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TWENTY-SECOND YEAR, NO. 49

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1981

25c per copy



Firemen fight blaze at ferry terminal

Ferries delayed by fire at Swartz Bay

Ferry berth number 3 at Swartz Bay caught fire Tuesday and although damage to the berth was extensive, no one was injured.

The excitement began shortly after 10:30 am and the various

arrivals and departures of the ferries were interrupted for almost two hours.

Officials speculate that the blaze began in a wing wall on which a pile-driver was working. The berth

was being revamped to accommodate the stretched ferries and a spark from an acetylene cutting torch apparently started the fire.

The wing wall was damaged, the spur walkway to the berth was destroyed and the main walkway in the vicinity suffered smoke damage.

The wing wall consists of large beams set into the water to guide the ferries into the berth.

The ferry *Queen of Nanaimo* was tied up at the berth when the fire started but was safely taken out of danger. The other ferries circled Swartz Bay waiting for

service to resume. The Fulford ferry was tied up for over two hours at Fulford while the blaze was being fought.

Fire fighters from three communities, Sidney, Central and North Saanich, answered the call. One observer reported seeing smoke from as far away as Sidney.

The fire marshall and investigators for B.C. Ferry Corporation will continue their quest for the cause, as well as extent of damage caused by the blaze.

No dollar estimate of damage has yet been set.

Visiting diver drowns

Tragedy visited the Gulf Islands Sunday when a scuba diver drowned in James Bay at Prevost Island.

Hiromi Ijima, 30, of Tokyo, Japan, was on vacation in the Gulf Islands. He and some friends chartered a boat in Victoria to indulge in pleasure diving.

After several dives into the cold Gulf waters, the other members of the party returned to the boat. Ijima went for one last dive.

While he was under, the boat developed engine trouble. He surfaced briefly and the other members of the party saw him floating on his back near a log boom.

By the time the engine was repaired and the boat moved to where he had been, tragedy struck.

Efforts by his companions to find him proved futile and they called for help on CB channel 9. The call was answered by the Coast Guard unit in Ganges, the B.C. ferry *Queen of Sidney*, the RCMP as well as several pleasure craft.

Shortly after the search began, Ijima was found and taken to Swartz Bay by water taxi. Efforts to revive him continued throughout the trip to the fleet diving unit at the Esquimalt naval station.

He was pronounced dead at 5:20 pm and the cause of death was determined to be drowning.

The spot where the incident occurred at the northwest corner of Prevost has a depth of about 20 feet of water.

The coroner has not yet decided whether to hold an inquiry or an inquest.

Investigation of the accident continues.

Christmas holiday for Driftwood

Driftwood will take a holiday to mark the Christmas season this year.

As in past years, there will be no paper published between Christmas Day and New Year's. In addition, because Christmas falls on a Friday, the issue of December 23 will go to press on Monday, Dec. 21, with first delivery scheduled for Tuesday.

All deadlines for that issue, display and classified advertising and news, will be on Friday, Dec. 18.

The annual Christmas supplement will appear with the December 16th paper.

First issue of 1982 will appear on Wednesday, Jan. 6.

Santa Ship coming to islands Saturday

Santa Claus sails into the Gulf Islands again this year just as he has for the past 31 years.

Santa comes compliments of the Jaycees of Bellingham, Washington, aboard the Christmas ship *Discovery*.

He will be delivering toys, candy and international goodwill to 11 islands both locally and in the United States, San Juan Islands.

December 12 Santa will rendezvous with the Victoria Jaycees in Bedwell Harbour at South Pender sometime between 2 and 3 pm.

He sails into Ganges Harbour for 6 pm and will spend the night on Salt Spring and leave the next morning at 7:45 am.

Galiano is the first stop on December 13 with time of arrival expected to be 8:40 am and departure set for 9:30 am.

Mayne Island will play host to the jolly old man from 10 am until 11 am when he cruises on to North Pender for a visit from 11:30 to noon.

The last Gulf Islands stop is Saturna at 12:32 and then Santa returns to the United States and his temporary homeport of Bellingham.

Manly votes no

Canada almost has a constitution following approval last week in the House of Commons.

The vote, 246 in favour and 24 against, signals the approaching end to the debate which has raged across the country. Of the opposing votes, Jim Manly (NDP-Cowichan, Malahat, The Islands) could not support the proposed bill because, he said, it does not contain adequate protection for native peoples but does contain

inadequate protection of rights.

Manly told *Driftwood* in a telephone interview from Ottawa that even though a clause pertaining to the rights and privileges of native people was put back into the package, it was not enough.

NO PARTICIPATION

The amending formula for native rights allows any one province and the federal government to effect changes but

Turn to Page Two

Jim Manly speaks at Galiano

BY BASIL AND KATHLYN BENDER

Jim Manly, member of parliament for Cowichan, Malahat and the Islands, spoke to a small audience in the Community Hall at Galiano Island recently. He had braved the waters of this part of his constituency in Ron Ree's yacht, sailing from his previous meeting on Mayne across the dark waters of Active Pass.

He began his talk by discussing the priorities for government as he and his party saw them, and what the NDP would do about them. Much attention of late has been given to the constitution, but increasing concern must be given to the escalating arms race, particularly nuclear armament in Europe.

Currently, \$550 billion is spent annually on arms and of this world total almost half is spent in the

USA. Manly is in favour of a peace tax fund referendum whereby people who object to part of their tax being spent on armaments could opt to have this sum diverted to a fund devoted to studying ways of achieving peace.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

A third priority is protection of our environment. The threat of acid rain in Ontario is at last awakening the east to ecological danger. Here in the west our main concern is the danger of massive oil pollution from super-tankers using the West Coast route from Alaska into the Puget Sound area.

The state of our economy where close to 1½ million are now unemployed, many small business are going bankrupt and homes are being lost through high mortgage rates, is of great concern. The budget of November 12 gave substantial relief to very high tax brackets but little to the Canadian wage earner with average income.

Manly mentioned the Canada Oil and Gas Act (which would allow new development in the north and offshore) on which debate is still continuing. The cabinet minister responsible for ensuring environmental safeguards is the minister of energy whose main intent is to promote development.

FOOLISH CUTBACK

Our member decried the cutbacks in Via Rail which had increased its volume of passenger traffic since becoming a crown

corporation three years ago. He said that at this particular time when it is important to conserve energy, it was foolish to cut back 19% of existing passenger service while continuing to subsidize airlines and highways.

He also voiced the NDP's concern with the Pearce Commission recommendation to impose a royalty on fish landings.

A lively question period followed the speaker's remarks. Support for the arts, cultural exchanges, the presence of US ships in Canadian waters, the Bangor Nuclear Submarine Base, newspaper monopolies and economic problems were some of the topics discussed.

Damage \$1,500

It wasn't a flashing turn signal, it was only the brake light.

C.H. Partridge of Swartz Bay was driving a 1977 Chev pickup on Ganges Hill when he thought David Parsons of Crofton was signalling a right turn.

Parsons wasn't. He was turning left. The left-turn signal on his 1968 Peugeot wasn't working.

Damage to both vehicles was set at \$1,500 and the RCMP didn't have far to go. The accident occurred in front of the police office.

Manly against package

From Page One

does not allow participation from the people involved.

"One of the basic tenets of Canada has always been the relationship of the Crown and the native people which predates this country's original charter," said Manly.

He would like to see safeguards of the many agreements between Canada and the native people spelled out more clearly.

The charter of rights, which gives citizens such rights as free speech and freedom of the press can, by another clause in the bill, be abridged by acts of either the federal or provincial governments.

"You wonder what good a charter of rights is if such an override clause can take those rights away," he said.

AWAITS SENATE APPROVAL

The bill now awaits Senate approval before being shipped to England to become the law of the land. It would be the second to last piece of legislation concerning Canada acted upon by the British parliament.

The final act would state that the Mother of Parliaments no longer controls the destiny of Canadians.

When the vote was taken in the House of Commons, 271 members of the 282 were present. The speaker, as an MP, although present did not take part in the vote. One NDP member abstained.

The breakdown of party votes showed 147 Liberals, 102 Conservatives and 33 New Democrats in favour.

Against were 17 P.C.'s, five Liberals and two from the NDP.

Victoria man dies on ferry

A Victoria man died on the *Bowen Queen* December 4.

Raymond Hodgkinson, 47, was found unconscious on the ferry run from Swartz Bay to Fulford Harbour at 2 pm.

The RCMP were summoned. Cause of death was determined to be a heart attack.

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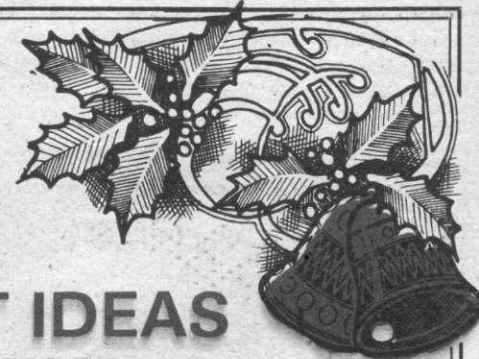
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To Be
Frank
by richards



I'm not fighting anybody. In fact, I'm prepared to throw my towel in. I don't want any part of a dispute over who owns British Columbia. And the figures get astronomical. So I'll settle and quit. If any Indian band wants me out, for a million dollars they can have my house and lot and even the furniture. And I'll sign a quit-claim. For a million dollars I'd sign anything!

I drove home on Sunday and I listened to CBC Radio while Mr. Holmes and his medical practitioner solved the mystery of the corpse with two left hands. And why not? I served a gentle war with dozens of half-dead marchers with two left feet. But when the earnest detective commented on the practice of the Great Western Railway and that great railway let fly with a Canadian Pacific train whistle all my British upbringing rose in apoplexy. Great Western was one of the pioneer British railway companies and they did many things. They introduced a wide-gauge railway and they pioneered railway safety. They operated effectively and profitably for many years. But never did the Great Western have locomotives running across the country sounding like wailing banshees. The British train whistle was high-pitched, strident and piercing to the ears. I thought of the great engineers still remembered by the British Railways. And shuddered to think of their rest being shattered when that whistle wailed.

