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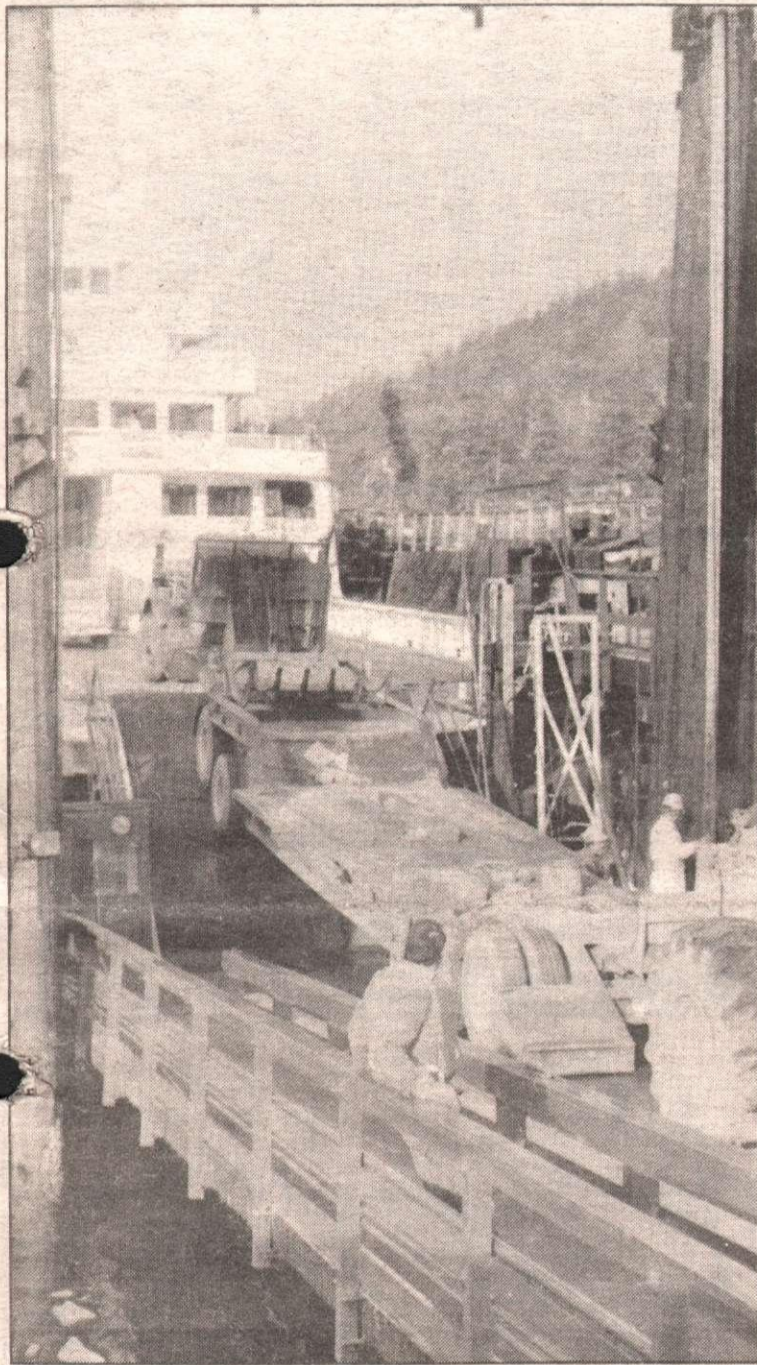
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TWENTY-NINTH YEAR, NO. 7

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1988

50¢



Ferry sailings between Fulford and Swartz Bay came to a halt Tuesday morning when a truck pulling a low-bed trailer became lodged on the ramp. As shown above, the truck could not move on or off the ferry. Service resumed about four hours later, after two round-trips were cancelled.

Ramp, truck mishap delays ferry sailing

Two early morning sailings were delayed and numerous commuters trapped on board the motor vessel *Bowen Queen* yesterday (Tuesday), when a truck pulling a low-bed trailer became lodged on the ferry ramp at Fulford.

The truck, towing earth-moving equipment, was boarding the 6:30 am ferry bound for Swartz Bay. The truck became hung up on the ramp and could not drive on or off the ferry.

Initial reports from B.C. Ferry Corporation spokesman Betty Nicholson suggested workers would have to wait for the tides to rise before removing the vehicle from the ramp. A higher tide, it was thought, would lessen the extreme angle of the ramp. Should this prove unsuccessful, a crane would have to be brought in.

In the meantime, those wanting to get to Vancouver Island were being asked to take the alternate Vesuvius/Crofton route. Those already aboard the *Bowen Queen*, however, had to wait it out.

The truck was eventually moved after workers disconnected the cab from the low bed trailer. Each was dislodged from the ramp, and loading resumed at approximately 10:10 am.

According to Nicholson, damage to the ramp and vehicle was minimal.

The incident caused the corporation to cancel the first two round-trip sailings Tuesday morning. The third sailing was delayed by just under an hour.

At Peter Arnell Park gathering

Moratorium, controls sought over large-scale logging work

Concern over uncontrolled logging in the Gulf Islands was expressed Monday by approximately 150 islanders who gathered at Peter Arnell Park on Salt Spring.

The group heard speakers representing a number of different interests, but the bottom line was the same: legislation is needed to enforce some type of control over logging on private property in the Gulf Islands.

Concern was sparked by the recent sale of 4,800 acres of former MacMillan-Bloedel fore-

stand on Salt Spring. Monday's meeting at Peter Arnell park brought islanders next to one of those former MB acreages — a 446-acre parcel owned by Mountain View Farms Ltd. and presently being logged by a contractor.

Murray Cyprus, a principal of Mountain View Farms, stayed away from the gathering because, he said, he preferred to avoid a confrontation.

Many of Monday's speakers indicated they do not oppose logging *per se* — just methods

which damage the environment.

"Good cutting — logging — can take place," Islands Trustee Nick Gilbert told the group. "It doesn't have to be ugly."

Gilbert outlined the extent of the problem as it affects other Gulf Islands. He noted that Denman, Lasqueti, Bowen and Sidney islands have already been subjected to heavy logging. A good portion of Galiano Island, he added, has already been clear-cut.

The Islands Trust has a mandate to preserve and protect, Gilbert said, but the mandate does not extend to control or halt logging on privately-owned property. He asked that the Trust be given some authority in this area.

Gilbert suggested that tree-cutting permits could be used. The permit would have two effects: it would stop the "fly-by-night logger from coming in for a quick profit," and encourage good logging practices.

Speaker Ian Fraser, chairman of the Advisory Planning Commission, noted logging is a "viable industry in B.C.," but suggested legislation should be put in place to discourage clear-cut practices. Fraser said the right legislation could "allow everybody to have their pie and eat it too."

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MB refutes any, all link to land, logging

MacMillan-Bloedel says there are no links between the forest company and logging activity now underway on the Stewart Road property included in the 4,800 acres it transferred to Salt Spring Lands Ltd. late last year.

The question of a connection arose when a title search of the land — since acquired by Harbour View Farms Ltd. — listed MacMillan-Bloedel as the holder of the first mortgage and showed a charge against the timber

rights, granted to Coastland Wood Industries Ltd. of Nanaimo.

However, both MacMillan-Bloedel and Salt Spring Lands Ltd. said Monday that the purchase price for the property has been paid in full by Harbour View Farms Ltd. — a move that will see MB's first mortgage charge removed from the title as soon as discharge papers are processed by the lawyers involved.

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Attachment of controls not considered in sale

MacMillan-Bloedel did not attach land-use controls to the sale of its former Salt Spring properties because such a move would have been "most unusual," and because the forest company feels the resales now underway are being handled properly.

Charles Smith of MB's properties division said Monday that while the forest company knew its acreage would be "turned over" to several new owners by Salt Spring Lands Ltd. shortly after the two parties reached an agreement late last year, it felt rezonings and other appropriate designations of the properties would still be accomplished.

At the time the agreement was reached, MB and the Trust had been negotiating density transfers and cluster developments for the forest company, in return for leaving a large bulk of the lands in their natural state. Those talks fell through, however.

Smith's comments were made in amplification of remarks made by MB's Gary Kadatz in Saturday's *Times-Colonist*. Kadatz, al-

so a member of MB's properties division, said the company felt that "as long as we sold the property intact in one fell swoop, rather than piece by piece, the new owner would work with the Islands Trust to work out new zoning."

Smith said no requirement was attached to the sale to have Salt Spring Lands negotiate new zonings with the Trust because "it would be (a) most unusual" requirement.

Related stories, Page A14

He added: "If we had had a good dollar offer (from a single buyer) from someone who would clear-cut, who would be engaging in bad practices, we would have had a corporate decision to make, to see if that would be worth the public relations problems. But we didn't think we'd face that in this case, because Salt Spring Lands

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INSIDE



Helping

Les Pragnell gets the word on blood pressure during last weekend's Heart Fund drive. Page A9.

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Concern over logging draws moratorium call

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Gulf Islands Woodlot Operators Association president Ken Renaud agreed, nothing that in some areas the removal of one-third of the trees in a stand might actually improve the surrounding environment. "There are sound, economic reasons for logging in another way," he said.

Many individuals expressed concern over the effects logging has on tourism and the environment. Salmon Enhancement Society spokesman Kathy Reimer told the throng the increased run-off of surface water from clear-cutting can wipe out spawning beds. Others indicated concern over the protection of watersheds, slopes and aquifer recharge zones.

A representative of the Cowichan Indian Band gave support to the aims expressed at the meeting.

"We have a great concern about the forests that are being taken from us and the animals that live there," he said.

Tourism is another factor nega-

tively affected by logging, several people said. Susan Yardley cited the example of clear-cut logging in the Long Beach area and repeated a comment made by tourists to the area: "How can a country do this to itself?" People come to the Gulf Islands to walk in the woods, Yardley added.

The call for controlling legislation was amplified by individuals who said action was needed now, and that future legislation cannot stop the Stewart Road logging. A petition circulated at the meeting seeks a temporary moratorium on logging of all of the former MB acreage on Salt Spring until the provincial government enacts legislation giving the Islands Trust some control over logging on private lands.

