

# Gulf Islands Driftwood

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TWENTY-SECOND YEAR, NO. 12

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1981

25c per copy



Driftwood photographer beat local firemen to the scene when this vehicle caught fire last week. However, he didn't have far to go.

Picture could have been taken from inside the Driftwood office on Rainbow Road.

## Car catches fire in Ganges

A Salt Spring Island woman's automobile couldn't have chosen a much more convenient location to catch fire one morning last week.

Fire chief Bob Leask reports that the department was on the scene and extinguished the nearby blaze within minutes of being alerted.

Joan McClean, of Vesuvius Bay Road, had just started her 1969 Ford Cortina and was pulling away from the community health service office on Rainbow Road when the vehicle caught fire.

Contained to the vehicle's engine compartment, the fire occurred last Wednesday at about 10 am.

Leask speculates that the fire probably started as a result of the

engine being flooded. He said that it spread quickly because there was no air filter to contain flammable fumes within the carburetor.

Leask recommends that people not remove the air filter and that

carburetor adjustments only be made by qualified mechanics.

He estimates total damage at about \$200 but said that the vehicle is only worth about \$500 and may not be worth repairing.

## Larmour speaks of problems

# Lake water should be better this year

Water from St. Mary Lake should be better this year than it was in 1980. Mike Larmour, manager of the North Salt Spring

Waterworks District is optimistic.

He told *Driftwood* this week that the raising of the intake last year should keep the system free of the offensive smell attached to water with insufficient oxygen.

The raising of the intake brings its own problems and these are already being tackled.

The new level is in the upper layer of the lake and results in the absorption of a greater volume of algae. The sand filter takes out much of this growth, but it may not take it all.

The district is going ahead with the construction of a new pump-house facility on the lake and its larger filter will also help in the process, said Larmour. He warned that some algae can get through into the pipes, where it could deteriorate and cause some offensive odour but nothing like the conditions which prevailed last year.

The district is not alone in combatting the water problem. The water investigations branch in Victoria is also studying St. Mary Lake and the district hopes that it will offer a solution to the increasing extent of algae, or plant growth in the water.

The study is directed at improv-

ing the quality of the lake.

The only path to a permanent cure is restoration of the lake, rather than the water, said the waterworks spokesman.

### SUMMER LAYERS

Larmour explained that the water forms layers as the temperature rises. The top layer is warmer and its contents are influenced by light. The plant growth in the top layer ensures a constant supply of oxygen to combat the odours of decay and to keep the water in good condition.

The layer below is fed by limited oxygen and is much colder. It is not given to the production of plant growth because it is short of light and warmth. Because it is not good for growing algae it is the layer chosen for water intakes.

The bottom layer is almost free of oxygen, light and growth in the summer season. It is foul in odour and it lies dormant, the graveyard of the dying vegetation in the layers above. This vegetation lies on the bottom of the lake and

Turn to Page Thirty-Six

## Jail terms for break-ins

Two Salt Spring Island men have received prison sentences after entering last-minute guilty pleas to charges of breaking and entry into two Ganges businesses.

Richard Kevin McGoldrick, 21, and Matthew Brian Carter, 19, had originally contested the charges.

Charges in connection with a third break-in resulted in a stay of proceedings at the request of crown counsel.

Both Carter and McGoldrick have already begun serving sentences at the Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre at Wilkinson Road in Victoria.

The charges against the pair were laid in connection with break-ins last December 16 at Ganges Western Drug Mart and January 18 at Windsor Plywood.

Carter, for his part in the two break-ins, received two concurrent one-year jail terms and a total of

two years' probation. McGoldrick received the stiffer sentence with two concurrent 1½-year jail terms and also a total of two years' probation.

Another Salt Spring Island man had earlier received a \$500 fine and one year probation in connection with the Windsor Plywood break-in.

David Bernard, 19, had pleaded guilty to charges of breaking and entry and theft.

There are still charges facing Carter and McGoldrick in Port Hardy, Parksville, Nanaimo, Salt Spring Island and possibly in Victoria.

Theirs are the first cases to go to trial following several months of break-ins on Salt Spring Island in which charges were laid against 23 different individuals, including 18 juveniles and five adults.

## Projects to begin at Galiano, Salt Spring

Having received final approval from the ministry of education, the Gulf Islands School Board has set about completing two projects left over from last year's capital budget.

Provision of band facilities at Gulf Islands Secondary School and construction of a covered play area at Galiano Elementary School had been held up at the ministry since the 1980 capital budget was approved last July.

The school board has been allocated \$75,000 for the band facility and \$25,000 for the covered play area.

Anxious to get on with the projects, the district was notified March 16 that final approval had been given and a construction crew was at the site of the long-awaited band facility the following day.

### SEVERAL REASONS

Secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck said that there were several reasons why final approval was so long in coming.

The process was initially delayed while the new minister of education, Brian Smith, familiarized himself with the matter, suggested Peck.

He noted that in the case of the

band facility there were a number of design problems with respect to the electrical system and the heating and ventilation system that the board had to deal with first.

There were further delays in getting approval to begin construction from various approving authorities, he said.

He noted that there are usually delays in gaining approval from either the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia or the fire marshal's office and that in this case the board required approval from both.

"Then it took the ministry two months to deal with our request for final approval," said Peck.

### READY IN JUNE

The school board hopes that the band facility will be ready for use some time in June.

Peck said that he's not surprised at the length of time that it took to gain approval for the project. The ministry of education is notoriously slow in moving on capital projects and school districts throughout the province have experienced similar delays, he said.

"Keeping in mind all of the steps

Turn to Page Two

## Water vote is yes

Residents of St. Mary Highlands and Malview have voted overwhelmingly to acquire their water distribution system through the Capital Region.

When they went to the polls on Saturday, 103 residents of the two subdivisions supported the proposal to have the region acquire the system and three were opposed.

System was constructed by the developers when the St. Mary Highlands subdivision was established. Later it was extended to serve the Malview area and some properties beyond.

Users have complained for several years of the shortage of water and other operational problems.

Turn-out was poor on Saturday. Only 106 electors attended the polls, out of a total eligible electorate of 580. Results indicated that those who voted were strongly in favour of the change.



**"HYSTERICAL INFLATION"**

(Office of the Hon. Forbes George Vernon, Agent-General for B.C., in London)

Reporter — "Had any land booms in B.C.?"

Hon. Forbes George Vernon — "Oh, yes! To a certain extent! What country has been free from hysterical inflation of values of one kind or another, or ever will be?"

(Extract from London Citizen, December 28th, 1895.)

In 1896, the *Province*, published from 15 Broad St., Victoria, took a close look at the current inflation in land prices. The cartoon carries

no signature to indicate the artist. This 90-year-old journal was among the collection of the Collins Brothers at their home at the north

end of Salt Spring Island. It was in the possession of Colin Muat, who recognized the similarity to today's events.

**School projects to begin**

From Page One

that we have to go through and all of the delays that kept cropping up. I didn't seriously think that we would have it before the next school year," he said.

Plans call for both the band class and the agriculture program to share the existing prefabricated building at the northeast corner of the school. The building had been used solely by the agriculture program until construction began. **NOT ENOUGH**

A spokesman for the school board said that the nearly \$86,000 that has been allocated for the project may not be enough to see it through. The board may have to scrap plans for addition of a greenhouse to the portion of the building that the agriculture program will use.

More than half of the building will be occupied by the band class which will have about 3,000 square feet of space at its disposal. The class is now crowded into about 650 square feet of space in a nearby circular portable building.

In its new quarters, there will be a large multi-purpose area for classroom instruction, band practice and occasional small concerts. There will also be four individual practice areas and space for equipment storage. **UP TO 100 PEOPLE**

As a concert area the facilities will accommodate up to about 100 spectators and will be available for use by the school district and community groups.

Peck said that the building was designed by architect Henry Schubart and that a lot of consideration went into making the band area as acoustically perfect as the board's limited funds would permit.

He said that special acoustic tiles will be used in the ceiling, which has been designed to minimize echo.

A double sound-proof wall will separate the band classroom from the agriculture classroom.

Peck said that the school board

has not yet decided what to do with the circular portable building once the new facilities are completed.

**HAD TWO**

He said the board purchased two similar structures about 15 years ago and that the other portable has since been disposed of.

The school board recently advertised that it was accepting bids for construction of a covered play area for Galiano Elementary School and has yet to decide to whom the contract will be awarded.

Also designed by Henry Schubart, plans call for the 1,000-square-foot area to be situated next to the existing school building, which is in the midst of a renovation program.

Simple in design, it will be built over a concrete floor and covered by a flat roof.

In accordance with ministry requirements, the play area has been designed to facilitate its conversion into classroom space should it be required in the future. **DIDN'T GET APPROVAL**

Peck said that the board drew up

plans two years ago for a play area but never gained ministry approval and the project has been stalled ever since.

That play area was designed as an A-frame and Peck suspects that the ministry of education may have disapproved of the concept as being too radical.

"The question at the time was how can we create the largest and most useable play area for the least number of dollars," said Peck.

He suggested that the play area may have been held up by the ministry while the board made up its mind about its future plans on Galiano Island.

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**Fulford school site gets initial nod from ministry**

Secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck told the Gulf Islands School Board last Tuesday afternoon that the ministry of education has given initial approval to the purchase of a school site at Fulford.

The board is looking for a five-acre site in the vicinity of the junction of Beaver Point Road and Stewart Road.

While the ministry has yet to give approval to this year's final capital budget, it has indicated that the board will receive approximately \$80,000 with which to purchase and develop a site.

Peck said later that the board

hopes to build a four-room school at the south end of the island to ease crowding at Salt Spring Elementary School and to provide facilities for students in that area.

A population survey that the board conducted indicated the most logical choice for a new school to be near the Beaver Point-Stewart Road junction.

Once a site is chosen, opening of a new school will still be several years down the road, according to Peck.

He said that the board hopes to open the doors of the new facility in September, 1983, if all goes according to plan.

**Ring road discussions still alive**

Ring road discussions for the Ganges area are alive and well, it proved last week. Letter to the Islands Trust from the ministry of highways explained that the ministry is interested in understanding the traffic pattern to be served by the road.

Director of planning with the ministry, D. R. Parkes, told the Salt Spring Island Trust planner Dean Strongtharm that a licence plate survey was undertaken in 1977, in June and again in October to identify the bypass traffic.

Parkes will initiate a study as soon as staff is available, the planner was assured.

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# To Be Frank

by richards



In the early days following the Second World War you couldn't buy a useful thing. Everything had gone to war. And I wanted a bath. I was turning a delicate shade of French grey for lack of a bath. The local stores hadn't seen one for years. We found ourselves a toilet and a wash basin, but there wasn't a bath in Victoria. Then the answer came in a flash. They are advertised in Simpson's catalogue. We promptly ordered one. I can't remember the price, but it was 1949 and they were cheaper than they are now. I was earning about \$100 a month. In due course, and the mails were quicker in those days, we received a magnificent set of chromium-plated taps. And we received a letter explaining that they had no baths in stock. They were perfectly good taps, but they looked kind of odd without a bath. So we sent them back. Then started the chain letters. The first letter explained that Robert Simpson was a very patient man, but he liked to eat and would we mind paying for the taps. The second letter explained that the company was in receipt of a set of taps and what would we like the recipient to do with them? I sat back, fully expecting the writers to have a drink together one day and settle the matter internally. But no: the receiving department started to threaten me with the return of the taps at my expense and the credit department threatened me with dire penalties if I didn't pay for them. And I went on, unbathed. Eventually I wrote to the manager of the company suggesting that he introduce these two members of his staff in order that they might settle my differences between them. He did and we bought a second-hand tub from Eric Slegg, Sidney lumber and hardware dealer. It came complete with hardware.

