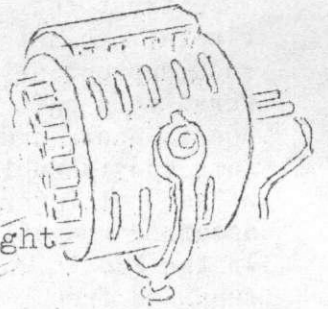


# SPOTLIGHT



Published & Edited by Miles Malcolm Acheson, R.R.1., Ganges, Salt Spring Island, B.C. Canada. Tel. Ganges 12Q. The Spotlight goes to the Gulf Islands on the 1st & 15th of each month.

EDITORIAL 1 February 1952, Volume 3 Issue 3.

There is no confirmation of the report that the Princess Elaine will call at Sidney in the summer. We'll let the troops know when a decision has been made. And we don't think -- though we hope we're wrong -- that all the Gulf Islands wharves will be repaired & enlarged this year. Or next year. So far as Provincial matters are concerned, the Coalition has split & the Government is Liberal; everything is being reshuffled. This affects such things as parks & roads. In other words, no news yet.

Your editor's vote is a secret between himself and his ballot. Your editor has enough trouble making up his own mind without trying to make up anybody else's for them!! In the event of an election, we shall report the facts and not take sides. In this we are in direct opposition to Sir Joseph Porter who said, "I always voted at my party's call, and I never thought of thinking for myself at all." Sir Joseph was here recently on H.M.S. Pinafore.

We have a letter from Col. P. Byng-Hall about the state of the roads at Vesuvius. He says, "The potholes in Vesuvius Bay Roads have to be seen to be believed. Not only are they dangerous to cars, but to pedestrians too." He's quite right of course. And that is true of many roads, Starks Road for example. "...Wherever there are potholes, the lack of drainage is immediately obvious. It is time something drastic should be done." The Chamber of Commerce took this matter up with the Department of Public Works and made suggestions about the use of machinery in the spring when drainage and grading can be done. The Department is sympathetic and is studying the problem. For one reason or another, the road maintenance is not satisfactory & hasn't been for some years: whether the fault lies on this island or outside, or whether conditions are beyond human control, we just haven't enough facts to say. Incidentally, the roads on Pender are also in bad shape.

## PENDER

D.G. MacDonald reports: The Gulf Islands Improvement Bureau held its regular monthly meeting in Port Washington Hall on Wednesday Jan. 9th with all delegates attending. The Bureau consists of a President, Secretary and Treasurer, with delegates from Galiano, Mayne, Saturna, and North & South Pender Islands. Prior to the formation of this Bureau in 1948, these Islands presented their problems individually, and often with conflicting requests or suggestions, which probably, too often were lightly dispensed with or entirely ignored. In the Bureau meetings, which are open to the public, matters of general interest are discussed and fully debated before decisions are made. They cannot, however, assume any responsibility for the expressions or views of any lesser body or committee except it be with approval of the Bureau. This was especially voiced at the Bureau meeting where a recent example was criticised as unfortunate, untimely and harmful to the efforts of the Bureau which is doing its best to work with reason and friendliness rather than with wrath and indignation. More power to them, and they warrant our support.

The Annual meeting of the Pender Island Farmers' Institute was held in the Hope Bay Hall on January 18th. Mr W.L. Shirley was re-elected President; Mr Walter Miller, Vice-President; D.G. MacDonald Secretary-Treasurer. The following were elected as Directors: Robin B. MacDonald, Donald G. Grimmer, Laurence W. Auchterlonie, Roger S. Allan & Walter Miller. Auditors; Messrs W.T. Miller & Walter Miller. Delegates to the Gulf Islands Improvement Bureau: Mr Jack B. Bridge, Comdr R. Beech and Mr Walter Miller. The Financial report showed the Institute to be in good standing, and the President's report covered the accomplishments of the past year.

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# BETTIS & HARKER

We trust that the recent shuffle in the Provincial Cabinet will not result in a cut in our road appropriation. No doubt the roads will be very, very soft during the coming thaw. The drainage is poor, and no major work has been done for some considerable time. Road signs are also needed at several intersections where near-accidents have occurred recently. We understood from Mr Nesbitt in the Public Works Dept that these signs were supplied free. (The way to get these is to apply to Public Works with a copy to the highways department of the police. Ed.)

JAPAN

Chief Petty Officer C.L.Scott writes, "During a recent visit by the 'Sioux' to the Japanese port where the Canadian army are stationed R.S.M. Ken Byron got in touch with me through mention of my name in your Spotlight Editorial dated 15 Oct 1951, so thought you would be pleased to learn your paper is being read in the far east and enabled two islanders to get together..." He goes on to say that he's hoping to be back in B.C. soon. We'd be very glad to see him when he comes.

If anybody has friends or relatives in the Services and would let us know, we will willingly publish their names so that chaps abroad can get in touch with each other.

INFORMATION WANTED

In the tourist season your editor, in various capacities, quite frequently gets asked, "Where can we stay?" both on Salt Spring and on other island. The visitors may want anything: a hotel, an autocamp, a camp site, or want to stay as a paying guest with a family. The main questions seem to be: Is bedding provided? Where do we eat? What's the plumbing like? What's the cost?

