for life. She lost the will to live and only knew the resentment she had once nurtured and had since forgotten:

"Why me? Why to me?"

## THE RIGHT PATH

It was her son, Court, who set her on the right path.

She had never been a burden on her family and she wasn't going to be now, he promised her. Whatever she might need, her family

would rejoice to offer.

She slept on the advice.

In the morning she was up and about and back to reality. The resentment was gone and she was determined to carry on with the chore of living.

She would take part in the Lions Walkathon and no slip or bump was going to change a thing!

Today Laura is convinced that her state of depression is now a thing of the past. She has it conquered, she said on Sunday.

But when she walks on Saturday, she will still strive to prove her point. All of them.

The will to survive is the path to survival, she asserts. Once you know you can do it, you can do it.

And the need for harmony on Salt Spring Island has never been greater. If everyone who takes part in the Lions Walkathon will work towards harmony on the island, it will come. She is so confident.

There was harmony among the early settlers. It must come back and put an end to the split in island unity, she urges. Neighbour helping neighbour: that's the spirit of island living in the Stevens' book.

The gesture will be the last for a time. Next month the Stevens will be happily settled in their new Alberta home, near Frog Lake. The friction on Salt Spring Island has been partially responsible for the decision to go, but not wholly. After all, they started life in the city of Lloydminster, straddling the Alberta-Saskatchewan border.

They're just going home.

## Harmony is essential ingredient of island life

Lloyd Douglas called it a Magnificent Obsession. Laura Stevens explains that you just "pass it on".

They are thinking along parallel lines.

The Salt Spring Island pioneers looked after each other. A sick settler was looked after by his neighbours. A woman in need found all the help she needed when her neighbours learned of her problems.

She looks back on her kitchen stove and its story.

In the Stevens' kitchen is the aged Majestic stove. It heats the room and cooks the home-made Stevens bread. The stove is an experienced cook stove. It's been working at it for nearly 75 years.

The stove set out in life to serve Mrs. Anna Thompson of Vesuvius Bay. In those days there was not much choice. The electric stove hadn't been invented and natural gas was a will o' the wisp in distant places.

For 63 years the old stove looked after the Thompson needs. It outlived its master and the day came when its mistress was obliged to move in with her sister.

## FOR \$25

Grant and Laura Stevens were beginning to live out their own island idyll at that time and they eagerly purchased the 63-year-old Vesuvius stove for a whacking \$25.

Not for the Stevens an electric range or a gas stove. They wanted to live with nature, the way their forebears did. They did and they still do. The house is wired and they have all the appliances they need, but the

old, proud Majestic rules the Stevens' kitchen and its reign is unchallenged.

Mrs. Thompson is gone now. She left her mark on the island and went to her reward.

The Stevens family live on to hope that they and the aged stove will continue in the same tradition of neighbourliness and harmony.

When Laura Stevens walks in the Lions Walkathon on Saturday, she will be walking, in part, to emphasize the memory of the pioneer Anna Thompson and the neighbourly assistance that was part of her being.

## PITCHED THEIR TENT

In the 1960's the Stevens pitched their tent on their newly-acquired Fulford property and took up residence.

Helen Hippiusley, who was proprietor of a nursing home, made bread regularly. Each time she baked she added an extra loaf for the Stevens.

"How can we repay you?" asked Laura Stevens.

"Pass it on," urged the island home baker.

When Art and Marg Simons pitched their tent on Hilltop Road, Laura Stevens passed it on. Every time she baked bread she baked an extra loaf for the Simons.

That's the tradition of neighbourliness that made Salt Spring Island what it is today, urges Laura Stevens.

Harmony is the essential ingredient of island living.

There are many people leaving Salt Spring Island because of the disharmony centring on the Ganges sewer controversy, explained husband Grant.

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# Down Through the Years With Driftwood

**FIVE YEARS AGO**

Two men and a boy were saved from drowning on Saturday by two quick-thinking Mayne Islanders. About 10 o'clock in the morning Bill Hortie and Dan Imrie were busy working on a boat at the Esso Dock in Miners Bay when they heard faint calls for help. They identified the calls as coming from someone in the water near an upturned boat. Their boat was out of commission, so the two men jumped aboard another vessel. They had no key and they started up a small auxiliary outboard. Powered by the small motor they headed out to the distant swimming trio in the bay. Hindered by tide and wind they caught up with the capsized boat and its victims when all three were near exhaustion.

Fire destroyed the home of Mrs. Olive Auchterlonie at North Pender on Good Friday. The 80-year-old resident of Port Washington Road was able to get out of the house at about midnight, but she saved nothing.

Salt Spring Lions Walkathon yielded well in excess of \$6,500 reports Tom Toynbee, chairman of the day's long walk. Pledges are still coming in, he reports, and the final figure will be firmed up within the next week or so.

It is the season for breaking and entry. There have been six incidents reported to Ganges RCMP recently from Pender Island. On Mayne Island there was one report this week and Galiano and Saturna were not mentioned.

New machine shop is located on Salt Spring Island. Hugh Porter, former aircraft engineer, has acquired the Upper Ganges Road property from Bert Fraser to put in a well-equipped modern machine shop. The new shop will handle all types of machine work, as well as welding and iron work.

Provincial government is planning an investigation of agriculture in the islands. Mike Larmour, Salt Spring Island local trustee of the Islands Trust, told a lightly attended meeting on Friday that the government is looking to agriculture development to put ALR land into practical use.

**TEN YEARS AGO**

New face has been added to the administration of justice on Salt Spring Island. On Tuesday, April 14, Hugh Ross of Ganges was sworn in as justice of the peace. Ceremony took place in Ganges provincial court with Judge M.F. Peiler administering the oath.

Don Morrison of Ganges was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital suffering from a broken jaw on Friday evening. The Ganges man sustained the injury during a fracas on a Ganges street.

Search that went on for over 24 hours was called off at Saturna on Tuesday afternoon when a 92-year-old visitor to the island was found.

Missing for a day was Charles M. Campbell, who is the guest of his son and daughter in law Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell. RCMP took part in the search when Mr. Campbell lost his way in the bush.

**FIFTEEN YEARS AGO**

After 15 years of continuous service to the chronically ill and aged, the Dr. Francis' Private Hospital in Ganges will close its doors on the 15th of this month. Dr. Francis states that the hospital is being forced to close because of "financial exigencies", and that the present government policies make it impossible for him to carry

## Minors to blame for pub closure

Minors can take credit for the recent closure of the Harbour House pub, said a Liquor Control Branch director this week.