I remember the story of the unfortunate city real estate salesman who forgot his key. It was many years ago, when selling real estate was next thing to poverty. He had the listing and he had the customers. The owner was now living many miles away. So he invited his potential purchasers to examine the garden and he manoeuvred open the bathroom window. It was small and high, but he managed to get in. He leaped from the window ledge to clear the toilet and the weight of his rapidly flying body was too much for the aged floor. He went straight through to the basement. I never heard, but he probably always took a key with him afterwards. It is likely he also carried out a detailed examination of bathroom floors. The sale, like the salesman, fell through.

I'll tell you a secret. The Anarchist is Norman Wright. And the reason for making this disclosure is that I am sick and tired of having people bawl me out for something the Anarchist wrote. I get enough trouble from the things I write without taking the blame for another fellow.

The strike is labour's strongest weapon. It ensures that all the nation suffers when two sides can't agree. It is not for me. It is time that two sparring partners could be expected to negotiate and reach an agreement without screaming like fishwives or trying to drag in cent bypassers. If I am at odds with my suppliers over a deal and can't reach agreement, we go to court. There we assume that my English accent will have no more effect on the courts than his colour or religion. The court settles our differences. It is high time the same could be accomplished in the case of labour disputes. This is the 20th century. It is the century of progress in every area of endeavour. It is the century of progress in confrontation when we get down to labour relations. Labour is at fault and management is at fault. But government must take most of the blame. Everybody is running scared when it comes to labour disputes. Except, of course, the general public. They just suffer.

I was talking to a former CBC man the other day. He recalled coming to Salt Spring Island to do a radio story on the Gulf Islands. And where would the radio team go for information but to the local paper? He and his associate walked in on *Driftwood*. This would be about 20 years ago. It was publishing day and Woody Fisher was surrounded by sheets of paper and a press. The radio crew were sadly neglected as he strove to get out the week's copy of *Driftwood*. He worked so hard that he roped in the radio crew and before the day was out they were folding papers ready for the post office. The end of the day consisted of a party at the Fisher home while the CBC got the information they were looking for. They also won a hangover they hadn't been expecting.

Michael Gyves couldn't have been at the Farmer's Institute, insisted Johnny Bennett. He died 20 years ago! And he's so right! It is Michael McTighe I'm thinking about. He's the driver!

Didn't I know navy ranks, they asked me, in scorn. And I hung my head, as well I might. It was me that identified Lieut. David Harris, aide-de-camp to the Lieutenant-Governor, as Cmdr. Harris. If he was a commander, asked Bill Luker, where was his third ring? John Arnold had the clearest answer. It must have been at the cleaners, he suggested. But I'm making no excuses. There is no excuse possible!

## How safe is a business

Meeting to examine security

Outbreak of burglaries in the Ganges area has had a sequel.

On Wednesday evening next week the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a meeting in Harbour House Hotel to consider the security of business premises.

The meeting will be divided into two main sections. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police will outline the system and potential for

safety of the Business Watch program. Spokesman for a company manufacturing security devices and warning systems will offer advice on how to dissuade the criminal from paying a call.

Business Watch is the commercial version of Neighbourhood Watch, whereby a close eye is kept on properties and the passerby is constantly alert for signs of depredations, as well as other protective

measures.

Committee chairman Ben Martens has arranged the meeting on behalf of the chamber of commerce. Meeting will start at 7.30 pm, Wednesday, April 1.

**Gulf Islands Driftwood**  
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

### HOW SAFE IS YOUR BUILDING? Business Watch meeting

Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 pm Harbour House Hotel  
RCMP and security systems company representatives to speak.

Information: Ben Martens 537-5579, 537-9891 Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce

## Win a Night on the Town!

Place a classified ad in next week's Driftwood (April 1) and you will be eligible to win

2 FREE TICKETS TO  
*Fiddler on the Roof*  
and  
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To enter, come into our office at 121 Rainbow Road before 3 pm Monday, March 30 and place your classified ad. At the same time, fill in one of the tickets provided and deposit it in the entry box.

Contest is restricted to private party classified advertisers (no commercial advertising) and does not include semi-display ads - liners only!

### CONTEST OPENS THURSDAY, MAR. 26.

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**DRAW WILL TAKE PLACE APRIL 1.**

(This is not a joke.)

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# Constructive criticism yet to be heard

Sir,  
In the letters to the editor column of your March 18 issue, N.D.P. Victoria M.L.A. Charles Barber went to some lengths to criticize the 1981/82 British Columbia Budget. It is interesting to note that Mr. Barber is a member of a political party in this province which managed in just over three years, 1972-1975, to deplete the financial surpluses of the former Social Credit government and to rush into an election in December, 1975 before the N.D.P. was forced to admit to the electorate that it had run up an operating debt of over \$260 million.

I can only assume that Mr. Barber is unable to understand that the main reasons for the necessity of provincial tax increases this year relate not to Transpo '86, nor Pier B. C., nor B.C. Place, nor North-east Coal; as he outlined for your readers. Objective analysts clearly realize that our revenues have been reduced by external influences including punitive taxation measures taken by Ottawa, a dramatic decline in sales of natural gas for export and an alarming decrease in U. S. housing starts resulting in poor sales records for our forest products.

He neglected to mention that on the expenditure side for the coming fiscal year three ministries providing social services account for most of our increased spending - these are Education, Health and Human Resources.

The British Columbia Government has taken the position (unlike many other contemporary governments) that program cuts in the education of our children, provi-

sion of the finest health care in Canada, increased assistance for elderly and low income British Columbians, are not acceptable.

One by one the socialist members of the Legislative Assembly who spoke in the Budget debate failed to offer any constructive criticism as to how they would have handled the problems which we face now and in the short term.

To return to the specific points raised by Mr. Barber and bearing in mind that the total Provincial Budget this year is approximately \$6.6 billion, the total allocation for Transpo '86 in 1981/82 is \$2.5 million. No additional funding is

provided for the Pier B.C. Convention Centre within this year's Budget and no additional funds are required within the coming year for B.C. Place.

Mr. Barber also infers that taxes were raised in order to cover costs of Northeast Coal.

This particular project in the northeastern corner of British Columbia is one of the largest ever undertaken in Canada. It will create thousands of jobs and leads to the development of a coal field which has literally hundreds of years of supply. The total allocation out of this year's operating expenditures is slightly in excess of \$48 million.

To return briefly to the question of health care and hospital facilities in British Columbia, N.D.P. members consistently neglect to admit that we have now embarked on the largest hospital bed construction program in the history of this province - many of them for long-term care.

It is to be earnestly hoped that in his role as a member of the Official Opposition, Mr. Barber will start now to offer positive and useful suggestions for the improvement of our standard of living and our ability to provide services in and for British Columbia. He is a member of a party which left all of us a legacy of debt after only three years and he and his N.D.P. colleagues in British Columbia support a Liberal government in Ottawa which is placing every single province, including Saskatchewan, in a very difficult position.

**HUGH A. CURTIS,**  
Minister of Finance,  
Victoria, B.C.  
March 20, 1981.

## Creeping hats, broken dishes?

Sir,  
The homburg hats are creeping in, very slowly, and, in some cases, very reluctantly! We are so very grateful for the co-operation of your readers that we hesitate to keep on asking! But we need china to smash - or any that is already smashed!

If you have the misfortune to break any dishes in the next week and a half, please don't consign them to the garbage. Give them to anyone you know who is in *Fiddler* or bring it to me at Anchor Insurance (between Marshall Wells and D & D).

Thank you again.  
**MARY C. WILLIAMSON,**  
Ganges,  
March, 1981.



## Tony Richards

**THERE'S BEEN A** slight slowdown in production during the past month, ever since our darkroom processor, used for printing photographs, ceased to function.

It was only a broken drive belt, but it happens to be one which we can only obtain from New York.

So we picked up the phone and ordered a new one, confident that its delivery would be made within days as it was to be shipped by air express.

We know better, of course, than to entrust the postal system with delivering an item that drives a machine on which we must depend.

And now we know better than to entrust air express with anything which requires speedy delivery.

The term itself, air express, conjures up visions of 747's streaking across the continent, carrying goods and passengers to their destinations at speeds which even today we find difficult to comprehend.

At least, those are the visions we had a month ago.

All I can see now is a Cessna 180 hopping across North America, beating its way through storms and against headwinds with a determination that would put the post office to shame. But despite all its determined efforts to beat the postal system, it fails.

The one that carried our new belt did, anyway. It took a whole month to get to Victoria. And now it will sit at customs until someone from our office can spare the time to go over and pick it up.

Meanwhile, we may have to engage an artist to draw our pictures for us. We'll certainly keep that in mind in readiness for the next time our processor fails us.

**THERE'S NO DOUBT** that Lieutenant-Governor Henry Bell-Irving will remain popular

with local students for as long as they remember the holiday he gave them last Friday.

But how they remember him, or his title, is a different matter.

One youngster went home from school last Thursday and told his parents "the left-handed governor" had given them a day off.

**THE TERMS ON A BILL** I received from B.C. Hydro this week left me feeling a little better about the charge which was levied against me.

The bill, which had nothing to do with my unpaid transit levy, was for reconnecting a Hydro line which mysteriously snapped one day last December.

According to a faller friend who happened to be cutting a few trees on our property, an unusually sudden and strong gust of wind blew up, leaving him with the impression that he was about to witness the second coming of Christ.

He was even more convinced that he was about to see the light when, without warning, there was a shower of sparks and a loud bang overhead.

Naturally, he was on his knees by this time, having cast aside chainsaw and axe, preparing himself for a heavenly visitation.

However, his expectations were dashed shortly after when he felt a tap on his shoulder. Slowly he turned, fully expecting an angel at least. But he had regained sufficient control of his faculties by then to remember that angels don't wear hard hats.

The crew of B.C. Hydro linemen had arrived after learning that power in the Booth Canal Road area had been cut off.

My logger friend never returned. And now I'm stuck with a bill for \$168 to cover the cost of repairs.

But there was a cheering note in the accompanying letter. Terms of payment are "at my convenience." I wonder how long they're prepared to wait.

## The Anarchist

### Joyce Kilmer Revisited

The poet never lived to meet Calvin Knutsen, the chairman of M&B, nor when he composed those immortal lines "but only God can make a Tree" did he have any idea of the current state of the art of silviculture.

In the interim, successive generations of wood butchers have screwed both the forests of the public domain and the citizen-owners to the undoubted profit of sundry shareholders. The net result of the process is such that today even the most enthusiastic timber exploiter will join in singing, "I think that I shall never see a tree in B.C. that doesn't have an increasingly high cost of acquisition." (Timber exploiters are never poetic).

Which brings us more or less directly to the present situation in which Mr. Knutsen sets out to prove that God was merely wasting His time, since it is much more profitable to screw the public who are the shareholders of B.C.R.I.C. than it is to waste one's passion on a fir, hemlock, balsam, or even a red cedar.

Mr. Knutsen is one of the leading practitioners of corporate fiscal nonsense; Mr. Knutsen believes that a share of M&B, which has a market value of \$41 on his precious free-enterprise stock market, suddenly becomes worth \$70-\$80 if it is to become a "controlling" share. Mr. Knutsen is inclined to suffer from these aberrations whenever he is confronted with anything in the nature of a Crown corporation or similar body representing "the public interest."

Mr. Knutsen has been observed taking gravel pills at the mere mention of the term. Mr. Knutsen also thinks that the Socreds are politically vulnerable and that if he makes enough noise Bennett and Co. will have to sweeten the deal.

