

SPOTLIGHT

Sent to every home in the Gulf Islands on the 1st and 15th of each month.

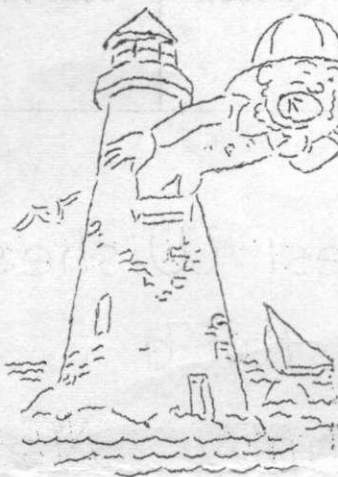
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EDITORIAL 1 January 1952, Vol.3, Issue 1.

Happy New Year to everybody! Round this way, lambs are being born (and have to be looked after), some people are starting on advance seed catalogues, while others look anxiously at the hay and wonder what the weather is going to do and whether they have enough. Then there are New Year resolutions, or as Omar Khayyam put it, "Now the new year reviving old Desires, the thoughtful Soul to Solitude retires .." And one of the resolutions we all have is to get proper communications for those ports which are off the present run of the Elaine. And when we say "get" we don't mean "try to get". The situation is very serious and must be remedied. Each port left out of the run is served by at least one store (your editor has visited nearly all of them), and these stores serve their communities very well: they are clean, the service is excellent, the stock is large and diversified. Your editor has traveled over most of the northern hemisphere, and can state as a fact that the Gulf Islands are as well served as anywhere and very much better served than many places with an equal population. And the storekeeper is the man who is in the best position to see in full the difficulties his port is up against. Some foods are perishable - meat, for example which was imported into some of the islands - machine parts are usually wanted in a hurry, all kinds of problems are arising. What about the tourist trade, for example? How will live



Now the New Year reviving
old Desires,
The thoughtful Soul to
Solitude retires.



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stock and farm produce be shipped?

Apart from a few (one chap said that as the communications were less, the value of his land was less and therefore he should pay less taxes) views on what should be done seemed to rest on one of two assumptions (1) that the C.P.R would always serve the Gulf Islands and would extend its service to any port which had a suitable wharf, & (2) that as the Gulf Islands run might not pay there is grave danger that Port Washington & Ganges might be dropped too, and there would be no Gulf Islands run. Or if there was one, it would be something similar to the Princess Maquinna, and have the same kind of schedule.

From the first it can be argued that a feeder service is a bad thing because if the feeder service took up the run, the C.P.R. might not come back; from the second, a feeder service is the only hope. Both sides seem to agree that the wharves must be repaired.

SALT SPRING

Annual Meeting W.A. (C of E)

The following officials were elected: Pres, Mrs G.H.Holmes; 1st Vice Pres, Mrs E.Adams; 2nd Vice Pres, Mrs F.H.Baker; Sec, Mrs W.M.Palmer; Treas, Mrs H.Price; Dorcas Sec, Mrs W.Norton & assistants, Mrs A.P.Price & Mrs J.C.Kingsbury; E.C.A.D.Sec, Mrs H.C.Carter; United Thank Offering Sec, Mrs J.A. Bigham; Little Helpers Sec, Mrs H.A.Robinson & assistant Mrs Dane; Living Message Secretary, Mrs W.G.Taylor; Education Secretary, Mrs F.H.Baker; Prayer Partner, Mrs V.L.Jackson; Tea Convenor, Mrs S.P.Beech; Auditor J.Bate.

\$27 was given to the Parish Hall Building Fund.

ECDA means "extra cent. a day".

PTA BOXING DAY DANCE.