The pub's licence was suspended from the closing of business on Saturday, March 22, to the opening of business on Wednesday, March 26.

Enforcement director D. Cliffe said that the pub was shut down for serving minors on numerous occasions in recent months.

"The minors are responsible," Cliffe said, "although Harbour House had received more than one warning in the past."

Harbour House manager Barney Hagell said that the control branch commended the pub staff on its general operation. "It's better than it used to be or they would have closed us down for a longer period," Hagell said.

Hagell blamed the crowds during the pub's big band nights for the infractions. "When we have a full house it's hard to keep an eye on everyone," Hagell said. "Kids sneak in through doors that are opened for them from the inside."

"In the future," Hagell said, "everyone will have to come in through one door only and their I.D. will be checked there as they enter."

Hagell was invited by V. C. Woodland, the general manager of the control branch, to a hearing in Victoria that was held on March 19. He was told then that his operation was being shut down.

Routine checks by R.C.M.P. resulted in several minors being charged under the Liquor Control Act.

on. These policies have become more and more restrictive so that it is finally unable to pay its way. The operation as a whole has not been in the black for over two years and Dr. Francis himself has been making up the deficit out of his own resources.

Major Ernest McQuarrie, army area chaplain presently stationed at Edmonton, has accepted a call to Salt Spring Island congregation of the United Church of Canada. Rev. McQuarrie is attached to the Victoria presbytery of the church but has been a chaplain with the army for some time now. He is married and has four children. He succeeds Rev. Nora Hughes who leave the charge this summer.

**TWENTY YEARS AGO**

The Lions Club First Annual Cavalcade of Song and Dance played to a packed house on March 25 and 26 at Mahon Hall. The acts, covering music and dancing from the gay nineties to modern times, was greeted with roaring applause from the enthusiastic crowd. The opening was a special song by the chorus. This was followed by more chorus singing and then the quartette took over the *The Sidewalks of New York* and other songs. This was followed by the excellent Flora Dora Girls.

It was announced last Tuesday that Miss Boadicea Beddis and her brother Geoffrey, well known old time residents of the island and owners of the property on Ganges Harbour known as "The Wilderness", have turned their property over to Salt Spring Lands Limited, for a sea-front subdivision.

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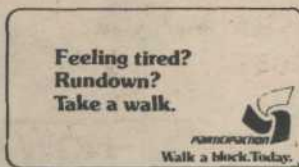
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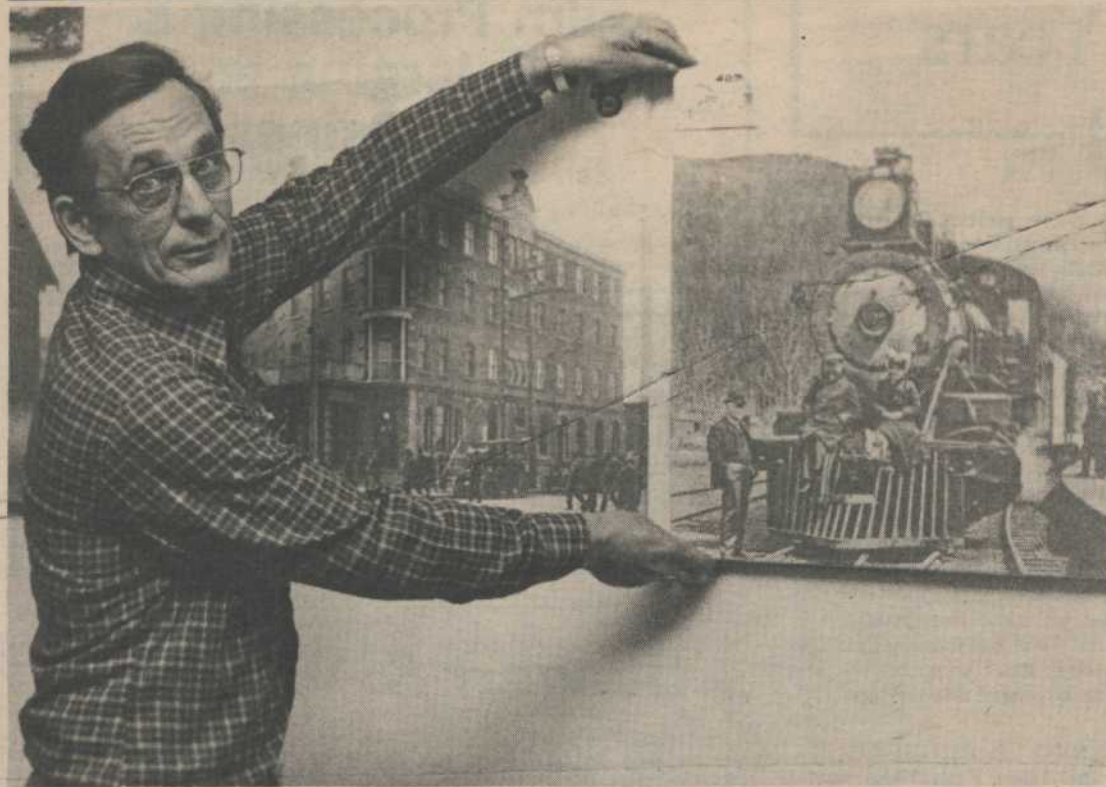
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*Heritage Series*

Charlie Pearcey of Salt Spring Island is one of the two producers of the Heritage Series of silk-

screens that commemorates the 75th anniversary of Alberta's and Saskatchewan's incorporation as

provinces. The exhibit can be seen at Gulfstream Supply in Ganges.

## Island resident helped produce collection of historic silkscreens

The "Heritage Series" is a collection of silkscreens presently on exhibit at Gulfstream Supply in Ganges. Each silkscreen was taken from an early photograph of an event or scene typifying the development of western Canada.

Done in collaboration with the Glenbow Institute of Alberta, the project marks the 75th anniversary of Alberta's and Saskatchewan's incorporation as provinces.

One of the two producers of the series is Salt Spring Island resident Charlie Pearcey, who moved to the island from Edmonton two years ago. He worked for about six months experimenting with different cloths and inks to attain the best effect possible for the silkscreens. A tremendous amount of experimenting was done before the desired "sepia" effect was achieved, Pearcey said.