How did anyone know what any of us wanted when it came to a constitution? Who ever asked us? The provincial government spoke vigorously and at great length on the subject, but I heard this voice of British Columbia which was certainly not my voice. Nobody ever asked me. And I heard other voices. I have always felt that the constitution debate was conducted on purely political lines with little regard for individuals. And to prove it all, when the matter finally came to the House of Commons, my only voice there, Jim Manly's, was raised in direct conflict with my own views. I'm not important, you say? And you are so right. But how many million other Canadians have seen their opinions ignored by their spokesmen? In fact, how real has been the national debate? Even in Quebec, where emotions transcend politics, the subsequent meetings of the Parti Quebecois indicated a rift between their man in Quebec and the rest of the people of Quebec. Maybe: just maybe: I'm a minority of one. But if I'm not, then the whole tale suggests a wide disparity between what we think and what our spokesmen say. Because I must point out to my representative in Ottawa that he ain't! While I rejoice in the agreement of parliament on the constitution, he opposes it.

There was a long line-up and there were dozens of parcels and there was Ruth Archer at the receiving end in Ganges Post Office. As the pressures built up and the influx of parcels grew her face lit up. In two weeks it will be all over again for another 12 months and she took time out to grin at the prospect before starting into the long line-up again.

Women's Lib beefs about filling in Christmas cards and letters while I do nothing. But I've found the answer to all my Christmas problems. I've found a male order catalogue and I'll just distribute it among my family and friends.

And what about Christmas shopping. I follow Women's Lib from store to store, looking neither right nor left, with no time to stop and look and no time to tie up my laces. For hours on end I troop along behind her, obediently carrying parcels or what have you? You know I met Bruce McFadyen the other day and I saw myself in his mirror. He had been given time out to eat, but I knew all the signs, the lined brow, the saggy legs and the patient look of the mere male at Christmas. Thank heaven it's all over for another year!

Children to lead service Sunday

The regular 10:30 a.m. service at Ganges United Church Sunday will be led by the children of the church school.

The Littlest Star is the theme of this annual nation-wide service. It is a story, written by Walter Murray of Wolfville, N.S., about Christmas night, and how all creation celebrated the birth of Christ.

This year's play tells how one rather insignificant star became a real "star" because he (or she) used gifts of willingness and ability, to respond to God.

"This service conducted by 'starlight' in a darkened church sanctuary, helps teach all of us that we too have gifts, and if we respond with enthusiasm and courage to God's call, like 'the littlest star', we will shine and shine forever," said Rev. Al Skinner.

Christmas music included in the service will be the Chinese carol *Stars of Ice* sung by Ethel Magnus. The church choir will sing the contemporary carol by Sydney Carter, *Every Star Shall Sing A Carol*, directed by Arlene Dashwood and accompanied by Angela Funk.

"A highlight of the service will be the presentation of gifts at the Christ manger, to help show our love and care to those with special

needs," Skinner said.

The children will bring gifts of toys wrapped in white, to give to boys and girls who are residents of schools for severely handicapped children in Victoria and the Saanich peninsula. Suggested gifts are picture books with large print, large crayons, jigsaw puzzles with large pieces, stuffed dolls and animals and toys with no sharp edges.

Adults are invited to bring high-

protein canned goods for the work of the Rescue Mission in Victoria.

White gift envelopes for gifts of money will also be available at the service for people who wish to make a donation to the emergency and world relief fund of the church, to help meet emergency needs as they arise, around the world.

The public are invited to attend this special celebration of the Christmas season.

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Accident Sunday

Rubber-neckers stop to enjoy the beauty of the islands but should take care from where they view the scenery.

Olga Mason was driving a 1980 Oldsmobile on the Fulford-Ganges Road Sunday and as she rounded a curve, was confronted by another vehicle in her lane coming straight for her.

Jim Smith of Victoria was the other driver and he had changed lanes to pass a car stopped at the side of the road.

Mason braked hard but in doing so swung off the road and crashed into a hydro pole.

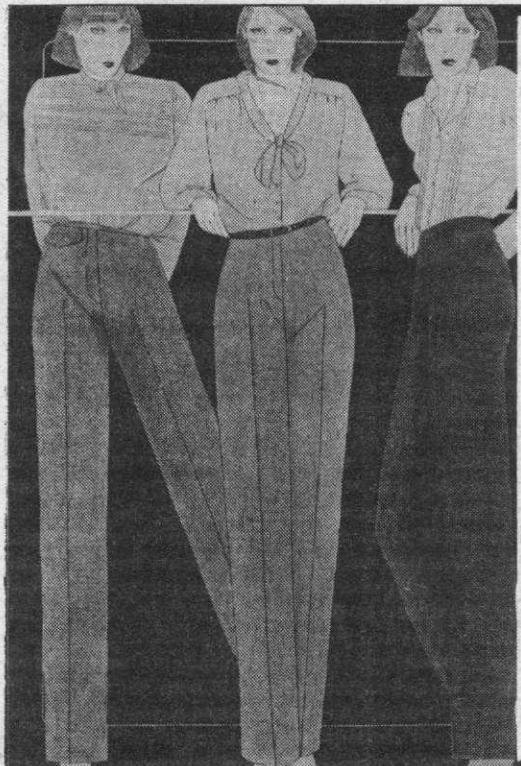
She was slightly injured and the two passengers with her were shaken up. Neither Smith nor the four passengers in his 1974 Chev were hurt.

Damage to Mason's car was set at \$3,000.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1981

Planning the islands

When the ministry of municipal affairs introduced community planning into the islands in the late 1960's the shock wave persisted for a decade.

Planning brought the first intimation into the islands that any form of control might be imposed on the free use of land. It brought the long battle between the extremists who wanted no controls and their counterparts who wanted no freedom of use. The community plans in the islands were brought into being after long and bitter dispute. They became the more fervently accepted for the very fact of the heat with which they had been forged.

The islands community plans were established as the compromise between those two factions. And each side knew that a reopening of the question could result in a new and equally bitter dispute.

Planning a community cannot fail to exert a hardship on somebody. Many of us learned it the hard way. A new plan or a new proposal may well reward one faction at the expense of another.

Planning brought the Capital Regional District into sharp disrepute. Not only was the regional district responsible for various blunders in the early days of the community planning, but the district was identified with the long and tortuous routines for obtaining permits and approvals.

When the region had been thoroughly reviled for its contribution to delays and frustrations the planning function had been transferred to the Islands Trust. It must be borne in mind that the Islands Trust had been set up as a supervisory body overseeing planning and zoning with a view to ensuring that planning did not permit the islands to deteriorate. Its function was to protect the islands and to preserve the islands.

The Islands Trust was set up as a department of the ministry of municipal affairs. It was never more than that. The Islands Trust is not a municipal entity. Trustees do not enjoy the liberty of municipal aldermen. As at least one trustee has often pointed out, they do not enjoy the remuneration afforded an alderman. And they exist at the whim of government. The Islands Trust could be dissolved at the next legislature and many, perhaps most, residents of British Columbia would never realize that a change had been made.

This is the history of a bitterly disputed planning of the islands. It is the story of a long and arduous meeting of disparate views. It is the story of a compromise.

At the next session of the legislature the minister will outline his plans for a new planning function in the province. He will explain how the new land use act will take the pressure off the municipalities and hand over the reins to the minister.

As yet he has not explained how the change will affect the islands and the Islands Trust. Some will eagerly look to a change and welcome the entry of the ministry into planning and zoning.

They will look for streamlining and quicker decisions. Others will be fearful that the earlier government commitment to preserve and to protect will be abandoned in the shuffle.

Yet others will be fearful that the future of the islands will be left entirely to the whim of future ministers, eager to use islands development as a carrot to wealthy provincial donkeys.

We have seen our future held by the regional district and we have seen it transferred to an organization that is administratively scarcely even recognized. But the island people evolved their own community plans and the successive provincial governments took vigorous action to uphold and enforce those plans.

The future will be very difficult if the new procedure should take planning out of the islanders' hands and vest it in a ministry unaware of the local issues and indifferent to the abrasive possibilities of outside manipulation. The very machinery which is evolved to make good better may prove to be the influence that could make bad worse.

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring.....



Bill Webster

Rock parochialism ensures encroachment of Plastic City

The Gulf Islands float in the sable swan-skin of a December night. Soft black merges the three elements to create an impression of stars dipping into the hills and reflecting from the water.

The old Plymouth throws beacons into the dark and on occasion transfixes a pair of black-tail deer at roadside. Arbutus, caught in the beam, show frosted edges as leaves turn over and skyward.

Even then, even in the pitch of a Gulf Islands night, the gleaming beauty of these rocks beckons.

Nature poised about us as an alluring ancient goddess of eternal youth manages to humble our arrogant arguments merely by being.

"You're right from your side and I'm right from mine," sang poet Bob Dylan.

MUST BE WRONG, TOO

But whoever is right must also be wrong.

"There is a point at which even justice does injury," said poet Sophocles.

And so it is that justice has injured both sides.

The rightness and the justice of either side of the debate revolve around spokesmen for each faction claiming, with sincerity, "We're concerned about the island."

And however admirable such concern may be, it should be directed not only at the island, not exclusively at the problems of the past, but at the future.

A solution of one of the main problems of the past has been forced upon us prompted by the bumbling of one side and the intransigence of the other.

DISCUSSION LEFT BARREN

Events, as is their wont, move

on and the forward motion reduces any valid point, cogent as it may be, to a mere minutia leaving discussion of that point as barren as a dead fruit tree.

We each must accept, grudgingly, or gladly the inevitable. And gird for a tougher fight.

The future holds threats much more severe, much more insidious than the finer points, pro or con, of a series of pipes buried in these rocks.

Look about you, in daylight or dark. Gauge the beauty of the view from where you choose towards what direction you choose.

The very exquisiteness of these islands exists as the very threat to what we all hold close.

The past, as another poet said, is prologue and it has a way of piling upon an unwary tomorrow.

WANT BENEFICIAL CHANGE

You have come here from elsewhere, as have I. You, and I, have fallen to the charm we have found. We each want only that beneficial change which infringes as little as possible on this beauty.

How many more will come to demand their part of paradise? How many more will crowd in? Will the future-comers see not beauty but dollars and strive to change the wild beauty into just another of the endless, sterile, artificial gardens?

Whether we want to admit it or not, there are bucks in them there hills. Our struggle will be to convince those who see long green instead of wild green to leave us with our space to breathe.

WILL REQUIRE UNITY

And that struggle will require a united community, not just of Salt Spring but of all islands together. Rock parochialism ensures the encroachment of Plastic City.