"How would you like someone telling you what you can do in your back yard?" questioned local resident Rick Rockcliffe in speaking against the mood of the gathering. Rockcliffe said he feels negotiation between the Trust and landowners can be successful



Don Kreye (back to camera) addresses park gathering

Calls earn support in legislature; 'corporate responsibility' queried

Monday's call for the Trust to be given some authority over logging practices on the Gulf Islands has at least one supporter in the provincial legislature.

Vancouver East MLA Bob Williams, the NDP's former forestry critic (now trade and industry critic), said Monday he supports giving a local agency like the Trust some control over logging activities in its area.

Williams, who has been following tree-cutting activity on the Gulf Islands, told *Driftwood* he feels the Islands Trust should also be given responsibility to set management standards for all forestland on the islands.

"A local agency should be in control," he said. "Sensitive local management makes sense — we'd all be the better for it."

Williams noted that while all three western states in the U.S. have "tight legislation governing logging on private land," B.C. has no such measures in place.

"The islands are a potential victim — there's no doubt about that," he continued. "There could be irreparable damage done. Unfortunately, private forestlands that are not properly regulated or managed lose all of their potential as forests."

Williams also took issue with MB's sale of its 4,800 acres of Salt Spring property to private ow-

ners, noting the action has left the island vulnerable to large-scale clear-cutting practices.

"It's incredible that MB would sell those properties when it knew how sensitive islanders are," he said. "MB should be a more responsible corporate citizen —

for them to do this to the islands to make a few bucks... it erases all the BS in their TV ad claims."

Moreover, Williams said "it's time we should be talking turkey to MB about turning over all of their lands on the Gulf Islands, including those on Galiano."

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17	1050	8.7		0725	11.2
WE	1510	10.3	SU	1400	4.5
	2240	1.2		2025	9.1
18	0620	11.1	22	0130	6.6
	1135	7.6		0745	11.1
TH	1630	10.0	MO	1455	3.8
	2320	2.2		2205	9.1
19	0640	11.1	23	0210	8.0
	1220	6.5		0815	10.9
FR	1750	9.7	TU	1555	3.4
20	0005	3.6	24	0010	9.4
	0700	11.2		0315	9.1
SA	1310	5.4	WE	0840	10.6
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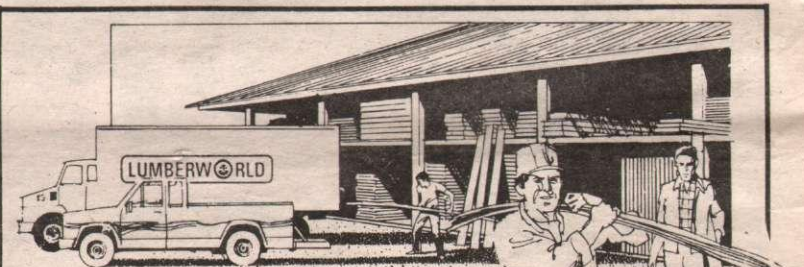
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to be frank

by richards

High cost of driving

The factor that puts the high price on automobiles in New Zealand is government tax. I met a former New Zealander on the ferry the other day. He explained that he trained in Canada to fly with the air forces and subsequently returned here. He knew the tax picture very well.

I still have the clipping he showed me from a New Zealand newspaper, setting out the various costs involved.

It considers the case of a car marketed in its homeland at \$9,000; perhaps a Honda. The cost of shipping the car to the southern hemisphere adds another \$1,000 — although this figure includes the insurance premium.

There is an import license required at a cost of \$4,400, while 80 per cent of the car's cost is imposed as a duty, making another \$7,200.

Now you have a \$9,000 car on which the taxes, license and duty has added another \$11,600 to give a total cost figure of \$21,600 before the car has reached the dealer's showroom. Miscellaneous charges and the 12 per cent dealer's mark-up total \$3,224 — to set a wholesale price on this car of \$24,864.

The car now comes to the dealer, who marks up another 12 per cent or \$2,984 to show a retail price on this car on the showroom floor of \$27,848.

But, hold! There is yet a sales tax on automobiles in New Zealand. It's a mere 10 per cent but it brings up the total retail price of this Honda from its original figure of \$9,000 to a customer price tag of \$30,632.

I'm not complaining about taxes in somebody else's land. I'm just passing on what happens in other places. Without reference to the internal problems, the tax structure is probably set to discourage such imports and to keep local dollars at home. The picture is a shock to those nations where taxes amounting to a fraction of those levied in New Zealand are seen as iniquitous.

Anonymous again!

A student tells me that she was out and about the night identified as that on which a mysterious celestial object was seen by other islanders.

Like her fellow sky-watchers, she prefers to remain anonymous. I am told that the young lady in question was walking in the vicinity of the elementary school in Ganges when she saw a white light lighting up the whole sky in a circle. Shortly afterwards the power failed in Ganges, she says. Her father suggested at the time that it might be a searchlight employed to find the rowers who had been lost at Elk Lake.

The island student is not confident that her papa had the right answer. Was there a connection between the light in the sky and the power failure, she wants to know.

Which brings us back to where we were before anyone saw the lights. Three people saw them and nobody knows what caused them. I guess the rest of us are still in the dark.

It leaped!

Before anybody else tells you: yes, it is a leap year this month and, yes, there are 29 days in February this year. And, yes, there are still 312 shopping days till Christmas.

Julius Caesar, who spent half his life waging war and the other half writing about it, was the author of leap years, though he referred to them as "bi-sextile" years, because there was no February 29 in his early calendar, but February 24, identified as the sixth day before the Calends of March, was marked twice. Hence, the Roman would look at his calendar; he never wore a watch; and remark that yesterday was the 24th so that today must be the 24th! It was like May 24 only different.

Traditionally, it was the one day in the four years, or eight years, between leap years when a lady might propose marriage to her beloved. Or to anybody else, I guess.

Discussions underway with owners interested in density transfer concept

From Page A1

is a reputable agency. We didn't think it was needed."

Mel Topping of Salt Spring Lands pointed out that many purchasers of portions of the former MB properties are interested in negotiating density transfers and right-of-way trail network easements with the Islands Trust.

Ken Renaud agreed. The president of the Gulf Islands Woodlot Operators Association is working with the Trust to encourage buyers of the MB lands to practise "good woodlands management" and offer hiking trail easements in return for density transfers and the tax breaks

available for managed woodlots.

Renaud said discussions are currently underway with four owners of three former MB properties. The land in question covers about 400 acres of the 4,800-acre total sold by the forest company.

"They (the new owners) have said they're willing to manage their lands aesthetically, to do density transfers, and to give up trail access," Renaud said. "A few owners have already come forward, and we are trying to set up meetings with the others through Mel."

When Murray Cyprus met with Trustees Nick Gilbert and Pat Byrne 10 days ago to discuss the MB property Harbour View

Farms Ltd. bought on Stewart Road, he also said he would be willing to discuss density transfers and the granting of easements for hiking trails. Another meeting among the parties is tentatively set for later this week.

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Gulf Islands Driftwood

Published every Wednesday at Ganges, B.C. by
Driftwood Publishing Ltd.
 126 Upper Ganges Road

Box 250, Ganges, B.C.
 V0S 1E0
Ph. (604) 537-9933
 From the Outer Islands
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Wheel doesn't have to be re-invented

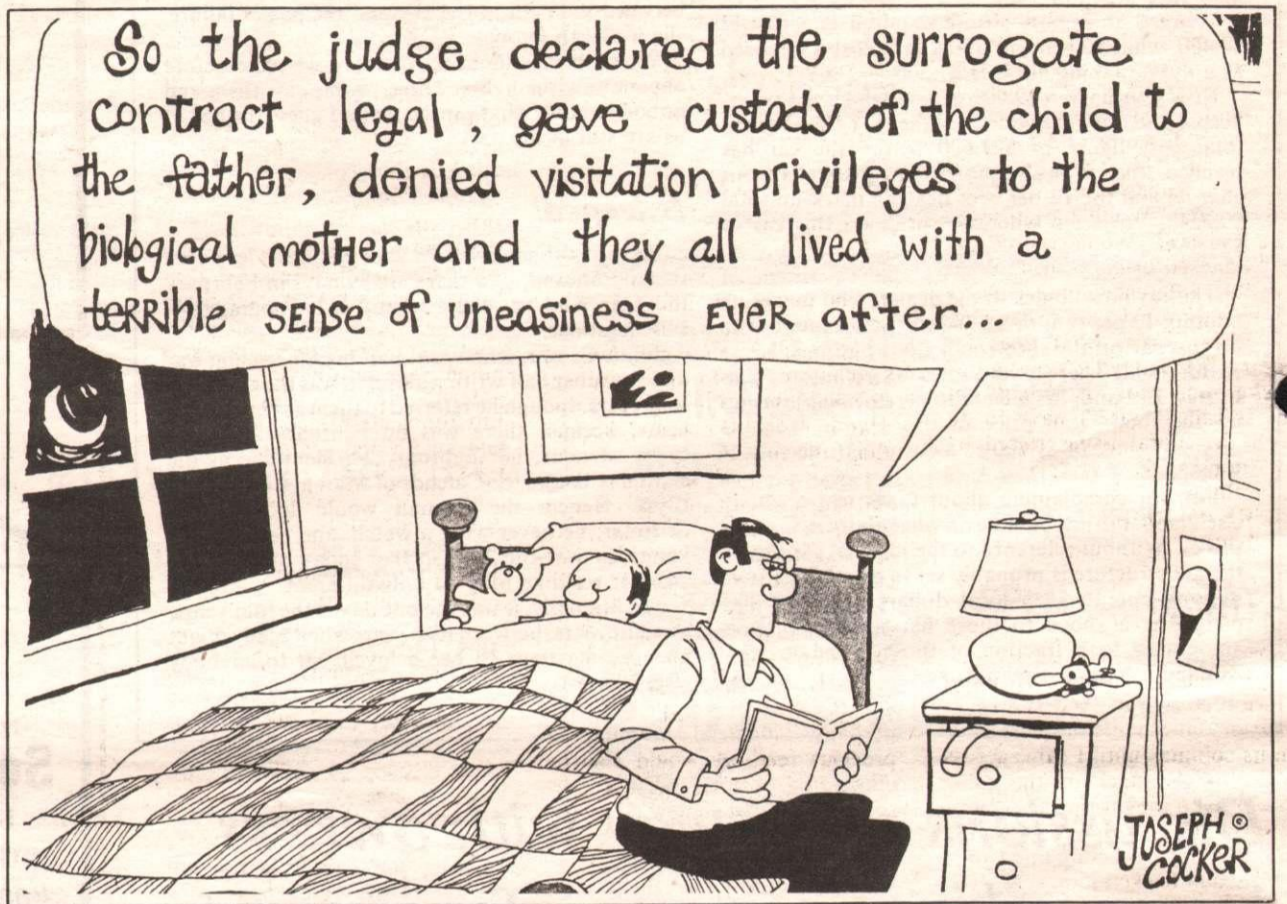
It's important, in the midst of all the bustle and fuss now surrounding MacMillan-Bloedel's Salt Spring Island land sale, to keep one eye firmly trained on the central issue: the propriety or practicality of Islands Trust control over large-scale tree-cutting on private lands.