### One for the Book

On hearing that Trudeau was to make a speech in the current debate, and that it was expected to be a "blockbuster" lasting about 45 minutes, I made arrangements to listen. Two and a quarter hours later I was aware that the "blockbuster" label was a shill and that what I had heard was the stuff of which the poli-science freaks will debate for the next hundred years.

The speech was an absolute portrayal of the federal case in the sure-to-be-heard appeal before the Supreme Court, it was a legal appraisal with just the necessary amount of political blood in it.

The nice touch was that in the face of the proposed time limit to be imposed on the rest of the debate, Trudeau began his speech with no possibility of finishing within the time allowed by the Standing Orders, and completed it after obtaining the unanimous consent of the House.

The best political point was the rhetorical question to Clark et al as to whether they will choose to fight the next election on the question of repealing the patriation or the Charter.

So now comes Noranda at \$56 a share. And Mr. Knutsen will smile and Mr. Bennett will sigh with relief and BCRIC may come up with some more money.

## Further advice on head lice

Sir,  
I am sure that many people appreciated your practical article covering treatment of head lice in a recent issue of the paper. I have just read with great pleasure your write-up about Dr. Alan Arneil in the March 11th issue. I shall never forget how Dr. Arneil came to our rescue on Mayne Island when we so desperately needed a health centre there.

The article last mentioned made it clear that people were still confused about the lice. I may say that we have been going through the same hassle in the Surrey schools, and I am going to speak from practical experience as I became directly involved. Perhaps it will be helpful if I enlarge upon Dr. Arneil's practical advice by pointing out that we are dealing with a little insect. This insect was biologically programmed ages ago when our ancestors were still swinging around in the tree tops.

The louse does not relate to the modern world, to intellectual theories, dialectics, or to computerized programs. So if we are going to deal with it we need simply to study its life-cycle, and learn how it reproduces, then break the reproductive cycle. Arrogant and intelligent Homo Sapiens should have no real difficulty in eliminating this primitive and relatively defenceless insect, that can live only on the human head and whose power of movement is so limited.

But let us rid ourselves of the lice with a degree of grace - we definitely don't want them - but let's be calm and dignified in our approach. Afterwards man, the destroyer, can go back to his current preoccupation with mess-

ing up the planet and making it uninhabitable. We don't need to itch while doing it.

The practical steps outlined in your paper will be effective. For those who do not want to use products containing lindane, a good soapy solution with two teaspoons of white coal oil will clean out the lice. The vinegar rinse loosens the nits which can then be combed out. Wait one week then repeat the treatment. In this time any residual eggs will have hatched but will not have reached sexual maturity. One mature female louse can lay 50 or more eggs. So don't leave it over a week. Needless to say, the cleanup of clothes, bedding and what have you is vital in both the initial and the repeat operation.

We found another commercial product, I believe it is called "Paralice", which is relatively harmless to us but helps eliminate lice if you prefer not to use coal oil, and is very useful in the repeat operation.

**MARY F. KLINE,**  
Surrey, B.C.  
March 20, 1981.

Letters to the editor must be signed, and should be addressed to The Editor, Gulf Islands Driftwood, Box 250, Ganges. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity, legality and taste.

**Government lacks gumption**

**Canada must stand up for its interests**

Beneath the surface glitter of Ottawa's welcome to President Reagan is a growing anxiety shared by many members of parliament about Canada's relations with the United States.

In this context I raised once again the threat which an American superport would pose to our coast. I wrote to Prime Minister Trudeau and urged that he place the subject on his agenda for discussion with President Reagan. In my letter I outlined our basic concerns as follows:

"Such a port in the Strait of Juan de Fuca with the attendant possibility of an oil spill poses a threat to our beaches and marine life. Increased traffic by large, difficult to manoeuvre vessels would create hazards for the many pleasure boats, commercial boats and ferry boats that already use the waters. The terminal itself and the attached facilities would create serious air pollution problems which could affect the city of Victoria."

**NO REPLY**

So far I have not received a reply from the prime minister's office. Considering the government's abject attitude on other bilateral issues we cannot place too much confidence in the government's action on tanker traffic.

The evening before President Reagan spoke to a joint session of the Canadian parliament, I had the opportunity to raise the question of tanker traffic in the House of Commons. I pointed out that the government has time, and again declared its opposition to the oil port proposals. But the opposition was not effective because it was not backed up by an adequate information base and the government lacked the political gumption to show any effective opposition.

In the House I made the following statement:

"I have asked both the minister of fisheries and oceans and the minister of the environment to prepare independent studies on this subject. We would like to have the vast resources of our federal government brought to bear on this important question. We believe that our coast is under threat, and we would like some help to deal with it. We have not found that help forthcoming."

**EXAMPLES**

I cited examples of the many situations we in British Columbia have found ourselves in, where the good will of the department of fisheries and oceans has not been backed by the political will to ensure that our fisheries are protected:

"Ladysmith Harbour, one of the finest shell and oyster producing areas in the province, is being destroyed by log storage and the use of toxic chemicals in local mills. The Cowichan estuary, in spite of department of fisheries promises, is being parcelled out and given

**Ottawa report**

BY JIM MANLY, MP

over to increased industry, which will destroy this vital feeding ground for young salmon. The Chemainus estuary is being considered for dryland log storage.

"This winter there will be a lifting of the moratorium on offshore drilling on the Pacific coast, which will open our coast to the possible kind of mega-disasters which we have seen in the Gulf of Mexico."

**DID TAKE ACTION**

There is one example, however, where the government did take decisive, tough action.

This spring, the minister of fisheries finally recognized that the declining Chinook stock in the Pacific coast had reached a crisis. In place of reasonable conservation measures, introduced over a period of years, the government, when it finally acknowledged the crisis on its hands, announced drastic measures which will hit the sports fishing industry twice as hard as reasonable measures would have done five years ago.

On the eve of his visit to Canada, President Reagan announced that he was scrapping the east coast fishing treaty, which is essential to the livelihood of our fishermen and fish stocks. American overfishing could lead us to the depletion of our Georges Bank scallop stock off southern Nova Scotia within 18 months.

Now the United States has cancelled a treaty that took seven years of negotiation and numerous concessions from Canada. When Ted Miller, NDP spokesman on fisheries, asked about this provocative action, the prime minister replied in the House of Commons: "This government is once again putting the best possible light on the United States action and we are seeking, in a spirit of friendship, with the visit of the United States president to find a solution to this problem."

The American government has

indicated it will relax air pollution standards, thereby threatening Canada with more acid rain. Funds have already been cut for maintaining of water quality standards in the Great Lakes.

Reagan's firing of all three U.S. representatives on the International Joint Commission, the agency responsible for the solution of bilateral problems, means that crucial issues will be unresolved, including the proposed flooding of the Skagit Valley in southern B.C.

On the international scene the United States has stepped up support for the vicious junta that rules El Salvador. Instead of pro-

testing this intervention, the Canadian government has agreed to the American action.

In the face of these and other American actions, Mark McGuigan, the secretary of state for external affairs, has said that he is "delighted" with the visit. Even if we allow for diplomatic language we should not have to appear delighted at such a negative series of events.

President Reagan will only respect us if we are willing to stand up for our own interests. So far the government has not been willing to do this.

"Delightful".

**Need for control of seals and sea lions greater than ever**

Sir,

Need to control seal and sea lion population is greater than ever.

Ever hear of the salmonid enhancement program - this is a series of projects such as improving spawning areas, artificial spawning channels, hatcheries, even transporting fish by helicopter. Is this to be all in vain if seals and sea lions are too many then these little fish won't survive to grow up.

When there was a bounty on seals these animals were never in danger of being killed off because they are very smart. The same with sea lions. It's like the deer, if they weren't hunted there would soon be so many that there wouldn't be a garden left.

Anyway, I think if seals and sea lions were hunted and the meat used this would be beneficial to mankind and also beneficial to the marine ecology. Preserve those fish, that is the number one priority.

I think the reason that the fisheries used to use a machine gun to shoot sea lions was because it is usually rough on the west coast and from a boat, unless it is perfectly calm, it is nearly impossible to get off an accurate shot with a rifle.

Also, they have the best escape in the world - to dive beneath the

waves. There was never any danger they would all be shot as they are too smart.

**GEOFF HOWLAND,**  
Ganges.  
March, 1981.

*Improving visibility better idea*

Sir,

This afternoon a head-on collision occurred on Vesuvius Bay Road, sending three people to hospital. The bend where this happened, 200 metres south of the second Mobrae corner, has, neighbours tell me, been a danger spot for many years.

A less controversial solution to the problem than the building of wider highways, where higher speeds would make accidents such as this fatal, might be the cutting back of brush and trees to the present property line so that visibility would be improved. Drivers could then see oncoming traffic in time to take safe evasive action.

I realize that a defensive driver is always prepared for emergencies, no matter what the road and traffic conditions may be, but here on Salt Spring not everyone drives defensively.

We could all use a little help from the Department of Highways in making blind corners less hazardous by inexpensive clearing.

**TONY FARR,**  
R.R.1 Ganges.  
March 21, 1981.

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# Tourism: who profits and who pays?

Sir,  
Who profits and who pays?  
Tourism has some effects on an environment which are most readily overlooked when viewed through the yellow glow of gold. There is a connection between the number of tourists accommodated in an area and the increase in taxes to even the non-commercial residents; there is a relationship between the number of tourists and the loss of the attractions which lured them there in the first place; there is also a connection between the number of tourists and the crime and vandalism experienced in an area. All this has been proved repeatedly by the experiences of many other island paradises.

Why then is there this aggressive drive on by the minister of tourism and helped along by the converted? It is because they equate the ultimate good with the ultimate profit - the creed of Calvinist commercialism that God rewards his chosen with profit and a good life.

These people leave no stone unturned in order to justify their urges. Just as a moth flies to its destruction into a bright flame so does commercialism towards the lure of gold, except that in this case, the destruction occurs to the environment and the non-commercial residents and not to the exploiter.

He or she is allowed to move on to provide blessings to other unspoiled areas. It seems to be a manifest destiny that all these blessings must eventually also descend upon our islands, but that does not make it either right or even desirable except to the few who profit by them.

An inference is made that small businesses are good and big businesses are bad. Yet it seems that big businesses cannot become so except from being small first. Once the commercial climate is right, such as a happy union between accommodations and facilities provided by the taxpayer and the natural environmental attractions, then small businesses grow into big businesses and the

more aggressive the business leadership is the better the chances are for growth.

There exists a belief in the ministry of tourism that all tourism is inherently good for all regions and that accommodations must be supplied for all. There are, no doubt, places where tourism contributes to the welfare of a goodly number of businesses and people, places such as in cities where accommodations already exist to attract and satisfy tourists of all kinds.

This does not make it right or desirable for all regions. There are natural beauty spots where these accommodations do not exist and which attract a class of tourists who do not seek these accommo-

dations. Such are the people who come to enjoy the natural beauty of our islands. They require well kept and controlled campsites and access to water and beaches. They do not require Big Sewers or extensive recreational facilities.

Invariably it is the taxpayer who is asked to supply the expensive wherewithal to attract the tourists whereas it is the commercial interests who profit by it. Certainly, we want to see progress but not at any price; certainly, we wish to welcome strangers to enjoy the natural beauty of our islands but not at the price of losing this beauty for the sake of profit.  
**P. DYCK,**  
R.R. 1, Ganges.  
March 19, 1981.

## Why did he fish in middle of sea lion pack anyway?

Sir,  
I am commenting on the letter written by Bob Dugas of Ganges. He writes about non-productive fishing all day in the middle of a sea lion pack off Parksville. He also complains that sea lions' heads kept popping up around him.

I am not writing for or against sea lions. Life is a compromise. There will always be those who enjoy watching and hearing sea lions until they leave us in April. In fact, some people come to the Gulf Islands and other coastal places to join with nature in this way. And there will always be those who see good reason to shoot seals and sea lions, pump them full of air, and tow them to a processing plant.