The Glenbow Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving memorabilia of the prairies, supplied most of the photos for the exhibit. Each photo chosen for the project contains a prairie artifact or shows some of the people who contributed to the development of western provinces.

**ENTHUSED**  
The Glenbow Institute is so enthused about the silkscreen project, Pearcey said, that they are merchandizing the finished products out of their own retail stores. The people who have been involved with the exhibit and put it together are all proud of their heritage and the men and women who built the provinces, she said.

"We thought people were tired of ordinary photographs," he explained, so we decided to turn the

photos into the best quality silkscreens available. We are satisfied that this limited edition meets that standard."

The edition is limited because the producers did not intend to swamp the market, Pearcey said. And only the photos that told the most interesting stories were chosen for silkscreening.

One of the subjects is the King Edward Hotel in Edmonton. One of the old, original hotels built before 1904, the King Edward was only recently demolished to make way for the new buildings which now dominate the Edmonton skyline.

The scene of prairie elevators contains five different modes of transportation: the railway, the wagon, the horse, an old truck and a tractor. The transition taking place on the prairies at that time is captured in one picture.

**THE COWCATCHER**

Also common in the old days was the cowcatcher on the railway locomotives. One of the silkscreens, entitled *Climbing the Rockies*, shows a couple sitting on the cowcatcher enjoying the view. Some people would ride on it as the train slowly climbed the mountains at a speed that was no faster than a walking pace. People would walk

alongside the train as it climbed the steep grades and then get back on before the rapid descent on the other side.

Another photo chosen for the silkscreening was that of Chief Crowfoot. Chief of the Blackfoot Indians, Crowfoot insisted on being the last one to sign the treaty with the white men because, it is told, Crowfoot believed he would be the last one to break the treaty. He wears the characteristic medicine bag that he always carried with him.

The old "soddy" typifies the housing the early settlers had to create for themselves. Like the Eskimos who built their shelters from ice, the early settlers had to use the only materials available to them.

Those are just some of the 10 different silkscreens making up the Heritage Series. The popularity of the exhibit in the prairies prompted Pearcey to show them on Salt Spring and has also encouraged him to initiate a similar project using photos of early days in British Columbia.

## Three plays rehearsing for Theatre B.C. Festival

The Salt Spring Players last week announced plans to enter two one-act plays in the Theatre B.C. South Island Zone Festival scheduled for April 10, 11 and 12 at the UVic Phoenix Theatre, and to sponsor as a third entry the Gulf Islands Secondary School Drama Club production of Gwen Pharis Ringwood's one-act drama *Still Stands the House*.

The two plays are George Bernard Shaw's comedy *Village Wooing*, and Israel Horowitz's black comedy *Stage Directions*. The Shaw vehicle will feature Pat Desbottes as the pursuer and Michael Hayes as the pursuee as the leap year-type plot unfolds.

In *Stage Directions* the cast of Dawn Luker, Liduin Currell and Michael Kolesar speak to each other only obliquely and only through the stage directions that audiences never hear. David Fitchew is directing both plays and Reg Taylor is staging the productions.

Dress rehearsal will be in Mahon Hall on April 8 after conclusion of the business portion of the Players' regular membership meeting scheduled for that date.

Plans for performances on Salt Spring after the April 12 Phoenix Theatre opening are under consideration but are as yet indefinite.

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### Notice to the Ratepayers of the NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT Re: The Election of Trustees

Notice is hereby given that at the annual general meeting to be held on April 29, 1980 two trustees are to be elected to serve for terms of three years each.

Nominations of candidates for these positions must be made in writing, duly signed, seconded, with signature of agreement by the nominee, and delivered to the district office, Upper Ganges Road, at or before 12:00 noon, Thursday the 10th day of April, 1980.

Nominations will not be accepted from the floor.

**To be eligible a nominee must be a Canadian Citizen, 19 years of age or older and a ratepayer of the District in good standing.**

Nomination forms available at the district office.

M. Larmour, Secretary.

12-2



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# Pender School controversy is still unresolved

BY BRIAN SOBER

Sometimes when two sides in a controversy meet and discuss their views, even if a degree of "head-bumping" occurs, differences can be forgotten, both sides may agree to work together and a compromise is found.

In an effort to bring about that situation the trustees of Gulf Islands School District held a public meeting at Pender Island last week, designed as a forum in which two philosophically differing groups could debate their way to a solution.

The groups are opposed over the issue of education in their school. It began after a delegation of parents met with the school board last January to discuss what they felt was lacking in the Pender School. Soon after a much larger group approached the board. They claimed to represent the majority of parents on Pender and their views differed from those of the first group.

So after hearing privately from each side, the trustees agreed that the solution to the problem might become evident if the two delegations confronted each other with their ideas.

On Tuesday evening last week secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck chaired a meeting in the school gymnasium. **IN SUPPORT**

First to speak was Ted Dever, in support of the school and its staff. He put forward a motion that the chairman read 4½ pages of minutes taken from a meeting his group had had with the school board. He wanted the approximately 60 parents there to hear about the meeting. But about 58 parents were not interested in hearing any more than the five highlights of that meeting.

What they had gathered to hear were the views of the 11 "dissidents" who had gone to the board with 10 concerns regarding the environment in the school. The points had been publicized, but their authors had refused to discuss the matter, except with the school board. Now the majority wanted to talk about those 10 points "face to face".

"Can we please hear what group one wanted?" the meeting was asked. "Will a member of group one explain what objectives are not being met?"

**A THREAT**

There seemed to be no doubt that the barrage of questions posed by members of the second group represented a threat to the eight members of group one who were present. They sat silently contemplating the situation or "not listening", as one person remarked later. Finally, one member addressed the chairman.

"My name is Allan Brooks and I would like to point out that a letter was delivered to the school board chairman before the meeting. Can it be read out?"

The letter was read to the meeting and said, in part, "... we

will not be attending as a delegation. We have been invited to a discussion with the other side which we feel is inappropriate as we are interested in a dialogue with the school board only." It was signed by 11 persons.

John Campbell, a member of group one, was criticized when he attempted to express his views. An opponent stood up, interrupting Campbell, saying the speaker had no right to address himself to the topic of education because "you don't even have any children." The statement was greeted with applause.

**VERBAL ABUSE**

"Some members of group one," said the next speaker, "have received verbal abuse and anonymous telephone calls. That is the reason why we won't discuss our views."

