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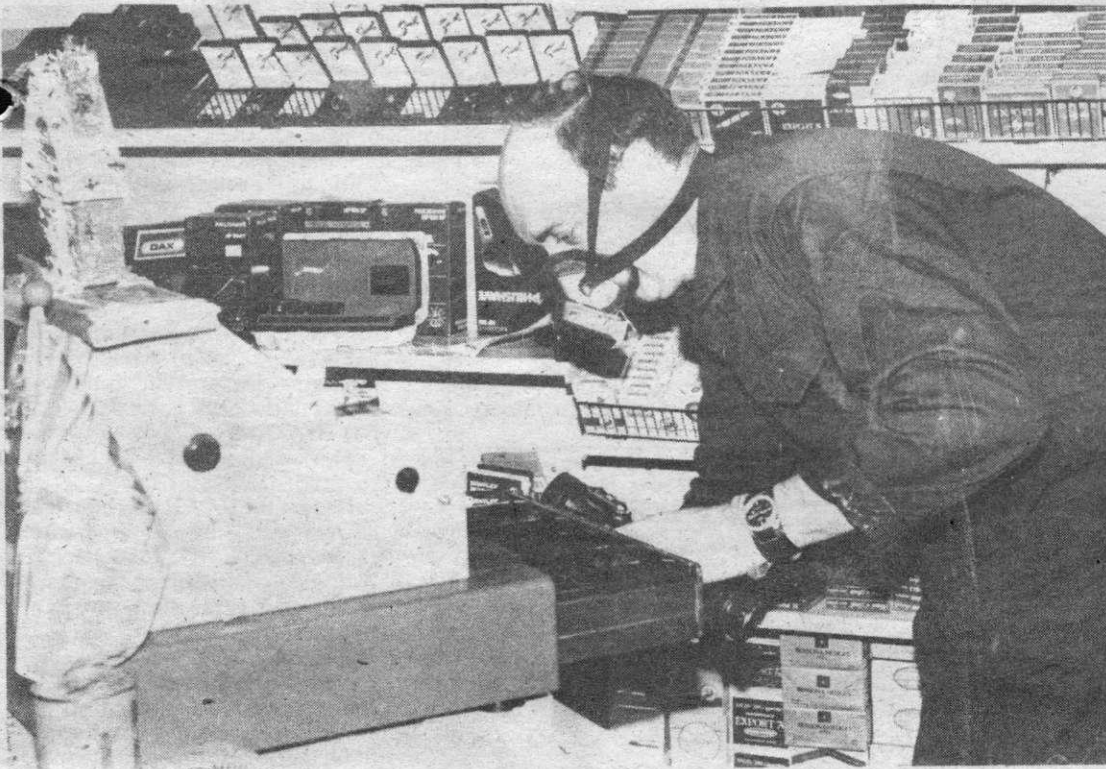
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TWENTY-FIRST YEAR, NO. 50

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1980

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RCMP Sgt. Chazik from Victoria checks Western Drug Mart for fingerprints

RCMP investigate break-ins



Tire tracks are examined by Const. R. O'Connor of Ganges

Boil water, residents advised

Quality of water in the South Salt Spring Water District is under investigation. In the meantime, users have been advised to boil their drinking water, although no formal order has been issued to that effect.

The quality showed some deterioration at the regular check early this month.

Senior health inspector Les Potter explained on Tuesday that quality is frequently affected after

very heavy rains such as have been experienced in the islands. The normal procedure is to take further samples and to carry out further checks to ascertain whether the bacterial count was due to rains or to some factor in the water which must be eradicated.

Final report is expected about the end of the week.

There is no cause for alarm, Driftwood was assured, and it is likely that the condition has already disappeared.

Ganges RCMP are investigating a possible connection between two break-ins in which thieves netted an undisclosed amount of cash and merchandise this week.

Hit by thieves were Ganges Western Drug Mart and Foxglove Farm and Garden Supplies. No arrests had been made in connection with either break-in by press-time Tuesday.

RCMP were still busy Tuesday morning investigating an overnight break-in at the pharmacy when employees of Foxglove noticed a number of items missing.

A subsequent check revealed that thieves had forced their way into that business through a rear basement door. A door had also been forced in gaining entry to the drug store.

FINGERPRINTING

Assisting local police in their investigation is Sgt. Chazik of Victoria RCMP identification services. Chazik planned to spend most of Tuesday dusting both businesses for fingerprints.

The break-in at the Western Drug Mart was discovered Monday evening by Const. Bernie Hopp and Const. Robert O'Connor of Ganges after tracing stolen items recovered from an automobile.

Police are revealing little information concerning the two robberies but there are suspects in the pharmacy break-in. Connection between the vehicle and its owner may lead to identification of those responsible for the break-in.

An assortment of watches, drugs, cameras, cigarettes and candy was found in the vehicle.

NO VALUE ESTIMATE

Les Ramsay, pharmacy owner, Turn to Page Two

Bylaw hung up

Islands are still in transit levy area

Islands are still half-way in the bus area of the Capital Region.

The bylaw excluding islanders from paying the transit levy has bogged down in the cabinet.

Last week the Capital Regional Board received a letter from Municipal Affairs Minister Bill Vander Zalm saying that the proposed 5.5% levy on Hydro bills would be bad for business.

The economic development committee of the cabinet had discussed the bylaw and decided not to pass it on for full cabinet approval, said the letter.

"The proposed 5.5% levy on the Hydro accounts of non-residential Hydro power consumers would have an adverse effect on present and future economic development and job opportunities," wrote the minister.

He would be happy to discuss the matter with any of the board members, added the minister.

Retiring Chairman Jim Campbell had already made preliminary arrangements to meet the minister he reported. Chairman Norma Sealey said she would follow it up immediately.

The bylaw in question regularizes the board's decision to finance transit services by a power

levy. It also excludes the islands from the payment of the levy.

Salt Spring Island Director Yvette Valcubert told Driftwood she would bring up the islands exclusion as a separate bylaw in the coming discussions.

Chairman Sealey, who has served as chairman of the transit committee, said that the exclusion of the islands has already been dealt with and that she will work to make sure that they are taken out.

Santa visit postponed

Mechanical problems forced postponement of last Saturday's visit by the Christmas Ship.

Santa and the Christmas Ship are expected at Ganges this Saturday at 6 pm, kicking off a two-day tour of the Gulf Islands.

Santa will visit the Activity Centre in Ganges instead of the high school gym in the only other schedule change.

The event is sponsored by the Bellingham, Washington, Jay-Cees.

Winners chosen from more than 100 entries

Winners were chosen this week in the Driftwood essay contest, in which over 100 essays were entered by students in Gulf Islands schools. Prizes total \$105 in cash and gift certificates at local book stores.

First place winner in the primary division, for a cash prize of \$10, was Isabel Jarvis, a Grade 1 student at Galiano School. Second prize, a \$5 gift certificate, was won by Christine Tranter, a Grade 3 student at Fernwood School. Primary division encompassed Grades 1 to 3.

In the intermediate division, Grades 4 to 6, first-place winner was Jenny Barnes, Grade 4 student at Salt Spring Elementary. She won a \$15 cash prize. Second prize of a \$7.50 gift certificate was awarded to Michael English, Grade 4 student at Mayne School.

First prize winner in the junior category, Grades 7 to 10, was Cory Boser. The Grade 7 student from Saturna Island won a \$20 cash prize. Second place for a \$10 certificate was won by Ingrid Wickheim, a Grade 9 student at Mayne.

Trish Graham, Grade 12, took first prize of \$25 in the senior division and Shelley Crooks of Grade 11 won a gift certificate with a value of \$12.50.

Contest judges described the essays as well written and said the writers showed the spirit of Christmas in an original way.

"All the children are to be praised and thanked for taking time to tell us of their Christmas hopes and ideals," the judges said. "They make happy Christmas reading."

Judges were Joy Marampon, speech therapist with Gulf Islands School District and coordinator of Driftwood's children's section; Driftwood's Pender Island correspondent Eleanor Harrison; and Carole Eyles, of Fulford Harbour, whose reviews of children's books have appeared in recent issues.

Several of the essays which were judged as runners-up in the contest appear this week on Pages Sixteen and Seventeen. Winning essays will appear in next week's Christmas issue.



Punk rock at local school

Punk rockers Grenda Gooley and Steven Dashwood, Grade 12, and Patricia Bruynse, Grade 11, above, strike a pose following last Thursday's noontime punk rock sock hop at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Below, Heidi Hume, Grade 10, and Mike Peter Bruynse, Grade 12, display their enthusiasm for punk rock with these original costumes.



Break-ins investigated at Ganges

From Page One

was unable to place a dollar value on the stolen goods.

Foxglove employees estimate about \$2,000 in cash and merchandise was taken there. Missing were jeans, knives, tools, animal feed and about \$45 in cash.

The Foxglove robbery occurred either some time Monday or over the weekend but was not discovered until Tuesday at 9 am by employees reporting for work.

The break-in was discovered by Pat Lee and Michael Lalonde.

Sgt. Mitch Hanks praised both Const. Hopp and Const. O'Connor

in discovery of the pharmacy break-in.

"While investigating another matter, both Const. Hopp and Const. O'Connor noticed something out of the ordinary and diligent duty led to discovery of the stolen articles," said Sgt. Hanks.

IDENTIFYING CODE

The stolen articles were easily traced to the Ganges Western Drug Mart since they had been marked with an identifying code. Many businesses mark their stock with a number in order to assist law enforcement agencies in tracing

stolen merchandise.

Businesses are assigned an individual code which may consist of up to eight digits.

Police have yet to recover items taken from Foxglove.

Sgt. Hanks expressed confidence that arrests were forthcoming.

"These things take time but we're doing the best that we can," he said.

Police are still investigating Saturday's break-in at the Village Specialty Cafe. Employees discovered stereo equipment valued at about \$500 missing Sunday morning.

Former prisoner of war seeks back pay

More than 35 years after his release from a German prisoner of war camp, a retired Salt Spring Island man is still waging a war with the Canadian government to receive pay deducted during his years of confinement.

Bruce A.G. Campbell, a former RCAF officer, was held in a POW camp at Sagan from May 1943 to May 1945.

Under terms of the Geneva Convention, Campbell and every other Canadian officer held prisoner was entitled to receive as pay an amount equivalent to that of a German officer of similar rank.