Owing to the storm the orchestra couldn't get over from Nanaimo, so they borrowed the PA system from the school (Toddy Fowler was in charge of it) and reduced the price of the tickets to 75 cents. There were nearly two hundred people there and the PTA cleared \$100. W.P.Evans was M.C., Mrs D. Goodman was General Convenor and Mrs F.Kitchener was in charge of the supper. The tables were decorated in blue, white & silver and looked very smart. Mrs Gardiner was in charge of the decorations. There were novelty caps and so on, and those instruments which give a noise like an agonized tom cat whenever one blows into them. There were two spot dances which were won by Mr & Mrs Kwasyacia and Arthur Gale & Miss Dulcie Crofton. L.Bowden won the door prize. Bob Woods was doorman.

SOUTH SALT SPRING ISLAND W.I. Childrens' Christmas Party. Children & Adults, there were about 300 people there. There was Santa Claus (John French, not Ven.G.H.Holmes as reported elsewhere), there were balloons & paper caps, and there was carol singing led by Mrs Harrison. Members of the Christopher Club took part in a play, and the President, Mrs A.Davis, presented Ann Hollings with a prize; a present was also given to Mrs H. LaViolette from members of the Christopher Club. Three films were shown by Ven.G.H.Holmes & D.Dane. A wool blanket was won by Mrs T.Butt, a tablecloth by Mrs D.Goodman, a box of chocolates by Miss Alma Kaye, and a box of groceries by J. French.

SOUTH PENDER

Editor's Note. This news arrived late. Owing to the new CPR schedule, the whole news system will have to be re-organized. At present there seems to be only one direct mail a week from Salt Spring to the other islands, which is on Thursday, when Mr Lorenz takes the mail for North &

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for a
Happy New
Year

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South Galiano and Mayne while the Princess Elaine takes the mail for Port Washington, North & South Pender and presumably Saturna. Communications are further complicated by the fact that the Postal Service is not in favour of airmail to any of the islands -- at least they weren't about a couple of years ago when the Chamber of Commerce wrote in about it. All of these things cause delay. But to return to business:

Mrs Grace Hume tells us;

Mr Hubert de Burgh has left the island after 3½ years here with his family, while conducting logging operations on the Island. He will take up residence at Prevost Island. Folks all wish him and Mrs de Burgh every success over there.

It was with regret that the folks on South Pender learned of the untimely death of Mr Halowen de Burgh, who was well known throughout the Gulf Islands. His cheery ways will be missed by all. The people of South Pender send their sympathy at this sad time to his mother, and also to his brother Mr Hubert de Burgh.

Mrs G. Jennings spent two weeks at Britannia Beach with relatives, and also with friends in Vancouver city, returning on the Princess Norah. Mr & Mrs W. Hume went to Vancouver via Pat Bay visiting with their son in Vancouver and returning on the Princess Norah. Mrs McGusty spent several days in Duncan as did Mr & Mrs Herb Spalding. Mr & Mrs Jack Amies left by launch for Vancouver Island visiting friends and relatives in Victoria & Sidney.

South Pender folks wish all "spotlighters" a very merry Christmas & happy new year.

JAPAN ETC

We got a letter from R.S.M. Kenneth Byron. He writes " .. am still receiving the Spotlight and enjoy it very much. I read where Charlie Scott, Chief Petty Officer was over here on HMCS Sioux. When the Sioux came in I made it my business to look Charlie up. I had him over to the mess for dinner and we spent a couple of grand evenings. I joined Charlie for lunch one day and had an enjoyable time... Thanks to the Spotlight I was able to locate Charlie over here, I passed my papers on to him..." Good luck to them both!

PENDER ISLAND

D.G. MacDonald reports: Christmas on the Island has peacefully passed, and while a few residents left for the cities, a greater number arrived to enjoy the Season with relatives here. A Christmas-tree party for the children was held on the night of the 17th and was well attended in spite of a heavy rain. The youngsters enjoyed themselves, and each received a serviceable gift as well as the usual candy.

E.M. LEVI M.A., LL.B.

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An' mony may ye see,
An' durin' a' the years ta come
Oh happy may ye be!

