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TWENTY-NINTH YEAR, NO. 17

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1988

50¢

Crews lose bid —again

The provincial government has again rejected a bid by Southern Vancouver Island highways ministry employees — a group including those on the Gulf Islands — to take over bridge and road maintenance work about to be privatized in the region.

The decision was made last week in Victoria following a government committee's review of its earlier decision to refuse the proposal made by the employee group. The review had been requested by the employee group after notice was first received that its bid was turned down.

The province's decision means the local contract is now open to proposals from private-sector individuals and companies, according to Peter Clark, Victoria's liaison between the province's privatization committee and contract bidders. Last weekend, the province ran advertisements inviting private-sector parties to tender offers for the Southern Vancouver Island bridge and road maintenance contract.

Clark said Monday his office has already fielded enquiries about the contract. "We've had a number of interested parties in," he said.

At the same time as private-

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Grounded

Fernwood youngsters (from left) Frances Millerd, Peter Millerd, Elfi Weir, Vanessa Peacock and Tessa Cameron are quick to check out the latest addition to Fernwood School playground. Installation of the big

blue boat was just one activity undertaken at the school Sunday, when several parents participated in a playground work party.

Deceased island man led solitary life

By SUSAN DICKER

The death of Harry Marsden, discovered two weeks ago some five months after the fact, has stunned Salt Spring Islanders. Many people in the community are wondering how Marsden's body could remain undiscovered in his Fulford-Ganges Road home for that length of time.

The 67-year-old was found in

his home by police after calls from Marsden's overseas relatives prompted an investigation.

Police report Marsden suffered from cancer and had no hope of recovering. He lived a reclusive lifestyle and apparently did not go out of his way to meet people.

Yet many islanders wonder how a man, living in a relatively small community of about 6,000 people, could die without his

death being discovered for five months.

Another question being asked is when do agencies such as the post office, B.C. Tel, B.C. Hydro, even Health and Welfare Canada — which supposedly keep a strict watch on those of our affairs they are involved with — begin questioning such a situation?

Marsden's mail, which presumably contained several

month's worth of Canada Pension cheques, was backed up at the post office, while both his telephone and hydro services remained connected.

Ganges postmaster Fred Smidt-Nielsen said it is not unusual for residents to leave Salt Spring in the winter months without informing the post office of their whereabouts — and

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Funding provided for Fernwood expansion

Approval for funds to expand Fernwood Elementary School has been received by the Gulf Islands School District.

Board chairman David Eyles said Monday the provincial government has agreed to finance the construction of additions to the school, which suffers from overcrowding.

"It looks like we'll be able to spend half a million dollars to ease the crowding there," Eyles said.

The local school board had repeatedly pressed the education ministry for funds to build an addition at Fernwood, but the request has just as repeatedly been denied.

"We'd put it in as a priority, go through all of the hoops and get nothing," Eyles said. "But we pushed again, and this time they listened."

Fernwood School was originally built to accommodate 50 kindergarten students and 125 students

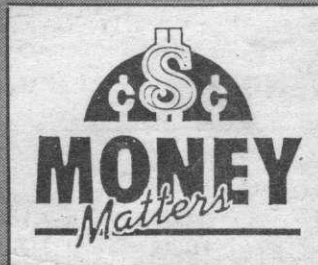
from grades one through seven. Student enrollment figures as of March 31 listed 29 kindergarten students and 173 elementary grade students.

Eyles said the next step for the school board is to bring in an architect and plan the extent of the Fernwood addition. Additional washroom facilities are a priority, and the remainder of the expansion could include two more classrooms, increased library space, an expanded gymnasium and more administrative space.

The school district would like to start construction as soon as possible, Eyles added, but it is unlikely that the project would be completed before late fall.

The request for funds for the Fernwood addition was at the top of the school district's priority list. Also on that list is a request to the province for \$144,000 for another expansion at Fulford School, where substantial growth in student numbers has also caused crowding.

INSIDE

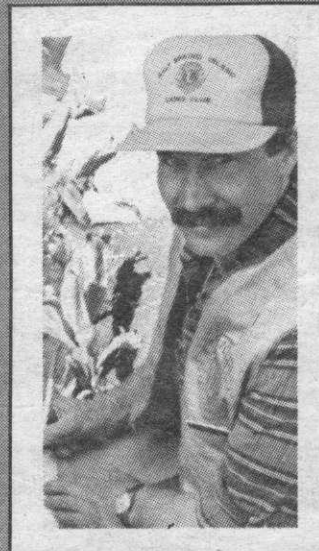


Your finances

Investment advice is featured in Money Matters, Page A18.

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Adding up

Salt Spring's Lions Club last week donated \$3,000 to the local Job-Trac program, bringing its total contribution up to \$6,000 and taking the fundraising campaign closer to its goal of \$64,000. Page A11.

Fish & Wildlife to keep watch on eco reserve

Fish and Wildlife officers from Duncan said last week they intend to keep a close watch on logging activity near Mt. Tuam on Salt Spring Island.

Officer Ken Broadland told Driftwood the provincial government agency is concerned that debris from logging operations may find its way onto the adjacent ecological reserve. A creek running through the reserve could carry the debris down from the higher slopes where logging is underway, he explained.

The Mt. Tuam property, a 602-acre parcel, is being logged by Pepperbrook Retreats Ltd. Owner Murray Cyprus earlier applied for permission to haul the cut timber through the ecological reserve, but was refused.

Cyprus maintains that the property's steep eastern slope, which borders the reserve, makes it impossible for logging trucks to remove timber along a road entering the land from the north. He was seeking use of a tradition-

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Solitary life led by islander

From Page A1

without having someone retrieve their mail.

He added that many pensioners do not need their monthly cheques immediately and often let them pile up.

"We didn't know who he was," Smidt-Nielsen said, explaining that the Ganges post office might have questioned Marsden's prolonged absence if employees knew, for example, that he picked up his mail at a certain time and was unlikely to travel.

At B.C. Tel, a spokesman in the accounts office said Marsden's bills had never been returned and therefore, the corporation had not disconnected his phone. The woman said the phone would have been disconnected from the central office, without anyone attending Marsden's home, should that step have been taken.

A spokesman at B.C. Hydro in Vancouver said Marsden had an excellent credit rating with the corporation. He paid his bills through a monthly budget plan, and had accumulated credit. In mid-February Marsden was in arrears for a small amount of money. However, because his credit rating remained high, there was "no reason for (B.C. Hydro) to think there was anything out of the ordinary," the spokesman said.

The corporation also said that had it suspected anything unusual, it would not have let the situation continue for five months. In that event, someone would have been sent to the Marsden residence.

Police sources said Marsden moved to Salt Spring in 1985. He was never married and chose to live a secluded, solitary life.

"It was his chosen life-style," Const. Jim Harrison said. "He didn't go out of his way to meet people."

According to reports, Marsden's lung cancer was inoperable. Because of that, he had refused treatment and failed to appear for appointments at clinics made on his behalf by the local Cancer Society.

Betsy Dosco of the local Cancer Society notes that agreeing to have treatments is the individual patient's choice. If the patient refuses, that is his or her right.

Marsden made several choices that left his death undiscovered for so many months. His fate may also point out that, contrary to the belief that a so-called Big Brother watchdog traces our every move, personal well-being comes down to individual choices.



Breaking ground

First off the new boat-launching ramp at Harbour's End is Darryl Georgeson's wooden speedboat, the *Vapour Trail*. The 17-year-old vessel is the only one of

its kind—especially built for withstanding bad weather. Georgeson, who was instrumental in designing the *Vapour Trail*, is the boat's third owner.

Privatization

Highways workers denied contract bid

From Page A1

sector companies prepare bids, he added, the employee group is welcome to submit another proposal. If that proposal falls with five per cent of private sector offers, it will be considered on par.

The initial offer made by the district employee group said it had 82 members willing to put up \$10,000 each towards funding a local bridge and road maintenance company. Counting financing being arranged through a bank, the group said it could count on \$5 million to purchase highways ministry assets and launch operation of the company.

The structure of the company

placed emphasis on the local service level, with a minimal number of administrators.

That structure, plus questions about financing, led the privatization committee to reject the employee bid.

Former local highways roads foreman John Stepaniuk, who co-ordinated presentation of the district bid, said the province's decision has left many employees disillusioned.

He added that some members of the employee group have expressed the feeling that their bid was taken seriously, but not seriously enough.

Closed Saturday, Apr. 30

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28	0235	9.8	2	0330	9.8
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TH	1540	8.3	MO	1900	10.2
	2040	6.2		2330	8.6
29	0245	9.7	3	0345	9.8
	0935	3.8		1125	.8
FR	1630	8.8	TU	1955	10.4
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HARBOUR'S END MARINE & EQUIPMENT

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Reserve land to be watched

From Page A1

al road which crosses the reserve and could be linked to his property.

Broadland said the Fish and Wildlife office plans to make regular checks of the ecological reserve, and to use a helicopter to watch the logging operation from the air. He said he will be watching to ensure that no road connections are made between the reserve and the Mt. Tuam property.

"It would be difficult to do anything up there without the neighbours knowing," he said in reference to log hauling, "but it is conceivable that a road could be punched in and no one would know."

Broadland added that logging on the Mt. Tuam parcel is expected to open up the area for hunters, and that his office is expecting an increase in night-time shooting of deer. Pit-lamping, in which lights are used to "freeze" a deer in its tracks, is an offence under hunting regulations.

"Because of this development, the island is going to require our services," Broadland said.

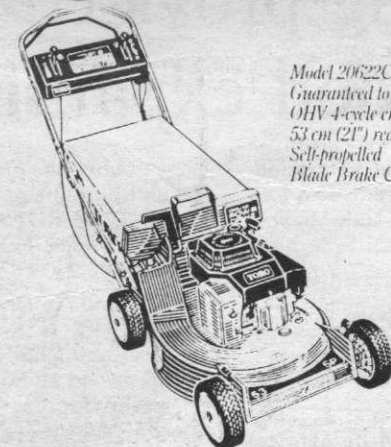
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to be frank

by richards

They sent me here as a punishment. When I was young and irresponsible I was faced with a series of problems, all of my own making. I was awaiting one charge by my military superiors and a whole host of others for driving offences. And I ran away to be transported to the military establishment overseas. That's how I ended up on Salt Spring Island. It was that or face the music, and I didn't go much on the military rhythm.

Throughout my military service I found myself at odds with the pattern of operation. I didn't take kindly to doing what I was told when I was told by whoever might tell me. At the same time I stuck my neck out on too many occasions. It's still red!

I had an argument with a senior non-commissioned officer. So bitter was our disagreement that he submitted an unflattering report about me. That was routine. I, then, would retaliate and submit an adverse report in my own defence. That was dynamite.

"You realize that this makes it automatically a court martial case?" asked my long suffering commanding officer. What would be, would be and the processes of military law were set into motion.

The more regular problems were oddities. Either I stuck my neck out or I was just out of luck.

Like the morning I lost my car.

I was serving in the happy rank of corporal at that time. In fact, I was only twice promoted beyond it and each time I went up in the morning and was demoted in the afternoon. With my "oppo" (one of the odd RAF slang expressions meaning "buddy") I borrowed a car and went to a party in the local town. It was a wild, wartime party. During the course of the evening my buddy asked for the keys to the car and I gave it no further thought until about seven o'clock when we

had to get back to the station. No car!

The oppo in question could remember nothing and I suggested he call the police. He couldn't, he explained. He had lost his license. So I collected the car and several driving charges. The car was left

'I would retaliate and submit an adverse report in my own defence. That was dynamite.'

with the motor running; two offences in wartime; the lights were left on and it was obstructing traffic. All kind of petty, but they added up. The question of morality was never raised.

Within a week we went to another party, after driving around for the evening. I had a blow-out. Tires were not easy to keep in condition. The same buddy and I ended up at another local house. It was another good evening that ended at about 7 am.

Again, no car! This time there was no mystery—we knew where it was. Our hostess, whom we had met for the first time that evening, offered us the use of her car, which we accepted. I dropped my civilian brother and backed out to the road. As we approached the road a cyclist saw the lights, applied his brakes and tumbled over the handlebars. We picked him up off the road and called the attention of the staff of an adjacent hotel. We couldn't stay because we had to be in before eight.

