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TWENTY-SECOND YEAR, NO. 10

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1981

25c per copy

Capacity: 323; enrolment: 367

More classroom space needed for elementary-level students

Enrolment at Salt Spring Elementary School has already surpassed capacity and principal Tom Watson foresees serious problems unless money is found to ease conditions there.

"By ministry standards this school is rapidly approaching a crowded situation. In terms of students, we're approaching what could be a problem," he said.

Maximum capacity for the school as set by the ministry of education is 323, yet enrolment had climbed to 367 students by the

end of February. This represents an increase of about 25 students since classes started in September.

The ministry of education's figure includes 273 Grades 1 to 7 students and 50 kindergarten children, while actual enrolment has risen to 323 regular students and 44 kindergarten children.

STRETCHED TO LIMIT

Watson says it's an indication that a school's facilities are stretched to the limit any time its enrolment equals or even approaches the province's capacity

figure. The figures at Salt Spring Elementary School speak for themselves, he says.

Watson said that Salt Spring Island requires more classroom space for elementary school children and he hopes that the ministry can be convinced to provide more facilities here.

He has termed holes in the ground floor of the building as "dangerous" and he says that they are indicative of the inadequacy of facilities.

The board has requested two additional classrooms at Fernwood Elementary School and a site for a new elementary school at Fulford.

The board hopes that these new facilities, if agreed to by the province, would help alleviate overcrowding at Salt Spring Elementary School.

While the province has yet to decide on the board's requests, early indications are that it will not get the new classrooms at Fernwood, at least not this year, according to Aust.

PORTABLE

He said that in all likelihood the province will ask the board to settle for a portable building at Fernwood. But such a structure would do little to ease conditions at Salt Spring Elementary, he noted.

The board would also be reluctant to accept a portable since it

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Dry rot problem at school

Salt Spring Elementary School students Jason Steven and Martin Wales stand in one of two gaping 14-inch holes in a classroom on the building's main floor. It is one of three holes in the building caused by dry rot. See story — Page Two.

Lieutenant-governor here Friday for two-day visit

Lieutenant-Governor Henry Bell-Irving will arrive on Salt Spring Island this week for a two-day visit.

On Friday the queen's man in British Columbia will address three assemblies of local students. He will speak at Gulf Islands Secondary School at 10.30 am and then pay a visit to Greenwoods, which he officially opened in 1979.

He will return to the school complex to speak in the activity centre to primary students at 1:30 and to intermediate students at 2:30.

On Saturday Bell-Irving will take part in two separate ceremonies.

He will have lunch with the Salt Spring Island Rotary Club and then officiate at the opening ceremonies of the emergency helicopter pad at Lady Minto Hospital.

Lunch will be arranged by the service club at Harbour House Hotel. The hospital ceremony will

take place at 3 pm.

The new emergency landing provision at the hospital has been two years in the making. Rotarians started on the project in 1979. It consists of a six-inch reinforced concrete pad, 40 feet by 40 feet, provided with lighting to enable helicopters to make an emergency landing at night.

Also taking part in the ceremonies will be two visiting Rotarians and their wives. They are District Governor Cy Frick, of Sequim, Wash., and Past District Governor Dr. A. Deans-Peggs, of Victoria.

The new facility has been the work of the service club members with assistance from many island businesses.

On Saturday evening the lieutenant-governor and Mrs. Bell-Irving will be the guests of honour at the Legion ball in Ganges, being held to mark the 50th anniversary of the local branch.

Mediator called in for school - CUPE talks

Secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck informed the Gulf Islands School Board at last Tuesday's meeting that a mediator has been appointed by the ministry of labour to help out with contract negotiations between the board and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE).

A mediator was called in at the union's request.

Peck told the board that mediation officer R.J. Phillips has been appointed by the provincial government to intervene in negotiations.

Phillips was appointed by the ministry of labour on February 23.

CUPE employees have been without a contract since December 31 when their latest two-year contract with the board expired.

Phillips will be in the district for negotiations between the two sides on March 18 and is expected to be here at least two days, according to the mediator's office in Victoria.

Either side can request that a third party be called in at any stage of negotiations.

Peck said later that it is the first time that he can remember that the Gulf Islands School Board and CUPE have had to call in a mediator to help the two sides reach agreement.

Pender detachment sees 46% increase

First two months busy for police

The Pender Island RCMP detachment reports that complaints and calls for assistance for the first two months of this year are running about 46% ahead of the same period during 1980.

Corporal Harry Danyluk said that population increases are likely responsible for the sharp increase.

The detachment received 147 general complaints and calls for assistance during January and February, compared to 101 during the first two months of 1980.

Danyluk cautions that these figures could be misinterpreted since charges were never laid in many instances and that a large number of complaints were of an "unfounded" nature.

He said that these figures also reflect instances where the Pender Island detachment answered calls for assistance by other police agencies.

MONTH AHEAD

Danyluk said that statistics for this year are running about a

month ahead of the 1980 pace, when the detachment received a total of 927 complaints and calls for assistance. The figure for last year was about 21% higher than 1979, when the detachment

received 765 complaints and calls for assistance.

Danyluk said that the Pender Island detachment has been witnessing "across the board" increases in all crime categories and that there are no specific problem areas.

"It's increased in proportion everywhere," he said.

Figures released by the detachment indicate that 551, or about 60% of the total number of calls answered last year were to investigate complaints of criminal activity.

In 1979 the detachment investigated approximately 397 complaints of a criminal nature.

THEFTS UP

The single highest category under which the Pender Island detachment received complaints during 1980 was for thefts. There were a total of 82 complaints of theft, about 30% more than during 1979.

Turn to Page Five

Vesuvius car park starting

The house is gone and the site is ready and the holding area for cars at the Vesuvius ferry wharf should be ready this spring.

Halvor Eide told the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce last week that the off-street parking project is now in high gear.

The old cottage opposite the ferry wharf has been acquired for use as an island museum.

Two classrooms affected

Dry rot holes 'dangerous'

Three holes in the ground floor at Salt Spring Elementary School have been termed dangerous by principal Tom Watson.

Watson says that the holes are just "the tip of the iceberg" and that more problems are ahead unless the ministry of education agrees to the school board's capital budget requests.

He says that he notified the board last summer about the holes in the wooden floor and that the board has done nothing about it.

Meanwhile, school district secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck said that the board had intended to repair the floor some time this summer.

"We'll have to go in and look at it. We've been aware of it and as I told the board, it's scheduled for repair this summer," said Peck.

Peck said that he doesn't consider the holes to be enough of a hazard to warrant closing the two classrooms.

NOT THAT SERIOUS

"Is the situation serious enough that we want to shut down classrooms and tear up the floor? I hadn't thought it was that serious," said Peck.

The board was reminded of the situation by Salt Spring Island trustee Mary Williamson during last Tuesday's board meeting.

Williamson told the board that she had noticed that the holes had not been repaired and that one student had extended his arm about 18 inches into one of them.

"I'm very surprised that there's 18 inches inside the flooring, but without a ruler I won't comment on it," said Peck.

"I don't think that anyone should take the meaning that we're about to lose a child," said one trustee.

There are three holes in question, in two classrooms used by the family grouping class in the southwest corner of the building. **USED EVERY DAY**

Watson said that both of the classrooms are normally used every day by about 34 students.

Two of the holes extend about 14 inches below the surface of the

floor. Both are several yards in length and run along the building's south wall in separate classrooms.

Family grouping staff, however, have placed a chair over one and a small stage over the other, according to Watson.

The third, and potentially most dangerous, is located in the middle of the floor and teachers have temporarily covered it with a small piece of plywood.

Though just a few inches deep, there is an area around the hole of about five feet in diameter, which sags noticeably when walked upon.

WOOD CRUMBLED

Watson demonstrated how soft the area was by pressing down with the heel of his shoe. It caused the rotten wood to crumble beneath the weight of his foot.

The school board undertook major renovations to the school several years ago. Large areas of dry rot in the wooden flooring were discovered while reinforcing the foundation along the building's south wall, according to Peck.

"We thought at the time that we had got rid of all the dry rot but evidently we haven't," he said.

School board chairman Strick Aust said that the holes are indicative of the inadequacy of facilities at Salt Spring Elementary School.

He says that while the board has known about the holes for about a year, the money hasn't been available to undertake the costly repairs.

The holes pose little threat to students since they are located in two classrooms that are seldom used, according to Aust.

He said that normally it would be up to the secretary-treasurer to see that the repairs are made but that Peck's hands are tied since the board hasn't been able to afford it.

Aust said that Peck is in the difficult position of having to say no when funds are not available.

WILL LIKELY PERSIST

Overcrowding at the school and the poor state of repairs are likely to persist unless the ministry of education agrees to the board's capital budget requests, Aust said.

Peck said Monday that a just

completed inspection of the holes indicated that the dry rot had progressed much farther than he originally thought.

He expected maintenance personnel would have the most hazardous of the holes temporarily covered within a short time.

The board, meanwhile, is awaiting an estimate of what it will cost to replace affected sections of the floor from architect Henry Schubart.

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Board Meeting

to be held at the School Board Office
Tuesday, March 17, 1981 1:30 pm

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9-3

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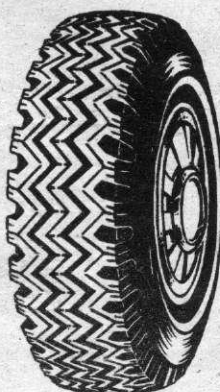
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GANGES

10-1

To Be Frank

by richards



Bob Nicholson showed me a letter from a United States supplier the other day where the corporation explained that all measurements were in feet and inches. Metric is un-American, said the writer. And for all its faults, it is a sight easier to figure in. When I was struggling with vulgar fractions in school I used to laboriously translate them to decimals; work out the calculation and then translate them back to vulgar fractions. My answers were always close and I still shy away from working anything out in fractions. But, then: the way I talk I'm as un-American as metric systems.

All I did was check a spelling in the classified and Santy Fuoco saw me. "Typical Frank Richards," he commented unkindly. "Proof-reading it after the paper is printed!"