Given the improved chances of such cutting taking place on Salt Spring, thanks to the sale of the MB lands, the absence of current checks and balances is a worry. It leads to concern that extensive logging could give our all-important tourism industry a black eye, dilute the aesthetic values that constitute a good part of the island way of life, and harm the property values of people who've chosen to make their homes here.

But while we can support the concept of some authority over tree-cutting for the Trust, it's important first to set out some important clarifications.

The first point the Trust should nail down before it begins a quest for controls is its definition of when and where its proposed authority over tree-cutting would apply. No small landowner should be expected to give to a government agency, no matter how local, the right he now enjoys to engage in small scale tree-trimming as he sees fit. At the same time, the same landowner must admit it would be ridiculous to require certain cutting practices from large companies and not ask a private citizen to adhere to the same rules if he was proposing tree-cutting on an identical scale.

A point somewhere in the middle would seem appropriate enough—and it is already defined. The terms and conditions which govern small woodlots qualifying as managed forestland would be an appropriate starting point. Included in those terms is a percentage of annual cut allowed per management unit—ranging from five hectares or 10 per cent of the productive land found on parcels up to 100 hectares in size, up to two per cent of the productive land on parcels over 5,000 hectares in area.



We would suggest that the proposed Trust controls could be applied to any scope of tree-cutting which would exceed the harvest limits per management unit scale defined under the assessment regulations. Anything less could be defined as long-range management; anything more as large-scale logging.

But what degree of authority over their activities should these private landowners be willing to hand over to an Islands Trust body given control over their tree-cutting and land management practices? We suggest it should be no more—and no less—than the authority now exercised by the provincial ministry of forests when it deals with

major forest companies. Those conditions cover such ingredients as an approved cutting plan, the appropriate method of logging to be employed, and the commitment to reforestation, where applicable.

The Trust does not have to re-invent any wheels in search for a measure of control. It may well wish to consider drafting additional criteria which would reflect concern for the unique nature of the Gulf Islands, but for the most part it can do well enough with the land mass and cutting scope definitions currently laid out in assessment regulations, and with the standards now expected by the forests ministry.

Answers may flow from closed-door sessions

Is there a vendetta against Murray Cyprus? That was the suggestion received here from more than one quarter since late last week, in response to the close scrutiny being given to the role he's playing in the MB lands drama being played out on Salt Spring.

Well, let's put one or two things in perspective here and see if we can find an answer to that one.

Murray's points first. He'll tell you, quite correctly, that he is certainly not the only MB-lands purchaser who will be carrying out some degree of logging activity on freshly-bought lands, that he has done nothing untowards in the logging conducted to date on the property, and that he has made an honest effort to inform the Islands Trust of his

plans and has offered to listen to all of its comments.

He also notes that he's expressed interest in discussing density transfers and trail easements and almost everything else the Trust has mentioned in reference to his land, and is waiting for the Trust to get back to him on those points.

So why, Murray asks, is everyone on the attack?

Fear of the unknown, according to his critics — whose ranks likely include almost everyone who turned out Monday at Peter Arnell Park. They point to some of the past ventures he's been involved with, like Bullock Lake on Salt Spring and a plot of land on Bowen Island, and say the degree of tree-cutting done on those acreages was repugnant to their tastes and could be repeated

my word

by

duncan macdonnell

on Stewart Road, Murray's reassurances to the contrary.

But those concerns, as I see them, have less to do with Murray's past performances and more to do with the degree of confidence his critics now place in his words. There're looking at him and that Stewart Road property with a few nagging doubts born of other parcels, and no number of verbal promises he makes about his good intentions

will cause them to shrink from thinking that anything different is in store this time around.

So, does that constitute a vendetta against Murray Cyprus? Depends on how you define the word. I would say it's more like tight scrutiny born of concerns that might well be off-base or might well be real, but are concerns all the same.

So I have a suggestion: let's bring all the major players together, throw them into a room with a mediator sworn to respect the need for confidentiality, and toss everything down on the table. That includes Murray's documents and plans and contracts, the Trust's requests for density transfers and trails and pockets of trees, and anything else anyone can think of that might help to put the perception of this thing on an

even keel.

Out of the process should come the iron-clad assurances people are seeking from Murray, and a definite answer from the Trust to his demands that they bargain with him in good faith. And if we get that, this fuss should disappear overnight.

Now remember, Murray is right when he says he shouldn't be treated any differently from anyone else, and he'd be right if he suggested placing these demands on him is something a little out of the ordinary.

But here's the bottom line: as unfair as it may be to ask Murray to offer up more than verbal assurances of his good intentions, I can see it as the only sure way to bring an end to the real or imagined resistance he's facing out there.

Rhetoric

Sir,
Anti-abortionists: please, spare me the holocaust rhetoric of Val Konig's open letter to Dr. Henry Morgentaler in last week's *Driftwood*. Spare me the veiled anti-Semitism that leaps out from between every line. I found Ms Konig's constant references to Dr. Morgentaler's "race" appalling. "Son of Abraham" — what is that supposed to mean?

Yes, Jews were singled out for extermination by the Nazis on no other basis than that of our so-called "race". Are we now to be singled out for hatred and abuse by anti-abortionists on that very same basis? Who can possibly benefit from having the methodical extermination of six million Jews compared to a suction abortion? As if Europe was ever our "womb"; it was always the breeding grounds of pogroms, persecution and expulsions.

Would Ms Konig find it any less tragic if Dr Morgentaler's abortions had been performed by a Presbyterian? Would the fetuses be any less dead? Would she be any less opposed or concerned? What possible difference could it make to the abortion debate either way? In other words, what does Dr Henry Morgentaler's religious background (no, Ms Konig, not his so-called "race") have to do with the moral issues raised by abortions?

Nothing.
MURRAY REISS,
Vesuvius.

Attack

Sir,
I have been reading *Driftwood* since it started in 1960 and never saw an anti-Semitic or racist letter in its columns until I came across Val Konig's attack on the noble doctor who fought for the right of women not to have unwanted children until the Supreme Court of Canada backed him.

To accuse him of perpetrating a holocaust — killing unborn babies — is not only absurd but a slur on both the women who need abortions and the doctors who perform them. I am indeed surprised that the editor let this letter pass, and hope it never happens again.

ANTHONY NETBOY,
Ganges.

Revealed

Sir,
After reading Galiano's Derek Young's thoughtful and moving letter in last week's *Driftwood*, I reread your war correspondent's January series on Canada's military contribution to NATO. What had at first come across as a trite, insipid piece of inanity now revealed itself in its true, obscene form. Thank you, Mr. Youngs, for not letting that one slip by. You are walking and asking questions for a lot of us.

SHILO ZYLBERGOLD,
Fulford Harbour.

Compromise

Sir,
The emotionalism of the abortion issue has returned with the recent Supreme Court decision. A point that is often missed by those who oppose

liberalized abortion is that, regardless of the law, women will obtain abortions.

It will seem repugnant to many to approach a moral problem in an expedient fashion, but history shows that compromise is necessary. If we do not accept abortion under medically and legally controlled conditions we will return to the bad old days of back alley abortions performed with a piece of coat hanger wire. Desperation drove women to purveyors of services of that type and sometimes those women died.

We need compromise laws which will face the realities of the world. Abortion is not a nice thought but, unless pragmatism prevails, the alternatives are not nice, either.

RICHARD ANDERSEN,
Fulford Harbour.

Responsible

Sir,
I sincerely disapprove of the mistreatment of our wilderness purely for profit, and I sympathize with people who are currently protesting the invasion of Strathcona Park for this purpose. However, when I look around this island at similar places, I wonder about the furore.

Large sections of this island and other places are littered with trash: the packaging from take-out foods, bottles, cans, junked cars, tires, batteries, etc. Much of this is endangering our woods, wildlife and domestic wildlife, not to mention young children.

Surely, like charity our concern should begin at home, and then perhaps industrial invasion of precious territory would also be eliminated without what I perceive to be the somewhat hypocritical huffing and puffing that goes on.

I suppose, however, that it is all rather more exciting to march around waving banners and looking heroic in front of TV cameras instead of cleaning up your own back yard.

Also, as long as we all continue to demand the many conveniences we enjoy, we are going to

continue to fuel the need for ever-greater invasion by industries such as mining and oil exploration — and, perhaps worst of all, atomic energy plants with their potential accident and waste disposal problems. We are all responsible.

BERYL M. GOUGH,
Ganges.

Issues

Sir,
A group of about 30 residents met Thursday and plans to set up a chapter of the Sierra Club on Salt Spring, to provide a back-up structure for the many environmental issues we face on the islands. Richard Krieger is the information contact at 537-9446.

Also, an informal meeting is scheduled at the Brass Bell in Crofton this Thursday (February 18) from 4 pm to 7 pm to discuss the current dioxin situation at the Crofton mill. Technical and waste management experts will be there as will MLA Graham Bruce.

Roland Powell, pollution control officer for the millworkers' union, says he is having difficulty getting data released from Environment Canada, fisheries, and health and welfare, but that their studies indicate two out of four (50 per cent) of the crabs they analyzed had a dioxin count over the allowable limit. Salt Spring residents are welcome at the Thursday meeting.

