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TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR, NO. 37

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1984

35c per copy

Ferries reduces staff

25 local employees to lose jobs

B. C. Ferries will be laying off 25 of its regular workers in the Gulf Islands as part of a system-wide reduction of 237 employees as of October 10.

Spokesman Rod Morrison said the ferry corporation had defined its manpower requirements for the next year and the layoffs will allow it to get down to a workable number of staff in order to get through the "peaks and valleys" of service requirements.

While the staff cuts were not costed by route, Morrison said, the company expects to save up to \$2 million with the move.

The savings will allow for a "leaner organization" in order to fit the finances, he said.

The employees who face layoffs have three options, Morrison said, they can bump other employees by seniority or they can put their names on a recall list.

As the requirements for service increase next summer, he said, the employees on the recall list will be brought back to work. In the meantime, they can apply for unemployment insurance or other benefits, he said.

The Gulf Islands staff for B. C. Ferries is set at 144 regular employees including eight in the Outer Islands and two at Crofton.

Morrison expressed optimism that most of the employees being laid off would be brought back into the system as needed. The normal attrition rate for the company, he said, was about 100 employees per year.

The winter schedule goes into effect on September 24 and there will be no drastic cut in service for return to normal winter runs.

The Long Harbour-Tsawwassen ship, for instance, will be operated

on a "C" licence which calls for a crew of 21. When past experience shows an increase in traffic, such as Thanksgiving weekend, the licence can be upgraded and casual labour called in to fill the required staff numbers.

An "A" licence requires a ship's complement of 29 workers while the "B" licence calls for 25 staffers.

The personnel assigned to Long Harbour are responsible for the Vesuvius-Crofton route and the Fulford-Swartz Bay run. They also man the Long Harbour-Tsawwassen boat in addition to the service through the Outer Islands.

Islanders to attend papal visit

When Pope John Paul comes to the west coast next week between 50 and 75 residents of Salt Spring Island will be taking part in the two papal masses.

They will be among the thousands coming to Vancouver from all parts of the province and from as far south as California.

The Pope will celebrate mass at the Abbotsford airport on Tuesday, Sept. 18 from 3:20 pm to 5:20 pm. The Abbotsford airport will be the target for special trains, buses and cars to attend the mass and ceremonies.

At 6:45 pm the B.C. Place program will open with the arrival of the Pope at 8:15 pm. The program is set up for the elderly, the disabled and the youth of the province.

Majority of island travellers to Vancouver will head for B.C. Place. The hardier, estimated at about 15, will take part in the Abbotsford celebration.

Jim Manly returned with 45% of vote

•Poll-by-poll breakdown, Page 36.

Voters in Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands resisted the national trend on election day and chose Jim Manly of the New Democrats over Don Taylor of the Progressive Conservatives.

Manly was returned to Parliament with 24,338 votes or 45% of the vote. Taylor gathered support from 22,701 voters for 42% of the votes cast.

In the Gulf Islands, the two candidates each took one-half of the polls. Taylor came out ahead on the Penders, Saturna and in the advance poll for the islands. Manly carried Salt Spring, Mayne and

Galiano.

Liberal Mike Coleman ran a distant third with 5,809 votes across the riding which included 615 votes in the Gulf Islands.

The other five candidates managed to garner support from 1,087 voters which included 163 votes from the Gulf Islands. Lindsay Armstrong led the also-rans with 307 votes riding-wide and 101 ballots from island voters.

While the total number of eligible voters was not known by press time, preliminary estimates put the voter turn-out at 79.5% in the riding compared to a 75% turn-out in the February, 1980 election. The same percentage of Gulf Islanders trooped to the polls.

The voters on the Penders showed up in droves to lead the island vote with an estimated 85% turn-out followed closely by the voters of Saturna who supplied an 82% vote.

Next in line were Salt Spring, 79% and Galiano, 77% while Mayne had a 74% turn-out.

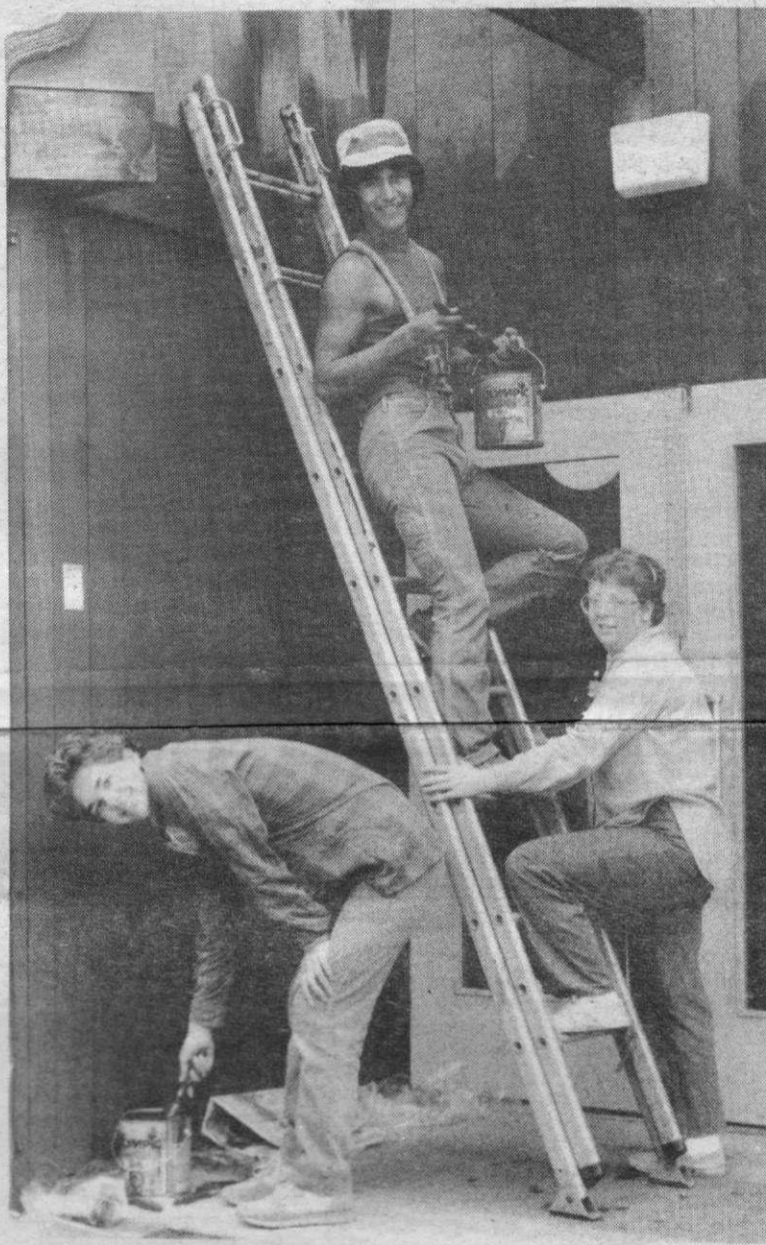
Salt Spring voters reversed their choice this election. 1,436 residents threw their support behind Manly while 1,291 voted for Taylor. Coleman managed to attract 417 votes with 92 voters going for various of the other candidates.

In 1980, 1,253 voters went with Taylor, 1,138 with Manly while 304 supported the Liberal candidate and 62 other ballots were cast for the others in the race.

Taylor managed to increase his vote total by 25% while Manly went up 10%.

In the 1980 election, Manly had 22,154 votes to 18,153 for Taylor.

Manly's winning margin dropped from 4,001 votes in 1980 to 1,637 this time around. When Taylor won in the 1979 vote, he led Manly by 1,554 votes.



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Paint job for Greenwoods

Greenwoods was in need of a paint job so the Katimavik group has taken on the project. The new group arrived last week and is already hard at work. In photo are Albert Jamieson, from Kitchener;

Kathy Piggott, Moose Jaw, who is holding the ladder; and Caitlin Nicholson, Langley. The young adults are volunteering their services and enjoying the work.

Accident victim identified

Ganges detachment RCMP have released the name of the young woman who was killed in an automobile accident on Vesuvius Bay Road on Salt Spring August 30.

Dina Marie Pollard, 23, of North End Road, had been burned beyond recognition in the accident. She had been trapped in her 1977 Honda Civic when the gas tank exploded and the vehicle burned. Identification was made through examination of dental work.

She was formerly from Surrey and had been working at Hastings House on Salt Spring for about two months.

The vehicle left the road and turned end over end before hitting the ground. The gas tank exploded when the rear of the Honda struck a tree.

Ministry's fiscal year change delays board's financial planning

Changes in the funding system for schools has created problems for the Gulf Islands School Board.

The ministry of education will be changing the fiscal year to correspond to the school year. The change goes into effect on July 1, 1985.

Meanwhile, the school trustees must make financial plans for the six-month period until the end of June without knowing how much money will be available.

The ministry had promised a financial forecast by mid-September but a review of the way schools are funded brought out "a number of complex issues," said Education Minister Jack Heinrich in a letter to the school board.

He was telling the school districts that until the issues are settled, the ministry of education could not

offer accurate projections for the operating budgets.

Heinrich wrote: "Updated enrolment and teacher data from each school district will be available in early October. These are required before properly informed decisions can be made, as is a clearer understanding of the financial circumstances facing the province in 1985 and 1986."

He went on to note that once the data is available and analysed the ministry will let school districts know how much money is available to them, "hopefully by the end of the year."

The trustees of the Gulf Islands School Board are to engage in contract talks with teachers, not once but twice. They will discuss a contract to cover the short fiscal term to the end of June next year

and then again for the new regular fiscal year which begins on July 1, 1985.

The good news is that any surplus resulting from operations this year or the short year can be added to the operating budget for 1985-86.

The funding formula for schools is based on a complicated equation which includes such factors as the number of pupils registered in each school and the average salary for teachers.

The formula is modified by other factors such as distance and remoteness.

Officials of the Gulf Islands School District last year had to talk long and hard to convince the ministry that the water between the islands made a difference in travel time.

Harbour clean, rich in marine life, study finds

Fulford Harbour is "fairly clean" at present but additional development along the shoreline could prove detrimental in the future, says one of the students doing an ecological study of the harbour.

Rebecca Patterson, who will enter her fourth year in biology at the University of Victoria in January, said in an interview Sunday that she was surprised at how clean the harbour is, even around the ferry terminal. But she warned that an increase in marine traffic or further subdivision on the waterfront could be harmful to the environment.