What I don't quite understand is why Mr. Dugas fished all day in the middle of the pack. He was surprised or annoyed to see their heads popping up, but what else was likely to surface periodically?

He may have fished without reward to be able to write his letter from a point of experience. Otherwise there must have been another

location in the whole ocean where an experienced fisherman would prefer to cast his line for the day after due study of his environment.  
**H. GRIFFITHS,**  
Galiano Island.  
March 17, 1981.

## One more huff and puff

Sir,  
It is not my intention to enter a joust with Anarchist. That would be foolhardy considering his evident superiority so please allow one more huff and puff from the gentleman from Fulford.

I suspect his reply was more in the nature of a rebuttal than a consideration for my feelings which incidentally would not have been hurt by no response. I don't quite get the incest reference (see comprehension below) but it was nice of A to reply anyway even though he did not explain his reluctance to be identified. As to his charge of lack of comprehension he may be right. After perusing A's column the old gent begins to wonder if he is losing whatever power of comprehension he was endowed with.

Finally, I cannot agree with A's assessment of our country's pre-Trudeau condition. When a geographic minority of a country imposes a constitution, complete with its own veto, on the whole, it is difficult to believe such will be workable; more likely a continual source of dissension.

If we must have the constitution here, as most agree we should, then let us bring it home, no problem there, and work out our own amending formula, which is our own responsibility, not the British Parliament's. A lady from Rainbow Road has written an interesting letter on the subject. Let us not be too sure it can not happen here.

**T. BUTT,**  
Fulford Harbour.  
March 22, 1981.

## Anarchist a highlight and never ceases to amuse, amaze

Sir,  
Dear Anar Chist: I find it rather amusing, and so do you, no doubt, that some of our readers, and including our erudite editor, have confused your name with your political outlook. It is indicative of our helpful editor, who, in his desire to help to the best of his ability with spelling and syntax, has also confused your name with your persuasion.

I know, he does it to me, he prints my articles exactly as I write them, only better. And I thank him for that.

As to anarchy, dear Anar, we all know that it describes a system without government, laws, regulations and enforcement. For in anarchy nothing has to be regulated, enforced or governed. For it is a state of affairs where every man governs himself, totally, from within, and all law, regulation and government is simply superfluous.

If a man does not steal, ever, the law "Thou shalt not steal" is ridiculous, superfluous and totally unnecessary. It is as superfluous as a law "Thou shalt breathe" would be.

So, if a man lives and acts, speaks and thinks in harmony with

all men, all life, be it winged, walking or rooted, then he is an anarchist, and no laws, rules and regulations, governments or enforcement structures are required for the protection or governing of anything or anybody.

This is anarchy, and we are headed for it as certainly as we exist, for there are many anarchists among us. Although they hardly ever speak out, except for the cause of harmony and understanding.

Nevertheless, although I do not agree with you, I thoroughly enjoy your perceptive turn of thought and phrase, and your hearty commitment to whatever you are doing.

Your column, to me, is one of the highlights of our *Driftwood* and never ceases to amuse and amaze me. Thank you for your thoughts and courage to speak your mind in print.

**PETER WEIS,**  
R.R.1 Fulford Harbour.  
March, 1981.

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Book Review

# Ladysmith history brings back Louis Stark story

**BY FRANK RICHARDS**  
*Chronicle of Ladysmith and District. Compiled by Viola Cull, Ladysmith New Horizons Society. 392 pp.*

When coal was found on Vancouver Island, Ladysmith and the Dunsmuir fortunes were built on the prosperity of mining.

When the New Horizons Historical Society of Ladysmith decided to publish a history of the town and surrounding area, the present book came into being. It is significant, not only for providing yet another local history of a Vancouver Island community, but also for the fact that it is the work of senior citizens who devoted themselves to the task. The editor, Viola Cull, is a member of the society and a pensioner herself.

The book refers to the early history of the town and enters into detailed histories of many families. The broad story of Ladysmith and its early days is of broad interest to many outside the town. The individual tales of the individual families are of great interest to those who are acquainted with the town and the townsmen, yet they are still live stories to every historian and all readers who are looking for the pattern of living in earlier times.

Of interest to Salt Spring Island is a picture of the "first coloured teacher", in 1874. Her name was Emma Stark and she was black. Which makes her a member of the pioneer Stark family of Salt Spring Island. She was, of course, Myrtle Holloman's sister.

**LOUIS STARK'S DEATH**

There is a story about the death of Louis Stark, the first of his family on Salt Spring Island, who found prosperity, and death, on Vancouver Island. There are no dates mentioned in the reminiscence by George Tranfield, where the book tells of Stark's arrival in Nanaimo and his pre-emption of land in the Cranberry District, south of Nanaimo. Later Louis Stark took up land in Extension. He had a very prosperous farm and a Stark apple tree is still bearing fruit there.

Louis Stark was found dead under suspicious circumstances, obviously the victim of foul play, recalled the writer, but every lead took investigators along a dead-end road. Stark was murdered close to where the Extension Road

crosses the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway, known as Stark's Crossing.

A further story compiled from notes in the possession of Myrtle Holloman goes into details of Stark's journey to freedom from the United States.

Louis Stark was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and he never knew his own age. The book tells something of the abject poverty that was the lot of the slave. From his earliest recollection he wore a one-piece garment of coarse homespun cloth. It was his only clothing and it was a sleeping gown at night. He and his brothers and sister slept on old mattresses, with rags for covering.

**POVERTY**

The family had no furniture and for their dinner a large pot was placed in the centre of the room, on a dirt floor. They had no chairs. Each child had a spoon and a piece of cornbread and they all dipped in

the one bowl.

He learned to prune trees and look after a nursery and he later became a barber. He went to California during the gold rush, and passed as a Spaniard to safeguard his liberty. In California he married Sylvia Estes and the families moved to British Columbia when they feared California might become a slave state.

In 1958 they settled on the Saanich Peninsula. In 1860 Louis Stark, his wife and two children moved to Salt Spring Island.

In 1867 Thomas Michell bought the Estes farm in Saanich. He sold 125 acres of farmland with 21 head of cattle, 18 pigs, 24 chickens and turkeys, one wagon and harness, one plough and milking pans for \$650. In the meantime, Louis Stark moved to Vancouver Island and his daughter Emma took up a career as teacher. Myrtle Holloman recalls that she and sister Serena and brother Abe went to

North Cedar school, eight miles from home. They stayed in the teacher's cabin.

Myrtle Holloman wrote in more detail of her father's death. His son, John, pressed the Victoria authorities for an enquiry, but he was obliged to write repeatedly before a detective was sent to Extension. The 1895 mystery was never solved.

**NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOUR**

Geographically and historically Ladysmith is next door to the islands. The history is of importance here for that reason.

I have one quarrel with the book. In its explanation of the naming of the town, the story recalls the marriage of a British officer and a young Spanish girl. They were Harry Smith and Juanita Maria de los Dolores de Leon. Smith was later General Sir Henry George Wakelyn Smith, governor of Cape Colony and a valiant soldier of wide experience. Their marriage was one of history's fairytale romances. During the Peninsula War, Smith was asked for help by two Spanish women fearful of the murder and rapine

which was taking place. He rescued both and married the younger.

His service in South Africa as soldier and colonial governor gained him a warm esteem and two towns were named in honour of the British general and his Spanish wife, Ladysmith and Harrismith.

**FORTY YEARS AFTER**

Forty years after his death the Boers besieged Ladysmith and in 1900 the siege was lifted by Redvers Buller. On March 1, 1900 James Dunsmuir received a telegram advising him of the end of the siege of Ladysmith and he immediately selected the name for his new coal town south of Nanaimo. Four years later Ladysmith was incorporated as a city.

The dates offered in this history as the sequence of events in the life of Harry and Juanita Smith cannot be accurate. Dates are not all-important, but if a historian mentions them he should make sure they are right.

In all other respects the book is interesting and informative.

## New year celebration was right on time

**Contributed**

A group of people celebrated New Year on Saturday at Beaver Point Hall. No, they weren't late. On the Baha'i calendar the new year begins on the 21st of March, not the first of January.

The celebrations included all ages and was reminiscent of community parties gone by when the entertainment was supplied by those present rather than by someone hired to perform.

In this hemisphere, March 21 seems a very appropriate time to celebrate the new year. The first signs of new growth are all around us. Everyone seems to be lifted in spirits after a dreary winter, eager to join together in celebration.

The unheated hall was warmed up with happy smiles and children's laughter. The mood was no doubt encouraged by the abundance of spring flowers and blossoms, delicious home-made food and the mingling of different ethnic groups.

A program of entertainment was as varied as the people present, treating everyone to the intensity of Schubert as well as the lightness

of three-year-old Kaisha McKaque's surprise rendition of *Hickory Dickory Dock*. One person present stated that her hope was the trend toward this type of old-fashioned get-together would continue on Salt Spring Island.

The New Year's party was a success, appropriately timed for the coming of spring. It is hoped that the rumour of a second annual New Year's party is true!

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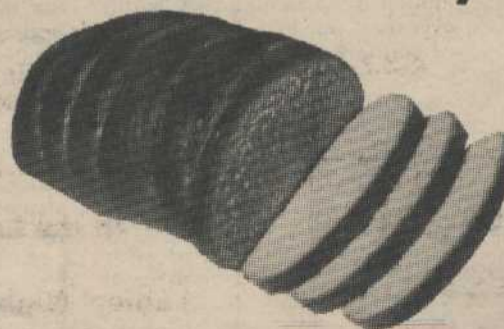
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## You and the stars

# ARIES

BY FRANK BOSTOCK

If you were born between March 21 and April 19, you were born under the sign of Aries. This gives you much mental energy and quick wit. Those born under Aries are born leaders, more or less headstrong, or impulsive, ambitious, full of energy and enterprise and new ideas.

You do not like to be under the direction of a master, and are inclined to be fiery and quick tempered, quick to resent abuse or imposition, but are forgiving and do not hold a grudge for long.

Your great love of freedom and justice, coupled with your enthusiasm and self-will, is at times liable to cause you to go to extremes, through indignation, hasty speech or lack of discretion. Those born under Aries possess a penetrating willpower, are not

easily discouraged, are philosophical by nature, admire scientific thought and are at their best when at the head of things such as director, instructor, superintendent or manager.

### MARS

The planet Mars is the ruler of your sign. It is significant of strength, force, energy, courage and activity; his manifestation is constructive or destructive according to the way one lives. It governs the bladder, muscular system, head and face.

It causes cuts, burns or scalds, etc. It rules surgery, medicines, chemists, so you are apt to be inclined to either of these.

Its colour vibration is red, so this colour is suited to your appearance. At times the Mars influence may cause you to overdo, so conserve energy, avoid disputes and controversy, avoid hasty and forceful actions and impulsive speech.

The symbol of your birth sign Aries is the ram, its meaning is it butts its way through, regardless of obstacles. The bones indicated by Aries are the skull and face, causes such things as pimples, ringworm, headaches and cerebral congestion. You are advised to avoid worry, anxiety or anger, which tend to produce over-strain of the brain and the general health.

### REST, SLEEP

Aries people require plenty of

rest and sleep, and peaceful and harmonious surroundings. They should partake freely of vegetables and brainfood, avoiding stimulants, and partaking lightly of meat.

The principal characteristics for cultivation are being active, enterprising, courageous, ardent, industrious and generous. Undesirable tendencies for correction are denoted by the words headstrong, excitable, impatient, irresolute, quarrelsome. These undesirable traits can be corrected by proper mental therapeutics.

