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TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR, NO. 11

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1983

35c per copy



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

No swimming yet

Mild weather and low tides allowed islanders to head for the beaches recently for any number of reasons, other than swimming. Tides were suitably low for clam digging and collecting

seaweed or just plain playing in the tide pools. Gabriel Stone of Salt Spring was playing on a north end beach with friends from Lake Cowichan when he landed this perfect specimen of kelp.

Pender parents' group wants out of islands school district

Some Pender Island parents want out of the Gulf Islands School District and into the Saanich School District.

Sophie Palmer, representing a group called Parents of Pender Island School Children, sent a letter to the Gulf Islands school trustees asking them to talk with trustees from Saanich about merging Pender with the Peninsula district.

The letter included signatures of 48 Pender parents of 72 children. Of the children, 62 attend Pender Island School, nine attend Parkland Secondary School in Saanich and one attends Gulf Islands Secondary School on Salt Spring.

Currently, 77 children attend the school on Pender, 20 go to high school in Saanich and one attends GISS.

The parents are upset at the recent school board decision to drop the Grade 8 course at Pender in favour of a junior high school on Mayne Island. There are currently eight students in the Grade 8 class on Pender.

"The parents unanimously wish to retain Grade 8 on Pender Island as has been made very clear to the board repeatedly over the last several years," wrote Palmer in her letter to the board.

One of the parents who signed the letter included the notation, "but cancel Grade 8."

The letter from Palmer also noted, "As 99% of our children attend Parkland Secondary School in Sidney for Grades 9 to 12 and have done so for the last several years, we feel the education of our

children might be better represented if we were to join with the Saanich School District."

At the school board meeting, chairman John Zacharias offered to meet with the Pender parents, but the offer was declined by Palmer who said their views were contained in the letter.

The school trustees discussed the issue both in camera and in the public portion of the meeting. They agreed that they did not want Pender to join the Saanich district and that the motion to cancel Grade 8 would not be rescinded.

The school board had decided to create the junior school on Mayne for Grades 7, 8 and 9 for all pupils on the Outer Islands. They noted at

the time the motion was passed that the Grade 8 on Pender did not cost the board any money because the pupils were sharing class time with Grade 7 pupils.

The trustees were concerned, however, that increases in the number of Grade 8 students would mean expenditures to hire a separate teacher for the class.

Zacharias, on behalf of the school board, issued a statement on the matter.

"This board made its decision to include Pender junior high students in the Mayne School program after sincere and thorough consideration of the education and social benefits of the children involved.

Turn to Page 2

Seven theatre groups to compete in festival

Salt Spring Island will host this year's South Island Zone Drama Festival April 5-9.

Seven community groups will compete for the honours to be awarded on the last night.

Shawnigan Players start the proceedings of Tuesday, Apr. 5 with five short segments: *Man's Best Friend*, *Score* by Lyndon Brook, *Countdown* by Alan Ayckbourn, *Footsteps of Doves* and *I'll be Home for Christmas*, both by Robert Anderson. The evening will be completed by the Salt Spring Players with *Cubistique*, an original play by award-winning Tom Cone, written for the director, Yvonne Adalian.

Solstice Productions occupy the whole of Wednesday evening with an original three-act play by Kevin Land who also produces. *Ties* tells of a man's inability to accept the fact that the family he knew as a child no longer exists.

January Players present James McLure's *Lone Star* on Thursday,

Apr. 7. Set in Texas on a summer night, this play may not be suitable for children, owing to frequent coarse language.

Their second entry is another original one-act, written and produced by Graeme Morton. *We Don't Play Guy Lombardo Any More* takes place in a small-town radio station on New Year's Eve.

Peninsula Players present one entry on Thursday and one on Friday. The Thursday one-act is *Operators* by award-winning Margaret Hollingsworth and tells of one night in the lives of three women.

Details of Friday and Saturday programs will be published next week.

The public is invited to stay for the nightly adjudications during the festival.

Tickets will be available at et cetera. Other details are contained in a display ad in this issue of *Driftwood*.

Crofton format adopted

Valcourt withdraws from sewer committee after proposals rejected

Salt Spring Island director Yvette Valcourt withdrew from the Ganges sewer issue last week after the board rejected her slate of candidates for a citizens' committee and accepted a proposed format from Pat Crofton.

In an emotional outburst, Valcourt told the board that the "cry-babies who took away our referendum are the people who are lobbying you."

She left the board table after telling her colleagues, "I will not participate. Therefore, you can consider the issue closed."

The controversial committee was ordered appointed by chairman Howard Sturrock several weeks ago after the inspector of municipalities had recommended that the people of the island community get together and seek to resolve the sewer furor.

The responsibility for naming the committee and the details of its function have been debated for the past four weeks.

RESISTANCE

When the Salt Spring Island director brought her proposed list of names, it was met with resistance from other directors who contended that the list should be representative of the sewered area. The proposed list was tabled for two weeks.

Last week director Crofton submitted a format for the naming of the committee but chairman Howard Sturrock ruled that the tabled motion of director Valcourt would be voted on.

In quick succession, the board rejected the Valcourt committee and supported the Crofton format.

The chairman expressed concern that a committee should be appointed without the sanction and support of the local director.

By a vote of 30 to 22, the Valcourt list was rejected and by the same margin, the Crofton formula was adopted.

MEMBERS

The new committee will include

one member from each of Lady Minto, Greenwoods, Gulf Islands School Board, Islands Trust, North Salt Spring Waterworks District and the Pioneer Village and two from the Ganges ratepayers and tenants association with two from the Ganges Centre Association. A further two members will be appointed by Valcourt and the director herself is to sit on the committee.

Chairman Sturrock and Peter Pollen are ex-officio members and the province will be invited to name an ex-officio member from municipal affairs and from the waste management branch.

The committee will be allocated expenses of up to \$25,000 and a deadline of June 30 was imposed for a final report.

Committee is called on to examine all aspects of the Ganges sewer and to find a harmonious solution, with an affordable price tag.

Project gains momentum

A beautification project is gaining momentum at Salt Spring Island.

Both the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce and the Ganges Centre Association have struck committees to deal with the project.

The chamber committee is looking at beautification of all public and commercial areas of Salt Spring Island. Special bank accounts have been opened at the Bank of Montreal and the Bank of Commerce to receive cash donations for the project.

The chamber is also seeking help from people interested in planning

and development and donation of time and materials. One offer has already been received to supply the chamber with 300 hanging baskets at cost.

The Ganges Centre Association, which represents business interests in the Ganges core area, was formed with beautification of the village in mind.

First major step in the beautification program will take place Sunday when a general clean-up is undertaken in Ganges. The work will be done by volunteers and will begin at noon.



Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

2,000 sign petition

Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society asked islanders last week for support in their efforts to save potable water. Residents signed petitions placed at

the post office, Mouat's Mall and the Gulf Island Trading Company. Almost 2,000 islanders put their names on the petitions in the few

days the sheets were out. Mimi Gossett, left, watches Michael Aronoff sign while Judy Ripley approves.

Separatism was proposed by Zacharias in 1978

Efforts to remove the Pender Islands from the Gulf Islands School District last occurred in 1978 with John Zacharias as the prime mover.

Zacharias, then in his first term as Pender Island school trustee, called for the formation of a separate school district to serve the Penders. He was protesting what appeared to him to be inequities in the school district budget which favoured Salt Spring over the Outer Gulf Islands.

In particular, he noted differences in the budget allotments for Fernwood School on Salt Spring and the Pender Island School. Fernwood would be allowed 17.5 hours per week for a librarian compared to no hours for Pender. Other points of contention in comparisons of the two schools involved the 17.5 hours of secretarial time for Fernwood and eight hours for the Pender School. Zacharias suggested four alternatives for Penderites. The islanders could "be happy" with the situation as it was, the parents' group could take action, the method of electing trustees could be changed to "at large" elections or Pender

could become its own school district.

"What I'm trying to do," said Zacharias at the time, "is stir up Penderites so that they'll demand a fairer share of school board funds."

Pender parents

From Page 1

"We regret the decision made by a group of parents to ask to join the Saanich School District. It is our opinion that this move would be detrimental to these students and therefore find it impossible to assist you in this endeavour.

"This board also believes that the perceived benefits would not in any way justify the increased financial costs to the people on Pender, e.g. based on 1982, mill rates would increase from 26.6 to 44.3.

"Considering the many disadvantages if you follow your proposed route, we urge you to reconsider and hope you remain within School District 64."

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No health hazard seen

High tides and strong winds forced water into Mouat's Mall in Ganges at least three times this winter but there is no health hazard involved, says the chief health inspector for the Capital Regional District.

Tom Toynbee of Mouat's said the basement of the harbour-side mall had water on the floor twice in December and again in early February. The problem resulted from high tides forcing water into the basement.

Clothes in the Thrift Shop, run by the Auxiliary to Lady Minto Hospital, became wet but the volunteers washed the damaged goods and threw other articles into the garbage.

Les Potter, chief health inspector for the CRD, said inspectors had determined that no health problem existed as a result of the high water. His department was involved to

offer advice on clean-up and disinfection, he said.

The only time the department would consider further action is if a food store or restaurant were involved, he said.

The area of the mall had been a food store from 1948 to 1971. The mall had been created in 1972 and the basement was flooded the same year. There were no other flood problems in the mall until last December.

The incidents came to the attention of the health inspectors as a result of complaints made by a Ganges resident. Under the rules of the CRD, such complainants are not identified.

Potter said the past winter brought flooding to many parts of the CRD and the Ganges high water was being treated as a routine investigation.

New procedure adopted

A new pattern of procedure has been adopted by the Capital Regional Board in respect of derelict or substandard buildings.

In future the board staff will pursue the matter with the owner of the property and attempt to resolve the matter at committee level. If the owner is adamant or the staff cannot clear up the situation, then it will

come before the board.

The decision follows the complaints of last month that Maxwell Laundry in Ganges was a hazard and an eyesore. Complaint was heard by the board without prior consultation or negotiation with the owner of the allegedly heritage building, G.S. Humphreys.

Region will contribute

The Capital Regional Board will contribute towards the cost of a drainage program but it will not undertake the responsibility of correcting a drainage problem.

The board has been considering the flooding problem in Ganges in the general vicinity of the United Church.

At the request of director Yvette Valcourt, the directors looked at an expenditure of up to \$20,000.

The board will work in liaison with the Islands Trust and the ministry of highways to seek a solution to the problem, but will not assume direct responsibility, it was decided last week.

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Gulf Islands Community Arts Council

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, March 29, 1983 at 8 pm - Mahon Hall

Agenda:

- Minutes of previous meeting
- Treasurer's report
- Committee reports
- Reports from Associate Groups
- Chairman's report
- Election of Officers
- Appointment of Auditor
- Other business - Notice of Special Resolution: to change section A, Article 9 of the By-Laws to read "the fiscal year of the Arts Council shall begin Jan. 1 and end Dec. 31 of the same calendar year."
- Adjournment

Membership dues payable. New members welcome.