Septic tank seepage, she said, is the major concern when considering new development on the shoreline.

The harbour study began in July and was commissioned by the South Salt Spring Residents Association. President Sid Wigen said his group applied for a grant under a program called Fisheries Resources Educational Development for Youth. Focus of the program is providing employment for youth aged 15 - 24 years.

Wigen said they had originally applied for funding for an ecological and archeological study but Ottawa said no to the latter.

He said the idea for a harbour study came about as a result of the association's efforts to develop a community plan.

HARBOUR IS CRUCIAL

"The harbour is crucial to the community," he noted, adding that there have been very few studies of the harbour and the overall ecology of the area.

"With long-term development the harbour will be subject to pressures," Wigen said, so an understanding of the harbour and the life it contains is needed.

The study has employed eight people, four of them biology students at UVic and four Salt Spring residents. Three of the

students, including project supervisor Jeremy Ellis, have returned to school but Patterson has decided to stay on until December when the study will be finished. She has taken over as supervisor.

The study has entailed collecting samples of marine life, mapping algae and seaweed, testing for coliform levels and measuring tidal currents. By beach seining and gillnetting the study group has found "lots of sculpins," shiners, perch, gunnels, caplin, shrimp and other species.

MANY DOGFISH

A lot of ling cod have been found, as well as "a really large dogfish population," said Patterson.

"We can identify eel grass beds, which are crucial to herring," and feeding grounds of birds and their nesting areas. Currents on the surface and below have been studied as well.

Human influence on the harbour will be looked at in detail over the next few months with further checks for coliform levels.

Patterson said Fulford Harbour is a "vulnerable area," but it is also "really rich." She noted there is a large and diverse number of species of fish, with a lot of marine life around the ferry terminal itself.

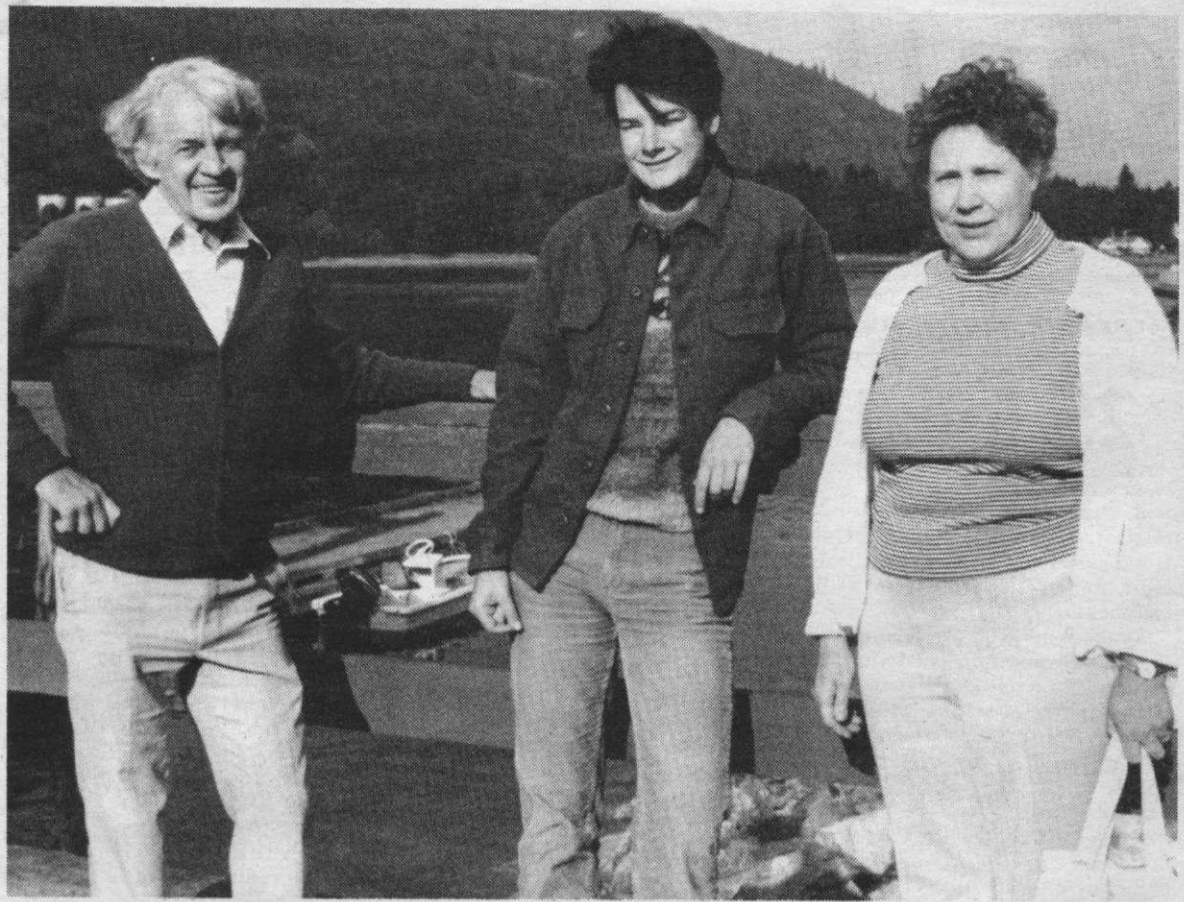
"The impact (of the terminal) has been really minimal."

The study group will produce its report in December, a report, according to Patterson, that anyone will be able to read and understand. It will not make any recommendations but merely report on what is there.

A VALID STUDY

Patterson expressed the fear that some people may question the validity of a study undertaken by students. (Of the university students involved, three have completed their third year and the fourth is a graduate student). But she herself is convinced that it is scientifically valid and points out that there has been a lot of consultation with personnel at the Institute of Ocean Sciences at Patricia Bay.

In addition, she said, plans for the study were gone over in depth by Ralph Brinkhurst, a senior scientist at the institute. Patterson also said that while the federal funding provided for the study requires the



South Salt Spring Residents Association president Sid Wigen with wife Nancy and Rebecca Patterson, centre, supervisor of Fulford Harbour ecological study.

Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

hiring of 15 to 24-year-olds, none of those hired is younger than 19.

The president of the South Salt Spring Residents Association is satisfied with the study's progress to date. Sid Wigen is no stranger to the ways of tidal currents and tides, having been employed by the Canadian Hydrographic Service for many years.

"We're getting a lot for our money," he observed.

A report on the study will be given next week at a general meeting of the residents association. It will be held at 7.30 pm Monday at St. Mary's Church Hall.

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Two grants for Salt Spring

Two grants-in-aid towards Salt Spring Island community projects from director Hugh Borsman were approved by the Capital Regional Board recently.

A contribution of \$1,000 to the Salt Spring Island Community Society will go towards the cost of a new roof on the old Lady Minto Hospital building on Ganges Hill.

The board also approved a grant of \$80 to the Salt Spring Island Lions Club towards the cost of the club's barbecue.

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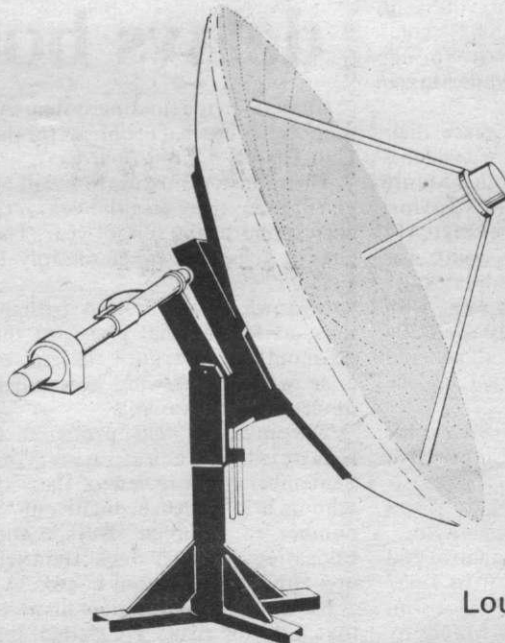
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To Be

Frank



by richards

It's a glycineris generosa

I was wrong. You can't figure how it hurts to admit it. When Pegi Farina asked me how to spell "geoduck" I told her, "goey duck". And I wondered. It's a heck of a sight easier for Pegi to paint one than for me to spell one. So I made a quick check and called Wildlife. The Wild Lady explained without hesitation. So, now we're both right because I looked at it again and discovered that it is a glycineris generosa and what could be easier to spell than that? And out of curiosity, I wonder how many readers have dug for glycineris generosas. How many have grasped the slippery neck and dug it out of the mud? I blush to admit that I haven't. It's bad enough spelling it!

A two-wheeled two-wheeler

If I had gone through life never doing what I shouldn't my halo wouldn't fit in the front door. Don't check other people's mistakes, I was told from small boyhood. But when a charming lady told me all about two-wheeled tricycles I had to find out what such an intriguing machine would be like. It was, I gathered, a three-wheeled bicycle with two wheels. When I was a small boy it was known as a "fairy cycle" and I might add that I never had one.

The hospital Penders

For a short time we moved to South Pender and lived there but we came back. It was an interesting encounter. The roads have more curves and more hills and more precipices than here on Salt Spring. There must be another election coming up on the Penders because I saw an awful lot of posters urging me to vote. And I saw a lot of "for sale" signs around north and south. It was a desperate two days I lived there, listening to planners planning and visitors visiting but it was long enough to enjoy the hospitality of the many islanders involved in setting up the Islands Trust council meeting.

Papal visit and current Quebec

There might have been many reasons for tuning in on the television reports of the papal visit, but the commentary and the comments during Pope John Paul's arrival and tour were a vivid portrayal of the current trends in the French province. Many viewers might contend that last week's election was indication enough of the trends, but the contribution of observers during the screening of the tour's first two days represented a sharp insight into the affairs of La Belle Province.

That's a lot of stories

Among those revelations on television regarding the papal visit was the announcement that the Pope is accompanied by some 650 journalists. It seems a lot and my bet is that nobody is ever going to read all 650 reports of the visit which might be filed by 650 reporters.

So straight it wouldn't run

I'm not slanted. There's nothing biased about my work. The other day I put a gutter on my garage roof and it was so far from slanted that some of the water ran out the wrong end. Not every reporter has to do a job again to get a good bias to it.