Sensing that the life-raft thrown out on the sea of controversy by concerned trustees was rapidly deflating and sinking, chairman Peck addressed himself to the members of group one. "I don't understand," he exclaimed, "why you can't discuss your viewpoints and bring them out in the open."

"I've never seen such a bunch of pussycats," Peck told the meeting. "When I accepted the job of chairman I was afraid that I might not be able to control the discussion."

This is understandably why group one chose to remain silent. They did not want to "bump heads", as

one member said later. And they did not go to the school board wishing to enter into a debate with the rest of Pender Island.

But to the majority, group one was a delegation that went to the board to discuss changes in the education of all children at the Pender School, without letting the majority know what the proposed changes were to be.

**NEVER SPOKE WITH STAFF**

Anne Forbes told the meeting that she was concerned with any proposed change. "I have expressed to some members of delegation one," she said, "that I would be free at any time to discuss with them their complaints concerning the school. They never talked with the school staff."

One of the 10 points of concern expressed by group one had been in the area of pupil decision-making. They felt there was room for improvement in relations between pupils and staff.

Addressing himself to that particular matter, principal Aubrey Rundle-Woolcock said that "in the field of pupil decision-making, I think it comes to having a little trust in your professional staff. I feel that responsibility precedes privilege."

Trying to respect the wishes of the minority without upsetting the majority was the way Pender school trustee John Zacharias attempted to solve the problem. He outlined an elaborate teaching technique that he saw as a way to

**keep both sides happy. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

His system involved free blocks of classes where pupils could participate in programs where people from the community would be involved. "What does delegation one think of the idea?" he asked.

When there was no response Wilf Peck said, "I do not understand why there is a holding back."

Allan Brooks said he endorsed Zacharias' idea. But he pointed out that last month his group spent two hours discussing their views with a committee of the board. "We really can't spend another two hours going over it again here tonight."

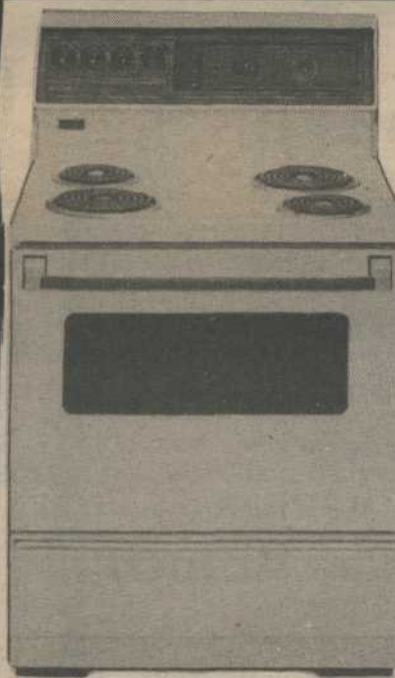
Anne Forbes responded by saying, "Does Mr. Brooks not remember that the two-hour meeting with the school board was in camera and I, as a parent, did not know what went on in that meeting?"

Another member of group two, the wife of a teacher criticized delegation one. "It is peculiar that these concerned parents did not have the courtesy to contact the teachers of their children. To go straight to the board without talking to the teachers is rather peculiar."

**DIDN'T AGREE**

However, chairman Peck did not agree. "I don't think any of us can deny the right of a parent to go to his elected school trustee."

Turn to Page Sixteen



## Cook Easter Dinner with an Admiral

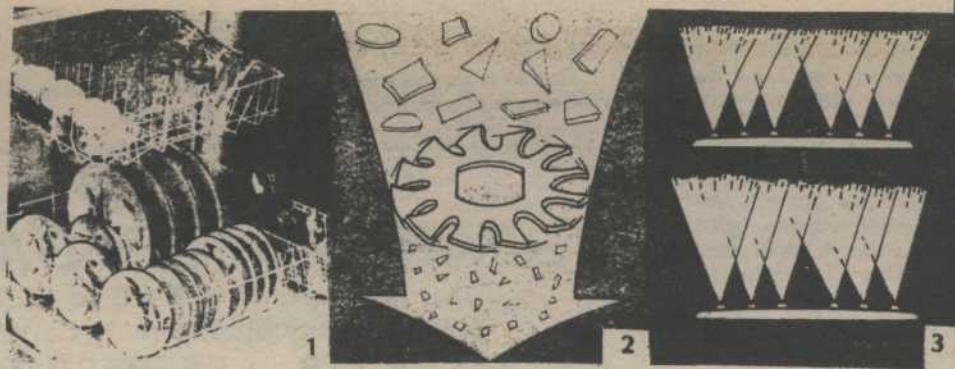
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More Food for Thought

Such arrogance should not be tolerated in a civilized forum

BY MARY C. WILLIAMSON

What a week this has been! Monday is always busy. My column and any other items I've been asked to write have to be submitted to the busy editor, who is never too busy for an exchange of problems or pleasantries. The remainder of the morning is spent in the elementary school library, where I enjoy meeting the kids and teachers. Then home to lunch and the weekly wash!

Tuesday I spent on Pender Island. I was privileged to visit with the first harpsichord maker I have ever met, and I recommend this experience to anyone who loves beauty and history. Edward Turner's studio-workshop is a feast for the eye and the soul, and he endured my enthusiasm bravely, with that quiet humour which is the hallmark of great artists.

He doesn't just make harpsichords, he re-makes them. Each of the 20 instruments he has hand-crafted has been a faithful reproduction of an antique. As a trained architectural draftsman, he also draws blueprints of instruments. He showed me one in Belgian "feet". The Belgian foot contains only 11 inches, but as each inch is slightly longer than ours, it almost equals out. Each scale has to be given and explained. I wonder if the early exporters of Belgian lace were accused of short-changing their customers?

ISLAND LIVING

The Turners are an example of true island living: he revives an ancient craft while she runs the farm and serves the Farmers' Institute!

Wednesday's highlights included the elementary school gymnastics meet in which my daughter took part, and the privilege of hearing an Ivan Illich tape on education. It would take several hearings before I could fully grasp the details, but the drift was clear: our system is years behind the times and clearly out of gear for the future. Very few people concerned in the process are unaware of this, unless their heads are buried in the sand thrown up by the various levels of bureaucracy.

The World Development Education group was grateful to Madge Kimball and her family for the opportunity of hearing and discussing this tape made by the great educator/historian.