This money was to be used for the purchase of a few luxury items. The officers were paid in lagermarks, an unofficial currency valued at approximately one-fifth of the Canadian dollar.

LEFT BEHIND

Campbell claims this money, which amounted to hundreds of

thousands of dollars, was left behind in the POW camps, having never been spent since there were no goods available on which to spend it.

Upon their release from the stalags, most prisoners were much more concerned with carrying the necessities of survival than the practically worthless lagermarks.

The British government in turn impounded one-third of the officers' pay during the period of their imprisonment. That is the money which Campbell is seeking to have returned.

Former RCAF pilot Michael Roth of Toronto is leading the fight on behalf of more than 1,500 former officers who have applied for the back pay.

Roth originally broke the story to the Canadian Press news service with an account of how Campbell had written a letter to the RCAF following the war in hopes of receiving the back pay.

NO RECORD

The RCAF replied that it had no record of the money.

He said the RCAF told him that he was confusing the issue with Japanese POW's.

"I said that it wasn't a (Japanese) Zero that shot me down, it was a (German) Junkers 88.

Campbell, who spent six years on Salt Spring Island as a child, commends Roth for the effort he has made on behalf of the former POW's who are seeking back pay worth about \$17 million.

"Roth is quite disenchanted with his own country and the way they've treated him. He's left no stone unturned," said Campbell.

Campbell would also like to see the former officers receive whatever back pay is entitled to them.

"I'm sure that there are all kinds of chaps in some type of financial difficulty that could use a buck or two and I just hope that I've done something to help alleviate their situation."

Campbell claims that there are several other former POW's on Salt Spring Island who are entitled to back pay without even being aware of it.

Music in the harbour Tuesday

There will be music in Ganges Harbour next Tuesday when members of the Salt Spring Sailing Club stage a carol ship sing-song at the dock behind the K & R store at 7 pm.

The carollers will later move to Long Harbour, to meet the ferry at 10 pm.

Aust named school board chairman

Strickland Aust was elected chairman of the Gulf Islands School Board last Wednesday. Aust replaces Ivan Mouat, who retired from the board in November.

Board members chose Aust over Tom Davidson, the only other name placed in nomination for chairmanship.

Jeanine Dodds was elected vice-chairman over Charles Baltzer.

In accepting the position, Aust said he would like to see greater co-operation between board members and better communication between parents, teachers and the board.

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To Be Frank

by richards



I don't sing with an accent. Glen Hanna tells me that he can't tell that it's me singing. Which is a pretty dastardly statement. I ain't got no accent! But, then, I don't often sing. What have I got to sing about anyway?

Like a lot of people, Betty Bridgen had an advertising card in the mail last week from Sidney. Attached were a number of discount coupons. She was particularly impressed with the gift because only one coupon was valid. All the other eight had expired on October 31.

Women's Lib pesters me for five years to free-up a plugged sink. And, finally I open it up and clean it out. Now I'm getting beaten over the head because the water runs out too fast! I'm on strike. Women's Lib, unfair to married men!

An anonymous scrubber is out for lice. The writer of letters without signatures tells me that an outbreak of lice in islands schools went without a report. But lice can't read! We wouldn't cater to them! I was taken to task on two counts: that there was no report on the beasts and that there was no advice on how to avoid them. Avoidance is easy. You walk round them. The lack of advice is fairly easy. Nobody rang to say he was lousy. The suffering of little children taking bugs home was horrendous, said the anon. And think how those little bugs suffered! Mary Williamson wasn't around just when she was needed, concluded the unofficial report. Mebbe she knows how to get rid of them!

Postal rates are very fair, said the customer. Seventeen cents from here to Vancouver for a letter: that's cheap enough at a penny a day.

Oh, yes, she cooed, Frank is one of our best customers when it comes to these toffees. Imagine the disastrous effect on domestic relations in the Richards ménage! And me, supposed to be on a diet!

Looking through the provincial phone number book for something else entirely I found a little known fact about lawyers. In the Williams Lake provincial office are two rooms for lawyers; at least they have two phones. There is the male barristers' room and the female barristers' room. I wonder! Is it that Williams Lake male barristers are more aggressive than in other parts? Or are Williams Lake female barristers of a type unto themselves where they have to be segregated to protect their innocent male counterparts? After all, if the need were universal, surely it would be found universally? But good luck to 'em, anyway! And may the best man (?) win!

A memory is a fine thing. It helps you to remember all kinds of things. Like when I took a chair to the Lions Club dinner in St. George's Hall. If I had had a memory I'd have remembered to take it home. One day I must pick it up. Or the time I took an electronic game with me. I remembered to put it on one side, but I can't remember what I did with it. And I didn't even use it. Then last week I went to the Lions dinner in the Harbour House and part of the time I wore my glasses. There they were, two officers from the local police detachment and a former, retired policeman sitting opposite. And I still lost my glasses! There's only one good side to this memory coin. I've got a spare chair; I never could win at Simon and I'm wearing a spare pair of glasses.

There is something about a toilet that arouses the baser instincts of the shallow-minded. The man who sees a toilet bowl or a urinal is liable to lose control of himself and kick and kick and KICK and Oh! Baby! in the offing. And most of the no-longer-courteous seem to want to kick me. I get hell for whatever I write because if the one side likes it, the other doesn't. So here's a New Year's resolution for everybody who either wants a sewer or doesn't want one: Kick me gently and curse me quietly.

I was once a Wolf Cub. It was not a happy experience, although life's little problems didn't really matter very much. There were two of me, then. Me and my twin brother were two of us. And me and my twin brother went to a sectarian school. But the Cub pack was attached to a non-sectarian school for recruitment and accommodation. That made us different. And there was nothing Baden Powell could have done to eliminate a friction in the pack when someone different showed up. And two the same was worse. We weren't actually ostracized. We were left with no slightest doubt that we were not really welcome. But that is not the part of my early memories that I cherish. It was the principle involved in Scouting. Everything was a matter of honour. We swore on "Cubs' honour." Everything was a matter of personal integrity and credibility. To put it all to the test was the closed box. We took it home. Everybody took it home. It was just a box. Fifty years later, I can't clearly remember what it looked like. It was nondescript and non-sufficiently distinctive to stay with me. It was the message that lived on. On the outside was written an instruction: "You are on your honour not to open this box." It rested on the sideboard, hidden behind a hedge of youthful principle, for a week. Every day we wondered what was in the box. And it remained intact. My only problem, half a century later, is curiosity. I have never ceased to wonder: just what was in that box that we weren't allowed to see?

The pound goes up and Britain starves. The cost of living has spiralled beyond the worst fears of the worst Brit. And, we are told, all because the pound went up on the world's money markets. Yet, here at home, we are weeping tears of terror because our dollar is down. Who is right? Should we drape our dollar in national flags and build an altar to it? Or should we be thankful that we are not as other nations are, the victim of our soaring currency? I fear that there is too much politics and not enough honesty in our approach to currency fluctuations.

Further research on lighting is urged by advisory committee

Cautious restraint against making a quick decision in replacing fluorescent lighting in Gulf Islands schools was urged by a representative of the parent advisory group of Fernwood School at last Wednesday's meeting of Gulf Islands School Board.

Irene Fewings expressed concern over the possible harmful effects of fluorescent lighting and called for continued investigation into the effects of full spectrum lighting.

"We are very concerned about the issue of fluorescent lighting in our schools and the lack of information about it," said Fewings.

HARMFUL SIDE EFFECTS

Little information is presently available about full-spectrum lighting and its effects on humans. Fewings suggested there may be harmful side effects stemming from faulty installation of full-spectrum lighting.

"We should study the issue carefully before rushing head-first into replacing our schools' fluorescent lights with full-spectrum lights," she warned.

Sentiment over the suspected harmful effects of fluorescent lighting has gained wide support as concerned parents become more conscious of lighting conditions in Gulf Island schools.

"In my opinion, the effects of fluorescent lighting are disastrous," said Fewings.

A recent meeting of the Fernwood School parents advisory committee decided to press the school board to consider replacing the lights in Fernwood School with full-spectrum lighting. About 20 parents were at the school to see a film produced by John Ott, a major proponent of full-spectrum lighting.

Fewings also urged the school board to obtain a copy of a study by Dr. Hal Knight on the feasibility of installing full-spectrum lighting. Knight's study was conducted at the request of the Greater Victoria School Board.

Knight has said there is a lot of conflicting evidence on the value of full-spectrum lighting. He has

stated that more research is needed.

"We must start looking at light from a health point of view," he said in a recent interview.

The Victoria School Board has yet to act on Knight's recommendations. Fewings urged school board members to contact the GVSB for its reaction to the study.

She also suggested investigating Knight's suggestion that the University of Victoria is prepared to make resources available for further study on the effects of lighting.

Meanwhile, Fewings recommended that the school board promote the increased use of natural sunlight as an alternative to fluorescent lighting.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1980

Regionalism and the Islands

Last week Saturna's Jim Campbell relinquished the chair of the Capital Regional Board to Sidney's Mayor Norma Sealey.

The change brings into sharp focus the contribution made by the Outer Islands director to the region. Nearly 10 years ago he went to Victoria to assert his views on island planning. He stayed to take his place as the senior legislator in Victoria outside the provincial buildings.

For seven years he has been mostly the chairman. During that time he has been the spokesman for regionalism. And he has been the spokesman for many other projects in the region.

At no time has he abandoned his plea for regional thinking in regional administration. Even when he took an unpopular stand on transit and faced the ire of his own fellow islanders Campbell did not waver from his position that his islands are part of the region as a whole.

Jim Campbell is not an oily politician with a bedside voting manner. He is fiery, abrasive, unyielding. And he is the spokesman, the champion and the advocate of regional administration in a region of small communities.

Islanders have frequently found themselves at odds with the retiring chairman. But they have never been in a position to challenge his policy of placing regional consideration above the parochialism he abhors.

While Campbell has carved himself a niche in the gallery of distinguished regional administrators, his past performance brings to light the very urgent need to eliminate this constant parochialism.

It was the Capital Regional Board which advocated the incorporation of the western communities when they had no desire to form a municipality.

It must be the regional district which points up the need of the Greater Victoria municipalities for amalgamation.

It is absurd to find one member municipality entering into litigation with the region. They are suing themselves and only the minister of municipal affairs can resolve this absurdity.