Certain restrictions for 1981 make this year most interesting. Determine to surmount the obstacles; there will be a challenge in regard to finance, so be conservative, do not make large purchases that will take years to pay off. Health is stressed in July and August, take care of physical problems this period. The watchword for 1981 is patience.

You may want to become involved in another occupation that seems more glamorous; take the necessary time to fully examine all contingencies. Skies will not be blue and clear all the time, but being forewarned is being forearmed.

Learn by observing, by listening and planning each move with extra care, and this year will be favourable and will bring positive results.

## New club will meet at Central

A club for Salt Spring residents 60 and over has been formed for afternoon social activities at Central Hall.

A spokesman for the club told *Driftwood* that a number of club members have put a lot of hard work into preparing the downstairs room at the hall for a recreation area.

For a small annual membership fee, members can enjoy carpet bowling, snooker, shuffleboard, darts, cards and a number of other games.

Members will also be provided with refreshments in the form of tea, coffee and cookies.

The facilities will be open Monday through Friday, from 1 to 4 pm. A formal opening is planned for some time in the near future.

"As we gain members and experience we hope Central Hall will be a happy place to spend a social hour," *Driftwood* was told.

"If you wish to be a spectator, there are comfortable chairs to relax in," the spokesman added.

## Herbs and wine are topics of two classes at Ganges

BY VIRGINIA NEWMAN

### Continuing Education

Two classes offered by Gulf Islands School District's continuing education program will start in the next week.

This Saturday at Salt Spring Elementary School Babs O'Brien of our local health food store, and Don Olsen, co-founder of Self-Heal, Victoria, will show slides and give a talk on herbs you can grow and gather.

Second and final session will be a week Saturday, April 4, the class

will meet on the porch of Mahon Hall before going on an easy walk for field identification.

Cost of the course is \$8.50 and a cheque may be mailed or dropped off at the continuing education shelf in the school board office.

There is room for five or six more in Steve Lynch's wine-tasting class, which has been put forward a week to Thursday night, April 2, in the foods room of the high school.

Cost is \$5 plus wines. For more information, call me at 537-9251.

## Society plans two operas for last concert of season

The Salt Spring Concert Society reports it has a treat in store for islanders with its last concert of the season.

Two fully staged, one-act operas are being planned, with performers coming from the University of Victoria school of music and opera.

*The Impresario*, by Mozart, relates the story of a theatre manager who is harassed by two temperamental prima donnas contending for the leading role.

*Riders to the Sea* was written by Ralph Vaughan Williams and is based on John Millington Synge's play of the same title. It is described as a tragedy of men and the sea, and of the women who must stand by, powerless to change fate.

Piano accompaniment will be provided by Theresa Turgeon and stage direction by Glynis Leyshon. The singers are from the classes of Jean Letourneau and Bernard Turgeon.

Performance will be seen at 2.30 pm Sunday in Mahon Hall.

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**Worst refugee problem in world**

**Pender campaign raises over \$5,000**

BY ELEANOR HARRISON

A drive at Pender Island to raise aid for refugees in Somalia has raised \$5,500, a meeting at Pender was told last week.

Dr. Don Sutherland, Pender Island's physician, left the islands on December 28 last year to fly to Somalia to head a medical team at a refugee camp at Sabaad.

Dr. Sutherland has written that the 12 refugee camps consist of thousands of tiny portable houses, built with curved sticks tied at the top like a dome tent and covered with mats, gunny sacks, cardboard or whatever. There are 1,500 underweight children given supplementary feeding twice a day in his particular camp and most of the camps in the area are larger than the one Dr. Sutherland is in.

He describes the country as a desert-like place with parched hills, winds, flies, markets, swirling head gear, people, camels, goats, monkeys and dusty wart hogs. Elevation is around 4,000 feet so it cools off at night and sleep is comfortable. At midnight there is a curfew. Armed patrols and anti-aircraft guns are stationed around the town and airfield, but the border is 30 - 40 km away.

**WORST IN WORLD**

From the *World's Children* magazine of September 1980 (the magazine of Save the Children Fund), an article describes Somalia as having "the worst refugee problem in the world".

"In the country there are approximately 1.5 million refugees, 90% of them women and children, with a high percentage of under five year olds. Of these about 700,000 are registered and live in camps where the conditions are overcrowded with poor sanitation and a high incidence of disease. Another 800,000 refugees are spread across the towns and rural areas.

"These refugees have been coming into Somalia since 1977 as a result of the continuing war in the Ogaden between Somalia and Ethiopia. At the beginning of 1980, there was a sharp increase in the influx of refugees, which was unforeseen and therefore not catered for by the Somalia government and the UN agencies responsible for food and drug supplies."

"The harsh climate, extreme poverty of the people, a long-standing war and in the past 10 years a series of heavy droughts has resulted in a people in desperate need."

**CAMPAIGN ORGANIZED**

A movement began on the Penders early this year to help. A committee was formed and Mrs. Myrtle MacGregor and Douglas

Harker agreed to act as patrons. Plans were made to canvass the islands from March 4 - 8.

Ron McLardy acted as chairman, Tekla Deverell as secretary, Frank Jones as director of the campaign, with Tom Mitty acting as the trustee of the funds collected.

Dr. Sutherland knew nothing of these plans until March 4, the day the canvass started. In the meantime, it had been successfully arranged through the local banks that the funds collected would be sent directly to Dr. Sutherland in Somalia; thus every cent contributed will be used to help better the refugees' conditions.

On Saturday evening, March 14, a social evening was held at the school-community centre for all those who had worked or contributed to the campaign. Mrs. Gayle Burandt organized the event.

The evening started out with a film from World Concern obtained by Mrs. Judy Neil, which showed refugee life in East Africa. After viewing the film all who saw it were glad to have been able to give even a little to help those people.

Ron McLardy, as chairman, expressed pleasure at seeing such a large turn-out. Frank Jones, who organized the canvass, thanked all those who had worked on it.

**BIG HEART**

Patron Mrs. Myrtle MacGregor said that Pender Island has a big heart and although it's a small island, it seized the opportunity to give readily and generously. After seeing the World Concern film and the desperate hunger and knowing how small our world has become, she noted that here we all lead a pretty comfortable life.

Mrs. MacGregor praised the united effort of the people of the

Penders in their desire to help the less fortunate people of our world.

Mrs. MacGregor continued by sharing some excerpts from a letter from Don Sutherland received by his parents, Ethel and Cam Sutherland of Langley, who were present for the evening.

The next speaker was Patron Douglas Harker, who said that after listening to the speakers, hearing Don Sutherland's letter read and looking at the film that the drive was unique in several ways.

It brought over 60 people together and raised more money than any similar drive. This fund will bring to the people of the Penders no material benefit but will benefit us in turning our thoughts away from our problems to the plight of people whose circumstances are unimaginable to us, he said.

In Somalia exists poverty, disease and illiteracy greater than in any place in the world after long years of drought and war. It is hard for us living on Pender to imagine the harsh environment of Somalia, Harker said.

**UNIQUE FEATURE**

Another unique feature of this drive is that there will be no administrative expenses, all monies collected will go to the people - there will be no goods standing unattended on distant docks. Dr. Sutherland will be there in person and undertake to look after its disbursement.

Harker continued by saying that he was proud to be involved in such a splendid project.

Pat Smith's orchestra, Under the Moss, started at 8 o'clock and played throughout the evening whenever there was a break. After

the speeches the Pender Island orchestra, led by Bob Allison, played for dancing. All proceeds from the party were added to the fund.

On Wednesday, Mar. 25 the funds will be forwarded to the bank in Mogadishi, Somalia. With funds from the social evening and late contributions the amount forwarded will be \$5,504.47.

**They met a long way from home**

A small group of young people from Salt Spring Island met recently, at quite a distance from home.

Nicola Haigh, Michelle Layard, Kathy Toynbee, Cathy Ramsey, Scott Fraser, Ken Simons, Karen Truscott and Toby Seward found they had a lot to talk about.

So what's so unusual about that? Their meeting place was in London, England.



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**Oldest church scene of quiet wedding**

**Contributed**

The oldest Anglican Church on Vancouver Island was the setting for a quiet wedding March 14 to unite Mrs. Wendy Carol Pattison and Kendall Roberts in marriage. St. Peter's Church in Duncan was the scene of the wedding with Rev. Patrick Ellis and Rev. John Murray officiating.

The radiant bride came down the aisle on the arm of her son, Brien Pattison. She wore a lovely afternoon dress of ivory coloured peau de sois, with dainty insets of lace on the long sleeves and high collar. She carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums, freesias and baby's breath.

Her only attendant was her daughter, Miss Sarah Pattison, whose dress was of grey silk. She carried a bouquet identical to the bride's.

Carrying posies of mixed flowers were Ashley Tyler, Regan Whitney

and Teddy Mason. Best man was the son of the groom, Larry Roberts of Vancouver. Ushers were Bruce Rutheford and Bill McLallen.

The reception was held at the spacious home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Hayes, in Duncan.

The toast to the bride was given by her uncle, Jack McLallen, and toast to the bridal party was given by Larry Roberts.

Flowers for this special wedding were arranged by Wendy's sister, Mrs. Vicki Mason of Vancouver. A special guest was Wendy's dad, W. McLallen of Vancouver.

Other guests were relatives from Phoenix, Arizona, Baloxie, Chicago, and other places in the U. S., and from all over Vancouver Island, Vancouver and Galiano Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberts will live in Duncan, with frequent trips to their home on Galiano Island.



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1973/74	Nov. 1, 1985	\$27.91
1974/75	Nov. 1, 1983	\$ 8.52
1975/76	Nov. 1, 1984	\$11.78
1976/77	Nov. 1, 1985	\$16.07

Bondholders who redeem these Bonds prior to maturity will not be entitled to the cash bonus but only to the original return payable, as printed on the Bond certificates. Bondholders may however continue to cash interest coupons each year and be entitled to the cash bonus.

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Series	Maturity Date	Value at Maturity
1977/78	Nov. 1, 1986	\$242.11
1978/79	Nov. 1, 1985	\$207.03
1979/80	Nov. 1, 1986	\$209.38
1980/81	Nov. 1, 1987	\$206.85

Rate increase effective April 1, 1981.

**NOTE:** The 1980/81 Series of Canada Savings Bonds remains on sale until further notice. The Bonds may be purchased at face value plus accrued interest charged from November 1, 1980 to the end of the month of purchase. Accrued interest charges will be at the rate of 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% for the months of November, 1980 to March, 1981 inclusive and 13<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>% for each subsequent month.



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## THE ADMINISTRATORS

# 'Islands not playground for wealthy'

*Eleventh of a series*  
BY SCOTT WEBSTER

Suggestions that the Gulf Islands are becoming a playground for the wealthy are without basis, says the man responsible for property assessment in this area.

Garry Garras, office manager of the Ganges office of the B.C. Assessment Authority, says that property values are still reasonable compared to some areas in the province.

He said that despite the unprecedented increases in the price of real estate, the most insurmountable obstacle to moving to the Gulf Islands is finding employment.

While financial considerations are certainly a factor, the reason so many retired people have moved to the islands is because they're not in a position to have to try and find work, according to Garras.

### AS MUCH OR MORE

He said that as much as prices are rising, it's a safe bet that they're going up by as much or even more in Victoria and Vancouver.

As head appraiser for all of the Gulf Islands with the exception of Mayne, Garras is charged with the responsibility of appraising property to set a basis on which property taxes can be collected.

A homeowner's property taxes are based on the municipal mill rate which in turn is based on the assessed value, or an established province-wide percentage of the actual value.

To offset the general rise in the market throughout the province for residential properties, the government has reduced that percentage to 11% in 1981 from the 14½% used in the 1980 assessment.