Next day the local police

sergeant was in attendance. He had a report that a cyclist had been involved in an accident and that I had left the scene. My first reaction was indignation and my second was mystification.

Was I driving a car at this place? Yes.

My license? No problem.

Car license? I didn't know, it wasn't my car.

Whose car was it? It belonged to a young blonde from Berkhamstead.

What was her name? I didn't know.

The officer was obviously convinced that I was fabricating a story as I went along. He told me he didn't believe me.

That brought me to a charge for leaving the scene of an accident, and driving without insurance, because I could produce no evidence that the car was insured. I was also booked for failing to show that the car was licensed and some other shortcoming I can no longer recall.

The only offence which was straightforward came a few days later. I was driving an elderly sedan and following a crony in a sports car. He went round the corner cleanly and I developed a howl from the tires as I followed.

I was flagged down to get a ticket for careless driving.

Within days I was debating my problems with my commanding officer.

"I can get you clear quicker than you know," he told me. "Just ask for a posting overseas and you'll not hear any more of courts or courts martial."

I explained that I was eager to try service overseas and here I am, serving out my time.

I reckon I'm the last British felon to be transported rather than be hanged.

Heron egg swap aims to validate dioxin links

A Canadian Wildlife Service project recently swapped eggs from a great blue heron colony near Crofton with those from a colony in the Lower Mainland.

The purpose of the swap, the Wildlife Service says, is to try to determine what caused the failure of the Crofton colony to produce any chicks last year.

Sixty pairs of herons were counted at the colony last year, and although each nest usually contains three or four eggs, none hatched. An analysis of the egg fragments later turned up traces of 2,3,7,8-TCDD — a dioxin

described as one of the most toxic known to man, and a substance the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says is generated by pulp mills.

To try to determine whether the dioxin was responsible for the failure of the Crofton heron colony to produce chicks, the Canadian Wildlife Service swapped some of its eggs with those from a relatively "clean" colony in South Delta. Another heron colony, on the University Endowment Lands in Vancouver, also had some of its eggs swapped.

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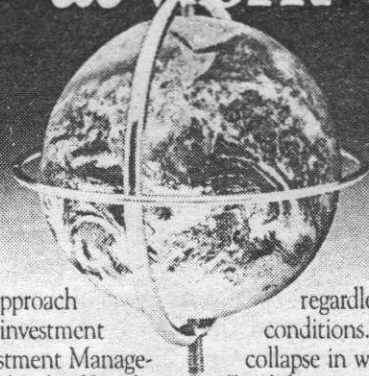
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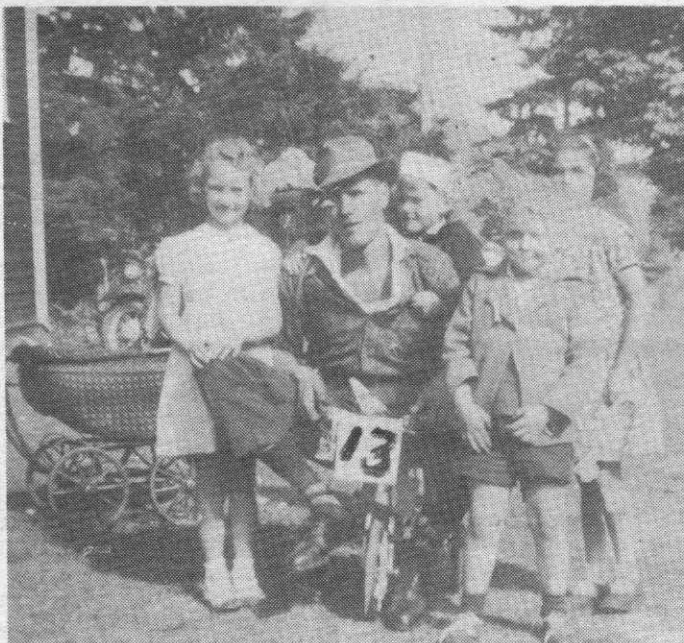


NOTICE

BURNING PERMITS REQUIRED for ALL fires... MAY 1-OCT. 15, 1988

Get your permit at the Ganges Fire Hall.

"HARRISON RIDES AGAIN"



Happy Birthday, Luke!

Selection date set

The newly-formed Progressive Conservative riding association for Saanich-Gulf Islands is poised to select its candidate for the next federal election campaign.

The association will meet on Sunday, May 15, at Claremont School at 3980 Wesley Road in Saanich. Eligible to cast ballots are association members in good standing as of April 29, 1988.

Saanich-Gulf Islands is a new federal riding set to come into effect on July 14, 1988. It has been carved from two existing ridings — Esquimalt-Saanich, and Cowichan-Malahat-the Islands.

Jim Manly (NDP), the MP for Cowichan-Malahat-the Islands, has said he will not seek his party's nomination in the new riding. Pat Crofton (PC), the MP for Esquimalt-Saanich, is the only candidate so far to declare an intention to seek his party's nomination in the new riding.

At the Progressive Conservative's nominating meeting on May 15, guest speaker will be MP Pat Carney, the president of the treasury board and former minister of international trade.

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But no blame can be attached

Undiscovered death a Salt Spring tragedy

The circumstances surrounding the death of Salt Spring resident Harry Marsden are indeed tragic, but they do not amount to an indictment of the community as uncaring or of various official agencies as being less vigilant than we should expect.

Briefly, the circumstances are this: Marsden, an island resident for two years, died between five and six months ago, but his body was not found in his Fulford-Ganges Road home until about two weeks ago by local police officers who had been asked by Marsden's relatives to investigate his absence.

In the wake of that discovery, a hum of local voices has asked the obvious questions: how could someone remain dead for five-plus months on Salt Spring (still a comparatively small community) with no one the wiser, and why couldn't someone have done something?

The answers are not as cut-and-dried as the questions. By all accounts, Marsden was a loner who chose to live a sequestered lifestyle. As a relative newcomer to Salt Spring, he could be expected to know few people. More than that, the word is the deceased actively declined companionship.

Don't forget that Salt Spring enjoys a tradition of privacy-seekers—enough of them, in fact, to leave the rest of the population aware that when someone asks to be left alone, the request is respected.

All right, then, what about the so-called official agencies like B.C. Tel and the post office and B.C. Hydro? Couldn't they have done something?

Hardly. There was nothing out-of-the-ordinary in the circumstances surrounding Marsden's absence, at least as far as those agencies and traditional island lifestyles are concerned. By itself, a growing pile of mail is not unusual enough to arouse suspicions, and the deceased's glowing credit rating was such that no one else panicked over accounts slightly in arrears.

It should also be remembered that the majority of us do not welcome close attention being paid to us by, say, B.C. Hydro or B.C. Tel when we are



alive. Why should it be any different in death?

In fact, it seems hypocritical to expect those agencies to remain at arm's length most of the time, then to leap into the middle of someone's affairs the moment a hint arises of unnatural or suspicious circumstances. No agency can enjoy that degree of foresight, or that much freedom to interfere.

In the final analysis, Harry Marsden's story is certainly tragic. However, his death could not have been prevented, and only hindsight hints that perhaps one more query here or question there might have led to his reaching a proper burial spot in less than five months.

If there is a lesson in all of this, it is that the privacy Harry Marsden sought was in part responsible for his fate—not that the community as a whole or a government agency in particular should shoulder any measure of blame or censure for what happened.

And if some belated good is to come out of this, perhaps it will be that many of us are now more aware of the type of tragedies that can sometimes occur in a small but privacy-respecting community. If it can teach us how to be vigilant without being overbearing or interfering, so much the better.

Proliferation of causes means shortage of days

It was a good week for weeks and months, but not for days.

Let me explain: in the deluge of paper that passes for my mail call, I receive a regular diet of announcements that this particular week or that certain month has earned a special designation worthy of widespread notice.

Some of these designations are well known: April, for instance, is cancer awareness month, and February is heart month. We also have Canadian forestry week (in May) and national summer safety week (also in May).

Others are less well-known, particularly in the food department. According to my mail call, we have something called nation-

al hot dog month (can a special week for pepperoni be far behind?) and something else again called Canadian fish week. There is also cheese month or day: I can't recall which.

This is only the tip of the iceberg, though. Memory tells me that National Secretaries' Day is fast approaching, and I know the Canadian optometrists had their month earlier this year, and I seem to recall something about a provincial be-kind-to-someone day tossed in there somewhere. You get the idea.

Anyway, my beef (the month for beef is in summer, I think) is not with the legitimacy of any of these foodstuffs, ailments or oc-

my word

by

duncan macdonnell

cupations seeking exposure or recognition as a legitimate day, week or month. My concern is there are now so many interests chasing fewer and fewer time slots that one can no longer keep track of what day it really is. Or week, or month.

The overlap is so severe, in fact, that during any given week we are asked to pay homage to

several competing interests. Who's to know whether it was eggs, rheumatism or accountants who first laid claim to the space, and hence deserve our full attention? I get the mail, and I can't keep them straight.

One possible answer that springs immediately to mind is to call for the creation of a national government office to co-ordinate the special designations. Let the office assign the days, weeks and months on a first-come, first-serve basis, and leave that space reserved for one group or interest only.

There are a few problem with that suggestion, however. One is that favourites are bound to be

played among interest groups seeking the high-prestige months instead of the lesser weeks or days. The lobbying could be fierce, and the fallout a threat to national unity.

Another is that there are no longer enough days, weeks and months to satisfy all of the groups and interests bound to seek a slot.

The last problem is of the greatest concern. With a shortage of designation times, more will need to be created. National heritage hour, perhaps? Canadian minute steak minute? Got a second somewhere for socks?

The mere thought of the increase in mailed-in announcements has already boggled my

Sanctity

Sir,
I write specifically on the subject of the ecological reserve below Mt. Tuam, the application to haul logs across the reserve and the subsequent denial of this application by the provincial government.

I hope that Messrs. Cyprus and Dorman are not misjudging the mood of islands on the sanctity of the ecological reserve. The opposition to the application with not only support, but insistence that the government uphold and enforce its own legislation comes not from "the whims of the few," to quote Mr. Dorman, but from a numerous cross-section of people of all ages and backgrounds. This should be borne in mind before any rash action is contemplated.

Mr. Cyprus has made various offers as incentives to support his application; however, an entrepreneur who does not take the trouble to ensure that he (and his contractor) respect the boundaries of an existing park (in the recent case of Arnell Park) before commencing operations does not exactly inspire confidence. This sloppy, cavalier attitude antagonized me right away.

In closing I should add that I have lived on this island for 30 years and have seen many controversies come and go, but this is the first time I have felt that I should write a letter to the editor.
DENNIS SEWARD,
Ganges.

Reminder

Sir,
More than 10,000 Canadian workers have been killed in Canada's workplaces in the past decade. Millions of others have suffered injuries, leaving them permanently or temporarily disabled. In 1982 alone, the most recent year for which firm figures are available concerning the tragedy that is played out in our nation's workplaces, more than one million work injuries were

reported. Nearly half of these were disabling.

Work-related fatalities, injuries and disease accounted for 15.8 million lost workdays in Canada in 1981. The economic costs of such incidents has been estimated by Labour Canada to be as high as \$20 billion each year.

What of the human costs? A policeman killed on the job is mourned publicly, but the workplace death of a hydro lineman, an industrial worker, a truck-driver, or countless others who also serve society, goes almost unreported and the only mourners are a small circle of family, friends and co-workers.

In keeping with the establishment by the Canadian Labour Congress of April 28 as labour's official day of recognition for workers killed, injured or disabled on the job, CUPE Local 788 asks that your newspaper acknowledge this fact by printing this letter in the newspaper.

This would serve as a reminder of the need for safe and healthy workplaces and also serve as an incentive to all citizens to achieve this end.

DOROTHY M. KYLE,
President,
CUPE Local 788,
Ganges.

Honoured

Sir,
When I shared some of Con Farrell's last hours with him this past March 31, little did I know who he was. Con was a member of a group of very few but select and courageous bush pilots. They were the men who opened up the vast north country.

One of my friends who had known Con back in aviation days had told me Con had risked his life many, many times. On one occasion Con had flown through a blizzard at 50 degrees below zero, in an old Fokker just to get a turkey to the Hudson's Bay post in the Arctic so that the folks there

letters

could have a turkey dinner for Christmas and not be disappointed.