They all curl up

I have problems with carpets. Instead of slippery, shiny hardwood floors we have a drab carpet deadening noises, eliminating scratches and softening the cold winter's walk to the kitchen. To relieve the monotony of grubby carpet we acquired some mats and threw them down here and there. Sometimes we trip over them. Other times somebody else trips over them. Because the corners and the sides roll up. Now and then we turn them upside-down to straighten themselves out. One day we are going to have to throw away that relief from monotonous floors. What should we do? Nail them to the floor? Or glue them to the carpet? It's driving us slowly mad.

Five seats to fall vacant on board

With the federal vote out of the way, preparations are being made for the municipal election in November.

The trustees of the Gulf Islands School Board approved the assignment of A. O. Ferguson of Victoria as returning officer for the school board election.

Voters in the Gulf Islands will choose five school trustees this year.

David Eyles of Salt Spring completes his one-year term and Bert Beitel, also of Salt Spring, completes a two-year term.

Eyles won election last year to fill the vacancy created when Charles Baltzer stepped aside.

On Galiano, residents will be selecting a new school trustee. Mike Hoebel had resigned his position to

take employment with the ministry of education.

Joy Ridley of Pender Island also completes a term of office. She had been elected earlier this year to fill in for John Zacharias who had retired.

On Mayne Island, Jeannine Dodds comes to the end of another term as school trustee.

The voters of the Gulf Islands will also be choosing representatives to the Islands Trust at election time.

Increased capacity for press

The web offset printing plant in Sooke, where *Driftwood* is printed, has been moved to Victoria, where the size of the press has been doubled with the addition of four units.

Increase in the number of units means an increase in the capacity of the press, which can now print up to 48 tabloid pages in one section.

The press is owned by Island Publishers Ltd. which has taken over the building formerly used by Western Web, a company that operated a press owned by the now-defunct New Westminster *Columbian*.

Press operations manager Al McGee, who is in charge of the

company's presses in Victoria and Ladysmith, says the company will continue to offer high-quality web offset work. The Sooke plant was owned by Goldstream Press until it was merged with Island Publishers earlier this year.

Majority shareholder in Island Publishers is Williams Lake-based Cariboo Press. *Driftwood* Publishing Ltd. is one of four other shareholders.

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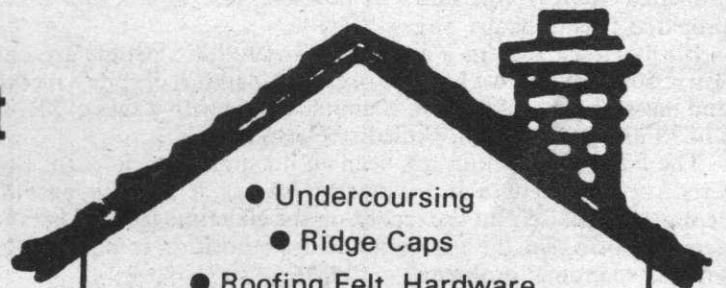
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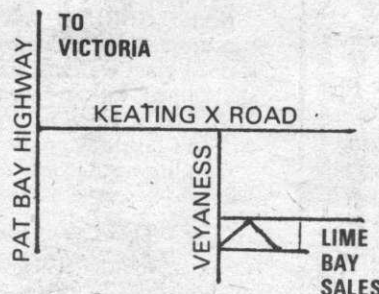
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Gulf Islands Driftwood

Published every Wednesday at Ganges by

Driftwood
Publishing Ltd.

537-2211/537-2613
Box 250, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0



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SECOND CLASS MAIL REGISTRATION NO. 0803

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1984

The voice

When the nation turned its back firmly on the Liberals last week, the voters of Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands followed the trend of many British Columbia ridings. The riding re-elected Jim Manly to remain within the New Democratic camp.

If Manly won by a reduced majority he could set that to the national swing to Progressive Conservative.

The election fight was a close battle between Manly and Tory Don Taylor. It was so close, indeed, that by a cruel quirk of electronics one television service announced Taylor as the winner during the count and subsequently had to change its message.

In the islands the message was the same as in the riding. Manly took the majority of island votes, with a total of 2,210 against Taylor's 2,045. Not even a heavy islands swing to Conservatism would likely have elected Taylor.

Liberal Mike Coleman ran a distant third and the remainder of the field was left still further behind the two leaders.

The new riding of Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands showed it is still embracing the NDP despite changes of name and boundaries.

The riding did not join the national trend, but it came through the election with a remarkably high turn-out, which is a basic indication of exceptional concern.

Manly will continue to represent islanders as he has in the past and is to be congratulated on the confidence voters have shown in him as their member of parliament.

Recovery not a priority

Unemployed union members who support the B.C. Federation of Labour's stand on the Nanaimo ironworkers' vote deserve sympathy from no one.

Ironworkers Union Local 712 urged acceptance of a proposal that would have seen 500 jobs created at a steel assembly plant at Duke Point. The B.C. Federation of Labour, however, urged that members turn down the proposal because the wages being offered—if the plant were built—would average about \$5 an hour less than the going rate elsewhere in the province.

The Nanaimo workers have had two opportunities to vote on the scheme and it's unlikely they'll get another. AMCA International Ltd., the U.S.-based company that wants to build the plant, has indicated that it will build somewhere else if workers are not prepared to accept the wages offered.

It's alarming that in a city where about 9,000 people are out of work, 500 jobs are lost because organized labour, despite a recession and massive unemployment, is unable to live with wages of \$12.85 to \$14.25 an hour for semi-skilled steel assemblers.

The labour federation has been an outspoken critic of the Social Credit government and frequently blames it for the province's economic malaise. But the record on the Nanaimo ironworkers issue demonstrates that the federation is in no position to blame anyone for our economic problems.

Unions affiliated with the federation should take cognizance of the fact that its actions damage not only its own reputation, but that of the province as well.

High rates of pay for union labour, rather than economic recovery, would appear to be the federation's priority.

Another victory

Son of an island family has been elected to parliament for the adjacent riding of Esquimalt-Saanich.

When Pat Crofton takes his seat he will be upholding a long-established family voting pattern. The Crofton family is among the oldest-established on Salt Spring Island. The Croftons have been identified with the Conservative party from the time of their arrival in the islands.

Crofton has served as alderman in Saanich for several years. He has also been a director of the Capital Regional District.



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Mexican visitor

Mexican visitor to Salt Spring Island is Sergio Luis Miranda from San Jose del Cabo, Baja California Sur. Fifteen-year-old Sergio arrived

here on July 7 to stay with Judith and Jurgen Englehardt, the tinkers Traveling Sharpeners, who have known him and his family

since 1978. Sergio is here to learn English and experience Canadian life. Islanders can meet him Saturdays at the Farmers' Market.



Tony Richards

I'M NO FAN of Pay TV so when we received our first program guide for Superchannel (which we get) and The Sports Network (which we don't) I wasn't expecting much.

And after reviewing what The Sports Network (TSN) has to offer, I wouldn't pay a cent for it.

The program guide ran a page-long story on Team Canada. It must have been written by a public relations/ad agency type who was paid a dollar a word to convey to the public that Team Canada is the greatest thing hockey has ever seen. Unfortunately, it isn't.

It wasn't until I'd finished reading the story that I discovered TSN wasn't going to show a single Team Canada game.

On top of that, last weekend was a great one for sports events on the tube. We watched several of the U.S. Open tennis matches and some of the Detroit-Toronto baseball games, of which there were three. Neither sport was carried on TSN.

Canadian pay TV has a long way to go before I'll find it worth watching.

LOCAL TENNIS STAR Peggy Stacey has returned to Victoria after spending the summer on Salt Spring Island where, in addition to dazzling tennis fans, she has been spreading both good cheer and water in and around Ganges. The good-natured daughter of Dave and Joan Stacey was hired by the chamber of commerce to water the hanging flower baskets in the village, a job she did well judging by the lush foliage now evident.

Peggy points out, though, that she wasn't the only one involved in the beautification project, that there was a long list of volunteers.

They were: Case Dekker, Dave Mathews, Maurice Gerwing, Lynn Mathews, Terra Tepper, Ira Tepper, Jeff Barrett, Norm Pallot, Alec Houston, Becca Ritenour, Monica Ritenour, Dale Codd, Debbie Davies, David Stacey, Gordon McQuiggan, Joan Stacey, Elaine Fraser and David Barnes.

The watering truck was provided by Dale Codd and the gasoline was donated by Our Gas Co.

SALT SPRING ARTIST Caroline Hamilton was upset to see her name linked with the design of a stained glass window last week. She phoned to say she helped with the drawing of the Jean Rowell memorial window at Ganges United Church, but couldn't take any credit for the design work.

Caroline said glassman Dennis Marshall was the one who deserved all the recognition.

NEXT TIME you're in a ferry terminal, treat the overhead lighting with respect. It's worth a pile of money.

A Salt Spring driver discovered just how much it costs to repair a lamp standard after he hit one at Swartz Bay several months ago. The reason he got the bill was that he was charged with and convicted of impaired driving following the accident. The Insurance Corporation of B. C. paid for repairs to the lamp and in turn billed the hapless driver, who wouldn't get his driver's licence back until he paid up.

And as the driver noted, ICBC paid the bill without questioning it because they knew they would collect it from him.

Materials cost came to \$410 for a 21-foot lamp standard shaft, a two-way arm for the standard and a 400-watt mercury light fixture. Equipment costs were \$3.50: five vehicles for two miles at 35¢ per mile.

And finally—hold on to your newspaper—total cost of wages was \$920.64.

Six people were involved in the repair job (almost one vehicle per person).

An assistant foreman put in three hours of overtime at \$36.92 for \$109.86. (The accident occurred during the evening, necessitating overtime payment).

Now get this: it took two electricians 16 hours apiece to do the electrical work. Total cost: \$595.35. Obviously the job entailed more than just screwing in a light bulb.

Wage cost number three amounted to \$119.07 for, of all things, a carpenter. It took him seven hours to complete his task, whatever that was. The lamp standards are not made of wood.

Perhaps there was a hanging flower basket on the pole and it was in need of repair. Seven hours worth.

About the most understandable cost was that of a welder, who put in three hours for \$51.03.

Last man on the list is a trades helper for \$45.33 (three hours). Someone had to clean up the mess, right?

There is one more little charge tacked on the bill, for administration. At 24.5% of the total wage cost, it came in at \$225.55.

Total cost of repair? \$1,559.69.