The fight will and must transcend partisan politics and personal ambition.

As difficult as it is for some to accept, the Ganges sewer stands as our salvation. With it, the village grows and the thriving permeates the entire village, both upper and lower.

A vital Ganges fronts a strong defense of rational development for the remainder of Salt Spring as well as on the other of these islands.

Without the sewer, decay will become a way of life and just as surely as God made little green apples the dollar grinders will descend upon us. Irresistible moves by uncaring powers will clean away the deterioration in ways none of us want.

NOT BY SCRUTINY OF THE PAST

The future is not faced by introspective scrutiny of past events which have become abstractions. The way ahead requires close inspection of what we have and what we want.

If we cannot agree, we have no future.

"The future is yours," says Louis Bolivar-Finchley. "If you have the selfless nerve to reach for it, you can mould it. If not, it will be moulded for you."

Look around and decide if these islands deserve preservation, or perversion.

Letters to the Editor

Timely editorial

Sir,
Your leading editorial November 25 regarding the increasing imbalance of incomes, particularly of pensioners relative to large organized groups is most timely, particularly as its timing coincided with the arrival of the latest bulletin from our M.P., Mr. Manly, where "Lowering interest rates to a level close to inflation" is his prime objective.

Lower lending rates, as your friendly Credit Union manager will tell you, correspondingly means low-earning rates, and to the retired generation to whom income from a lifetime of careful savings is an important part, this might mean a vital and perhaps critical loss, as long as the recent 17% increase received by our local teachers is typical of what future demands will be from organized groups.

The largest single organized group constantly demanding more is of course our Federal and Crown Corporation employees who besides being lay-off immune have in many instances a C.O.I.A. contract clause in addition to fully indexed pensions. Include in the last mentioned our M.P.'s and

Senators.
For fiscal year 1980-81 past the contribution from us the taxpayers toward pension indexing only of federal employees was \$261.7 million. Add to this our provincial public employees and a total of \$300 million would probably be a conservative figure. Where does the money come from? One source would undoubtedly be the tax on the gasoline used by the vehicles transporting our groceries, not to mention the substantial federal and provincial taxes imposed when manufactured and sold. So next time you almost faint at the amount of your grocery bill remember that, besides the possibility of Mr. Manly chopping the earnings on your lifetime's earnings, you will have the privilege of contributing toward his, all other M.P.'s and some hundreds of thousands of public servants full indexing of pensions.

At the present rate of inflation that will add up to over two billion in less than six years, by which time the purchasing power of your savings will be worth less than half.
RON McLARDY,
R.R.1 Pender Island,
December, 1981.

Thank you for trying

Sir,
On behalf of myself and many friends and neighbours, I wish to thank all those candidates in the recent election who were not elected.

Unopposed candidates automatically go on to fill offices and function during the period of their term of office, but it is never

known just what degree of support they have, or how many voters are really in favour of them.

Elected candidates are there because the majority of voters want them there.

Not elected candidates are the ones who make democracy work, and the mere fact of them being on the ballot is of great importance, and therefore their effort is worthwhile and important, and they are all worthy of our sincerest thanks for having offered themselves.

Elections are not "won" or "lost" — people are elected or not elected, and although the satisfactions of being elected are greater than those of not being elected, the fact of having tried is of great value and makes each of the not elected candidates worthy of our gratitude.

So to all of those who did not succeed on this occasion "Thank You" for trying, and please do offer yourselves when next opportunity offers — we need you!
BEVIS WALTERS,
Box 484,
Ganges,
November 30, 1981.

Don't miss second performance

Sir,
I feel it my duty to warn your readers that April Curtis and company are giving only two performances of *I'm getting my act together and taking it on the road*.

If you missed Saturday's performance (I didn't) don't miss next Saturday's (I'll be there again!).
MARY C. WILLIAMSON,
R.R.1 Ganges,
December 7, 1981.

Invitation appreciated

Sir,
I wish to express appreciation to Dr. Kirchmeir for the invitation he made to me in last week's *Driftwood* to investigate the certification of the 1977 petition concerning the sewer issue.

As I mentioned to Dr. Kirchmeir when he called me about this matter, I am at present heavily engaged in a course that involves many assignments and a final exam in January. Consequently I am not prepared to take on any new commitments until I have completed the course.

Once that is done I shall be pleased to discuss the petition with Mrs. Valcourt and others

concerned and to consider courses of action.

In my letter of congratulation to Mrs. Valcourt two weeks ago I suggested new approaches and initiatives be sought for the restoration of harmony and the reconciliation of opposing factions on this island.

If the proposed investigation will help to bring that about it will be an honour and a pleasure for me to conduct it.

However, if it should only lead to further sterile debate I shall not.
JOHN CROFTON,
Box 126,
Ganges,
December 3, 1981.

Alternate route, not bypass

Sir,
I wish to thank all residents who examined the displays of the proposed "alternate" route, and road patterns presented by the Islands Trust at the school board office recently. While as always we would hope for greater input, we appreciate the comments that were received, and we are available at all times to discuss the presentations.

I also wish to thank the members of the transportation committee of the Islands Trust who participated in the many meetings with the highways department planning branch both here and in Victoria, freely contributing their time without remuneration or expense allotment.

I also wish to thank the trustees of the Salt Spring Fire District and the ambulance services for their contribution to the efforts of establishing an "alternate" route.

While it is difficult here to enumerate all of the factors involved, in these long discussions that have been carried on, I feel one should be pointed out. The planning branch of the Highways, carried on extensive studies over the past months, and can show that 80% of all traffic coming to the Ganges area, does not pass through, but returns to its original destination.

Also I must comment on the use of the word bypass in *Driftwood* of December 2 by several writers. It

should be understood that the Trust has discussed an *alternate* route, not a bypass.

Congratulations to B.V. Toynbee and L. Dodds and all their fellow workers in reiterating the need for safety zones on our island highways. The Islands Trust has sought this for the past three

years, and all help it can obtain in its efforts is most appreciated. I would invite all interested parties to meet with us at their convenience.
BUD KREISSL,
Islands Trustee,
Ganges,
December, 1981.

Another successful Faire

Sir,
On behalf of the Salt Spring Island Community Society, I would like to thank a thousand times over the many people who contributed enormous time and energy in the creation of a very successful Christmas Craft Faire and festive occasion.

A special thanks to the RCMP, Ron and Mabel of the Rental Centre, and the members of the Kingdom Hall for their co-operation with parking facilities; and to Val Engels for the use of the Day Care Centre for baby-sitting space.

I would also like to extend our gratitude to the more than 60 craftspeople who took part in the Faire for their patient co-operation and enthusiasm. The artistry, creativity and craftsmanship was again of the highest quality.

And to the many Islanders and off-Islanders who came along to shop, browse and indulge in a little Salt Spring Island spirit, thank you. The funds the Community Society collected will be used for building maintenance, making possible the Society's continued active service to the community.

Happy and safe holidays to all!
ELIZABETH WARD,
Co-ordinator, Community Centre
Christmas Craft Faire,
December 2, 1981.

More letters: Page Six



Tony Richards

TOM ROBBINS had more success with his Remington than I'm having with my Underwood this Tuesday morning.

But you can only sit and stare at your typewriter for so long before you decide that a start has to be made somewhere.

Someone actually missed this box at the bottom of the page during the past couple of weeks. Why? you ask. I don't know. I assumed everyone was happy with the letters that took its place.

Just to let you know how difficult this is, this quiet period early Tuesday morning, before the production day rush begins, there was a rather long delay before I began this paragraph, as I stared blankly at the keys of the old Underwood Typewriter.

(Again, thank you, Tom Robbins).

WHILE RECOVERING FROM the flu last weekend I didn't get much help from my wife. My stomach was in poor shape Sunday morning and was even worse after I had a preview of some gourmet delicacies she was preparing.

A close inspection of her hors d'oeuvres revealed that each one was sprinkled with little, black specks. An even closer look told me all I wanted to know and I made a quick exit for the bathroom.

Ever since then I've been unable to eat anything without examining it first.

There is very little that I won't eat, but you'll never catch me eating fried ants.

ALL THE TALK about women's rights in the constitution is getting to be a bit much.

Inclusion of such rights in that document tends to give the impression that men and women are not of the same species. Indeed, it would appear that some women would prefer it that way.

And what about men's rights?
Some women are trying to create an even greater division between the sexes.

In Victoria a directory of professional women is being published, evidently because there exists no other source for such information.

It will undoubtedly prove invaluable.

BEING A PART-TIME advertising salesman, advertising is one of the first topics that springs to my mind when I arrive at work.

Which puts me in mind of a television commercial I saw last week. Memorex cassette tapes, I learned, will play over 1,000 times.

But in the commercial, every time they played the tape, a wine glass was shattered. After shattering 1,000 wine glasses, your average cassette tape deck owner might not be too enthused with Memorex tapes.

I HAVE BEEN waiting patiently for the past few months for the Salt Spring Rotary Club to make a minor change in its regular newsletter, *The Sentinel*.

It appears that the error will remain uncorrected until someone says something about it.

In the list of the club's officers you'll find the word "Sargeant-at-Arms". The first word would look far better spelled "Sergeant".

I COULDN'T LAUGH too much over Kent Villadsen's problems the other day. You may have noticed that Kent's brand new truck has a number of dents in it.

As I said, I couldn't laugh too hard. I have a couple of sons who will be asking me for the keys one day.

FINALLY, A REASONABLY AMUSING joke.

This fellow borrows a retriever from a friend to go duck hunting. Off they go one morning on a hunting trip and the hunter shoots a duck.

Immediately the dog takes off to retrieve it. But to the hunter's amazement, the dog doesn't swim out to get the bird, but walks across the water.

The following day they go out again. The hunter shoots another duck and again the dog walks across the water and retrieves the duck.

When the dog's owner returns to pick up his animal he asks his friend how he made out with the retriever.

"Oh, he was fine," came the reply, "but there's one thing wrong. He can't swim."

Ted Parsons will live a long time in memory

BY OLIVE MOUAT

With the death of Edwin Parsons, affectionately known to his friends as Ted, Salt Spring Island lost another of its grand old men.

Though he will not be in his accustomed place at church, nor enjoying a good meal prepared by one of his daughters-in-law, nor even making a joke at Greenwoods, he will live for a long time in the memories and hearts of many fellow islanders.