Recycling...

The only way to cut costs and pollution

The apostle of recycling, Saanich Alderman Hal Knight, called on the Islands Trust to look more closely into the benefits of recycling wastes when he addressed the Trust council two weeks ago in Victoria.

The fervent proponent of recycling explained to trustees the reasons for advocating this method of handling garbage.

Experience in the United States has shown that the process of using garbage to generate power has not been successful, he warned trustees. The garbage is burned in order to produce steam, he explained, and there had proved a poor market in United States cities for steam. As the flow of garbage is highest in summer, when the call for steam is at its minimum, the calendar works against the system.

Electricity produced from garbage-generated heat is more expensive than more conventional methods of producing power and is, therefore, difficult to peddle, reported Knight.

Many American cities are introducing compulsory recycling. When the British Columbia government made a survey recently, more than 50% of the persons asked replied that recycling should also be mandatory in this province.

"Looks like the people are ahead of the politicians, as usual," commented Knight.

The region operates its recycling depot on Borden St. in Saanich. Other communities in the Capital Region, including Salt Spring Island, also use this facility.

The Saanich alderman urged that there was greater likelihood of gaining a return from the disposal of garbage by recycling than by other methods.

The Capital Regional District is now examining the possibility of expanding its recycling program, but only after expensive and abortive studies of the generation of energy from garbage, explained the speaker.

HARTLAND ROAD

The regional garbage disposal system consists of dumping collected material at the Hartland Road dump. Its only value lies in its simple function of getting rid of wastes from residences and businesses.

The 1983 costs for Saanich work out at about a dollar a week for residences. Knight explained that the district municipality spends \$1,066,420 to collect from 24,200 homes, for a unit cost of \$44.07 per home. In addition, collection from 95 apartments and businesses costs another \$61,200.

These, said Knight, are the basic costs. These are the costs which are met out of taxes. The cost of pollution control at the dump, re-establishing Tod Creek as a salmon-spawning stream and replacement costs for the Hartland Road dump are not included. Finally, he submitted, the benefits which might

be obtained from recycling are lost.

Recycling collects materials that would otherwise be dumped with refuse and sells them at a profit.

VARIOUS SAVINGS

The system saves money in various directions, asserted the proponent. Although Saanich does not enjoy them, there are diversion credits paid by the province or regional districts in other areas in token of the saving, on a per ton basis, by diverting this waste material from the conventional dump.

Recycling takes the pressure off replacing and paying for the replacement of the garbage dump.

Recycling reduces transportation costs to the Hartland Road dump.

Recycling conserves energy. The production of sheet aluminum from recycled aluminum scrap as compared with producing sheets from ore saves 97% in energy and 96% in air pollution. Recycling aluminum represents a saving of 97% in water pollution; 95% saving of water and a 98% saving in materials. He quoted from provincial government statistics.

Recycling conserves natural resources. Knight advocated a detinning plant in the province to recover the metal from tin cans.

Recycling creates jobs and it contributes in various other ways to the community.

THREEFOLD CHOICE

The choices for the Capital Regional District appear to be threefold, said Knight in his summary.

The region may install a very expensive garbage-to-energy plant. He feels that such a plant would not be logical in a city the size of Victoria. It may depend on landfill, such as the Hartland Road dump. Some garbage must inevitably be dumped, said Knight, but an efficient, expanded recycling program will prolong the life of such dumps and save costs in the long run.

The presentation was adapted to

island use by John Wells of Hornby.

The Hornby Island project was initiated when the island dump of years' standing was closed by the health authority. Six years ago islanders started a small recycling depot, said Wells. He described the installation.

It consists of one building and two burners. In addition, there is a can crusher. The burners are manufactured from underground gasoline storage tanks and the crusher was made on the island.

MUST BE SORTED

Anything and everything solid is accepted, but it must be sorted. Some patrons bring their wastes already sorted. Others bring them as nature made them and sort them out at the centre. The building is used for storage as well as for a free store. Appliances, auto parts and other usable materials may be acquired by anyone and taken away. Old cars and trucks are accepted and stored where parts may be removed for recycling.

The various categories for recycling are glass, tin cans, aluminum, batteries, toys and books and clothing.

No compostable materials will be taken. It is felt that patrons should be better able to handle composting.

The Hornby Island operation is open three days a week in winter and seven days a week in summer.

The crunch of the operation comes with the disposal of the materials. Glass is sorted into white, green and brown and is then sold for \$40 a ton. The bad news is that it costs more than \$40 a ton to ship it off the island.

BURNING PLASTIC

Paper and plastic is burned and newspapers don't normally come to the dump as they are largely used for firefighting.

Because the revenue from sale of recycled goods is devoted entirely to transportation, the islanders have to find an additional \$12,000 a year to operate the facility. The only

commodities shipped off-island are glass, tin cans and other metals.

And how does it compare with what they used to do on Hornby?

The former dump was four acres of land two feet deep in black plastic garbage bags.

Nick Gilbert noted that the Salt Spring Island operation has been dependent to a considerable degree on volunteer labour.

PLAN DISCARDED

The Trust later considered the Texada Island garbage disposal scheme mooted for Greater Vancouver. Chairman Michael Humphries noted that the Greater

Vancouver Regional Board had rejected the proposal for Texada. The plan called for the dumping of bales of compressed garbage in the quarries on Texada.

Humphries also warned trustees that although Texada is out, the Vancouver conurbation could still be looking at other islands.

"Could we not recommend to the Greater Vancouver Regional Board that False Creek and Indian Arm be examined as possible sites for garbage dumping?" asked Ed Williams.

The meeting did not take him up on the proposal.

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District to send delegation

The commission won't be coming to the Gulf Islands, so local school trustees will be going to the commission.

The Commission on School District Administrative Costs will be meeting school officials in 16 community college regions of the province. The trustees of the Gulf Islands School District must go to Victoria as part of the Camosun College region to meet the two-man commission on April 27.

The commission has been set up by the ministry of education to look at how school districts spend money

and whether the money is properly spent.

A letter from commission chairman Mark Sager, 25, of Vancouver, stated, "While we do not want to pre-determine your input, we do wish to elicit original thought on the matters of maximizing educational service, desirable organizational patterns and administrative efficiency."

He requested submissions from the various school districts of the province.

The Gulf Islands trustees decided to send a delegation to the meeting

"to defend School District 64." Mike Marshall, superintendent of schools, will recommend names for a committee to carry the Gulf Islands message to the commission. The school board will approve the members of the committee at its next meeting.

The April 27 meeting at Camosun College has a tentative schedule of meetings with the secretary-treasurers and school superintendents in the morning and early afternoon. These meetings will be closed to both news reporters and the public.

The school trustees will meet the commission in the afternoon and a public meeting will be in the evening.

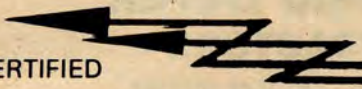
The Camosun College region includes the school districts from Greater Victoria, Sooke, Saanich as well as the Gulf Islands.

The commission must have its report ready by September 1, 1983 and written submissions should be mailed to it by May 15. The address of the commission is: Commission on School District Administrative Costs, Ministry of Education, 7451 Elmbridge Way, Richmond, B.C.

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Junior volunteers attended a conference in Duncan recently. From left are Ray Hawkes, Heidi Piperno, who represented the group, Heidi Hume, Allan Sinclair and Mary for Lady Minto Hospital.

Candy-strippers attend conference

Candy-strippers got together for a conference in Duncan at the end of February and four from Salt Spring attended.

The junior volunteers from Lady Minto Hospital joined 200 others, volunteers and leaders, in the three-day affair. The Salt Spring

volunteers are sponsored by the Auxiliary to Lady Minto.

The delegates to the conference came from as far away as Fort St. John and Dawson Creek.

On the first evening, February 24, the volunteers were busy registering

for the event and meeting the people they would billet with. The evening ended with a pool party and hot dogs at the Village Green Inn.

The next day, Friday, was taken up by lectures and ended with a banquet.

On Saturday, the lectures continued with the highlight being a talk by Reverend Stephenson on the theme of the conference, *Loving, Caring and Sharing*.

Displays from the various hospitals and scrapbooks showing the efforts of the different volunteer groups were on display during the conference. The next junior volunteer conference takes place in Kamloops in 1985.

Enter computer age, boards told by education ministry

The school boards of B.C. must enter the computer age, says the ministry of education.

The decree from the ministry calls on school districts to improve the use of computers for administrative tasks. The various efforts to improve computer use would be funded by the ministry.

Gulf Islands School District secretary-treasurer Amy McLeod says that during research efforts on the project, "small districts found themselves re-inventing the wheel." The districts decided to get together to determine their needs.

The ministry has allotted time, money and personnel to help the smaller districts achieve the required standards.

The secretary-treasurer asked the trustees at the recent school board meeting to send a letter to the ministry stating the district's intent to participate in the scheme.

The letter would also request approval of shared capital expenses of up to \$40,000 if a viable solution to computerizing the administrative efforts can be found. The money would also help to pay for the required software for the computer.

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Friday & Saturday, March 18-19
8:30-12:30 \$2 cover charge



Lunch in the Pub

Hot meat on a bun with fries — only

\$2.95

Monday-Friday, 11:30-1:30
Regular menu also available.



Our Giant T.V.

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"First Choice"

Fantastic for sports & movies.

This week —

★ **Quest for Fire**

Thursday, Mar. 17 - 8 pm

★ **Frank Sinatra**

Tuesday, Mar. 22 - 4:30 pm

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS
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St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

Thursday, March 17 — enjoy our hearty Irish fare — top it off with an Irish Coffee! Regular menu also available. \$1 off if you're "wearing the green"!

Open 7 days a week
for lunch and dinner.

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"Where it
all began"

"Remember
'82"

FULFORD HARBOUR

On Friday, March 18 — welcome home

"STRAIT SALT"

after their triumphant tour of Northern Salt Spring!

FEATURING DWAIN PROSK, GARY LUNDY, TOM MARTIN,
DOUG E. RHODES, DOUG K. RHODES

Plus an ALL-IRISH menu:

EMERALD ISLE SALAD
IRISH LAMB STEW
BRAISED CABBAGE
POTATOES

"Great new
local band!"
Tony Richards, Gulf
Islands Driftwood,
1983

"Great Food!"



Reservations suggested — 653-4622

Cover charge \$1.50

School District #64 Continuing Education

Spring Classes '83

Amateur Photography

CEDRIC BARKER

Monday, April 11; \$3
Drafting Rm. 7:30-9:30
Instamatic, 35mm, instant print. Bring cameras, problem photos, negatives. Familiarize yourself with your camera and available film processing techniques.