On Thursday, as part of a seminar held by the B.C. School Trustees Association, I spent some time in the speaker's Gallery of the B.C. Legislature. Organizers later told us we were taken there to make us feel better about our own board proceedings! They were right!

SAD COMMENT

What a sad comment on the state of governance of this province. Some M.L.A.'s were obviously showing off for our benefit (much as some small children will show

off for visitors) but the price we pay for their time and efforts should surely call out something better than juvenile name-calling and pretending not to understand the simplest of questions.

As some of you may have guessed, I am not a member of the Bennett fan club, but if I were, I would have resigned on Thursday! Such arrogance and bad manners should not be tolerated in a civilized forum. And if anyone wants to write to the editor to tell me that things are no better in Ottawa or London or Moscow, they may save their breath to cool their porridge.

We, the electorate, are led to believe we will receive thoughtful, adequate representation by our candidates. We deserve it and we certainly pay for it. While it is obvious that most of the real work is done behind the scenes, is it too much to ask that our elected representatives behave in a manner more in keeping with the

Wire stolen from Hydro

B. C. Hydro reported the theft of \$400 worth of copper wire from their yard on Rainbow Road on Salt Spring Island this week.

A Hydro spokesman said the thief gained entry to the yard by cutting the barbed wire on the top part of the fence at the rear of the building.

He said there was approximately 350 metres of wire taken.

Highest Common Multiple than the Lowest Common Denominator?

I do not propose to deal with Dr. Lott's criticism until I receive further advice from authoritative sources.

NOT THE BEST PLACE

A book written by a visiting West Indian novelist, educated in England and living in the United States, would not seem the best place to look for real answers. Gregory Jaynes wrote in the New York Times on Unity Day in Uganda (March 24):

"Idi Amin ran the country for eight years and ran it into the ground. A year ago there were 45,000 Tanzanian soldiers in Uganda shooting their way toward Kampala and the liberation of the 13 million Ugandans."

Dr. Lott says there are 10,000 Tanzanian troops still in Uganda. Not so, says Jaynes, there are 20,000!

"10,000 are withdrawing this month, leaving behind a trained Ugandan army and police force of 5,800. President Binaisa has asked for a commonwealth force to be sent to Uganda, but has not received a reply."

An unnamed city councillor has said the pervasive view in the country was that "a force with a different pigment than us should come here."

Perhaps we should look towards some such solution for our problems. Certainly when two products of the same school, such as David Lott and I, can hold such widely opposed views on civic and Christian responsibilities, a "different pigment" may well be needed to reconcile, impose or encourage actions which will benefit the most while not ignoring the needs of the dissenters.

Variety Concert SPARKS AFTER DARK Saturday, April 5 - 8:00 to 11:30 Elementary School Activity Centre DOOR PRIZES REFRESHMENTS and LOTS of entertainment!! Tickets \$4.00/ \$3.00 for I-IPACS members & OAPs at et cetera & Annie's Music Box AN I-I.P.A.C.S. PRODUCTION

Professional Counselling Services are now available at the offices of the Arbutus Medical Clinic, Ganges from Michael M. Blades, M.S.W. For further information phone 537-2412.

Four churches will take part in Easter services

The four churches of Ganges will join together in two special Easter services this year.

On Good Friday, April 4th, the Anglican, Community Gospel, Roman Catholic and United Church ministers and people will participate in a joint service at 10 am in Ganges United Church, with Mrs. Angela Funk as organist. Rev. John Bailey, Pastor Sieg Hildebrandt, Father Patrick Bergin and Rev. Vern McEachern will lead the Good Friday service in which people from the four congregations will read the account of Jesus' betrayal and death.

A special feature of the service will be a duet by Pastor Hildebrandt and his wife Shirley with accordian accompaniment. The offering will be devoted to World Development and Relief projects sponsored by the church.

On Easter Sunday an outdoor Easter Sunrise service will be held at 5.30 am at the cenotaph in Ganges, again with all four churches and ministers participating. This Easter the sun rises at 5.41 am.

Following the brief service of readings from scripture, prayers and songs with accordian accom-

paniment by Mrs. Shirley Hildebrandt, everyone will move to the United Church hall on Hereford Avenue for coffee and hotcross buns prepared by Ron and Bunty McNally. They have been providing such refreshments for the past six or more years.

He wants to hear from anglers

Caught any fish in Blackburn Lake lately? If you have, then Salt Spring resident Ed Chew wants to hear from you.

Chew said Monday that he was seeking to have the fisheries department stock the lake with cutthroat trout. Blackburn is the only lake on the island which is not being stocked.

Fisheries officials have indicated that they may comply with his request depending upon what information he can obtain for them.

Chew has to determine the monthly average of the number of people fishing in the lake. He also wants to know the quantities caught, the sizes of the fish and when they were taken.

Kanaka Place SATURDAY, APRIL 5 SMORGASBORD from 5 pm SUNDAY, APRIL 6 Easter Sunday Brunch from 11 am & Easter Bonnet Contest WITH PRIZES for the loveliest creations. First - \$25; Second - \$15; Third - \$5 (Please phone to inquire about entering) - PLUS - Easter eggs for the children! Special Easter Dinner from 5 pm BAKED HAM OR ROAST LEG OF LAMB with all the trimmings! 537-5041

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# Galiano Island

BY KATHLYN AND BASIL  
BENGER

The advent of spring awakens migratory instincts among humans as well as birds. This last weekend two islanders of long standing have packed up their belongings and left Galiano.

Dorothy Shaw came to Galiano as a schoolgirl in the 1920's with her parents, Tom and Milly Patience, from the Peace River country. They bought a house at the end of the old Morgan Road from Frank Thornley, the very same house from which Dorothy and her husband moved this weekend. Dorothy, after serving in the cipher department of the air force during the Second World War, married and had a son, Eric.

Her second husband, Jack Shaw, is well known not only for having been Galiano's road foreman but also for being the maker of the neatest wood pile on the island. Now, for health reasons, the Shaws are going to live in Saanich. We wish them many years of health and happiness there.

Meanwhile, the old house has been bought by a descendant of another Galiano family, Ann Bobak, daughter of well known Canadian artist Molly Bobak and granddaughter of local writer Mary Kingsmill.