Old-timers will remember when Ted and Ruby and their sons resided in a big house on Mansell

Road and made their living by raising poultry. People who came later knew the Parson place on Scott Road, the property that all United Church members will always think of as the site of a great many happy congregational picnics.

KINDNESS, FRIENDLINESS

There are many things about Ted that islanders remember - his kindness, friendliness and ready humour; his quickness to help others; the big vegetable garden that he tended into his nineties and from which he shared; the plums that he froze and gave away; the

chess games with shut-ins and other friends; his community service; his place in the church and his devotion to his family.

An early memory of my own was seeing Ted standing in the middle of the road, arms outstretched and a broad grin on his face. When I brought my tiny Austin to a stop, he called out: "You know what I want. It's every-person-canvass for the church and you are on my list." Who could refuse?

At one church supper the main course consisted of bountiful servings of home-baked beans, many kinds of beans all mixed,

delicious. "I did it all myself," Ted declared modestly.

DOUBTFUL

A glance at his smiling wife betrayed the exaggeration. It was true that he had grown and picked the beans and probably dried them. That he cooked them was doubtful.

Ted was a Mason, became a Golden-Age bowler, had once been a school trustee and a member of the board of the Lady Minto Hospital, and had in many ways shown himself to be a good community citizen.

But perhaps he gave even more time and thought to the United Church than he did to any of the rest, having at one time or another filled almost every position. He was Sunday School teacher; member of the official board; a dedicated member of session and long-time clerk of session in which position he carefully recorded marriages and deaths and also the

names of those who became members of the church and those who moved away; a member of the committee of stewards; a trustee; and finally a life honorary elder.

He outlived his first wife Ruth, his second wife Edith and his youngest son Kenneth. He leaves to mourn his passing sons Ray and Gordon, daughters-in-law June, Shirley and Theo, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Those who knew Ted and who worked and played with him loved and admired him, feeling both triumph because of so long a life so well lived and grief because he had to leave us.

Had Ted Parsons lived until December 24, he would have been 96.

What's happening in Ottawa? Jim Manly, MP, tells us weekly in

Gulf Islands Driftwood P.O. Box 250 Ganges B.C. 537 2211 2513

More Letters to the Editor

Why not hire local architect?

Sir, According to the report in the November 4th *Driftwood*, the buildings and ground committee of this island recommended that the school board members accept the judgment of its members in regard to the preparation plans and drawings for the new school.

Why is it necessary to award the contract to an outfit in Burnaby called Collins and Brockington? We have excellent architects on Salt Spring who have families

living here and their abilities are well known and recognized.

I see no reason to go off-island and, indeed, to the mainland in order to find architects to build the school at Fulford.

This Collins and Brockington may have had experience in building schools on the other islands but this is Salt Spring. Why must we go off-island to find architects? It's quite ridiculous, I think. We don't need people from the mainland to plan our schools for us.

What's more, I understand the hanging of carpets on the walls of classrooms may facilitate pinning announcements but carpets also contain many germs. One sneeze and the carpet hanging can be well sprayed. Cork does far better and does not contain germs and dust. Any mother knows that, when her children go to school, they bring home germs that infect the entire family. Why make it easier for the bacteria to do their work?

It would seem to me the buildings and grounds committee, as well as the school board, might do well to reconsider their conclusions and permit Salt Spring architects to prepare the plan and drawings for the school in

Fulford. We don't need outsiders to tell us how to spend the taxpayers' money, thank you.

LILLIAN HORSDAL DALZIEL, Fulford Harbour, November, 1981.

Group is open to all singles

Sir, As one of the co-ordinators of the Salt Spring singles group, I would like to clarify that we are not just a single parents group, but open to all singles whether you are a parent or not, separated, widowed or divorced or never married.

You only need to be single. So how about coming out with your ideas and help us out. See the notice section of the paper for meetings and if the day is a problem give us your suggestions, and we'll see what can be worked out. But we need your support.

CAROL E. TROTTIER, Box 660, Ganges, December 3, 1981.

Bob Skelly commended for admission

Sir, Through the pages of your newspaper I would like to commend Mr. Bob Skelly for his apology to Mr. Hugh Curtis.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Skelly was placed in this position by the inaccurate information provided to him. Perhaps now, being aware of the health dangers in the Ganges area, he will be less susceptible to this type of propaganda.

I wonder if the critics of the proposed sewer have ever considered the consequences should a broken water main happen to absorb some of the effluent that flows in the ditches in Ganges. Remember, this is the water main that serves our schools. Who would accept responsibility then?

I believe we are fortunate that Mr. Curtis, after weighing the facts of many years of study, used the powers given him by the majority of the electorate for the benefit of our community.

Again I wish to commend Mr. Skelly for admitting his error, thereby acting as a responsible elected representative.

E.L. BENNETT, Box 52, Ganges, December 4, 1981.

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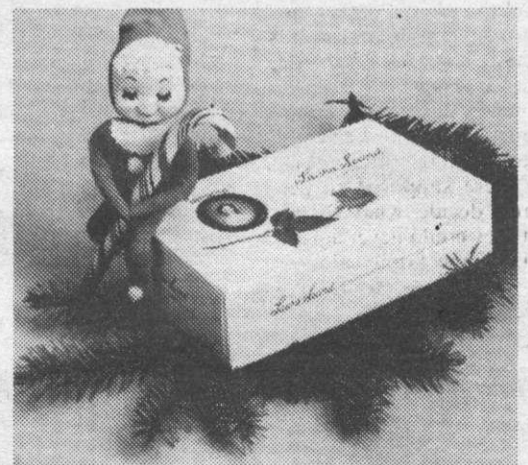
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Connie, Pierre pay extended visit

Family must settle accounts with original landlords

Dear Sis,
You know how everyone looks on Aunt Connie as a trouble-maker. She and Uncle Pierre have a way of arriving on the door step for an extended visit at the very time when we least need them.

Take this fall for example. There we were, worried about renewing the mortgage, feeling helpless when we paid expensive grocery bills, and we were very uneasy because we did not know if Dad would still have a job this winter. And we were anxious about our neighbours too.

The young woman down the street with a small child has been told by the welfare department that she has to be out looking for work in spite of her little boy's need for care. And Mr. Jones had to go out of business in his hardware store, it seems that there weren't enough customers to buy things, and he had to pay high interest rates on goods for his shelves, so he simply closed the doors and went out of business.

Or, maybe the banks closed the doors for him. Anyhow, he's closed.

ALONG CAME CONNIE, PIERRE

In the midst of all these worries along came Aunt Connie and Uncle Pierre. Ever since their arrival they've wanted us to spend all our time worrying about them and their problems.

If we try to talk things over, like what we'll do about the mortgage, Connie and Pierre start telling about all their court battles with other members of the family.

I guess some of the feuds go back for years, and generations even, but this last year they had a battle royal that ended up in court with everybody calling everybody else names.

The basic problem was that Pierre and Connie thought they knew what was best for everybody. They dreamed up this scheme for re-organizing everyone else's life.

As far as I can piece together the story, when the family first came out to Canada from England, Aunt Victoria divided up part of the estate. She meant it for all of us, but she left it in Aunt Connie's care. Somehow all the branches of the family were supposed to get together and decide what to do with it, but they could never agree. Some parts of the family almost thought it was better to forget the whole thing.

UNHOLY ALLIANCE

But then Connie met Pierre, that was back in 1968, and after a whirlwind courtship they got joined together in some kind of unholy alliance. People never

Ottawa report

BY JIM MANLY, MP

knew what Pierre was really after. I don't think it was the money, maybe it was just a chance to use Aunt Connie's position as an excuse to meddle in other people's business.

Anyhow, they came up with a plan for dividing the family's share of Aunt Victoria's estate. And because everything had been left in trust to Connie, Pierre said that he and she could make all decisions whether or not all members of the family were in agreement.

They certainly didn't agree, and that is what the court case is all about. When the judge looked at it he said that Pierre and Connie had a legal right to make this decision but that it wasn't really fair.

So now Connie and Pierre have been camped in our living room for a month and a half. They run up huge telephone bills calling other members of the family from one end of the country to the other

trying to get some agreement. They even invited them all over to our house for a meeting but not all the family, just the men. And they seem to have come up with some kind of deal.

THEIR OWN PLAN BETTER

Quite frankly, I don't like some parts of the deal that they have worked out together. I almost think it was better when Pierre and Connie had their own little plan even though no one else liked it.

From what I can tell, the present plan ignores one of the most important of Aunt Victoria's bequests that we should always pay our debts, and make sure that our land has clear title. I've looked into this a lot and I think we still owe the original landlords for some of the land we have been living on and we should settle accounts with them before we go any further with Connie and Pierre.

In the meantime I only wish they'd take the hint and move on so that we can get busy with things we think are just as important. That's all for now. I hope you're enjoying your visit to Northern Ireland.

Love,
Jim.

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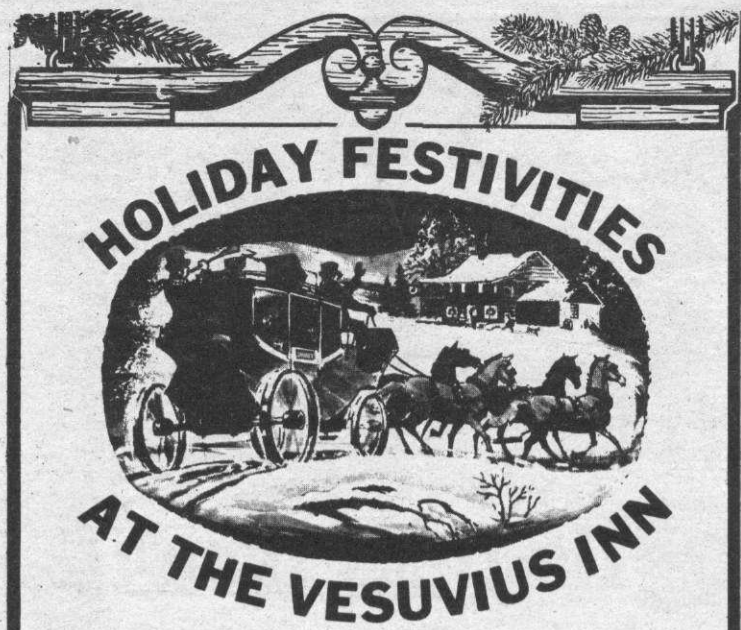
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Singers from Pender, Salt Spring

Packed, enthusiastic audience at Christmas Concert Sunday

Review
BY MARY C. WILLIAMSON
The Salt Spring Singers have come a long way. Anyone who missed their Christmas Concert on Sunday should make a point of hearing them at the ecumenical carol service on December 13.