Babysitting Course

KAREN CHILD

6 Tuesdays; \$3; Foods Rm. 3:15-4:30; starts April 12.
Class could meet twice weekly and finish in 3 weeks if group desires.

Pelagic Birding - Ucluelet

SWIFTSURE TOURS

Saturday, May 21; \$75. Reservation deadline April 21.
6-8 hr. ocean tour, 43' cruiser, to La Perouse Bank. Black-foot Albatross, Northern Fulmar, Shearwaters, Storm Petrels, Jaegers, Kittiwakes, Tufted Puffins are usually sighted. Afternoon birding in Long Beach. Does not include transportation to and from Ucluelet or overnight accommodation. No discount or deferred payment.

Boat Building - fibreglass

LAWRIE NEISH

2 Saturdays - to be determined by class. \$40.
Organizational meeting Monday, April 11, Woodshop, 7:30
Organization meeting will decide which boat styles (dinghy, sabot, racing shell) and times for Saturday set-up and lay-up sessions. Max. 5 boats to be built. 2 persons may work on one boat and split fee.

Coastal Navigation

BARRY PRING

5 Mondays; \$15; Rm. 1; 7:30-9:30; starts April 11.
Be prepared for summer sailing fun. Common sense course for local waters.

Computers: Intro

LINDA STAFFORD

2 Tuesdays, \$9. Room 5, 7:30-10:00; April 12, 19
Basic information and hands-on instruction.

Computers: Intro

ROBERT OWEN

2 Wednesdays; \$9; Room 5; 7:30-10:00; April 20, 27

Computers: Basic Programming

LINDA STAFFORD

5 Tuesdays; \$25; Room 5; 7:30-10:00; starts April 26.
Introductory course or previous knowledge and experience with computers required.

Cooking: 3 Thursdays, 7 pm

California-Mexican Style: Wendy Keeping, April 21

Greek: Geoff & Carol Gay, April 28

Gourmet French Vegetarian: June Webber, May 5

Cooking Room; \$4 each or 3 for \$10. Food costs shared by students.

Cooking with Micro-Wave

SUSAN CALDER

Tuesday, April 19; \$4 plus food. Foods Rm., 7:30
Learn the techniques of food preparation with this appliance.

Dance: Ballet

with Sue Bowler

All classes in Mahon Hall.

Tuesdays: April 26-May 31

Teen/Adult Ballet: 2:30-3:30; \$24
Int. 5-6 yrs. Ballet & Tap: 3:30-4:15; \$18
Int. 7-8 yrs. Ballet & Tap: 4:15-5:15; \$24
Beg. 9 yrs. & up Ballet & Tap: 5:15-6:15; \$24

Wednesdays: April 20-May 25

Preschool 4's: 2:30-3; \$12
Beg. 5-6 yrs. Ballet & Tap: 3:00-3:45; \$18
Int. 8-9 yrs. Ballet & Tap: 3:45-4:45; \$24
Int. Tap 11 yrs. & up: 4:45-5:30; \$18

Thursdays: April 21-May 26

Preschool 3's: 2:30-3:00; \$12
Preschool 4's: 3:00-3:30; \$12
Beg. 7-8 yrs. Ballet & Tap: 3:30-4:30; \$24
Int. 9 yrs. & up Ballet: 4:30-6:00; \$28

Dance: Jazz Dance

with Penny Christie

All classes in Mahon Hall.

Mondays: April 11-May 30 (May 23 is a holiday)

Teens Jazz: 2:30-3:45; \$22
Pre-Teens Jazz: 3:45-5:00; \$22
Jazz Dance I: 6:30-8:00; \$26

Wednesdays: April 13-May 25

Total Body Workout: 5:30-6:30; \$3 drop-in
(Also on Sundays, starting April 17; 5-6 pm)
Broadway Jazz: 6:30-7:30; \$22
Jazz Dance II: 7:30-9:00; \$26

Tips on Defensive Driving

LAWRENCE LA BOSSIERE,
Cowichan School of Motoring

Wednesday, March 30; 11:30 am; Room 4; no fee.
Free to Grade 10 & up and adults. Latest info on accident statistics in Canada, new government regulations, seatbelt use, etc. Question & answer period.

Learn to Drive: Basic Course

COWICHAN SCHOOL OF MOTORING

Thursday, April 21; 2:30-5:30; Rm. 1. 8 car sessions. \$195.
Registration deadline April 18.
One lesson in classroom, 8 in car. Car times to be arranged individually. Pick up and delivery at Crofton ferry. The classroom session of film and discussion is available separately at \$7.50 per family. Parents whose kids are enrolled in Basic or Polisher Course may attend classroom session at no charge.

Learn to Drive: Polisher Course

COWICHAN SCHOOL OF MOTORING

Thursday, April 21, 2:30-5:30; Rm. 1; 5 car sessions; \$135.
Registration deadline April 18.
One lesson in classroom, 5 in car. Car times to be arranged individually. For those experienced drivers who want to improve skills under professional supervision and instruction.

English as a Second Language

BETTY LOU OLIVER

Tuesdays & Thursdays, April thru June; \$10/family/month.
Learning Assistance Room; 7:30 pm; starts April 12
For those who need English communication upgrading.

Feldenkrais Method: an Introduction

GEORG PLANGE

Saturday, April 30; \$10; Elem. Library; 10-3:30
"Awareness through movement; movement is the key to life" - key phrases used in this method of enhancing individual awareness, leading to improved ways of functioning.

Fruit Trees: Part III

Pest and Disease Control

TOM HALL

Saturday, April 16; \$5; Elem. Library; 9-noon.

Prepare your own

Income Tax

JIM FOGARTY

Saturday, April 16; \$3; Old Board Rm., Mahon Hall; 1-4 pm
Bring necessary forms, pencil, eraser. Note: this class not designed for complex returns such as small businesses.

Industrial First Aid

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE

5 Tuesdays, Thursdays, Sundays; 60 hours total
Room 10; 7:00-10:00; T,Th,Sun TBA; \$212
Five week intensive course, 12 hours per week. Fee, set by St. John Ambulance, includes examination costs.

Lampshades

LYN MATHEWS

6 Tuesdays, \$25; Woodshop; 7:30; starts April 12.
Re-cover or make new shades from frames.

Magic of Colour

MELBA THOMAS, "Stretch & Sew", Victoria

3 Tuesdays; \$37.50; Textiles Room; 7:30; starts May 3
Everyone's colouring falls into one of the four seasons. Look great in your own colour spectrum through careful choice of line and colour co-ordination in clothes and make-up.

Music Making in Early Childhood

LYNNE QUINN

3 Mondays, 7:30; 1 Saturday, 2-3 pm; \$12. Band Room, starts April 11.
Explore world of sound with young children: singing, rhythm games, making instruments, sound pieces.

Painting with Watercolours

ART SIMONS

5 Saturdays; \$20; Mahon Hall; 1-3 pm; starts April 16.
Bring pencil, cheap paper, any watercolour equipment. Some outside work, weather permitting.

Patchwork and Quilting for Kids

GILLIAN KIDD

8 Tuesdays, \$24; Textiles Rm.; 3:15; starts April 12
Learn to create applique', patchwork quilts, pillows etc.

Portraits

Alan Edwards

3 Tuesdays; \$33; Art Rm.; 7:30; starts April 12
Charcoal, charcoal paper 18 x 24, some drawing experience required. Live models.

Seaside Walk

YOUSEF EBRAHIM, Biology Dept., UVic.

Rm. 1, Friday, June 24; 2:30; slides/talk/discussion.
Saturday, June 25, 10 am-1 pm: walk & picnic starting at Ruckle Park. Single, \$9; Family \$15.

Tailoring a Blazer for Spring

PAT DUKE

7 Mondays, \$25; Textiles Room, 7:30; starts April 11.
Bring pattern and fabric first session. Previous sewing experience necessary.

Tool Sharpening

CHUCK McCLEAN

6 Wednesdays, \$20; Woodshop; 7:30; starts April 13.
Bring circular saws and files first night.

Travel the World

with Slides & Discussion: 3 Wednesdays

JAPAN: Norma & Len Chatwin, April 13

RUSSIA: Bertha & Alex Mathews, April 20

CHINA: Sharon & Ron Puhky, April 27

Elementary Library, 7:30 pm; \$4 each, 3 for \$10.
Slides and discussion by friends and neighbours who have been there.

Growing Veggies on your Patio

KIRSTIE SHOOLBRAID

2 Sunday afternoons, \$8;
Kirstie's greenhouse; 2 pm; starts April 17.
Container gardening without soil.

Gray Whale Watching

SWIFTSURE TOURS

Thursday, Friday, April 7, 8; \$98. Reservation deadline Mar. 24
Three-hour cruise Barkley Sound, land-based watching, shoreline exploration, scenic floatplane flight. Not included are meals, transportation to and from Tofino or overnight accommodation. Accommodation can be reserved at Ocean Village Beach Resort at time of registration.

Becoming a Published Writer

CATHY FORD,

writer & free-lance editor from Mayne Island

A one-day workshop:
Sunday, April 17; \$9; Elem. Library; 11 am-4 pm
How to determine if the work is saleable. Professional conduct, publishers, contracts. Bring questions and lunch.

Yoga II

PHYLLIS COLEMAN

8 Thursdays, \$30. St. George's Hall, 9-10:30 am; starts Apr. 14

REGISTRATION

- Registration and payment of fees may be done by mail, or at Continuing Education office in Mouat's Mall, 10:30-3:30, Monday-Thursday, or at first class session if there is room.
- Refunds only if class cancelled.
- Ten percent discount on more than one enrolment from same household on same receipt.
- Deferred payment or reduced fees may be arranged as necessary.
- Telephone calls are welcome as indications of interest but they do not constitute registration.

SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (Gulf Islands)
CONTINUING EDUCATION
P.O. Box 128, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0
537-2822

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Course _____	Fee _____
Course _____	Fee _____
Course _____	Fee _____

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Age 15-18 18-35 35-50 50-65 65+



Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

Fence post brigade

The Air Cadets of 676 Squadron, Sidney, helped in crowd control for the visit of the Queen. As one Salt Spring cadet said, "We acted as

fence posts." These cadets live on Salt Spring and were part of the fence post brigade. From left are

Mark Crouse, Brad Terrick, Rob Minvielle, Peter Aust, Steve Vine, Andrew Archer and Al Innes.

Book review

'Treasure chest of living history'

Bits and Pieces, Tales Told at Greenwood. 113 pp.

BY FRANK RICHARDS

They are bits and pieces. Bits and pieces of people's lives and that's what the book is all about.

The Bits and Pieces are the parts of this book. If it were credited to any one individual it could be credited to Ariadne Sawyer, as

editor. Yet she was more than editor and less than editor. She listened, wrote, checked and typed.