I waited in the line-up at Fulford. A Porsche drove off and I watched it disappear. Then came a BMW and I realized it was court day in Ganges.

A written advertisement in a photo journal: "...rebate coupons worth \$26 off on flash accessories". Or could it be \$26 on off flash accessories?

There was no suggestion of resentment. The other way round! He was delighted to see them. But a Saanich businessman told me last week that a new subdivision was all "yellow fever". The cars operated by the owners of the new elite subdivision mostly bear the yellow licence plate of Alberta. Time to worry is when someone switches to yellow peril and then the resentment shows through.

We have a cat. She looks, right now, like we have half-a-dozen cats, all rolled into one. The times when she is not overly hungry and not so exhausted as to pass out on the bed, she sits in the room nearest the people: One thing she cannot tolerate is a table ready for a meal. She sits on a chair and stabs at the table mats until they slide on to the floor with the cutlery. And it's a funny thing, but I was in a restaurant in Victoria one day last week when service was slow. So I reached for a book on the shelves adorning the dining room and I found the books are fastened to the shelf. Which is thoroughly modern, because they probably have a lot of modern words in them, anyway. But if we could have more glue on our table and less glue on restaurant shelves, the two circumstances would balance out nicely: if you fancy glue at the dinner table.

We wanted to see what paintings the Vancouver Art Gallery had sent to the islands last week so we went to the Gulf Islands Secondary School vocational wing. And when I got to the school I had to pause to figure out where the vocational wings could be. In fact, I didn't even know they had wings at the school. It is, of course, in the vocational training area, but in an era of euphonism, it sounds too old-fashioned to be real. But we followed the call and found the show.

Went to see Fr. Mudge last week. But he wasn't at the Royal Jubilee Hospital and we didn't see him. He's a very sick man and is staying with his family. One of the best-known Catholic priests to serve on Salt Spring Island in recent years, he has enjoyed a particular rapport with youngsters and the Indian parishioners on Vancouver Island. He still has a wide circle of friends on Salt Spring Island.

I met a man who shared memories of one of North America's less appealing motor cars last week. It was at the old-timers dinner staged by the Farmers' Institute. Fellow came along and sat at our table. I didn't recognize him. He introduced himself as Michael Gyves. And the penny dropped. About 32 years ago he bought a 1928 four-cylinder Chevrolet sedan from me. I was living in Sidney and he was on the island. I remember the car because I had it when I was first working for the *Sidney Review*. It wasn't in the first blush of youth and a subscriber from Brentwood suggested that a reporter should drive a more modern car to give greater credibility to the paper. I was indignant because I figured, probably wrongly, that only an English-woman could have thought of such a thing in a rural community. Before I had it, the car delivered mail on the Sidney rural route. Capt. Walter Villers was using it while his veteran 1937 Willy's was undergoing major repairs. It is still serving its final owner. Michael Gyves reported that he still has the front wheels mounted on an elevator.

I feel for the medical profession. I like most doctors and I appreciate those who have had the misfortune to pull me apart and reassemble the parts. But I cannot go along with the principle that the old pay-or-die-policy should be brought back. I lived through that era when we thought twice about consulting a doctor and hoped the pain would go away. It often did. Many a sick man survived only because Britain had a health insurance scheme. Once it costs money to gain medical attention, the less well-to-do will always suffer rather than have to pay a bill they can't afford. Let's not turn the pages back!

Two well-fed pickets with placards take up most of a smaller sidewalk. I was among those on one street in Victoria who had to take to the road to pass. And half the public are under the impression that the picket is a kind of unofficial police and has rights denied the ordinary citizen. And I hope they're wrong!

Parents hear about child abuse

Mary Manning, volunteer sponsor with the Parents In Crisis Society from Victoria, addressed the Salt Spring Island Parents Co-Operative Nursery School last week and presented a film concerning child abuse.

"Green-haired, wide-eyed monsters - that's how we've always thought of child abusers," Mary Manning told the meeting. "Now we know differently. Given the right set of circumstances, almost anyone could be an abuser."

Manning said those circumstances could include having been abused as a child, loss of a job, breakup of a marriage, a bad day or a combination of those things. So when there is that kind of pressure all it takes is a child to spill a glass of milk at the wrong time.

Manning suggests that part of the problem is that people have children for the wrong reasons. During the film, a woman convicted of killing her child admitted that she had wanted her baby so that for the first time in her life she would have someone to love her.

Then, when the baby was only a few weeks old, she began to realize that the baby was incapable of giving her the love she had sought.

Manning is a founder of a self-help organization called Parents in Crisis. Parents involved in this

group can support each other by sharing problem-solving techniques and by lending mutual support and a sympathetic ear.

She is hoping to form a group on Salt Spring Island, and says there are cases of child abuse here.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1981

Whole sad story may be over

The islanders have been left out in the cold with not even a bus shelter in which to take refuge.

There is only one bright aspect to the announcement on Monday by Municipal Affairs Minister Bill Vander Zalm. The matter of urban transit is almost cleared up.

Last year the island people continued their plea for exclusion from the levy to meet the costs of city buses. Despite strong opposition from Jim Campbell, director for the Outer Islands, the Capital Regional Board agreed to exempt islanders from the \$1 a month on householders' Hydro bills and the \$90 a year charged to industry and commerce.

The island people had lived on the doorstep of the regional offices on Yates St., pleading for the chance of escaping a levy they contend is unjust.

There were secret Boston tea parties and widows grown old in the balmy breezes of the Gulf Islands were fearful of being thrown into prison for having refused to pay the bill.

When the region relented and prepared a bylaw excluding the islands from the transit levy, islanders were jubilant. They had finally persuaded their masters that their plea was, in fact, fair and just.

That jubilation was short-lived.

The region, in its wisdom, had tied island exclusion to the transit deficit rate bylaw. When the bylaw reached the minister's desk he was happy to exclude the islands. He could even remember where they are. But he was not anxious to see the new levy, proposed by the region, of a 5.5% Hydro surcharge on businesses instead of the monthly blanket rate. He threw out the bylaw.

In throwing it out he promised islanders that the levy would be lifted on a retroactive basis. A man of his word, he subsequently made the basis back to November. Private residents were annoyed and commercial users were proportionately more annoyed at the discrepancy between what they had confidently expected and what they were offered. They pressed for a confirmation of their original understanding that they would be relieved of all they had paid unjustly.

On Monday the minister made it clear that his ministry is offering sops to nobody. They have paid it: they're in the clear. They had withheld it: they must put up or go to jail, or whatever happens to wicked citizens who owe money to B.C. Hydro. Few are likely to go broke paying it. The protest stems from a sharp sense of principle...and a keen interest.

The only happy aspect to the whole sorry, sad story is that it appears to be over at last.

Anarchist belies his title

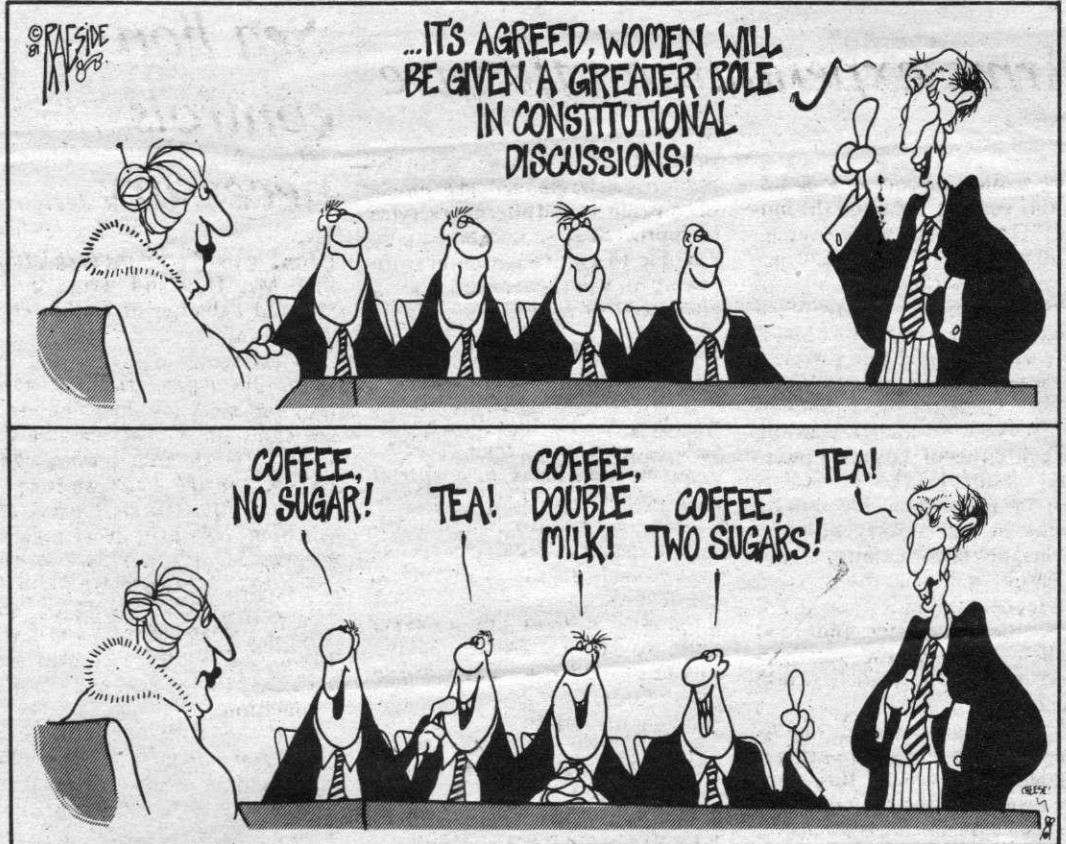
Sir,

This week, Anarchist's usual involution is replaced by some lucidity. He warns "if you like Joe Clark don't read on." Having no special liking for Mr. Clark, no dislike for that matter, one reads on. He proceeds to demolish the object of his dislike with a series of blows; statements unsupported by any argument. He has a right to his opinions but surely it is somewhat less than honourable, indeed cowardly, to spew his venom on a public figure under a cloak of anonymity. My dictionary defines anarchist

as "one who conforms to the doctrine of opposition to all forms of government." He thus belies his title when he proceeds to fulsome praise of Mr. Trudeau. He should answer this question honestly.