Assessing is difficult business and the most challenging aspect of it is in answering questions that property owners might have about their assessments.

### OBJECT IF IT'S TOO HIGH

Garras said that on the one hand property owners are inclined to object if they feel their assessment is too high since it would mean paying higher property taxes.

On the other hand, however, they may feel cause for alarm if the assessment is less than their expectations since the actual, or assessed value is a reflection of the current market value.

Garras said that under present market conditions there is no such thing as property going down in price. The last time he can remember this happening was during a brief period in 1976.

At that time, the Islands Trust had just released large parcels of land for subdivision into five-acre lots.

### DOWN TO \$22,000

Garras said that prior to introduction of that subdivision bylaw, a five-acre lot sold for about \$25,500. The bylaw resulted in an abundance of five-acre lots and the oversupply forced the average price down to about \$22,000, he said.

Garras said that the actual or appraised value is not necessarily indicative of the true market value of a piece of property.

He said the assessment office's figures are usually about one month behind and slightly lower than those of the real estate agencies.

"We follow the market, we don't create it," he noted.

Garras said that the actual value

figures that the Ganges assessment office came up with for the 1981 assessment were a close representation of the true market values.

### FIVE PERCENT BELOW

He estimates that his office's figures were about five percent below true market value for the third quarter of 1980.

"I think that when the level was set for the 1981 roll, we felt that the actual value closely represented market value for Salt Spring Island and Galiano," he said.

Garras notes that the B.C. Assessment Authority doesn't update its records on a monthly basis. With property values estimated to be rising at least 30% a year in the Gulf Islands it's difficult to keep accurate and current records of a property's actual worth, he explained.

Garras suggested that many real estate agents would argue the accuracy of the assessment office's figures.

When appraising property, however, the B.C. Assessment Authority uses the same criteria or standards as do real estate agents when estimating the market value, he said.

### FACTORS CONSIDERED

A property's location, its size, its proximity to the waterfront, the type of land, the number of buildings on it, the condition of the buildings and perhaps most importantly the amount of demand for that type of property are all taken into consideration when determining its actual value.

Garras said that there is an appeal process through which property owners can challenge the assessment office should they feel that their assessment is too high.

Notices go out towards the end of December and property owners have until January 20 to file an appeal.

Garras estimates that his office received about 56 such appeals of this year's assessment.

### COURT OF REVISION

The appeals go before a three-man court of revision which sits for a month each February at the provincial court building at Ganges.

The politically appointed members of this informal body hear evidence from both the appellant and the assessment office and are empowered to either uphold the assessment or to decide on a more suitable amount.

Garras said that the assessment office wins about as many decisions as it loses and that the court of revision even has the authority to increase an assessment if it feels that such action is warranted.

This rarely happens, however, and the B.C. Assessment Authority tries to discourage the courts from making such decisions, said Garras.

Property owners can carry the appeal process a step further if the issue is not settled to their satisfaction before the court of revision.

### APPEAL BOARD

They can exercise the option of taking their complaint to an appeal board that sits in Victoria and which holds the final authority on assessments.

Garras said that the assessment office makes every effort to resolve a property owner's complaint between the time he has filed an appeal and it goes before the court

of revision.

He said that either he or Bill Henderson, an appraiser, will contact property owners to answer any questions that they might have.

"If there's a problem, come in and see us and we'll show you what's happening in the market place," he suggested.

Garras reminds land owners that they have until December to put an assessable building on their property to qualify for next year's provincial homeowner's grant.

### MUST BE A STRUCTURE

Ownership of vacant land isn't enough to qualify and there must be a structure in some phase of construction on it.

Grants in the amount of \$630 are available to homeowners 65 years of age and over while those under the age of 65 are eligible for a \$380 grant.

Laying of a foundation is enough to qualify for grant, he said.

There is an advantage to having a partially completed building assessed at year's end and that is that the assessment will only be on the amount of work that has been completed at that time. Lower property taxes would be levied for the following year compared to what the taxes would have been had construction been completed.

"The way we see it, the extent to which it's been finished is the way we assess it. It's usually to the benefit of the people to have it assessed on a non-finished basis and to finish it up the next year," said Garras.

### AFTER NOVEMBER 30

He also suggests that land registry changes, where land has been subdivided into smaller lots, should be made after November 30 to avoid paying property taxes on each individual lot.

"If you want to subdivide your land, you want to make sure that it was subdivided after November 30 that you won't be paying individual taxes on individual lots. You would want to pay on just one big block of land."

Garras said that to some extent individuals working for the B.C. Assessment Authority are called upon to serve as public relations officers for the entire provincial government.

While out in the field appraising property, both he and Bill Henderson find that they are called upon to answer a variety of questions about subjects that don't even fall within their jurisdiction.

### MAKES IT A POINT

"I've always tried to make it a point that if they call our office or try to get an answer that I'll direct him to the next place of assistance," he said.

Garras said that many property owners assume that since appraisers work for the B.C. Assessment Authority, they are in a position to answer questions about building restrictions, subdivision, property taxes and other matters unrelated to assessment.

"That really isn't our game at all. Our game is actual values but we still have to have some degree of knowledge about those subjects," he said.

Its mandate calls for the B.C. Assessment Authority to conduct assessments every four or five years but in actual fact the last assessment conducted in the Gulf



GARRY GARRAS

Islands was about 10 years ago.

### CROWN CORPORATION

Garras explained that prior to 1974, assessment was the responsibility of the municipalities but the B.C. Assessment Authority Act established the body as a crown corporation and gave the province the authority to assess property.

Lack of manpower and tremendous population growth throughout the Gulf Islands have prevented the Ganges office from sending around appraisers as frequently as would have been desirable, said Garras.

Garras and Henderson have taken two months out from their other duties to bring assessments on Pender Island up to date. They return to Salt Spring Island and their families on weekends.

As manager of the Ganges sub-office, Garras answers to Bill Craven, assessor for the Saanich and the islands assessment district.

He estimates that both he and Henderson spend about 80% of their time out in the field assessing property.

### FROM SAANICH

He transferred to Salt Spring Island just over five years ago from the Saanich office where he had served as an appraiser.

Garras recalls having jumped at the opportunity to transfer to Salt Spring Island since it meant settling in to a quieter pace of life for him and his wife Barbara.

"The rural atmosphere really intrigued us and it was the kind of life that we wanted to get involved in," he said.

The Garras's have a four-year-old daughter Amie.

Garras was born and raised in Burnaby. He attended the B.C. Institute of Technology and obtained his degree in building technology, a two-year program that he recalls was more like a regular nine to five job than anything else.

### 40-HOUR WEEK

Students were required to dress up in suits and ties and put in a 40-hour work week with a one-hour lunch break each day.

Following graduation from BCIT in 1968 he went to work for the city of Vancouver as an assistant in the engineering

department.

One year later Garras was employed as a clerk in the assessment department with the city of Vancouver where he remained for the next three years. He views this phase as an important stepping stone in his career.

While there, Garras continued his education by attending night classes at the University of British Columbia, where he was enrolled in a three-year urban diploma course which he successfully completed.

### AS APPRAISER

From there he went to work for the municipality of Richmond where he served as an appraiser with the assessment department and gained valuable experience in property assessment.

In July, 1974 Garras took a position with the municipality of Saanich assessment office which was later to become the Saanich and the islands assessment district. He remained there for two years until which time he transferred to the Ganges sub-office.

The Garras family own a spacious and attractively decorated home on North Beach Road with a view of Trincomali Channel. Their 1.3-acre property affords raising a few chickens and space for a recently completed workshop where Barbara teaches ceramics.

Garras and a partner have just completed arrangements for renting a 16-acre farm at the rear of the Garras property, on which they plan to raise several varieties of sheep.

### IN ROTARY CLUB

Garras is midway through a one-year term as president of the Rotary Club, an organization of which he is a past secretary and past director.

He has also served as a volunteer ambulance driver for the past four years and is chairman of the Central Hall Committee.

To round out an already busy schedule, Garras is also a member of the Salt Spring Island Advisory Planning Commission and he belongs to the Salt Spring Island Rod and Gun Club.

He is also interested in woodworking and house design.

# Take advantage of balmy weather, get early start

April is the usual time, in our climate, to sow our main crop of peas, carrots, beets, lettuce and scarlet runner beans. For the other beans the ground is still too cold and the seeds would rot. But since we are having an early spring, we might as well take advantage of this balmy weather and get an early start.

In any case, this welcome warmth gives us a neat chance to do some succession or staggered planting. The idea is to make three sowings a month apart, of the same vegies.

For instance, we can sow carrots in March, April and May. Carrots average about 60 days to maturity, which should provide us with fresh carrots at the beginning of June, July and August.

The latest sowing should be the one for storage. It should be the most extensive sowing to provide you with carrots until next season's fresh ones. We have always managed a continuous supply, except this year, due to this house we are building.

### SANDY LOAM

Carrots prefer a light sandy loam, especially the long, pointed danvers types. For heavier soil the blunt-ended nantes types are more suitable. All carrots thrive in deep topsoil.

If you don't have deep topsoil, try a raised bed. I find a three-foot-wide bed best. Four-foot-wide beds are a bummer to weed in the centre. Four rows about seven inches apart, seeded thinly, at about two to three seeds per inch, are about optimum. Although if you want lots of baby carrots you could sow denser and thin a lot.

Inter-plant your carrots with garlic to keep the carrot rust fly at bay. Also, a strict four-year rotation will go a long way towards keeping this pest under control.

The way we usually sow our carrots is as follows. Two rows to be sown now, the other two rows in the same bed in April and a whole four-row bed in May (late) for our winter supply. Our rows are about 40 feet long and this will keep our family of four to fifteen in carrots until next season.

### NOW UNTIL LATE APRIL

Sow all your peas now and until late April. Peas prefer to grow in cool weather and they will quit altogether by the time hot weather arrives in July.

Since we do all kinds of other things besides gardening, we find the bush peas less demanding of the work required with stakes and strings and such. We sow peas about three inches apart, 1 1/2 inches deep, in two rows about 12 inches apart.

We tried dehydrating peas last year and found that fresh frozen peas

## Farming and Gardening

BY PETER WEIS  
Foxglove Nursery Consultant

are superior. "Little sweetie" (stokes) is a bush type edible pod pea, delicious fresh and the frozen ones are nice in stir-fried vegies.

We are still eating last year's beets. We sowed "little egypt" (stokes, 34 days to maturity) and "long season" (stokes, 70 days) at the same time for an almost continuous supply of beets and greens.

The "long standing" or winterkeeper is just that, an excellent winterkeeper. There are still some out in the garden right now. We sow beets about half an inch deep, one seed per inch in rows about six inches apart. Three 40-foot-rows keep us in plenty of beets and greens including lots of pickled beets.

### KEEPS WELL

As the "long standing" keeps so well out in the garden, we pickle as we go along. We pull a bunch, cook some for supper and pickle the remainder, often in the leftover juice of the last jar.

Lettuce should be sown at two-week intervals from now until early July. Sow two to three seeds per inch, half-inch deep in rows as lettuce bolts easily.

We find that a five-foot-long row per sowing provides us with more lettuces than we can eat. The leaf lettuces have three times the amount of vitamins and minerals, as compared to head lettuce. All lettuces are mostly water, so a continuous supply of moisture is necessary for success especially for head lettuce.

If you do not have well rotted manure, a commodity not that easy to come by unless one produces it oneself, it would be best to prepare your cucumber and squash hills now with fresh manure. We usually chuck about a pail full (2 1/2 gallon size) of manure and compost into a hole about one foot deep and 1 1/2 feet in diameter and then cover this with the excavated topsoil, making a small mound.