These 26 women, under the inspiring leadership of Joy Johnsen, gave the first and third sections of the concert at Mahon Hall, while the filling of the sandwich was provided by the Pender Island Choral Society.

Winter Holiday was a bright opening number, followed by the difficult calypso rhythm of *Mary Had a Baby Boy*. *Sing Alleluia* was performed a capella, and Dwaine Prosk's flue augmented the piano accompaniment to *Ye Shepherds, Ye Wise Men*.

(I felt some initial uneasiness here). *Ding-Dong Merrily on High* closed the first section of the program.

GLORY IS THE MEN

I hope the ladies of the Pender group will forgive me if I say that the glory of this chorus (also 26 strong on Sunday) is the men. It's extraordinary that 10 male singers can be found year round on an island the size of Pender, while so few men are available on Salt Spring that the community choir was cancelled this year!

The Pender men are splendid. They never overbalance the female voices, although they could so

easily. They provide a strength and foundation on which the much less inspiring sopranos could build.

They do not, however, achieve the same internal balance which distinguishes the Salt Spring Singers. Perhaps the gap between high and low is too much for them to bridge successfully.

They sang an impressive *Fanfare for a Festival Day*, a beautifully restrained *How Beautiful Upon the Mountains* and a difficult Appalachian folk song, *Every Night When the Sun Goes In*.

The male singers came into their own during *The Water is Wide*, followed by *Some Enchanted Evening*.

Somewhere My Love is a deceptively simple item. Its sostenuto shows up every trace of tremolo, and lulls the singers into allowing the pitch to slide.

THE HIGHLIGHT

The Salt Spring Singers returned with *Gaudeamus Hodie*, which for me was the highlight of their section of the program. They were ably assisted by a percussion section of Carol Young, Joan Raeside, Esther Hengstler and Marion Patterson, with Dwaine Prosk again on flute. Ethel Magnus sang the descant. A lively and rich performance, with a welcome change of tempo and texture.

The Singers closed with *Which Christmas* and an invigorating

Sleigh Ride (the "whoa" at the end was a triumph of synchronization!)

Then came the other highlight of the afternoon. Both choruses, augmented by seven men from Salt Spring Island, gave a spirited and rousing version of the *Hallelujah Chorus*. The audience stood (as is the custom) and some of us even joined in.

Angela Funk is a tireless and truly accomplished accompanist. Many groups and individuals on this island are so much in her debt. I hope we never take her for granted!

Virginia Newman was thanked for providing the attractive Christmassy decorations and for contributing voluntary labour in putting them up.

And Joy Johnsen! What can be said of her that hasn't already been said? She's a perfectionist, a slave-driver, a first-rate teacher and an inspiring director.

The packed and enthusiastic audience on Sunday was his reward.

Charges laid after accident

Driftwood reported the accident several weeks ago and details, scarce at first report, have become available.

Beverly Shirley of Ganges, driving a 1968 Ford pickup, was in the process of turning left from North End Road on to Suffolk Road.

Her pickup was struck on the front left fender by a 1968 Dodge driven by Richard Smith. The Dodge apparently went out of control, and flipped into the ditch.

Damage to the Ford was set at \$600 and to the Dodge at \$2,500.

Smith and two passengers suffered minor injuries and the occupants of the Ford were shaken by the incident.

Smith has been subsequently charged with driving without due care and attention, crossing the solid centre line as well as driving a vehicle with bald tires.

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The Moon is made of Green Cheese
by J.M. RAESIDE

They got their act together and it deserves a longer run



April Curtis belts it out as she brings energy and life to the role of Heather Jones in the Salt Spring production of *I'm Getting My Act*

Review

BY BILL WEBSTER

They got their act together and unfortunately may not take it on the road.

And that's a shame.

A talented group of Salt Spring Islanders have revived the Broadway musical, *I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on The Road*.

The first performance last Saturday entertained a full house at Mahon Hall while the second, and last, presentation December 12 rates as well worth a look and listen.

The show deserves a longer run.

Together and Taking It On The Road. Final performance of the musical begins Saturday evening at Mahon Hall.

The cast talked wistfully of taking the show on the road to the Outer Islands. They should. The work and energy of the cast cannot be so wasted.

The plot of the musical revolves around a rehearsal of a singer and

her back-up group of players and singers. She wants to break the mold but her manager can't shake his personal insecurity long enough to recognize the valid statements she wants to make.

The theme fits snugly into the questioning of personal values prevalent today. It concerns one person's efforts to search for and expand the limits of life. That the person is a woman and an entertainer compounds the problems.

The hallmark of show business, stereotyping, combines tellingly with insights into male-female relationships in an evolving society to dish up serious topics. Humour added to the blend emphasizes the points with punch.

April Curtis takes centre stage as singer Heather Jones and she draws the best from each of the rest of the cast.

Mike Curtis, as Joe the manager, brings just the right touch of misplaced savvy and macho insecurity to his role as foil to the aspirations of the Jones girl.

The band backing the show, The Liberated Man's Band, plays admirable riffs. Dwaine Prosk, bass, Doug Chipp and Kevin Wilkie, rhythm guitar, Tom Martin, lead guitar, Rick Draper, drums and Will Davies, keyboard, accompany the singing with restraint — always there but never overpowering.

The female trio, The Plus Three, adds panache and glitter-glamour to the evening of fun. Dawn Luker, Leslea Keurvorst and Wendy Norton warble wondrous back-up vocals.

Kevin Aide, as a stage hand, delivers, deadpan, one of the more funny lines of the show.

Sound by Roger Morritt amply overcomes the deficiencies of the hall and lighting by Oscar Riley completes the feel of a rehearsal.

April Curtis doubles as artistic director and Prosk bears responsibility for the enjoyable musical direction.

"Playing with a rock and roll band is a natural high," sings Curtis in one of the upbeat tunes. Seeing and hearing this collection of talent is also a natural high.

Rat family off to moon December 20 at Ganges

"Everyone loves the fun." So sings the Rat family in the forthcoming production, *The Moon is Made of Green Cheese*, scheduled to be shown Sunday, Dec. 20 at 5 pm in Mahon Hall at Ganges.

because the moon is made of green cheese!

"Please come and see us at Mahon Hall, Sunday, Dec. 20 at five o'clock."

Admission is "\$1 and a kid", say the producers of the Fanfare Children's Theatre Concert.

Little Red Riding Hood will be there, along with her grandmother and the old wolf (and puppeteer June Beaddie). Musical entertainment is also on the bill.

One of the participants, grade 3 student Elaine Gardam, wrote a short summary of the play.

"I am a rat. I live in the basement of a big, big house. The crumbs are good in the house.

"I really love the cat. I love it! We are going to the moon soon. We do not need to take any food

Poet's corner

With Twin Beds

'Tis not the rapturous leap across That earns a grievous sense of loss, What really fills the heart with pain Is slowly trudging back again.

— John Healey

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Pender residents show interest in satellite technology

BY ELEANOR HARRISON

Earl Byrnes, a professional engineer with the ministry of universities, science and communications, was the guest speaker on November 24 at a meeting sponsored by the Pender Farmers' Institute.

Byrnes' topic drew a crowd of about 100 members of the community.

He was introduced by Bill Banstendorf of Pender Island, who said "some months ago he saw Dr. McGeer on TV with the satellite receiver dish set up on the lawn of the Parliament buildings and wondered if Pender Island could take advantage of some of the new technology."

As a result of his inquiries the Farmers' Institute program committee was able to arrange for Byrnes' visit.

Banstendorf continued by saying that there were three questions he would like answered: what does

the ministry do, how does the technology work and can this be done by Pender residents.

Byrnes began his speech by showing a spectrum radio chart, which he explained represented all the frequencies in the spectrum. On this he showed the audience the VHF TV channel, the mid-band channel and the super-band UHF channel on which there are 69 available channels.

SATELLITES SHOWN

This was followed by a chart identifying all the satellites in orbit, and the "footprints" of each satellite. Footprints are the area covered on earth by each satellite system.

Byrnes is involved with the communication development branch which is composed of four sections, which deal with administration, policy, corporate relations and technology. One function of corporate relations is

to develop and extend TV, telephone and radio operation in outlying communities.

The educational TV programs are intended for communities of 100 to 2,500 population.

Byrnes stated that his department gets hundreds of letters from provinces all across Canada. Dr. McGeer, he said, made a real impact across the country and people want to find out how to put the idea in motion.

A grant program is available to communities to reduce the costs providing the community is prepared to contribute itself.

FIRST ONE

In 1976 Canada put the first direct broadcast satellite in orbit, although the CBC had been operating since 1972 through a Canadian satellite. Canada was the first in the world to establish a satellite in orbit with a direct broadcast system.

The DOC Tel Sat Canada experiment in western and eastern Canada did not include B.C. originally but was later enlarged to enter B.C. into the program, thus establishing direct broadcasts through Anik B which has four beams which extend to the west coast of the Queen Charlottes.

B.C. selected terminals well spread inside and outside the fringe areas. At first the terminal was plugged into a private residence, in one case powered by a water wheel, but when the community saw how good the TV reception was, "the genie was out of the bag and those who viewed it wanted a part in it."

At present Anik B carries BCTV, Knowledge Network and CBC from Vancouver.

Canada is looking to develop and prove Canadian capabilities and understanding, anticipating markets in Japan, Europe and the USA.

The Peets program, developed by Dr. McGeer and his associates, delivers educational programs to rural communities. An established non-profit organization can apply for a licence.

Anik C will go into orbit early in 1982, possibly with pay TV on it and it will likely have many more entertainment channels.

Many communities are taking advantage of the Knowledge Network, which is a corporation on its own. At present they have more completed applications than they can handle.

Parents' group asks for bus route change

The school bus winds through two routes on the north end of Salt Spring Island yet some school children must be prepared to catch it at least an hour before school begins.

Joy Brownsword, chairman of the Fernwood Parents Advisory Committee, asked the trustees on the school board why the buses couldn't be re-routed to minimize the length of time some children are away from home.

She told the board that children, particularly in the Mobrae area, must catch the bus at 8 am as well as having to wait at least 15 minutes after school finished for the day before catching a return ride home.

