

Spotlight

PUBLISHED BY MILES MALCOLM ACHESON
R.R.I. GANGES SALT SPRING ISLAND, B.C.

Issue No. 3, Vol 2. 15 February 1951 Miles M. Acheson Editor. 129
EDITORIAL.

A bunch of guys sent a delegate up to your Editor with the following proposition: they had four or five trucks and they were willing to haul rock for one day on the road to put it into shape from Vesuvius to Fulford. The rock would be donated, it would be loaded by machine free, the trucks would operate at their owners' expense, and nobody would get any wages; they wanted they thought 25 volunteers to give their labour, would the Spotlight help? Your Editor phoned the police: No, there was no law to prevent a private citizen from repairing a public highway so long as he didn't block the traffic. He phoned the Road Boss: Anyway the road from Fulford to Ganges was being repaired that day, the Ganges part was being repaired the next, but the District Engineer Mr. M. C. Nesbitt was coming over, would the Editor see him? So on the 7th, your Editor saw Mr. Nesbitt in Mr. A Wolfe-Milner's office. The reasoning went like this. Many communities had tried repairing their own roads with the idea of forcing the hand of the Minister. The only result really had been that the Ministry got peeved; this was a bad time of year, the frost was just working out of the ground and everybody would be complaining; when the Public Works had wanted to hire trucks on the island last year, they couldn't get them because everybody was busy earning their own living; now there were restrictions and loaded trucks couldn't go on the roads people volunteered but it couldn't do any good; the heavy loaded trucks would break up what road surface remained, and what they put in would be washed out by the next rain; but when the restrictions were removed the Public Works could use every volunteer truck on the island and they'd provide a mechanical loader, each truck would go about 120 miles a day and they wouldn't pay for the gas; the gravel could be mixed with black-top and that should see us through next winter; this effort would leave the Maintenance Gang free to look after the side roads.

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Your Editor took the point of view that this was a very definite challenge to our community. We always have achieved our aims by community effort; we always shall. And so long as we get roads we don't care who gets the honour and glory.

Now the volunteer crowd say the gravel at the south end which the Public Works uses is no good: it won't bind with the black-top and will wash out. The Road Boss disagrees; he says it is the best. Clearly he stands or falls by his decision. Our only complaint against him at the moment is that he can't work miracles. But if the Public works lets the volunteers down, we have a kick where it hurts most -- at the people immediately responsible. And it isn't fair that a few should work without any pay for the benefit of the many. Money will have to be collected to pay for the gas, oil and at least some token wages. Mr C. Wagg is doing the collecting for this and if everybody who is interested in getting the roads fixed forks out a buck or whatever he can afford the volunteer crowd should have enough cash to get a lot done.

So far as the Minister is concerned: the Hon. C.E. Carson is Minister of Public Works and as such is responsible for our roads. It is not true that people calling on him are required to bring along a piece of broken auto spring as proof of being bone-fide residents of Salt Spring Island.

L.L.A.

6. Feb. Twenty-one members turned out in one of the foulest evenings ever to the meeting at Harbour House. Letters of thanks were read for gifts received from England, from war veterans and their families, from Queen Charlotte Hospital (England). Also acknowledged was a parcel of used clothing. The following conveners were unanimously elected: Local Hospital Visitor, Mrs H. Wood; Victoria Hospital Visitor, Mrs Layard in charge; Q.C. Layette, Mrs Parham; Overseas Parcels, Mrs G. Lowe. A committee to organise the campaign for the Blood Clinic was formed with Mrs C. Mouat, Mrs J. B. Acland and Mrs A. Francis as members. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$477.72.

The meeting somehow didn't snap through the business in the way it usually does.

25-25-25-25-25-25-25-25-25-25

GOLDEN WEDDING

Our congratulations to Mr and Mrs. G.E.Akerman on their Golden Wedding on St Valentine's Day! They are well known and popular old-timers here and we wish them the best of luck.

WE SAW HIM AT WASKESIU.