If, 12 years ago, he had been asked to choose a person who would bring a more or less united Canada to its present sad state of disunity, could he have made a better choice than Mr. Trudeau?

T.J. BUTT
Fulford Harbour.
March 2, 1981.



Letters to the Editor

Massive opposition may force companies to back off

Sir,

Greenpeace has recently protested against manoeuvres conducted by the U.S. Coast Guard with the 188,000 dwt supertanker *B.T. San Diego* in the Straits of Juan de Fuca. In carrying out this action we had three aims:

First, we wanted to bring the issue of supertankers to public attention. In many areas of the world oil spills have caused enormous ecological and economic damage. Greenpeace plans to help people in B.C. fight supertankers before our beaches are covered with crude oil, our environment severely damaged and our fishing and tourist industries devastated. Secondly, we felt that these "tests" were an attempt by the oil industry to increase tanker traffic through the back door. Had it not been for our action, it is likely that the unscientific nature of these "tests" would have gone unnoticed. Well-known scientist David Suzuki has since pointed out that one series of tests held under ideal conditions is definitely not a scientific experiment.

These "tests" were designed to determine the effects of supertanker engine failure in this area. However, not one of the major accidents in the Straits of Juan de Fuca between 1949 and 1976 was due to this situation. Bad weather. Yes. Crew incompetence, collisions, faulty radar. Yes. To have allowed these engine failure "tests" to be sold to the public as a valid measure of tanker safety would have been incompetent on our part.

Thirdly, we wanted to test our ability to manoeuvre our inflatable dinghies around a supertanker. This allowed us to prepare for the day when Greenpeace, along with hundreds of our people from B.C. and Washington State, will blockade these floating time bombs.

This is going to be one of the toughest battles in the history of west coast environmentalism. The oil industry is determined to funnel crude down the B.C. coast and through Juan de Fuca to supply the eastern United States with Alaskan oil via the Northern Tier Pipeline. These companies have massive amounts of money, power and influence.

We believe the battle can be won. Oil companies, like oil spills, invariably take the path of least resistance. If we can show them that using our coastline as a conduit for their oil is going to run into massive opposition, they will back off.

Greenpeace calls on the people of B.C. to get involved in this fight. As a first step, we are organizing a petition campaign to show the Canadian and U.S. governments that people here are opposed to any increase in tanker traffic down the B.C. coast. Petition forms can be obtained by writing us at 2623 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver, V6K 1P8.

The time to act is now, before a disaster happens!

BOB CUMMINGS,
Communication Director,
Greenpeace.
March 1, 1981.

Homburg hats, anyone?

Sir,

We, the cast and crew of *Fiddler on the Roof*, are warmed, encouraged and delighted by the response of your readers to our recent request for sheets and black socks. (Keep them coming, folks!)

Now we have a strange and very specific appeal to all your male readers.

We need six black Homburg hats, and we have been unable to beg, borrow or steal them anywhere in Victoria or Vancouver. The nearest we have come is a rental house which would charge \$25 each, per day! As we will need them for two weeks, that would blow our entire budget!

We will take the greatest care of them, and would ask that the owner's name be carefully stitched or pasted inside the lining.

As before, they may be left at Anchor Insurance Office, Monday through Friday, 11 am-5 pm, or to Joan Angus, Quebec Drive.

Thanks again to the many friends who have assisted us already.

MARY C. WILLIAMSON,
Ganges.
March 9, 1981.

Axing program is 'insanity'

Sir,

I have just learned from the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing that the Provincial Parks Youth Crew program is in jeopardy this year.

This program, which has trained thousands of youths in its 30-year history, is about to get the axe and all in the name of economy. What sheer insanity!

In this particular instance, everybody loses. This year, some 409 youths aged 15 and 16 will lose the opportunity to work with Parks' staffs in the province's 358 parks.

The province and all those people who use the parks lose eager, willing workers who are paid only \$13 a day!! Yet, they love every minute of it. Ask any parks supervisor (District Superintendent) how he is going to keep his park in shape without the Youth Crew.

Campsites, latrines, trails, bridges - there are literally thousands of such facilities in our provincial parks that wouldn't exist if it hadn't been for the Youth Crews.

Our government speaks of cutting programs to save money. In this instance it will end up costing us countless thousands of dollars to undo the harm this program cut will cost. False economy indeed!!

I've been told there is still time to activate the program. If the program is allowed to die, we - the youths who might have benefited, and the public who love the parks - will be the poorer for it.

KEVIN DAVIES,
Youth Crew Member, East Kootenay District 1977,
Youth Crew Foreman, East Kootenay District 1980,
Fulford Harbour.
March 5, 1981.

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Premium
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this week,
says the Salt Spring
Island Chamber
of Commerce.

Arms expenditure offensive

Sir,
The world is spending \$500 billion this year on arms and the military. "Defence" costs the average Canadian family of four \$20 per week. The world stockpile of nuclear weapons is now capable of laying waste the world and annihilating us all, several times over.

At a recent conference in Victoria, on "Thinking the Unthinkable," it was estimated that an attack on either of the great powers would result in the immediate death of more than 100 million persons in the country attacked and neighbouring countries, and of many millions more from nuclear contamination of themselves, the air, water and food supplies. Most of the survivors would be maimed, their world wrecked.

The Government tells us that its increasing expenditure on arms is intended for "defence." But, since there is no defence against nuclear war, such expenditure is offensive. An increasing number of people regard such "defence" as dangerous and totally immoral, but, on account of Canada's tax system, they are obliged to pay for what they regard as evil, and contrary to conscience.

In times of military conscription, exemption from service in the military can be claimed on grounds of conscience, and alternate service is approved. It should be equally possible to claim exemption from paying for war preparation, and an alternative provided.

The Peace Tax Fund campaign seeks legislation so that those who believe that war preparations are wrong, can elect that an appropriate proportion of their taxes be diverted from arms to a special government Peace Tax Fund, to be used for peace research, peace education, peacekeeping, peacemaking, development and other constructive uses. We ask that those who support this principle write to the Committee at the address below for more information.

Yours for Peace,
SENATOR EUGENE FORSEY,
VIC ALTHOUSE M.P.,
PAULINE JEWETT M.P.,
STANLEY KNOWLES M.P.,
JIM MANLEY M.P.,
BOB OGLE M.P.,
SVEND ROBINSON M.P.,
The Peace Tax Fund Committee,
1831 Fern Street,
Victoria, B.C.
March 1, 1981.

Sea lion controls necessary

Sir,
I don't usually read the long letters that Mr. Howland writes but I applaud his letter in the March 4 *Driftwood*.

I just spent a day fishing off Parksville. There was one small islet that must have had a hundred sea lions on it. The pictures are great. After the tour, pictures, and choking on the smell we tried to return to the serious business of catching some fish. Every time we stopped to drop our lines several sea lions' heads would pop up. It was absolutely impossible; all we were doing was washing our lines. I, too, believe some controls are necessary on the seal and sea lion population.

I also agree that the use of barbless hooks, which is becoming more and more a prominent regulation in our province's streams, would greatly reduce the "kill" factor in our premature fish. My sources tell me that more than half the fish caught and released with barbed hooks - die!

BOB DUGAS,
Box 816,
Ganges,
March, 1981.

Sidewalks, cycle paths needed

Sir,
I seem to recall some talk about widening the roads on Salt Spring Island. While they are at it can we not have sidewalks along one side. We are all urged to save gasoline and - some of us - are urged to take more exercise. I for one would be delighted to talk into Ganges and carry my purchases home on my back (good for posture, too). But not as one has to do now, with one foot in or near the gutter and eyes round one's head for oncoming traffic.

While they are at that, how about a cycle track on the other side to accommodate all those young cyclists who appear each year, terrifying both the pedestrians and motorists as they wobble along to the campsites? Sidewalks are bound to come soon and why not now when there is this talk about doing "something" with the roads in the island?

Incidentally, are you going to publish the results of the questionnaire you asked us to fill out weeks ago?

JOAN RAESIDE,
Ganges,
March 8, 1981.

Time to revoke membership

Sir,
The Canadian press recently reported that "our clever Canadian physicists" have managed to persuade the government to join the nuclear fusion club.

The marvellous thing is that these fusion reactors are so clean - aren't they? - and don't have any waste except helium - which is O.K.

That's what the newspaper article said and they quoted the "clever Canadian physicists" - who should know, shouldn't they?

Well, these "clever Canadian physicists" are not telling us the whole truth - and for the following reasons. I quote from a report:

"The only chemical product of fusion is helium, which is an inert gas. Thus there are no reprocessing or dumping operations of spent fuel or ash to worry about. But there will be waste heat and some radioactivity, so that the siting of fusion reactors would present much the same problem as that of fission reactors."

"Structural parts from the reactor will occasionally need to be replaced. They will have become radioactive and their disposal will pose a problem. If the metals used are carefully selected, these parts might have activity which would

last for about 100 years. Tritium is radioactive and will have to be contained."

Who is saying the above and upon what authority?

None other than Rendel S. Pease of the U.K., chairman of the International Atomic Energy Agency's International Fusion Research Council, quoted in the UNESCO Courier of June 1980.

Let's write our members of parliament and ask them to get these "clever Canadian physicists" under control and immediately revoke our membership in such a mad club.

DAVID J. WESTON,
1371 Discovery Ave.,
Nanaimo,
February 26, 1981.

School at capacity

From Page One

would probably have to give up the idea of getting new classrooms at Fernwood for the next several years.

Aust said that students at Salt Spring Elementary School receive a high standard of education despite cramped quarters there.

"The physical things don't stop kids from getting an education," he said.

Watson would like to see the board keep the pressure on the ministry of education in order to get funding for the proposed capital projects.

The school is currently using two main-floor store rooms for private instruction.

A second-floor seminar room measuring no more than 12 x 14 feet is where teacher Jim Prendergast and 10 students in the gifted program hold classes. There are neither windows nor a ventilation system there.