Mr. Vander Zalm would do well to listen to Jim Campbell for a time and perhaps he would recognize the need for regional thinking in a parochial environment, because as long as the core municipalities remain at loggerheads, the people of those components are paying the cost.

System sounds feudal

Sir,

After reading Frank Rainsford's rebuttal of Nick Gilbert's article on farm leases, it seems to me that Mr. Rainsford had missed the main question. Does this country really need absentee landlords buying up large tracts of land and then renting parcels back to the residents?

In the beginning the land was there, created by no mortal. The private ownership of that land is fundamental to our economic system, but we do have a choice in who should own it. On the one hand there is the man capable of investing the dollars; on the other there is the man willing to put in some sweat.

Many Canadians are proud to be the descendants of pioneers who, while poor in cash, were rich in energy. They carved out a good home for their families through

long hours with an axe and plough. Now large areas first developed by these men have been bought up by rich people with no need or interest in working it themselves. For a price, they are willing to allow someone else do the work.

Sounds feudal, doesn't it? Not too far removed from the conditions which encouraged many of our ancestors to leave the 'Old Country' in the first place. Do we really have to resurrect that 'class' society here?

I don't have any easy solutions to the problem but I believe it is important to see what is happening. And let us not expect the farmer to be grateful that he is permitted to rent the land that he is increasingly unlikely to ever own.

JAN HAVELAAR,
Box 21,
Fulford Harbour.
December 14, 1980.



Christmas is for small children

It's Christmas time. Here is Anna Hughes, daughter of Jack and Wendy Hughes, of Ganges,

learning all about Christmas. She was among the large crowd of children who enjoyed Breakfast

with Santa at Harbour House and Fulford Hall on Saturday morning.

Letters to the Editor

New Democrats have 'acted responsibly'

Sir,

A local citizen has written many of the local newspapers regarding the NDP's stand on the constitution.

New Democrats see Canada as an independent and sovereign nation. We believe Canadians want to have their constitution home in Canada. Canadians want the constitutional debate resolved so that we can get on with the jobs of tackling high unemployment and inflation; problems which are the legacies of Liberal and Conservative governments.

New Democrats condemned the government's use of closure to end debate on the constitution in the House of Commons and voted against it.

Both in the House of Commons and in the constitution committee I have pressured the Prime Minister to recognize and deal with the short-comings of the constitution resolution especially with regard to Indians and other native peoples.

The NDP forced the government to accept an NDP amendment that will clarify, once and for all, the right of the provinces to control their resources; a right they were supposed to have, but which Supreme Court rulings had taken away.

The NDP will be fighting hard in committee to have changes made to the amending formula and to protect the rights of Canada's original peoples. We voted to send the resolution to committee where such changes could be made.

Unilateral patriation proposed by the Conservatives would mean that Indian and Native rights would be completely unprotected. Amendments are needed and to achieve these necessary changes, an attitude of flexibility and negotiation must prevail.

In the constitutional debate only New Democrats spoke in depth on the constitution as it affected the rights of Canada's original peoples. Both Peter Itinuar, NDP M.P. for Nunatsiag in the NWT, and myself made this the central feature of our speeches.

The NDP has acted responsibly. Conservatives, because of their opposition to the constitution, have obstructed other legislation, such as the Bill to improve the service of the Post Office.

The Liberal-Conservative alliance on the Bank Act and many other economic questions works against Canadian working people. The Liberal-Conservative alliance continues to bless corporations with higher and higher profit margins. While Canadians, from coast to coast are saddled with higher prices for every commodity needed for daily life: food, clothing and housing.

NDP policy on the constitution

and other concerns, both local and national, is part of my fall householder, currently being distributed in the riding. Along with this letter, the householder is a chance for me to report to you my work as Member of Parliament for Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands.

Thank you.

JIM MANLY, M.P.,
Ottawa.
December 10, 1980.

Christmas season brings up several aspects of animal care

Sir,

We are in to winter and the Christmas season again and the Society would like to remind the public of several important aspects of animal care and well being.

One concern is with respect to giving an animal as a surprise gift. As badly as the Society wants to find homes for animals it does not encourage them as gifts. In order to be sure an animal is going to be loved and taken care of we find it is important that the new owner choose the pet personally. Too often gift animals are neglected or returned to the Shelter shortly after they are presented. Animal ownership is a big responsibility that must be agreed to before undertaking.

Another concern during the Christmas season is the possibility of dogs getting a hold of poultry bones. This type of bone tends to splinter and crack when chewed by dogs and can be very harmful to them. Don't feed them poultry bones from the table and make sure carcasses are disposed of such that dogs cannot get a hold of them by chance.

Yet another concern is for birds when the ground is frozen and covered with snow. Feeding is difficult so occasional scattering of bread crumbs or seed will help tide them over to the next thaw. Suet or bacon drippings are an excellent source of food as well, providing insulation without the risk of freezing.

Remembering these concerns can make a very Merry Christmas for our animal friends. Yet another

way to help is to give a gift membership. Your membership or donation will help us continue our work with animals.

JOSEPH F. HEALD,
Secretary-Manager,
B.C. S.P.C.A., Victoria Branch.
December 9, 1980.

Big success

Sir,

Salt Spring Elementary's Garage Sale was a big success due to the support and efforts of many people in the community.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who contributed items to the sale, and thank all the parents, teachers and children who worked on sorting, pricing and selling.

Thank you all.

LYNN T. MATHEWS
Chairman,
Salt Spring Elementary
School Advisory Committee
December 15, 1980.

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This Week,
says the Salt Spring
Island Chamber
of Commerce.

'Arbitrary plan' by highways department raises ire of Fulford Harbour resident

Sir,
The department of highways of this provincial government must be manned by a minister who is overbearing, domineering and who behaves like a bulldozer going right through anywhere and everywhere. As a consequence, all the lesser fry working under his department are thoroughly inconsiderate, stupidly inefficient and completely arbitrary.

Should the road boss decide he wants a particular piece of land he, through other highways department's employees, just takes it. Obviously such workers must be backed up by the department head or they would not be as arrogant as they are.

Recently the department of highways was working outside the driveway of a private residence in Fulford. With no "by your leave" they effectively blocked the entrance with one of their enormous road machines and, apparently, expected the resident to postpone any necessary business which might have necessitated the use of his car. That was inconvenient enough but, when asked what they were doing, they replied that they were putting in an extra light. This, as it turned out, was a blatant falsehood. Instead, they put up a sign - right in the middle of a maple tree - to indicate two separate lanes, one to the ferry, the other for local traffic. The sign has made not one iota of difference. Also, no light illuminates the sign which will be completely hidden when the tree is in leaf. What utter waste of money!

Now, that same inconsiderate but overly powerful department has decided arbitrarily to take over a large slice of private property in order to widen the road in Fulford, this, with the connivance of the ferry corporation. I presume it will allow more cars to go even faster, thus endangering residences along the way - residences and residents.

At present there is a stand of trees which protects the house but, according to two department employees, these will have to be sacrificed to enable the department to carry out its unnecessary plans. Any large truck coming full speed down that Fulford hill could have brake failure or a load shift and

plow right into the residence with the resultant tragedy. Do the various employees of the highways department care? Indeed no! Their arrogant attitude makes it all too plain that they don't give a damn about endangering lives as long as they can force their will against Fulford residents.

There is no need for the department of highways to take anyone's property since there is plenty of room around the intersection of the Beaver Point and Fulford-Ganges Roads to do any widening that no one needs but the highways department under the direction of its domineering and overbearing minister.

There is a ditch on one side of the road that could be properly culverted thereby allowing more road surface - enough allowance even for the arbitrary highways department workers. As it is, now, that ditch on the right side of the road when coming up from the ferry wharf is a positive hazard to drivers unfamiliar with its slippery condition.

Should the highways depart-

ment go ahead with its present arbitrary plans a valuable property will have to be sold though no one, with any common sense, would buy it because of the danger of being killed while inside the house when the next logging truck loses the power of its brakes on the hill or a shifting of the load overturns the truck. Does the minister applaud such tactics? It would seem so and that he applauds with much relish and enthusiasm. The engineer employed by the department calls this proposed mess progress. I have a number of more descriptive terms that are truly realistic.

How about the wildlife that nests and roosts in the hedge that the department intends to destroy? There are some rare species that inhabit that hedge. What of them? Surely they deserve more than a Trudeau shrug of the collective shoulders of workers and administrators of the highways department and ferry corporation - such insensitive shoulders.

LILLIAN HORSDAL DALZIEL
Fulford Harbour
December, 1980.

Vibrations high on Richter scale

Sir,
While earthquakes around the world make daily news, there are probably many Gulf Islanders who have never actually experienced one. For those who are not too timid, there is a simple and convenient solution. Settle down to a quiet snack in the cafeteria of the B.C. Ferries M.V. *Queen of Sidney*, and suddenly, without warning, you will be precipitated into a rumbling, rattling and shaking of everything that is in any way loose.

As the ceiling tiles threaten to fall, your teapot dances across the table and the letter you were writing turns into an indecipherable scrawl, you may wonder why the gentleman across the table is carrying on his conversation and appears, incredibly, not to have noticed this 6.8-on-the-Richter-scale onslaught. Of course, you realize, he's a regular - he knows where the fault lies.

ALAN MARTIN,

Tripp Rd.,
Ganges.
December 8, 1980.

Refund refused

Sir,
Last summer, my wife and I looked forward to touring the Gulf Islands with visitors from England. We made reservations at the Bedwell Harbour Resort, South Pender Island for August 15 and 16, and sent them a deposit of \$54. On August 8, our eldest son died suddenly, and it was therefore necessary to cancel all our holiday arrangements throughout B.C. and Washington. Although the above reservation was cancelled on August 11 with an explanation of the circumstances, I confirmed by telephone on August 14 that the reservation had been cancelled earlier. Regardless of the circumstances, Miss Austin, the manageress of the above resort, has flatly refused to refund all or any part of the generous deposit.

GEORGE W.R. JOHNSON,
5458 - 5th Ave.,
Delta, B.C.
November 17, 1980.

Inflation fed by indexing

Sir,
It seems clear, now, that the indexing of wage, pensions, income tax and the interest on government bonds, is the main support for our continuing inflation.

A person who can be sure that his wages will increase in line with the increasing cost of living doesn't have to exercise restraint. The same can be said of those lucky people who have indexed pensions.