I like to make a plate size depression on the top to collect and retain water. Hills should be four to five feet apart in all directions. In fact, four feet is a bit crowded except for the compact cucumbers. Hills are seeded or planted in early to mid-June, and by that time the fresh manure will not be "hot" anymore.

If you want to raise your own cucumber plants, don't start them until the later half of April, about six weeks before setting-out time.




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
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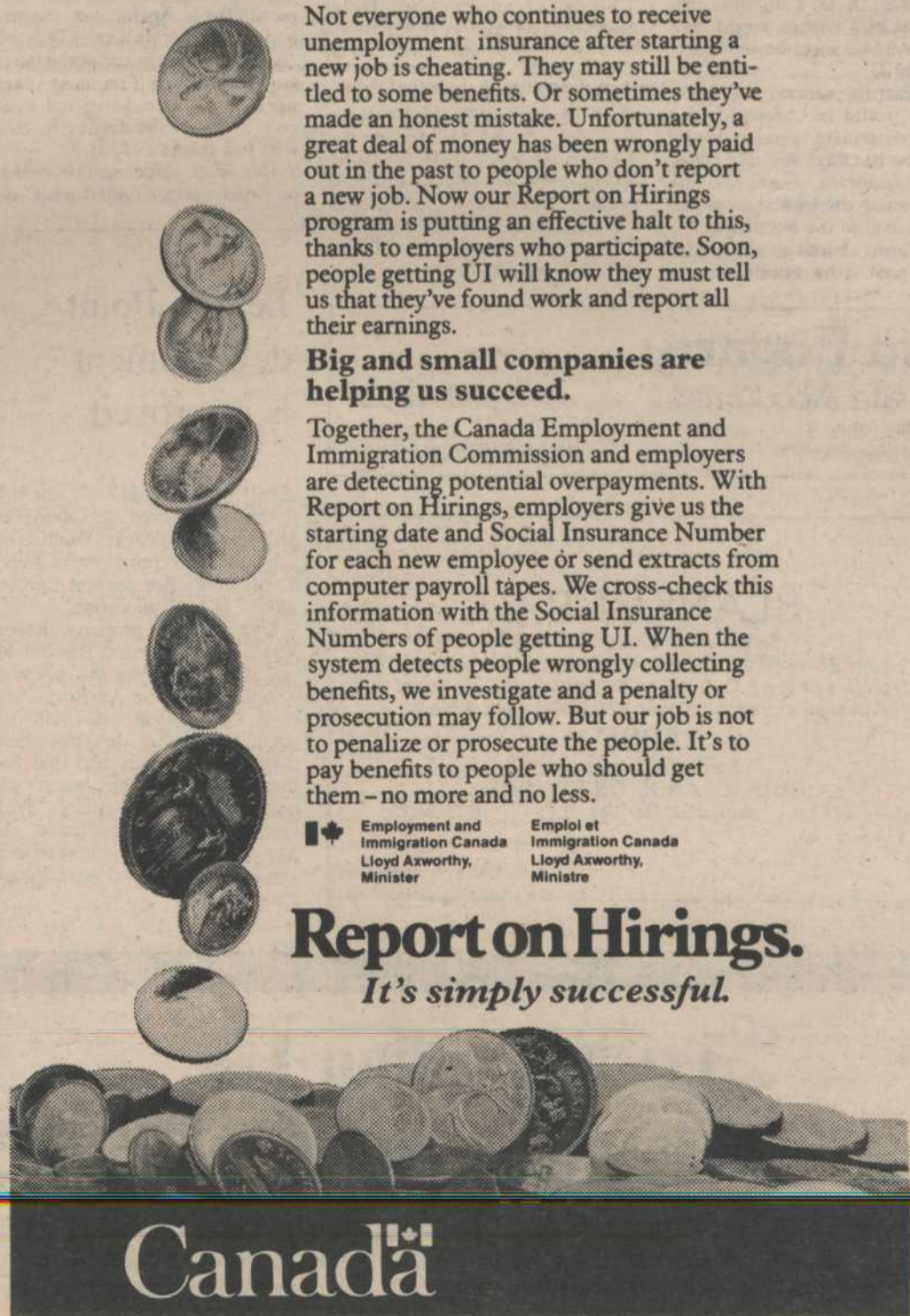
Together, the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission and employers are detecting potential overpayments. With Report on Hirings, employers give us the starting date and Social Insurance Number for each new employee or send extracts from computer payroll tapes. We cross-check this information with the Social Insurance Numbers of people getting UI. When the system detects people wrongly collecting benefits, we investigate and a penalty or prosecution may follow. But our job is not to penalize or prosecute the people. It's to pay benefits to people who should get them - no more and no less.


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## Fiddler lodged in cells, returned to roof-top perch

The organizers of *Fiddler on the Roof* breathed a sigh of relief when Ganges RCMP made a quick recovery of the Fiddler after he was removed from the roof of the Ganges Western Drug Mart.

The theft occurred March 18 at about 8 pm and RCMP recovered him about 20 minutes later following an automobile chase to the island's north end.

The Fiddler had been on the roof of the pharmacy for the past several weeks promoting the upcoming presentation of *Fiddler on the Roof* by the Salt Spring Players.

Const. Glenn Hanna had chased an automobile as far as the Cedar Beach Resort on North End Road after

attempting to stop it for a speeding violation. The chase started on Lower Ganges Road.

Upon reaching the vehicle, which had pulled into the resort, Hanna discovered four passengers and the missing stuffed dummy which had suffered damages at some point during the ordeal.

Following a brief stay in one of the cells at RCMP headquarters, Fiddler was returned to his rightful owners, Ray and Beth Hill. A bit of patching up has put him in order and he is now back in place on the pharmacy roof.

Charges are pending in connection with both the theft and the resulting automobile chase.

## At Merritt

# One win, two losses for Scorpions

Contributed

Gulf Islands Secondary School's senior boys basketball team, the Scorpions, just completed a successful trip to the provincial 'A' tournament in Merritt B.C. After a slow start, losing to Seaquam from Delta 89-47 and Mount Sentinel of South Sloca, the boys rallied to stop Nishga 110-61.

Arnie Hengstler, Kevin Kline and Glenn Sollitt started off slowly against Seaquam. All three amassed a point total of 15 while the Seahawks threw in 41 points for a half-time score of 41-23.

A slow start for us and high percentage shooting for Seaquam took the game to a one sided 87-43 score. Arnie Hengstler scored 10 points and fouled out of the game at three-quarter time, Kevin Kline added nine points while Glenn Sollitt and Larry Spence gave seven points towards a tough defense put up by the Seahawks. After this game it was a little difficult to think about playing the next day at 12.30.

Mt. Sentinel was led by last year's provincial all-star Rick Patterson. This game began with a close quarter-time score of 14-10 for Mt. Sentinel. Trevor Tamboline had the difficult task of checking Patterson. Trevor scored six points in the half and did a good job on stopping Patterson's penetration.

Kline, Tamboline and Spence scored eight points and Arnie Hengstler held the inside down with 14 points. However, Patterson and company out-scored the Scorpions 70-44. Again, our shooting and determination were a little off. During the season and at the island tournament the Scorpions averaged 60 points a game but could only score in the forties in their first two games.

Our third game against Nishga on Friday demonstrated what con-

fidence could do for us. Unlike the Seaquam and Mt. Sentinel games we began to play our game.

The game started with the Scorpions totally dominating play and jumping to a 52-34 half-time lead. From here on in it was a scoring contest. Hume, Hengstler, Sollitt, Walker and Tamboline ended up in double figures.

Kevin Kline, Ross McFadyen and Larry Spence all set up numerous assists for baskets. In short, everyone got on the scoreboard and we fell only eight points

short of setting a tournament record at 118 points!

Team members Arnie Hengstler, Trevor Tamboline, Derek Walker, Kevin Kline, Ross McFadyen, Glenn Sollitt, Bruce Hume, Larry Spence, Tom Tranter, Clay Riley, Robert Holmes and coach Larry Roy wish to express thanks to all the parents and fans who helped us reach our goal.

If there was an award at the tournament for parental support we would have got it.

## Scouting under way at Pender

A Wolf Cub pack has been organized on Pender Island, with formation of a Sea Scout troop planned for next fall.

Frank McKenzie, who moved to Pender recently from Ontario, has been appointed director in charge of Scout and Cub activities by the Pender Island Sports Program Society. He has had 26 years of experience with the Scouting movement.

Weekly meetings are being held year-round between 6 and 7.30 pm

on Tuesdays at the school-community centre.

There are 14 boys registered now, and three leaders are involved: cubmaster Frank McKenzie and assistant cubmasters Raymond Neil and Tom Turner.

## Wiring would cost thousands

Underground wiring in the core area of Ganges would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, the Islands Trust was informed last week.

When preliminary plans were laid for a new look for the area, the Trust envisaged a community free of wires. Enquiry to BC Hydro has indicated that the cost would be beyond the community to support.

District manager for Hydro in the islands, J. D. Langston, told the Trust in a written report that there would be costs beyond those of simply laying underground cables. Existing service on every building would be obsolete and a new underground service would have to be installed. A further cost, warned Langston, would be the underground connection from the property line to the building.

If the Trust should go ahead with the proposal, a six-month warning

would be needed by Hydro to line up the materials needed for such a project.

## Bridge winners

Gulf Islands bridge club winners March 16 were: first, Dr. and Mrs. Hyslop; second, Nora Day and Phoebe Stevens; third, Helen Shandro and Audrey Allan; fourth, Mayme Iverson and Norm McConnell.

Charity game winners were: first, Bud Keech and Gordon Parsons; second, Dr. Hyslop and Mayme Iverson; tied for third, Marjorie Downs and Gordon Best, Norma Keech and Shirley Parsons; fifth, Mrs. Hyslop and Henry Jefferies; sixth, Lois Popkin-Curman and Roma Sturdy.

## Beaver Point development is approved

Salt Spring Island Trust Committee has approved a subdivision plan for the Beaver Point area, subject to the provision of beach access and a five percent "green-space" or park allocation.

Owner of the property, Robert Unger, had protested the call for beach access when the proposal was heard by the Advisory Planning Commission. He told the commission that he has been plagued by vandals and that further access to the beach will aggravate the situation. Trust Committee also negotiated the precise location of the greenspace.

The property lies close to Ruckle Park.

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# Three horrors with each useful piece of news

The more I read the newspapers, the more glad I am that I don't read them every day! For each useful piece of news, I am confronted by three horrors!

I hope some of you saw "Education of a Father" in the *Times-Colonist* of March 18. It tells of an assistant controller to a San Francisco-based international corporation whose family began to fall apart at the seams. Fortunately, his three children were able to talk to him (but not before his 15-year-old daughter had been picked up as a run-away) and he realized drastic measures were called for.

Unable to get time off, he quit his job and found himself inundated with debts. They sold their house and the whole family went on a camping trip.

### NO CHOICE

When they returned to Northern California, "they stopped at a town on the edge of the foothills, where they live now, working whenever they can find jobs and reapplying for welfare when they can't. Do they feel guilty about being dependent on society? Yes, definitely. 'I didn't make the world the way it is,' the father explains. 'I'm willing to work. I did work - hard (50 to 60 hours a week!) Paid my dues. But if it's a choice between condemning my children to alienation, addiction, fear, hatred and loneliness, or putting up with the arched eyebrows of a

county employee or a neighbour, while my children live free, healthy lives and can communicate with me about what they're doing - well, it's no choice at all.'"

### GOT TO CHANGE

"This country has got to change. Until it does - and while it does - I want to be here. Close to my garden, my children. As for welfare, I'll take what I can get, just to make it from one month to the next. In the long run it'll cost society less than it would to keep us locked up. In jails. Or booby hatches. Or both."

Food for thought, indeed!