Other issues discussed last Thursday included the environmental impact of plastics — which produce dioxins when burned — and the power of the petroleum

companies which produce plastic. People suggested boycotting or complaining to merchants about plastic packaging.

Ken Renaud from the woodlot association said tax incentives for land management is having a good effect on current logging practises on privately-owned land here, and he can be contacted for information.

The next meeting — to discuss dioxin, the Sierra Club, etc. — will

be in the music room at Salt Spring Elementary at 7:30 pm on Thursday, February 25.

SUE HISCOCKS,
Ganges.

Murals

Sir,
Our class would like some murals like Chemainus. Here are some places where we could put some: on the elementary school, and on Ganges Village Market. **ARYN MACHELL,**
Grade One,
Salt Spring Elementary.

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For cash outlay

I ain't got riches, but I get personal pitches

By **ANDREW GIBSON**

I keep getting these personal letters from important people — presidents and the like. Were it not that my only fault is an excess of modesty, I would conclude that, although I am admittedly in a precarious financial position, these tycoons know that I am a potential bellwether for Canadian public opinion.

How else to explain the letters I get, all addressed to me personally at this humble address? I don't like to namedrop, but I have two from Hal, a financial guru in the same league as Conrad Black. During the last federal campaign he was the chairman of the PC Canada Fund, and addressing me by name he invited me to become a member of Project 500.

I gleaned from the letter that 500 of us movers and shakers could (by contributing \$1,000) end the nearly 20 years of Liberal rule. "We need a real change," I read. "Canada needs a Progressive Conservative government led by Brian Mulroney." It was signed 'Hal.'

Churl that I am, I didn't send the paltry \$1,000. A month later another personal letter arrived, and the first sentence stabbed me to the heart. "It was very disappointing that we did not hear from you," it intoned in what I fancied was a deep baritone voice, "I hope that this is because you misplaced the earlier letter . . ."

I felt terrible. But redemption followed, because, just like the prodigal son, I could be forgiven. If I sent the \$1,000 (or more) I could attend a candlelight dinner with Brian and Mila and other key leaders.

Recognition at last! But unfortunately my financial liquidity had solidified, and I couldn't raise more than \$50. I toyed with the idea of asking Hal if that would be enough to let me touch the hem of the Garment, or get a glimpse of the Guccis.

But it was not to be. I had lost my chance to take credit for the wonderful things that have happened since then in Ottawa. I still treasure Hal's letters, although I feel badly that he took time out from taking-over and merging to write to me.

Since then I have had numerous personal letters from prominent persons. Just in the last few weeks I got two of them, and very gratifying they were. One was from Hugh R. Furneaux, of the Hume Publishing Co. Ltd., who began: "Dear A. Gibson: I won't mince words . . . this is about your money . . ."

Mincing is hardly the word. For six closely-typed pages he proved that he has a way with phrases, and he also proved that he knows a lot about me.

He tells me that I own a house, maybe even two, a couple of cars, perhaps even a boat, and I can take a vacation every year, perhaps two, one in the winter and one in the summer.

Actually, Hugh didn't get it exactly right, although he was close. We prefer our canoe to a yacht, our summer home is a tent,

and we have only one car (but a lot of parts). Our vacations are intermittent, depending on whether we have won the lottery.

But that's just details. He said that if I want to stop working now I'll need at least \$600,000 or more likely \$1 million, and what am I going to do? He said that I need all the help I can get. Amen!

From this I have learned that I don't have to work harder. I just have to get my money to work harder, and clues to accomplish this are given in the *Moneyletter*. At the end of a further two pages of

whiz-bang reasons for subscribing. I am asked to do so even if I don't want to, because "our guarantee has been called so cocksure, it is tantamount to an invitation to steal."

The other personal letter during the last week was from Harvey Shugart. Harvey is an American Express Director (Canada) and I was gratified to see that his letterhead was emblazoned *Preferred Status*.

His letter begins "Dear Andrew Gibson: Quite frankly, the American Express (TM) card is

not for everyone. So you'll undoubtedly be pleased to learn that you've been granted what American Express calls Preferred Status — *An accomplishment of which you should feel justly proud.*"

Whoo-ee! The letter goes on to say that I am one of a limited number of Canadians who American Express believes are most likely to qualify for card membership. The letter further confided that if American Express is satisfied with my answers to their interrogation (see P-2) I will be

able (for a paltry \$45) to enjoy the privileges of my preferred status.

I still have a few days to reply to this — RSVP by February 15, it said — so my wife and I are busy mulling. Let's see: \$97 plus \$45 = \$142. If we sell the canoe, and maybe use the lower-priced spread for a year we may be able to continue these friendly associations with Hugh and Harvey (I'm afraid that Hal has now given me up as unworthy).

It's a warm feeling to have friends who care enough to send these wonderful personal letters.

more letters

Excellent MP

Sir,
I see by your February 3 copy that Jim Manly will not stand for election again. This is too bad. He was an excellent MP.

One might hope that with a steadily increasing population the Gulf Islands might eventually become an electoral riding both provincially and federally. This would seem most likely at the provincial level since we are already part of a two-member riding, although both members are from the Victoria area.

Perhaps if Mr. Vander Zalm eliminates dual ridings, the Gulf Islands may become an electoral riding, at least at the provincial level, and have its own member.

CLIFF PENNOCK,
Pender Island.

Lasting legacy

Sir,
I read a letter to the editor recently in the Oak Bay *Star* concerning the importance of preserving our wilderness heritage and the need for democratic process in dealing with the fate of our forests. In this case, Strathcona Park was the area of concern.

The letter-writer made the point that the "protesters . . . act for all of us and are most definitely not 'taking the law in their own hands'." They are making use of an old and honoured democratic tradition, non-violent protest, and are within the law since they are allowing

themselves to be arrested in protest of an immoral and unconstitutional cabinet decision . . ."

Now, I realize that the problem faced on Salt Spring Island regarding the former Mac-Blo lands is somewhat different. I doubt that protesters against wholesale tree-cutting of these island forests are going to throw themselves down in front of Mr. Cyprus' equipment. For that matter, Mr. Cyprus is probably no better or no worse than the other private investors now holding Mac-Blo agreements of sale. We shall all have to wait and see what lies ahead.

However, despite the fact that no one enjoys confrontation of the kind referred to in last week's *Driftwood*, protest is a legal and valuable element in the "beastly and beautiful" democratic process. Bad laws, rules, licences and land-use regulations can be changed, over time. Protests can hasten and facilitate necessary change. Until such time as democratic change takes place, let us hope that people will not hesitate to take whatever rational means are necessary to protect the environment.

To quote the letter-writer once again: "an environmentalist is anyone who (a) breathes, (b) eats or (c) has children." Those who are not willing or able to join in such protests are always free to telephone the office of the premier (387-1715) and express their views on land-use laws and their lasting legacy on the Gulf Islands.
LOWELL HICKS,
Fulford Harbour.

More letters, Page B9

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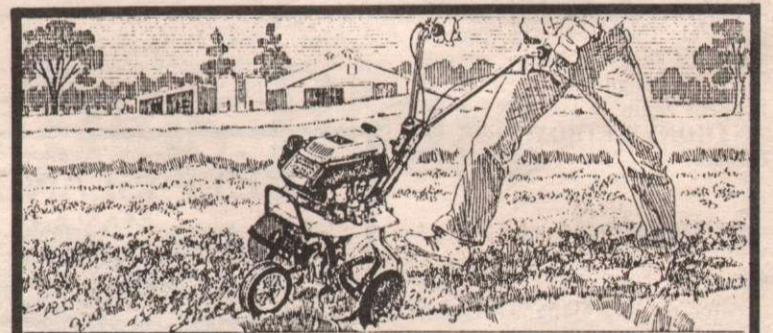
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Balanced budget 'just a fairy tale'

VICTORIA — Ask politicians these days what a balanced budget is and they'll launch into a fairy tale that begins with "once upon a time," until you get to Mel Couvelier, finance minister of this here province of British Columbia.

A balanced budget, Couvelier says, is something we're going to have by the end of the next fiscal year. Not only that, but by the time Bill Vander Zalm's term as premier is up, a large chunk of the accumulated deficit will have been paid back. So says Mel.

I'm glad it's Couvelier and not me who's staking his job on a miracle, because nothing short of a miracle will make his prophecy come true.

British Columbia's debt, accumulated over the last few years of deficit budgeting, now stands at a little over \$6 billion. The anticipated deficit for the current fiscal year is about \$500 million. True, that's considerably less than the \$850 million the government was first expecting to go into the hole this year, but it's a further debt, nevertheless, which will bring the province's total deficit to \$6.5 billion by the end of March.

So here's the task Couvelier has set himself: First, he wants to bring down a balanced budget for 1988-

capital comment

hubert beyer

first time, have to pay more than just a pittance for the privilege of harvesting our timber.

The second budget-balancing ingredient — in streamlined government services — is also well underway. Cuts in education and health care may not do a lot for our schools and hospitals, but they are saving money.

That leaves the last and probably most important factor in Couvelier's equation — privatization of government services and Crown corporations.

There's no doubt that the Vander Zalm government is determined to sell everything that isn't nailed down. What we've seen so far is only a paltry start. Forget about the sale of the Queen's Printer bookstore and the soil, feed and tissue laboratory in Kelowna. That's small potatoes.

What Couvelier hopes will take the government out of debt is the sale of big-ticket items such as the maintenance of our highways and bridges. That's where a lot of money will change hands.

The highways ministry's multi-million-dollar equipment inventory alone will be enough to retire a sizeable portion of the deficit. Add to that the savings in wages for ministry personnel, and you've got a winner, at least in terms of saving money.

Nor is highways maintenance the only major government function that can and will be liquidated for cash. The B.C. Steamship Company, which operates two floating casinos between Seattle and Victoria, is about to be sold. Liquor stores with fewer than 10 employees are for sale.

Down the road is the possible sale of the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia and the B.C. Buildings Corporation. Hell, some Sacred backbenchers are even advocating the privatization of our education system. The possibilities are limited only by the imagination of the vendor.

Increased revenues and streamlined services will only go so far in balancing the budget and reducing a \$6.5 billion debt. The real salvage operation is clearly to be done by way of privatization.