5 Feb. About eighty people turned up to a very good program of the National Film Board. The movies were: Percussion Instrument, Happy Hours of the Film Projectionist, Holiday at Waskesiu. In the last film the audience were just able to catch a glimpse of Mr. Laurence Cartwright in his A.C.M.P. uniform.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

2 Feb. This party at the Fulford Community Hall cleared \$60 nett. Mr Jack Fraser was M.C. & there were 8 tables of cards. The prizes were won by Miss B. Hamilton, Mrs A. Butt, Mr W. Porrigden, Mr E. Lacey. The Consolation prize went to Mrs E. Lacey. The refreshments were looked after by Mrs. M. Lee and there was dancing to Mr & Mrs R. H. Testar's music on the piano and saxophone. The tombola prizes were won by Mr W. Oaks, Mrs Singleton, Miss Jeanette Clark, and Mr Gavin Bilton who won a hamper. Mr Gavin Bilton of course manages the Fulford General Store, and it's a funny thing the way luck runs and seems to present a man with a superfluity of what he has already. A chap has only to run a General Store to win a basket of food; a bloke like your Editor would win a ream of paper; while one of these strong fellows who owns a cat is almost invariably presented with a basket of kittens.

8 Feb. The Women's Institute met at Miss D. Hamilton's house. Mrs. A. Davis presided, ten members were present. The meeting decided: to have a sale in early April, to help aid the little children suffering in Korea, to present Mrs Akerman with a bouquet on the occasion of her golden wedding. Mrs. Akerman is a Charter member.

BIRTHS DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

For the convenience of those who want to announce them we've decided to run a Births Deaths and Marriages column at Classified Ad rates (65 cents) just as any other newspaper does. Of course we'd like to have the news in any case, but as we're now nearly 3,000 people we can

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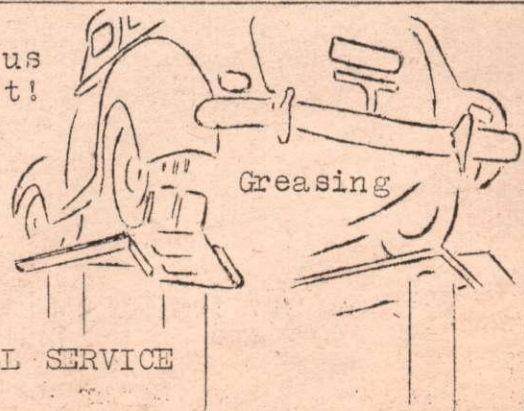
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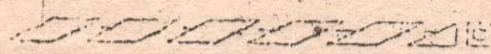
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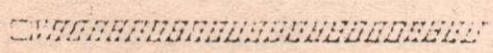
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POLICE NEWS.

Some of the war time regulations seem to be coming back. All vehicles that carry at any time over 300 lbs (freight) must have carrier plates and have painted on both sides MAX GR WT ... in letters at least an inch high. In certain cases too the owner's name and address has to be painted on. Enquire at the police station for details.

Your Editor who warned in the last issue about enclosing 8 ¢ in stamps with the license fee didn't do it himself and got stuck 20 ¢ freight on the auto license plates.

GANGES WHARF LIGHTING.

The Government is making provision for 2 lights on the wharf, 4 on the float (2 would probably be enough) and is wiring the new shed, but it won't pay for either the bulbs or the power. Mounts have generously agreed to supply power through their own meter to these lights after their own store lights are turned out (owing to the system of metering it would cost them a packet if they put on these lights and the store lights at the same time); the Chamber of Commerce will pay for the bulbs.

MORE ABOUT ROADS

On 9 Feb. a delegation of the Chamber of Commerce went to Victoria to try to persuade the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Vancouver Island to include action about our roads on the agenda. Then the executive Council of the A.C.C.V.I accompanied by at least 3 members of

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B E T T I S S & H A R K E R

the Legislative Assembly went in all their power and glory to present their road building program to the Premier & Cabinet. They got their ears pinned back good and hearty. The Government isn't going to give any body an extra cent for roads. And of course that goes for us too, though fortunately the A.C.C.V.I. had not brought up our roads; they'd just referred our woes back to the Council for mature consideration.

The Road Boss and the Volunteers have amplified their agreement. They're going to wait until the weather is dry; the Road Boss is going to mix black top and gravel and the trucks will haul it to where he wants some Wednesday.

We'll send our buck.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING.

6 Feb Fulford. Mr. Colin Mouat, Chairman, Mrs Dermott Crofton, Mr. Stan. Wagg, Mr. L.F. Jackson, Trustees, 66 Fulford ratepayers and Mr. J. E. Brown Inspector of Schools were present. The following motions were voted by ballot: A school shall be built at Fulford at the present time; (No. 42, Yes, 23) The Board buy at a price of \$3000 plus cost of survey (certain) land from Mrs. Brenton at Fulford (Yes 42, No, 15). The facts of this case are: The Department of Education says it won't spend a cent more on transportation; the Isabella Point school must be closed; the Beaver Point school should be closed! When the School Board had money, Fulford had more or less been promised a school but the money had been spent on schools on Saturna & Mayne, now they weren't going to have a school at all. There are 30 children on the island south of Lee's hill who would attend the proposed Fulford School and there might be 5 grades in one room. The Ganges school was over crowded and had to rent the room behind the R.C. Church. It was cheaper to build one 2-roomed school at Ganges (for 75) than two one roomed schools, one at Ganges and one at Fulford. The children at Isabella Point, Beaver Point & Fulford could be helped by stretching the bus service a bit.