There are many wonderful stories and books that have been written on Con. And I feel honoured to have spent a few of his last hours with this famous man, and to be able to share that with his old friend, La Rue Smith.

JOANNE POLLARD,
Ganges.

Surprises

Sir,
Off Centre Stage is hosting a gala entertainment evening Saturday, May 14 at 8 pm, with the proceeds going to Off Centre Stage itself. We have just signed a new two-year lease for its premises.

Arvid Chalmers and Mike Hayes will oversee a goods and services auction featuring a dazzling variety of donated items from the community.

In addition, local musicians will perform in the bistro atmosphere at the start of the night, and at intermission. Delicious and decadent refreshments will be available.

Doors open at 7:30 pm for viewing of the items to be auctioned, the program of the evening getting underway at 8 pm.

A number of surprises are planned. Admission is free. The cause is worthy; the fun is guaranteed. Come on down.

MAGGIE HAYES,
Off Centre Stage,
Ganges.

Way of life?

Sir,
The most interesting news item in your esteemed paper in recent weeks was about the discovery of a man who had been dead in his home for five months. Presumably he was not living in a cave or where people did not walk.

Whatever the place, questions arise. Did he have any friends or acquaintances on the island who

missed him and wondered what happened? Did his neighbours wonder? Did they look into his place to see if he was there? How can a person drop out of existence in a populated area, even so sparse as some parts of the island, and not be missed by somebody?

Having lived here for several years, I think I can venture an answer to all these questions. I live in a fairly populated area at the edge of the island. In our neighbourhood people die — we had about a half-dozen deaths in the past year — and hardly anybody comes to console the survivors in the family. There was a case when one of my neighbours died a few years ago and the family spread his ashes from his boat in the sea in back of his house. Nobody came to see it. Nobody, so

far as I know, consoled the widow.

Neighbours continue their usual routine and even if they meet one of the survivors on their walks, few stop to offer consolation. Is this the island way of life? Has the island attracted mainly cold and unfeeling people? There is very little neighbourliness where I live, except at the annual neighbourhood Christmas party. Most of them do not see or talk to each other until the next Christmas. Some people have lived here for years and I haven't seen them, I just notice their names on their signs.

ANTHONY NETBOY,
Ganges.



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I'm gripped by the new psychosis—'limerosis'

By ANDREW GIBSON

LONDON: (CP): Vickers, the leading contender to build a fleet of nuclear-powered submarines for the Canadian Navy, is admitting embarrassment after discovering that a large section of a submarine now under construction was welded on upside down...

The night after the above item appeared was a very restless one for me. Instead of dreams of daffodils, I tossed and turned until, with the dawn, I sat bolt upright and, to the astonishment and alarm of my wife, declaimed:

*A young politician was heard
To say "Upside-down subs are
absurd*

*I must advise Vickers
To use this-side-up stickers
Or my name won't be Perrin, but
Nerd."*

I am suffering from a disease known to harmonic medico-psychology as limerosis, the clinical description of which occupies half a page in Aitkin and Payne's *Handbook of the Symptomatology of Rhythmic Disorders*. In layman's language this means an obsession with making up limericks.

One might reasonably ask what is so alarming about this. Doggerel may have no class, but is it dangerous? Surely it is only troublesome to those who have to erase it from washroom walls.

Limericks, alas, are different. The insistent 8-8-6-6-8 beat pounds on the already weak brains of the victims, claiming their attention during the day when they should be working, and then robbing them of their rest at night.

The most serious damage, however, is not mental or physical, but moral. There is something derisive, impudent, disrespectful, even subversive about them which totally alters the thinking of those obsessed. Allow me to give you some examples from my own sad clinical history.

Although now so golden-aged as to be disintegrating, I had always been a romantic. A boy and girl walking hand-in-hand, a pair of blue birds building a nest — such sights I found charming. Yet only the other day I had so deteriorated that my tortured mind produced:

*This love in the springtime's a
phony
It's mostly made up of baloney
Of masculine grace
There's hardly a trace
The rest is just testosterone.*

And the chorusing of frogs, which hitherto had seemed the sweetest of songs, triggered:

*The waterlogged lady from Linz
Was heard to admit with a wince
That she lived in the bogs
And kissed thousands of frogs
In the hope one turned into a
prince.*

The limerick is the enemy of everything we hold dear. Had Thomas Moore been afflicted with it, instead of:

*Believe me, if all those endearing
young charms,
When I gaze on so fondly today,
Were to change by tomorrow and
fleet in my arms
Like fairy gifts fading away,
Thou would'st still be adored as
this moment thou art,
Let thy loveliness fade as it will,
And around the dear ruin each
wish of my heart
Would entwine itself verdantly
still.*

He would have belted out raucously to his inamorata:

*Be assured, if your dubious charms
Were to self-destruct here in my
arms
And you weren't even pretty
Enough for the city
I'd send you right out to the farms.*

Even worse is what the disease does to the martial spirit — *la gloire*, as it is expressed in our other official language.

*The boy stood on the burning
deck,
Whence all but him had fled;
The flame that lit the battle's wreck
Shone round him o'er the dead.
Yet beautiful and bright he stood,
As born to rule the storm;
A creature of heroic blood,
A proud though childlike form.*

Does not this stirring poem lose something if rendered:

*On the deck stood the gallant
young feller
The rest had all fled — they were
yeller
He remarked, "I should rather
Have listened to father—
He wanted to make me a teller."*

Even more horrifying would be the transformation of:

*Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward.*

All in the valley of death

*Rode the six hundred ...
"Forward, the Light Brigade!"
Was there a man dismayed?*

*into:
On rode the gallant six hundred
Around them the cannonballs
thundered
They weren't scared on that ride,
The word's 'petrified'—
Some idiot colonel had blundered.
You see what the limerick does
the beliefs we cherish about*

truth, beauty, home, mother, country? It even promotes a lack of reverence for our anointed leaders. Help! I feel another attack coming:

*Said a fatherly fellow called Zalm
Single mothers? I don't give a
damn
It's just too, too enjoyable
To be unemployable
I'll chop fifty bucks from this scam.
Pray for me.*

more letters

No respect

Sir,
Travelling south on Stewart Road,
Tuesday, April 12, around 4 pm.
Big throaty black pickup on my tail
Just itching to get past me.
Nowhere to pull over.
Barely managing 20 mph myself,
Going uphill,
What with the potholes,
And our old clunker truck
But it is Stewart Road!

Finally a chance to pull over
(The black pickup roars on by).
Right where they're logging.
Willy (3½) entranced.

Big noisy machines
Chainsaws
Men working
Big crunching, crashing, slashing
Noisy machines.
Hauling the trees screamingly out
Of their forest home.
Hacking off their limbs,
Ploughing through the tree and
limb littered landscape
Oblivious.
Fallen trees bouncing up like
matchsticks
Under the big rolling wheels of the
Noisy machines.
No respect.
No respect.
JULIA ATKINS,
Vancouver.

Buck stops

Sir,
Unless they are cut from the same cloth, who are these people who encourage the violent destruction of the best of the islanders hold dear and protected in nature, by known speculators, of our only real wealth — our forests protecting our watersheds.

What calibre of real estate people would only negotiate with MacMillan-Bloedel after an agreement with a would-be entrepreneur to do untold destruction to our parks and ecological reserves?

I say the buck stops with us. Unless we, for our own future, encourage and demand complete protection for our parks and reserves, we fail ourselves forever.
QUENTIN WILSON,
Fulford Harbour.

Spare misery

Editor's note: The following is an open letter to Claude Richmond, minister of social services and housing, filed with this newspaper for publication.

I am absolutely appalled to learn of your ministry's intention to cut back on the allowable earnings exemption permitted GAIN for Handicapped recipients in this province.

The present welfare rates for handicapped in B.C. are among the lowest of any province in Canada; nearly \$200 less than the Alberta benefit rate.

For those few handicapped persons fortunate enough to earn an additional \$100 a month and thereby supplement their subsistence-level monthly cheque, the proposed changes are a disaster.

The present GAIN Act, Disposition of Income and Exemptions (page 25), allows a handicapped recipient to earn \$100 a month, without any deduction from their monthly GAIN support cheque.

Your proposed changes will reduce the allowable earnings to \$50 a month, plus allowing the disabled person to keep a "generous" 25 per cent of whatever they are able to earn over and above the basic \$50.

This means that a disabled person would have to earn \$250 a month in order to retain \$100 for themselves!

Your press release also states that this so-called "incentive program" would be terminated after a one year period, after which no further incentive earnings in any amount would be permitted.

The implementation of such a mindless and cruel policy will not save the government a single dollar and will do absolutely nothing to contribute to handicapped rehabilitation.

Its net effect will be to drive the handicapped population of British Columbia even deeper into poverty and despair. Please spare us further misery by cancelling the handicapped "incentive program."
WILLIAM W. BEST,
Ganges.

Abuse

Sir,
The ecological reserve on Mt. Tuam is a small area of land devoted to a larger concept, the conservation of unique or representative ecologies. These ecological reserves are purchased with both private and public funds. The establishment of these reserves are a recognition that a growing portion of our society believe areas of land must be conserved in their existing state, free from the effects of further human development. To protect these reserves, our government legislated a clear and uncompromising act, which states the extent of human encroachment. These reserves belong to all people for generations to come.

Murray Cyprus and Dorman Logging's continued efforts to access the Mt. Tuam reserve are an abuse to all people who support the ecological reserve system.

We strongly protest any further attempts to encroach upon the ecological reserve on Mt. Tuam, and will pursue action to prevent such disregard for the public domain.

JO KYNASTON,
BIS WHITBY,
SUSAN M. CALTHROP,
M. ANDREW,
B. ANDREW,
F. T. MOBAY,
Salt Spring Island.

Not logging

Sir,
In answer to Mrs. D. Wilson's letter of April 20, we wish to state for following for her information:

The issue is not personalities and the issue is not logging ... but the issue here is ecological reserves and in particular the ecological reserve on Mt. Tuam, Salt Spring Island.

Ecological reserves are not to be violated by you, or by us, or by anyone else.

MR. & MRS. L. A. PRAGNELL,
Ganges.

Many shades

Sir,
Galiano Island, like most communities, has many shades of opinion. Twenty years ago, when MacMillan-Bloedel brought out a plan to subdivide Galiano Mountain, many islanders were fervently in favour of such subdivision, while many others were against it.

Now MB is clear-cut logging more than half the island within the shortest possible time (so long as the American market holds good) and there are again differences of opinion. Some islanders, many of them old-timers, are vocally in favour of landowners enjoying the right to log without control. Others are fearful of the effect on the water-table unless MB's accelerated scale of yearly cut is reduced. Others fear that any overtures to MB will precipitate wholesale small subdivision. One rapidly growing group (one that has been surprised to receive unsolicited support from as far away as Minnesota) is giving its time and energy to saving something of beauty and fragility from the clear cut.

MB-Noranda's policy now comes from Toronto boardrooms. The price tag they put some time ago on their Galiano holdings is said to be \$28 million. That would be the selling price at "highest and best use" after holding the land for many years at minimal tree-farm tax assessment. Zoning under the Galiano Island Community Plan would not permit lots of less than 20 acres on what is now MB land. Any alterations to this zoning would require a public hearing.

MB so far has no interest in selling to the island sensitive or fragile pieces of land to be held under trust, or blocks of trees to be held under covenant. The Chemainus office has said: "We don't want your money. All we want (of Galiano Island) is fibre for the mill." The corporation is, however, interested in a government exchange of Galiano Island land for other suitable parcels. The price of their giving Coon Bay to Galiano as a park is understood to be a government exchange for a piece of resource-rich land already deleted from Strathcona provincial park.

Some islanders are concerned for the protection of wildlife, others

feel wildlife will always rebound on its own. The bald eagle has been almost exterminated across the North American continent and here we are stewards to a remnant. On Galiano the bald eagle nests are about a mile apart around the coastline. MB clear-cuts right up to the nest-tree.

Some islanders have said it is the right of the landowner — in this case the corporation — to manage its own wildlife. Others have supported an appeal to MB to leave a shelter of trees around eagle-nests in keeping with enlightened thought. However, MB has refused this appeal and will continue to slash to the nest-tree. The company has already clear-cut to the beaver-pond which is also used by eagles. Adam Zimmerman, chairman of MacMillan-Bloedel, is on the board of the World Wildlife Fund (Canada).