The two routes, with one trip requiring one-half hour travel time and the other, 15 minutes, were planned to avoid the more dangerous hills and curves, Brownsword was told. Particularly in winter the road becomes treacherous and the bus must proceed in a certain direction to cut down the chances of problems

with icy roads.

For the afternoon runs, the buses reverse direction, with the shorter travel-time route taking children home before returning to the school for the remainder of the children.

"We accepted the 15 minutes in the afternoon as the first run," said board chairman Strick Aust, "which was easier for the children than a wait for one-half hour."

Another factor determining the routing of the buses involves the pupils in Grade 7 who must travel to Ganges. A change in routes would mean they would have to transfer from one bus to another at Central.

The amount of traffic at that intersection creates a real danger to the pupils if they had to change buses.

School officials decided to look at the routes to see if changes could be made but issued a warning that if routes were changed, some children within walking distance of Fernwood school may not be able to use the bus.

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Society looks at means of financing activity centre

Residents of Galiano, under the umbrella of the Galiano Activity Centre Society, are working with the school board to obtain a community recreational facility at the school on that island.

Their proposal consists of an extension of the planned 50 by 30-foot activity room to 50 by 80 feet to enable activities of the community to be held there.

Also part of their proposal to the school board to be included in the renovations of the school are a meeting room, kitchen and storage room.

The total cost of the additions requested by the community group has been estimated at \$250,000.

The society has looked at various ways of raising the money. They have discovered that one-third of the cost could be covered by a grant from the province.

TAXES, DONATIONS

Of the remainder, \$85,000 would be covered by taxes if approved by the residents and the society is hoping to raise the final one-third through private and corporate donations.

The tax money would involve 2.4 mills added to the bill of Galiano residents over the next 20 years, depending upon prevailing interest rates at the time of borrowing.

Linda Loughlin, president of the Galiano group, make a personal plea to the Gulf Islands School Board to turn the money from the sale of the Galiano teacherage over to the society. "We would like to see the proceeds from the teacherage come directly to the society for investment in our project," she said in her brief to the board.

"If this is not possible, the school could and should benefit from these funds," she continued.

Laughlin pointed out that not all the proposed renovations to the Galiano school will be covered by the 1982 budget. She mentioned the board's plans to rough in the plumbing for further renovations as well as the need for a new septic field.

The money from the sale of the now unused teacher's home could be used either for the school additions or the society's share of

the activity room.

TRUSTEES HESITANT

The various trustees were hesitant to commit the board to turning the funds over to the society. The sale of the teacherage is the responsibility of the ministry of education and cannot be made without approval from Victoria.

If the money from the teacherage were to be turned over to the Galiano group, such action would set a precedent for other islands to claim the revenue from the sale of school properties.

Laughlin told the board in her brief that five schools have been built on Galiano since 1920 and in each case the land for the schools was donated by island residents.

She referred specifically to the sale of one school, on donated land, to a private company and the proceeds were retained by the board.

The land and building of the teacherage, the board learned, were purchased jointly by the school district and the ministry.

While the board was sympathetic to the efforts of the Galiano society, they, said Strick Aust, "have to look at the district as a whole and not just island by island."

Fined for two offences

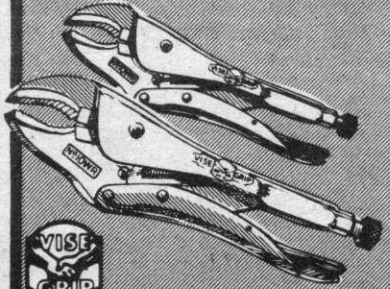
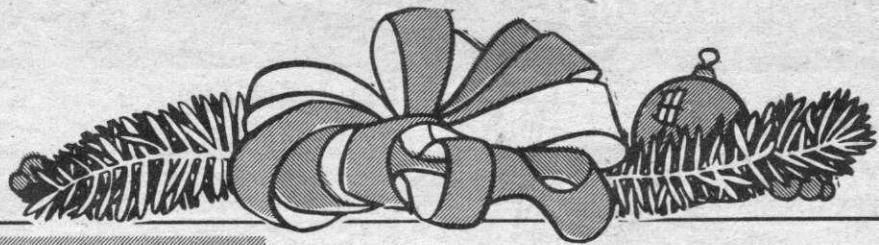
The red Datsun station wagon was moving too fast at 65 km/hr as well as occupying the wrong lane. A van, coming around a curve, had to swerve to avoid collision.

Judge D.K. McAdam listened to the story of the incident involving Dennis Mitchell, 18, of Fullford-Ganges Road on Salt Spring Island.

When the vehicle was stopped by police, Mitchell could not produce a driver's licence, which he said had been lost.

Mitchell, who works as an electrical apprentice, was fined a total of \$200 after pleading guilty to charges of driving with undue care and attention as well as failure to produce a driver's licence.

GIFTS FOR THE HANDYMAN

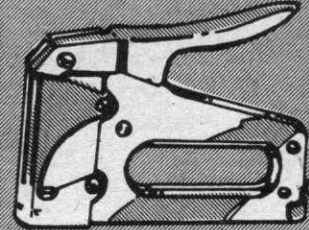


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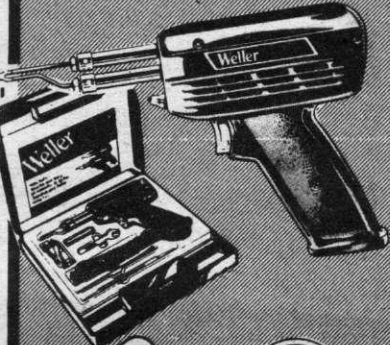


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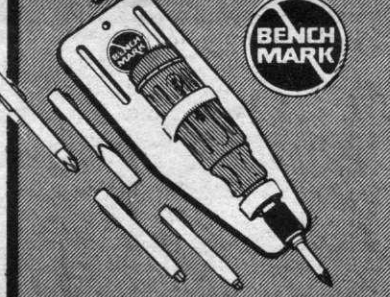
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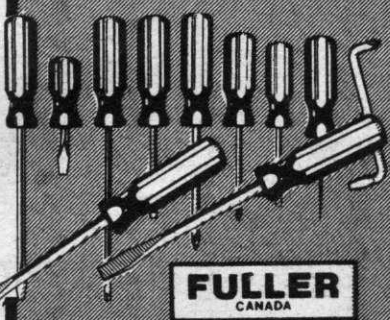


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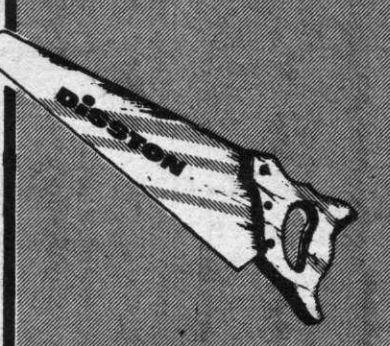


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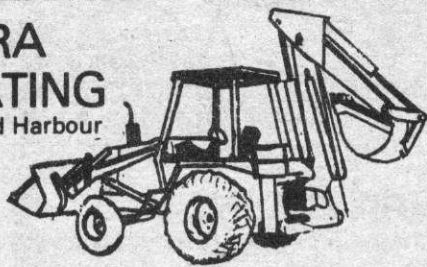
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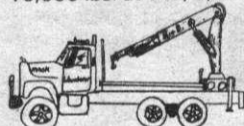


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And Len Larson, of Ganges, was so intrigued by the report that he sent it to *Driftwood*.

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accident report, it was 11:30 am when the automatic gates at the level crossing went down to block traffic for a train.

Waiting at the crossing were an Austin Mini, a Norton motorcycle, a horse and cart loaded with scrap metal, and a Maxi. Behind it was a Ford Cortina and last in line, a Mercedes.

As they waited in line for the train to pass, the horse suddenly whinnied and dripped spit on the motorcycle driver's neck.

Thinking the horse might bite him, the cyclist ducked, throwing his right elbow in the horse's face,

his left hand slipping off the clutch. The motorcycle lurched forward and hit the back of the Mini. The cyclist fell off his machine.

The horse, punched in the face, reared up, tipping his cart so the scrap metal fell on the Maxi.

This pushed the Maxi backwards a few feet, ramming the front of the Ford.

At this point, a man walking his dog (a Jack Russell terrier, the report says) happened on the scene. He hurried to aid the injured motorcyclist, but first tied his barking dog's leash to the automatic gate.

Since the train had passed, the automatic gate went up, yanking the yapping dog 20 feet into the air.

Seeing the dog in the air, the owner shouted to a nearby pedestrian to lower the barrier.

The far-from-the-gate driver of the Mercedes at the end of the line pulled out into the passing lane and headed across the railway tracks.

At this point the gate came down, crashing on top of the Mercedes, with the yapping dog dangling from the roof.

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PENDER NEWS

Golden Glow Dinner held Sunday for 50

BY ELEANOR HARRISON
The annual Golden Glow Dinner was held Sunday at the Pender Legion, when about 50 residents of the Penders who live alone enjoyed a traditional Christmas dinner hosted by the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Legion.

Everyone enjoyed singing songs dating back to the first world war and ending the hour-long entertainment with Christmas carols.

Margaret and Dick Tallman, Joe Klein and Bob Allison made up the band, while Phyllis Hambly and Hazel Finnie played the piano and violin. Thelma Lambeth, president of the auxiliary, led the singing.

After the dinner Santa Claus burst through the front door and while he didn't bring his sleigh, he

did bring quite an assortment of sleigh bells, gave out Christmas stockings to all the guests and performed a dance for them accompanied by his bells. Eric Forbes played Santa Claus this year.

The Pender Islands Art Group held a mini-art show on Saturday at their art room in the old school.

Artists from the club showing their work were Ken Clarke, Bertine Haslam, Margie Grimmer, John Kwak, Bobbie Zander, Ora Symes, Betty Gowan, Ann Henshaw, Myrtle MacGregor and Eric Chisholm. Wilma Finalyson had an outstanding display of painting on china.

Pender Islands Women's Institute meeting on December 1

electd the following officers to carry on the work of the institute next year. President: Baye Leroux; vice-president: Ellen Corbett; secretary: Mary Ripley; treasurer: Bunty Grimmer; and directors: Myrtle MacGregor, Elizabeth Campbell and Hattie Zarek.

A Christmas tea was served after the meeting.