Watson's office, which he shares with two administrative assistants, and the general office are contained within an area measuring approximately 10 x 20 feet.

The Anarchist

Balance Billing

I think the term "Balance Billing" is a piece of nonsense, which must be the reason why the head doctor, Mr. Mandible, is so anxious to insist that this is the only way to describe the newest dainty little bite he prescribes for the health of our pocket books. It is obviously consistent with the long history of the use of the leech by the second oldest profession.

However, as a matter of financial etiquette I think we should point out to the wise doctor that in any responsible accounting practice the cost of any item in the bill may be shown as a fee, an item of expense, cost of material, charge for service of one kind or another, even an extra charge, but you do not charge someone an extra balance.

Unless, of course, you are engaged in a high-price con game to try to pretend that it's a lot nicer to call things silly names.

In pursuing this idea of what might be done with the concept of balance billing I came up with a much better idea. The concept of balance does relate to the measuring of two or more different items such as, for instance, the public costs of health care services as opposed to the individual expenses of doctors in private practice.

Looked at as a business we might be able to say to the ever-so-independent Mr. Mandible that due to the very large increase in the operating costs of our hospitals we regret that it will be necessary to make a slight increase in the user's fee for all doctors availing themselves of hospital services for their ever-so-private patients.

We might even manage to come up with something like a franchise fee so that rival hospitals and their franchised doctors could compete in the marketplace for the health dollar, and then incorporate health industries complete with stock options and subsidiaries like medical instrument companies, pharmaceuticals and yes, development projects for the newest thing in graveyards, all very private, of course.

Infernal logic

To those who feel that there was

something arbitrary or capricious in the cancellation by Mr. Raygun of the east coast fishing treaty, I would hasten to point out that such was definitely not the case.

Mr. Raygun is nothing if not consistent and Mr. Raygun had more than one obligation to consider. For some seven years representatives of successive American governments have participated with representatives of more than 100 other nations in the U.N.-sponsored Law of the Sea Conference for the purpose of creating a treaty to regulate the use and development of the ocean for the benefit of all.

The conference had reached a point near completion and it was expected that the current session would bring the process to the point of signatures. When Mr. Raygun realized that the U.S. was about to become a party to a scandalous venture such as this in which a clearly communist idea such as the "benefit of all" was involved, he was faced with an inevitable need to bite the bullet and put things straight.

And he did that right, yessiree. First he fired all the damn traitors who had represented the U.S. in the negotiations for the past seven years, then he told the U.N. that the negotiations were to be reopened in those matters which regulated the access of U.S. mining companies, and then he was thinking what else to do when a second junior assistant flunked whispered something about that other marine treaty with Canada which was coming up in his visit to Ottawa, and you know what he did then.

Why, that great man in an unequalled display of fairness and uniformity said, "If we're going to scrap one treaty, the least we can do is be fair and scrap 'em all," and that's just what he did, danged if he didn't.

The Visit

It's on and Reagan's in Ottawa and I can only picture the whole thing like a scene out of Faulkner, where the elderly lecherous town banker visits his fading, middle-aged long-term whore who happens to own the best goddam real estate in the country.

It was in Driftwood!

But not in the islands!

It was in *Driftwood*: Main Street, rustic finished living room with fireplace; four bedrooms, 1½ baths and a spacious kitchen; double garage, \$65,000. And a four-bedroom home, rec room, metal storage shed, \$58,600. But I never read them till now.

They are advertised in the *Ignace Driftwood*, of Ontario.

Last year the publisher, Dennis Smyk, received a copy of *Gulf Islands Driftwood* through the national newspaper association. He was so intrigued with finding another Canadian newspaper bearing the same unusual name that he wrote, sending several copies of his own publication.

Established in 1971, the Ontario paper is produced by the editor and his wife. It has been accepted by the community and the publisher is happy with his lot, even if it is only a little.

The Ontario *Driftwood* has an unusual feature. A warning on the editorial page explains that the

views expressed are those of the newspaper and not of the editor in his role as town councillor.

Spectrum comes to Ganges

The grace, dreams, humour and pathos of the people of the circus world will come to Ganges on Friday in the form of a presentation by the Spectrum Dance Company of Victoria.

Sideshow is an entertainment in dance and mime, and is described as an imaginative and innovative theatre dance.

The show is being sponsored by the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council. It will be seen at the Ganges activity centre Friday at 7.30 pm. Tickets are \$3; \$2 for students and O.A.P.'s.

Police busy at Pender

From Page One

when the detachment received 63 complaints.

The most significant increase was registered under federal statutes with the RCMP receiving 72 complaints for crimes falling in that category last year, which was 135% more than during 1979 when there were 32 complaints.

Danyluk explained that customs, excise and fishing violations fall under federal statutes.

He said that complaints and calls for assistance under that category more than doubled as a result of increased efforts by the RCMP to enforce these regulations.

MORE THAN DOUBLED

Complaints of drug violations

also more than doubled last year with 42 complaints, compared to 20 the previous year.

One bright spot in the report was that reports of breaking and entry were down about 25% last year with just 18 recorded compared to 24 during 1979.

Danyluk also reports that a new member will be joining in mid-April to replace Const. Scott Lundigran, who left to return to Nova Scotia at the end of February.

Replacing Lundigran will be Const. Al Richard who is presently stationed in Quebec.

The Pender Island detachment covers Mayne, Saturna and North and South Pender Islands.

At Lady Minto Hospital

Volunteers add a touch of sunshine

First of three parts

BY ELSIE MACDONALD

When visiting Lady Minto Hospital have you noticed ladies in rose-coloured smocks tending bedside flowers? Or a young person taking a box of tissues to a patient?

These people are hospital auxiliary volunteers doing what they can to make life more comfortable for patients.

Patients' flowers are cared for throughout the hospital every day, including Sunday. Spent flowers are discarded and bouquets rearranged. Flower convener Mrs. Doris Gibson keeps a roster of auxiliary members for this purpose. Some members have been giving this valuable service for years.

Another help to patients is the auxiliary basket, kept supplied with such items as comb, razor, toothbrush, for use by people who have been rushed to hospital.

Lovely little favours to brighten patients' breakfast trays on special occasions - Valentine's Day, Easter, Christmas - are made by Mrs. Lyn Earwaker and her helpers. The little decorations also appear on trays for extended care patients.

BUSY TIME

Christmas is always a busy time for auxiliary workers. Gifts are purchased, gaily wrapped and presented on Christmas morning to each patient in acute care, also to residents in extended care and Greenwoods. Christmas trees are set up inside the hospital entrance and extended care, and handsomely decorated (and dismantled by the same volunteers after the holidays!)

Christmas flowers are placed at nurses' stations and in the sunroom. There is always a fine layette from the auxiliary ready to present to the New Year's first baby.

The sunroom library helps to pass the time for patients. Books and magazines are kept up-to-date and in neat order by Mrs. Pamela Wilson. Hospital staff were remembered on Hospital Day in

May. A large beautifully decorated cake was presented for coffee break time.

PRACTICAL CONTRIBUTION

Mrs. Julie Tessman's group of junior volunteers make a practical contribution to patients' well-being. Their fresh young faces are a morale lifter as they go about their varied tasks.

These volunteers, 13 girls and one boy, put in approximately 100 hours each month. They work Monday to Friday from 6 pm to 9 pm, and at weekends 9.30 am to 11.30 am.

Young volunteers' duties include reading to patients, help with letters, playing cards, checkers and other games, help with patients' personal appearance, preparing patients for mid-day and evening meals. Children on bed rest are entertained.

With consent of, or under instruction from hospital staff, young volunteers accompany patients walking for exercise or going to x-ray, laboratory or other treatment areas. Less mobile patients are taken about in wheelchairs.

MANY SMALL SERVICES

Many other small services are performed by the young people to make hospital time more comfortable for patients. The young volunteers are entertained by their older fellow workers at the hospital auxiliary luncheon in June.

Work done by volunteers of any age is a boon to staff members. They are relieved of small tasks, necessary to the patient but time-consuming for staff. A helping hand from a volunteer frees the skilled nurse for more urgent service.

Lady Minto Hospital has expanded in size and services in the past 10 years, but is still small enough to retain its warm neighbourly atmosphere.

Hospital auxiliary volunteers add an extra touch of sunshine to the efforts of a dedicated staff.

Next week: Volunteers at work in extended care.

Make donations stretch

The services of Red Cross volunteers make your donation to the Red Cross stretch to the limit. Help make your community strong. Support your Red Cross today.



Hospital auxiliary volunteers Marion Patterson and Joan Raeside perform along with extended care patient Nellie Howland during the music program at Lady Minto Hospital this week.

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El Salvador

Intervention a threat to peace

Canadians have often dismissed the nations of Central America: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, as "Banana Republics" controlled by two or three large companies from the United States. The truth is that while Central America achieved formal independence from Spain in 1921 it has always been dependent on other nations, usually the United States. As a result, a small but very rich elite has developed in the midst of mass poverty.

The term "banana republic" is a reproach, not to the ordinary people who have often rebelled against their oppression, but to the ruling elite which has accepted colonial status as the price of their own wealth. Between 1904 and 1925 United States Marines intervened in these republics on an average of once a year to support some petty dictator.

In spite of such heavy intervention the peoples of Central America have never accepted their oppression and there have been many short but bloody uprisings as well as long-term guerrilla struggles.

OVERTHREW SOMOZA

In 1979 the people of Nicaragua overthrew the Somoza regime which for two generations had ruled that country like a medieval fiefdom. Last month I was pleased to hear Francisco Campbell from Nicaragua speak on the accomplishments and hopes of his people regarding land reform and the campaign to eliminate illiteracy.

He had been brought to British Columbia as part of the churches' development education program. In return a group of British Columbians have visited Nicaragua to get a first-hand understanding of what is happening there. Nicaragua can no longer be described as a banana republic.