But wait! It was originally twice that until someone questioned it, and sent it back for revision.

Today my friend, who's still hoofing it, wonders if B.C. Ferries ever did put the lamp standard back up again as much of the compound has been changed since.

A B.C. Ferries spokesman told me the job was done by ferry corporation employees, and was charged out at cost. I also learned that wage benefits were not included in the bill.

That's probably quite a relief to our friend. The bill would likely have been considerably more if they had been.

Letters to the Editor

Confused arguments

Sir,
I am glad to see that Mr. Zamorano thinks that "we can safely say that 'God loves all men' including homosexuals as He allows that the gospel should be preached to them to the intent of procuring their regeneration." (*Driftwood*, Sept. 5).

Surely this very biblical interpretation of the purpose of God in creation (and thus our purpose as Christians struggling to show forth the Good News of Jesus Christ in our lives) is precisely the basis of the United Church's concern with the highly complex issue of the nature of humanity in all its variety.

While I have not read their contribution to the debate, your confused arguments do little to help clarify the situation.

JOHN BAILEY,
Rector,
Anglican Parish of
Salt Spring Island,
September 7, 1984.

Leviticus read with awe

Sir,
I would like to thank the author of that extraordinary article ("No reference to bible in stand on homosexuality," *Driftwood*, September 5, 1984). He or she redirected my attention to Leviticus, which I read with the same awe and wonder aroused by my first sf comic many years ago. It is, of course, of another age and time.

If indeed we are to be guided by Leviticus in our attitude towards homosexuality, then must we not restore blood sacrifices and the death penalty for adultery? Or are we at liberty to pick and choose the verse which suits our argument?

Wouldn't it be nice to think that we had indeed made progress from those laws on diet and behaviour laid down for a primitive nomadic tribe who were directed to cut themselves off from the norms adopted by all their neighbours?

Watching the Pope on television, I mused that we have at least progressed from a married Peter to a celibate Pope and clergy who still quote Leviticus as a reason for not ordaining women!

Ah well! to quote the late great Gert Behanna: "Who was Leviticus, anyhow?"
MARY C. WILLIAMSON,
R. R. 1, Ganges,
September 13, 1984.

Cubs, Scouts get going

Sir,
"The time has come, the Walrus said, to think of many things..." Among the things to think of is whether or not your son is going to be a Cub or Scout.

Our Cub pack is going strong as usual, with the first meeting this year coming up on September 18 at 6:30 pm in the Salt Spring Elementary gymnasium. Interested parties can call Jean Hoskin at 537-9661. We are looking forward to seeing new boys coming out as several of our oldest Cubs are moving up to Scouts this year.

After a year of inactivity, or rather being folded up, Salt Spring will have a Scout troop again. The troop disbanded for the 83/84 year due to no leader. This was most unfortunate for the boys! Hopefully these same boys who are not yet over 14 years of age will return.

We have a number of boys coming up from Cubs who will be the beginning of our troop. Any boy 11 to 14 years is welcomed. I will be the leader with Tom David and Bill Gardam generously offering their time as assistant leaders. Concerning Scouts interested parties can call me at 537-9486.

Hoping to see many, many boys and parents turn out for registration.
PATRICK BAINES,
Ganges,
September 1984.



Bill Webster

The ballots have been cast and counted and now the job falls to political pundits to tell the country what it did.

Louis Bolivar-Finchley and Suitcase came to the mansion to tell what happened.

The best news of the evening came from Suitcase.

Now that the Tories are in, Brian of B. C. will become their favourite target. And Suitcase has the knife sharpening concession on the hill by the gas house in Bytown-by-the-canal.

Louis sat and smoked his pipe and explained the entrails of the election to us.

The Blue Machine ran rampant at the expense of both the Grits and the Indeepers. But Eddie Badlybent and bunch won't admit it. Listen to them talk and one could come away with the impression that they had won.

When the vote chase began many months ago, the Indeepers were 32 strong. After the last vote had been counted, there were 30 of them left.

But look at the way the ballots dropped.

There are no Indeepers east of the Ottawa River. In the West, they lost 10 seats. Only in Ontario did they gain. In that province, the party of the left took eight Grits to the cleaners.

Eddie himself managed somehow to blow a 10,000-vote lead in his own back yard.

Closer to home, Jimmy urged the vote total up. But the Tory and the endangered specimen sent their totals up in greater clusters.

The talk in some circles is that the West again will be ignored. The election, they claim, was won in Ontario with a little help from Quebec. Surely they jest.

In each province and region of the land the votes went to the

Tories in similar fashion.

The West will send 61 Tories to the gas house and that is a number which won't be ignored. Ask Louis, he knows all.

The cabinet, said Louis from the centre of a cloud of smoke, will consist of eight from the East and a similar number of Westerners. Ontario will have 10 reps while eight more come from the Belle Province.

Brian of B. C. will be cutting the knife people off at the door. Suitcase may not have his job very long.

Louis, however, suggested that he keep in touch with the Grits. They may hire him to seek the national endangered species. Or sharpen knives for them.

The next few months; Louis went on, will be very interesting. While Brian of B. C. tries to put together a government, John of B. C. will be building his version of the Grits. Watching over his shoulder all the way.

And Eddie will continue to talk as though he does speak for the ordinary Canadian, if there actually is such a creature.

They, the Indeepers, will continue the rhetoric about comparing Brian of B.C. to Billie's Bunch. Social programs will be slashed and RE-STRAINT will descend upon the people.

Times, as they say, are going to be tough. The cry will echo across the land: "Don't blame me, I voted NDP."

The message didn't cut ice even here in Lotus Land.

Actually, the next job that needs to be done is to ease Billie and his bunch into the seats on the opposite side of the Stone Pile by the harbour. What we need in Lotus Land is a revival of the provincial version of either the Tories or the Grits.

This one and a half party system doesn't seem to work.

The trauma and suspense of catching a ferry to the islands

BY SALLY M. SWANSON

In my family catching a ferry was nearly as difficult as flying to the moon. We always planned for days in advance, but the more we planned, the worse was the rush and fuss, trauma and suspense that we had to go through on the day of the catch.

The move to our cabin on the island on the first day of summer was inevitably the wildest trip of the year. We kids would pack, unpack, repack, plan and dream for weeks. Then, the night before the fateful day, Dad would announce that we will take the evening ferry and we will all be ready to go the minute he gets home from work.

The next day dawns bright and clear. Packing begins in earnest. First, we get all the summer equipment from the basement. After coming up with an assortment of mis-matched bikini parts, odd thongs and hissing air mattresses, we decide to go shopping. So much for the packing we had planned for the morning.

After lunch, we pick up speed. Half-filled boxes appear around the house, accompanied by a voice yelling, "Don't touch that, it's packed!" Out job is to catch the chickens (Mum's last stand against suburbia). After we finally get their cackling box crammed into the back of the VW van, we tie the bikes on to the roof. This isn't easy with three two-wheelers and a tricycle, but we manage to rope them into a sort of leaning tower.

Meanwhile, the cat has attacked the chicken box. We check the box and decide to leave them, figuring that the chickens are more likely to die of heart failure than the cat. Besides we'll know where to find the cat when it's time to go.

Suddenly, the van starts to fill. Suitcases, duffel bags, garbage bags and those boxes are stuffed into every corner. Dad's car pulls up. Everyone scatters.

The plants still have to be watered, the house keys are missing, my sister's shoes are missing, Mum is missing. Dad bellows through the door, "If we don't leave NOW, we'll miss the boat!"

He starts the van. Nothing happens. He honks the horn. All at once, kids come roaring out of the house in various states of undress, carrying shoes, coats, shorts, etc. and pile into the van.

"Where's the dog?" yells my brother. We leap out again, shouting frantically. Dad finds her, cowering under the back seat, behind a large box. He honks again and Mum steps out of the house, unruffled and unhurried. We zoom off.

'We'll never make it'

"We'll never make it," Dad says grimly. Mum announces that we have to drop the beer bottles off at the depot; she didn't have time this morning. Dad swears.

Meanwhile, the cat, having lost interest in the chickens, tries to hide under the brake pedal. My sister remembers that she left her shoes on the porch. My brother, crammed in the back with the chickens, announces that they smell and he is going to throw up all over them.

Going through town, Mum quizzes us about what we've forgotten. Dad swears at every driver on the road. We kids pray that we won't see anyone we know, what with bikes towering on the roof, cats, dogs, chickens, and worst of all, each other. How embarrassing.

Out of town, at last, Dad speeds down the highway as we all keep our eyes peeled for radar traps. When we finally screech to a halt at the ferry ticket booth, we stare at the line of cars in despair. The ferry is already loading.

"Everyone out!" shouts Dad,

pulling up behind the last car. Then, to the utter astonishment of the people in the neighbouring cars, we all leap out and frantically start unloading. Chickens, dog, cat, food, suitcases pile up on the pavement. We kids grab as much as we can and charge off in the direction of the ferry.

Mum is left, still rifling through boxes; she won't go anywhere without toilet paper. Dad starts throwing things back into the van, yelling, "Go! Go! You'll miss it!" Grabbing the roll at last, she tears after us.

We reach the ferry just as the last cars are being squeezed in. Then, when there is only room enough for half a Honda, they wave on one more vehicle—our van, naturally. We all heave a sigh of relief as the ramp goes up and the engines shudder into action. Next year, we resolve, we'll be more organized.

The writer, at one time a visitor to the Gulf Islands, now lives in Alberta and no longer worries about catching ferries.

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CHAINSAWS

'If Michelangelo had been straight Sistine Chapel would have been painted basic white with a roller'

BY ROSEMARY BAXTER

Christians used to burn homosexuals at the stake, hence the term "faggot". Presumably even the writer of last week's article on homosexuality would agree that Christianity's current more moderate stand with respect to this represents to some degree an evolution in the understanding of sexuality. The writer's use of terms such as "regeneration" with respect to homosexuals, and adherence to a fundamentalist interpretation of the bible, represents a position that, though almost universally shared by the Christian world until very recently, no longer is acceptable to the majority of theological scholars.

But before elaborating on this problem it might help to look at some facts about homosexuality and a few of the stereotyped misconceptions that have been used to instill fear into the unknowledgeable.