While your editor tries to give the visitors the information they want, he suffers from being just plumb ignorant. If people who are in that business -- even if only occasionally, just to help out -- would let us know, we might be able to help them and the visitors. IMPORTANT NOTE. Unless this information is marked "Released for publication" and signed, it will not be made public in any document.

SPOTLIGHT

There didn't seem to be enough news to fill up more than a couple of sheets, this being the slack season, so we asked the spaniel what we should do about it. She said, "Two sheets are enough for lighting a fire." So that's that!

SALT SPRING

15Jan. Islands Farmers Institute Annual General Meeting. Fulford. Your editor went to Fulford as the snow started, had supper at the Fulford Inn, went to the meeting, came out, found snow all over the place, was towed up the end of Lees Hill (he had no chains), cracked a windshield, and got home in a lather taking rather a biased view of the whole proceedings. However, this is what happened. The reports were: the establishment of the island as a cattle disease free area; the establishment of a bovine artificial insemination station; the amalgamation of the Sheep Breeders Association with the Institute; a successful FALL FAIR; a gratifying gain both in the financial and physical assets of

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GANGES PHARMACY

the Institute. The members liked what they heard and elected the directors (J.H.Carvosso, President; Jack Nelson, Vice-Pres; A.B.Kropinski; Norman Ruckle, M.M.Acheson, B.Qvale) back en bloc with G.M.Heinekey to take the place of B.Qvale who had resigned. Austin Wells was appointed Sec-Treas. Votes of thanks & appreciation to the Hon H.Bowman, Dr W.L.Gunn, Drs J. Bankier & A.Robertson were passed. The Fall Fair will be held in August in the Mahon Hall. It was suggested that there might be a Class for grain. There will, however, be no class for wild oats.

W.Palmer & F.Stevens were elected auditors.

**ANNUAL MEETING ST MARY'S GUILD.**

The following Officers were elected. Mrs G.H. Holmes, Hon Pres; Mrs W.W.Hippisley, Pres; Mrs W.Y.Stewart, Vice-Pres; Mrs F.L.Jackson, Sec-Treas; Miss Gladys Shaw; Mrs L.G.Mollet. The balance was \$115.94. Two new members - Mrs J. Roddis & Mrs M.Taylor - were elected.

**PTA. GANGES.**

Mrs Laurie Mouat was in the Chair & there were 23 members present. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$153.58. The President spoke of the success of the Christmas entertainment program. She will organize the Valentine Candy Store. A delegate will be sent to the PTA Conference at Kelowna in April; the Ganges PTA has 3 points to bring forward.

The President urged members to attend meetings of the School Board which are open to the public and which are of great interest.

There will be a Leap Year Party for members & their friends in the school recreation room on February 29th.

The pennant for the most parents attendance was tied for by Miss Viller's class and Miss O. Mouat's class.

The hostesses were Mrs J.Reid & Mrs M.White.  
**PTA. FULFORD**

25 Jan Films from the Provincial Government Travel Bureau were shown by Douglas Dane assisted by Robert Hepburne. Mrs John Bennett Jr was in charge of the refreshments which were served by Mrs Chester Kaye, Mr & Mrs F.L.Jackson and Mr & Mrs Fergus Reid. In the intervals of the entertainment Miss Eva Tahouney played selections on the piano. A silver collection & sale of home candy brought in \$20.

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ment is being held in the Mahon Hall on Feb 6th. Apparently it's going to be an elaborate show done in proper form with due ceremony. The island group will be treated as a Province and 11 bills will be introduced. Those taking part are: H. Chalk, Premier; W. H. Bradley, Finance; J. B. Foubister Education & Provincial Sec; Eric Munroe, Agriculture W. Byers, Lands & Forests; Stan Wagg, Health & Welfare; K. Week, Attorney Gen; Jack Tomlinson, Public Works; G. Parsons, Speaker; Rev Bompas, Lieut. Gov; Ted Parsons, Clerk; John Chalk Sergeant at Arms. Opposition: Colin Mouat, Leader; T. Toynbee, K. Fletcher, H. McGill, K. Sans; R. Aitken. Presumably, there is no Upper House. The idea is: If this island group were a Province, with the resources it has, how would a Parliament preserve what we want to preserve and develop the rest? The situation is full of humour. An immediate and urgent step would be unlimited free aspirin for the unfortunate chap who held the position of Minister of Finance!

#### GALIANO

The news is a bit scrappy, for one reason or another, but troops helped your editor out and many thanks. Mrs (Anne) Jack was going from Galiano Lodge to the Coffee Shop - which Eddie Bambrick has now taken over & intends to open in due course - when Don Robson came down the hill on his bicycle and collided with her. It was snowing hard at the time. Mrs Jack has had to go to hospital, which is very bad luck. 28 Jan. Annual Vestry Meeting; Supper at the Farm House Inn; 35 present. The Officials for the year are: Don New, Lay Reader; W. Bond, Vicar's Warden E. Bambrick, People's Warden, Mrs Harold Shopland, Sec; R. C. Stevens Treas; Harold Shopland & Don New Representatives to the Rural Diaconal Conference. The building of the new church was very thoroughly discussed and a financial statement was handed round to show how the money had been spent. It is hoped to finish the Church by Easter if sufficient funds are forthcoming.

#### MAYNE

23 Jan. Annual Vestry Meeting followed by tea. The weather was very bad and the attendance was not very large. The Officials for the year are:

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Spotlight.