A care aide at Greenwood, Ariadne Sawyer had the idea of recording the recollections of the residents as the "treasure chest of living history".

That's a long way around to explaining the book, but *Bits and Pieces* is novel, it is distinctive and it is the proud accomplishment of a group of residents of the 50-bed intermediate care home. In May, 1981 the Greenwood Story Book Group was formed and in 1983 the book appeared.

Then came the idea of involving great youth with great age. The memories are those of the elderly. Youth has memories but the elderly have edited their own. The youngsters were invited to draw illustrations of the various offerings. And they did exactly that.

Barb Woodley took the pictures with the skill of a professional and the eye of an artist.

IT IS 113 PAGES

Bits and Pieces is 113 pages long. It is 113 pages of reminiscences and comments, poetry and prose interspersed with photographs and drawings.

Fittingly, the first offering is Jean Manning's recollection of opening day at Greenwood, June 4, 1979, when the lieutenant-governor of British Columbia, Henry Bell-Irving, officiated.

Ruth Nicholson writes of the birds and Kerra Downey draws a picture of home and birds and chickens.

Bea Freeman contributed some 20 poems and various veterans have looked back on the war years.

It is a collection of unrelated incidents, unrelated thoughts. It is a collection that will always bring pleasure to some reader at some

time in the future.

Bits and Pieces is available for sale at island bookstores and at Greenwood.

Trustees discussed membership

Membership on the Ganges citizens' committee on the sewer was discussed by the Salt Spring Trust representatives, says Bev Unger, who objected last week to a recent story stating otherwise.

The Salt Spring trustee took issue with a story that appeared March 2 about the make-up of the citizens' committee, as proposed by Salt Spring regional director Yvette Valcourt.

The story stated that although Unger was listed as representing the Trust, the local Trust committee had not discussed membership on the citizens' group nor had it nominated anyone to represent it.

Unger agreed that the five-member Trust committee had not discussed membership but pointed out that she and her fellow trustee, Nick Gilbert, had agreed she should represent the Trust on the citizens' group.

Children's concert Saturday

Children Helping Children will again be the name of the annual concert at Salt Spring Island to provide aid to the Save the Children Fund.

"Come and support our children," urges organizer Jean Knight, "and help others less fortunate."

The concert, which features performances by young artists on Salt Spring, will be held Saturday at 2 pm in Mahon Hall.

The children are students of Angela Funk, Madge Kimball, Joan Raeside, Pat Duke, Lynne Quinn, Sue Bowler, Penny Christie, Dwaine Prosk, Jean Knight and Dr. Kilian of Duncan.

Admission is \$2, \$1 for OAP's and students and children under 12 are admitted free.

All proceeds go to the Save the Children Fund.

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ISLAND CINEMA
CENTRAL HALL, SALT SPRING ISLAND
MATURE
Author! Author!
8 pm
Fri., Sat., Sun.,
March 18-19-20.
AL PACINO
WARNING: Some suggestive & coarse language & swearing.
— B.C. Director
NEXT WEEK: The World
According to GARP (Robin Williams)
INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS—et cetera 537-5115, 10-5, Mon.-Sat.
Clip & Save


EAT IN THE PUB: 653-4432 BLUE HERON ROOM
11-8 Mon.-Thurs. Open Fri. & Sat.
11-9 Fri. & Sat. 6-9 pm

FULFORD INN
EAT IN THE PUB: Mon.-Thurs. 11-8; Friday & Saturday 11-9
Daily sandwich and hot meal specials!

 **ST. PATRICK'S DAY BARBECUE!**
Thursday, March 17 —
Beef or Pork Barbecue
with all the trimmings
for only \$10!
Entertainment:
DANNY MACK
Friday & Saturday night in the Pub

Dinner Special in the Blue Heron Room this Friday & Saturday, March 18-19, 6-9 pm:
Your choice of **Chicken Cordon Bleu** or **Cordon Rouge**
Served with potato, vegetable, soup or salad only \$8.50!
Come stay with us at the head of Fulford Harbour. Fully appointed rooms.
Telephone 653-4432

G.I.S.S. presents...  **BOYS AND GHOULS** 
Tickets available from G.I.S.S. students or at the door. Adults \$2, Students & OAP \$1
A 3-ACT PLAY WITH MUSIC.
Thursday, Friday & Saturday, March 24, 25 & 26 — 8 pm Activity Centre, Ganges

Only very best will do for Rick Bergson's canoes

BY BILL WEBSTER

The Chipewa 17, a feature at the recent Vancouver Boat Show, rates as the most expensive canoe in Canada and is built on Salt Spring Island.

Rick Bergson produces the canoe on his North End Road property overlooking St. Mary Lake. He got into canoe building as a result of a search for a "depression-recession proof" occupation. He gambled that people were willing to buy quality and the gamble looks as if it will pay off.

The Chipewa 17 combines contemporary construction methods with a design several hundred years old. The original design comes from the Algonquin Indians who used the canoe in the Lake Superior region of Ontario. Bergson's canoe is a variation of one made by a Maine company for the past 150 years.

"I took dead aim at the most expensive canoe made in North America," he said. The search for a design meant studying details of the product of North American canoe manufacturers, specifically those companies making wooden canoes.

Bergson, 57, was born in Winnipeg and during World War II attained the rank of acting colonel in the reserve tank corps. He attended both the University of Manitoba and McGill to study architecture, although he never received his degree.

During the late 1940's and early 1950's he was the reserve quarterback for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. He got into that endeavour by attending training camp with his brother. He decided to try out and survived the cuts to become the designated Canadian quarterback for the team. He played every position in the backfield as well as safety on defense.

Played for Winnipeg Blue Bombers

In high school he was considered too small for sports.

"I wasn't afraid to try anything," he said of the experience, "so why not football?"

At various times he has worked for RCA in the marine division as well as a company which manufactured fluorescent street lights. He was the Canadian distributor for Akai when that company moved to the national market.

He moved from Winnipeg to Montreal to Toronto and finally to Vancouver with the different companies.

While with Akai in Vancouver, he had an offer to get into the mini-computer business but turned it down. He was commuting between the mainland city and Salt Spring Island.

"I would have been hogtied to them for 10 years," he said of his refusal of the offer, "and I didn't want to do that."

Two members

Two members were appointed to the Galiano Island Activity Centre Committee last week.

Capital Regional Board confirmed the appointment of Mrs. Linda Laughlin and Basil Bengler, both of Galiano.

That's when the search for the depression-recession proof occupation began.

The canoe market in North America can be described as competitive. Canoe manufacturers, 93 of them, produce 661 different models for the market. The most popular models measure 17 feet and that's what Bergson aimed at.

His canoe is made from 1 x 6 planking sliced into quarter-inch strips and bevelled to meet the curve of the canoe. As the strips are cut, they are laid in sequence to co-ordinate the colour on the finished canoes. Many of the tools used by Bergson had to be specifically designed to meet the task of constructing the canoes.

The quarter-inch strips are laminated, with carpenter's glue, on forms to shape. The strips are held together with up to 2,000 staples while the glue dries.

The stem pieces are similarly laminated. The bow and stern are cut from one-by-six ash planks and are one-twelfth of an inch thick and five feet long.

The gunwales are of Honduras mahogany and the seat frames, thwarts and gunwale spacers are of eastern mountain ash.

Canadian silver dollar is trademark

The curved decks at bow and stern form an arrowhead design and Bergson marks his canoes with the trademark of a Canadian silver dollar showing a canoe. The dollar fits snugly into the bow deck.

In an effort to determine if the product was of a high quality, Bergson took a canoe to a meeting of the B.C. Canoe Association in Vancouver recently.

The canoe was displayed for the members of the association and on



Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

The Chipewa 17 is a fancy canoe built on Salt Spring by Rick Bergson with help from his wife Karin. The canoe is one of the more expensive ones on the market.

the next day one of the executive members of the group took it out on the Fraser River for a trial.

He was impressed and said it was the ideal all-round canoe.

Bergson and his two helpers can produce three canoes each month. The work of coating the boat with fibreglass and varnish take up to 14 days for each vessel.

The motto of Cottage Industries, Bergson's company illustrates the care which goes into each canoe: "Good enough, around here, isn't good enough. Only the very best will do."

The other side of World War II.

Das Boot

WEDNESDAY
& THURSDAY,
MAR. 16-17 8 PM

"A masterpiece..."
"One of best pictures of the year..."
"A totally gripping experience."

In German with English subtitles.

MATURE WARNING: Some gory scenes, occasional very coarse language
147 min. — B.C. Director

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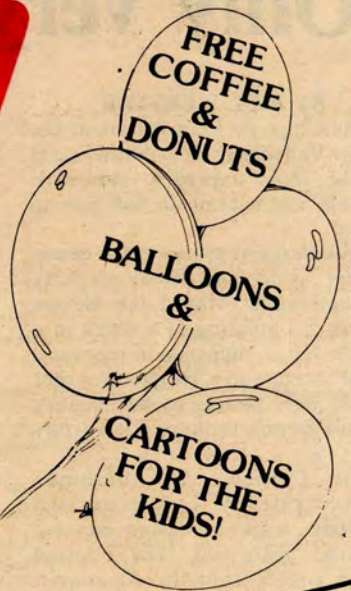
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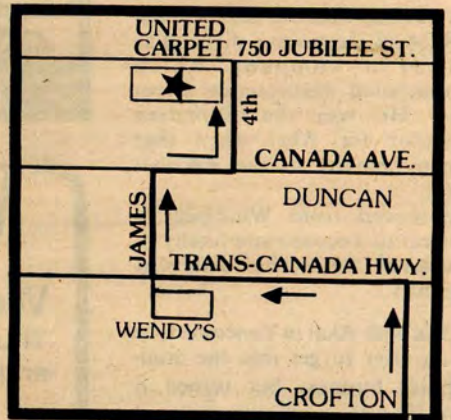
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More Letters to the Editor

Praying for those in authority

Sir,

I have been seriously concerned about the breakdown of our systems and freedoms recently. Our political system has many faults, true but it has more advantages, and is the result of hundreds of years of struggle to overcome tyranny, slavery and injustice.

We can make it better and stronger and more just, or we can destroy it. But before it goes down the tube we'd better look around. I don't see anything in the world as good as what we've got and I thank God it's here that I was born, and not some place else.

The responsibility of helping, or at least being accurately informed regarding our government and those who represent us in it, may seem a bother at times, but if we don't bother, we'll be ruled by noisy minorities, propagandists, lobbyists, terrorists and anarchists and we'll suffer the fate of so many whose lives are torn with strife and

political unrest, exploitation, power struggles, etc.

I quote Lewis H. Lapham (*Harper's, Reader's Digest*) who said, "Democratic government succeeds not because majorities win elections, but because minorities submit to being governed by the results."