During the war years Mary Kingsmill, with her daughter Molly, came from Vancouver to live on Galiano in a variety of houses, at the north end, at Retreat Cove, at Arbutus Point and on Morgan Road. A love of the Gulf Islands imbued in this family has resulted in Ann returning. May the Bobaks enjoy many years of happiness on Galiano.

## JAM SESSION

On March 23 a small audience was treated to an afternoon of jazz at the Community Hall. From New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz, came Gibb Monks on saxophone; from South America, where he had been studying classical guitar, came Ray Piper on electric guitar; and on drums was Al Forsyth, who would have liked to have come from New York but regrettably came from Haney.

One of the most important characteristics of jazz is its spontaneity and improvisation. The fact that these three skilled musicians had not previously played together was no handicap. The traditional jam session allows such an ad hoc group to perform harmoniously together by playing "standards" familiar to all jazz musicians.

The melody is passed from one player to another as skilfully as a good hockey team passes the puck. A nod of the head and the guitarist picks up the tune from the saxophonist. Modulations of key are accomplished much as a catcher signals to his pitcher; three finger pointing down (flats) indicates a change to the key of E flat.

As well as its syncopated rhythms and discords which hint at "impossible" notes, jazz has its specialized vocabulary. The snares and toms are, for jazz, tuned to give more bounce, a brighter tone compared with the heavy throb used for rock. It was a surprise that the guitar could take up the slack of a missing bass, and how well its

tonal qualities complemented the mellow notes of the saxophone.

The tapping feet and swaying shoulders were a fitting tribute to the skill and musicianship of Gibb, Ray and Al and the enjoyment they had provided for an appreciative audience.

## SAVING FACE

One of our distinguished and better looking past presidents is sporting two black eyes. Actually the colour scheme is much more interesting than the traditional term would indicate. With gallantry reminiscent of an earlier age, the gentleman denies that there is any connection between his injuries and the fact that his charming and gentle wife is a recent student of karate.

He has improvised some cock and bull story about being hit by a windshield when the car he was riding in was stopped by a tree. He was even invented picturesque details about manipulating a broken nose back into position. Which ever way one looks at it this is a case of saving face.

## NEW SUB-SPECIES

One of the more scholarly articles appearing in *Driftwood* September 5, 1979, discussed the classification of homo depositus. A new sub-species has recently come to light, homo d. philaticus. Closely related to homo d. scavenger, the new sub-species specializes in finding old postage stamps at the dump.

A recent remarkable find was a strip of nine George V Admirals, 10c. blue, with a Winnipeg pre-cancel. These stamps were issued over 60 years ago and are probably worth 20 times face value. For this information we are indebted to Rose Partington, herself a philatelist specializing in Canadian stamps.

## NATURE NOTES

Small flocks of golden-crowned kinglets were observed in January wintering in the Gulf Islands. Now these birds, only slightly larger than humming birds, are pairing in preparation for their connubial duties.

A pair of Canada geese, apparently with similar domestic intentions, have been seen together at the pond at Fred Robson's. The violet-green swallows are back checking out last year's nesting sites and looking for new ones. It seems that there is no avian housing crisis and that high interest rates are not affecting our feathered friends.

River otters are often seen in Gulf Island waters. It seems they also visit local parks. A motorist had to stop on Sturdies Bay Road to allow an otter to cross from Murchison Bay into Centennial Park. As the otter shimmied across the pavement the lady waiting

patiently in her car was entertained by the hip waggling walk of the sleek fur-coated clown.

## EASTER DELIGHTS

In response to many requests, the Galiano Club is trying to arrange an impromptu dance to its own stereo music at the Community Hall on the evening of Friday, April 4. Watch the notice boards for a more definite announcement.

On Saturday, April 5, the ladies of St. Margaret's Church will be decorating the church for Easter, at 2 pm. Gifts of flowers will be most welcome. On Saturday evening the Galiano Golf and Country Club will hold their Dinner and Fashion Parade at the Community Hall beginning at 6 pm.

On Easter Sunday morning the Rev. John Dyer will conduct an Easter Communion Service at St. Margaret's church, Burrill Road, at 9 am. On Easter Sunday afternoon all Galiano-ites, young and old, are invited to take part in an Easter Egg Hunt in Centennial Park beginning at 1 pm. Islanders are asked to display their artistic talents by leaving coloured and decorated eggs in the nest at the Corner Store before Saturday afternoon.

The Easter celebrations will conclude with a musical afternoon to be held in the Lounge at Page Drive at 2 pm on Easter Monday, April 7. The sponsors are the Senior Citizens Association. All islanders are urged to come and sing - and be joyful!

*They could  
pull a  
'Marguerite'*

New word entered the English language last week when the chairman of the Capital Regional Board directed his colleagues to take care in making arrangements for a future health services office in Saanich.

"We may pull a 'Marguerite' on ourselves," he cautioned.

The board was debating the move of its Saanich health office from the quarters it shares with Saanich municipal services to a proposed new location in the Saanich Centre.

Province made the decision to take the *Marguerite* out of service on the Victoria-Seattle run and it has started a 30,000-name petition and numerous other protests against its decision.

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## Owners want to prepare for tourist season

# Landlord-tenant dispute at island resort

BY BRIAN SOBER

Getting tenants out of her cabins has been "nothing but a hassle," said an angry Victoria woman last week who recently bought Maple Ridge Resort on Salt Spring Island.

Mrs. C. Greene of Thornhill Place in Victoria told *Driftwood* that she and her husband attempted twice to terminate the rental agreement with her tenants: the first time the wrong form was used and the second notice was on the correct form but not properly worded.

"This is our first experience renting," she said, "and it will be the last time we ever rent under the landlord tenant act."

According to the act, termination must be given before the tenant's normal rent day. In the case of Maple Ridge Resort, four months' notice is required because the premises are being converted to a use other than residential. Greene said the zoning of the resort has been changed to provide accommodation for summer visitors.

"All I want is to get my property back so I can beautify it, but I never realized the trouble I would have getting the tenants out," she said.

The Greenes' first notice of termination was given to the tenants January 31. Greene said that she got the notice of termination from from a local real estate agent.

### IMPROPER FORM

As it turned out, she said, it was not the proper form and they had no way of getting one from the Rentalsman before rent day.

The second notice of termination was given February 29. A few days later Greene took a copy of the notice into the Rentalsman's office and was told that the notice was invalid because the reason for termination was not stated.

"I told the tenants that we were resuming commercial status," Greene said, "so I didn't think it was necessary to write it down on the form."