Looking at it that way, Couvelier may not be as pollyanna-ish as he sounds in his prediction of a balanced budget next year and a paid-off debt within three years. Still, I wouldn't want to bet my job on it.

'The stage for fattening government coffers has already been set.'

89. That means he'll have to reduce last year's expenditures or increase last year's revenues by \$850 million. A combination of the two will do the same trick.

Next, he'll have to find an extra \$2 billion in each of the three years during which he wants to pay back the debt we racked up. It's a job that would make my accountant consider a career change.

Still, Couvelier isn't predisposed to flights of fancy. He has a definite idea of how to make good on his word. Three things, according to the finance minister, will turn British Columbia's financial picture around — increased revenues, streamlined services and privatization.

The stage for fattening government coffers has already been set. The provincial portion of the income tax has been raised and fees for every conceivable government service have been increased.

A big chunk of the added revenue will come from the forest industry in the form of higher stumpage fees. With the introduction of the new Forest Act, forest companies will, for the

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Plan 'critical document, labour of love'

Driftwood's February 3rd editorial, *Community Plan update required*, calls for further clarification. Let's examine the plan's history.

After extensive public input and debate, the CRD adopted Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 118 for Salt Spring Island in 1974. It was one of the earliest community plans, apparently held in high esteem by other areas of the Province, and was used by them as a model. Part II, proposals for Ganges, was added in 1979.

Some six years ago, I was a member of the current Advisory Planning Commission that attempted to complete a review of the plan. After much effort, it was apparent that a more in-depth study would be needed to accomplish a meaningful revision. Later, as a trustee, I participated in at least two major initiatives to convince the ministers of finance and municipal affairs to provide the necessary staff allocation to get on with long-term plans for Ganges and the Island. Although we were unable to have any further planner time allocated, we've had some success with consultants.

Pat Byrne and I have more recently established four task forces and have called on several consultants (both paid and unpaid) to provide recommendations in relevant areas such as trails and recreation, foreshore uses, and light industrial/home occupation uses.

This process has proved extremely successful, given the constraints under which we operate. The volunteer Ganges Creek Task Force has recently completed its report. Two years of deliberation and hard work have been pulled together in a crisp engineering report commissioned by the Trust. Our staff planner is preparing plan changes on the basis of this report.

Another Ganges initiative was the recently-completed parking study, undertaken by planner Dave Morris with the help of consultants. A bylaw change is being prepared as a result of this work.

Also in Ganges, professional volunteers were called upon to provide a report and recommendations on commercial and multi-family development. From their report came two changes to the Community Plan for Ganges: multi-family provisions and an automotive service proposal.

Early work on recreation and foreshore task forces led to the hiring of Linda Adams (featured in the February 10 *Driftwood*), who produced a series of resource maps for the island that will continue to guide us in Community Plan changes. Another consultant was hired to do a soils survey for the MacMillan-Bloedel lands. The first bylaw change coming out of these initiatives was Bylaw 160, which offers guidance to "Upland and Forest" zone owners who wish to develop their land. This change is very relevant in light of our ongoing negotiations on MacMillan-Bloedel lands.

In the past two or three years we

trust report

by nick gilbert

have completed several dozen zoning bylaw amendments, all guided by our Community Plan. The half dozen or so amendments to the plan have been a result of either careful study, or changes to the Municipal Act (development permit areas, and temporary use permits). There has been very little need for ad hoc revisions.

It is fair to state that our Community Plan is both a critical document and a labour of love. It should not be changed easily, without good reason. A wholesale revision, as proposed by *Driftwood*, would be akin to clear-cut logging and replanting to a single species.

There would be danger in trusting anyone to do such an extensive job, then hoping the public would accept sweeping changes to a "motherhood" document without protest. There is more value in examining one issue at a time, and allowing the recommended change to be debated and succeed or fail on its own merit. Otherwise, the entire plan could fail because some of its components are found unacceptable.

Our process is: each issue

examined by task force or consultant; APC and public discussion; and public hearing. Thanks to our volunteer task forces and consultants, we will be bringing more proposals to the public in the next few months.

UPLAND AND FOREST REZONING

With the sale of MacMillan Bloedel's 4,800 acres, we are about to experience the nearest thing to a 20th Century gold rush. There is a strong incentive for purchasers to buy land at bargain-basement prices, then log and subdivide quickly to pay off the loans. There is little time for the consideration of careful land-use planning.

Many people are asking how the present logging can be stopped, and no doubt many of us wonder how a similar fiasco can be avoided in the future. Forest companies still own thousands of acres of forest (or clear-cut land) in the Trust region. We will try to encourage new forest owners to log with care, but we have no control over private land forestry.

In terms of future transactions, there are ways in which we can protect our forests, yet encourage private forestry and good stewardship of the land. Here are a few ideas.

Forest companies holding Tree Farm land (now "managed forest") have enjoyed a tax shelter for years. They have held thousands of acres of land at a reduced rate of taxation, though they may not have managed it. When the real estate market is ripe, they can unload the land at rates dictated by the current market — that call for a much higher level of taxation based on higher value.

The province should consider a tax recapture scheme to recoup the difference between "forest" rates and residential rates. The key here is that the province might elect to drop this requirement in return for an acceptable development proposal, one that has been agreed to by the Trust and resource agencies.

This proposal would be much like that being worked on by MacMillan-Bloedel before the sale: protection of watershed and sensitive land, recreation corridors, large parcels of forest land left intact, and density transferred to suitable areas. After rezoning was complete, the province would simply drop its tax recapture requirement.

A second remedy could be that proposed by the General Trustees

Turn to Page A9

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PART 7 OF 26

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

THE RESURGENCE of fanatical religious fervour occurring in many lands cannot be regarded as more than a dying convulsion. The very nature of the violent and disruptive phenomena associated with it testifies to the spiritual bankruptcy it represents. Indeed, one of the strangest and saddest features of the current outbreak of religious fanaticism is the extent to which, in each case, it is undermining not only the spiritual values which are conducive to the unity of mankind but also those unique moral victories won by the particular religion it purports to serve.

However vital a force religion has been in the history of mankind, and however dramatic the current resurgence of militant religious fanaticism, religion and religious institutions have, for many decades, been viewed by increasing numbers of people as irrelevant to the major concerns of the modern world. In its place they have turned either to the hedonistic pursuit of material satisfactions or to the following of man-made ideologies designed to rescue society from the evident evils under which it groans. All too many of these ideologies, alas, instead of embracing the concept of the oneness of mankind and promoting the increase of concord among different peoples, have tended to deify the state, to subordinate the rest of mankind to one nation, race or class, to attempt to suppress all discussion and interchange of ideas, or to callously abandon starving millions to the operations of a market system that all too clearly is aggravating the plight of the majority of mankind, while enabling small sections to live in a condition of affluence scarcely dreamed of by our forebears.

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 write or call 537-5383 or 537-4588, Box 772, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0.

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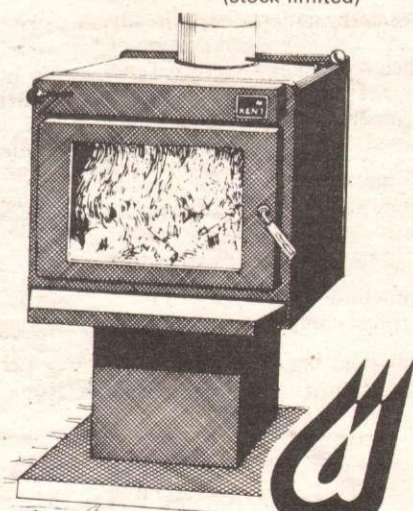
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Ferry schedule change proposed

Salt Spring residents are being asked to indicate their opinion about a proposed late-night ferry sailing between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay.

The proposal, reached in discussions between the Salt Spring Island Transportation Committee and the B.C. Ferry Corporation, calls for changes to the Saturday and Sunday schedule for service between the two points.

Deleted would be each day's 6:30 am departure from Fulford Harbour, and the 7:15 departure from Swartz Bay — meaning service between the two points would begin at 8 am at Fulford and at 8:45 am at Swartz Bay.

In place of the deleted sailings would be late-night Saturday (only) departures: at 9:45 pm from Fulford, and at 10:30 pm from Swartz Bay. At present, service ends with an 8:15 pm sailing from Fulford, and a 9:10 pm departure from Swartz Bay.

Addition of a late-night Saturday sailing has been a long-standing goal of the local transportation committee. Current chairman David Clegg notes that two previous surveys of public opinion have been conducted, and each time residents showed unanimous support for the proposal. However, both times the ferry corporation balked at implementing the change, he said.

Noting that the current survey is being done in co-operation with the corporation, Clegg said the committee hopes "the chance of the change being implemented will be improved."

Copies of the public survey form are available at Patterson's Store in Fulford Harbour, at Mouat's Trading in Ganges, at the Chamber of Commerce office in Ganges, and aboard the *Bowen Queen*, which serves the Fulford-Swartz route. Clegg said responses will be tabulated in about two weeks and the result passed onto the corporation.

The survey asks residents if they are in favour of the proposed schedule change, or if they prefer that the current timetable remain in force. If the change is approved, the form notes that dropping early Saturday and Sunday sailings, and adding a late-night crossing on Saturday, would be implemented on a trial basis "to determine actual use."

Clegg said it is not known how

quickly the ferry corporation would put the schedule change into place.

Four Salt Spring Island residents will join a February 20 meeting of Southern Gulf Islands transportation committee, representatives of both the ferry corporation and the ministry of transportation and highways, and MLAs Terry Huberts and Mel Couvelier.

Clegg, businessman Tom Toynbee, Islands Trust chairman Nick Gilbert and district schools superintendent Mike Marshall are scheduled to attend the session. Clegg said the meeting has been called to discuss development "of a better process to communicate and discuss the concerns of all the parties."

'Clear policies' being proposed

From Page A8

to the Mercier standing committee. The Trust could be given the power to issue tree-cutting permits for private forestry. Such a permit could be granted after a tree-cutting and management proposal had been reviewed by the Trust and the ministry of forests. Clear policies could guide the forester (many have already been written). For example: logging practices in watersheds, reforestation, logging on slopes, size of clear-cut patches, landscape considerations, and percentage of cut per annum.