Those of us who are Christians are told to actively pray for those in authority - ("bless and curse not"). How many of us, I wonder, daily hold up to God our political leaders, Trudeau, Bennett, etc. and labour leaders, asking that they be blessed and guided by the righteous and loving spirit of the Creator so that we may all live in freedom and peace and harmony?

Anyone who honestly tries it would be surprised at the tangible result which occurs - at least I was.

NANCY WIGEN,
Fullford Harbour.
March 6, 1983.

Red Cross drive under way

Sir,

The Annual Red Cross fundraising drive on Galiano Island began March 1 and will continue throughout the month.

Instead of the usual door-to-door canvass, an envelope campaign is being conducted. These envelopes have been sent to all householders, but could easily have been overlooked in your mail.

If you did not notice the envelope, please plan to make your contribution to this worthwhile cause by mailing your cheque to the undersigned.

MRS. MARGARET ROBSON,
Campaign Chairperson,
Box 32,
Galiano.
March, 1983.

Opportunity is here on Salt Spring Island

Sir,

Recently I wrote a note generally referring to the collection of individuals who find themselves residents of Salt Spring Island. I mentioned that leaders are in place, in position to lead. All that is required to lead is the daring to do the right thing in their position. The areas of leadership are not really different than anywhere else, namely politics, education, business, which is in a sense the package which is called human resources. Believe it or not, Salt Spring Island has in place politicians, educators, and business leaders, the challenge which makes the difference of course is the daring.

Daring requires the acknowledgement of facts. Harry Woodward, founder of the Institute of Advanced Management, states a fact, that management in any business, even household, is in the dynamics of form, not top-down or bottom-up but inside-out. "It is imperative today to understand why people do what they do, and exactly what is going on in a given situation, rather than what we merely perceive or wish to be."

"The new inside-out organizations will apply the accumulated knowledge about the natural growth process of human beings - that the human organism like a plant knows what it is and how to be."

I sense this is a very accurate description of what Salt Spring Island is all about. Those who attempt to manipulate their personal opinion upon the whole with all sincerity and good

intentions from the top-down find frustration and confusion their reward.

Those who are the "non-leaders", the bottom end, who gather forces to knock down the leaders, have a never-ending chore, for new leaders emerge with their very own personal opinions. How about inside-out? Everyone in place with a present-time orientation, no guilt about the past, or anxiety about the future.

Woodward suggests management (leaders) run on the basis of developing the individual dignity from the inside, a collective intelligence would emerge. The organization would "know" how it ought to operate. A leader would handle internal development rather than herd people to the task. "We are dealing with the whole person as a being. Intellectualizing is only remembering, but the genius of being has direct knowing in the present tense."

Action from being is congruent with what is, Woodward said, "Any problem will tell me what it is if I observe and listen. It will diagnose itself. If I continue to listen, I will come up with a very different sense of the situation than if I quickly determine what's happening, and try to control it."

Isn't it good to know that we each have this choice of choosing our position from the inside-out position. Top-down, bottom-up positions are dissolving; let us let them go quickly, rather than defend that which is dissolving. If we persist, we go with it.

What an opportunity we have right here on Salt spring to

acknowledge the inside-out government. Those who are frustrated, angry and perhaps sincerely confused can now lighten-up all is well, unconquerable life prevails. This is what is inside all forms.

GARY LUNDY,
R.R. 2, Cranberry Road,
Ganges.
March 12, 1983.

Beneficial alternative was provided

Sir,

The recently agreed-upon restrictions on the Saturday farmer's market are presumably to prevent overcrowded and unaesthetic conditions from overtaking the market.

Why then, has the Okanagan fruit vendor, who operates a tidy business in available space on Fridays, been told by a "government agent" that he may no longer use the Centennial Park parking lot?

One could easily conclude that those with vested interests don't like the competition. The high-quality produce and low prices he offered provided a beneficial alternative to the people of Salt Spring. Government with right motives aims to benefit the people.

NANCY KELLER,
Tripp Road.
March, 1983.

Women invited to participate

Sir,

Contrary to general misconceptions, the Gulf Islands Women's Place does not consist of set group of women involved in a closed organization. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage women of all ages with varying interests, questions and talents that you are all welcome to our meetings in the Community Centre every Wednesday night at 7 pm.

Right now we're planning a Gulf Islands Women's Festival to be held on May 28, where we expect to educate and entertain over 200 women during the course of the weekend - any help with this would be eagerly appreciated.

A second effort to print our paper is also happening right now, so contributions and help are needed to complete the paper by May. So

far this year, the Women's Place has had successful turnouts at three weekend workshops - on dealing with various forms of Health and Nutrition, one dealing with Peer Counselling and the other focusing on Androgeny.

Last Monday the first monthly Women's lunch was held at the Harbour House with a turnout of 40 women.

Please keep your eyes open in *Driftwood* for ongoing information about what's happening at the Women's Place and consider the various ways in which you can help with the events to come. Everyone is welcome.

JAN HULL,
Box 321,
Ganges.
March 7, 1983.

Government has no excuse

Following letter has been sent to islands MLA Hugh Curtis.

Sir,

For many years I have supported the Social Credit Party, optimistically looking for stability, continuity, durability. For some time now, I have been puzzled and uncertain as to which way things were going and apart from the distrust that I have of the Federal government and its manipulative ways I am becoming more and more concerned as to what appears to me is being copied by this provincial government.

At this time when the "chips are down" I see a government that is floundering, shooting out in all directions, taking on too many financial responsibilities and commitments; this at a time when somehow we seem to forget a number of words: namely, frugal, economical, sparsely. All I see is a government which is taking on so many Mega-projects, astronomical in size and presumably secured only by the hard-earned monies which many of us have depended on for our future.

These monies should be protected and not used as political ploys.

I appreciate that some of these projects may employ a few hundred people and for other reasons may influence some votes.

Looking back one could write many pages about the monies lost in playing around with Pier B.C. and now we are into the billions on B.C.

Place. We have been told it's guaranteed to show a profit, whilst we are still waiting for the benefits of B.R.I.C.

One could liken the inner Cabinet Federally to what appears to be now happening with the Provincial government junta style of dictatorial functioning, which include always political excuses. We read of salaries of advisors brought in from outside anywhere up to \$70,000 per year, which should be enough to buy brains, caution, planning and thinking.

Mr. Bennett has many times made announcements of new ideas but when on T.V. he never looks you straight in the face. He has a side to side Lens and Shutter smile, which presumably is supposed to give us confidence.

Without belaboring my points, I trust my feelings are clear. I should refer to the recent disclosure of money squandered by B.C. Hydro over rental space, automobiles with the statement that "more are on order" and already the Hydro rates have been increased and this is our monies being squandered. There are no excuses for this government allowing this to happen.

Lenin said, "the way to destroy the middle class is to crush them between the grindstones of taxation (direct and indirect) and inflation."

CLIFF HARRISON,
Pender Island.
March 5, 1983.

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Letters to the Editor

If we couldn't laugh we'd all go insane

Sir,
I hope I'm not too late to respond to the second letter published February 28 along with the first February 23 concerning the Rev. Robert "Salvation" McCully.

I like to tell a joke. I wish to apologize to those of faith who may have taken offence to the picture. Yet travelling snake oil tonic and the willing victim show has raised the spirit of laughter. As in a song by Jimmy Buffet, "If we couldn't laugh, we would all go insane."

In response to the South End Careers Society, the story of Clyde Linstrom is a legend of times past, present and future. When he staggers on "the world is a stage." We had times however, of stage right or stage left and sometimes both. But with a gallon of Red Devil in the back seat, a few belts to enthusiasm and we were on the bigger and better things.

As for your client with the driving problem, there is a saying that "The Lord helps those who help themselves". He gets his vehicles out of ditches. You say he is rude and indiscriminant and even your computer balked. What's left but to stop and give him a hand instead of ditching him too?

There is another legend who identifies himself as only Bill W. His story known "as BILL sees it" is available by writing to Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163. Should the S.E.C.S. feel "where there is a will, there is a way."

Now for Ima Porker. Well, you're just a weaner. But you are absolutely right. He was, is, will be a good man. Once up in Telegraph Creek, he brought on stage with him an attractive young lady wearing a Miss Piggy T-shirt. Well, trying out a duet was fine with me except it so

happened that among the dozen or so people who showed up was this young lady's boy friend with somebody else. What happened after that I can't tell you because for me it was exit stage right.

Anyway, weaners at a Swine Ball have the wool pulled over their eyes. Clyde may have over-indulged in whisky and women but when he noticed how much people were into sheep around here he drew the line. Yes, you missed a good man.

Never missed a day's work was always on time and had a liver of pure cirrhosis. As far as your identity problem goes, keep working at it. A happy St. Patrick's Day to all.

THE REV. ROBERT "SALVATION" McCULLY,
The Rescue Mission,
Box 91, Fulford.
March 13, 1983.

Reply ambiguous, lacking in knowledge

Following is a copy of a letter sent to Prime Minister Trudeau.

In response to a wire sent to you last Autumn in regard to the proposed testing of the cruise missile, I received a communication dated February 7, 1983 from a Mr. Gorecki of your office. His letter I found ambiguous and woefully lacking in knowledge of the enormity of the nuclear syndrome.

Undoubtedly you are aware that there are a number of reasons why the cruise missile should not be deployed. One of them is its size which would make detection impossible and hence any agreement on reciprocal verification would be nullified.

Apparently you are reluctant to take a stand regarding the testing of the cruise missile specifically, and other nuclear weapons in general because "it requires multilateral agreements". As a student of history you will be only too aware that someone must take the lead and when a cause is right others follow.

Also, you are reluctant to take a

stand, according to the above-mentioned letter, "because a unilateral move on Canada's part to prevent testing of the cruise missile in Canada would prejudice our obligation to the NATO alliance." As you know, we are under no obligation to NATO regarding a particular commitment; to obey the dictates of another nation in this regard is to relinquish our sovereignty.

Canada is in a unique position to help to diffuse the awful escalation of the nuclear arms — an overkill of such magnitude as to boggle the imagination. If she took the lead other countries would follow. But it takes courage. It takes the sort of courage Churchill had when given the information of Hitler's military build-up. It's a relevant analogy in reverse.

I trust, Mr. Prime Minister, that you will seek the advice of persons whose knowledge and expertise are without peer, not simply that of politicians and members of government who cannot be expected to comprehend matters outside of their own jurisdiction.

To conduct survey of ticks

Sir,
Since there seem to be pockets of tick-infested areas on Salt Spring Island, I would like to conduct a survey of ticks found on the Island.

I would appreciate anyone removing ticks from their pets or other animals, to put them into a vial with a tiny piece of damp paper towel and leave the containers at the Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic.

Please fill out the form at the clinic office so that I know the location, collector and animal on which the ticks were found.