"Now," she said, "I can't get the tenants out until July 31, which means the cabins can't be made available for tourists until August 15." New appliances, carpets and furniture that the Greenes are buying for the cabins cannot be installed until all the premises have been vacated.

Two of the five cabins are vacant and could be ready for tourists before August 15. "But," Greene asked, "how can you charge people a tourist rate when the cabins beside them look like dumps?"

The Greenes have tried other ways of getting their tenants out. According to the tenants who are left, Maple Ridge's ex-caretaker was evicted after one month's notice and a man living in one cabin found alternative accommodation.

### THREE YEARS

One of the tenants, Brian Lynn, has lived in a cabin there for nearly three years. He moved to Maple Ridge because, he said, it was like fulfilling a dream to find a quiet cabin near a lake in the country. His girl friend, Joel Mathews, has been living with him for two years.

"Our existence is very low profile," Mathews said. "We've never been late with our rent or

had any disagreements with anybody else."

Their disagreements, Mathews said, began New Year's Eve when the new owners appeared at their door with a one month's notice of rent increase and a document to sign.

Mathews and Lynn alleged that the Greenes' hand-written document stated that the new owners would have the right to give only one month's notice of termination. On the advice of an attorney who was visiting the cabin, Lynn and Mathews refused to sign. "When we refused to sign," Mathews said, "we were spoken to in a rude and undiplomatic way."

### 'POWER TRIP'

"They never made any attempt to be friendly with us and have been on a big power trip ever since they took over," said Mathews.

Another couple, Liz and John, have lived at Maple Ridge since October, 1979.

Both groups of tenants said they tried to get the new resort owners to match the rent increases by repairing plumbing and fixing small electrical problems.

Mathews said they were refused. "She told us that because of the plumbing problems they were taking the previous owners to court and that nothing would be repaired until the court action was over."

Liz and John have a stove that doesn't work. "She told us," Liz said, "don't ask for anything because we're not doing anything, and then," Liz added, "she called the place a commune."

"She also offered to find us accommodation at another resort on the island," Liz said. "She said she knew other resort owners and that they would rent us cabins at the same rate of \$135 per month if we moved out of Maple Ridge." However, Mrs. Greene's tenants did not accept the offer.

### HEARING

On March 7 a hearing was held in the office of the government agent in Ganges. The hearing, which was called by the Victoria office of the Rentalsman, was to determine whether the landlady had sufficient grounds to evict Joel Mathews.

Greene claimed that on four separate occasions she had noted, through the window of Mathews cabin, that the hotplate element was burning on the stove, although there was nothing on the hotplate at the time.

Greene contended that leaving a hotplate on unattended constituted a fire hazard. Mathews submitted to the court an account of her actions.

"Ordinarily when the hotplate is turned on, the tenant is present in the cabin. On the occasion of



New resort owner Mrs. Clarr Greene on the balcony of the main house at Maple Ridge. The "red tape" of the tenancy act is costing her money and making her angry. Her first experience as a landlady, she said, has been nothing but a hassle.

February 1, referred to by the landlady, the tenant was cooking her lunch when the landlady appeared and she simply took the pot off the stove while she was talking to the landlady. She does use the hotplate to warm a cupboard about three feet above the hotplate when she is causing bread to rise or making yogurt.

### NO STATEMENT

"...There is in existence no statement by the fire department that leaving that particular element on does constitute a fire hazard..."

The hearing continued and an application made by the tenant was discussed. Mathews complained to the Rentalsman's officer that her toilet did not work particularly well, the garbage had not been collected for over one month and that the water system was faulty.

The landlady submitted the following: "The toilet problems are closely related to the problems with the water system generally. The landlady is aware that the water system needs complete renovation. This is being attended to."

"The landlady has picked up the garbage but not all of it. She is intending to employ someone to come around and pick up the garbage on a regular basis and take it to the dump."

The rentalsman's officer, F. Smith, decided not to order a re-direction of the rent at that particular time. However, she told Greene that if the problems that the tenant complained about persisted into the month of April,



John Sylvester and Elizabeth Mahoney have been living at Maple Ridge Resort since October.

They said they don't mind having to leave their cabin as long as they are treated fairly while they stay.

without any progress being made to resolve them, then "the tenant should contact me and I shall re-open our file."

Despite their victory in court the tenants of Maple Ridge are still the eventual losers. They have to be out of their homes by July 31, and to find other accommodation will not be easy. Mathews said she and Brian have been searching for a place since the beginning of January with no result.

And the Greenes? If they miss out on three-quarters of their first

tourist season, how will that affect their business? With little thanks to the landlord tenant act, Mrs. Greene admitted that times could be tight.

**Barbara Fallot, R.M.T.**

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B.C. Tel project

# New system replaces underwater cable

BY MARY HARDING

The B.C. Telephone Company has chosen Mayne and Galiano Islands for the digital radio system and radio carrier channel to replace the underwater cable between the two islands. The system will provide for growth requirements more

readily than the laying of more underwater cables.

A digital line concentrator unit will soon provide distribution to Galiano residents.

The work is now nearing completion.

The digital radio installations,

looking somewhat like a little dish on its side, and the unit to hold the concentrator unit have been put in place.

Setting of the telephone poles is much easier now compared to the way it was done for many years. Nowadays a truck with a large auger digs the hole, then the pole is picked up by a long "arm" and set in place. It takes a lot of skill, but not nearly as much manual labour. It is also very fast. A pole can be set in about half an hour, but that is only with good soil conditions. Sometimes it takes a great deal longer, as when they run into rock.

The work has been done by linemen from Victoria, Wayne Baillie, Ken Campbell, Doug Cobb and Blackie Walton.

When they have the poles in position, and know which poles of B.C. Hydro will be used, they proceed to string the carrier line.

This is done with the big line truck, with a man in the small cage going along to secure the line at each pole.

Then begins the serious business of placing the cable itself. This is somewhat more complicated.

An oblong spinner is attached to the lines and as the cable is strung out, it is systematically turned around and around the first "carrier cable" to make one neat line.

The result of all this work to put

the telephone system between the islands will be greater reliability, with less disruption to service.

The existing underwater cable will be kept as a backup or in case of an overload.

The new system is pretty well on time, and within a month or so Galiano and Mayne telephones will be connected to some of the most modern electronic equipment.