As for the indexed income tax deductions, it must be a matter of record that this policy removes the restraint that wage earners used to exercise when they kept their demands for increases within reason, "because a big raise would mean a bigger bite of income tax". (Remember when a \$10 raise resulted in an increase of \$5 in tax?)

Then there is the disaster inflicted on independent people who have provided for their retirement by investing in industrial bonds. The indexing of govern-

ment bonds results in a devaluation of fixed interest bonds. For example: Doman 1987 bonds, bearing an interest rate of 10 1/4%, have a market value of only \$83, due largely to the fact that the government bonds of similar term have had their rate increased by indexation, and thus have retained their face value.

It's true that the investor had his choice of either bond at the time of purchase, but if this policy is pursued, even private borrowers will have to index their borrowings and that will ensure the growth of inflation.

Surely, such people as our teachers and public servants (including those elected) must realize these simple truths.

Those of us who have fixed or declining incomes certainly do!

Kill indexing and inflation will waste away for lack of anything to feed on.

KEITH JACKSON,
R.R. 1, Mayne Island.
December 8, 1980.

The worst Polish joke

The Anarchist

Until Monday of this week, the 21st of December was merely another of those days submerged in general proximity to Christmas. Being the Sunday before the 25th, I assume it had some particular significance in the church calendar largely unknown to most people; now, however, all that is changed.

By resolution of the parliament of Canada, that is by common consent or default of all those members present at the time, the 21st of December is now to be a National Day of Prayer for the people of Poland.

I accept that there was, on the part of the sponsors, some measure of good intent, but there is about the result such emptiness as makes a mockery of the intent, the proposed beneficiaries and the House which passed it.

The Yalta Agreements of 1945 placed Poland within the "Sphere of Influence" of Russia, and nothing has been done to alter that understanding of the ensuing 35 years.

The resolution, addressed to the present situation in Poland, is the would-be religious stepchild of the secular political body which adopted it, and there is no national church in which to celebrate it, there will be no parliament in session to participate in it, there will be no national ceremony in Ottawa or elsewhere to honour it, there will be a mere handful of separate congregations which will pay it lip-service.

Parliament has completed the metamorphosis of the Polish joke.

Scene: A street in Warsaw, December 21, 1980.

Two Polish citizens meet, and one says to the other, "Have you heard the latest Canadian Joke?"

"Nope."

"Do you know why things don't seem as bad as they really are?"

"No, why?"

"The Canadians are praying for us."

Now, if the authors of the motion were better practitioners of the art of the politics of religion they would have framed the proposal quite differently: to begin with it should have been addressed to the Russians since everyone knows that they are immune to all forms of communication except prayer, even if there is a great deal of doubt that prayer is of any use when dealing with the Communists.

However, if for instance the resolution had proposed a day of prayer for the Russians, that they

should be turned from all thoughts of wrath or violence toward the citizens of Poland, then a very different result would be achieved.

On the one hand, if the Russians invaded Poland then it would be clear evidence of their resistance to the power of prayer and their general lack of spiritual values; on the other hand if, fortunately, the Russians do not invade, then it would serve as a most admirable demonstration of the power of the Almighty. In either event the result would be of much greater use to those MP's who plan further exercises of this type.

Or perhaps they should just forget the whole silly business.

BACK TO NORMAL

I feel much more comfortable this week.

For some time I had been trying to orient myself within what I was informed was the majority of Canadians who supported the current process of constitutional reform. After all, when you have become totally accustomed to being a permanent member of a perpetual minority it is most unsettling to find one's identity in question; the result is quite startling.

The immediate result is to assume that one is, by virtue of a total collapse of the intellect, guilty of a grievous sin, either of omission or commission. Next, there is a sense of some furtive betrayal by a defective synapse in one of the lower centres of the brain, or even, God forbid, one of the higher centres.

Perhaps even worse to contemplate, I had been brainwashed by some as yet undisclosed new technique with the result that, in view of the political record of 50 years of failure and frustration, what seemed like a logical proposal was, in reality, a plot to bury the document permanently beneath the swimming pool at 24 Sussex Drive.

But I am saved by Dr. Gallup; the public is two to one against the proposal, and I am returned once more to the congregation of the few.

Now, happily I can watch the spectacle of that majority of alleged strong independent Canadian thinkers and seekers after self-determination making their ritual appeals to the parliament of Great Britain for protection from the parliament of Canada.

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537-9201

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537-2626



Sarah Johnson and Shari Hickman display a few of many crafts on sale this week at the

Christmas Market at the Old Jean Shop. The many gifts were created by 16 area artists.

Paid \$7 to be insulted, abused

She'll never ride the bus again!

Sir,

I have become Energy Conscious due to the bombardment through the media.

The financial sacrifice was giving up my car, and leaving my comfortable 64° F. home wearing my thermal unmentionables to do my shopping by bus.

On my return trip the cab to take me to the bus depot never did arrive. A kind Samaritan (they are not quite extinct) offered me a ride to the bus terminal.

I introduced myself as a rank amateur to the ticket salesman as I asked for information.

"Proceed to 17," was his only comment after my inquiries regarding the now \$7 plus for fare. I mentioned that it had been my understanding that the fee was nominal.

At "17" they said, "if you are heading towards the interior you have the correct lane."

"But," I said in all innocence, "I was directed to lane 17!"

"Lady, look on the front of the bus for destination."

I did just this; it was Castlegar, I wanted Gulf Islands.

Fifteen minutes later and three seconds to departure deadline I found the Gulf Islands written in the front of the bus.

All that saved me from utter dejection was the poor unfortunate who thought he was going to Castlegar on our bus. No kind official informed him that you had to read the writing in front of the bus.

His bus had departed without him, leaving him with a now worthless ticket. Experience mind you!

Zero hour we depart for the Ferry Terminal.

Once comfortable on the bus I

realized that I would give just about anything for a cup of tea. The time was now 6.10, lunch had been my usual bowl of soup.

I was looking forward to the tea and a biscuit at the Ferry Terminal.

Time was no problem; everything I ever remembered reading in the "Drivers Manual" obviously doesn't apply to Bus Drivers.

We pulled up to the Sea View Terminal. No luggage Cart in sight nor yet to come as it turned out. The tea room miles away.

Having finalized my Xmas shopping I am loaded down with five pieces of luggage. This must have been the reason for my popularity at the Bus Terminal. The advertisement had read "Do your shopping by Bus -- Save Energy."

I was instructed that the baggage was my responsibility as I inquired about assistance regarding the loading of same on the Ferry. I mentioned that the \$7

should be for something!

Thank you to the second of a fast disappearing and nearly extinct species two charming young people assisted me with my Responsibility.

By the time I had my Responsibility lined up in the Aisle I found the "Purser". This hapless individual received the brunt of a very, and soon to be the last, irate bus passenger.

I will never again be insulted, abused and pay \$7 plus for the privilege.

A.P. BLACK (Mrs.),
Ganges,
December, 1980.

Minor in possession

Leaving a bottle of beer on the roof of his car led to a 17-year-old Salt Spring Islander being charged with possession of liquor.

Kenneth R. Duke, a garage attendant, pleaded guilty to the charge in provincial court Wednesday. He admitted possession of the bottle to police officers on a routine patrol of Centennial Park October 17 but denied possession of any additional liquor.

A search of his vehicle produced a bottle of rum.

Provincial court Judge D. K. McAdam set Duke's fine at \$75 and gave him one week to pay.

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to clean
our land**

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- Includes all phases of logging operation
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Phone 537-9327 evenings

Tribute

Letter to a girl friend

Contributed

Dear Karen,

It is five o'clock in the morning and I can't sleep. Last night we heard of the tragic death of John Lennon while listening to Christmas carols on TV. We took it pretty hard, like a lot of others will, no doubt, and now I am curiously compelled to write to you about it even though you haven't heard from me in years.

The shock of the news bore the same quality as that of JFK's death 17 years ago - that of bitter disbelief, a feeling that something had been torn from inside each of us personally, the loss of a real loved one and of a precious time that would never return.

Immediately upon hearing the news, the words of his songs started to run through my mind along with the faces of my friends of those years. I remembered Duke and I frying hamburgers and drinking beer at my parents' house, getting ready for a night of celebration at a dance or party somewhere, all the time playing *Mr. Moonlight* over and over again, and singing along.

I remembered staying home on Sunday nights to watch the Beatles on the *Ed Sullivan Show* and everyone talking about it next morning at school. I remembered how we used to constantly turn the dial on our radios as we drove around from one Beatle song to another. I remembered singing *Michelle* with a group of badly wounded soldiers at the Philadel-

phia Naval Hospital and wondering at what art it was that could inspire those marines to sing in perfect French. And I remembered turning 21 with the white album and the magnified joy and anxiety of that year. And I remembered the sunset quality of *Abbey Road*, almost like a fond au revoir to our school days and our youth.

Just last Saturday night we had a little impromptu dinner party at home with a few friends. After dinner I picked up my guitar because we felt like singing and we sang all Beatles' songs. We marvelled at how we all remembered the tunes and the words so well. It made us all feel like old friends.

Now, as with JFK in '63, it is so much more than a man who died. It was a dream. In this case the dream that maybe the Beatles would once more play their music together and make us all feel young again. A simple dream, not a noble one.

But in some ways I feel that it was perhaps the last dream our generation had, and that makes me indescribably sad.

In Fond Memory,

Danny.

**Beautify your
neighbourhood.
Get out
on the street.
Take a walk.**



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The Canadian movement for personal fitness.

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DEADLINE CHANGE

As Christmas Day falls on a Thursday this year, *Driftwood* will publish one day early, on Tuesday, Dec. 23.

Classified and display advertising deadline will be Saturday, Dec. 20.

Deadline for Christmas Greeting ads is Friday, Dec. 12.

NO PAPER

Driftwood staff will take a holiday the week following publication of the Christmas issue. No paper will be published on December 31.

First issue of 1981 will appear on January 7.

The office will be closed from Dec. 25 and will re-open on Friday, Jan. 2, 1981.

Gulf Islands Driftwood

537-2211

537-2613

Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of B.C.

Founded in 1902 by the
Farmers of British Columbia
GULF ISLANDS AGENTS:

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Saturna G. Wick
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Shop at the Valcourt Centre

and Have a
Merrier

✱ Christmas

Christmas Gifts
for Everyone!