In El Salvador and Guatemala peasants and workers are waging similar struggles to overthrow repressive governments. More and more people from different parts of the world now see great significance in the El Salvador struggle. Right wing Americans have revived the domino theory fear that El Salvador could become another Cuba. El Salvador, with a population of five million, has no oil, very few minerals and little industry. But some Americans fear that if El Salvador does not keep a pro-American government - at

Ottawa report

BY JIM MANLY, MP

whatever cost - there could be ripple effects not only for Guatemala but for oil rich Venezuela and Mexico as well.

NO INTEREST

In spite of growing Canadian trade and investment in Central America, (for example, Inco's investment in Guatemala) the Canadian government maintains that it has no real interest in the area. On June 17, 1980 when Mark McGuigan was asked about much needed Canadian aid to Nicaragua, the minister of external affairs replied: "The Central American area is not an area of particular concentration of interest for us...I do not see it as an area in which we have a particular contribution to make."

American intervention in El Salvador has increased over the past two months and includes lethal weapons as well as "military advisors." Some of us can remember when "military advisors" were the only personnel the United States admitted to sending to Vietnam.

President Reagan's hawkish mood threatens to turn this tiny republic into another scorched earth. It also threatens world peace. Canada can no longer turn its back on Central America. Canadians must speak up and demand that our government not condone American military adventures in that area.

On February 25 in the House of Commons, Ed Broadbent raised

questions about El Salvador and pointed out that "the leader of the movement in El Salvador is a social democrat working with Catholic workers in opposition to what can only be described as a fascist, vicious junta." He tried to get the government to take a strong stand against American intervention, but both Prime Minister Trudeau and External Affairs Minister McGuigan declined to do so.

President Reagan of the United States will be visiting Ottawa on the 10th and 11th of March. Before he comes Canadians should write the prime minister and demand that he take a clear position: no American intervention in El Salvador.

Productive season for painters

Salt Spring Island Painters Guild members are enjoying a busy and productive winter season.

February 24 and 25 saw Mahon Hall crowded for a two-day workshop with Carl Christopherson, well-known Seattle water-colourist. On March 11 a workshop with Harry Heine, F.C.A., of Victoria is scheduled and, in addition to regular working sessions, John Climer, Federation of Canadian Artists, will come from Victoria to conduct a class in figure drawing on March 25.

An exhibition and sale is planned for mid-May which will display the results of the winter's activities.

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SUSAN COGAN

Fiddler promises to equal Superstar

BY BETH HILL

I couldn't help singing as I left the rehearsal, "If I were a rich man, Daidle, deedle daidle...."

When you are at last in your seat in the Activity Centre, waiting amid the noise and excitement of the gathering audience for the house lights to dim, remember, islanders, that you are experiencing the climax of 1,000 hours of work.

Not just the rehearsals, like the one I shared last Sunday, with the sunlight falling through Mahon Hall's high windows on the quick movements of the dancers, and on Pat Desbotte, one finger on the score as she watched, hawk-like, the movements and actions of the actors. It was a good rehearsal - intense, energetic.

From the opening line, "A fiddler on the roof? Sounds crazy, no?" and the first spirited chorus, "Tradition!" it is a tremendous show. You'll be thumping your heel in time with the exciting Bottle Dance. You'll share the gentle heartwrench of the song, "Is this the little girl I carried? Is this the little boy at play? I don't remember growing older...When did they?"

We islanders are always commenting, self-congratulatory, on the amazing range of talented people who choose to live here, but the high achievement of the Salt

Spring Players' *Jesus Christ Superstar* was still a shock of surprise and joy.

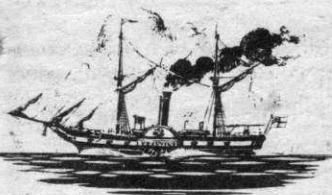
Now *Fiddler on the Roof* promises to equal and perhaps even surpass *Jesus Christ Superstar*. The excitement is there, the glorious voices, the well-trained dancers, the costumes, the cast of about 20 plus the children, the orchestra, the carpenters, make-up crew, seamstresses, lighting technicians, stage hands, the producer, director, stage manager, publicity people - hundreds, it seems, waiting to transport you to Anatevka, to share life in that small Jewish village in Russia, waiting to make you laugh and sing and weep.

Only three weeks to opening night, with the show running April 4 to 10. Tickets are on sale now at et cetera. Please get yours early as there were a lot of disappointed people last time who couldn't get seats for *Superstar*.

When the house lights come up, after the final curtain call, you'll find those singable melodies still ringing in your ears, and you'll be chuckling over Tevye's last speech when, discussing his daughter's marriage (as "poor as synagogue mice"), he tells God, "They are both so happy they don't know how miserable they are."

It's a show you won't forget.

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Susan Cogan to give concert on Saturday

Contributed

On Saturday evening at 8.30 pm, Susan Cogan will be giving a concert at St. George's Hall in Ganges. This will be her second Salt Spring concert. She first performed here last August and was so well received that she has been requested again and again to give another.

A singer-songwriter who recently moved to Salt Spring Island, Susan Cogan has performed for audiences across Canada, in the U.S., in Europe and in Israel. She is well loved in Israel where her songs are heard daily on the radio and she appears on five or six recorded albums.

Susan has recently completed her first Canadian album and although it is not yet available, cassette tapes of the album will be on sale at the concert.

Her husband, Uri Cogan of Tribal Drum Communications, will be accompanying her with a visual slide presentation.

Home-baked goods and warm beverages will be offered in the tradition of St. George's Hall events.

The concert is sponsored by the Inter-Island Performing Arts Co-operation Society, created for the advancement of west coast performing arts.

Performing on piano and guitar, Susan Cogan will sing songs from her newest recordings as well as songs by other Canadian songwriters, Beverly-Glen Copeland, Terry Jones, Robin Jones and Salt Spring Island's own Jerome Jarvis.

Admission to the concert is \$3.50 and tickets are available at et cetera and Annie's Music Box.

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U.S. involvement in El Salvador 'morally wrong...drastic mistake'

An open letter to President Reagan from the Ecumenical Committee of U.S. Citizens in Mexico. (January 20, 1981). Apartado Postal 12-709, Mexico 12, D.F. Mexico.

Dear President Reagan:

With the inauguration of your presidency, we are writing this open letter because of the great effect your policies will have on efforts for peace and justice in Latin America, especially at this time in Central America.

We are U.S. citizens living in Mexico, most of whom are associated with various ecumenical groups and church-related institutions. While living here we have come to know the aspirations and struggles of our Mexican and Central American neighbours. Our Christian and humanitarian commitments compel us to share this perspective with you and with our people.

Our special concern at present is the plight of the Salvadoran people. Their small nation is victimized by a military government willing to massacre its people in order to avoid real democracy and equitable development.

The Legal Aid Office of the Catholic Archdiocese of San Salvador has documented that more than 12,000 civilian assassinations in 1980 were carried out directly or indirectly by the government. The human rights offices of both the O.A.S. and the U.N. have publicly condemned the shockingly cruel and barbaric nature of the violence being directed at a largely defenseless population.

INADEQUATE COVERAGE

We are troubled because of the inadequate news coverage regarding the Salvadoran situation. When there is coverage, it most often falsely depicts a "moderate" government combating fragmented opposition on the left and unable to control the indiscriminate violence by para-military groups on the right.

We ask, why is it necessary that four American missionaries are brutally murdered before much of the U.S. public hears about El Salvador and still, in many cases, learns nothing about our government's support of those responsible for such murders?

In fiscal year 1980, the U.S. government allocated military and economic aid totalling over \$90 million and military advisers to

More Food for Thought

BY MARY C. WILLIAMSON

sustain El Salvador's present government...such assistance equips the Salvadoran military forces to combat widely supported opposition forces and also to terrorize and murder thousands of innocent people.

The alleged "enemy" in El Salvador, often portrayed in the North American press as communist extremists, are in fact poor and disenfranchised people in search of basic equality and a better future. According to church and U.N. sources, 60% of that country's land is in the hands of two percent of the people while 75% of the children suffer from malnutrition and have the lowest per capita caloric intake of any country in Latin America.

ORGANIZING

The people have begun to organize a pressure of justice. The majority have identified with the internationally recognized Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) which comprises major Christian sectors, campesino organizations, labour unions, professional associations and student groups. The recent assassinations of six FDR leaders by uniformed security forces was a desperate act which ended any possibility of dialogue and will only prolong the senseless bloodshed and postpone a democratic solution.

The church has come under increasing attack when it denounces the violence and supports the aspirations of the people. Simply because a bible is found in their home, people have been accused of being "subversive," tortured and killed. Over 300 repressive acts were registered against the church last year which included bombings of communications centres, machine-gunning of churches, convents and schools and the killing of lay catechists, sisters and priests, including Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

We are particularly distressed by the Salvadoran Right boasting of assurances from your advisers that they will receive all the political and military support necessary to eliminate the opposition. (Former) U.S. Ambassador Robert White

has stated, "the Salvadoran people on the right are intellectually and morally moribund. They kill in order to maintain their power and there is no reasoning with them."

The continued involvement of our government in El Salvador would be a drastic mistake. It would be morally wrong, it would further damage our image throughout Latin America, the rest of the Third World, and most of western Europe. The popular sentiment in Mexico strongly favours the Salvadoran people's struggle for self determination.

The Mexican government has publicly opposed our government's efforts to keep in power the increasingly isolated junta. Any escalation of indirect or direct military intervention in El Salvador will greatly increase the danger of extending the conflict throughout Central America.

We believe, Mr. President, that the values and aspirations of the American people are compromised when our government supports unpopular, illegitimate regimes, such as the Salvadoran junta. The struggle of the people in El Salvador for a just and representative government and society would not be perceived as a threat to our vital interest in the region.

Rather, we are convinced that justice and peace will become a reality only when the people of El Salvador are allowed to freely exercise those very same rights upon which our country was founded.

(Signed by 40 members of the committee).



ROSE MURAKAMI

Appointed to UBC senate

Rose Murakami, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. Murakami of Ganges, has been appointed to the senate of the University of British Columbia. It is a three year appointment which begins on April 1.

She is an associate professor of

nursing whose students are candidates for the master's degree.