An' may ye ne'er hae cause ta
mourne
Tae sigh or shed a tear,
Tae ane an' a' baith great an'
sma'
A Hearty Guid New Year!

ASK FOR YOUR CALENDAR.

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THE ISLANDS FARMERS INSTITUTE Annual General Meeting will be on

Tuesday 15 January 8.30 p.m. Fulford Community Hall.

BUSINESS: Reports on

Establishment of Salt Spring as a disease free area.
Introduction of Bovine Artificial Insemination Service.
Receipt of Lime Subsidy. Re-organization of Explosives
Service. Putting Fall Fair on non-loss basis.

Report of Directors & Auditors

Election of Directors & Auditors for coming year.

Special Business: Programme for the Directors - what they are to do during the coming year.

Constructive Criticism Islands Farmers Institute

Welcome

oranges and ice-cream.

Cards received from the Ross-Smith family, now in Montreal, state they are in good health and that Pender still holds a place in their hearts.

The Christmas mail was exceptionally heavy this Season and it was efficiently handled and despatched by the Postmasters and the Rural Delivery.

So another year goes into History, and on this Island we have much to be thankful for. While fishing wasn't so good and the gardens were a bit parched, the weather was pleasant. Also with increased logging operations and additional automobiles on the roads, we have had no serious accidents. This fact should be appreciated, and the SAFETY-FIRST motto kept constantly before the children especially. The Old-Timers wish to extend their kindest regards to all their friends on the other Islands.

MAYNE

The people of Mayne Island wish everybody a very happy new year! And there were some very good parties during the festive season we're told but otherwise there isn't very much to report. We got a letter in verse from J. Neill about the mail boat. He brings out the very good point that wharves wouldn't fall to bits so quickly if they were used more carefully. As he puts it, "Some skippers landing at our wharf never give a knock. Others pull the cleats off and take chunks out of our wharf.." And some have so much way on that the mooring ropes twist the whole wharf sideways. He gives a brief history of islands communications & suggests that some solutions to the problem would involve the raising of funds locally.

GALIANO

We had a chat with Captain Ivan G. Denroche who is Secretary of the Gulf Islands Improvement Bureau about the boat and he summed up the present situation very well. He said: The CPR controls the boat of course and we know what the CPR is going to do: the Dominion Government controls the repair & alteration of wharves, and I am going to see the Hon. Mr Mayhew shortly to discuss the whole situation and find out what the Dominion Government is going to do. When all the facts are obtained, then the Bureau can formulate a policy.

The cattle on the islands have been checked (we have no news about Prevost Island) and found free of Bang's disease. So the islands are now a disease free area, and no cattle and no goats may be imported without a permit. Galiano has been free of disease for over a year now.

29 Dec. Captain & Mrs Gilmour celebrated their wedding anniversary today. We are told it was their 67th! Congratulations!

THE POWER OF THE GOVERNMENT

Apparently there's an idea of damming Buttle Lake for the purpose of producing electric power and whether it is a good idea or not, we really don't know, but we have received a circular letter from Hon. H. H. Stevens, P.C., President of the B.C. Natural Resources Conservation League which brings out some interesting facts. According to the letter, Strathcona Park, including Buttle Lake, was set aside in perpetuity for the recreational use of the people of this province by an act of the Legislature: and the Offices which want to put this park (or rather part of it) to another use are those of the provincial water comptroller and the provincial power commission, both of which are administrative bodies under the Provincial Government.

Now the basic power of governance rests not with the Cabinet (the Government) nor with the Civil Service, but with the Commons, and on the face of

The passing years tiptoe over good books.

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Howard Chalk, Jack Harder & Jim Graham of the Bank of Montreal wish their many friends a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

it, except in times of emergency, no act which has passed the Legislature should be put aside without the consent of the Commons (the M.L.A.s) for they represent the people. We feel we would like to know more about this. Any offers?