**Sunshine
Farm Foods**
Gulf Islands Natural Foods Centre

**A Reminder: 20% off
vitamins for Seniors**

**We have a great selection of
NUT MIXES and CHRISTMAS MUNCHIES**

537-2325 J. & D. — Y. & J. Clements

"It's New to Me" "A Stitch in Time"
10% off most items **Christmas Sale**
Open Monday thru Saturday, 10:30-5:00
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Warm cuddly sweaters
Pillows of feathers
Party dresses for holiday joy!
Kiddies' clothes, books & toys
Trinkets, tins & all kinds of things
Screens & lampshades,
pretty plates —
An affordable Christmas—let's
make it a date!

We have a ½ price shelf on
lots of great fashions—small items
at small prices for stocking stuffers.
— men's cotton shirts
— cotton vests, wool hats & tams
— handmade clothes made to order

Gift Certificates available for those special friends.

**While you are shopping at the Valcourt Centre,
the staff of Chez Suzanne invite one and all
to visit our salon and enjoy Christmas cake
and coffee with us.**

Our regular hours are
9-5, Tuesday to Saturday.
During the holiday season, we
will be open to serve you
Dec. 18-20, 22-24 & 30-31.
We will be closed Dec. 25-29.
Business as usual Jan. 2/81.

**For an appointment,
call Sylvia at 537-9521.**

Chez Suzanne

VALCOURT CENTRE



**COUGAR
T.V. & STEREO**

10% OFF

**JANA portable radios, cassette
players, clock radios & record
care kits—great stocking stuffers**
OFFER GOOD UNTIL DEC. 23

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All Makes — Free Estimates

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**Don't forget us: we're down the hall
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**We have a wide variety of stocking stuffers,
Christmas plants, Christmas centrepieces,
tree ornaments & many other great gift ideas.**



**When you give roses, give ours -
we include a free keep-sake silk rose
with every dozen roses purchased.**

Garden Faire Florist

537-2534

537-5165

**DAGWOOD'S
DELI**

537-9323

**Season's Greetings
to our friends and customers.**

Down the Gutter

with Ken Collins

Looks like the week's lay-off everybody had due to the recent snowfall has affected bowling, because the past week saw some of the worst scores of the season.

We had only three people who bettered 700. They were Terry Jenkins, who came up with our second 900 series, 960 to be exact, then we had Cy Beech who came up with a nice triple of 827, and finally we had Carol Kaye with 736.

We had 300 games from Terry Jenkins with 300 and 391, and Cy Beech with 341.

Everybody had better smarten up this week because pretty soon we will be bowling for the Christmas grocery vouchers that Terry will be giving away for the high-single bowled. Usually it is the second game of our nightly triple. It's based on pins over average so everyone has a chance.

This week will be the first time I have bowled for three weeks now, due to this whooping cough bug that I picked up.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all my many friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Did you know that you can purchase bowling shoes from Terry at the alley? They usually take about three weeks to arrive after you have ordered them. Your own personal shoes are preferable to those that are rented simply because you are more comfortable in a pair of shoes that are perfectly sized for you.

TIP OF THE WEEK

Deliver the ball beyond the foul



Golden-agers meet Pee Wees on lanes

Recent tournament at Leisure Lanes on Salt Spring Island brought together golden-age bowlers and the Pee Wees. Winners were, left, golden-ager Sid Boswell and Suzanne Jacquest and Benjamin Deacon; right, Pee Wees Jeffrey Neilson and Christine Spencer and golden-ager Peggy Bean.

line and follow through. Don't release it too soon.

Y.B.C. NEWS

A week of snow and our bowlers had a week of rest. It seemed to do some good too, as our scores were pretty good.

Saturday, Dec. 13:

Jets: Rebecca Stratholt, 100; Aaron Slingsby, 64; Shane Eldstrom, 58.

Pee Wees: Tammy Sloan, 153; Tanya Slingsby, 135; Chelsea Eldstrom, 93; Brett Marshall, 149; Jeffrey Neilson, 113; Ryan Davies, 111.

A few of our Jets and Pee Wees got their first spares and strikes of this season and their whoops of joy were a delight to hear.

Bantams: Shannon Taylor, 211; Jodie Harrison, 178; Kim Jorgensen, 163; David Jacquest, 162; Justin Williams, 134; Arlys Stratholt, 118.

Juniors: Denise Harrison, 259; Suzanne Cottrell, 247; Mary Piperno, 184; Charles Rose, 223;

BRIDGE WINNERS

Gulf Islands Bridge Club winners on December 8 were:

Lorna and Peter Pentz; tied for second, Dr. and Mrs. Hyslop, Anna McConnell and Gordon Hutton; third, Murray Poyntz and Norm McConnell.

David Cates, 194; Layne Hellum, 142; Eddie Ruckle, 134.

Seniors (Wednesday, Dec. 10): Alex Hele, 178; Trisha Westcott, 170; Cathy Coe, 158; Robert Messam, 272; Marvin Foerster, 217; Paul Trenholm, 211.

Note: Kids, you have a break until Saturday, Jan. 10. Have a very Merry Christmas one and all, and our best wishes for good bowling in 1981.

S.S.I. PARKS AND RECREATION

Indoor Tennis

Cedar Hill Rec Centre
3220 Cedar Hill Rd.

Fridays 6-9 pm

\$5 ea.

teens 13-16 yrs. \$2.50

CAR POOLING: meet at Pattersons for 5 pm Fulford ferry.

Call Bev Unger by Wednesdays-
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Season's Greetings

from all the friendly merchants of MOUAT'S MALL

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OPEN MONDAYS TILL CHRISTMAS

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Book Store

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Tommy Tucker's
Toys

By Hook
or By Cook

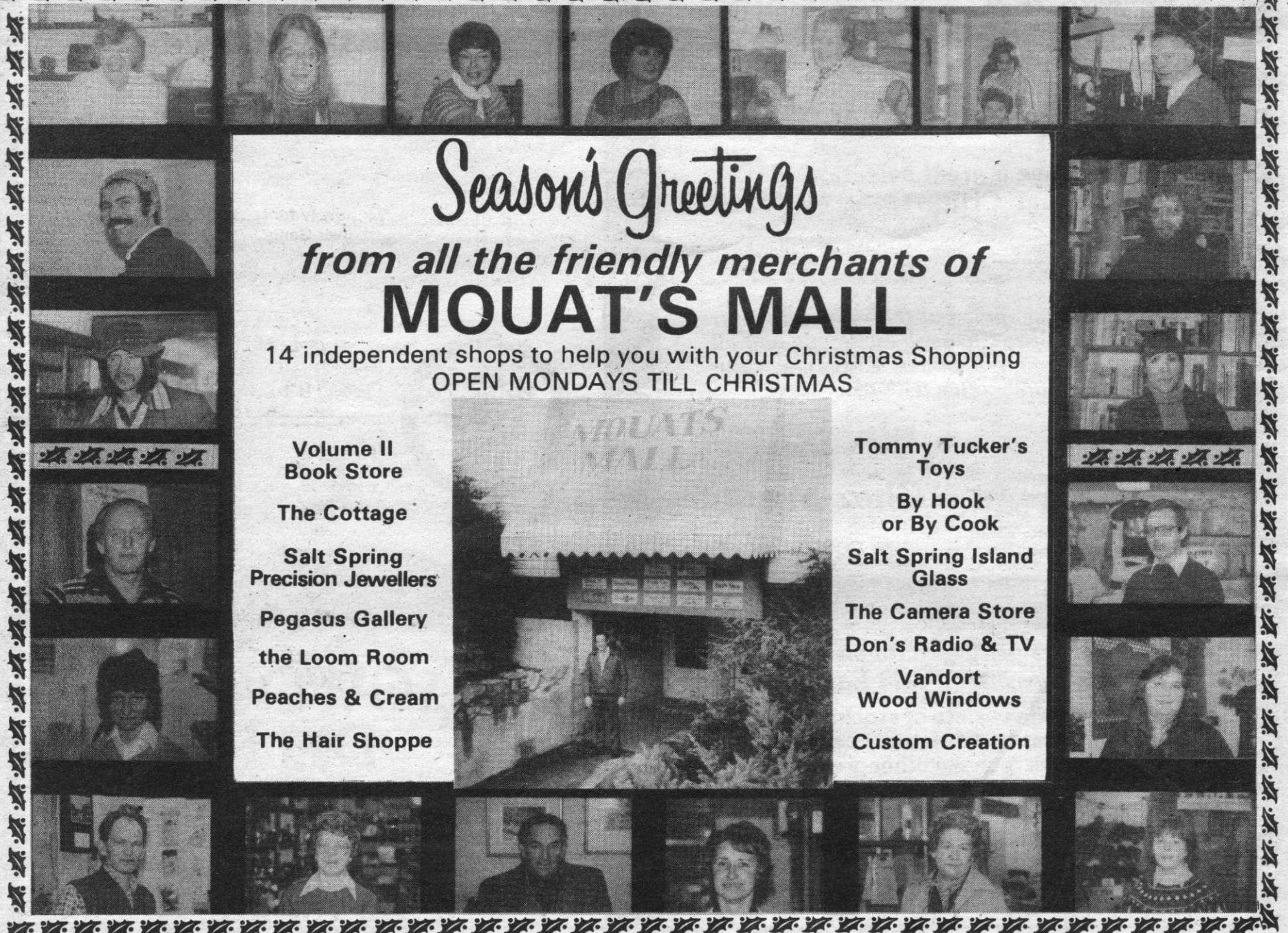
Salt Spring Island
Glass

The Camera Store

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Custom Creation



KICK-OFF

Rewarding, successful year

BY MALCOLM LEGG

With Christmas descending upon us and the New Year peeping around the corner, it is a good time for our association to reflect upon the past year's events and thank those involved.

So let me take you back over a year of many rewarding and successful events.

February saw the Selects become our only successful team in league play as they won promotion, under the guidance of Ron Wertman, from a C to a B division.

Early March featured the Fernwood Fury clinching the Coers Cup at the intra-island level, capping a fine season for coach Stuart Lyon as his squad took league and cup honours.

Late March brought smiles to our whole association as the Strikers (6C) and Kicks (4B) both won District Cups under the tutelage of Strick Aust and Mel Coates, respectively. The Sockeyes were defeated in their cup final but it meant three of Salt Spring's off-island teams were cup finalists - not bad for our little rock.