Last year, she was on the committee which selected the present Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science, which includes the Faculty of Architecture and Nursing.



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DR. ALAN ARNEIL**From ship's surgeon to health officer****THE ADMINISTRATORS***Ninth of a series***BY SCOTT WEBSTER**

Based upon information available to him, the regional health officer for the Capital Regional District says that the proposed Ganges sewer project should be acceptable from a health point of view.

Dr. Alan Stewart Arniel said that discussions with the engineers responsible for designing the system have led him to believe that neither swimmers nor shellfish will be subject to excessive levels of pollution.

The sewer, if and when completed, will carry treated waste from Ganges into Ganges Harbour via an outfall.

Arniel said that fecal safety restrictions will not be exceeded if the information given him is correct.

"If they get the quality of effluent that they have told me will be obtained, it would appear to me that it will be acceptable from a health point of view," he said.

Wants to be assured of minimum health hazard

"I want to be assured that it poses a minimum health hazard either to those swimming or to shellfish where shellfish harvesting takes place."

To be acceptable, the effluent must contain no more than a mean log average of 200 fecal coliforms per 100 millilitres in areas where there is swimming, or 14 fecal coliforms per 100 millilitres in areas where shellfish are caught.

In waters where both types of activity take place, the more restrictive limit must be met.

WOULD HAVE TO MEET STANDARD

Most of the waters in the Gulf Islands would have to meet the shellfish standard because of the abundance of crab, oysters and clams and because of the importance of fishing here, according to Arniel.

The only authority that he exercises is over bathing beaches and if standards are exceeded there he can order that signs be posted, warning bathers of a potential health hazard.

It is the federal department of environment's responsibility to see to it that shellfish standards are enforced, said Arniel.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, 56 years ago, Arniel was educated at the University of Glasgow where he earned his degree in medicine. He lived there until he was 23, at which time he joined the merchant marine.

As a junior surgeon, Arniel worked aboard the *Moolian*, a ship that transported emigrants to Australia and delivered about 1,000 tourists to Europe on each trip.

SMALLPOX

Recollection of a fateful voyage when the ship returned to England

contaminated by smallpox following a trip to Bombay, is evidently still painfully fresh in his mind.

Arniel warns travellers to make certain that they're properly inoculated before travelling overseas.

"Travellers going abroad should remember that you're going to be introduced to diseases that you'll never find in Canada."

About 50 cases in Capital Region last year

Arniel says that approximately 50 cases of malaria turned up in the Capital Regional District just last year.

He immigrated to Canada in 1953 and returned to Scotland in 1955 for two years to become better acquainted with his future wife, Dora.

Since landing a position with the public health office in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1957, Arniel has gradually worked his way across Canada in either that area of medicine or as a practising physician.

He recalls the lean years when he served as the company physician for the Pickle Crow gold mining company at a "God-forsaken spot" about 120 air miles from Sioux Lookout in northwestern Ontario.

Following a short stay there, he moved on to Telkwa, B.C., where he set up what he describes as an "extremely general practice." While keeping a straight face he describes a practice in which he was on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week as the town's physician in addition to being its only dentist, pharmacist and veterinarian.

CAST ON A COW

Arniel recalls an occasion when he was required to place a cast on a cow's broken tail and at "having to waterproof the cast for very obvious reasons."

Arniel and his wife live at Oak Bay near Victoria where they enjoy going for walks with the family's toy French poodle. The Arniels have three children, two daughters and a son.

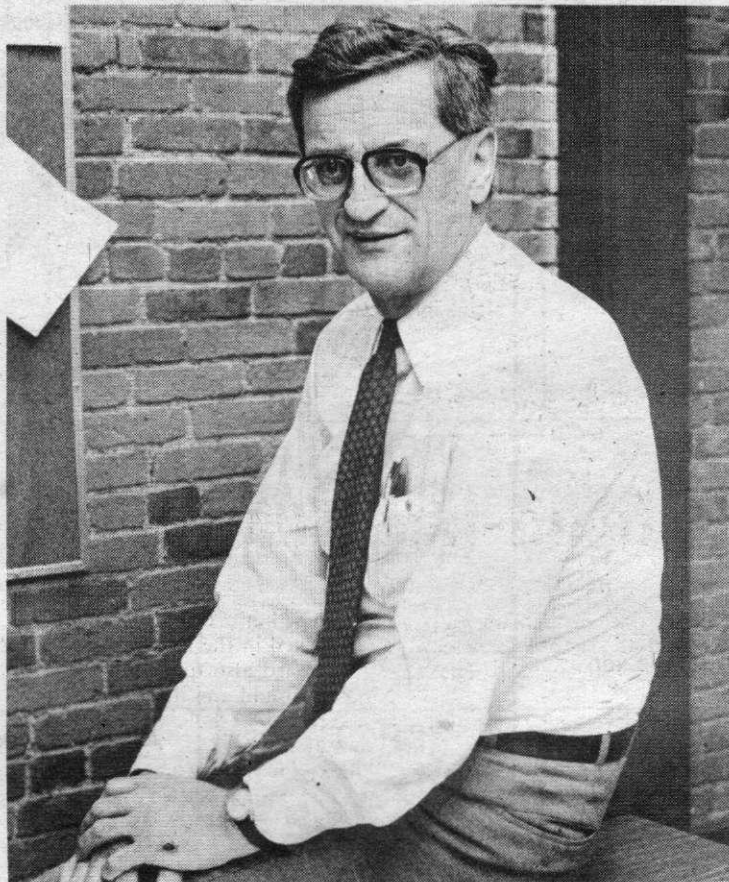
As regional health officer for the past seven years, Arniel works out of the CRD's office on Yates Street in Victoria.

He said that there is no charge for health services provided by the regional health office and that 70% of the agency's funding comes from the provincial government, with the remainder made up by the CRD.

MANY SERVICES

Personnel operating out of 10 sub-offices provide numerous community health services, including prenatal classes, home nursing care, child and adult immunization, dental services, nutritional services, conducting speech and hearing clinics and treating individuals who contract rheumatic fever, tuberculosis or venereal disease.

Public health nurses also provide a number of services at

**DR. ALAN ARNEIL**

schools within the CRD and these include health supervision, counselling, home visits, vision and hearing testing and immunization.

Working under Arniel and answering directly to him are a number of public health inspectors who are responsible for inspecting and enforcing regulations concerning water supplies, food services, schools and institutions, recreational facilities and garbage and sewage disposal.

Health inspector visits Salt Spring twice a week

There is a public health inspector stationed at Sidney who calls on Salt Spring Island twice a week and there are sub-offices at both Mayne and Salt Spring Islands.

In addition to a public health nurse on Salt Spring Island, there are also two home-care workers and a clerk.

Arniel says that finances prohibit hiring an additional public health nurse for Salt Spring Island, despite calls for such action by some residents here.

MORE THAN ITS SHARE

Arniel said that Salt Spring Island is getting more than its fair share in the way of health services from the CRD.

complications associated with lice are found in other parts of the world, particularly in areas stricken by famine and war.

Head lice are accepted as fact of life

He said that it's in those depressed areas where people have come to accept lice as a fact of life.

North Americans generally rid themselves of this nuisance in a short time once an outbreak occurs, he said. Arniel attributes this to a generally high level of hygiene on this continent and also to the social stigma attached to lice.

He said that the social stigma alone is cause enough for most to want to rid themselves of lice.

"There shouldn't be any social stigma associated with lice because anyone can get them, regardless of social position," said Arniel.

BY DIRECT CONTACT

Contrary to what many people believe, head lice can only be transferred by direct contact such as wearing another person's hat.

Unlike some pests, such as fleas, lice cannot leap from place to place but move about by scuttling, said Arniel.

He said that the regional health service of the CRD follows provincial policy regarding treatment for lice and recommends that parents use Kwellada shampoo.

Without naming them, however, Arniel said that there are other treatments which can be effective and that the primary concern of the health service is that children be treated.

Despite some confusion over the recommended interval between the first and second treatment with Kwellada, Arniel says that provincial policy is clear on this point. Parents should wait one week which will allow time for nits to have hatched but not for them to reach sexual maturity.

This could happen if parents were to wait too long and then the whole cycle could start all over again, he warns.

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Winner announced in logo contest

A winner has been chosen in the contest to provide a logo for the Gulf Island Community Arts Council.

An entry by Fulford Harbour resident Pat Parkes was selected out of 70 received by the council. She was awarded a prize of \$50.

CAC members expressed surprise at the number of graphic artists in the islands and said that many excellent designs were received.

The council believes that the contest has made the public more aware of the contribution which the group makes to the cultural and recreational life of the islands.

The new logo will be used in advertising, on posters, stationery and CAC property.



New logo for Gulf Islands Community Arts Council.

Beth Hill to take part in provincial gathering

Beth Hill of Churchill Road, Ganges, will represent Salt Spring Island when heritage conservation is considered at a Vancouver convention.

The conference will run for two days and will include community representatives from all parts of the province. Regional advisers are appointed in each community to maintain a close link between the heritage conservation branch and the needs of the province in each area.

Conference will be in session March 14 and 15.

As regional adviser for Salt Spring Island Mrs. Hill will speak for the island in matters relating to conservation of carvings, middens, buildings and other landmarks linked with the past and pre-history of the island.

The island spokesman holds a certificate in prehistoric archaeology from Cambridge University. Her interest in petroglyphs, or rock carvings, has taken her to many parts of the west coast and

culminated in the publication of her book on the subject.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

The regional advisers play their role by monitoring historic and prehistoric sites in the province. They also encourage their own communities to play an active part in the preservation of these historic features.

Beth Hill has conducted diggings on Salt Spring Island, sifting the Indian middens, including one she and husband Ray discovered when they were excavating for the foundations of a building.

The volunteers will report on the activities within their own communities during the past year. They will also learn of new information from the branch to help them in their volunteer labours.

The volunteers will enjoy the opportunity to exchange information and to devise policies aimed at preservation of the British Columbia heritage, explained Provincial Secretary Evan Wolfe.

Confusion over head-lice treatment

The Gulf Islands School Board has sent a letter to Health Minister Jim Nielsen expressing confusion over the treatment of students infested with head lice.