SHEILA REYNOLDS, B.Sc., A.R.T.
Fulford Harbour.
March, 1983.

She is not dangerous woman

Sir,
An addendum to my earlier letter about Bill Webster's columns:

Now I suppose Bill Webster will waste yet another column defending himself from "my" letter. I'd like to suggest to the *Driftwood* editorial staff that technique isn't everything.

Moreover, without content, technique is worse than nothing. But then Mr. Webster has made it very difficult for me to pay much attention to his columns, and as he would say, "I could be wrong."
K.R. HUEBNER-CLARK,
R.R. 1,
Fulford Harbour.
March 3, 1983.

P.S. Yes, Bill you're wrong. Mrs. Valcourt is not a dangerous woman. People of conviction and dedication such as Mrs. Valcourt are only threatening to those who have yet to discover those qualities in themselves.

**More letters
on Page 6**

Drive collects 2,000 signatures

Sir,
The Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society would like to thank the more than 100 volunteers who donated their time to assist the society with its petition drive last week. More than 2,000 signatures were collected in the four day drive.

We would also like to thank all those who signed the petition and supported our urgent need to protect the watershed of Maxwell Lake through a land exchange.

The signed petitions will be delivered to Hon. Tom Waterland, Minister of Forests, and the Hon. Hugh Curtis, MLA for Saanich and the Islands. Those who have not signed the petition and wish to do so, may find petition forms at Foxglove, et cetera, North Salt Spring Water District and Patterson's.

Maxwell Lake is the last major remaining source of good quality water on Salt Spring Island.

Deterioration of the lake from development in the watershed is inevitable unless the watershed can be acquired by the public and managed so as to protect water quality.

An exchange of watershed land for Crown land held elsewhere would provide permanent protection and would cost virtually nothing.

Action is needed now. Your opinion for this exchange proposal is valuable. Please write to: The Hon. Tom Waterland, Minister of Forests, Parliament Bldgs., Victoria, B.C. V8W 3E1.

TOM GOSSETT,
Ganges.
March 14, 1983.

A great deal can be done

Sir,
The Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce has formed a special committee to deal with a Salt Spring Island Beautification Program. It is the intent of this committee to be all-encompassing and act as co-ordination for beautification of all public and commercial areas on Salt Spring Island.

There are a lot of good people in the community who are very interested in making Salt Spring Island a better place to live. Our potential is unlimited as we already live in the most beautiful area of North America.

With a little effort and a lot of good planning, we can do a great

deal to enhance the aesthetics of our island.

The Chamber has opened a special bank account at the Bank of Montreal and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce to receive cash donations and would like people interested in being involved in the planning, development and donation of time and materials to contact D. E. Codd, 537-5612, or Pat Kirk, 537-5259.

DALE CODD,
President,
Salt Spring Island Chamber
of Commerce.
March 9, 1983.



Bill Webster

Pornography in politics

Spring brings relief to the beleaguered Gulf Islands to end the fierce winter we have suffered.

Daffy-o-dills and other signs of changing seasons sprout vociferously and the froggy chorus, echoing from temporary holding ponds, fills the night air of Ganges with music.

It was on just such an evening recently when we gathered to say goodbye to the attendant at the North Salt Spring ferry turn-around. He was leaving the harsh local climate for the balm of the South Seas.

As I enjoyed the company and the evening, a voice brought me back to reality.

"I see you are still on the island," said Louis Bolivar-Finchley.

"Why should I leave?" I asked, knowing Louis would tell me.

"Your unkind comments about our sterling representative might have led to your citizenship being revoked," he replied with a smile.

"The problem with you is that you feel compelled to express opinions," Louis continued. "Don't you realize that you require, by unstated law of the island, a hyphenated name in order to express opinions?" he asked.

Louis continued to outline for my edification all the requirements needed for the

position of being opinionated. But then he came to my defence.

"If assumptions are dangerous," he intoned, "then that woman proved her danger to people. You don't pick on telephone poles as she assumed. If she had the courtesy to check, she would have found out your aversion to Hydro poles."

"A bump on the head may have made you see dangers lurking behind bushes, but other people don't have excuses for their paranoia, they come by it naturally," said Louis.

Louis paused to watch the lights of Crofton bounce across the water of Stuart Channel. The far-away look in his eye told me he had other things to say about other things.

"I'm concerned about pornography in politics," he said finally.

When I stared at him for a moment, he continued to expound on his statement.

Louis expressed concern about the way some people approach the subject of sex in this life. There are, he noted, some people who would wipe it out entirely.

He gave as example the problems of the video rental stores on the mainland. The storeowners had to face charges of distributing obscene material. Louis explained that he had

just returned from a pornographic film festival at Musgrave Landing. The festival had shown dirty movies for three days.

"I fell asleep," Louis admitted. "Those films are terrible and any judge who rules that they have no redeeming value would be accurate in his assessment."

"Which is why they should be left on the market. They are so badly scripted, acted and filmed that anyone in his right mind would not become excited by them but would laugh uproariously and soon lose interest," said Louis.

Louis expressed his concern about another side of the issue. Those who are against such films are, in fact, violating the rights of those who enjoy them. If the groups who oppose them were told they couldn't do something, the screams would reach the top of Mount Maxwell, he said.

As Louis got up to leave, he handed me a slip of paper, which he said contained two quotes which might interest my fan club.

"What a shame, I thought that our regional director was a representative of all the community, not just a very few."
— Yvette Valcourt, February 1978.

Illegitimus non carborundum.
Motto of the Aldergrove Star.

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TONY RICHARDS, EDITOR

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SECOND CLASS MAIL REGISTRATION NO. 0803

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1983

Contract on a school

The policy of the provincial government in its approach to the construction of schools favours the large contractor at the expense of the small-time tradesman.

For many years it has been the practice of the Gulf Islands School District to undertake the construction of new schools and employ its own day-labour to carry out the work. The practice has enjoyed the support of islanders for two reasons. It ensures that the island work is allocated to island people and it has also brought costs down to a minimum.

The policy has been condemned by the provincial government. The Treasury Board and the ministry of education have ruled that the school board must call tenders for the Fulford school project. The requirement of a single contract and the accompanying bonding effectively eliminates the little man from the lists.

It is simply not possible for a small operator to obtain a performance bond. The various provincial ministries must be well aware of this in view of the number of times the system has been protested. Furthermore, the record shows that the Gulf Islands board has almost invariably finished a construction job at a figure lower than any which might be the contract figure on the open market.

The ruling by the province is contrary to the best judgment of the school trustees; it runs against the experience of the school district and it is completely contrary to the interests of islanders engaged in the construction business. But the province has the final say in these matters and unless the two ministries relent, the islands people will lose something like a million and a half dollars to the larger construction companies in the large cities.

Passage of a Queen

The visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to this westernmost province of Canada was the highly successful encounter between the Queen and her loyal subjects.

The success of that encounter, in city and town, in formal gathering and in informal walkabout, was not only gratifying, it was beyond the hopes of the most fervent admirer of our sovereign.

Wherever she went Queen Elizabeth was greeted as a national leader, which she is. She was welcomed to this, her home from home, which it is. And she was met with the warm affection of a people who have evinced a great admiration for the Queen of Canada. And they have.

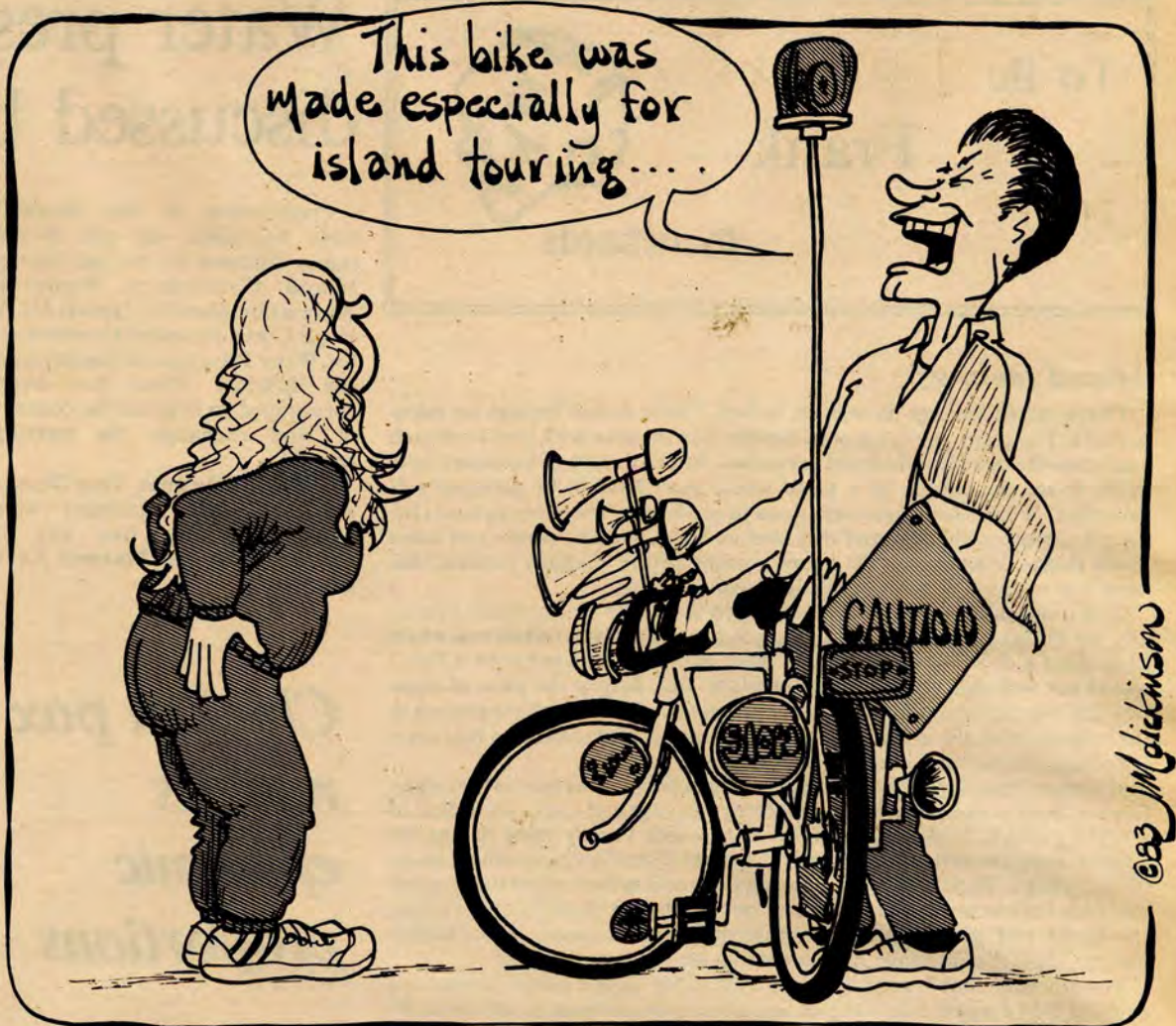
After decades of an evolving Canadian society scrupulous in its determination to hold its own reins and to pattern its own national future, the visit of the Queen was reassuring. It clearly showed that Canadians from all walks of life and Canadians from all age groups were delighted to extend a royal welcome to a royal visitor.