A third alternative for controlling logging relates to groundwater recharge. The absorption rate of soils relates to the amount of tree cover. If a developer wishes to develop the maximum number of lots, he should perhaps leave all, or most, of the tree cover intact. If he wishes to remove half the trees, he should expect half the lots, as the groundwater recharge rate is diminished. Clear-cut lots, minimum 160 acres. And so on.

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Just checking

Salt Spring Island nurse Vonnie Simpkin (left) takes the blood pressure reading of Les Pragnell. The free check-ups were part of weekend-long demonstrations and fund-raising events, organized by the local chapter of the B.C. Heart Fund. The B.C. Heart Foundation hopes to raise \$1.5 million for heart research during the month of February.

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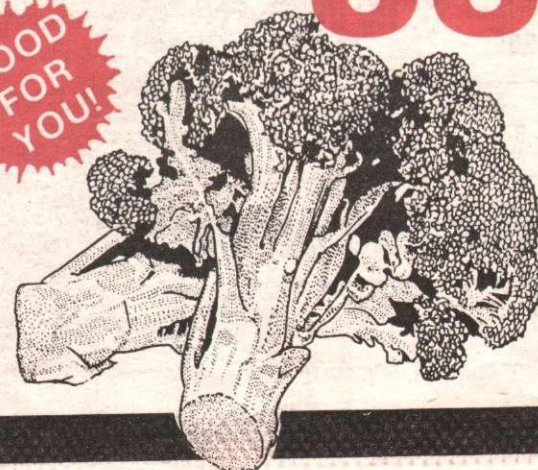
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Sixth impaired charge nets three-month jail term

A Ganges man was sentenced to 90 days in jail in Ganges provincial court last week after pleading guilty to his sixth impaired driving charge.

"It's hard to understand how a man previously sentenced to 42 days (in jail), turns around and does it again," Judge R.E. Hudson said as he handed down the sentence.

Allen Rodstrom, of Walker Hook Road, pleaded guilty to

drinking and driving on August 1, 1987.

Rodstrom was charged after a Duncan police officer, serving special duty on Salt Spring, saw a vehicle weaving on the road at about 9:25 pm. He followed the car for half a kilometre before pulling it over on Walker Hook Road.

The officer approached the driver and detected a moderate odour of alcohol. When asked to

complete physical tests, the accused staggered and swayed.

Crown counsel Derek Lister told the court the 58-year-old Rodstrom has an extensive record spanning the past 24 years. He was convicted of his impaired

driving 1964, 1973, 1977, 1979 and 1986. His 1986 conviction resulted in 42 days in jail.

Lister noted the time lapse between the last conviction and

the previous one. He suggested some leniency might be appropriate due to that span, and recommended a 90-day jail term.

Defence Counsel Jim Pastua noted his client remained polite and co-operative to police. He

produced several character references on Rodstrom's behalf, and noted the accused did not abuse alcohol at home. Rodstrom was described as a "fine member of

the community."

Pasuta added: "These letters do not fit the assumptions that arise from that sort of record." He noted that Judge Hudson could award a much greater penalty, but requested he impose the minimum sentence of 90 days.

Judge Hudson agreed with counsel and sentenced Rodstrom accordingly. He also suspended Rodstrom's driver's licence for two years.

Two alleged vehicle violations dismissed by provincial court

Two Salt Spring residents disputed charges of motor vehicle violations. Judge Hudson dismissed both cases.

In the first, Robert Burns disputed a charge of excessive speeding. The charge was laid October 27, 1987, at approximately 7:25 pm, when police Cst. Brian Brack saw a pick-up truck driving along North End Road.

Brack used radar equipment to determine the vehicle was moving at 107 kilometres per hour. The speed limit (posted on Lower Ganges Road) is 60 kilometres an hour.

Brack followed the vehicle for 1.5 kilometres, before he caught up and pulled over the truck. He testified that Burns was the driver.

Burns, however, told the court that he was followed along the S-turns of North End Road, which meant the police officer could not have seen the vehicle he was pursuing at all times. He also pointed out that there are two roads exiting to the right along the route, suggesting the vehicle Brack pursued may have taken one of these roads.

Brack said he could see the tail lights of the speeding vehicle most of the time. He also testified he looked along the secondary roads as he passed.

Judge Hudson considered the evidence and felt there was a reasonable doubt that the car Brack stopped was the same he detected speeding. He dismissed the charge.

In the second incident, Barbara Newton said she did not pull over for a police vehicle because road conditions were unsafe.

Cst. Brack told the court he was driving southbound on Fulford-Ganges Road and nearing Blackburn Road when he spotted a van, driving in the opposite direction, with one headlight not working. Brack turned and followed the van, using the police vehicle's dome lights and flashing headlights to signal it to stop.

After two kilometres, when the van had still not pulled over, Brack activated the "yelp to wail" siren. When a further 1.6 kilometres passed with no sign the vehicle was pulling over, he radioed the RCMP detachment and asked Cst. Gary Styles to set up a roadblock.

Styles placed a police car across both lanes in front of the police station and when the van finally came to a stop, Styles identified the driver as Barbara Newton.

Brack told the court Newton did not drive over 60 kilometres (the maximum speed is 80 km). He recalled the weather as clear and

dry. Styles thought it was cloudy.

Newton testified she was on her way to a meeting. She said the weather was misty and wet, and that she wears earplugs when she drives in order to block out the noise of her van.

Newton said she recalled seeing a vehicle pull out from Blackburn Road, but thought it was a tow truck. She was concentrating on driving, she said, noting: "I have gone over cliffs on this island."

When she became aware of the siren, she felt there was nowhere to safely pull over. She could have stopped on Beddis Road, she said, but underwent a "delayed reaction" and was past the road by the time she realized that a stop might have been made there.

Judge Hudson said a conviction requires proof that the driver is aware it is an emergency vehicle following behind. He said Newton raised reasonable doubts on that point, and that he was satisfied the accused felt it was unsafe to pull her vehicle over.

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SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Annual General Meeting

TO BE HELD

**Tuesday, February 23, 1988, at 8 pm
in the Fire Hall, Ganges**

AGENDA:

- Minutes
- Financial Report
- Chairman's Report
- Report of Volunteer Firemen
- Election of Trustees
(two for a term of three years)
- Appointment of Auditor
- Any other business

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Emergency number plan on hold for Salt Spring

Gulf Islanders will be in the position next year to save time during an emergency. They'll be able to summon help by dialing the 911 emergency response system.

The Capital Regional District (CRD) intends to install the 911 emergency system — already in place in cities like Vancouver and Victoria — but on a phase-in basis. While most of the 14 municipalities and communities in the district will have the system this year, the Gulf Islands must wait until 1989 when RCMP and B.C. Telephone equipment has been upgraded.

Once the system is installed, says Murray Coell, the CRD director spearheading the project, "anyone, anywhere, can dial 911 and the computer will switch the caller to the appropriate police station."

There, the caller will be asked whether he needs police, fire department or ambulance service. The switchboard will then push the necessary button, transferring the caller to the correct line.

"It saves about three minutes off the top," Coell says, comparing the 911 situation to "someone who is panicking and looking through the phonebook for the number."

Coell points out the system is also useful for small children, elderly people and visitors caught in emergency situations. Police will go into the schools, from kindergarten upwards, to familiarize students with the 911 number.

The Gulf Island hook-up will lag behind Vancouver Island installation until the RCMP can

upgrade radio equipment and transfer its correspondence base from Nanaimo to Colwood. The changes will cost the RCMP some

\$90,000 but the project has been budgeted for 1989, Coell says.

The B.C. Telephone Company must also upgrade some aspects of its system to accommodate the 911 service. Coell notes the Gulf Islands have three to four times

the number of party lines in place in other CRD communities — something the installation of the system will have to take this into consideration.

The CRD's 911 system will be the most sophisticated in Canada, Coel adds, and service 14 differ-

ent communities. Cost to buy and install the system is estimated at \$981,000. Cost to district taxpay-

ers will be \$1.64 per person per year, for 12 years. After that, the price will most likely drop to 60 cents.

Grand opening slated for new activity centre

Residents of Brinkworthy Place will soon have a meeting and activity centre.

The \$150,000 building project, which has been in the works since August, is now receiving its final touches and a Brinkworthy resident will play host to the centre's first meeting tomorrow (Thursday).

The project has been part of the plans since Brinkworthy Place was taken over by its present owners in 1983. According to one owner, Norman Mouat, the activity centre is part of their aim "to have, if not the nicest park, one of the nicest" around.

While the centre will be open to Brinkworthy residents only, different island clubs will have use of it, should they have a resident as a member.

A meeting room, with tables, chairs and a fireplace, makes up the bulk of the building's upstairs area. The room opens to a kitchen and three washrooms on one side, and closet space on the other. The stairway leads to a large downstairs area, set aside for a pool table, dart board and shuffleboard. An unfinished room in this area awaits

the possible installation of a hot-tub and change rooms at a future date.

The park presently houses close to 60 people in 50 homes. The owners have obtained expansion permits that will eventually see about 135 homes in the area.

According to Mouat, Brinkworthy Place has been the scene of a variety of improvements in recent years. Aesthetics have been augmented through landscaping and the installation of double-wide homes only. The \$25,000 to \$30,000 homes each have carports and attached storage sheds.

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Timber grant covers land

A charge against the timber on Harbour View Farms Ltd.'s Stewart Road property gives Coastland Wood Industries the right to harvest all of the wood.

However, Harbour View Farms director Murray Cyprus says the charge does not mean all of the wood would be harvested.

The charge against timber says that in return for \$500,000 paid to Harbour View Farms, Coastland Wood Industries of Nanaimo is given "all merchantable timber now standing, growing lying or being in or upon the aforesaid

lands."

It also gives Coastland authority "full and free liberty of entry and right of way through, over and upon the lands for the purpose of felling, cutting down and carrying away of the timber."

Cyprus said the charge is but one part of a complex, larger agreement and is simply security

offered as collateral against a loan. The timber on the land, he added, is worth more than the amount noted.

"There are three timber grants and three logging contracts," he said. "It's a business arrangement, and there has to be some form of protection there."

Cyprus explained that he is

supposed to produce a certain number of logs from the property and, if he cannot meet that figure, Coastland has the right "to take over."