The letter states that confusion has arisen over the use of Kwellada shampoo and the board would like the ministry to establish clear guidelines for its use.

Specifically, the board would like the ministry of health to clarify the length of time that parents should wait before applying the second treatment of Kwellada.

The letter was drafted by Salt Spring Island school trustee Vivian Pinteau at the request of the board.

The board has also requested that the ministry examine the possibility of providing assistance for the public health nurse should lice reappear in district schools.

The board asks whether parents should wait approximately a week as suggested by one ministry of health publication, or follow directions on Kwellada which suggests waiting up to nine days.

"Which limit is correct?" the board asked in the letter.

The board also questions what parents should do if the second treatment of Kwellada fails to eliminate the lice.

"Kwellada directions limit its use to two treatments. What do you suggest to parents who find that they can't clear up the problem?"

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Book Review

Story of Joe Garner is story of Salt Spring Island

BY FRANK RICHARDS
Never Fly Over an Eagle's Nest, by Joe Garner.

If you want to keep meat fresh and away from the blowflies you don't need a refrigerator. You need a tall alder sapling.

In his tale of the early days on Salt Spring Island, Joe Garner relates the method he used in the 30's to keep his catch fresh. He pulled down a sapling and tied packages of meat to the top branches. The sapling was released and there was the meat, high above the blowfly life.

It was also out of sight of the game warden, he recalls.

There is something of the story of Gordon Gibson in this book. Gibson and Garner both started with very little and went into the woods, to come out with enough to live on and no great worries.

Gibson came out of the Yukon

and Garner came out of Salt Spring Island.

GROWING UP

The story of growing up on Salt Spring is the story of Salt Spring growing up. Garner recalls the era of rapid expansion which led to the island's popularity today. He recalls the little incidents which formed the backdrop of his own life as well as of the lives of the other children around him.

Garner was a name subsequently better known on Vancouver Island when Joe and his brothers moved away to earn a living in the hard times. The lumber yard in Duncan was familiar to many islanders. The family's connection with other parts of the province is interesting reading.

He was associated with the construction of Patricia Bay Airport at the beginning of the war and then spent several years working on military construction projects. But all these are incidentals.

The heart of the story is the growth of the Garner family on Salt Spring Island. He recalls the early names and the early places of

the island.

His recollections of the Chicken House School and Archie Robertson are particularly interesting in view of the recent reunion of students at a banquet in Ganges 50 years later.

The reunion included the former teacher, Archie Robertson.

"He was strict, but capable," writes Garner.

There are no options. Everybody took Latin, French, botany, algebra, math, English and history.

FINDING FLEAS

Garner writes of the discovery of fleas in the school, but when he was here, Archie Robertson couldn't remember that incident. Students sneezed from the flea powder and itched from the bites, remembers the former student.

He also refers to the incident when the teacher threw a piece of chalk at a student to such effect that she didn't return to school. She was Gladys Borrodaile, he states.

It was the first time Grade 10 had been taught on the island and

the enrolment in Chicken House School included Tillie Akerman, Fulford; Jim Uguhart, Fulford; Loys and Shirley Wilson, Central; Dorothy Elliott, Ganges; Vera Seymour, Ganges; Charlie Nelson, Central; Gladys Borrodaile, Ganges; Billy Mouat, Ganges; Audley Gardner, Cranberry; Lotus Frazer, Fulford; Harry Caldwell, North End; Enid Caldwell, North End; Doreen Crofton, Ganges; Laura Rogers, Cranberry; Eunice Curley, Fulford; Norman Ruckle, Fulford; Cree Shaw, Fulford; Margaret Purdy, Beddis

Road; Mary Purdy, Beddis Road and Gladys and Phyllis Taylor, Ganges. The names are so spelt in the book.

His own formal schooling came to an end when he left that school in June, 1926.

An interesting feature of the book is the provision of various chapters written by his brothers and sisters.

For as long as there is a British Columbia there will be a warm welcome for Joe Garner's book. He has earned it a place in the annals of the province.



Photo by Ed Bermingham

RAYMOND BOWER, aged 14, the son of Mr. and Mrs. R.S. Bower of Royal Oak Drive, Victoria, has been selected from among many applicants to receive a B.C.T.V. Scholarship to attend St. Michaels University School in Victoria.

Raymond, a top student, has competed in soccer, volleyball, basketball, track and field, wrestling and skiing, and has also been active in Scouts. Ambition: medical research.

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For information contact: John Schaffter, M.A., Headmaster, 3400 Richmond Road, Victoria, B.C., V8P 4P5.

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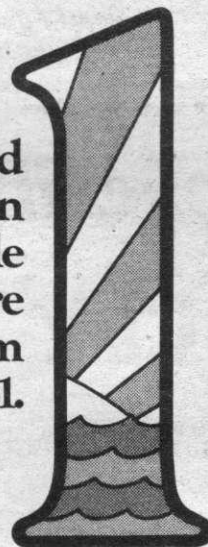
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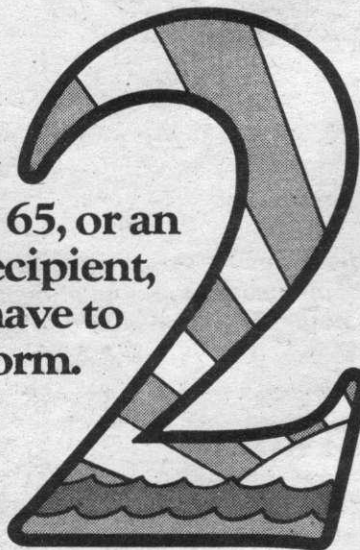


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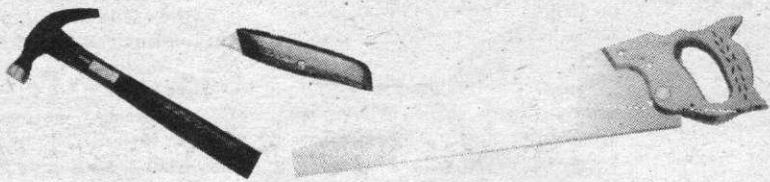
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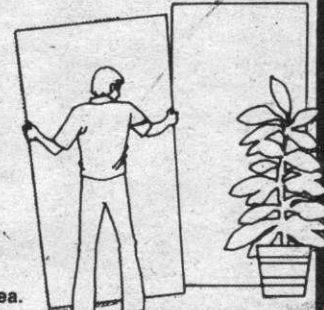


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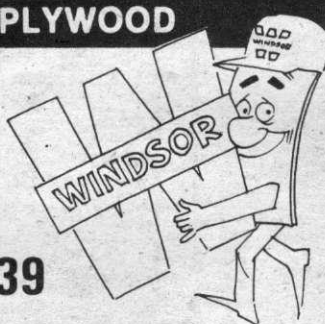
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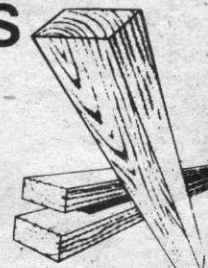
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Court action under way over sewer

Court action by the Salt Spring Sewer Alternatives Committee over the Ganges sewer plan began in B.C. Supreme Court in Victoria last week.

The case was heard Thursday and Friday and was adjourned until later this month.

The committee has petitioned for a judicial review of the order by the director of pollution control for a sewer in Ganges.

Committee spokesman David Skinner said this week that if the petition is successful, it will set aside the director's order and force the Capital Regional District to either appeal, hold a referendum or examine less expensive alternatives.

Receives certificate

Mrs. Doris Watton of Pender Island has just returned from a four-week course at the Travel Training Centre in North Vancouver. She graduated with high marks in a class of 22 and received the official certificate as a travel counsellor.

The course consisted of four hours of lectures in the morning and the balance of the day spent in doing homework and studying. Students were instructed by specialists relating to hotels, tours, steamship cruises, airlines (domestic and international), trains and buses.

World Day of Prayer is marked

World Day of Prayer was celebrated on Pender Island at St. Peter's Church on Friday.

The service was written this year by native American women, representing Indian tribes throughout the United States.

Gordon Berry, the vicar's warden, acted as the leader in the reading of the service. Members of the United Community Church, St. Peter's and the Church of the Good Shepherd acted as readers and were assisted by the congregation. Organ music was provided by Mrs. Elsie Barnes.

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Gardening season gathering momentum

Well, the gardening season is slowly gathering momentum. Outside, the lovely *prunus autumnalis* is now covered with blossoms and the *prunus pissardi nigra* (purple-leaved plum) is in full bud.

These flowering plums are only exceeded by the flowering almond in earliness of bloom. The flowering almond is often hurt by frosts, so I prefer the *prunus autumnalis* which blooms intermittently throughout the winter.

After the plums, the flowering cherries will go into bloom and after them the flowering crab apples will start to bloom. So, for a succession of winter to early summer bloom the sequence is as follows: *prunus autumnalis*, flowering almond, flowering plum, cherry and lastly, flowering apple.

Among the shrubs, the forsythia, the evergreen *viburnum tinus* (*laurentinus*) and the early deciduous *viburnum* (*spring bouquet*) are now blooming. Also, the earliest of the rhododendrons, and of course the lovely evergreen primrose in its full colour range.

There are the crocuses, grape hyacinths and hyacinths, daffodils, dwarf tulips (*kaufmaniana*), squills and the lovely native dog-tooth lily.

TWO, THREE WEEKS EARLY

Generally, things are a bit early this year, about two to three weeks, and are testimony to this mild and early spring we are having. The flowering quince, another deciduous shrub, should be blooming as well anytime now.

So if you want to enjoy the heart-warming display of early spring blossoms in all their splendor, and you haven't got them yet, do yourself a favour and get some. The beauty of it gets bigger and better with every year, and this beauty will touch your heart, your thought and life and will grow there as well. That is why so many gardeners are running around with stars in their eyes.

In the greenhouse things are gathering momentum as well. Pretty soon it will be time to start transplanting the little seedlings. For best results, transplant them as soon as they have the first two true leaves.