SALT SPRING, 22Dec The Salt Spring St Edwards

AS OTHERS SEE US. From Saanich & South Vancouver Island Health Unit Report. "Garbage - Refuse disposal - this continues to be a major problem" (on Salt Spring). "It always seems strange that people living in a community have but little pride in the appearance of their roadsides & beaches when they defile the same with small dumps here & there. A garbage disposal district should be an objective to aim at." (Adv)

sewing circle which has about fifteen members made a large patchwork quilt which was displayed in Mouats Store and was afterwards won by Mrs W. Summerville. The funds raised will go towards providing various articles of Church use for St Edwards in Ganges.

SPOTLIGHT. The proof-reader points out that in the Editorial we have said nice things about the Stores on other islands but have not mentioned the Stores on Salt Spring & Pender. They too are good. The proof-reader, of course, is our eldest spaniel.

SALT SPRING

21Dec Annual Christmas Concert, Grades I to VI. The directors of the concert were Mrs R. West, Miss I. Coss, Miss N. Harrison, Miss D. Villers & Miss A. Houston. The hall was very well decorated with evergreens, and the various grades put on plays & songs. Parker Okano was M.C. There was a large audience and the concert was a success.

SATURNA

17Dec. Over a hundred people attended the Christmas party. After a turkey dinner, an entertainment was given by the school children under the direction of Mrs E. Slater. After the show there was a visit from Santa Claus.

SPOTLIGHT. A chap writes in: "Just a note to express my appreciation for the service of the "Spotlight". By the medium of your great little paper I got results in two days from a small "Want Adt" which I had been trying to obtain for some weeks by phone and personal enquiries.."

That's a nice letter, isn't it?

SPOTLIGHT. The Spotlight wishes to convey its sympathy to the Road Gang who must be having a foul time in this snowy weather.

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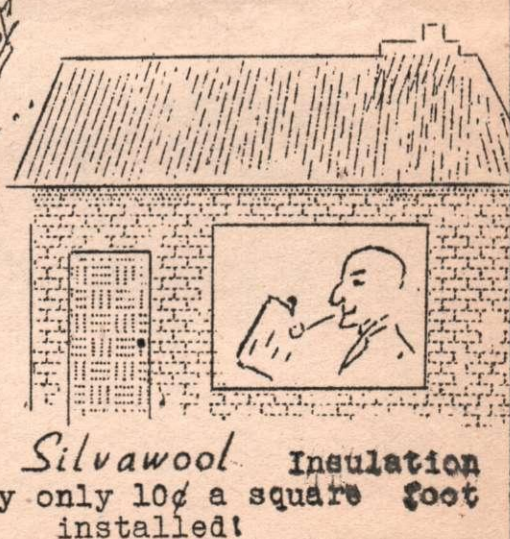
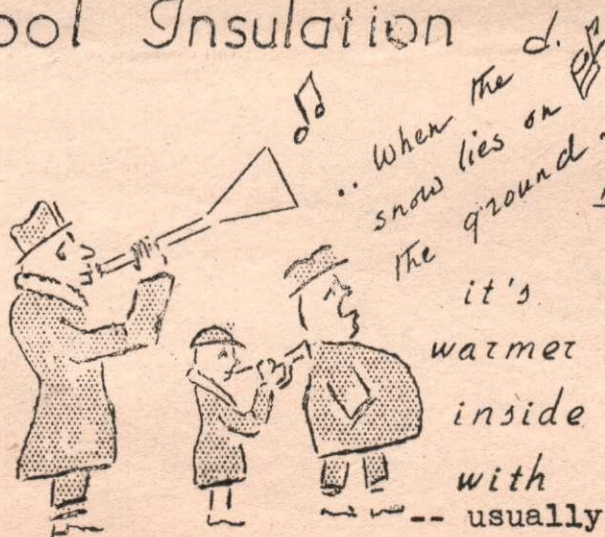
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