MB has made some concessions to the group called Clear-Cut Alternatives, and has the thanks of many islanders.

Islanders are reminded by MB that concessions (to beauty, wildlife or archaeological sites) cost the company money. But still the company has proved itself ready to negotiate with CCA for further possible concessions and has asked islanders to mark on a map areas considered sensitive. Some islanders have preferred to have nothing to do with this map, but the finished product for presentation in May is expected to represent majority opinion.

How these designated sensitive areas will fare with MB we cannot know. Protection has no compromise — you either protect or you don't. I hear a courageous group of islanders saying to a multinational corporation: "This island in the Gulf is beautiful. You have the legal right to log it as you wish and we cannot change that. You will not accept money to protect the beautiful and the fragile, so in the name of charity we beg you to log us gently."

MB-Noranda in your Ontario boardrooms, can you hear them?
MARGARET GRIFFITHS,
Galiano Island.

Thank you

Sir,
At the recent annual general meeting of our society a resolution was passed to write and express the appreciation of the members for the wonderful support that the branch has received from your publication.

Your reporting of the activities of the branch has not only focused attention on the work of the society but also on the animals we shelter. Last year our euthanasia rate dropped dramatically and it is our belief that part of this success is due to the support we have received in publicizing our concerns.

LYNN WEST,
Secretary-manager,
SPCA, Victoria.

Conflict guidelines need entrenchment

VICTORIA — Conflict of interest has become one of the most dangerous traps for politicians, a trap that can snap shut with deadly accuracy on not only the indiscreet and imprudent but also the careless, hasty and naive.

**capital
comment**

hubert beyer

And yet, for all the perils it entails, conflict of interest has yet to be clearly defined, to give politicians distinct guideposts by which to manoeuvre through public life.

As it is now, we all think we know a conflict of interest after someone else gets entangled in one. But few of the politicians caught in a conflict of interest in the last few years were aware of the danger when they embarked on the course that would eventually get them into trouble.

Former B.C. highways minister Cliff Michael is a good example. In his capacity as highways minister, Michael met a lot of movers and shakers, the kind of people who like to refer to themselves as the doers, not the talkers.

It didn't take any devious scheming or improper motives for Michael to ask a few of these people whether they might be interested in buying some property he wanted to sell. Maybe it wasn't totally innocent, but it certainly wasn't deceitful or corrupt. Naive is probably the better word. Yet, that stupid move cost him his cabinet post, a steep price to pay for something that can at worst be described as dumb.

Then there was the case of Advanced Education Minister Stan Hagen. He was flogged and hung out to dry when someone found out that his company had been doing business with a university. Fortunately for Hagen, it turned out that he had associated himself from his company before the business transaction in question took place, and he was reinstated in his post.

The latest victim of these nebulous conflict of interest charges is none other than Premier Vander Zalm. The NDP has said that the only way his friend, developer Peter Toigo, could have found out about discussions in cabinet about the B.C. Enterprise Corporation holdings, was from the premier.

It was the premier, the NDP said, who told his right-hand man, David Poole, to get in touch with Toigo and arrange for a meeting with the board of the B.C. Enterprise Corporation. The purpose of the meeting? To get his bid in, pronto, for the properties.

By doing so, said the NDP, the premier may have violated his oath of secrecy, which forbids any cabinet member to divulge matters discussed by cabinet. That's the oath he promised to obey when he was sworn in as premier.

The accusation puts the premier behind the eight-ball, even if it's spurious, because under existing guidelines, it is the premier who decides what is and what isn't a conflict of interest.

The premier decided that Hagen had not been in a conflict of interest. The premier decided that Michael had, indeed, been in a conflict. Under the guidelines governing conflicts of interest in British Columbia, the premier is the final arbiter. Thumbs up, the politician is spared; thumbs down, he perishes.

The premier is understandably furious and indignant about the accusations that he violated his oath of secrecy, but some of the blame for this mess must go to him. The opposition has stubbornly called for specific and detailed legislation governing potential conflicts of interest, and the government has rejected the idea with equal stubbornness.

Considering the significance attached to conflicts of interest in politics today, it is incomprehensible that such conflicts are subject to guidelines only, and that a politician's career can be decided by one person interpreting those guidelines.

Who will judge whether the premier violated his oath of secrecy? It is in the nature of such charges that, no matter how unfounded they may be, they must be looked into. And what if the charges are correct? What if he did tell his friend, Peter Toigo, what had transpired in cabinet? Should he resign?

Why should he? There is no legislation compelling a politician to resign if he tells tales out of cabinet. What the premier should do, however, is introduce legislation that will, once and for all, not only outline just what a conflict of interest is, but also provide for appropriate consequences.

A matter as important as conflict of interest — a matter which can ruin a politician's career, if not his life — should not be left to the vagaries of guidelines. It should be enshrined in legislation, subject to the rulings of a court of law.

A law governing conflict of interest would prevent many of the recurring political spectacles. With a law in place, it would become a matter of laying official charges or shutting up.

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Sweeping reviews

Marguerite Lee sweeps curbside corners in Mout's parking lot during last weekend's island-wide drive to clean up the community. Sunday's event, which saw numerous people raking and collecting garbage, was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Extensive family history research earns award for Fulford resident

Fulford Harbour resident Helen Hinchliff and her husband Donald Simmons flew last week to Biloxi, Mississippi, where Hinchliff will be named the winner of the third annual family history contest sponsored by The National Genealogical Society, headquartered in Washington D.C.

Hinchliff's paper tells the story of Michael Mamber, a penniless German farmer who emigrated from Ochsenbach, Wurtemberg, Germany in 1751 and settled in York County, Pennsylvania, where he prospered as a major landowner and distiller, eventually becoming the wealthiest man in his township.

Hinchliff and Simmons recently returned from a trip to Ochsenbach, located near Stuttgart, where they discovered the house in which Michael Mamber was born and met the descendants of one of his brothers who were living in it. Hinchliff also obtained records proving that Michael Mamber emigrated from Ochsenbach in 1751; earlier, she had obtained his signature on immigration records in Philadelphia dated September 5, 1751.

The Mamber family, which soon became Anglicized to Mumper, has branched out from the five of his six grandsons who lived long enough to create fully formed families — 10 to 13 children each. The family started moving west in the third generation, first to Ohio and then to Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Colorado, Nebraska and Oregon in the fourth generation. Today, descendants

can be found widely scattered throughout the United States. Hinchliff is currently working on a genealogy that incorporates all known descendants of Michael Mumper.

Hinchliff began her research on the Mumper family in 1982 on the eve of her grandmother Alice (Mumper) Davis' 95th birthday. When she began her research, the family knew very little about the Mumpers, and even assumed that their background was English.

At first, her research centred on

'The family knew very little about the Mumpers, and even assumed that their background was English.'

discovering her grandmother's Mumper ancestry back to the immigrant progenitor, known to the family as Michael Mumper. Then she began collecting data on as many of Michael's descendants as she could identify, with the goal of creating a genealogy and family history of the Mumpers. So far she has identified thousands of descendants in subsequent generations, some lines carrying down to the 10th generation.

Hoping to visit Ochsenbach and bring back photographs in time for her grandmother's centenary celebrations to have been held

Donations from Salt Spring fund Philippine health care

Philippine missionary Brother Robert McGovern travelled to Salt Spring last week to thank islanders for financially supporting his work. Brother McGovern especially wanted to tell those who contributed funds at the annual world development tea two years ago, just how far their money has gone.

As part of the Notre Dame Dadiangas College located at the southern tip of the Philippines, Brother McGovern had long recognized the area's need for a community-based health care system. Because of donations from Salt Spring Island and from several organizations across Canada and the world, much of Brother McGovern's dream is materializing into reality.

"Many people think the amount (of money contributed) may be small, but put it into a developing country and it goes a long way," he said.

At the local, inter-church world development tea held on Salt Spring two years ago, islanders raised over \$2,900 to be contributed to Philippine-based projects.

"Because the conditions in the Philippines are so terrible," explained one local organizer, Georgina Gibbs, "CIDA (the Canadian International Development Organization, a federal government body) matched the money nine to one."

Through this gesture, the total raised on Salt Spring meant the Philippines received over \$20,000 to put into a health care delivery program.

The need for such a program

had been apparent to Brother McGovern for some time. Attracting nurses to the south is not easy, he said. The uncertain political stability of the area, combined with poor hospital facilities and low wages, works against recruitment efforts.

A former ban on founding new nursing schools further complicated the process.

When the Philippine government eventually recognized the need for an improved health care system, it lifted this ban. The government's terms stipulated that such a college must be run by

'I thought it was time to come and say 'thank you' to the people.'

Brother McGovern's Notre Dame organization.

In creating the nursing program, Brother McGovern felt that to merely provide a four-year nurses' program would be an injustice to the community. He felt the community could benefit from the college if the program could be extended into a community health care project that would be accessible to people of all social classes.

The health care delivery program equips community members with sufficient knowledge to

respond in an emergency situation and to recognize diseases. The trainees work through 10 modules over a seven-month period. Twenty-eight people graduated from the first session, and a further 26 are presently taking the program. City officials have given the program a "stamp of approval," by providing graduates with certification.

Approximately 50 per cent of the trainees, Brother McGovern said, represent the "poorest of the poor," giving the health delivery program access to the most impoverished of all area residents.

An important section of the training program teaches individuals to work with herbal medicine. Herb-growing contests are held, and the resulting crop offsets much of the need for costly medicines. The trainees are also taught in areas of personal hygiene, and methods of preventative health care for children. The graduates are able to recognize diseases and begin earlier treatments.

The program has greatly benefited the community, Brother McGovern said, recalling just one incident which occurred early last March. The health care delivery program held a free health clinic for soldiers and their families, directly in the brigade area. Two children, aged five and seven, were found to be suffering from polio. Brother McGovern's group found sponsors willing to send the children and the mother to Manila for rehabilitation and care.

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Peruvian lily proves frustrating to gardeners

From time to time I have to admit that I find myself lost for a topic, but as luck would have it, this week's events have given us a worthy subject; the gorgeous Peruvian lily, also affectionately known by its genus name *Alstroemeria*.

Originally from South America, and represented by over 60 known species, the *Alstroemeria* has slipped in and out of favour for over two and a half centuries. About five years ago, some widespread press coverage rekindled interest in these blooming beauties, and before long, requests for *Alstroemeria* tubers, started plants and seed started to trickle in.

Well, being intrigued by the plant's character, and interested in the pursuit of finding this oddball, the calls went out to perennial growers, bulb growers, and even local seed companies for sources of growers and suppliers. I suppose that several other stores also filed requests for *Alstroemeria*, and in response, the next year one of the Dutch bulb importers provided a supply of the tubers, and an annual/perennial grower also attempted to produce some saleable plants.

This was the beginning of the learning process for most of us, as we ran home with our first plants, taking what little advice was available and hoping for the best. Very quickly we found out that lifted and stored tubers of Peruvian lily don't last long in plastic bags, and before long, most of the shipment had to be returned.

your garden

by
Chris Schmah

That year some of the tubers made it into the soil, but in the following spring bulb season, the whole crop was spoiled and had to be refused.

The experiences provided us with our first lesson; don't opt for lifted tubers, as failure is almost certain. The fleshy, brittle,

'This was the beginning of the learning process for most of us...'

modified roots of *Alstroemeria* break with the slightest rough-handling and rots quickly set in while they are in storage or on the shelves for sale.

Around the same time this was all happening, another grower had started some seed and four-inch pots of *Alstroemeria* were soon available for sale. Well, along came lesson two: the brittle tubers like to establish themselves deep within the soil, and in the case of four-inch pots the bottom of the pot just isn't deep enough. After a

few weeks the roots were emerging from the drainage holes of the pot and thickening up to the point that they blocked the drainage, and some rotting had started to occur.

In addition, as one tried to unpot the plant for placement into the soil, the roots often broke off, due to their being caught in the drainage holes. Following an urgent call to the grower, all of the remaining plants were held over for repotting into one-gallon pots, hopefully for sale the next year.

Then another characteristic of Peruvian lily behaviour gave us a bit of a shock, when, halfway through the season, the tops died down and the plants looked for all the world to be dead.