\*\*\*\*\*

It's not just newspapers which carry horrifying stories. I watched part of *Soldiers of the Twilight* on ABC-TV and found it hard to believe. The men being interviewed were, by and large, too old to have been corrupted by television! But there they were, large as life and twice as nasty, talking about "the fun" of killing.

Revealing little comments such as: "When you go out into the desert and strap on your gun, you feel like a man!"

Talking of a death squad, one man said, smiling: "They disposed of them (the rebels) or whatever you like to call it!"

### TO PUT DOWN TERRORISM

Mercenaries hire themselves out to "put down terrorism!" When they're not just there for the fun of

## More Food for Thought

BY MARY C. WILLIAMSON

it, that is! Obviously they don't see themselves as terrorists!

We saw a refugee camp in San Salvador, occupied by women, children and old men. The young men have been killed by the army, or they have joined the guerillas. Yet the camp is raided periodically by the army, who are "looking for weapons."

American weapons which are found throughout Central America are blamed on communists. Now we see that not only may Vietnam veterans be responsible, indirectly, having sold their "souvenirs", but they may be directly involved, by hiring themselves out to one side or another. They don't seem much concerned with morality. One man even said of his term of service in Namibia, "I was fighting for America!"

The only twinge of sympathy I felt for any of them was when one man searched out and disarmed a bomb. That takes cold courage and saves lives, rather than taking them.

Last week I was handed a pamphlet on Christianity and Socialism. Reference is made to the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 2 vv 44 and 45, and Chapter 4 v. 32 and vv 44 and 45. Then this: **CLOSER TO CHRISTIANITY**

"I think the application of Communism in China is a great deal closer to Christianity than our application of capitalism in Canada and the United States. When I go to China I see a highly moral place. I see great heaps of bicycles all stacked against each other without a single lock on them. Nobody ever steals. It's true! "It isn't very long ago that China

used to be a most thieving place. Communism in China is very close to the teachings of Christ, and morality has become a perfectly tremendous force - one which goes through the whole of their society and which changes the attitude of every citizen of every little village...." - (*Maclean's* magazine, April 1976).

With all due respect to the late Dr. Wilder Penfield, neurosurgeon, scientist and Rhodes scholar, I'm afraid all that will change now that the Chinese are being exposed to more of our Western culture, including Coca Cola!

## Islands' needs are increasing

The Gulf Islands are becoming ever more closely integrated with the Capital Regional District as an increasing number of administrative functions are undertaken by the region on behalf of the islands.

The increase was evident in terms of numbers, when the board debated the 1981 budget. Schedule A of the 1980 budget included 13 items relative to the islands. The number this year stands at 15.

Included are grants-in-aid for the two electoral areas; North Pender and South Galiano fire protection; Salt Spring Island

parks and recreation, Activity Centre and parks acquisition. Outer Island parks; North Pender activity centre; South Pender activity centre; Saturna Island water system; Magic Lakes water system and sewer system; Ganges sewer system; Maliview sewer system.



Photo by Ed Bermingham

BARBARA CADE, aged 16, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Cade of Merritt, B.C., holds a BCTV SCHOLARSHIP at St. Michaels University School in Victoria.

Last year, Barbara was an honour student at Merritt Senior Secondary School, worked on the school newspaper, and was winner of a science award. She hopes to enter medicine.

St. Michaels University School believes that the future strength of Canada depends on the quality and rigour of our schools today.

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For information, contact: John Schaffter, M.A., Headmaster, St. Michaels University School, 3400 Richmond Road, Victoria, B.C., V8P 4P5.

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# MARY GYVES BRENTON

## Burgoyne Valley her home for most of her life

BY VALERIE RICHARDS

Mary Gyves Brenton has lived in the Burgoyne Valley for most of her life, born 87 years ago on the property where she now resides, when the valley was quiet, sparsely populated and, as she admits, when times were hard.

Her father was an Irishman and a runaway. In Ireland he saved his money and dreamed of joining his brother in New York. Being of an adventurous nature, Michael Gyves fled his homeland and journeyed to New York, where he landed in 1856 at the age of 23. He quickly found himself a job. He enlisted in the American army for a four-year term.

Gyves found himself as a serving soldier of the United States army when he was sent to San Juan Island. After 20 years of dispute, the San Juan boundary was eventually defined in 1860, following a joint military occupancy of the island and the sudden preoccupation of the American government with the threat of civil war. Gyves eventually completed his military term but as a result of the British-American boundary dispute, he had already discovered British Columbia.

### CAME NORTH

He left America to come north and explore British Columbia with the intention of settling. After an unsuccessful attempt at prospecting for gold, Gyves found Salt Spring Island.

The abundant stands of cedar prompted him to buy acreage and sell the cedar for shakes, fencing and construction. Michael Gyves established himself in the Burgoyne Valley, where he slowly amassed several hundred acres at an average price of two dollars an acre. His land spread from the eastern slopes of Mount Bruce to the western hills along Beaver Point. Gradually, he cleared the land and sold his timber.

There were, on several occasions, bridal ships carrying young, adventurous English women to the colony of Canada. Pioneering farmers stopped work and met the boats in Victoria or Vancouver. Some men were lucky. Some women were lucky.

### INDIAN PRINCESS

For Michael Gyves luck was finding an Indian princess from the Cowichan Valley, Dow Wakhwia, daughter of the chief and learned in farming matters, household maintenance and in the instruction of the Catholic faith.

Dow Wakhwia married Michael

Gyves and soon became Mary Ann. She raised a family of three and while husband Michael busily continued to clear land and provide income to support his growing family, his wife set to raising poultry, gardening and cultivating the land.

The Gyves family saw the construction of the small wooden Catholic church in Fulford Harbour. St. Paul's was built by religious advocates, both Indian and white. Cowichan Valley Indians canoed to Burgoyne Bay carrying timber and glass from their old church to provide a new one for south-enders on Salt Spring. Oxen were used to haul timber to the church site and Vancouver Island missionaries came to visit and oversee the construction.

### COST \$2,000

Gyves built the present, long-standing residence now occupied by his daughter, Mary Brenton. The house cost \$2,000 to build and its design was duplicated by Michael Gyves Jr., who built his home several hundred feet northward on the same property.

Mary was close to 14 years old when she was entertained by a survivor off the sunken *Iroquois* in 1909.

"He came for dinner on my mother's invitation and he told us his account of the laden ferry and the squall. As he told us his story he couldn't keep his peas on his knife and my brother couldn't stop laughing. Of course, my mother sent my brother from the room to allow the man to finish," Mary explained. "He was apparently one of two or three survivors."

### CONVENT SCHOOL

At the time Mary was struggling to attain high school grades in a school which couldn't provide high school tuition. To settle the problem Mary was sent to a convent school in Nanaimo by her parents. There she studied Grade 8 and after a year returned to receive tutoring privately from a teacher at Isabella Point.

Mary abandoned the Burgoyne School where she'd been one student among 20. Her tutor sent her on to St. Anne's Academy in Victoria where she took her teacher's exam and passed with flying colours. Before she had written her certificate she was teaching eight pupils on Galiano Island.

Mary Gyves was 18 years old when she went to live with the Stewart family on Galiano Island.

She taught at the little school for six months before she attended the Provincial Normal School in Vancouver.

Four years passed and she was back at Burgoyne School. She taught Mrs. George Laundry, Molly Akerman (nee Carlin), Dorothy Harris, (nee Akerman), the Maxwell girls and the Douglas boys. She still recalls reproaching a Lee and punishing him with a half-hour detention. Melbourne Lee ran to the window, which was a large one and stood well off the ground.

### NEVER RETURNED

"He turned and told me he wasn't coming back and then he jumped out." Mary laughed at the incident and shook her head. "He never did come back either, that was the kind of control I had over my pupils!"

And Miss Gyves taught in other places.

"One of the best times of my life was at the O'Keefe ranch in the Okanagan. It was wonderful."

The O'Keefe ranch, run by one of the fathers of the Okanagan, Cornelius O'Keefe, was elaborate and elegant. The enormous house accommodated everyone, including cooks, nursemaids and housekeepers. Mary was employed by O'Keefe as governess following a note of recommendation from the Normal School in Vancouver.

At the beginning of the first war Mary Gyves left the island to start a five-year employment under O'Keefe. She became school mistress of the Otter Lake School eight miles from the large ranch and lived at the O'Keefe home. On one occasion, her brother gave her a horse to take back with her to the Okanagan after she had been visiting on the island.

### RODE TO PRINCETON

The gift from brother Michael posed problems Mary wasn't eager to face. She considered shipping the animal from Vancouver to Penticton but costs were formidable. She decided that she would ride the horse as far as Hope, stay with friends and ship the horse from there.

In 1916 Mary rode through the Vancouver streets on horseback, ignoring the traffic, and with some difficulty finding her way out of the city and on to the road to Hope. It was a slow journey, and when she arrived, discovered there were no shippers in Hope. After a night's sleep she set out early, accompanied by a girlfriend who



Michael Gyves, Irish pioneer settler and father of Mary Gyves Brenton.



Mrs. Mary Ann Gyves, nee Dow Wakhwia, mother of the former teacher.

rode with her half-way to Princeton.

"The trail was hardly broken and was used primarily by cattle farmers. It was very quiet and I rode hours before I finally reached Princeton at two in the morning."

Another night in another town and Mary was off, 10 miles out of town before she was hailed by a policeman in a car.

### FAMILY FRIEND

"It was Constable Mansell, a family friend. He'd heard I was riding and refused to allow me to go farther." Mary remembered the young policeman arranging horse transport. He was amazed at her courage in attempting to ride the distance alone and drove her himself to the ranch.

Back at the ranch Mary had a horse to ride, three children to instruct and a school house to run. In 1919 Cornelius O'Keefe died and Mary returned home to the island.

Restless to break off from her teaching career, Mary attended St. Paul's Hospital for nurses training in 1920.

"It was hard then. Not only did we study nursing but all the Catholics had to get up at four each morning to attend mass in the hospital chapel."

Miss Gyves returned to the island from Victoria and happened to meet Ernie Brenton, grandson of Burgoyne shopkeeper R.T. Edwards, who had a store at the present Roy Lee property on Fulford-Ganges Road. She had met Ernest throughout her childhood when he would come to

the island on holiday to visit his grandfather.

"I had called him little Lord Fauntleroy while passing on my way to school as a girl. He'd never forgiven me for it as I'd humiliated him." Mary laughed and recalled the vision of young Ernest dressed to the nines, standing on the shop steps.

Ernest Brenton called on Mary when his grandfather was failing. She was known in the valley to be



On the right is Mary Brenton. Others in the 60-year-old picture (it may be older) are Moll

familiar with nursing techniques. The old man died the night Mary was called in and Ernest Brenton was no longer little Lord Fauntleroy to her.

At the Church of Assumption, in West Saanich, Mary Gyves was married to Ernest Brenton on December 23, 1922.

Mary Brenton went with her husband to Bellingham where he was first deputy sheriff and later a highway patrolman. They had four children in Bellingham and purchased a home which later they lost when the government was defeated and the Republicans were elected. Ernest lost his job and found employment at a nearby mill. But at \$4 a day he could no longer afford to meet the house payment. They decided then to give up the American Way and returned to Salt Spring Island.

### DIED IN 1920

Mary's father, Michael, had died in 1920. Mary Ann Gyves was still living in the original home in the valley when Mary returned with her four children and gave birth to their fifth, Brian.

It was 1931. No one had anything and the Brenton family was no different. Mary Ann was living on a \$30 a month pension and in order to survive the



There was a wedding on Russell Island about 1914. How many can you identify? Front, left and seated, in the wide hat, next to the shoulders, is Mary Brenton. In front of her is her mother.