The first fact is that 10% (or more) of our population is gay, a statistic that is brought out in all relevant research. Constitutionally, homosexual people do not choose their orientation, it chooses them (the luck of the draw—your child, brother, sister, aunt, etc). Of course there are always heterosexuals who will "try on" the lifestyle in our present society just as they did in the pagan rituals of biblical times.

'CATCHING'

A source of fear to some is that homosexuality is "catching" and therefore they don't want gay teachers, for instance, near their children. They can relax. A child's sexual orientation is determined by the time he is five or six—you just don't catch homosexuality! Now as to the problem of sexual assaults, according to police statistics 90-95% of sexual assaults are done by male heterosexuals. Doesn't it make sense that an already oppressed group in society would tend to fade into the woodwork and not make waves? (There is an excellent textbook used in sociology at the university level that may be of interest, *The Homosexual Matrix* by Tripp).

Coming back to the "sin" aspect of homosexuality, to sin is a choice one makes, and a true homosexual has not chosen his way of life, so where is the choice and consequently the sin? In spite of traditional teaching, and because of new and evolving scholarly biblical research and known facts about homosexuality, many leading Roman Catholic, Anglican and other moral theologians now argue that "homosexual love can be moral provided it meets the same criteria that the rule of Christian love demands of any heterosexual union: commitment, mutual consent, and a life together that enhances the humanity of both".

Fortunately, a large number of

gay people have not left their churches, even though the churches themselves have been a major factor in the oppression of homosexuals (not to mention women). Most of the major churches now have official associations for homosexual clergy and laity, to provide common support and, in some cases, pressure for a change in church attitudes.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Enlightenment within the Catholic community has extended to church-sponsored seminars and active support groups for such taboo subjects as separated and divorced, commonlaw living, women in the church and homosexuality. The support group for the latter is called Dignity and is an international organization. We recently attended a Dignity Mass and were honoured to receive communion from a member of the community who had been ordained a deacon the day before. He'll make a very positive contribution to our church.

Because of the evolution in biblical interpretations the majority of Christian churches are now responding positively and are beginning to educate the membership on the dangers of homophobia and are taking positive measures to redress the mistreatment of homosexuals. A case in point is the new study by the United Church, *Sexual Orientation and Eligibility for the Order of Ministry*, a most profound and well-researched paper.

In regard to current biblical positions I am quoting from *Homosexual Catholics: A New Primer for Discussion*, but similar material can be found in other writings such as the United Church's report or from the book *Harpur's Heaven and Hell*, written by Tom Harpur, an Anglican priest and New Testament scholar and professor. The text states:

'FUNDAMENTALISM'

"One of these positions, one that takes the bible literally, is called 'fundamentalism' or 'literalism'. This position views the bible as being able to settle all modern issues without any real need for church interpretation or modern biblical studies which can be seen as 'watering down' God's own word. This stand encounters several difficulties and ultimately is itself forced to employ some kinds of criteria for understanding biblical passages.

"The person who claims to take the bible just as it is, at face value, according to what the words say, is actually engaging in one particular and rather popular type of interpretation. The result may be blind subjectivism and interpretative violence. When the bible is claimed as the infallible proof of the thesis being defined, diverse biblical literature is often being commanded

to serve as ideological cause (*Human Sexuality*, United Church of Christ, 1977, p. 33). Can one accept literally, for example, Paul's injunction about slavery to justify social institution of slavery?

"Unfortunately, too often in Christian history the bible has been used literally both to support and condemn slavery, segregation, the inferior position of women, capital punishment, war, capitalism and Marxism."

The bible is a complex historical work and with help from new sources of data like the Dead Sea Scrolls, is constantly evolving in meaning. We should read it for its beauty and for its messages of love but wisely leave interpretation to the scholars and theologians.

LOVE UNCONDITIONAL

I have to take exception to the passage that implies that the churches "accept them with love but..." True love is unconditional—Christ's love is unconditional. If you start throwing in conditions don't we end up with positions of superiority and inferiority—or oppression? And if there is a group of people who can claim more oppression historically than Jews, it is homosexuals.

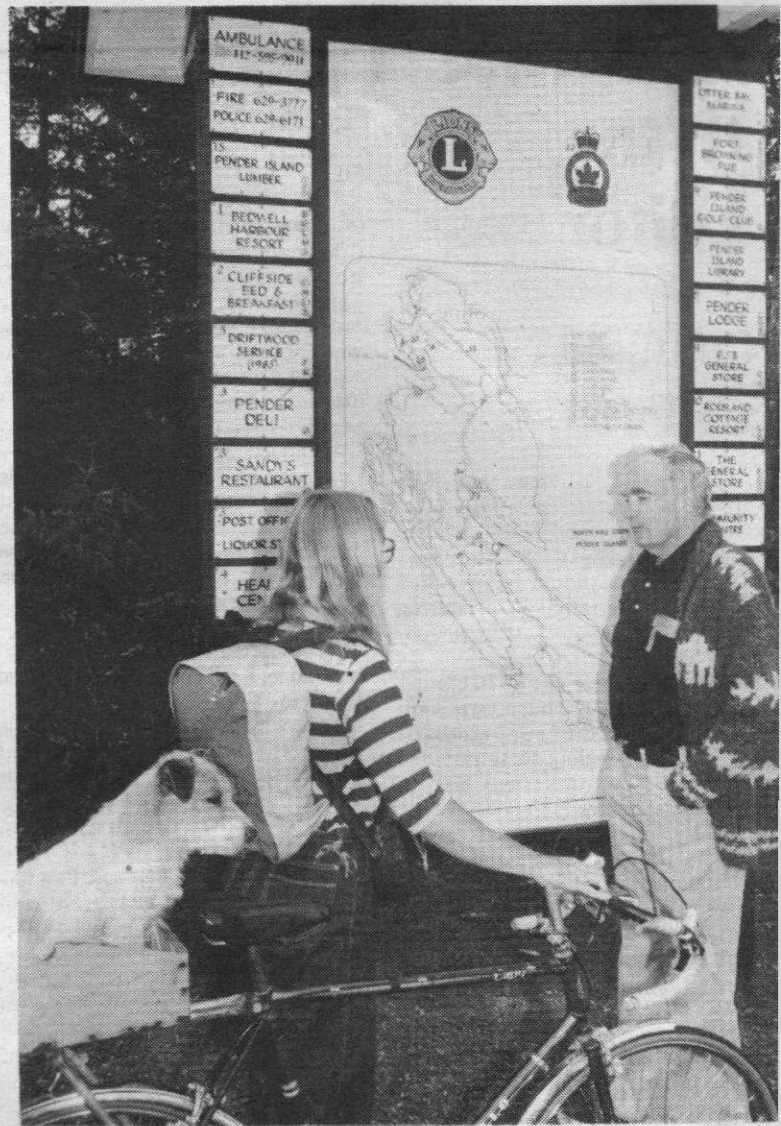
Most of us are aware of the yellow star of David patch that Jews were forced to wear under Nazi-dominated Europe, but how many are aware of the pink triangle patch the Nazis forced homosexuals to wear and then led them to the same crematoria? Undoubtedly the people of Chile are also suffering oppression—and because of this should be filled with empathy and caring for a group that is also suffering.

Going back further, the memoirs of Leonardo da Vinci explain the personal pain and suffering homosexuals suffered during the early Renaissance. The list could go on and on. But what right has any human being to cause another such agony?

Casting aside our struggle with semantics, can we possibly accuse God of making a 10% error? Isn't this world richer for our differences? A quote I enjoy claims that "If Michelangelo had been straight the Sistine Chapel would have been painted basic white with a roller".

What a loss to mankind! The contribution of homosexuals to our world through the arts, science and literature is staggering. If we can acknowledge and accept their priceless gifts to us and their total humanity, let us also recognize, accept and respect their right to love.

The writer is a local resident who describes herself as "happily married," the mother of four young adults. She is also a 1984 university graduate with a Bachelor of Fine Arts.



Tom Cowtan of the Lions Club shows Cathy Porter of Sidney the way to some interesting sites on the Pender Islands. The cyclist was on her way to the archeological dig near the bridge. Tucker went for the ride.

Photo by Arent Smith

Pender sign aids visitors

Tom Cowtan and Elmer Bowerman of the Pender Islands Lions Club can look back to a summer in which they made life a little easier for quite a few visitors.

After encouragement late last year from John Stepaniuk of the highways department, the Lions proposed to erect a sign which could help visitors find their way around.

In March the decision to proceed was taken. Warren Moore got

busy on the map, Celeste Varley prepared the plaques and directions Jim Moebes built the roof while Elmer Bowerman and Tom Cowtan looked after the design arrangements and construction.

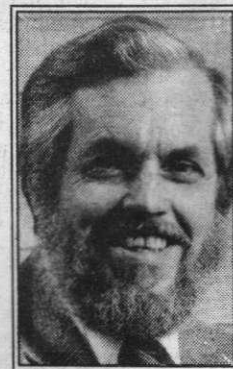
In April, the Pender Islands Legion branch agreed to assist in the financial aspect of the project, and further help came from Bill Norton, Peter Campbell, Don Fairweather, Gordon Dickin and others. Official unveiling took place in June.

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Islands Trust council looks back on 10 years

The Islands Trust is 10 years old. On the weekend members of the Islands Trust heard a brief resume of the Trust history and met an old friend. First appointed vice-chairman of the Trust and the first elected chairman, Marc Holmes of Salt Spring Island addressed the Islands Trust council at its quarterly meeting in the Pender school-community centre.

Chairman Mike Humphries introduced the anniversary.

He recalled the events which led up to the establishment of the Trust.

The regional districts, a county-style of local government, were introduced by then-municipal affairs minister Dan Campbell in 1965. The first four years were very uneventful, said the chairman, and so little was done in the realm of land use regulation that Campbell told the regions that if nothing were done he would do it for them.

From 1965 to 1969 the islands were under tremendous pressure, recalled Humphries. Many small-lot subdivisions were created. It was a period when outsiders saw the islands as not only a great place to live but as a great place to speculate on land. The islanders were learning of all the problems that accompany major development.

THE 10-ACRE FREEZE

In 1969 the minister imposed the 10-acre freeze, whereby no parcels might be divided into lots of less than 10 acres. He also recommended that an all-party committee be established to take a closer look at the islands.

The constant complaint at that time was that there was no local input into decisions regarding land-use regulation. There was still no effective land-use regulation in place in any of the islands. And development had been proceeding apace.