Now, without knowing that the plants were entering a long rest period (which usually lasts for six or more months), we sidelined the pots out of the reach of irrigation and promptly neglected them, thinking they were headed for the compost as soon as time was available to deal with them.

About two months later when cleaning up for fall, the roots still appeared to be whitish, fleshy and alive, so into the ground they went. The next year, a few lonesome shoots made a showing and died off very quickly, and we had for all intents and purposes, given up.

The year after that the shoots came along a bit stronger, and against all reasonable odds, a couple of flower spikes were produced. With this single deed we realized why we had wanted to try to grow *Alstroemeria*, for the

blooms were just gorgeous, and while the route to their establishment was both frustrating and exciting, the end justified the journey.

Now, to get back to that equally-frustrated grower who had to endure the ups and downs of these Peruvian lilies, the whole potted-up crop had been all but abandoned, too, until very early this spring when green shoots started to emerge. When I saw

them, the first thing I did was turn over the pot to knock out the root ball and examine those curious little tubers. There they were, all pressed against the bottom of the pot looking for a chance to go deeper, again.

That pretty well completes the background to the beautiful but fickle Peruvian lily, and next week we get to the heart of the matter — growing and caring for *Alstroemerias* in your garden.

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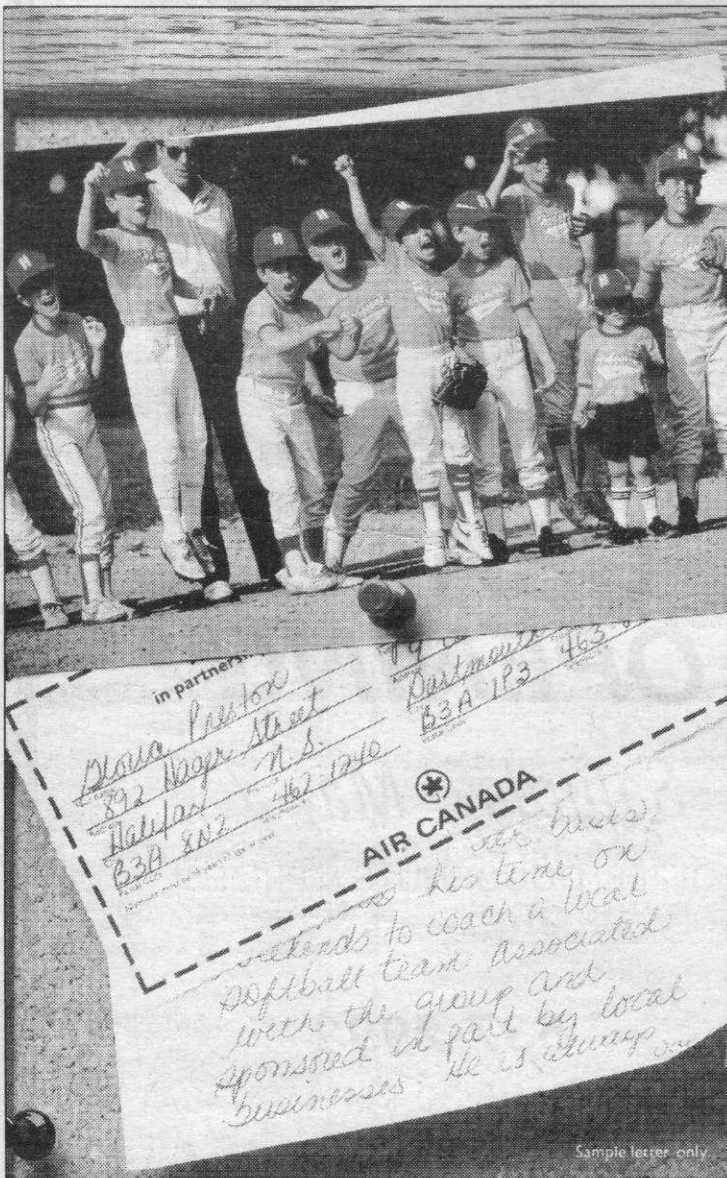
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Nominee must be 19 years of age or over.

AIR CANADA





Hastings House owners Donald and Shan Cross

Island hotel chosen for guide launch

The Hastings House became the first Western Canadian hotel to host the 1988 launching of the *Relais et Chateaux Guide* at a recent luncheon attended by members from France and across Canada.

The luncheon, held Thursday April 14, also honoured the Ganges hotel with the prestigious 1987 Welcome Trophy. Regis Boulet, French president of the international *Relais et Chateaux* group, flew to Salt Spring to present the trophy to the hotel's Calgary owner, Donald Cross.

The Hastings House is the youngest member of the *Relais et Chateaux* chain — and the only one of 10 Canadian members to be found outside Ontario and Quebec.

Each of the 372 world-wide members of the chain is independently owned and must adhere to strictly controlled qualifications. If the standards of a member slips, the hotel is asked to leave the group.

Relais et Chateaux members must be committed to the five "Cs"—character, calm, courtesy, comfort and cuisine. Hotels belonging to the group are located mainly in the countryside, and are often former castles, manor houses or abbeys.

A total of six welcome trophies are presented each year — three in France and three throughout the 36 other countries that are home to members. The trophy is awarded to establishments which consistently offer the best welcome, as judged by their guests.

The luncheon held at the Hastings House concluded a three-day convention of Canadian *Relais et Chateaux* members.

Aid sought in investigation of wilful damage incidents

A 25-year-old Ganges man faces a possible \$100 fine and a six-month prohibition against driving, if convicted of driving without due care and attention.

Local RCMP laid the charge after William Crandall lost control of his vehicle on Fulford-Ganges Road and struck a power pole.

Crandall escaped the accident, which occurred at 11:30 pm on April 19, with minor injuries.

An outbreak of wilful damage offences has local RCMP looking to the public for information that might lead them to the culprits.

The first of the episodes were reported early in the morning of April 22. Highways signs and mailboxes were pushed over at the corner of Fort and Grantville roads. Signs were also knocked down on Fernwood, North End and North Beach roads.

During the night of April 22, two hand-carved signs were also stolen. One disappeared from the Walker Hook driveway of Peter Patella, and the other, belonging

to Gordon Wales, was taken from Sunset Drive.

The combined value of the signs is in the area of \$1,000.

Also during the same night, a North End Road mailbox was smashed in.

Local police are continuing their investigation into all of the incidents.

The local RCMP detachment

has possession of a bicycle found April 20 in the downtown core of Ganges.

The owner may claim the bike through identification.

Police are reminding motorists that a new crosswalk on Rainbow Road, across from Salt Spring Elementary, has been installed.

Drivers are asked to yield to individuals using the crosswalk.

ANNOUNCEMENT

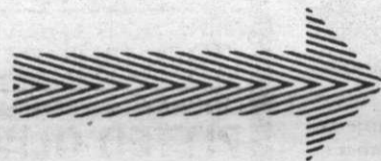
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Contribution by Lions Club hikes local Job-Trac fund

Fund-raising for the Salt Spring Island Job-Trac program received a major infusion of money last week when the local Lions Club contributed \$3,000 to the community undertaking.

The donation by the Lions brought to \$6,000 the amount the local service club has put towards the Job-Trac program.

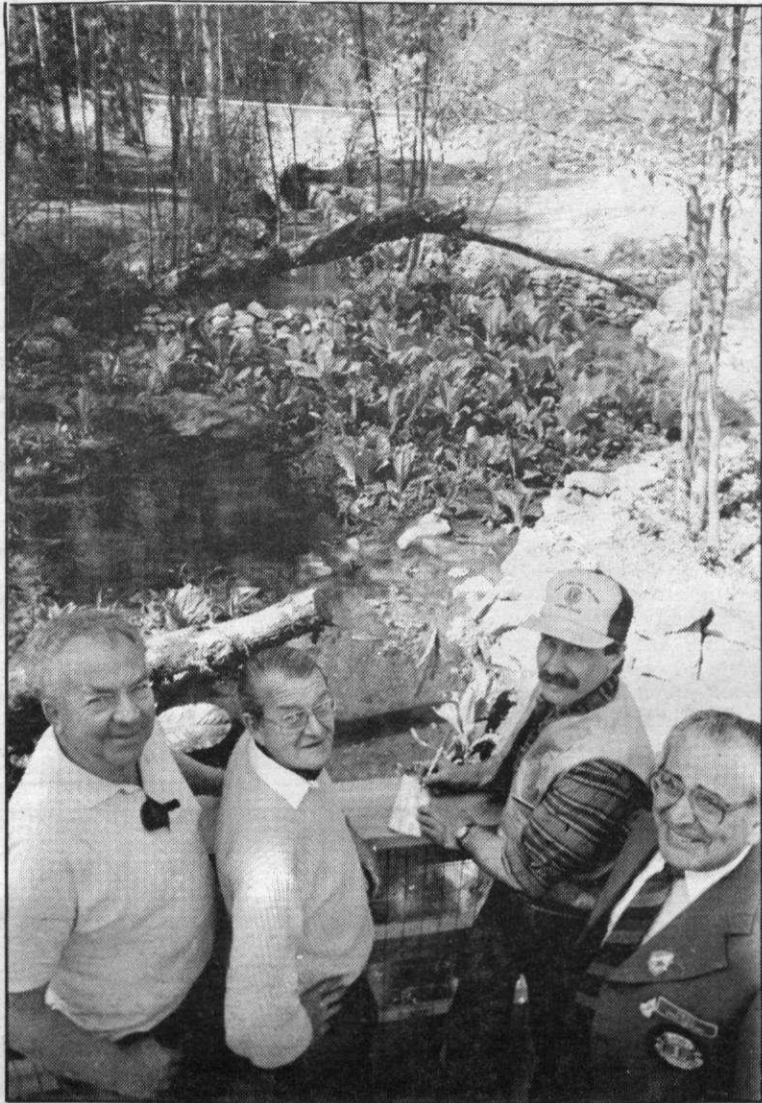
In handing over a cheque for \$3,000 last Friday to Chamber of Commerce president Jack Cherry and business manager Spencer Marr, Lions Club representatives Santy Fuoco and Barry Urquhart said the club decided to double its contribution to the program because it was convinced the projects served the community interest.

"We felt that because of the job Job-Trac did, the Chamber of Commerce deserved our support," said Fuoco, the past-president of the club. Urquhart, current club president agreed, noting that all club members were enthusiastic about providing additional support for Job-Trac.

"It's a tremendous gesture by the Lions, and we're deeply appreciative," Cherry said.

The \$6,000 contributed to Job-Trac by the Lions Club represents just less than 10 per cent of the \$64,000 being sought in community contributions. At last word, the fund-raising campaign was felt to be close to reaching its goal. This week, totals are being checked and the tally double-checked with provincial government officials in Victoria.

The province launched Salt Spring's Job-Trac program with a \$226,000 grant provided on the condition that the community come up with the remaining \$64,000 needed to cover all of the expenses. In return, the program provided employment for 21 people for six months, and completed 14 community projects aimed at improving local recreation, cultural and tourism-related amenities.



New bridge in linear park, site of one of many local Job-Trac projects, was setting for handing over of contribution by Lions Club to Chamber of Commerce. Left to right are Spencer Marr, Jack Cherry, Barry Urquhart and Santy Fuoco.

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New bridge officers sworn in by Power and Sail Squadron

The highlight of the 15th annual change of watch dinner of the Salt Spring Island Power and Sail Squadron — held last Friday night — was the pledging of the new officers elected to the squadron bridge at the annual general meeting on April 6.

Conducting the ceremonies was Rear Cdr. Bill Fluskey of Victoria, representing the national commander as well as the Vancouver Island district. Chairman for the evening was retiring local squadron commander Max Fitch.

Gloria Simpson was pledged as the new squadron commander. She is the first woman to hold the office (a full list of the new bridge officers was carried in the April 13 *Driftwood*).

New members of the squadron were also pledged by Rear Cdr. Fluskey. They included Jim Anderson, Tony Battley, Janet MacPhail, Bob Collings, Ken Hay, John Lammers, Pauline Wilson, John Volc and Helga Williams.

In addition to the pledging ceremonies, Cdr. Fluskey presented merit awards to a number of squadron members.

Merit awards are a recognition of the contributions the recipients have made to the squadron's operations during the past year. They are awarded on the recommendation of the squadron commander and on the approval of the national commander.