He added: "If we don't cut a certain amount, they'd have the right to go in and take timber."

Cyprus repeated his earlier assurance that he figures no more

than 150 acres of the 446-acre property will be cut, but cautioned that the figure was a "ballpark" estimate and could change as work progresses and stock is taken of the inventory.

"I might be out by 50 acres, or even by 100 acres."

He also said that if anyone in the community is willing to buy the trees in question from him, he will leave them standing in return for current market values.

The plan for the Stewart Road property is to subdivide the land into parcels.

MB property purchaser offers land in swap for density transfer

A Salt Spring resident with an option to purchase one of the island's former MacMillan-Bloedel properties has offered to trade the land to the Trust in return for increased development densities on Mt. Belcher.

Gordon Cudmore's option to purchase is on a 74-acre parcel on Stewart Road. The land lies next to a 107-acre park reserve which currently has no access.

Russ Crouse, who was acting for Cudmore in discussions held early Monday with the Islands Trust, said the density-transfer proposal offered at that meeting was to apply the development rights on the 74-acre parcel to land Cudmore owns in the Wilkie Way area on Mt. Belcher. The

former MB property would then be dedicated to the Trust as parkland, with an access across it and to the 107 acres of park reserve being granted by Salt Spring Lands Ltd.

In return, Cudmore would apply the development densities against the 60-plus acres he owns on Mt. Belcher. Those properties are governed by zoning which allows lots averaging about 6.5 acres in size. The transfer, Crouse said, would allow lots averaging 3.5 acres in size.

"This (the 74-acre parcel) would be outright donated" in return for the density transfer, Crouse said. "It's a terrific opportunity, and it would be great to leave that land as a greenbelt."

Trustee Nick Gilbert said Monday he accepted the principle of the transfer but stressed that the Trust can take no action on the offer until it receives public comment on the proposal. "The 74 acres is ideally suited for a park, and we said we're happy to consider the transfer, but we can't guarantee anything until we go to the public."

Crouse said he realized no decision could be made until public comment is received. However, he noted there are time constraints governing the offer-to-purchase and indicated he hoped a decision could be made quickly.

Gilbert said the Trust will try to collect public opinion on the offer "as quickly as possible."

Planning Association annual meeting to focus on MB sale, land questions

MacMillan-Bloedel's former Salt Spring Island holdings will be discussed at a February 24 public forum in Ganges.

The discussion will highlight the annual general meeting of the Salt Spring Island Community Planning Association, set to begin at 7:30 pm in the library of Salt Spring Elementary School.

Sid Wigen, current president of the association, said the theme of the February 24 meeting will be general land-use management, zoning and public access in forested areas. "There will be considerable attention paid to the MB lands," he said.

Addressing the theme will be local Islands Trustee Nick Gilbert, and Ken Renaud, president of the Gulf Islands Woodlot Operators' Association and the recent chairman of a planning group which catalogued the MB lands before they were sold to private buyers.

The discussion will begin after a short business meeting is held to elect planning association officers for the coming year. The association has 14 directors serving two-year terms, and each year seven seats on the board are up for election.

The association, Wigen said, is composed of "a representative spectrum" of island groups and interests. "We are always looking for new people on the board," he added, "because we want to ensure that we do not have a static point of view."

Three broad statements define the planning association's prime objective of improving the quality of life on Salt Spring:

- to preserve, enhance and develop an ecological balance between the concerns of people and nature;
- to promote the evolution of a more representative form of local

government; and

- to lend support, where appropriate, to other island agencies and organizations in their efforts to achieve objectives parallel to its own.

In practice, the association concentrates most of its effort on staging public forums to feature alternative points of view on given topics. It devotes an equal

amount of time to working hand-in-hand with advisory committees to the Islands Trust, on task forces and with other local groups.

"It's a voluntary organization," Wigen said, "with no legal mandate other than the endorsement of the people of the island. Everyone on the island is a member of the association."


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Land links denied

From Page A1

Jim Pasuta, a Ganges lawyer acting on behalf of Salt Spring Lands Ltd., confirmed Monday that the property has been purchased and completely paid for by Harbour View Farms Ltd., that the money has been handed over to MB, and that the processing of discharge papers was due to be completed Monday. It should take about one week for the discharge to show up on the title, he added.

Mel Topping of Salt Spring Lands Ltd. said the deal under which it acquired the MB properties calls for all purchasers to pay cash up front and for MB to retain a charge on all of the lands until payment is made. As that payment is handed over, MB releases its name from the mortgage in question.

"We're just brokering the land, rolling it out," Topping said. "The terms are the same for everyone — cash. That money is then given to MB, and then MB releases the titles."

Charles Smith of MB's properties division said Monday his company "is on the periphery of this issue, and we're only on the periphery because some papers didn't clear."

He added: "All of our involvements with the properties have ended, except for the discharge of mortgages as the amounts are paid. We have no say over who buys the land, or for what."

Smith said MB will, in future, attempt to clear the mortgage attachments to land immediately upon receiving payments.

Cyprus, meanwhile, reaffirmed Monday that Harbour View Farms Ltd. has paid cash in full for the property. He declined to allow disclosure of the appropriate documentation at this time, saying the decision would have to be made in concert with his partner.

Harbour View Farms Ltd., he continued, consists of two principals — himself and a silent partner. He said he does not believe he is obligated to make any details of the company's business dealings available to the public.

A spokesman for MacMillan-Bloedel, meanwhile, said Monday there is no connection between that company and Coastland Wood Industries Ltd. "M and B is not buying any logs from Coastland," the spokesman said.

Cyprus also defended his purchase of the property at a time when proceedings are underway to recover monies owned to other parties for ventures he was involved with — for example, the Bullock Lake subdivision on Salt Spring Island.

"If people feel I owe them money," he said, "they have recourse under the law. Very few of those debts are under my name. I need to make money to pay those people off — I don't need a hassle, and that's why I'm trying to co-operate here."

However, he said, the Islands Trust is not reciprocating his offers to co-operate. He noted that he has met with Trustees Nick Gilbert and Pat Byrne to discuss his plans for the Stewart Road parcel and possible density transfers and granting of easements for trails, but has yet to be told the terms of the process.



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Students at Gulf Islands Secondary School practice their dance moves for the upcoming production, *Salute the Century*. The March 12 performance will celebrate popular music and dance of the 20th Century.

Choreographer Bea Salmon is working with students to perfect performance of everything from the charleston to modern day dance.

Century's traditions of art, music to be celebrated by local students

Music and dance from Ragtime to the Pointer Sisters will be celebrated by high school students in their upcoming production, *Salute the Century*.

The show, slated for March 12, will feature the popular dance routines and musical tunes of the century, and involve students, local musicians, artists and parents.

"This year we're going to have the most outstanding show," says musical director Dwaine Prosk. "The event will draw the community together on a number of levels."

A \$500 grant from the Community Arts Council will mean production organizers can hire professionals to help put the show together. Several local musicians — including Richard Cross, Gary Lundy, Ray Newman, Chris Kodaly, Ken Speller and Keith Hearsy — have committed themselves to performing in some of the selections.

Prosk describes their involvement as inspiring to the students.

Bea Salmond is working as choreographer, teaching students dance steps ranging from the Charleston to the jive, and help-

ing them perform with precision timing. Local artist April Curtis will take on the role of artistic director, providing objective critiques of practice performances.

"It provides a great climate for artists and musicians on the island," Prosk says. He notes, however, that the focus is on student performers.

Salute the Century will feature three student bands, plus dancers and artists. The senior band — grades 10 to 12 — will carry the bulk of the performance. The stage band, composed of the more serious music students, will play special rock and jazz tunes, and on four occasions the full band — grades 8 to 12 — will perform. The latter band consists of more than 60 students.

Art students are preparing the set, designed by graduate student Roy Moysey, while others are involved in program design and layout.

Featuring a bit of everything, the production covers each decade through song and dance.

Musical numbers will include Ragtime and Dixieland tunes, the be-bop and swing of the 1940s, a wartime medley, Chuck Berry

selections and a special tribute to the Beatles. The Electric Lady number — a favourite of many students, according to Prosk — will sound-off with a drum battle. There will also be a special California Raisin rendition of *Heard it Through the Grapevine*.

Jive, jitterbug, and the Charleston are just a few of the dance numbers to be offered.

A number of parents will also be involved in the production — and not just on the sidelines. According to Prosk, a group of parents will perform *Satin Doll*. Parents will also help with decorations and food preparation.

The evening of entertainment will kick off with a spaghetti dinner, prepared under the direction of cooking school graduate Mike Mitchell. Cost of the dinner and performance will be \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. Tickets for the performance only are \$3 and \$1.50, respectively.

"School and community spirit is the idea here," Prosk says. "It (the performance) is going to touch a lot of people."

Tickets for the March 12 performance of *Salute the Century* go on sale this week at *et cetera* and the General Store.

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Students marked for achievement, improvement

Gulf Islands Secondary School has released its honour roll for the February 1988, reporting period.

Topping the list are three students named to the principal's honour roll, which is reserved for those with straight-A marks. Grade 12 students Jason Cherney and David Jacquest, plus Grade Eight student Irene Lam, made that list for the February period.

Following is the complete honour roll:

GRADE EIGHT

David Bacic, Robin Clarke, Tracy Cunningham, Caitlin Hayes, Dana Hohmann, Irene Lam, Xuong Lam, Anna Maddison, Anthony Marks, Jessica Maron, Candice Miller, Christine Noble, Eliza Potter, Stacy Proctor, Isabel Prystawik, Lise Rondeau, Seth Shugar, Tanya Slingsby, Sheila Thomson, Candice Walde, Lianne Weisner.

GRADE NINE

Maggie Coombes, Amrit Crowther, Ryan Davies, Kate Gilbert, Nick Hock, Jennifer Lloyd, Willie McGuire, Santana Patella, Alison Proctor, Florian Satzinger, Kirsty Walde.

GRADE 10

Julie Cunningham, Rosabel Graham, Suzanne Jacquest, Amber Jensen, Lisa Koski, Bridgette Lord, Tara Martin, Shandra Platts, Simon Tallboy, Heather Thomson, Derek Topping, Penny Vanderwekken.