In 1974 the Islands Trust was born with the passing of the Islands Trust Act. The administration was to be through three appointed general trustees and two local trustees elected from each of the 13 designated islands.

The Islands Trust was a referral agency. It was empowered to review land-use regulations and to review all applications for change in use. But it worked in conjunction with the regional districts.

FIRST AMENDMENT

First amendment made to the original act was to establish a fund concept. Under this amendment the Trust would have been empowered to acquire land and to manage land given to it. The amendment was never implemented and the power never given to the Trust.

In 1977 further amendments eliminated the procedure of appointing general trustees and required that the general trustees be elected by the members from among their own number. The same amendment also provided that the Islands Trust was to be fully responsible for all land-use regulation in the islands as well as Crown leases.

Humphries told the meeting that he had introduced the matter of history in order to give a group of visitors from the American San Juan Islands some idea of the story of the Trust.

HE'S COMING BACK

He also noted that the same Dan Campbell who launched the Islands Trust will be coming back shortly to do an appraisal of his own invention.

The conditions which led up to the formation of the Trust were recognized by the Social Credit municipal affairs minister, Campbell. The Trust was established by the Barrett NDP government and the subsequent amendments to the act were

instituted by the new Social Credit government.

MARC HOLMES AND FRIENDS

Marc Holmes told his audience that he was back to address old friends. He recognized Mike Humphries as one of the original trustees and staffers Dave Morris and Mary Lee among the original Trust staff.

Holmes recalled that the Trust has been assaulted many times during its 10-year history. The price of freedom is vigilance, he warned.

When the legislative committee made its recommendation for an Islands Trust it had met with opposition, recalled the speaker. Jim Campbell, chairman at that time of the Capital Regional Board, objected to losing part of his authority, he added.

A referendum was presented in those early years by the Capital Regional Board, asking electors which they wanted to handle planning and land-use regulation, the Trust or the region. The islanders voted 2-1 in favor of the Islands Trust, said Holmes.

"FATHER OF THE TRUST"

In reviewing the past decade, Marc Holmes termed Hugh Curtis, islands MLA and the minister of finance, the "father of the Trust". He had been on both sides of the fence. Curtis was the original chairman of the Capital Regional Board and went on to become municipal affairs minister. He himself had been on both sides of the fence, added Holmes.

He served as regional director for Salt Spring Island before his appointment as general trustee and his subsequent election as chairman.

The three original general trustees were Hilary Brown, Marc Holmes and David Brousson. First chairmen of the Trust were Hilary Brown, of Hornby, followed by Holmes, of Salt Spring, and John Rich, of Bowen. Rich was invited to review his memories of the early years.

This was the last time he would speak to the Trust as a general trustee, said Rich. He will not seek re-election from the floor.

LITTLE CHANGE

The pattern has changed little, he told the council. The big problem in 1976 was why the minister would not sign the Bowen Island community plan. His first challenge when he assumed the chair was to ascertain why the minister would not sign the amendments to the Salt Spring Island community plan.

The meeting of the council was discussing at length the failure of the minister, this year, to sign various island community plan amendments.

In the formative years the Trust was not as harmonious as it has been in later years. The council met in the provincial museum in those days and members would line up on either side of the table and argue, recalled Rich. He could no longer remember what the argument was about.

Those days are gone. The trustees now recognize their common concerns and interests. The policies and the pattern to be followed by the Trust were identified in the regional plan, continued the former chairman.

"We have it written down, what we want to preserve and protect."

A NUMBER OF CHANGES

The passing years have brought about a number of changes. There is a marked improvement in dealings with government departments, he stated. That working relationship was lacking in earlier years. Trustees have recognized the necessity of working with other branches of government. This was evidenced a year or so ago when some politicians asserted that the Trust could not get



It was a leap back over the years for veteran trustee Marc Holmes when he took part in the Islands Trust council meeting at North Pender last weekend. The former

regional director, general trustee and chairman of the Trust from Salt Spring Island is seen renewing acquaintance with Trust staffer Mary Lee and, right, Peter

Campbell, North Pender local trustee, and the man in charge of the arrangements for the council meeting.

Driftwood photo by Frank Richards

along with government departments. When the statement was challenged by the Trust there was no one to substantiate it, he told the meeting.

The Trust has retained most of its public support, said Rich, and most islands recognize the value of the Trust. The highlight of the Trust history in terms of popular support was the abandonment of the land-use bill by the province. Under the terms of that bill the Islands Trust would have been eliminated. Rich cited the death of that bill and the survival of the Trust after province-wide support for retention of the

island planning function.

"Have we protected and preserved the islands?" asked Rich, rhetorically. It is a difficult question because it is impossible to tell what might have happened.

A BETTER COMMUNITY

The work has been frustrating at times, admitted the former chairman, but the trustees have worked to make the islands a better area for their children and for the future.

The improved working relationship with the islands is evident, said Humphries. He called

to mind an instance of poor relationships when a stink-bomb was released at one of the early organizational meetings.

"In most communities there is a real appreciation that the Trust goes to the islands to make a decision," he told the meeting. "They feel a part of it. We have always made a point of inviting people to speak and ask questions."

He cited public awareness as proof of the Trust's effectiveness. "In 1974 how many people knew what a zoning bylaw was?" he asked, "or what a community plan was?"

Stories by Frank Richards

Humphries identifies the problems

Where are the islands going?

On Friday trustees gathered for the quarterly council meeting of the Islands Trust and looked into the future with chairman Mike Humphries.

The present issues are the future problems.

Humphries identified a few. They were the points, he suggested, that will have to be dealt with if the Trust survives another 10 years.

He warned his colleagues that the order in which he presented his concerns is not necessarily the order of importance.

Garbage, sewage and toxic waste was the first to be considered. The pollution from garbage and sewage will mount up. It may not lie within the responsibilities of the Islands Trust, but all problems associated with wastes must be resolved.

DUMP IN WATERSHED

On Salt Spring Island, he observed, there is a garbage dump in the midst of a watershed area. On most islands these problems of quantity and quality are going to increase, he forecast.

It will be necessary to identify all sensitive areas on the islands for protection, he warned. This will be a chore on each island. When they have been identified the Trust will have to evolve means of protecting them.

Forest cover does not lie within the jurisdiction of the Trust, said

Humphries, but the council has still appointed a committee to examine this picture.

Forests are cut down to make room for housing or farming or for a logging project, said the chairman.

Transportation is destined to be an island problem, he forecast. It will be critical in the future of the islands. He recalled that a system of bridges has been proposed in the past.

QUESTION OF BRIDGES

"It wouldn't surprise me at all if the whole question of bridges were to arise again."

Humphries also noted that past efforts to have the islands involved in the establishment of ferry

schedules had not borne fruit.

Allied with transportation is the call for excessively high road standards, he continued.

"The department of highways is still requiring roads wholly out of line with islands needs."

The chairman also looked at land acquisition and the value of a land bank acquiring properties in the Trust name. Request to the minister for the implementation of the provisions in the Islands Trust Act for holding land is made every year, he told the meeting.

Trails systems are a positive step. There will be a call for such trails to connect features on every island, says Humphries.

Ross R. McKinnon B. Comm.

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THIS NEWSPAPER IS RECYCLABLE

Pollution of Magic Lake is warning

Watersheds must be protected, says Wallace

It was a warning of what happens to an unprotected watershed, said Gordon Wallace on Saturday. He was showing Islands trustees the two lakes on North Pender in the Magic Lakes subdivision, Magic Lake and Buck Lake.

General trustee Wallace explained that the two lakes were formed by dyking and the reservoirs

thus set up were planned for use as domestic water. In the case of Magic Lake properties surrounding the water used septic tanks for sewage disposal. The effluent reached the artificial lake and provided an excess of nutrients. The extensive alga growth was the result. Although the community is now served with a sanitary sewer the

effect on the lake has not been corrected.

The second, higher reservoir, Buck Lake, was protected by the provision of a sewer system and the lake is not polluted. It has been fenced off by the Capital Regional District and is not directly accessible by the public. Nevertheless, explained Wallace, the lake is used by residents for recreational

purposes. Investigation has proved that riparian rights may not be withdrawn for protection of water quality or any other reason. **CLEAN-UP COST \$250,000**

Wallace, who conducted a tour of the island for the benefit of visiting trustees, also reported that the cost of cleaning up Magic Lake has been assessed at \$250,000. The cost would be prohibitive to the community around that lake and there is no other source of funds.

He also told trustees that an assessment of water resources on the island assumes that as Magic Lakes subdivision builds up, both lakes will be needed to provide water, although the two together will be inadequate to serve all potential users when the subdivision is fully built up.

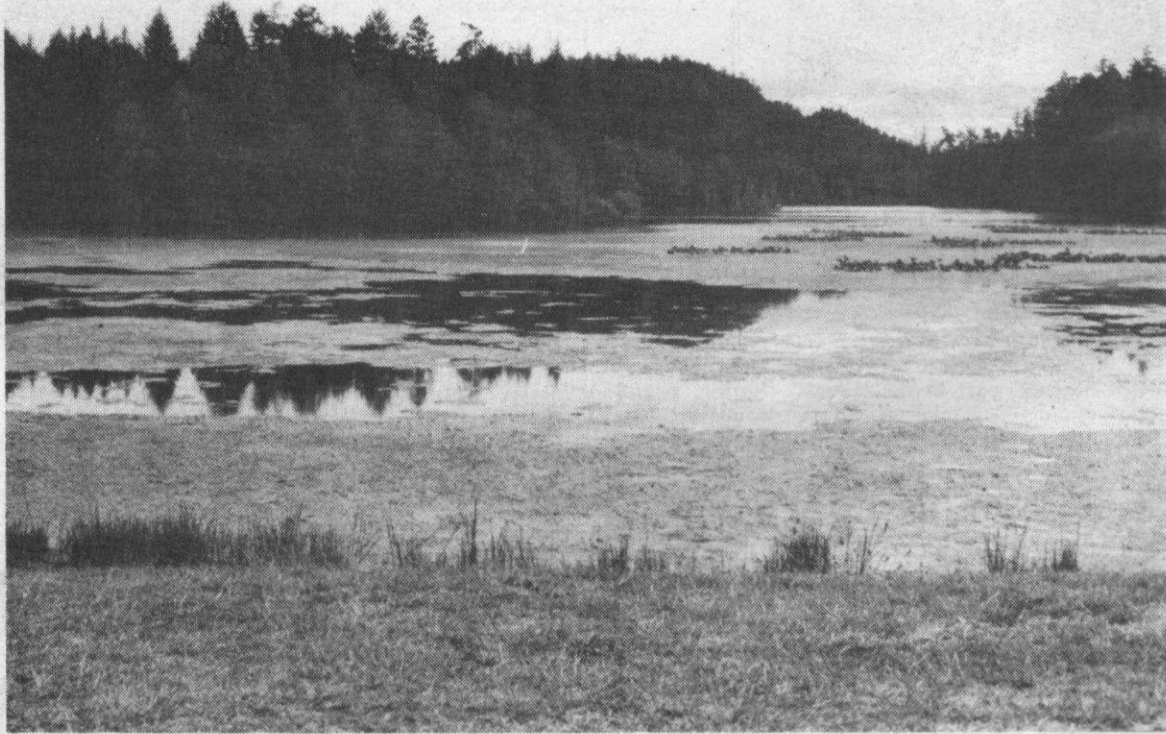
Lamb auction Saturday

Fifteen market lambs will be auctioned at the Salt Spring Island Fall Fair Saturday, a new event at the annual exhibition.