Receiving their first merit awards were Bruce McDonald, Gerald McNulty and Catherine Mellstrom. Seconds went to Wayne Pearce, Walter Swing and Dick Young. Peter Vida received his third merit award while Gloria Simpson and Renate Waterlow picked up their fourth. A seventh award went to Max Fitch, and ninth to Jim Eastman, Morton Stratton and Frank Leigh-Spencer.

Ian Waterlow received his 10th merit award, Jim Napper his 11th, and Jim Ballantyne his 13th. Harold Helm was awarded his 24th merit award; when he received his 20th four years ago, Helm became a life member of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons.



Gloria Simpson was pledged last Friday as the new commander of the Salt Spring Island Power and Sail Squadron. Administering the pledge is Rear Commander Bill Fluskey of Victoria, who represented the national commander as well as the Vancouver Island district at the swearing-in ceremony. Event also included administering pledges for all new members of the squadron's bridge, and the handing out of merit awards.

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President acclaimed

Fulford Harbour resident Charles Hingston was named last weekend to serve his second consecutive term as president of the B.C. School Trustees Association (BCSTA).

Hingston, a long-time board

member of the Gulf Islands school district, was unanimously acclaimed to the post he first won last year.

Prior to being elected president of the BCSTA, Hingston served on the organization's executive.

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Violet Humphreys recites oath for (left to right) Muriel Leask, Marion Andrew and Margaret Mayo.

Music student visit entertains seniors

Members of the Fulford Harbour branch of the Old Age Pensioners Organization were treated to an enjoyable concert at their regular social on April 5.

About 40 students from Fulford Elementary School gave band and choral renditions of selected works, under the direction of music teacher Lynne Quinn.

At the business meeting held April 19, members' attention was again focused on children. Jocelyn Hocking invited members to start knitting teddy bears for use

at the children's hospital in Victoria. She showed some teddies that she had made and offered to supply patterns to anyone interested.

Sea Capers is fast approaching, and members were advised that it's time to get cracking on the OAPO float. Volunteers are needed to serve on the committee, as well as to design and make the float and costumes. Contact Gladys Slingsby (653-4350) or Muriel Leask (653-4694).

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Daughters of the Nile

New officers sworn in for 1988-89

The Madrona Club of Daughters of the Nile held their installation ceremony Saturday at the Harbour House Hotel in Ganges.

The installation, which was preceded by a luncheon, was attended by Miriam Temple Queen Violet Humphreys and several other members from Victoria.

Installed as the new executive were Muriel Leask (president), Sandi Ballantyne (secretary), Marion Andrew (treasurer), and Margaret Mayo (vice-president).

Also on the executive are appointees Mary Campbell (chaplain), Evelyn Napper (historian), Betty Lou Morgan (telephoning), and Iris Hall

(publicity).

The group engages in fundraising activities for the convalescent relief fund for young patients in Shrine Hospitals.

School meeting to discuss plans for senior secondary

In response to a survey outlining areas of concern held by parents of local school children, a meeting will be held in Ganges to discuss the question of facilities.

The meeting — set for Monday, May 2, at 7:30 pm in the Salt Spring Elementary School library — follows compilation of results of a survey conducted by Gulf Islands Secondary School.

The survey indicated parents of GISS students believed the greatest local school concern surrounds facilities, particularly the lack of adequate art, library and cafeteria space.

The May 2 meeting will feature representatives of GISS administration, School District 64 and the local school board. They will answer questions and discuss their respective roles in the maintenance and upgrading of the high school complex.

The representatives earlier ex-

pressed a desire to attract community input into decisions to be made about changes to the high school.

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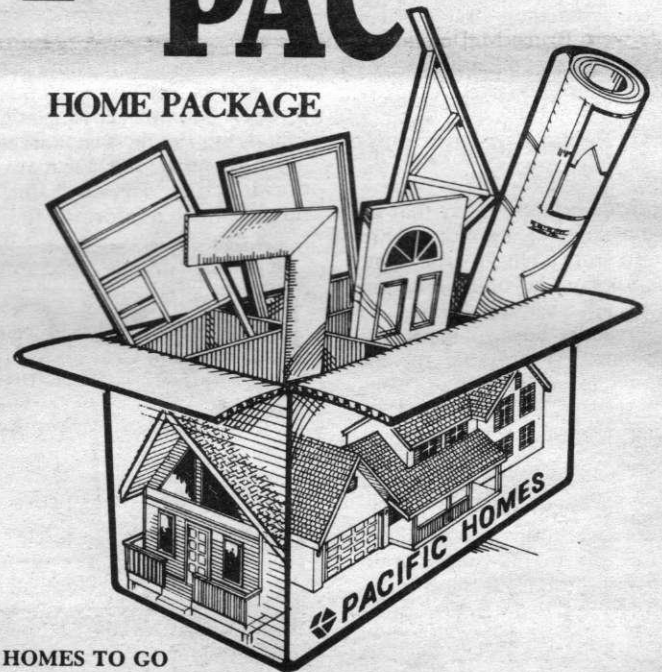
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Under the direction of John Lomas (lower left), cast of *Importance of Being Earnest* is put through paces at dress rehearsal leading up to opening of production.

New guide offers tips for healthier houses

By PEGGY WHITTAKER

Your Home, Your Health, and Well-Being. D. Rousseau, W.J. Rea, M. D., J. Enwright, Hartley and Marks, Ltd., 300 pp., \$19.95 paper. Distributed in Canada by Raincoast Books.

Now that you're treating your body well with the recipes found in *Country Cook* (reviewed last week in this space), it's time to go one step further and create for yourself a healthy living environment.

Your Home, Your Health, and Well-Being is a new Hartley and Marks release that covers every aspect of design, renovations, building, furnishings and maintenance for a comfortable, pollution-free dwelling. One of the co-authors, Jean Enwright, describes the terrible illnesses that she experiences as an environmentally sensitive person. But interest in this book shouldn't be limited only to those who suffer from various allergies.

Medical researchers say that all people benefit when pollutants are removed from their environment. This book goes beyond discussion removal of chemical toxins to advise readers how to make the home more comfortable for all through convenient design, well-situated furniture, effective lighting, sound and thermal control, etc.

Even if you are not currently building or renovating a home, there are several tips that will help you take the toxins out of your day-to-day lifestyle, such as using natural-fibre bed linens and

book review

upholstery, making your own safe maintenance products instead of buying harsh chemical cleaners, or something as simple as putting a spider plant on your window sill. With its host of well-researched ideas and a chapter on construction notes, *Your Home, Your Health, and Well-Being* should be on every builders' reference shelf. One professional home designer called the book "very thorough and practical, with little bits and pieces that are helpful."

However, even as a person who finds it impossible to think in three dimensions, let alone discuss the niceties of home construction, I found this book clear, simple to use and understand (the many line drawings and diagrams help), and full of valuable information.

'Importance' readying for opening night

Rehearsals for the Salt Spring Players' production of *The Importance Of Being Earnest* now have a different appearance. Preparations have moved onto a stage, and the casual jeans and sneakers previously worn by the cast members have been replaced by 19th Century costumes.

Those watching the rehearsals find it engrossing to see the production being developed piece by piece from the initial dry script to what, on opening night, promises to be a delightful performance.

The show premieres on May 4. Tickets are now available at *et cetera*.

Cast members include Brien Foerster (butler), Martin Wales (Jack, also known as Earnest), Erin Butler (Algernon), Gordon Wales (Rev. Chasuble), Lou Rumsey (Lady Bracknell), Keila Byron (Gwendolyn); Jessica Speed (Cecily), and Nancy Holcroft (Miss Prism). Director is John Lomas.

17-2

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Among acts set for Celtic Music Festival is Golden Bough. Members are (left to right) Florie Brown, Margie Butler and Paul Espinoza.

Fifth festival of Celtic music scheduled for Salt Spring Island

On April 30 and May 1, the Activity Centre and classrooms at Salt Spring Elementary School will host the Celtic Music Festival, now in its fifth year. Three years ago Ganges was alive with the sound of bagpipes, bodhran drums, harps and other instruments playing jigs, reels, haunting slow airs and wild melodies, many of them hundreds of years old.

This is mostly traditional music—i.e., handed down mainly by ear—although there will probably also be a percentage of more recent “composed” music—all in the folk idiom. That idiom is unique in that it differs mightily from the modern pop on the one hand, and from the so-called serious music on the other.

Welsh music, often played on the harp, has its own characteristics, and differs from that of the Scottish Highlands, say, by being mostly more melodic, and less prone to use of the five-note pentatonic scale that gives a trace of sadness even to quick cheerful tunes.

Scotland has its own harp, the *clarsach*, and Ireland also sees the harp as its traditional instrument: one of the earliest collections of Irish folk music was gathered at a meeting of harpers towards the close of the 18th century.

The fiddle, however, is more in evidence in Scotland, where the 1780s-1790s were the Golden Age of fiddle music, coinciding with the song-writing activity of Robert Burns, who made the old tunes world-famous.

In the 20th century, Scottish bands tended to rely more and

more on the accordion, but the fiddle has been making a comeback in recent years, helped in the Americas by the work of the Scottish Fiddling Revival Association, based in the U.S., which holds competitions in playing and also in the composition of new tunes in the traditional idiom.

The music is not just for listening to: there will be demonstrations and classes in Irish dancing, Scottish country dancing (including a dance on Saturday afternoon to the fiddle of Calum MacKinnon from Seattle and a few friends), Scottish Highland dancing and, to make a contrast, some Morris dancing, the attractive group traditional dancing of England.

At night, there will be a grand concert, followed by a general

dance until the smaller hours of Sunday.

On Sunday itself, more of the same: Scottish Country Dancing in the morning, and an open stage where a more informal concert will take place. Workshops are planned in whistle/flute, fiddle, bodhran (the Irish hand-held drum), and mandolin, with a group sing for those who wish to learn a few choruses. The open stage goes on all afternoon, and a great variety of music is expected.

The whole thing begins with the pipes at noon on Saturday. Come along—you may stay to be charmed by the music of the Celts, now plaintive, now merry, and generally toe-tapping.

—Article contributed by Murray Shoobraid

VESUVIUS INN

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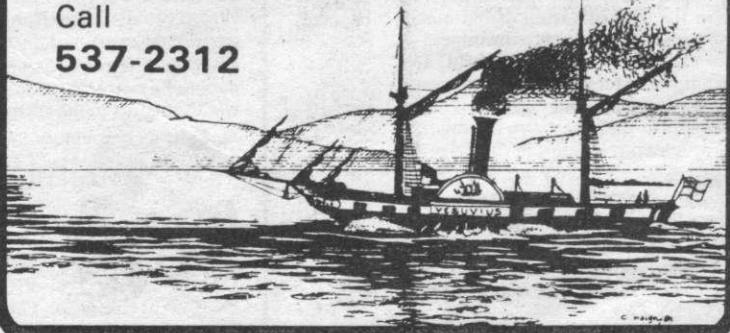
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THE DINING ROOM WILL BE CLOSED:

Wednesday, Apr. 27 — for dinner only
Thursday, Apr. 28 — for IODE Fashion Show
Sunday, May 1 — for Jazz Society Buffet Brunch, 10:30-1:30

This Fri. & Sat., Apr. 29-30, in the Pub:

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New Zealand's Auckland Youth Symphony Orchestra will perform in Ganges on May 17.

The appearance, at 8 pm in the Salt Spring Elementary School activity centre, will mark the orchestra's last performance on its North American tour. Members return to New Zealand on May 19.

Billets sought for musicians

The 78 students range in age from 16 to 25 years. They travelled to North America to celebrate the orchestra's 40th birthday with other Commonwealth youth orchestras and music-loving agencies.

While on Salt Spring, the students will require billeting and transportation to the early-morning Long Harbour ferry on May 19. Their instruments will leave the island on May 18. (Anyone interested in acting

as a host family but who drives a compact car won't have to worry about where to put the cello.) Each student will be travelling with one suitcase. To date, approximately 30 students have found accommoda-

tion. Ten are vegetarians and one has allergies to cats and dogs. Families willing to host a student should contact Margie Korrisson at 537-2707. The concert, meanwhile, is sponsored by the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council. Advance tickets will soon be available at *et cetera*.