April was tournament time and the Sockeyes kicked off theirs with a second place finish in a well played tournament of three teams. **WON FIVE OF SEVEN**

The following week our association held its Annual Tournament and Salt Spring teams won five of the seven trophies up for grabs, the best result we have ever had. The winners were the Salt Spring Whitecaps, Fernwood Fury, Salt Spring Strikers, Salt Spring Selects, and Salt Spring Kicks, but actually everyone came out a winner as the weather and soccer was super.

In May the association held its annual banquet and 350 people came and enjoyed an evening of good food, many prizes and recognition of the effort of all involved. The highlights of the evening were the presentations of the President's Trophy to Dave Chase, in recognition of his many years of hard work and enthusiasm to our younger players and the Silver Cup presented to Todd Tamboline, an unsung player on the Strikers.

The summer was only quiet for a couple of months as our association, in conjunction with the B.C.S.A. and Mr. David Keith, held a summer soccer school and coaches' clinic, both in August. Their success was reflected by the enjoyment all participants showed and also in the marks received. The soccer school and its Salt Spring

participants attained the best standard of all the clinics on Vancouver Island and the coaches' clinic saw 13 graduates attain their Level I Certificate.

TWO NEW TEAMS

With September a new season opened but with a few changes as the association gained two new teams, the Cyclones and the Wranglers, but lost the Sockeyes, our senior girls team.

October saw our players run their Kick-A-Thon program and through their enthusiasm and the excellent support of the community the program has been extremely successful this year.

November featured our referees' clinic held by myself and the results have been great, as 15 of 16 participants passed with an average mark of 71% on the written portion of the exam. In the new year their field examinations will be completed.

December belonged to mother nature as rain, snow and mud put a halt to our games, leaving our teams with a long lay-off before they resume action early in January.

At this stage of the season the Cyclones (2B) and Kicks (3B) lead their divisions with undefeated records, the Strikers (5C) are tied for first with one loss and the Wranglers (6C) are battling for top spot with four wins and two downs. The Blues (men's) are third out of 10 with only two defeats in 10 games and the Selects (4B) are struggling in their division.

ONE DECIDED

At the intra-island level one league is decided with the Green Machine winning league honours at the junior level, but the senior loop has one play-off game this week between the Rowdies and Panthers to decide first place.

All in all 1980 has been a good year for our whole association and all those associated with us. The successes we have gained both on and off the field show the dedication and hard work put in by all our participants, coaches, managers, players or officials.

As a group our association has tried to represent Salt Spring Island as emissaries of good will and competitive ability on the soccer field. Our excellent record over the past season, both on and off the field, attests to this but we are very aware of the fine support we have received from the community.

Therefore, our executive wishes to extend season's greetings to all those who have supported us, from our supporters, Jackie Hembruff of the Kanaka Place; Tom

Toynbee of Mouat's; Pat Corneille of Salt Spring Log Sorting; Strick Aust of Alpha Construction; myself of Malcolm G. Legg Landscaping; and Ian and Elsie MacDonald; to the excellent coverage we receive from Tony Richards, editor, and the staff of *Driftwood*; to support from the service organizations, the Lions Club, Rotary and the Recreation Commission; and also the fine co-operation we receive from the school board and schools on our island.

We wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and hope you will all follow us through 1981 as our family grows in numbers and in strength in the coming New Year.

Next week, what surprises do we have in store for 1981?

New service considered by society

The Salt Spring Community Society is considering initiating a new service on the island.

In such a co-operative, parents exchange babysitting services in their homes, with no cost to participating parents.

Anyone interested in the formation of a babysitting co-operative is being asked to call the Community Centre on Ganges Hill.

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Dental Mechanics Ltd.
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Tuesday thru Friday
9-12, 1:30-5

537-9611

Mail to Box 1209, Ganges, B.C.

Gulf Islands Driftwood
SOMETHING FOR
EVERYONE

Boxing Day tournament is becoming tradition here

BY ROZ TRUELOVE

How many years does it take to turn a happening into a custom into a tradition?

Whatever the answer may be, the Salt Spring tennis players are working on it.

For the third year in succession Portlock Park, on Friday, December 26, will be (weather permitting) the scene of a Boxing Day tennis tournament.

Boxing Day traditions are many and varied. The ancient Druids performed some interesting warm-up exercises around the time of the winter solstice - in feudal Europe the overlords handed out boxes of goodies (left-overs from the groaning board?) to their deserving underlings on the day after Christmas. (Accompanied by a box on the ear to the less deserving? Hence the name?)

My own ancestors, a randy lot, worked off their post-Christmas blues by chasing naked virgins through the woods of their native Oxfordshire; (they tell me there aren't enough woods left around there any more so the sport has been largely discontinued.)

Other Brits, those well-known animal lovers, spend Boxing Day galloping after foxes.

Here on Salt Spring it will be tennis, a fun tournament, starting at 10:30 am and going on as long as it goes on. Please register as soon as possible to give the organizers a

chance to arrange the format. The main guiding principle will be that no two hot-shot players will be teamed together! There will be shelter, ping-pong, pot-luck refreshments and other facilities at Central Hall for those not playing, and a bonfire by the courts if the Best Brothers remember.

Prizes will be awarded at the end of the affair by the luck of the draw; nothing to do with skill... yes, even you could win!

Register now, by calling 537-5989 or 537-5302; or you may leave your name at Dr. Andress' office, 537-5334.

Registration is \$2 for SSTA members, \$3 for non-members.

In any event, whether you come or not, a Happy Christmas to all tennis players!

Tennis anyone?

Salt Spring Island traditional
Boxing Day Tournament
Friday Dec. 26 at Portlock
Park, 10:30 am.

ALL LEVELS WELCOME
Pre-registration necessary.
Call 537-5989 or 537-5302
(eves.) or 537-5334 (days).

LAW OFFICE

Gordon B. Sloan

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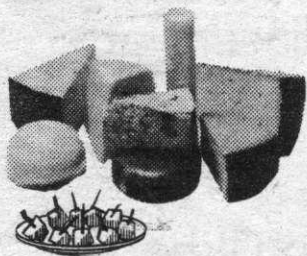
Telephone:
537-5505

Monday to Friday,
9 am to 5 pm

Please note the practice will be
CLOSED
Dec. 18 to Jan. 5 inclusive.

Shop Humperdinks

for specialty food trays - gift wrapped!



- Scottish all-butter shortbread
- English cookies in beautiful containers
- French cheeses for those special occasions

SAVE YOURSELF A PROBLEM!
For elegant party trays, order from
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Open 10-5:30,
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537-5721

Open Monday,
Dec. 22



the
Christmas Market
continues until
December 24

at the
"Old Jean Shop"

We're full to the brim with
handcrafted gifts!

SEE YOU THERE!

Hosted by Salt Spring Fibres

HOURS:
Mon. - Sat.
10:00 - 5:00
Wed., Dec. 24
10:00 - 2:00

Ode to Salt Spring Lands

BY HARRY HOLLY

Twas the week before Christmas,
And all over the ice,
The Slugs were ascrumbling,
Like so many mice.

Ray in the car
And Mel at his party
Gave stark reminder
Of a Christmas too hearty

The Slugs were lacking
Many that day
As Danny and Lenny
Were unable to play

Pat in Gibsons
And Bill at the farm
Cared not a bit
That the Slugs came to harm

On to the ice
The Loggers they rolled
Sure once again
The Slugs would unfold

Tweet went the whistle
Off they all flew
In less than a moment
The Loggers by two.

The goalie was left
Without any luck
As Watson stumbled
And coughed up the puck.

More rapid than eagles
The Loggers they moved
The Slugs there beside them
Seemed covered by glue.

Higher and higher
The scoreboard it climbed
Another short moment
The Loggers by nine.

Back to the benches
The skaters they drifted
The effort to date
Was much less than gifted.

Just when it seemed
The Slugs would be done
Akerman scored
And upped us by one.

Into the fury
The Slugs how they flew
Patty to Peter
The Slugs had scored two.

In less than an instant
Patty got free
The fans all went crazy
The Slugs had scored three.

Sorry to say
That's where it ended
The Loggers had won it
The Slugs had been fended.

Off to the lockers
Grab for a beer
Looking for something
To give us some cheer.

Now we're all resting
Till Xmas is done
Up until now
It's been lots of fun.

Thanks to our sponsor
You've really been grand
Sure hope our column
Sells you more land.

And let us exclaim
• Ere we skate out of sight
Merry Christmas to all
The Slugs are alright.

Scorpions play two games against off-island teams

Contributed

The senior boys' basketball team at Gulf Islands Secondary School, the Scorpions, played four games this week against off-island competition.

On Tuesday, Ladysmith got the better of us in Ladysmith 64-80. A combination of a sleepless night and foul trouble denied us a chance to have a successful game.

After a short practice on Wednesday night, the boys faced Esquimalt Dockers. This was Esquimalt's first game of the season and it showed. Numerous fast breaks by Kevin Kline, Arnie Hengstler and Glenn Sollitt broke the game open in the early moments of the first quarter. Bruce Hume, Derek Walker and Trevor Tamboline all had success on both offence and defence against Esquimalt.

Friday night's game against Reynolds of Victoria was much more of a controlled game where all team members saw action. Clay Riley, Robert Holmes and Tom "the Tank" Tranter played very well during the second and fourth quarters. Final score was 65-58.

As a climax to the week, Mountain Secondary from Langley played a strong first half but could not overcome the constant offence of the Scorpions in the second half to avoid defeat 64-50.

Kevin Kline, Arnie Hengstler and Glenn Sollitt worked very well offensively to amass the majority of points scored but Derek Walker and Trevor Tamboline held down the defence and rebounding efforts. Defensively the team had two standouts who caused a number of turnovers and interceptions, Ross McFadyen and Kevin Kline.

The senior boys and girls grad games will be played on Friday of this week. For more information contact the high school. Merry Christmas to all our supporters.

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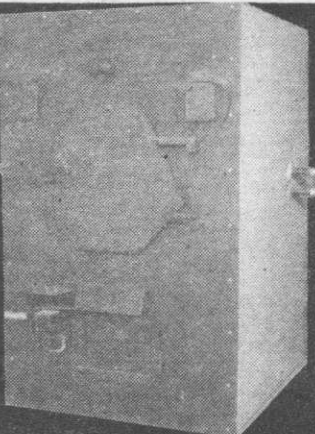
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Smoking is back in region

Smoking is for the birds, say the health authorities.

Smoking is also for the Capital Regional Board, say the directors.