The successful visit of the Queen was only marred by its brevity.

Daffodil hunters

Visitors to the great cities of British Columbia are frequently dismayed to find street crews, highways engineers and other busy construction specialists digging up the streets in spring.

It is an annual function as the coastal cities search for new daffodil bulbs. It is rumoured that they were planted here by King Alfred, but so far the report has not been confirmed by the ministry of tourism.



Musgrave subdivision proposal is 'completely inappropriate'

BY ROBERT MAKAROFF
AND SHAUNA LITTLE

We believe many of your readers would be interested in our advertisement last week for a lawyer.

A developer has applied for approval of a subdivision at Musgrave Landing. This subdivision would almost totally surround Musgrave harbour with 29 half to three-quarter-acre lots with a 30-berth private marina thrown in.

It is a completely inappropriate concept. As the western terminus of the only public road from Fulford on the west side of the mountain barrier, and the only feasible sheltered harbour on the area's southwest coast, Musgrave Landing is of strategic importance to the public and to other residents and property owners in the area.

The Islands Trust unanimously recommended rejection at a meeting February 16.

Unfortunately, we fear this may not be the end of the matter, and that there will be need for determined political, private and public pressure to support the Trust's recommendation. Otherwise, it may be ignored and approval given after minor token amendments. This must not be allowed to happen.

There are some very disquieting aspects about this case. Why the urgency for a ruling on this application? Why was it not on the agenda published in *Driftwood* February 9? Why was no representative of the developer present to face the many questions to which we need answers?

Who is pushing this subdivision? Are there others besides the registered owners? If so, who are they? The listed directors of Rico Holdings of Victoria, which owns the property, would seem to be very much the same people who clear-cut most of the incomparable virgin forest in 1976-77. The greater part was left littered with inflammable slash.

The beautiful little harbour was disfigured, its scars left to years of erosion, demonstrating a total indifference and/or contempt for its unique beauty. Some of you will recall helping in the attempt to control that logging, which finally was limited only by our purchase of 70 acres (which we covenanted not to cut, was made available for public enjoyment, and would be deeded to the people now if there was any assurance it would not become a strip mine as soon as the ink was dry!)

What else about Rico Holdings? On the "search" report, there is a cryptic word — "encumbrances". And the title has a first mortgage registered by VanFed Credit Union of Vancouver. The principal (\$550,000) "shall become due and payable on the first day of December 1981." That's one year ago!

Interest, to be paid monthly, starting January 1, 1981 was to be prime plus three — the year of 20% interest!

Suppose this subdivision were started, will it be finished? Properly? Or will Musgrave Landing look like some areas in Kitsilano or downtown Vancouver, where so many projects have been stalled, sometimes for years, in various messy stages; the cityscape resembles London after the bombings!

From an engineering point of view, a properly executed subdivision of the urban type proposed, is going to demand an awesome investment after proper research to assess its impact on this very special site. Has the company a realistic estimate? Do they have the resources?

On this point alone full public disclosure is essential to avoid the risk of another Crown Trust scandal, a Whistler type bail-out, a Skalbania style bankruptcy. At the very least, there should be iron-clad guarantees secured by realistically

evaluated assets, before any subdivision like this should be even considered at Musgrave Landing by this company (or indeed by anyone else).

There is another very crucial issue in this case which involves the public interest: at present there is a moratorium on subdivision in the Musgrave area until an "all-weather road" is built. If this is relaxed to favour this company, the increased use of Musgrave Road will force the community to upgrade the road (out of consideration for safety, alone) and at great expense. We know that road like the back of our hands and there are formidable obstacles to rebuilding sections of it to meet the demands of a large increase in its use.

Is this the sort of priority the community should be subsidizing? In these times of severe restraint? To accommodate speculative developers who have a poor record of respecting community values? Whose company indeed may not be able to complete the project? Perhaps leaving the community to clean up the mess?

As for the aesthetic and environmental impact, mere words cannot convey adequately the damage this subdivision would wreak in the harbour area.

Write to us for a copy of our submission to the Trust and other material which we have sent to MLA's on both sides of the house and to appropriate government agencies. Let them know that you expect a thorough and open examination of this proposal. Political candidates should feel duty-bound to make a clear stand too.

Correspondence can be sent to us at 105-2055 York Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1E5.

The writers are owners of property near Musgrave Landing.

To Be

Frank



by richards

Water preservation among topics discussed by planning group

Preservation of the Maxwell Lake watershed was one of the topics discussed by the Salt Spring Island Community Planning Association March 9. Islands MLA Hugh Curtis has asked to meet with the Water Preservation Society, and the Islands Trust has been encouraged to support the concept of land exchange, the meeting learned.

Society spokesman Tom Gossett reported 1,000 signatures were obtained on the first day of circulation of the Maxwell Lake petition.

Capital Region director Yvette Valcourt told the meeting of the C.R.D.'s refusal to accept the committee which she and chairman Howard Sturrock had proposed. It was agreed the association should write the CRD asking for an explanation of its refusal.

Rice Elkington presented sketch maps of the Ganges area, noting special sewerage problems. A lengthy discussion followed on possible solutions, and the desirability of an integrated approach to the community plan and sewage disposal.

Syd Wigen reported on weekly meetings of the South Salt Spring Residents Association. They hope

to have a first draft of their community plan in about four weeks, he said.

The Planning Association's next meeting is at 7:30 pm Wednesday, Apr. 13. The first item on the agenda will be the Farmers' Market.

Association spokesman Mary Williamson says that all members of the community are invited to attend the group's meetings.

"It is essential that we do not become yet another group which only talks to itself and has no room for public input," she said.

"We are only viable as long as we present a wide spectrum of opinions and interests from the community as a whole."

Mixed feelings

I have mixed feelings on whales. In fact, I have mixed feelings on many protests. Too many protest groups become like the man who goes to church and keeps the pews polished and varnished. After a decade of his duties, he is liable to see the church as a place where pews have to be polished and varnished. Whales have been very good to my family. They sent us bones for my grandmother's corsets and they sent us bones to make combs and other lovely things. Whales kept the lamps burning before anybody realized that there was a whale of a lot of oil right under the sea.

At the end of the second war whales even landed up on European menus. The big mistake they made was talking to them. Once you talked to a whale he became a different kettle of fish. And, of course, he's not even a fish. I would not welcome cruelty to any creature. But, despite the pleas of some who are worried about whales, I am not convinced that cruelty is evident in the holding of whales and I am not in any remote degree convinced that there is nothing educational in exhibiting whales.

It is more than likely that whales don't enjoy captivity as well as they enjoy free sea. But I'm not sure that a rabbit enjoys his cage and I have yet to hear of a rabbit protection society. I'm not even sure that I really enjoy having the Islands Trust council telling the world and the Canadian government to lay off the whales. Because if they are telling the world in their effort to represent me, then I'm not sure they are, in fact, representing me. And if they are telling the world and the Canadian government in their capacity as Canadian citizens, then that message has no bearing on the Islands Trust.

I'm not sure that I want anyone to stand up in the public forum and demand that a whale or a rabbit or any other creature must be protected IN MY NAME. And Mike Humphries, the Trust chairman, is a good man. But it is Mike Humphries, of Lasqueti, who believes that a death sentence on a magnificent mammal is wrong: not the chairman of the Islands Trust representing all Trust islands and islanders, including me.

From sea to sea

There's more to it than a date. Last week I wrote of Peter Bingham's advice on the motto *from sea to sea* on the Canadian coat of arms. I have learned more. When Canada became Canada from lakes to sea, the call for a Great Seal resulted in the preparation of a seal composed of the arms of the four colonies, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Quebec and New Brunswick. The new Dominion government great seal was made up of the four shields, with a beaver beneath them. It was a makeshift arrangement, says Beddoes, today, in his work on Canadian heraldry.

But worse was to come. As each new entry was absorbed into Mother Canada, a new shield was added clumsily to the existing collection. By 1919 there were seven shields included in the armorial bearings, with the word, "Canada" at the foot. By the end of the First World War, after Canada had proved the valour of her sons in the most bitter battles ever fought on earth, there was a move towards regularizing the arms of Canada. The study launched in 1919 to establish new armorial bearings resulted in the bearings we see today and the inclusion of the motto, *Amare usque ad mari*, was adopted, to signify the breadth of the nation.

The adoption, in 1921, of the new bearings did not only bequeath to all Canadians the unpronounceable Latin tag. It provided a new and recognizable arms and it brought the new bearings into line with accepted heraldic practices. Entry No. 6 of the seven provinces previously recognized was that of British Columbia. The original armorial bearings of the new province consisted of a crown, surmounted by the royal lion, with the letters, "B" on the left of the crown and "C" to the right.

It happened again!

I'm scared to even think about it, but I met her again. In Victoria, as well. Irene Hartley was in just the same place I saw her before. This time she did tell me she and Fred have been married for over 50 years. And she recalled the days when they operated a nursery on St. Mary Lake. And off she went, still the same dynamo of energy she used to be in her island days.

Sense of humour?

Advertising copy writers need a sense of humour. I hope the fellow who wrote a sales ad for television the other day was aware of his humour when he invited me to take advantage of a liquidation sale of waterbeds.

What more evidence?

The observations of the literate are the most convincing evidence in favour of censorship.

Chicken pox reaches epidemic proportions

Chicken pox among children on Salt Spring Island has reached epidemic proportions, warns the community health office.

While no figure on the number of children involved was released, an official with the health office said, "Many, many children have been infected."

Chicken pox arrives suddenly, accompanied by a slight fever. The red rash-like spots appear first on the body, face and scalp and as the infection progresses the spots spread to the limbs.

The danger of spreading the disease to others occurs during the five days before the spots appear and the six days after the last rash goes away. The infection is spread by secretions from the nose, mouth and throat.

While there is no prevention for the disease, it can be controlled. The infected individual should stay at home and rest. The fingernails should be cut short. The rash areas can be bathed in calamine lotion or a baking soda paste. The infected person can also be given an oatmeal bath.

The disease began last fall with occasional cases but has increased to the current danger level with the advent of mild weather. Salt Spring is not the only spot with an epidemic. Children in Victoria and the Saanich areas are also severely affected.

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Over-wintered parsnips should not be eaten

Mrs. Dodds called the other night to tell me about her adventure with parsnips. Being fond of parsnips and having discovered some over-wintered specimen in her garden, she decided to have herself a feast, although they had started to leaf out again.