GRADE 11

Jenny Barnes, Joe Cocker, Hopi Hall, Tamara Holmes, Peter Hoebel, Melissa Hunt, Eva Lam, Tony Marshall, Catrin Roach, Kurt Sadler, Teresa Sutherland, David Wellingham.

GRADE 12

Jennifer Anderson, Kathy Caldwell, Jason Cherney, Angela Donnelly, Dana Fewings, David Jacquest, Gabrielle Jensen, Pat Melancon, Andrea Skinner, Alison Stafford, Ryan Stuart.

Lynn Vanderwekken, Doug Walde.

Gulf Islands Secondary School has also released its "improvement" honour roll, for students who have improved their letter grade standing without a drop in any subject. It is as follows:

GRADE EIGHT

David Bacic, Terri Fraser, Caitlin Hayes, Irene Lam, Xuong Lam, Anna Maddison, Christine Noble, Lianne Weisner.

GRADE NINE

Maggie Coombes, Jennifer Hawkes, Kristopher Luker, Florian Satzinger.

GRADE 10

Sean Barry, Dean Crouse, Suzanne Jacquest, Alvin James, Bridgette Lord, Shandra Platts, Simon Tallboy, Derek Topping.

GRADE 11

Tony Marshall, Kirsten Luker.

GRADE 12

Jason Cherney, Dana Fewings, David Jacquest, Gabrielle Jensen, Kathy Mouat, Hiroko Nishikawa, Rowena Perkins, David Reid, Kathryn Rush, Mason Scown, Mary Sinclair, Andrea Skinner, Chad Williams, Clifford Crooks.

League notes dates for anniversary functions

The Salt Spring Island council of the Catholic Women's League met on Wednesday, February 10, at 1:30 pm in the parish hall of Our Lady of Grace church.

A letter of thanks was received from our priest and seminarian in Quito, Ecuador, thanking us for our assistance.

Also received was a letter from the promoters of "Mother and Child," thanking us for our assistance, and a letter from diocesan president Beryl Sheard noting that the Victoria Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's

League is going to celebrate its 60th anniversary this year.

The following meetings were announced in conjunction with that celebration:

- regional meeting, March 29, at St. Elizabeth's Church in Sidney;
- diocesan convention, May 10 and 11, at St. Joseph's Parish at 758 West Burnside in Victoria.

Jean Anderson and the others involved were thanked for taking care of the tea following Mr. Schroder's recent funeral mass.

Finally, Alicia Anderson listed the procedures for nomination and election of officers.

Support group launched for parents of teenagers

A support group for the parents of teenagers, organized by the Salt Spring Community Centre, will begin weekly sessions on Tuesday, February 23.

The ongoing sessions are designed to give parents a chance to exchange experiences "in an atmosphere of confidentiality and openness, trust and mutual support," the Community Centre says.

While the centre will provide the start for the group, its form and direction will be up to the members, it says.

In announcing the launch of the group, the centre listed a series of difficulties or experiences parents of teenaged children must deal with — ranging from sexual activity to alcohol consumption to threats of suicide.

"Whether these are daily occurrences or rare events, the pressure on teens and their parents is accelerating at a rate unlike anything most parents

remember experiencing when they were growing up," the centre notes. "But parents are supposed to have the right answers, the right responses, know what to do all the time."

Parents who cannot produce those answers, or who believe they are alone in facing problems with teenagers, should benefit from the support group, the centre says.

The group, it explains, will let parents "share feelings, concerns, worries and complaints, and to discover (they) are not alone.

"Members can share parenting skills through telling how they handle common situations. Through pooling information and sharing and discovering resources, parents can help each other find new ways to approach intractable problems."

For further information, contact the Community Centre at 537-9726.

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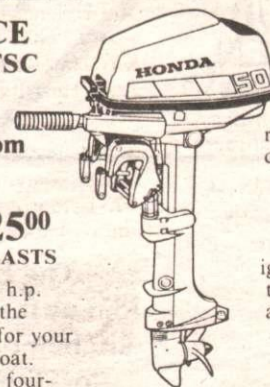
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FC tops Vantreights

Inspired play by Oldroyd sparks Salt Spring to win

Salt Spring F.C. 1, Vantreights 0

By ALAN WEBB

Salt Spring F.C. took another step toward a Challenge Cup final berth Sunday, with a 1-0 win over Vantreights of Victoria. The win advanced F.C. to the quarter-finals, with the final scheduled for April at Royal Athletic Park in Victoria.

Injuries and absences limited Salt Spring's number to 13; the 13th man, Gordon Hitchcock, arrived from work with only 20 minutes left to play in the match.

As always, Arnie Hengstler, Lance Lomax and Trevor Tamboline proved to be unbeatable (with Ken Marr, of course), but the difference between the two teams was the play of two players who usually fit the description of steady, workman-like, unsung, etc., etc. Sunday, Steven Legg and Jonathan Oldroyd were nothing short of exceptional.

Steven, at right back, complemented the more dynamic presence of Arnie, Lance and Trevor with his sure tackling and incisive playmaking. Steve's calm ball distribution frequently

dictated the flow of the play, reducing the pace from frenetic to a speed more advantageous to a side undermanned and battling the debilitating weight of a heavy, sodden field. The majority of F.C.'s attack on Sunday was instrumented by Steven.

In mid-field, Steven Marleau, Michael Brown and Jack Braak provided F.C. with the

'Hard tackling, support on offence and constant running ... were required ...'

performances that were needed to win. Hard tackling, support on offence and constant running both forward and back were required of the three and they did not disappoint.

The fourth member of the mid-field (in addition to seeing duty

both up front and at the back) was Jonathan Oldroyd. Jonathan's play was so outstanding that the only way to describe it is to describe his appearance after the match. After 90 minutes all players on both sides were liberally splattered with mud but Jonathan appeared to have taken on an extra layer; an outside coating to protect the skin from those cancerous sun rays. On behalf of his teammates I tip my cap to Jonathan, our oldest player and, on Sunday, our best.

Ken Duke, Miles Wilson, Alan Webb and Gordon Hitchcock were the frontrunners on Sunday, and worked extremely hard on a day when finesse and ball skills could account for very little.

The lone F.C. goal came on a patented Trevor Tamboline blast from 30 yards or more. Week after week, Trevor supplies timely goals and much of the rest of our attack. His offensive skills, in combination with his first class defensive skills, leave F.C. with the prospect of a 'triple' in 1988 — league winners (and thus promotion), cup winners and Challenge Cup winners.

Next week: away to Peninsula.

Selects prevail over Cowichan —and miserable field conditions

Salt Spring Selects 2, Cowichan 1

By MALCOLM LEGG

A weary, mud-splattered group of Salt Spring soccer players dragged themselves off the sea of mud, more commonly known as German Road Park in Duncan, after slipping and sliding their way to a 2-1 win over Cowichan last weekend.

With the rain pouring down during the game, and on a field that could have been used for mud-wrestling at the Dell Hotel in Surrey, the Selects knew the elements were going to play havoc with their ball-control style of game.

To make matters worse, the Selects only had 10 players at kick-off and one, Andrew Aust, left his gear on Salt Spring — forcing him to play in goal, on a terrible field, in running shoes.

Fortunately the 11th player arrived 10 minutes into the match and Andrew's gear appeared at the field prior to half-time, to at least allow the Selects to finish the match with 11 fully dressed players.

There can be no doubt of the effort of all 11, as with no subs at all, they came up with an inspired effort that should have seen them win with a larger margin.

Cowichan actually opened the scoring as a header slipped through Andrew's hands in goal, courtesy of the mud-soaked gloves he had on, and spoiled a great half of goal-keeping by Andrew, in runners and all.

Five minutes later the Selects struck back as Juda Shugar fed a

pass to Ben Clarke in front of the goal. Ben drop-passed to Chad Little, who blasted a shot into the corner.

The second half saw the Selects pour on the pressure, showing dazzling skills on a treacherous pitch, the likes of which could only be matched by Liverpool of England.

Cowichan was able to hold the boys off until, with only 15 minutes left, Tony Marshall threaded a perfect break-away pass to Juda, who calmly walked in and slammed home the winner.

The Selects won this one because of a great team effort, and all the players deserve praise. Andrew Aust, Chad Little and B.J. Severs shared goal-keeping duties, and although rarely tested in the second half, were steady

throughout. The defence of Rod Shoolbraid, Chris Mullin, Tony Marshall and Mike Lord played sound, stable soccer considering the terrible footing on the slick pitch.

Juda Shugar added punch to the mid-field and combined well with Corbin and Justin Scott to create some excellent build-up for the front line.

Chad, B.J., Andrew and Ben Clarke were the front-runners, and they worked tirelessly. With better shooting and probably a drier pitch they could have had a bushel of goals.

With the win under their belt, the Selects should play Juan de Fuca at 10 am at Portlock this Sunday, hopefully with better weather. But the players are bringing hip-waders just in case.

bridge report

Gulf Islands Bridge Club winners for February 8 were:

- (North-South) Bunny Jordan and Helen Shandro, Irene Hawksworth and Dorothy Sneddon; Kay Harrison and Dawny Scarfe, Jean Herring and Anne McConnell.

- (East-West) Gordon Hutton and Fred Struve; Shirley Love and Phyl Henderson; Barbara Adams and Audrey Campbell; Alan

Steward and Kay Sinclair.

Tuesday night winners were:

- (North-South) Anne and Norm McConnell; Betsy and Bill Minten; Conhor Hunt and Fred Struve; Dorothy Crofton and Helen Shandro.

- (East-West) Irene Hawksworth and Gordon Hutton; Audrey Campbell and Isabelle Richardson; Tom David and Peter Jacques; Jim Burford and Boyd Siemens.

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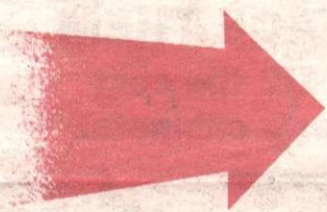
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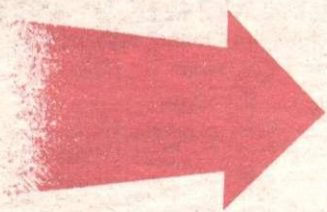
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