First motion of the new year, on Wednesday, was a call to permit smoking at board meetings.

For a year the air has been free of smoke.

"It doesn't bother me," said Yvette Valcourt.

"Smoking is no good for you," said Jim Campbell, "I tried it for 20 years and gave it up."

E.A. Lubick, from Langford, had his pipe going within seconds of the vote being approved.

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Driver acquitted of impaired charge laid following accident

A Salt Spring Island woman has won acquittal on charges of impaired driving following an accident last March in which her automobile left the road and travelled 65 feet into a field.

Charges against Gwendalyn Florence McKie were dismissed by provincial court Judge D.K. McAdam on the strength of her own testimony and that of the mechanic who had inspected her car prior to the accident.

The accident occurred March 15. Though having failed a breathalyzer test, McKie testified that she had been drinking gin from a bottle following the accident in which her accelerator became stuck while rounding a curve on Vesuvius Bay Road.

TO KEEP WARM

McKie testified that she had been drinking in an effort to keep warm and also relieve the shock of having driven off the road. She had also felt duress at the loss of her dog, which had fled from her 1973 Toyota when a door sprung open.

The accident occurred about 11:15 pm while on the way home from Ganges, where McKie had also consumed several drinks during the course of the evening.

Bill Windsor, proprietor of Bill's Engine Repairs, testified that McKie had been in several days prior to the accident and had mentioned that her accelerator would stick periodically.

Windsor said that upon inspecting the accelerator cable he discovered that it was sticking occasionally, but he had been unable to replace it at the time since it had to be ordered.

COULD HAVE LOST CONTROL

When questioned by crown counsel Clinton Kittle, Windsor stated that in his opinion McKie could have lost control of her car had the accelerator become stuck while rounding a curve in the road.

Kittle suggested that she should have been braking instead of accelerating round the curve.

He also suggested that a low horsepower car like a Toyota should have stalled if the brakes had been applied, thus preventing it from travelling 65 feet off the road.

Speed limit round the curve is 30 kph.

In previous testimony, Const. Ace Mainwaring stated that upon arrival at the scene McKie had told him that her brakes failed.

"There's a pretty big difference between brake and accelerate," said Kittle.

UNSTEADY

Mainwaring had also testified that he had found McKie unsteady on her feet and that her speech was slurred. According to Mainwaring, she originally denied drinking following the accident.

McKie acknowledged she had felt shame at drinking liquor from a bottle in the middle of an open field, thus prompting her original denial.

Defence counsel argued successfully that results of the breathalyzer test were less than conclusive, that McKie's sticking accelerator

cable had caused her to lose control of her car and that it had been the consumption of alcohol after the accident that had caused her to fail the breathalyzer test.

Judge McAdam acknowledged difficulty in making a decision but felt that McKie's story fairly closely corroborated the evidence.

Trans Mountain show 'insensitivity' to effects

Proposals to build an oil port in the Straits of Juan de Fuca threaten our fisheries, recreational and tourist industry and our lifestyle. Speaking at the National Energy Board hearings in Victoria on December 2, I repeated my opposition to any oil port proposal.

The hearings were to consider the environmental impact of the Trans Mountain Pipeline proposal which would transport oil by tanker to Low Point, Washington, where it would be carried by pipeline to Edmonton, Alberta, and then through existing pipelines to the markets of the central USA. Because it would use existing pipeline routes through Canada, Trans Mountain's proposal would be cheaper to build than the Northern Tier proposal for an oil port at Port Angeles, Washington, and pipeline route through the northern United States.

Both of these projects threaten our coast through increased tanker traffic in the Straits of Juan de Fuca, a major oil port 15 miles from Vancouver Island and a submerged pipeline at the entrance of Puget Sound.

In preparation for these hearings, Trans Mountain was required to file impact studies for their proposal.

MANY GAPS

Despite the impressive look of the many volumes of Trans Mountain's impact study, there are many gaps in basic information. Time and again the study admits the lack of documented environmental information. If we lack this basic information, how can we assess the impact of a potential oil spill?

Vessel traffic of all kinds has been increasing in the Straits of Juan de Fuca and when increased tanker traffic is added a major spill becomes very likely.

Trans Mountain's submission suggests that localized spills, even

though they are very damaging to specific sites, could be considered minor or even insignificant from a regional perspective. I pointed out that "such a detached perspective does not do justice to the many unique parts of Vancouver Island or the Gulf Islands. People who live on Pender Island, Albert Head, Sooke or any other part of the riding oppose the potential des-

Ottawa report

BY JIM MANLY, MP

truction of their beautiful coast. The people of British Columbia cannot regard any such destruction as minor or insignificant." **INSENSITIVITY**

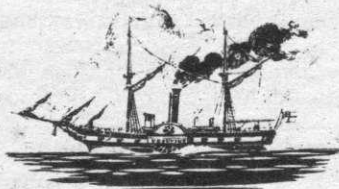
Trans Mountain showed its complete insensitivity to disastrous effects that an oil spill would have on the environment of the area and the income of people in the fishing and tourist industries who would be seriously affected. This callous attitude was illustrated by the following quotation from Mr. Ken Hall, the president of Trans Mountain, in his synopsis of the company's study program. After pointing to Long Beach as a sensitive area, Mr. Hall said:

"Most areas would be much less sensitive because users could patronize another location albeit with some reduction in utility and perhaps an increase in transportation costs. In addition, the purpose of many tourist trips is to visit friends and relatives and it is likely that the majority of these would be unaffected by an oil spill."

I urged the National Energy Board to reject the Trans Mountain proposal. Rejecting Trans Mountain would help us oppose other tanker traffic proposals including Northern Tier which are not in Canada's interest.

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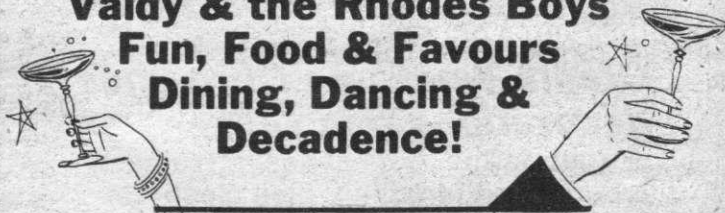
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BOOK REVIEW

She ended up reading last 50 pages twice

BY LOIS PHILLIPS

The Old Patagonian Express: By Train through the Americas by Paul Theroux. Published by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1979. Available at the library.

I'm no train buff by any means, so I would probably never have picked up this travelogue by Paul Theroux. It came into our house with a stack of library books someone else chose. Having just finished Haley's *Roots*, I was in a reading mood, but unwilling to settle for anything second-rate.

To show my scepticism of *The Old Patagonian Express*, I started with the last 50 pages, finished them, and promptly turned to page one.

Paul Theroux, author of 13 other books, one day "had nothing better to ... hated cold weather ... had no job ... and discovered that there was a continuous track from ... Medford to the great Plateau of Patagonia in southern Argentina." Consequently, he started from his mother's house in Boston on "a morning of paralyzing frost, the perfect day to leave for South America." From that station to the final one in Esquel, Theroux chronicles his train-taking, his book-reading and encounters with Americans, North and South.

AMAZING KNACK

It was these encounters that fascinated me. He too is fascinated with people and has an amazing knack of recording his

conversations with them as though he didn't exist, so their true characters shine through their words untainted by the presence of another person. He admits he is afraid of "the distortion of companionship."

His vignettes range from the Indian skirt-wearing Wendy with the lumberjack boots who gets calcium from cashews because milk gives her mucus; to Mr. Thornberry, a lonely American who missed his tour in Costa Rica, talked in a stream-of-consciousness monologue, and rescued Theroux in Limon; to Jorge Luis Borges, a blind Argentinian author to whom Theroux reads Kipling and Poe and for whom he cancels several train reservations before leaving Buenos Aires.

The journey is marked by over 20 trains, among them the Lone Star out of Chicago, the Aztec Eagle through Mexico and the Balboa Bullet to Colon, Panama. Theroux describes the wide range of scenery (something you certainly can't do from an airplane, which has "made us insensitive to space"); snow, cactus, coffee plantations, mountains, deserts.

PIQUED CURIOSITY

When he is not sleeping, dining, "talking" in his particular fashion to other passengers, or bringing his journal up to date, Theroux is reading: Faulkner, Poe, Hammett, London. Although he quotes from them frequently, this did not annoy me, but rather piqued my

curiosity about these writers, most of whom I hadn't read except in Grade 8 lit texts. I felt as though the author had taken me painlessly through a "survey of world literature" course.

Between trains, Theroux drinks in bars, spends a morning with a mortician, risks his life at a soccer game, gives several lectures and provides a fascinating insight into the social structure and mores of the places he visits. Theroux was also searching for himself.

"If one of the objects of travel was to give you the explorer's thrill that you were alone, that after 15 or 20,000 miles you have outrun everyone else, and were embarked on a solitary mission of discovery in a remote place, then I had accomplished the traveller's dream." Perhaps he felt fulfilled on reaching Patagonia, but I felt cheated about the lack of insight into Theroux's personal life. He mentions his wife and family and

his homesickness for them, but I want to know more about them.

And how did he get these speaking engagements along the way? What kind of prior connections did he have? However, these omissions only

serve to tempt me to read more of his work - his intent perhaps?

This book is a happy combination about people, books and trains, and makes for excellent entertainment. I even read the last 50 pages twice!

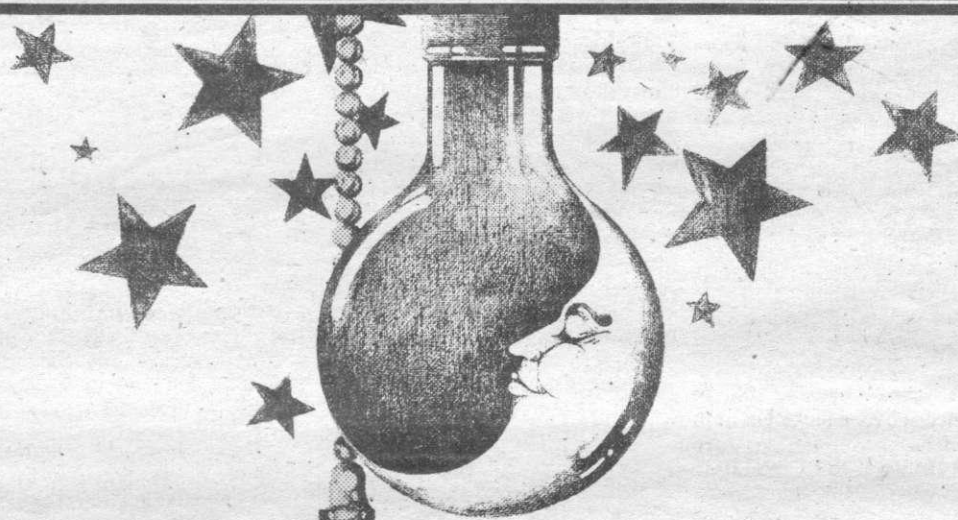
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And the only way we'll have enough electricity to go around this winter is to avoid using it unnecessarily around dinner time.