The auction is being staged by the island's 4-H Club and the lambs belong to club members. Spokesman Cindy Van Buskirk said all the money raised by the auction will go to the individual members and not the club. Members are seeking reserve bids on the lambs this week.

The animals will be auctioned on the hoof but the club will deliver them to a butcher if a buyer wishes.

The auction begins at 4 pm at the fair's sheep section.



Algae on Magic Lake at Pender

Driftwood photo by Frank Richards

Master gardener clinic Saturday

A master gardener information clinic will be offered at the Salt Spring Fall Fair Saturday.

Master gardener Tom Hall of Salt Spring Island will diagnose disease and insect samples and discuss any gardening subject. Solving plant problems is simplified if gardeners can show plant samples. A good sample is large enough to show several leaves and the leaf arrangement along the stem. The best samples are those in flower.

Questions the master gardener may have are:

—How old is the plant?

—When did you first notice the problem?

—Was it transplanted within the last year?

—Is the problem just on the old foliage, is it on the newest growth or is it everywhere?

—What garden products have you used recently?

—Are any other plants affected by the same problem, or just the one plant?

Hall will be available to answer questions between 10 am and 4 pm at the district horticultural exhibits at the Farmers' Institute building.

LIKE TO DANCE? & PARTY?

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Trustees debate government policies on planning

Trustees of the islands have expressed strong indignation at the changes taking place in planning and land-use regulation in the province.

Meeting on North Pender for two

days last week the Islands Trust council debated the government's new policy of permitting developers to go ahead with planned projects which do not conform with local planning requirements and other

government decisions which were seen as undermining the principle of community planning.

Trustees were presented with a copy of a letter from regional director Bruce Ellingsen to the

minister of municipal affairs. Ellingsen serves on the Comox-Strathcona Regional Board and his letter was sharply critical of the new bare land strata regulations.

ON CORTES ISLAND

He cited a development on Cortes Island which was sought two years ago contrary to the island's settlement plan. The project called for a bare land strata development

providing for 21 two-acre lots in an area zoned for 10-acre minimum lot sizes.

At that time regulations required that such developments conform with local plans.

Twice the courts upheld the local plan and denied the application to develop the lots in question, wrote Ellingsen.

Turn to Page 11



Trustees look over Magic Lake

Driftwood photos by Frank Richards



Islands Trust council is seen in the school community hall at Pender last weekend. Trustees from 13 islands took part in the deliberations. There were Trust staff members and families of delegates staying at Pender Lodge and

Bedwell Harbour Resort. A delegation from the American San Juan County stayed with Trust members on North and South Pender. The Penders advisory planning commissions also took part in the meetings.

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Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Music at the market

Members of the Salt Spring Folk Society were at the Ganges Farmers' Market Saturday entertaining market-goers with Celtic-flavoured music. The music-makers are, from left, Bruce Pearson, Michael Aronoff, Terry Warbey and Carol Young.

Preliminary enrolment figures show 1,162 students in island schools

There are at least 15 more children in the seven Gulf Islands schools this year.

The preliminary enrolment figures show that 1,162 children trooped through the doors of the schools on September 4. The figures for the end of September 1983 showed an enrolment of 1,147.

Salt Spring Elementary continued with the largest school population with 434 pupils enrolled. When the Fulford school opens in October, there will be 119 children attending there and 315 pupils in the Ganges school.

The September figures from last year showed an enrolment at Ganges of 428 pupils.

At Fernwood, there were 167 pupils in class for the first day. That figure compares with 168 last September.

On the Outer Islands, Galiano School showed an increase of six pupils for an enrolment of 53 compared to 46 a year ago.

At Mayne, there are 66 children in the elementary and junior secondary classes. Last year there were 65 children registered.

The Pender school held 76 pupils for the first day and last year there were 72. Saturna School showed a

decrease of three to 14 from the 17 children who were enrolled last year.

At Gulf Islands Secondary School, 352 students showed up for classes. Last year the figure was 351.

There are 74.1 full time equivalent (fte) teachers in the classrooms of the Gulf Islands schools. That figure breaks down as follows: GISS, 23.7 fte; Salt Spring Elementary, 24.4 fte; Fernwood, 9.7 fte; Mayne, 5.2 fte; Pender, 5.8 fte; Galiano, 3.6 fte; and Saturna, 1.7 fte.

When the Fulford school opens, it will be staffed with 7.3 fte teachers leaving 17.1 at Salt Spring Elementary School.

Water taxi policy to be discussed by school board

When the school trustees gather on Pender Island for the next school board meeting a subject of discussion will be a policy covering water taxi service.

Jeannine Dodds, school trustee for Mayne Island, offered the policy as a notice of motion at last week's meeting of the board.

The new policy covers water taxi service for Outer Islands students who board on Salt Spring while attending school as well as those students who commute each day to and from high school.

The students who board will be able to take advantage of the service Monday morning and Friday afternoon.

If the students are to commute

daily, a water taxi service request form must be filled out and submitted to the school board office before August 1 of each year.

Any change between boarding to daily use of the water taxi or vice versa must be approved by the principal and the conveyance committee. The request for change must be in writing.

The final policy statement covers conduct on the water taxi.

"Pupils will conduct themselves according to the standards established by the water taxi operator."

If a discipline problem arises, the student involved could be denied permission to use the water taxi service.

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Government policies debated

From Page 9

On May 16 of the current year the provincial cabinet issued an order in council relieving developers of the obligation of conforming to local planning regulations.

The Cortes Island development was legalized by this cabinet order.

Ellingsen compared the project with the Musgrave Landing development on Salt Spring Island.

HISTORY OF REGULATION

The regional director explained that the preparation of a community plan was required by the ministry of municipal affairs. He continued that the same ministry required the preparation of zoning bylaws to implement the guidelines in those plans. In some communities this was not carried out. Rather than require the community to bring its zoning bylaw up to community plan standards the ministry has thrown out the plan as far as developers are concerned.

"The only benefit from this rule change would appear to be a financial one to developers," wrote Ellingsen, "and this could be easily construed as outright political patronage."

Trustees were also presented with a copy of the minister's reply, in which he explained that the decision to relieve such developments of conforming to local plans was originally proposed in 1981 in the land-use act which was permitted to die.

CONFLICT

The measure was adopted because the Land Titles Act requires the approving officer to ensure that developments conform to the local plans and zoning bylaws. In cases where the plan and the bylaw conflict the officer was unable to make a decision.

The same measure will be introduced at the next session of the legislature, wrote the minister, to include all developments under the Land Titles Act.

The minister did not agree that the measure will transfer power further from local communities as Ellingsen had suggested.

The trustees last week also considered a number of bylaw rejections by the minister of municipal affairs.

The Islands Trust had its knuckles rapped for trespassing into realms beyond its jurisdiction. A letter from the deputy minister of municipal affairs, John Taylor, explained that the Trust may not legislate on the use of Crown land.

The Municipal Act does not

provide for a local government to define policy for the management of resources or the use of Crown lands and community plans must not include such references.

NOT DESIRABLE

The Trust has traditionally used community plans for the purpose of seeking cabinet endorsement of its opinions on how matters under senior government jurisdiction should be managed.

"The potential for misleading the public is great and can far outweigh the benefits," said Taylor.

For this reason the Lasqueti Island plan was rejected when it contained "detailed resource management prescriptions".

Other rejections by the minister included the watershed protection bylaw for Salt Spring Island. It was rejected on the grounds that increasing the minimum lot size is not the best way to protect watersheds.

The Denman Island amendment bylaw to the official community plan was rejected without any indicated reason, trustees learned, but it was believed to be related to the Trust's concern with mariculture.

NOT APPROPRIATE

Zoning bylaw on Lasqueti came back because it was considered that restricting a second dwelling to 400 square feet was not appropriate.

New zoning bylaw on Denman was thrown out on the grounds that the minister objected to mariculture, restrictive covenants and siting plans.

On North Pender the zoning amendment bylaw was sent back because the restriction of maximum heights was considered unnecessarily restrictive for commercial use. The Mayne Island zoning amendment bylaw came back with no reasons offered for its rejection.

After a half-hour workshop devoted to the problems of

community plans and rejected bylaws the Trust council decided to have the general trustees and representative local trustees seek an interview with Finance Minister Hugh Curtis, MLA for Saanich and the Islands, and the minister of municipal affairs, Bill Ritchie.

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to hear all complaints and correct and review the list of electors; and

- (a) may correct the names of electors incorrectly stated; or
- (b) may add the names of electors omitted from the list; or,
- (c) may strike out the names of persons from the list who are not entitled to vote or who are disqualified from voting; or
- (d) shall add to the list the name of any person qualified on August 31st to have his/her name entered on the list.

William M. Jordan,
Acting Secretary
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Volunteer help needed by community centre

The wide variety of services offered the community by the Salt Spring Community Centre would not be possible if it weren't for volunteers.

And once again the centre urgently needs men and women with some time to spare for sharing in some active and rewarding community involvement.

Among the areas where help is required are the following:

- Office assistants: involves answering telephones, making appointments, referrals and taking messages. A knowledge of community resources will be necessary and training will be given. Office skills would be a help, but not essential. Mornings.

- Librarians for both the resource and Women's Centre libraries. Checking returns, keeping track of books borrowed and keeping shelves in order. Time at volunteers' own choice.