'Ordeal by Roses'

Exhibition explores possibilities of linking literature, photography

By GARY CHERNEFF

What is your level of disturbance — that threshold beyond which you wince and your innards curdle?

Yukio Mishima, the celebrated Japanese novelist, committed seppuku in 1970. With a knife, he made a five-inch horizontal cut in his lower abdomen, forcing the blade against the body's natural repelling reflexes.

In the traditional manner he had instructed his aides to sever his head upon completion of his part of the ritual. However inexperience led to three clumsy attempts before the fourth finally ended his suffering.

It has been said that true sincerity for the Japanese resides in one's entrails, and that the ultimate demonstration of this quality is seppuku.

Eikoh Hosoe is one of Japan's most highly regarded photographers. In the spring and summer of 1962 he produced a series of photographs (a photographic narrative) of Yukio Mishima. Hosoe's work, *Ordeal by Roses*, is on exhibition at the Vancouver Art Gallery until May 15.

Curiosity about self-inflicted death is hard to dispel. *Ordeal by Roses* gives us an opportunity to speculate on Mishima's motives and to partly satisfy our need to understand. But in our indulgence we must be careful to realize that the photographs of Mishima were taken eight years prior to his death. As such, they are circumstantial evidence to that act.

These photographs are a conspiracy between two artists to create a mystique or a story which is most likely a blend of truth and fiction. The work is a visual novel,

artseen

one that partly circumvents the linear progression of literature. It gives us a coherent, symbol-packed intuitive understanding. Many of the images read like stills from some bizarre surreal movie.

The intent of the work was less likely an explanation of seppuku and more likely an attempt to explore the possibilities of the cross-fertilization of photographic image and literature.

'These photographs are a conspiracy between two artists to create a mystique or a story which is most likely a blend of truth and fiction.'

We see images of Mishima bound submissively by plastic pipe or chains against backgrounds of his Tokyo home, an Italian villa filled with Botticelli and Giorgione paintings and Spanish, Baroque furniture. Mishima often posed naked with the exception of a loincloth, the badge of the heavily equipped man. His lean, wiry well-exercised body is betrayed by a melancholy countenance.

For one image he appears cavalier and cocky in white tights and an officer's cap, but his machismo is transparent. We see his passionate desire for potency. We also realize the inherent

weakness in his pompous displays. Clocks occur in several of the images, perhaps to remind us of the flimsiness of our existence.

Many of the photographs are devoted to an exploration of passion, sexuality and morality. One senses some struggle here with what is right or wrong, particularly with the homoerotic scenarios. In the heterosexual images we see the dream unrealized, the expectation unfulfilled; but the homosexual encounters seem to lift the subject to the highest level of purity. But there is guilt, and we begin to see a profoundly religious dilemma unfolding.

In the end, the clearest statement made by this exhibition is that self-sacrifice is the most profound of acts. The curious title *Ordeal of Roses*, is a little too close to *Crown of Thorns* to be unintentional.

PART 17 OF 26

To the Peoples of the World A BAHÁ'Í STATEMENT ON Peace

IN THE BAHÁ'Í VIEW, recognition of the oneness of mankind "calls for no less than the reconstruction and the demilitarization of the whole civilized world—a world organically unified in all the essential aspects of its life, its political machinery, its spiritual aspiration, its trade and finance, its script and language, and yet infinite in the diversity of the national characteristics of its federated units."

Elaborating the implications of this pivotal principle, Shoghi Effendi, the Guardian of the Baha'i Faith, commented in 1931 that: "Far from aiming at the subversion of the existing foundations of society, it seeks to broaden its basis, to remold its institutions in a manner consonant with the needs of an ever-changing world. It can conflict with no legitimate allegiances, nor can it undermine essential loyalties. Its purpose is neither to stifle the flame or a sane and intelligent patriotism in men's hearts, nor to abolish the system of national autonomy so essential if the evils of excessive centralization are to be avoided. It does not ignore, nor does it attempt to suppress, the diversity of ethnical origins, of climate, of history, of language and tradition, of thought and habit, that differentiate the peoples and nations of the world. It calls for a wider loyalty, for a larger aspiration than any that has animated the human race. It insists upon the subordination of national impulses and interests to the imperative claims of a unified world. It repudiates excessive centralization on one hand, and disclaims all attempts at uniformity on the other. Its watchword is unity in diversity."

For a free copy of the complete statement "TO THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD" or information about the Baha'i Faith and local activities, please call 537-5383 or 537-4588, or write Box 772, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0.

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VICTORIA STUDENTS TOP IN ELOQUENCE

Mr. Grenfell Featherstone, Head of English at St. Michaels University School, Victoria, reports the following Provincial, National and International honours won this year by SMU students for debating and public speaking.

- B.C.'s 1988 TOP INDIVIDUAL DEBATER: David Longridge of Seattle. (Debaters from 87 public and Independent Schools competed.)
- B.C.'s TOP DEBATING TEAM: Gareth Morley and Brian Kelcey, winners of the B.C. Provincial Hammarkjold Cup.
- B.C.'s 2nd TOP DEBATING TEAM: David Longridge and Jason Ford.
- SELECTED TO REPRESENT B.C., with five other debaters, in the Canadian National Championships in May: David Longridge and, in the bilingual category, Kelly Wand.
- TOP IN DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION in the National Public Speaking Championships held in Winnipeg: Marcella Obdrzalek.
- B.C.'s TOP INDIVIDUAL DEBATER of 1987 and this year's TOP INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DEBATER for Canada and the North Eastern United States: Salim Ramji.
- TOP DEBATER in the World Student Debating Championships held in Britain: Salim Ramji. (Salim, who has won every debate he has entered in four years, is the first Canadian to win the World Student Championship.)

All SMU's competitors this year were from Victoria, unless otherwise noted.



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Sally Robinson
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April 30-May 4

BC asks MB:

LAST FALL, MACMILLAN BLOEDEL INVITED BRITISH COLUMBIANS TO CONTACT US WITH COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COMPANY'S FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES. OVER 3,000 OF YOU RESPONDED. YOU HAD SOME GOOD SUGGESTIONS, SOME LEGITIMATE CONCERNS, SOME UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS AND SOME GREAT QUESTIONS. HERE ARE A FEW OF THE QUESTIONS YOU PUT TO US AND ABBREVIATED VERSIONS OF THE ANSWERS WE SENT BACK.

Surely it is misleading and self-serving to say you plant more trees than you cut. Of course you do. But, 10 years later, how many of the trees you planted actually survive?

A. HILLARD
VANCOUVER, B.C.

At MacMillan Bloedel we cut between three and four million trees a year. We plant about seven million seedlings, not counting the millions which seed in naturally. MacMillan Bloedel sets a high standard for plantation survival. We get at least 75 per cent survival and in some cases 100 per cent. Survival rates vary from year to year because of annual climactic variation, species, slope, soil and animal damage. When necessary, our foresters go back and replant.

R.V. SMITH
PRESIDENT AND CEO



Why didn't MacMillan Bloedel plant on the west coast of Vancouver Island, around Bamfield and Long Beach?

N. TURKINGTON
NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.

We have, and I'd like to reassure you that we do reforest all the areas we log. Each logging division of MacMillan Bloedel employs a forestry staff to plan the complete reforestation process which actually begins even before the area is logged and continues through to the time that the second-growth stands are free from brush competition, and beyond.

Each logged area is monitored, with detailed records maintained on all activities. The majority of the sites along the west coast include a prescription for planting normally within two years after logging to ensure the conifers get well-established before brush species invade. And there are some areas where nature does a good job of reforestation through natural reseeding from surrounding timber stands which we take advantage of where feasible. Why do the logged areas look barren to individuals like yourself? Our seedlings range from 15 to 20 cm. tall, and this combined with slower growth rates in the first few years tends to make trees hard to see when driving down the road.

J.G. DRYBURGH
DIVISION FORESTER
FRANKLIN RIVER DIVISION



MacMillan Bloedel has been logging in B.C. since the early 1900's. Why aren't you now logging your second-growth if you really are tree farmers?

B.R. SMITH
BANFF, ALBERTA

We are — in a limited way. MacMillan Bloedel currently obtains 5-10% of our cut from our second-growth forests and this proportion is expanding. However, we still have a large area of over-mature forests which must be logged first. Its growth is static and quality is gradually deteriorating with age. The transition to full second-growth harvesting (and beyond) is in progress but we are trying to defer logging of these forests as long as they are still adding volume and quality.

G.L. AINSCOUGH
VICE-PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FORESTER



What is the survival rate of seedlings planted on MB land?

L. DISHER, MERVILLE, B.C.

Survival on MacMillan Bloedel's plantations is of course variable depending upon the condition of the stock when it leaves the nursery, handling and storage until it reaches the planting site, the planting quality, the time of year the trees are planted, and the site and weather conditions after planting. To help determine the quality of trees leaving the nurseries, we have pioneered operational use of Root Growth



What is MB doing with respect to logging practices and the impact on salmon populations? Do you fund any hatcheries or research?

D. GIBLIN
VICTORIA, B.C.

MacMillan Bloedel has been very active in working with government agencies and other companies to establish guidelines for forest practices adjacent to anadromous (spawning) and sport fish waters.

Some ongoing activities that might interest you include:

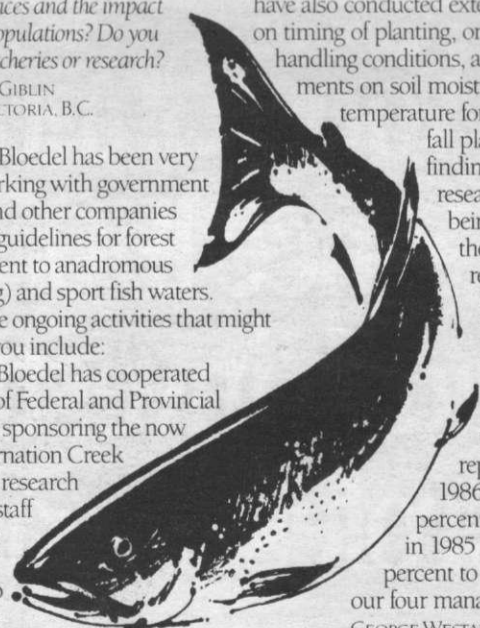
- MacMillan Bloedel has cooperated with a variety of Federal and Provincial agencies in sponsoring the now 17-year Carnation Creek fish-forestry research studies. Our staff serve on both the technical working group and steering committees.

- A number of MB employees have participated in the development of the new British Columbia Coastal Fisheries/Forestry Guideline and the Watershed Sensitivity manual which will be implemented on a trial basis in 1988.

- MacMillan Bloedel has spent almost \$6 million on environmental studies and advice to our Woodlands Divisions over the last nine years. Only 15% was recoverable from government sources.

- 1988 research projects will focus on channel-streambank stability and prediction of landslides, especially where failures may affect fish habitat.

WILLIAM POLLARD
COORDINATOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES,
LAND USE PLANNING ADVISORY TEAM



Capacity (RGC) testing in B.C. We have also conducted extensive research on timing of planting, on storage and handling conditions, and the requirements on soil moisture and temperature for successful fall planting. The findings from this research are now being applied in the field. The result is that we have reduced failure rates on our plantations and thus reduced the need for replanting. The 1986 survival by percent of area planted in 1985 ranged from 89 percent to 95 percent on our four management units.

GEORGE WESTARP
MANAGER, FORESTRY PRACTICES

If you've got a question for us, or would like more information on MacMillan Bloedel's forest management activities, we'd like to hear from you. Write: MacMillan Bloedel, P.O. Box 6300, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4B5



MacMillan Bloedel
We treat forestry as a growth industry.

Behave like bonds

Preferred shares have solid income flow

By **BILL CALLIN**

Investors seeking income often limit their selection to bonds and give little or no consideration to preferred shares. They usually ignore preferreds simply because they don't know much about them.

Perhaps the easiest way to think of preferred shares is to note that they are shares which behave like a bond. A preferred share represents an ownership interest in a corporation, just as common stock does.

But it also produces a reliable stream of income—in the form of a pre-set dividend—very much like the interest paid on a bond. The price of a preferred moves with interest rates, like a bond's price. When interest rates rise, the price of the preferred falls, and when rates fall, the price rises.