Handle seedlings by the leaves only. A torn or crushed leaf is soon replaced by others. Stems are easily crushed, and as they are the

Farming and Gardening

BY PETER WEIS

Foxglove Nursery Consultant

lifeline of the little plant, a crushed stem will set it back severely. Use a small spoon to lift the seedlings with as much soil and roots as possible out of their germinating flats. **NEED TO BE SHELTERED**

Freshly transplanted seedlings need to be sheltered from bright light and high temperatures until they are established in their new containers, and their roots can handle the moisture demands. For transplanting seedlings to the outdoors, choose an overcast or rainy day, for the same reasons.

Lettuces, cabbages, broccoli, cauliflower and brussels sprouts seedlings can now be transplanted outside. Also, early potatoes, spinach, chard, parsnips and onions may be sown outside, if you have a well drained sunny spot for them.

Spinach, especially, may be sown as early as you can work your soil. Spinach likes cool temperatures and short daylight hours. Bolting, or going to bloom and seed, is triggered by the length of daylight. When days get appreciably longer than 12 hours of daylight, spinach will go to seed.

Equal day and night length will occur on March 21, the spring solstice. After that date, spinach is very prone to bolting. So, the earlier you can get the seeds into the ground, the better.

Spinach seed will germinate best at temperatures between 40° and 50° (F). Soil temperatures are generally 10° (F) lower than air temperature. If soil temperature is lower than 40° try soaking the seed in water (40° or thereabouts) for 24 hours.

Sow spinach seeds about two inches apart, half an inch deep. Thin to four to six inches apart before the plants start crowding. Crowding will slow them down, resulting in slow growth and subsequent bolting.

SPRING GREENS

It would really pay to have even just a small well drained area for those early spring greens, espe-

cially with today's prices. A little ditching and a raised bed or two would do the trick very nicely. And if that area is sheltered from the north and fully exposed to the south, then you have hit the jackpot.

I ran across an important little item in a paper today. Researchers in Tokyo have found that garlic oil is made up of three substances, all containing significant amounts of anti-aggregation substances which act on platelets, disc-shaped blood particles. This means that garlic oils are very effective in preventing or alleviating thrombosis and other blood clot-related problems.

Nice to know that the old folk remedies have been proven right again, and that indeed, garlic will keep you healthy. It also keeps the carrot rust fly from the carrots and, I am sure, will keep other critters from other things. So grow


some garlic. It is good for you and good for your garden.

If we but trust nature, we will find that she will nourish, sustain and heal us, as she has done for so long for all things.

Rod and Gun executive named

A recent Rod and Gun Club meeting at Galiano Island saw Charlie Head elected president for the coming year and Fred Robson, vice-president.

Directors are Lloyd Baines, Ollie Garner, Doug Reynolds, Frank Basarab, Peter Denroche, Bill Neville and Gary Biggar. This executive will later name a secretary and treasurer from among themselves.



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BOOK REVIEW

Better the second time around

BY LOIS PHILLIPS
Marry Me, A Romance,
by John Updike.
Published by Alfred A. Knopf,
1976.

303 pages; available at the library.

I tricked myself on this book. Perhaps it was the cover: a fantastic fourth century Adam and Eve in stone - serpent, apple, fig leaves and all. I could hardly wait to delve into it; as soon as I had, I remembered having already read it. No matter; it was better the second time around.

Marry Me could be called a moral cliff-hanger. It takes you slowly and seductively from secret assignments through agonizing confrontations, permutations and commutations: a love rectangle.

Jerry says to Sally, "Marry me," but he is already married (to Ruth) and she is already married (to Richard) and Ruth is having an affair with Richard. Will she; won't she? You won't find out until page 292 and even then Updike seems loathe to end the dilemma

finally.

The couples are suburban and thirtyish. Jerry suffers from asthma and religious confusion; Sally has broadening hips and wrinkles from the sun; Richard is half blind and has a head too big; only Ruth seems removed from frailty.

The children of the marriages are secondary characters and Updike did not spend so much time in developing them. The wives shared maternity clothes, then husbands. Shortly, it comes down to Jerry, who is being shared because Ruth breaks off her affair with Richard. As a result, they are never found out, and all the attention focuses on Jerry and Sally after they are exposed. It becomes a desolate, staying-together-for-the-sake-of-the-kids situation.

Jerry who must make the final decision, is in my opinion spoiled and weak-willed, but Jerry himself attributes his vacillation to "the twilight of the old morality, and there's just enough to torment us,

and not enough to hold us in."

The author has phenomenal powers of description. With them, he weaves a rich background of emotions and social situations. Consider the following perfect analysis of human behaviour: "(after the secret was out) there was a fresh vivacity in the greetings from the group of mothers on the beach and singly they would stand beside her (Ruth) making moments of silence in case she wished to talk."

Master craftsman, he alternates simple subject-predicate sentences with complicated, clause-filled ones: "Whereas Jerry, defeated in his ambitions to become a 'name' cartoonist and immersed with their move to Greenwood, in the organic and the mediocre and the familial, suddenly dreaded death. Only religion helped."

There seems to be a rhythm like breathing or walking to Updike's writing which I find beautiful.



Art Show travels here from Vancouver

When the Vancouver Art Gallery sent over to Salt Spring Island a collection of paintings last week, a member of the gallery staff also came over.

The exhibition, *Colourfast*, was sponsored by the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council. It was brief. The presentation lasted two hours, but it was labelled successful almost from the opening time of 7:30 pm.

Marnie Fleming spent Tuesday evening last week explaining to visitors the meaning of the display and the relationship between the various offerings.

The mainland gallery sets up exhibitions in various parts of the province. It is a function of the city of Vancouver and the cost of the travelling exhibitions is borne out of provincial government grants.

The travelling historian was impressed with the response. Almost as soon as the show was opened visitors started to arrive, she noted. By mid-evening attendance had already reached a level beyond that experienced in many a larger community, she told *Driftwood*.

Picture shows Marnie Fleming during the evening's showing.

Local players participate in B.C. Lions Football Camp

Contributed

This past weekend two island boys participated in the 1981 B.C. Lions Development Football Camp for Vancouver Island, held at Royal Athletic Park in Victoria.

Trevor Tamboline and Tom Tranter were two of 19 chosen players representing the Cowichan Chiefs midget football team. Approximately 70 players from all over the island displayed their football skills Saturday and Sunday afternoons for scouts from Simon Fraser University, University of British Columbia and several U.S. universities.

The purpose of the camp was to improve Canadian football on Vancouver Island and to develop each player's individual skills. On

Sunday, about 15 outstanding participants were selected by the coaches to go to the main training camp held at Empire Stadium in Vancouver from April 13 - 18.

Playing as a defensive end, Trevor had a very successful camp and was chosen the most outstanding player for 1981, the first time a defensive lineman had received the award. Tom, playing fullback, also put forth a fine effort, scoring one touchdown and making many fine blocks during the final scrimmage.

Although Tom played well, only Grade 12 students were chosen to go to the final camp.

Inasmuch as Trevor and Tom have the added hardship of living on Salt Spring and training and playing on Vancouver Island, their success is highly noteworthy.

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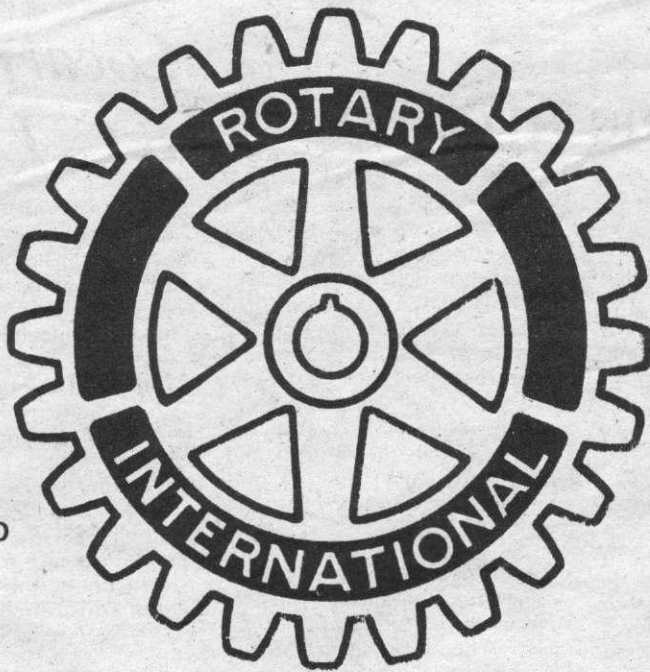
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The Salt Spring Island Rotary Club was chartered in 1969. Of the over 18,000 Rotary Clubs around the world, the Salt Spring Club is as proud of its accomplishments as any service club could possibly be.



Although small in numbers (30 active members), it makes up for its size with enthusiasm.

Over the years local Rotarians have actively contributed to world relief through the Rotary Foundation and Rotary International 3H programs (Health, Hunger and Humanity). Some \$11,000,000 was spent immunizing children in Third World countries during the International Year of the Child.

Funds were also directed to the barrios of Cebu City in the Phillipines, to disaster relief in Dominica and to a leprosy colony in New Guinea from the Salt Spring Rotarians.

Local projects have affected every islander in some way.

Through Youth Activities:

- Annual scholarship
- Annual citizenship program sends a student to Ottawa
- Sponsoring sporting events like soccer, and donation of equipment to Drummond Park.
- Annual RYLA program sends a student to a leadership course in Tacoma
- International Youth Exchange
- Interprovincial Youth Exchange

Through Community Activities:

- Neighbourhood Watch film
- Garbage containers for the village
- Annual cemetery clean-up
- Donation to Portlock Park
- Tennis backstop at Portlock Park

Through Health Activities:

- 2 cardiac monitors for the hospital
- Purchase of the Resusci-Ann for C.P.R. training
- Jaws of Life for the Fire Department
- Heart machine for hospital

Through Activities for Aged & Infirm:

- Christmas visit to hospital
- Annual firewood supply to Greenwoods
- Oxygen supply to a needy person for 2½ years
- Sponsored musical entertainment for pensioners

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