- Child care aides: Providing interesting activities for pre-schoolers while mothers participate in Mother's Day Out. Three hours, two afternoons per week.

- Drivers for people of all ages needing transportation to clinics, appointments and community activities, etc. both on the island and in Victoria. Assistance is given with gas and ferry fare.

- Hostesses for drop-in centre for women. One afternoon per week.

- Group leaders for discussion groups on topics of interest to volunteer (books, films, etc.).

- Food bank assistants. Collecting and sorting food donations, packing grocery bags for distribution, etc. Approximately three hours weekly, time at volunteers' own choice.

Other positions arise from time to time and volunteers with ideas of their own for filling gaps in present service or in meeting new needs as they emerge would be welcome to present them.

There will be an information and orientation session for present and prospective volunteers at the centre on Monday, Sept. 24 from 1.30 - 3.30 p.m. and anyone interested is invited to register by telephone at the centre.

As one of the centre's volunteers noted, "the value of the volunteer is inestimable and the reward in personal satisfaction is great."

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Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

It's not Macdonald's

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Why not separate section for organic fruit, vegetables?

We have a new bunch of weeds in the carrot patch. It seems as if all the carrots got together and chose their favourites from the multitude of eagerly available weeds. It was quite a fascinating spectacle actually, to see the aspiring weeds fight for dominance with shading leaf, spiky thorn and sneaking tendrils.

A new, low-growing green weed, one I have never seen before, made a brave beginning before it was smothered by an overwhelming avalanche of thistles; at least it tried and it seemed as if it had the sympathy of a few carrots anyway. Now that the new thistles have won dominance, their first concern is the purging of the patch of its former weeds as the thistles and their runners muscle mercilessly into the rich soil of the carrot patch.

Seed heads are rolling, root zones are being invaded and the poor condition of the carrots is being laid at the roots of the former weeds, with some justification, I might add. Therefore, the carrots are being asked to tighten their roots once more, to forego their water, sun and nutrients in favour of the thistles, so

that these may grow ahead to protect the carrots from the rampant growth of over fertilization, under-utilization of the soil, and particularly, to protect the capital carrots against the sinister threats of the red carrots in the eastern part of the patch.

MORE ANEMIC

Curiously enough, the red carrots in the eastern patch are in similar Dire Straits, and even more anemic than the western kind, if that is possible. Intrigued by the similarity of the thistles in both patches and the incongruity of this situation, I searched my dictionary for enlightenment on this strange state of affairs and found that the thistles of the western patch are of the genus "Onopodium Capitalosum, var. Ripusalloffii", and that the eastern thistles are of the genus "Onopodium Communis, var. rip-everyoneofftotalii".

(It comes as a bit of a surprise that this forceful combination of my two most unfavourite subjects, fractal mathematics and Latin, should be so much fun all of a sudden). Anyway, digging deeper into this unnatural situation, I found that the thistles have established an extensive network of underground runners between the two patches, one as bent to infiltrate each other's domicile as the other.

It seems that the thistles bring out the worst in each other and are far more concerned with their own well-being than with anything else, and much less with the anemic state of the carrots, bent as they are, on wholesale carroticide. I shall have to do some weeding, methinks.

Further in the matter of thistles, and before you consign this article to the compost pile (this paper may be recycled), we have a bit of good news. Jim Kay's fantastically monumental thistle has been identified by Bill Hoopfer, our expert on fancy dahlias and other matters green, as "Onopordum Arabicum", native to the Mediterranean. I cannot elaborate further on this matter, as my dictionary, perhaps mercifully, excludes this stately representative of thistledom.

IT'S NOT PERFECT

Also, a correction is in order regarding my statement in a recent column to the effect that our

Farming and Gardening

BY PETER WEIS

produce is perfect. This it is not, by any means, it is just perfectly healthy, and we do have our share of exuberantly inventive and, perhaps not surprisingly, crippled carrots, as well as other wonderfully lopsided specimens of produce not fit for the steely-eyed scrutiny of the Fall Fair judges.

Nevertheless, we shall sift our assorted vegetables for the rare examples of formal perfection, to present these, heart in mouth and with a warm and quiet pride in our green offspring, to the searching eye of perfection on the judging platter. Win or not, it does not matter, and to paraphrase a saying of a more primitive age: "Any vegetable is a good vegetable." And the same goes for fruit, of course.

With this attitude it may be understood that I would be severely handicapped as a judge, as I only see blue-ribbon produce where more discerning eyes would see something else, or nothing at all. In any case, there is that excitement and satisfaction which only comes with growing and participating, and the

inimitable down-to-earth flavour of our Fall Fair.

In this regard it has occurred to me, since we have a natural food section in the baking contest, that there might be some interest in adding an organically grown section to the fruit and vegetable displays. If

there should prove to be sufficiently strong support for this idea, let's do it. (A recent consumer poll in California revealed that 93% of supermarket shoppers would prefer to buy organically grown food.

Make your wishes known to the Fall Fair committee.

Phillip Swift

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District to rent teacherage

The teacherage on Saturna Island will be made available for rent but the prospective tenant will have to cover repairs to the building.

The Gulf Islands School Board decided last week to rent the teacherage after an inquiry about its rental had come to the board. The prospective tenant explained that he had stayed in the house and was willing to repair it.

Frank Sutherland, supervisor of works for the school district, had checked the building and found that some work is needed.

He told the school trustees that the bathroom needs renovation, the plumbing needs checking, the hot water heater needs replacing and the roof leaks.

The cost of repairs would come to close to \$500, he said.

The tenant would also be responsible for maintenance of the building, the trustees decided.

The property had been part of a swap which the school board had arranged recently. The other property is near the school and when this lot became available, the swap was made. The property adjoins the school grounds.

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Gulf Islands School District BOARDING HOMES ON SALT SPRING ISLAND

Boarding homes will be required for September 1984 for Outer Island pupils who will be attending the Senior Secondary School at Ganges.

Pupils are boarded from Mondays after school until Friday morning, and normally they return to their homes for weekends and school holidays.

Financial and placement arrangements for this service will be made with the boarding home by the parents of the boarding student(s).

Further information may be obtained by calling 537-5548.

37-1

Musgrave Landing—Help Wanted

Our counsel needs your help.

Order-in-Council 918 was a blow below the belt to local control of development on the islands, but a different court action is being planned to challenge the proposed development at Musgrave Landing.

Affidavits will be prepared by counsel from information provided by individuals with first hand knowledge of and concern for this area, especially if you have any expertise in soil erosion, forestry, hiking, botany, marine biology, middens, water resources and sewage facilities, or planning. Boaters who know and use the harbour could help by giving their views on the impact of a 25-berth private marina on the limited water area of the small harbour in terms of shutting out the growing general boating public.

Write a letter describing what you know of the harbour and surrounding area, including, if possible, what it was like in the past, your impressions of its present state, the impact of lumbering and erosion on it, for example, and your

opinion of the effect of the proposed development on soil, trees, public access, etc.

We also need statements from people who have been familiar with the Musgrave road in the past and have noted the amount of work done in the past year which the government claimed was "routine maintenance" but which is apparently now regarded by Highways itself as reason to remove the restrictive road covenant on subdivision which was required of the developers in its previous preliminary approval.

Counsel will draft your affidavit using the information you provide. You don't have to appear in court. The prepared document is sent to you for approval and you can sign it before a notary.

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Brinkworthy Place

Mobile home park plans 17 homes in first phase of development

The mobile home park north of Ganges is getting a new name and a new look as its new owners prepare for an additional 17 homes on the property.

Brinkworthy Place, which is now owned by a group of Salt Spring Island businessmen, contains 26 homes at present while the potential of the property, which is 35 acres in total, is for about 130 homes.

But one of the problems facing the developers, according to Jock

Volkommer, is the stigma surrounding mobile home, or trailer parks.

Volkommer is the manager of Brinkworthy Place and president of the company that owns it. He emphasized in an interview last week that quality is foremost in his mind, and uses Summergate, a park near Sidney, as an example of what he wants.

Brinkworthy Place will be an adult-oriented park with homes being supplied by Chaparral Homes of Kelowna. They're not really mobile homes, said Volkommer, but manufactured homes. They use gyproc for wall covering, two by six exterior walls and they're fully insulated.

Residents of the park will purchase a home and lease the lot on which to put it. The homes come in various sizes and styles and prices range from \$48,000 to \$85,000. Long-term lease on the lots, which average 3,700-4,000 square feet, will cost \$200 per month. Property tax and water are paid for by the owners of the park.

The homes, which "look nothing like" the old mobile homes or trailers, will be placed on a concrete foundation. That will eliminate the need for steps, an advantage for older people.

Volkommer described Chaparral's homes as "top of the line" and noted that the company offers flexibility to get away from uniformity.

"We can make changes to the homes so that not one home will look like another one."

All services will be underground at Brinkworthy Place, and it will have paved roads and storm sewers. Development plans also call for upgrading the existing park area.

Sewage disposal for the 17 new homes will employ a biodisc treatment plant followed by ground disposal. Volkommer said extensive percolation tests were conducted on the property and that a pocket of land with very high percolation was found. The waste management branch laid down "some very stringent requirements" for sewage disposal.

Another phase of the development calls for an activity centre. What it will offer will depend on the wants of the residents.

Volkommer feels there will be a good market for the homes, particularly among older people unable to maintain a two, three or five-acre lot.

Subsequent development of the property will be undertaken in phases over several years.

Workshop with Victoria artist

When the Salt Spring Island Painters' Guild holds a painting workshop in the near future with Brian Johnson, F.C.A., of Victoria, participants will be studying with a man of very wide experience.

A native of Victoria, Johnson graduated with distinction from Art Centre College in Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Professional Arts Degree. He returned to Victoria and has taught and exhibited extensively there and in Vancouver and surrounding areas.

He has been accepted for exhibit by the American Watercolor Society in New York and the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolor.

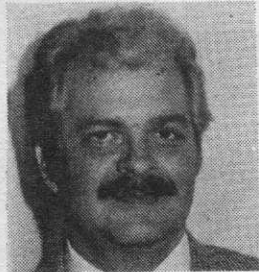
Paintings by Johnson hang in the permanent collection of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria and the Shell Oil Co. corporate collection.

Johnson will be teaching in Ganges on September 22 and 23. Non-members may attend. For information and registration call Libby Jones by September 15.

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