The Pender Islands Hall Society's annual Christmas Bazaar was held on November 28 at the school community centre.

The bazaar opened at 1 pm and immediately the crowd was so great it was hard to move. There were 31 tables of merchandise and four easels for picture display.

Some of the tables were used by various organizations such as the Legion Ladies' Auxiliary and the

Women's Institute, but the majority were Pender Islanders displaying for sale the results of the past year's work.

There are many talented people living on the Pender and their efforts were very varied. Mention should be made of the school children's table, starting at the grade 2 level. With the help of their teachers they had an excellent assortment of handicrafts and food.

Freedra Hanson had made a beautiful assortment of necklaces, earrings and bracelets of semi-precious stones: cornellia, jade, abalone and mother of pearl, tiger and mastadon ivory.

The flower arrangements by Bea Chisholm caught everyone's eye, they were so outstandingly beautiful, while Vivian Miles' photographs of the Gulf Islands drew a crowd of keen buyers.

The petit point jewellery of Inza Jackson and Elva Hutchinson, of spoons, earrings and pins, was varied and extremely attractive. Hand-made clothes for small children were displayed by Gayle Burandt and hand-made toys by Shirley Searle.

The Legion Ladies' Auxiliary held their annual Christmas pot-luck dinner on November 29. This is an annual end-of-the-year party when the ladies and their escorts sit down together to a meal.

Special invited guests included members of the community who had helped with the work of the I.A. during the year.

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He's thought about opening a restaurant here

BY BILL WEBSTER

P'sst, don't tell anyone but there's a new eatery on Salt Spring and the food, while different is delicious.

The place is called the Golden Island Restaurant and it's in the Valcourt Centre on Lower Ganges Road. Pardon my whisper, but they serve Chinese food.

Stan Lam and Ted Kwong are partners in the venture. Stan greets you at the door with a friendly smile while Ted cooks the food.

Prawns, pan fried, deep fried or curried. Won Ton soup. Sweet and sour spareribs. Mmmm. And the house specialty - Barbecued duck, Chinese style.

Stan works at the Empress Hotel in Victoria but promises to be around the restaurant as much as possible. Ted has worked at various Chinese restaurants in Victoria and he sure knows how to make those three Chinese woks sing.

Woks? They're large curved fry pans and come all the way to Salt Spring from Quebec. Stan says he could have opened earlier but the

works weren't here and you can't cook Chinese without wokking at it.

"This is a real Chinese restaurant, run by real Chinese," says Stan with a wide grin. He and Ted hail from Hong Kong.

Another thing, remember that big fish you caught? Well, Ted will cook it just as you want it, if you give him some notice.

They also have take-out service. Maybe you'd better hurry there to try the menu before the word gets around. Stan has been thinking about a Chinese restaurant on Salt Spring for 10 years and now that he's opened for business the tables will be crowded.

See you there. Think I'll try the Lemon Chicken this time and if you're late, I'll order Lo-Han-Chai for you.

What's that? A very special Chinese vegetarian dish, my friend.

Stan and Ted's menu has something for all tastes.



Salt Spring Island has an authentic Chinese restaurant and Stan Lam, left, along with his partner Ted Kwong stand proudly in front of the Chinese wok in their new business.

Saturna Scene

BY PRISCILLA JANSZEN

At Tuesday's Parents' Meeting at Saturna, Elizabeth Bray resigned from her position as chairman and Debbie Graham took over. Dayle Johnson is the new secretary-treasurer.

Most of the discussion centred on what activities the children would do in spring, what funds are available, and which activities would appeal to which children. Everyone feels strongly and wants more information to base their strong opinions on.

The Saturna parents with children in the Mayne school went over there for a parents' meeting. Our parents were touched by the warm and eager response they received and feel most welcome.

Each Mayne Island teacher spoke on a different aspect of adolescents changing from one world to another. They dealt with the kids' social, emotional and physical development. They felt that the key word was "adjustment" for the Mayne Island school.

the most important aspect of children at this stage is experimenting. "Kids are experimenting and they have to". Jeanine Dodds gave a report on the budget for the middle school and discussed, frankly, what was possible and what wasn't.

DINNER MEETING

Taimi Hindmarch organized a status of women dinner meeting on Galiano Island last week. Ten teachers attended. Many topics were covered on the agenda - professional and personal. The group intends to sponsor several workshops.

Betty Speers and Doris Akerman flew to Ottawa to visit Betty's sister, Margaret Mitchell, the member of parliament from Vancouver East. They went to many of the important caucus meetings that the NDP held concerning the inclusion of women's and native people's rights in the constitution. Both found the political atmosphere exciting.

On December 20 Saint Christopher's Church will have a Christmas service at 2:15. All are welcome.

Ian Gaines was 11, November 23 and Desiree had her seventh birthday on November 6. Happy Birthday to both of you!

The Saturna Lions Club raised \$815 for Timmy's Christmas Telethon. The Lions would like to thank everyone who participated.

The big kids in Mrs. Gaines' class did a census graph of age distribution for Saturna. They divided the island into five districts and put people into 10-year categories. The two largest age categories are 31-40, 38 people, and 61-70, 35 people. We have 20 people under 10 and four over 81.

Peanut Butter Jamwich

The 18th of December is the last day of school. On January 4 school starts. The Christmas concert is December 12.

The delicious, delightful candlelight dinner is December 16 this year. Tickets are \$9 and will be sold at both stores. The Glug Bowl and Salad Bar open at 6pm and dinner is at 7 pm.

Driving too fast

The vehicle was moving too fast, the driver lost control and both hit a stone and cement curbing.

Daniel Harvey was issued a citation for driving too fast for road conditions.

He was driving a 1966 Chevrolet and having gone through the intersection from the Fulford-Ganges Road on to Lower Ganges Road, he lost control, crossed the road and hit the high curb in front of the Kanaka Place.

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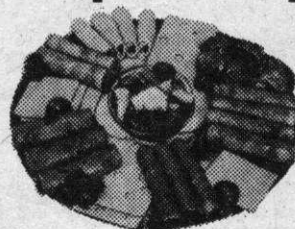
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Technique helps students to write

'Incredible results' produced by guided imagery

BY BILL WEBSTER

The bulb from a small table lamp throws a soft orange glow on the faces of the children. They sit, relaxed, in their chairs and several lie, sleep-like, on the floor.

Although each eye is closed, the children pay rapt attention to the soft, reassuring voice of the teacher while in the background quiet music enhances the mood.

The soothing voice urges the children to feel themselves becoming very quiet inside. The sounds of shifting bodies lessen then cease as the children, fully relaxed, follow the voice on a journey into their imaginations.

"Imagine what you can see," says the voice. "Feel the sensations, smell the odours, hear the sounds and taste the foods."

The children, elementary school-age pupils, are being led through an exercise known as guided imagery. They are opening themselves up to their imaginations and as the journey into their minds comes to a conclusion, they begin to write of their experiences **CRISP, VIVID IMAGES**

They write as they have no written before and the images on the paper are crisp, vivid and seemingly beyond their young years.

Barbara Aust uses the technique with the children at Salt Spring Elementary School with remarkable results.

She said, "To let creativity flow we found that we had to feel still inside ourselves. Once we did this, we were able to get clear pictures in our minds about which we could write."

The approach to writing, and education in general, differs from that of some teachers who hold that pupils need to be "hyped up" to learn.

Aust found confirmation of her ideas from Dr. Beverley Gaylean, the educational consultant of the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Gaylean uses a similar technique to reach illiterate children from poverty areas of Los Angeles. Gaylean has them writing stories which share more of who they are in much better ways than one would expect from children to whom English is a second language.

SAME RESULTS

When the technique of guided imagery was tried with pupils in Aust's classes, the results were

quite the same as were found by Gaylean.

The children respond with bursts of creativity after they discover the "yes, I can do it feeling" which Aust attempts to instill in them.

She tells of a youngster who had difficulty writing his feelings in even one sentence. She engaged the youth in guided imagery and when he returned to school the next day, he produced a seven-page story.

To a class of Grade 7 pupils Aust showed a large coloured photograph of a sunset and asked them to write a description of it. The children groaned, scribbled

and struggled for 20 minutes at which time Aust took them on a tour of their imaginations and asked them to try again.

INCREDIBLE RESULTS

"The results are incredible," said Aust. "It always awes me to see that the children are so wise and can share such fine thoughts."

One youngster, after 20 minutes of attempting to put a description of the sunset on paper, could only list words: cold lake, glowing sun, towering trees, rippling waves, distant mountains, shady leaves, cloudy skies, hazy horizons.

After the process of guided imagery, the child wrote:

I was at my old house and I was walking down the gravel path passing lilies and trilliums on the way down. I climbed up into the red arbutus tree, the leaves scratching me as I went up.

When I was settled in the crotch of the branches I looked West and the sun was setting. Suddenly I had become the sunset and I felt every nerve and bone in my body tingling with warmth and carefreeness. An orange glow was emitting from me, enveloping everything. With each

minute the glow got darker and more intense until with every final urge of energy it climbed into a brilliant array and disappeared.

I sat up and saw the tide had been creeping in. As I walked up the path, I turned back and the moon had already risen and was shining on the waters. It winked at me as if to quench any last doubts I had. Slowly I turned and walked towards home.

"The results," said Aust, "speak for themselves."

**Salt Spring
Island Trust Committee
Meeting**

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Region recommends county government

Gulf Islands County

BY FRANK RICHARDS

Why not an Islands County, asked the Capital Regional Board at its last meeting of the 1981 year.

The board then authorized a recommendation to the minister of municipal affairs that he consider the establishment of a county for the five Gulf Islands and the smaller adjacent islands.

The islanders have problems totally unrelated to those of the Vancouver Island-locked Capital Region, the minister was told. In addition, island spokesmen have repeatedly asked the regional board to leave them alone.

With this recommendation in mind, Driftwood took a close look at counties in British Columbia.

There aren't any!

The county system has been launched as an experimental step by Municipal Affairs Minister Bill Vander Zalm.

The regional districts are large and sometimes geographically unwieldy. The county system would divide the province into smaller administrative units.

The regional districts administer some of the affairs of British Columbians. They tie together some of the administrative functions of the province and they form a working platform for municipalities, otherwise unrelated, to administer services which are enjoyed by more than one municipality, such as sewers, planning and parks.

All services

The county would embrace all services within its boundaries, it would embrace the functions of a regional district and it would also include the school district, improvement districts and other small administrations.