Somewhere, back in her mind, there was a notion that everything was not quite kosher, but she decided to enjoy the parsnips anyway. Well, the next day she was sick and remained so for a few days.

It could have been the flu, but she decided to check with a very knowledgeable friend who immediately confirmed that her caution was well founded, and advised her never, ever to eat parsnips after they had started to leaf out again.

She called to inform me of her adventure and suggested that we all need to be aware of this, in the interest of our health and well-being.

CONFIRMED IT

Being unaware of this hazard myself I checked with Eva Temmel, who immediately confirmed this fact.

If anyone has specific information as to the causative agent and the chemical changes responsible for a tasty and

nutritious morsel becoming harmful to our health, please let me know.

In my conversation with Eva, I learned that we both had come upon the same information, from different sources, that spinach, Popeye's source of strength, is not all that good for you at any stage of growth. Spinich contains significant amounts of oxalic acid in leaf, stem and root, and its well known iron and calcium content is said to be unavailable to human digestion.

This would substantiate the young child's aversion to this otherwise delectable vegetable and make us wonder as to how they know. We are especially advised not to give spinach to young children as they have less tolerance than adults to this poison.

Henceforth I shall omit mention of this dastardly bit of green from these pages, although I have been a great fancier of same myself. And now I wonder what within me made me crave the stuff. Maybe it was nothing more than an acquired taste, the same as for capers, anchovies and pickled olives.

CARING FOR RADISHES

Let us go from this vital but depressing bit of enlightenment to more cheerful matters, namely the care and raising of radishes.

Although members of the

Farming and Gardening

BY PETER WEIS
Foxglove Nursery Consultant

cabbage family are beloved by the cabbage moth, the radish does not require the same fine soil conditions as the cabbages. And I have never come across a radish with club-root disease or invaded by cabbage worm.

So any kind of soil will do, as long as there is something there to grow on. They do like abundant water, and with their ability to germinate and grow well in cool soils, this makes them an ideal spring and fall fresh taste treat in our climate.

Radishes may be sown outdoors as early as the beginning of March to mature before the middle of April, in six weeks or less, and later on in the season they will take only three to four weeks to mature.

ROOT MAGGOT A THREAT

By far the best variety for our climate in performance, yield and taste is "Champion." From late April to mid-May the root maggot is a constant threat and for this reason it is best to harvest all radishes before that date and not to start any more until after the middle of May.

Best summer varieties are Cherry Belle, Scarlet Globe and Red Prince. A beautiful, quick crop, these radishes may be grown to maturity between almost any other crop before the space is filled, for salad and sandwich treats, or for profit at our re-structured farmers' market. The radish is best harvested before full maturity for sweetness, unless you like them hot.

The leaves are a treat in stir-fried vegetables at any time and immature seed pods add a touch of spice to any green salad. Since it makes little sense to be

overwhelmed by massive amounts of radishes, they are best sown at weekly intervals, a few feet of row at a time. Sow four seeds to the inch, one-quarter inch deep. Thin to one-half inch and enjoy.

I have not experimented with radishes as such, but this year I shall try them together with parsley transplants to see if that helps with the maggot situation. Maggots become numerous in mid-

September again, so it is best to aim for maturity before that date.

Side dressing with seaweed or regular seaweed-tea soakings might be helpful in that regard as well.

I am sure an effective and beneficial way of discouraging the maggots will be found, and I am looking forward to endless experiments once I am retired and have the time to follow my inclination.

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Div. 3C: S.S. Strikers, Women's: S.S. Sockeyes: BYE

Div. 4C: S.S. Wranglers vs Peninsula, Sat., Mar. 19, 1:45 pm, Victoria.

Div. 5C: S.S. Sting BYE

Div. 6C: S.S. Selects vs Juan de Fuca, Sat., Mar. 19, 11 am, Victoria.

EXHIBITION: S.S. Intra-Island All-Stars vs. Juan de Fuca, Sat., Mar. 19, 11 am, Victoria.

Hydro warns of hazards following windstorms

Two unusual hazards were created during recent windstorms which caused unnecessary danger to the public and Hydro linemen, reports B.C. Hydro.

On several occasions when Hydro line crews arrived at the scene of a downed power line, the fallen trees had been sawn up, probably for firewood, even though the downed line was still entangled in the branches.

"People are taking a terrible chance by even going near a fallen power line," says Hydro safety coordinator Earle Pritchett. "They have no way of knowing if the line is dead. Just touching a branch in contact with a live power line could result in electrocution."

Anyone seeing a downed line should call Hydro or the police immediately.

A new hazard facing Hydro linemen is created by the increased use of portable generators during power outages. It is possible for power from the generator to "feed back" into outside power lines and endanger linemen working on previously de-energized lines.

To avoid this danger Hydro

advises that generators be used only for essential purposes such as powering a freezer to save perishable goods. If a generator must be used to power the whole building the main electrical switch should be placed in the "off" position to prevent feedback. The same precautions apply to obtaining power through extension cords from a neighbour not affected by the outage.

Quiet week

The Ganges detachment RCMP and the volunteers of the Salt Spring Fire Department had a quiet week.

No alarms were turned in for the volunteers to respond to.

The police were called to several domestic complaints but no accidents or criminal activity occurred.

Salt Spring was a quiet island, at least for the past week.

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'Enrolment crisis' forecast at island elementary schools

Projected enrolment figures for the two existing elementary schools on Salt Spring as well as for the new school in Fulford reveal a situation of severe overcrowding by September 1984.

Fernwood, with a ministry of education enrolment capacity of 130 pupils, could have 172 pupils in the classrooms by that date.

Salt Spring Elementary, with a capacity of 268 pupils, could be crowded with 434 pupils by 1984. The Fulford school, expected to be completed in early 1984, has a ministry-approved capacity of 150.

The combined approved capacity of both schools, 418, falls short of the projected enrolment by 16 pupils.

The projected figure for Fernwood was arrived at by applying the average growth rate over the past four years of 12.5% to the 1982 enrolment figure of 153, which included 32 children in kindergarten and 121 in regular classes.

The average growth rate for Salt Spring Elementary School for the same four years stands at 6.6% and was applied to the 1982 enrolment figure of 382 pupils in Grades 1 to 7.

The situation at Fernwood has been eased since 1981 by the transfer of Grade 7 pupils to Salt Spring Elementary School. The projected enrolment figures for that school do not include Grade 7 pupils.

The report on projected enrolment concluded with the statement, "By September, 1984, all elementary schools will exceed capacity."

At the recent meeting of the trustees of the Gulf Islands School Board, superintendent of schools Mike Marshall told the trustees, "We will clearly have an enrolment crisis."

Volunteers fought 82 fires at Salt Spring

The volunteer firefighters on Salt Spring Island fought 82 fires last year and put in 1,311 man-hours of duty in answering 125 calls for assistance.

Fire chief Bob Leask, in his report on 1982 activities for the volunteers, listed 31 ambulance assistance and rescue calls as well as 12 false alarms which they also attended to.

The 27 volunteers put in 1,680 man-hours of practice in 41 training sessions and many more hours of voluntary help in the maintenance of the halls and equipment.

The value of property damage amounted to an estimated \$77,425.

The fire alarms broke down to nine house fires, two shed fires, one barn fire, a boar fire and five vehicle fires. There were 21 chimney fires in 1982 as well. The volunteers took care of 21 grass fires, three rubbish fires, one electrical fire in addition to 17 miscellaneous fires.

The firefighters were also part of the crew which tackled the forest fire on Mount Maxwell.

The chief reported that inspections of schools, halls, public

buildings, chimney installations, solid fuel-burning appliances and new construction were carried out in the course of the year.

The year also marked the completion of the fire hall at Fulford which now houses a pumper truck and a tanker truck capable of holding 1,200 gallons of water.

The chief concluded his report to the fire district annual meeting by saying: "...I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the firefighters for another year of enthusiastic support without which this department could not function at the high level it now maintains."

"I would also like to thank the employers of the volunteers for granting time off to attend alarms during their working hours."



\$1.5 million job

School project will go to tender

Construction of the Fulford school will go to tender as a result of the urging of the ministry of education and the provincial treasury board.

Trustees of the Gulf Islands School Board voted unanimously at the meeting last Wednesday to submit the project to tender despite board policy to manage the building of school facilities.

The school district had been informed by officials of the ministry of education that projects the size of the Fulford school, with an estimated cost of \$1.5 million, were most economically handled by a stipulated sum contract. The school district could pursue its board management policy but the insistence of the treasury board on fixed sum contracts could lead to delays in funding the project.

While the money has been approved by the ministry of education, the treasury board must come up with the sum.

The school trustees were told that any difference between the contract bid and the amount approved could be used immediately for other projects in the district.

The school district has been following the board management policy for less than two years and has used that policy on the construction of additions to the Mayne School as well as the renovations of the Galiano School.

The school board decided to agree to the stipulated sum contract by tender in face of the overcrowding at the Salt Spring elementary schools and the urgent need for the Fulford facility to ease some of that overcrowding. The board also seeks an addition to the Fernwood School to help the situation at that insitution.

Charles Hingston, Salt Spring trustee, said he had grave difficulties with the process involved with the stipulated sum contract. He pointed out that island contractors could not, in view of the need for a bond of \$150,000, successfully bid on the work.

Many people on the island had expected the construction of the school would involve employment for islanders.

"We're being put in an unenviable position," said Hingston.

Frank Sutherland, the new supervisor of works for the school district, told the trustees that with the calling of tenders, construction could start by the end of May with completion expected in January of 1984.

While he would not be responsible for the construction the way he would be under board management, Sutherland told the trustees he could check on the performance of the successful bidder.

"I'll be there to represent the board's interest," he said.

When the vote was taken on the motion to go to tender, Michael Hobel, trustee for Galiano Island, noted, "We just voted to jump rather than be pushed."

The trustees agreed with Hingston, who also chairs the buildings and grounds committee, who noted in the report to the board, "...it seems that the board's options are severely limited."

Definition of term

Region abandons suit to pay Valcourt legal costs

Dispute over the payment of legal expenses has now subsided.

Last week the Capital Regional Board supported a motion by Mel Couvelier that the board abandon its court action to have the term "officer" defined by the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

The action arose from the request of director Yvette Valcourt to have the board pay her legal costs in defending herself against a libel action brought by the executive director of the Capital Regional Board, Dennis Young.

Action arose from a statement in a Vancouver newspaper attributed

to Valcourt. The action was subsequently withdrawn.

Original motion to pay the costs incurred by the island director was faulted by the inspector of municipalities.

Amount involved was close to \$8,000.

At last week's board meeting lawyer Lawrence Fast warned directors that if the court decision went against the board, individual directors might find themselves liable for the costs of the action.

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