Which means turning down the heating while cooking.

Cooking whole meals in the oven to save using the top elements, and self-cleaning the oven some other time.

Avoiding hot water for dishes, laundry, showers and baths until later.

Switching off unused TVs and lights.

Arranging to use the iron and power tools outside the 5pm-7pm period.

It's up to us.

If we ignore the problem, it could give us problems. But if we face it, we'll hardly notice it at all.

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Former resident publishes cartoons

A former Salt Spring Island resident has entered the field of cartooning with the recent publication of a booklet of cartoons entitled *Daylight in the Swamp*.

Many local residents may remember Harold Macy in connection with local initiatives projects on the island several years ago, including the pedestrian path across the road from Pioneer Village.

Macy has been living in the Comox Valley since leaving Salt Spring in 1974, and is now a forest technician, spending months at a time in logging camps on the B.C. coast. His most recent spell in the woods was in Knight Inlet, where B.C. Forest Products is helicopter logging.

Macy has drawn upon his camp experience to produce the eight logging cartoons in the booklet.

He explained last week that he is trying to show the lighter side of working in logging camps.

Communications improvement is sought by school board

Concern over a lack of communication has prompted the formation of two new committee structures to the Gulf Islands School Board.

Chairman Strick Aust told *Driftwood* last week that all district schools will be encouraged to foster parent advisory committees, each of which will be represented on the school board by individual trustees.

In addition, a new section on the agenda of board meetings will allow direct input by representatives of the parent groups, and some financial help will be provided.

"Nominal financial support and training by district personnel will make parent advisory members more effective in the influence that they will have on the board," said Aust.

Another step being taken by the board is formation of a liaison committee, consisting of the board chairman and the chairmen of each of the board's committees.

INFORMAL MEETINGS

The new committee will give groups such as the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, concerned parents or students' councils the opportunity to meet with school trustees in an informal setting.

"In other words," said Aust, "you don't have to come to us, we'll come to you."

Anyone who wishes to go to the school board with a concern may go to the liaison committee to discuss it prior to presenting it to the board on a formal basis.

"The board must make itself more readily available to teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and the children who attend our schools," the new chairman said.

A CORPORATION

"A school district is like any other corporation that produces a

product for the marketplace. Our product is education and our marketplace is the islands of our district. The board sets the policy by which our corporation operates, the teachers manufacture the product and the non-teaching staff ensure that the wheels continue to roll without interruption."

"Co-operation among these

people is necessary if the operation is to be successful, but more important to any corporation is that it be aware of the needs and desires of its clients."

"In our case this is doubly so, as our clients are the children of the district and our product has a definite and long-lasting effect on their fortune."

Jim Fogarty Private Accountant

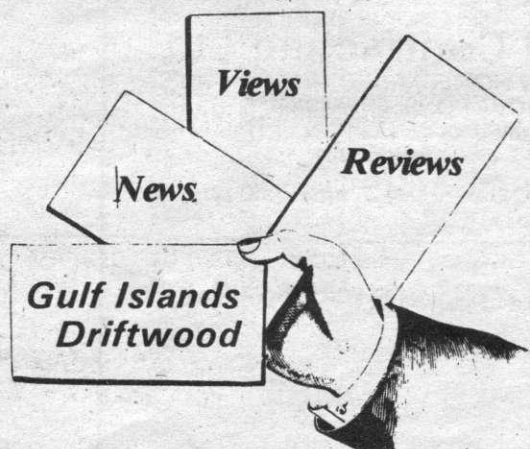
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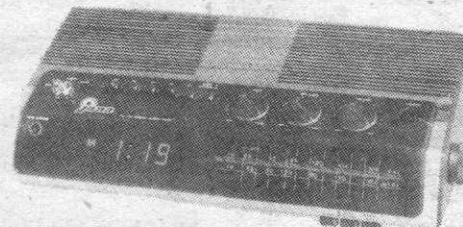
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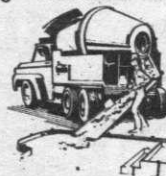
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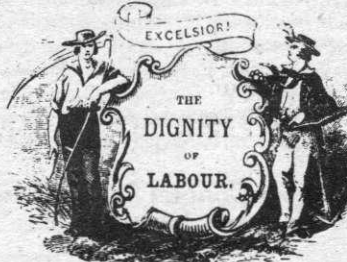
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Salt Spring Concert Society

THE REMAINING CONCERTS FOR THE
1980-81 SEASON ARE:

Sunday, Jan. 25: Victoria Trio
Sydney Humphreys, violin; James Hunter, cello;
Robin Wood, piano

Sunday, Feb. 22 - Saanich Peninsula Orchestra

**Sunday, March 29 - Members of the
Victoria Opera Association**

ADMISSION TO ALL CONCERTS: \$2.50

Due to the generosity of the following persons, the programme for 1981-82 is being arranged without the usual severe restrictions regarding cost. A very exciting list of artists can be assured. Sustaining Members for 1980-81 are:

L. Hardy, A. Howell, H. Schubart, J. Fisher, T. Knight, D. Cummings, M. George, W. Neish, H. Borsman, J. Utley, J. Tiernan, J. Yardley, S. Stacey, J. Stacey, M. Holmes, A. Croteau, G. Kertland, J. Clement, E. Jarman, A. Andress, R. Unger, G. Banks, N. Mouat, C. Hamilton, N. Hind-Smith, M. Russell, N. Guthrie, P. Sawford, L. Ramsey, W. Lewis, T. Jones, C. Nicholson, Betty Carroll, R. Puhky, J. Lloyd, H. Ross, S. Marr, G. Wells, D. Whitecross, E. Hall, F. Brookbanks, B. Smith, P. Bingham, R. Toynbee, A. Mouat, W. Stepaniuk, C. Sutcliffe, W. Pearce, J. Mitchell, J. Gordon Brown, B. Petty, M. Stratton, D. Lochhead, J. McClean, M. Stafford, W. Toulmin, E. Maguire, R. Atkins, D. Keys, A. Brock-Smith.

The Salt Spring Concert Society wishes all Salt Spring music lovers a very happy holiday season. To those who are not music lovers, if any, a Merry Christmas anyhow.

50-1

Me and Santa C.

BY DANICA WEST

Grade 7

Salt Spring Elementary

I was walking home from a Christmas Eve party and thinking "tomorrow is going to be another boring Christmas."

You see our family doesn't have the money for Christmas presents. If only there was a way for me to earn present money!

Then I heard "Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas, On Dasher, On Danser, On Prancer and Vixen, On Comet, On Cupid, On Donner and Blixen, to the top of the porch, to the top of the wall, now dash away, dash away, dash away all."

And I stopped dead in my tracks. Oh yes, I had heard the stories about Santa Claus, but I never thought he was real. Then as I looked a sleigh came closer and closer. With a little driver so jolly and quick I knew in a moment he must be Santa! He was lively and plump, a right jolly old elf, and I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself. As the sleigh drew close, he looked me up and down.

"Hey kid, I could use a kid like you to help me tonight, those chimneys are getting awfully thin for an old fellow like me!"

"Help you?" I asked. "Sure thing."

"Good," he replied. "Put this on."

He tossed me down a suit which resembled the pictures of Santa's helper's clothes. I did as I was told.

"Climb in!" he said. "On Dasher, On Danser, On Prancer and Vixen, On Comet, On Cupid, On Donner and Blixen, to the top of the porch, to the top of the wall, now dash away, dash away, dash away all."

We did town after town. After the first few houses I got the "hang" of the stockings. Santa did the actual trees. The funny thing was you didn't get tired fast like most jobs. I enjoyed this job the best in the world.

Finally we came to my house.

"This is the last house," said Santa.

"This is my house," I said.

We went down the chimney as usual and I filled my little sister's sock.

"Ah, ah, yours too!" said Santa.

With reluctance I turned back to my stocking, which my mom had hung out for me.

"All the way!" Santa thundered, when I only filled it half full.

"Yes Sir," I answered meekly.

After I had done the stocking I went to bed, when I woke up I was sure it was all a dream, until I saw the \$100 under my pillow. My family had Christmas dinner for the first time I can remember.

I hope I get a job again next year too!

Love sent down from heaven

BY ZIA SUTHERLAND

Grade 7

PISCES School

Pender Island

There was a heart born with wings. God sent the heart on a long journey down to earth. It was so far it would take the heart three months to fly to a little town called Bethlehem. The heart was a perfect shape and her wings were a soft and beautiful white.

The heart's name was Keela. Keela started out on her long journey towards earth. She ate soft white clouds for breakfast and the same for lunch and dinner. The first day was easy, but the more she flew the more tired she got. Finally she lost control of her weight,

down ..
down ..
down ..
She bumped up against a lot of clouds, and after a while she landed in a soft bowl-shaped cloud and fell asleep.

When she awoke, Keela had a

small snack. She looked around to see what had happened. Then she remembered everything. She looked down and saw a small town. Then Keela looked up and saw in a distance a very bright star. Three people were walking just below it. So the heart fluttered down to meet them.

"Where are you going?" said Keela.

"We are going to the King," they said.

"What King?" Keela explained.

"Christ the Lord," they said.

"God has sent us, little heart," the three men said.

"He has sent me too," Keela said.

"Why and for what purpose is he sending you?" said the Three Wise Men.

"I am Christ's heart and angel. I will be with Him all the time," Keela said proudly.

"Well, let us go together and see Him being born," said one of the Wise Men.

"O.K.," said Keela, and off they went.

Soon they came to the stable and saw Jesus lying in the hay. The Three Wise Men gave their gifts and the heart flew down to Jesus and gave him a kiss and as she was giving him a kiss she disappeared and has not been seen since.

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