By this means the administration of more than one function in the county would be the responsibility of one county staff.

The schools, water districts, fire protection, sewers and a number of other services would be included in the one operation.

But, as yet, there is not a county operating in British Columbia. It is a plan for tomorrow.

The nearest community to the proposed county system is the Queen Charlotte Islands. The ministry has announced plans for the outlining of a county system on a test basis. The people of the Queen Charlottes will be given the opportunity of savouring the scheme and reporting on it for the benefit of the minister.

Like the Gulf Islands, the Queen Charlottes are isolated from other administrations by the geographical fact of water. Like the Gulf Islands, the Queen Charlottes have their own school district which caters only to the islands. Like the Gulf Islands, the Queen Charlottes

are able to operate as a separate entity, depending on the outside only for hospital services.

Both island groups are served by local hospitals, but neither community can provide hospital services on a highly sophisticated level.

What is it

What is a county system?

On a broad basis, it is a municipal entity enjoying a much greater local autonomy than a regional district but accepting a much greater responsibility for local administration.

The regional district was established to provide services to adjacent incorporated municipal components and electoral areas. Where services cross municipal boundaries, the regional district can administer such functions as the sewer system for Greater Victoria. It employs its own regional engineering staff and constructs, maintains and operates the system on behalf of the various components enjoying the benefits.

In the case of certain services, such as health, the region offers a district-wide function extending beyond municipal and electoral boundaries on a level which could not be accomplished as a series of small departments of each component.

The region offers yet another service. In electoral areas, where there is no local government, the regional district may borrow money for capital projects and it may administer services otherwise dependent on local improvement districts.

Take over policing

But there is no suggestion of the region becoming responsible for policing in the electoral areas. The county may be required to take over policing.

The region does not enjoy any responsibility for roads. It does not construct roads or maintain them. The county may be required to administer this function.

Both policing and highways are normal functions of British Columbia municipalities.

In the past there have been several forms of incorporated municipal areas. There have been villages, towns, cities and district municipalities. Although a wide spread area may be incorporated as a city or a small area incorporated as a district, the designations have usually been related to the size of the area and the nature of its population.

Each of these municipalities administers the affairs of the people who live within its boundaries.

The village is more limited in the amount of money it may borrow for capital projects. All municipalities are so limited, but the village has the smallest borrowing capacity and the district or city has a far freer rein.

The village is policed by the province and its property owners are not taxed for this service. The larger municipalities may enter into an agreement with the province to share policing by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or they may employ their own police forces, but in either case the

local council is responsible for the cost of this service, with assistance from the province.

The regional district is a municipal entity, but it is not responsible for policing.

Who builds roads?

The village and the town and the city and the district look after their own roads. The regional districts have no roads to look after.

Each municipality elects its own mayor and aldermen. The regional board elects its own directors in the electoral areas, where there is no municipal council. The municipal components name their directors from among their elected councils.

There is another marked difference between the cities and the towns and the districts and the regional districts.

Each municipality enjoys provincial grants towards its costs of operation. There is a per capita grant whereby the province makes a grant to each municipal council based on the population.

This is intended to help towards the costs of operating the municipality. Then there are other grants made towards specific responsibilities.

Tax burden

And the result of the year's operation depends on the relationship between these grants and the cold, hard facts of budgeting. If the government grants come close to meeting the costs of operation of the municipality, then taxes are low. If the grants are far from the truth of costs, then there is a big tax levy by the municipality.

In the past, if municipalities have shown signs of prosperity, successive governments have made a quick re-assessment and cut back on grants, leaving the taxpayer a bigger burden next summer.

There have been, up till now, only those four types of municipality.

Now comes the county.

The Gulf Islands County would be a municipal council elected by the people of the islands. There would be a mayor and a number of aldermen. The number has not yet been specified by the minister.

It is laid down for existing municipalities, but as the first county test run is to be that of the Queen Charlottes, the number of members may be related to the number of component islands. The same might be applied to a Gulf Islands County and it is likely that if the minister were to act on the recommendations of the Capital Regional Board the county council would consist of five members or, perhaps, six and the mayor.

Aldermen

The aldermen would be elected from the component islands and the county would represent almost the entire local administration.

The Gulf Islands School District would, presumably, be absorbed by it and there would be no further trustees elected. The schools could then be administered by members of the education committee of the

county council or board. It is feasible that if the minister should adopt this pattern, he might call for a larger council in order to provide an adequate number of members for the various functions.

The county system is speculative. There are no counties in British Columbia. A year or two back, they were the idea brewing in the back of the minister's mind. They are still brewing but they have expanded into other minds and the ministry is coming up with firmer details early in the new year, says Vander Zalm.

While firm facts are brewing, the ministry has outlined a possible pattern for the Queen Charlottes proposal. The same proposal might be adapted to the Gulf Islands.

The initial announcement states that adoption of a county system would be through a referendum. This indicates that there is no plan on the part of the ministry to call for the formation of counties. The government did not ask the taxpayers when the regional system was imposed.

Responsibilities

The county could "at least" be responsible for elementary and secondary education, health, police, library, recreation, local roads, fire protection, airport, rural settlement planning and rural improvement services.

That is the ministry's summary. Not included in the summary is information on the cost to the taxpayer. The likely cost of operating a county is difficult to find because there has never been one.

The Gulf Islands County faces two difficulties before the ministry even comes up with an outline of the exact functions of a county.

In unorganized territory a fixed rate of 10 mills is charged against local properties by the ministry of municipal affairs for administrative costs. Few municipalities can operate on twice that rate.

It is difficult to imagine how a county could offer even basic services without an increase in taxes.

Levy of 10 mills

This is a discouragement only as long as the province continues to assess administrative costs at 10 mills. If at some time in the future a minister of municipal affairs were to boost the rate in unorganized territories, then incorporation would loom more attractively.

The second and major obstacle to a Gulf Islands County government would be selling islanders on the proposal.

Although there are few firm economic assessments possible, it is clear that the cost to the taxpayer of a county system would be substantially higher than remaining in the Capital Regional District. In addition to the cheaper price of carrying on as before, there are few functions performed by the regional district which affect the islands. There are no functions offered by a county which would provide more for islanders than they already get.

If major capital works are needed, the region can offer the machinery to bring them into being. Health services are here, either way and recreation was here before there was a regional district.

And, finally, it is difficult to imagine the quieter Outer Islands people voting to come into an administrative function shared by Salt Spring Island.

The minister has shown no interest, as yet, in inviting the Gulf Islands into a county proposal. They wouldn't come.

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Quilt is first prize

Time's a wasting but it's not too late to buy a couple of tickets for the Salt Spring Nursery School Raffle. First prize is the child's quilt seen above Laurie Fiander. She and Joanne Leslie-Young were selling tickets at the recent

craft fair at the Community Centre. Tickets are \$1 each or three for \$2. Second prize, a truckload of firewood, could help to cook the third-prize turkey or fourth-prize ham.

Help reduce carnage

Post office offers hints

BY BILL WEBSTER

Christmas comes but once a year and when it does it swamps the post office with mail and parcels.

Officials of the mail service want customers to remember that cards require a 15 cent stamp.

Deadline for delivery of cards to places outside Canada or the United States was last Saturday, airmail.

For Great Britain and Northern Ireland, airmail cards should be in the system by December 12.

International requirements require all cards for overseas to be unsealed and marked "printed papers". Cards for Canada and the U.S. must be sealed with those for south of the border marked "printed paper". Deadline is December 13.

Local delivery deadline is December 17, for cards and parcels. Out-of-town, first-class parcels should be mailed no later than December 13.

Parcels suffer hardships at the

tender hands of the mail system and the post office offers tips on survival.

Popcorn, styrofoam pellets, foam rubber or shredded paper make good packing material but never ship anything in a shoe box.

Use heavy cardboard cartons and seal all open edges with fibre or reinforced tape. Plain kraft gummed tape comes unglued in cold weather, so don't use it.

If several items are to go into a package, wrap each one separately including your name and address as well as ditto for the recipient. If the parcel falls apart, they will know where to send the pieces.

Also of great help to the postal workers are mailing and return addresses, including postal codes, on at least two sides of the outer wrapper.

With up to four million parcels moving through the mail service of the nation, these helpful hints from the postal officials should help reduce the carnage in the post office.

Former resident looks back

When bread was five cents a loaf and the party line was island link

When a former Salt Spring Islander found an old dairy farm billhead in among some old papers it took her back into another life before she moved to Victoria.

She recalled the days when Eileen and Ron King were the owners of Highcroft Farm for some years and supplied milk to a large segment of Salt Spring Island. Originally Colin King was also part of the farm operation, but he left, in the thirties, to go back to the family business in England.

The billhead reminded her of the days when commodities cost very little and there was very little money around for commodities.

She was minded of the days when Cecil Springford was in the butcher shop and Robert Woods operated the abattoir along "St. Mary Lake Road."

Bread was five cents a loaf and soup bones were free. Liver and kidney had little value in those days and she remembered the farmers asking for both when an animal was sold for meat.

And other prices? **SARDINES AND PIES**

King Oscar sardines were 11¢ a can and pies were 25¢ each. A four-pound can of marmalade was a few cents and jam fetched about the same.

When she settled her account at the month end she was always presented with an "enormous" bag of fruit; bananas, oranges, dried apricots, peaches, prunes and several chocolate bars and tobacco for her husband.

What more could one ask? But there were two sides to every ledger.

They were on a party line and all 12 subscribers would, from time to time, be listening in to calls, eager to pick up juicy bits of news.

The erstwhile resident recalled some of the news from the

telephone line such as the time when Will Scott explained how to make loganberry wine and the time when Frank Speed lost his glasses in a fight outside Harbour House.

HASTINGS HOUSE
The past history of Hastings House had aroused her interest because the daughter of one of its early owners is living in Victoria.

Mrs. Nora Nixon is the daughter of L.G. Tolson. Her father and her uncle arrived on Salt Spring in 1889 and built a cabin there, on the site of the present Hastings House

Hotel.

She recalled that the property was later acquired by a Colonel Craig and later by a Major Rowan.

Ken and Clare Butterfield moved in to the property after their marriage, but they did not occupy it for long. Ken Butterfield was a long-term employee of Mouat's Store.

The memories of Salt Spring Island are scattered over a long residence here and there are still many readers who will remember those days.

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