### Highest income

Oakville, Ontario, residents have the highest average income in Canada, \$13,954. Next come Sept-les, Quebec, with \$13,553 and Burlington, Ontario, with \$13,551. This information can be found for 100 selected Canadian cities in the 1979 edition of *Taxation Statistics*, available from Supply and Services Canada.

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Microwave disc at Galiano Island



Pole goes up at Galiano for new telephone line

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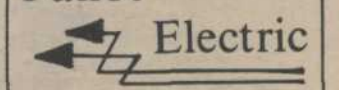

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**Dinner for young and old**

It was a dinner for both young and old when the Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute staged its Old-Timers' Social at Fulford Hall Saturday evening. At this table, members and guests of all ages relax after the meal.

**Pender School meeting**

From Page Nine

Wendy Brown, the only teacher to speak at the meeting, said, "I appreciate the concern of the members of group one. It is far better to be concerned than it is to be indifferent. The 10 points of concern they outlined are like something every teacher should use as something to strive for. I only hope that there can be more communication with parents in the future."

Anne Forbes presented a motion that was considered "in bad taste" by one district staff member.

The motion stated that the two groups should get together and discuss what group one had agreed not to discuss. Forbes put the motion forward with the condition that a member of group one act as a seconder to it. After waiting approximately 10 seconds for a seconder, Forbes withdrew her motion.

**HAD TO REFUSE**

"It was in bad taste to put group one in a position where they had to refuse," said the staff member after the meeting. The official, who wished to remain anonymous, said later that he thought group two belaboured the fact that group one went to the school board as a first step.

After the aborted attempt by one side to meet with the other, chairman Peck invited each trustee to tell the meeting what they believed could be a solution to the problem.

Ivan Mouat, the first to be asked, had nothing to say. Tom Davidson, Saturna Island's trustee, said, "Yes, Mr. Chairman, I too have been listening and my feelings are that education of children is the name of the game. No one here should be grinding their adult axes. The professional staff of the school is carrying out the goals and aims of the district, which is what they were hired to do."

Jeannine Dodds, of Mayne Island, advised parents to consult teachers before coming to the board. "Perhaps the staff seeks the same improvements as you do," she said.

Jim Ripley, trustee for Galiano Island, said, "Being here on the Gulf Islands is a difficult thing enough for a child; let's not make it more difficult."

**ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT**

Mary Williamson, from Salt Spring, said she thought that some people at the meeting were assuming too readily that the parents of

group one had come to the board first. "Sometimes there is no use going to a teacher when it is only the school board that can make a decision. How the goals of group one will be achieved is something else again. There is room for improvement in the school and we will do all we can to help."

Strick Aust, also from Salt Spring, told parents that he was on the school board because of children. "Regardless of what comes out of this discussion, just remember that the children are the ones who have to live with it."

Salt Spring Island's Dave Stacey said, "Now that we've had this meeting you are in a position to depolarize and work together."

John Zacharias, who had spoken many times during the course of the meeting, said he was "out of gas" and declined any further comment.

The final member of the board to speak was Charlie Baltzer. He said simply, "You have a beautiful school here, make it work."

Aubrey Rundle-Woolcock's final comment was more of a lecture on protocol, but it was apparently offered with the hope that the two opposing sides would get together eventually.

**SAME GOALS**

"Yesterday the staff and myself met with members of delegation one. It appeared obvious that the educational goals of the two groups are the same."

"But," he continued, "if the extremes on both sides and the rumours attached are not discounted a little bit, and if either group meets secretly and keeps us in the dark, there will be no way to know what anybody wants, so let's work openly."

Allan Brooks replied to the principal's comment. "I think any group in the community can meet any time and there should be no alarm that so-and-so is meeting secretly. When we started our weekly meetings we were thinking of improvement, not polarization."

"You have disappointed me in your decision tonight not to enter a public discussion," Wilf Peck said from the chair.

Group one member Helena Turner, who had not spoken, told Peck that all of the 10 points mentioned in group one's brief to the board had been discussed with other parents at parent-teacher club meetings. "We were told by parents then that they did not want to engage in a discussion of education. That's why our group separated."

The president of the parent-teacher club accused the attitudes of group one members. "Because of the critical and slanderous

attitude of those parents, we weren't prepared to sit and hear the staff harassed."

"What is your definition of slander?" asked Turner.

Strick Aust stopped the arguing and, in effect, signalled the end of the meeting. "Regardless of what has happened," he said, "why don't we go from here and have the community, instead of starting out on the old trail again, make an effort to forget the controversy."

Chairman Peck said that the problem would have to be solved on Pender Island by the parties involved. Under the circumstances the school board could do nothing for them, he said.

**Fashion show raises funds**

The three local school bands benefited from the fashion show held recently in the high school auditorium at Ganges, one of the show's organizers reported this week.

A large audience saw spring and summer styles which were provided by Carolee's Fashions. Many light and bright summer dresses in both cotton and poly fibres were seen. Commentator was Marguerite Lee.

Five people won door prizes donated by Rita's Inn, Precision Jewellers, the Hair Shoppe, Kana-ka Place and a number of anonymous donors.

The event was organized by Theresa Rooke as a fund-raiser for the bands at Salt Spring and Fernwood Elementary Schools and Gulf Islands Secondary.

The bands will appear at a concert for the public April 24.

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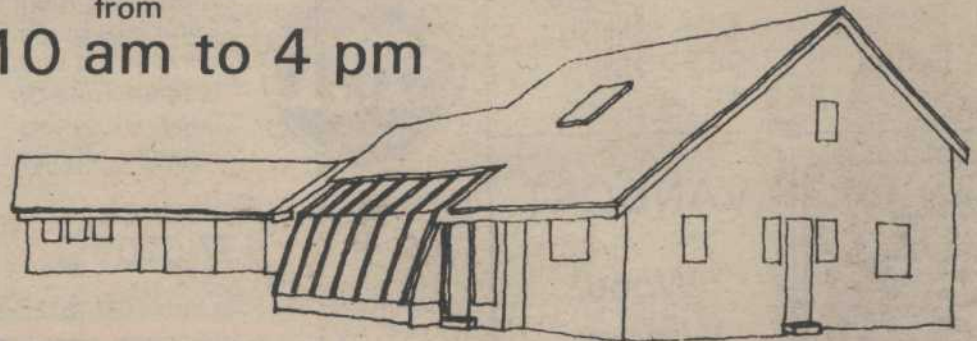
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