I.O.D.E.

12 Feb. Mr Marvin D. Williams who is an engineer building roads & airfields in Alaska showed a very interesting movie (some of it taken from the air) of the

For linoleum for Fulford Church. Teacups read, expert character analysis. Mrs LaViolette daily 1 to 4

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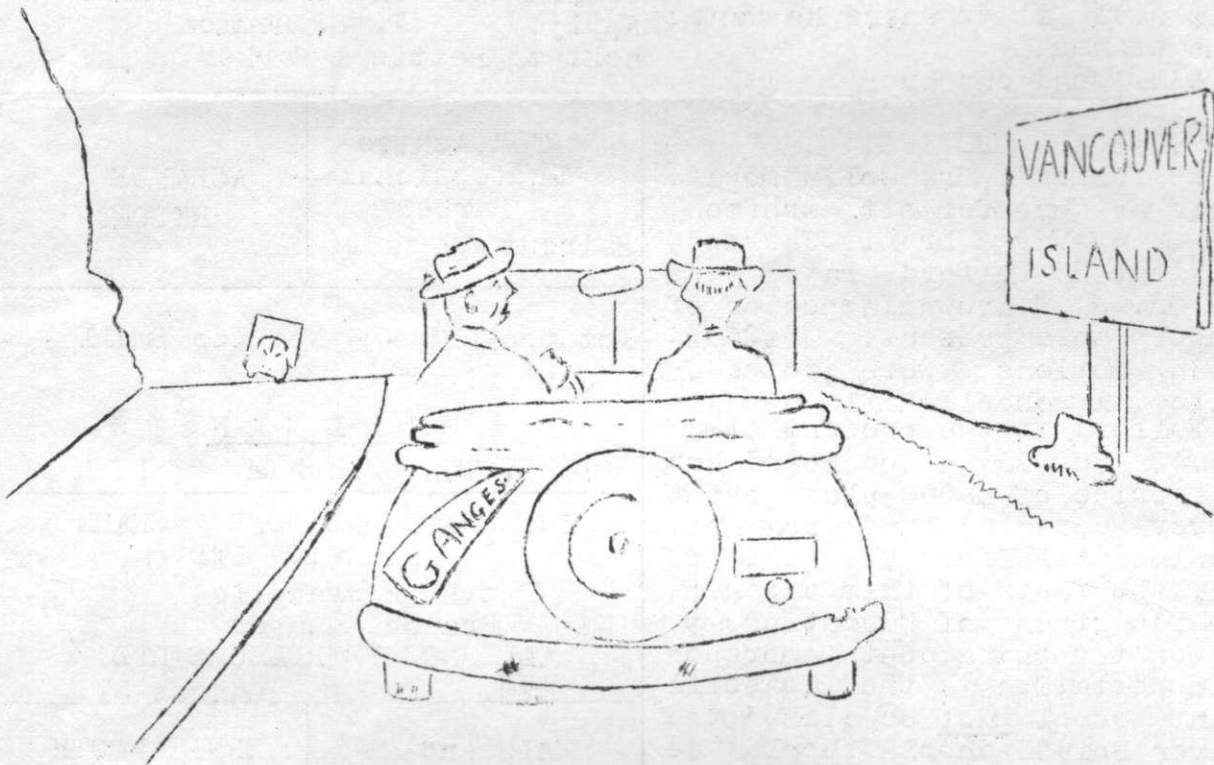
Artic. Mrs Ashlee and Miss P. Dawson played piano duets during the interval and the Boy Scouts helped with the seating. About 150 people were present.

For Sale: 8 hp Fairbanks Morse gas engine wheeled. 32 amp lighting plant. Air compressor and tank. 12 volt trickle charger. Trees English Oak, Spanish (eating) Chestnut. 25¢ each. Blue Spruce 50¢ up. Bullock, 15F

The Cartoon below is drawn by

EAT KREBS

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LOOK ! REAL ROADS