The same independent services that rate bonds—namely, Canadian Bond Rating Service Inc. and Dominion Bond Rating Service Inc.—rate many preferred issues, from highest quality (P-1 or PFD-1) to speculative (P-5 or PFD-5). And, like bonds, most preferred shares can be "called", or retired, by the issuer. In most cases, the call price is above the par value (price at which shares are originally issued).

Preferreds are well-suited to relatively conservative investors.

They are also useful for more aggressive investors who want to balance a portfolio heavily weighted toward growth stocks.

The income from preferreds can boost the current yield on shares of companies that usually reinvest their earnings in their fast-growing businesses rather than pay dividends.

Preferred shares offer the following attractions:



- **High yield**—preferred shares typically yield one to three percentage points more in dividends than common stock issued by the same company. Since dividends are paid quarterly, many investors purchase three or more preferred issues with different payment dates, to assure themselves a monthly dividend cheque.

- **Liquidity**—many preferred issues are listed on the major stock exchanges, making them easy to buy and sell. Most preferred shares are issued at par values of \$25, putting them well within the reach of individual investors. Older

'One major advantage of investing in preferred shares is the dividend tax credit.'

issues trade above or below their par value, depending on interest rates and other market conditions.

- **Safety**—preferred shares rank senior to common shares; that is, preferred shareholders' claims for dividends and corporate assets (in

the event the company is liquidated) come before common shareholders' claims. If a company runs into serious financial problems, the board of directors may vote to reduce or skip the preferred dividend without placing the company in default. But most preferred stock is "cumulative", so missed dividends accumulate and must be paid to preferred shareholders before any dividends are paid to common shareholders.

(Keep in mind, though, that preferred stock is junior to all the company's debt. Bond interest payments take priority over preferred dividends and bondholders would get paid off first if the company were dissolved.)

The dividend on some preferred issues can be increased by the board if the company does especially well and the common stock dividend rises to a certain level. Such issues are called "participating" preferred and usually command a premium price. Most preferreds are "non-participating"—their dividends never change, regardless of how high the common stock dividends rise.

Retractable preferreds have a fixed term, which means the investor has the right to sell the shares back to the issuing corporation at a certain price on predetermined dates. The investor is therefore guaranteed a selling price. These shares are most attractive to investors who require a steady income and are concerned about the preservation of capital.

Convertible preferred shares

offer income-oriented investors a chance at capital appreciation, too. These are preferred shares that can be exchanged for a specified number of common shares. The trade-off is that prices of convertible preferreds typically fluctuate more than those of non-convertible issues. They are probably not for investors who value a relatively stable share price.

One major advantage of investing in preferred shares is the dividend tax credit. While tax reform proposals of June, 1987, lessen this advantage, the dividend tax credit still means that an individual investor will retain more of each dollar of dividend income as compared to interest income.

Another interesting effect that tax reform will have on the preferred share market is to make them a less attractive financing alternative for companies. Now corporations issuing preferred shares must pay a tax on the dividends paid. As a result, few new preferred share issues will come to market, meaning investors will be bidding for a finite number of issues. However, prices of these shares are expected to remain stable as long as interest rates are stable.

If you think preferred shares may have a place in your portfolio, check with your investment executive. Because of all the variables associated with these securities, expert advice is essential to choose both the right type of preferred, and to choose between specific issues.

Bill Callin is an investment executive with McLeod Young Weir in Victoria.

Treasury bills good investment

By **DONALD W. DONY**

Over the next 12 issues of *Money Matters*, this column will be covering the full range of investment vehicles available to Canadian citizens. That range will include everything from options to RRSPs, treasury bills to tax shelters, and from mutual funds to mortgage-backed securities. Each month, one investment vehicle or area will be reviewed and analyzed for benefits and drawbacks; and who they are best suited for.

Treasury bills, or T-Bills, as they are commonly called, are the focus of this first column. But what really are T-Bills, who issues them, and how safe are they?

Treasury bills are short-term debt securities issued by the Bank of Canada on behalf of the federal government or by one of several provincial governments. Federal T-Bills are the most popular, and will be the focus of this article.

T-bills are auctioned weekly, normally on Thursdays, by the minister of finance to the Bank of Canada, and through the bank to its primary distributors (which consist of Canadian chartered banks and investment dealers).

Technically, T-bills are bonds; however, unlike other bonds, they do not have interest-bearing coupons. T-bills are sold at a discount and mature at 100 per cent of the face value, the difference being the interest. For

Turn to Page A19

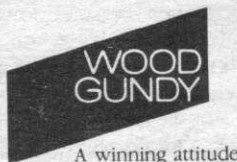
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Investment funds able to balance major decision-making factors

By BRUCE FOERSTER
Sir,

I'm in a real dilemma. Perhaps you could help me. I can't decide where I should be investing my money. I have some bonds and term deposits coming due soon, but it occurred to me that if I renew them at say, 9 per cent, by the time I take 3 per cent off for income tax, I'm left with only a 6 per cent return.

Inflation, I've learned, has averaged 8 per cent over the last 10 years and is expected to average about the same over the next 10 years. I'm now left with a negative 2 per cent a year in return. If I decide to take the income from my investment, my money is now dropping by 11 per cent per year. At that rate, my savings will drop to half their value in just five years.

Is there anything that will provide me with good security, flexibility, real growth and preferred tax treatment?
Signed: C. L., Ganges, B.C.

Your dilemma is a common one. Many people like yourself have become disillusioned with conventional types of deposits, but are hesitant to invest elsewhere for various reasons.

In my many years in the financial planning profession I have found there are four key factors one must keep foremost in mind when making investment decisions: quality, diversification, balance and professional management.

The quality of your securities is important whether it is stocks, bonds or real estate, as quality never goes out of style. Diversification, both geographical and of investment type, is important as investment types should constantly be adjusted in your portfolio to reflect the economic environment.

Today's fast-changing economy demands full-time professional management. Why have the anxiety of constantly having to make investment decisions if you can easily employ the best money minds in the world to manage your affairs for you?

For most of us there is only one way to effectively employ all four of these important factors — a Balanced Global Investment Fund. Of the approximately 350 investment funds in Canada today there is only one that could truly be called a balanced global fund: The Sunset World Fund.

The Sunset World Fund is managed by Worldinvest Ltd. from their offices in London, England. Worldinvest is one of the most successful pension fund managers in the world, managing the pensions for such clients as General Motors, Pan Am, ITT, the United Nations and Harvard, Stanford and Yale Universities, plus a number of other prestigious clients in North America and Europe.

Worldinvest has demonstrated an ability to manage money that no other management company in the world can match. Worldinvest's Equity Fund (stocks) averaged 29.4 per cent annually over the last five years. Worldinvest's Income Fund (bonds) averaged 26.2 per cent over the last five years. Both funds were rated first in the world amongst some 3,000 funds, as measured by Lipper Analytical Services, the leading mutual fund performance service in the U.S.

The Sunset World Fund's principal advantage is that since it



is able to invest anywhere in the world it can get the best returns. And being a truly balanced fund it is not subjected to the rapid fluctuations of the stock and bond markets.

Worldinvest's expertise and conservative style were exemplified again last October, when the world stock markets experienced declines of up to 30 per cent. During that same time period, the Sunset World Fund went up 2 per cent. Since most of the returns on the fund are

dividends and capital gains, one need pay little or no tax on their return.

When you combine the security that a fund with this diversification represents, combined with the significant growth potential, preferred tax treatment and total flexibility, this fund offers investors advantages no other investment available can match.

Bruce Foerster is a senior financial advisor with England Securities Ltd.

Federal issues provide safe, secure investment

From Page A18
example, a \$20,000 one-month T-bill could be bought for \$19,845.80, and mature at face value or \$20,000. The \$154.20 (\$19,845.80 - \$20,000) equals the accrued interest.

The security of federal T-bills is superb. Since they are issued by the Government of Canada, they are virtually risk-free. They are the

'Since they are issued by the government of Canada, they are virtually risk-free.'

safest investment on the Canadian money market.

Another attractive feature about federal T-bills is their terms. Maturities are available at 30, 60, 91, 182 and 364 days (one, two, three, six months and one-year, respectively). Should a T-bill need to be sold before maturity,

redemption can be easily achieved. T-bills are highly liquid and can be sold on any business day. There is no penalty as such; however, as rates are subject to prevailing market conditions, you may not realize interest at the same rate you would otherwise get on maturity.

Who should buy treasury bills? As they are one of the safest money market instruments available, T-bills should be recommended to those who seek short-term investments with security, liquidity, and a reasonable rate of return. T-bills are suitable for RRSPs, RRIFs, investment clubs, charities, religious organizations, and of course, individuals who make both large and small investments.

Next month's column will be centred around bonds, from government of Canada to corporate.

Donald W. Dony is an account executive with Wood Gundy Inc. in Victoria.



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

**BRANCH 92
120 BLAIN ROAD**

Opening Ceremony & Dedication

**Saturday, May 7, 1988
commencing at 2:00 pm**

Branch & Ladies' Auxiliary members to parade 1:30 pm at 120 Blain Rd.

Colour party to parade at 1:30 pm at Government Building.

DRESS: UNIFORM & MEDALS (if possible)

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17-2

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May 2-8



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17-2

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Seniors' band supplies luncheon entertainment

An Old Age Pensioners Organization (OAPO) pot luck luncheon held at Central Hall on April 12 drew an attendance of 73.

The occasion was the Ganges branch's monthly social meeting — but this one had a difference. It was held in honour of visiting guests from Duncan, the New Horizons Harmonica Band, who in turn reciprocated by following the meal with 90 minutes of entertainment.

Branch OAPO president Edie Gear was in the chair, and Bill

Harper was master of ceremonies.

The food, prepared and brought by members, was of epicurean quality — proof that the members of the branch are a talented group and, if induced to do so, could produce a cookbook that would bring fame to the island. Each dish was delicious and each was consumed with

delight (there were no leftovers).

When the meal was over and the dishes cleared, the harmonica band went into action. Each member of the 12-person group was a senior citizen (some more senior than others), and each was nattily dressed in scarlet waistcoat, black pants and polished shoes. In addition to harmonicas, the band played piano, snare

drum and accordion.

The group's program consisted of songs like *You Are My Sunshine*, *There's A Tavern In The Town*, Scotland's *Bonnie Banks and Braes*, *Grandfather's Clock*, and other old-time favourites.

After an initial warmup, the lilting tunes soon had everyone singing and beating time. The rafters were ringing to the sound

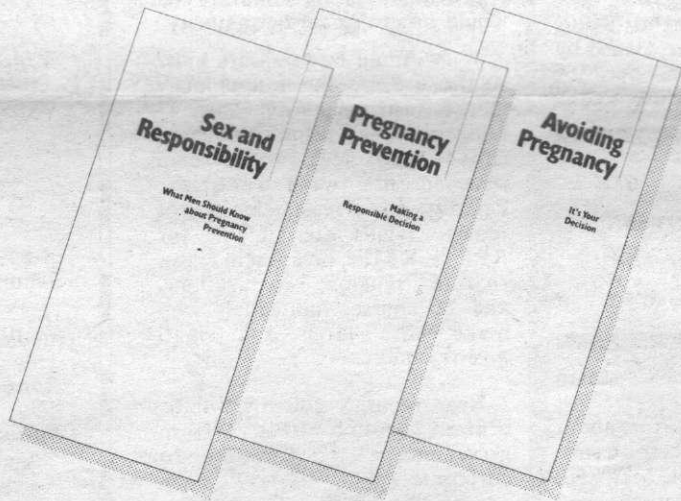
of 73 voices — not always in tune, but happy, happy voices.

During the program, Mary MacGregor and Walter Kryal gave a demonstration of the two-step, followed by Edie Gear, who showed how to dance alone and still have fun.

When the harmonica band played its last number, there were cries of *more, more*, and when master of ceremonies Bill Harper asked the question, "Will ye no come back again," it was a genuine expression of the feelings of all present.

Current information about pregnancy prevention:


To help British Columbians plan responsibly.



Brochures that provide information on pregnancy prevention are available through your doctor, your pharmacist and at your local Health Unit listed in the Blue Pages of your telephone directory.

For those who are ready, the rewards of having a family can be great. But if you're not ready for the challenges it brings, make sure you plan responsibly.

Our future needs responsible decisions.

BC 
Ministry of Health
Honourable Peter A. Dueck, Minister