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TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR, NO. 8

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1983

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Gasoline price break sought

Three major oil companies have been urged to reduce the price of gasoline being charged on Salt Spring Island.

The island's chamber of commerce has written to Shell, Gulf and Imperial Oil to protest the refusal of those companies to sell their products to local dealers at prices similar to those offered on Vancouver Island.

Chamber president Dale Codd wrote that prices here are usually only slightly higher than in neighbouring communities. With the recent gas war on southern Vancouver Island, however, the difference in price has been close to 10 cents a litre.

One local dealer, said Codd, has recorded a 25% decrease in gas sales as a result of the price war.

Codd told *Driftwood* that local gas station operators have tried without success to get the oil companies to give price reductions so they can compete with off-island prices.

He has asked the companies to reduce their prices to local dealers for a period equal to that given to Vancouver Island stations. In the future he wants to see Salt Spring stations given the same price break as that given to nearby communities.

The chamber has also written to the federal government, islands MLA Hugh Curtis and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

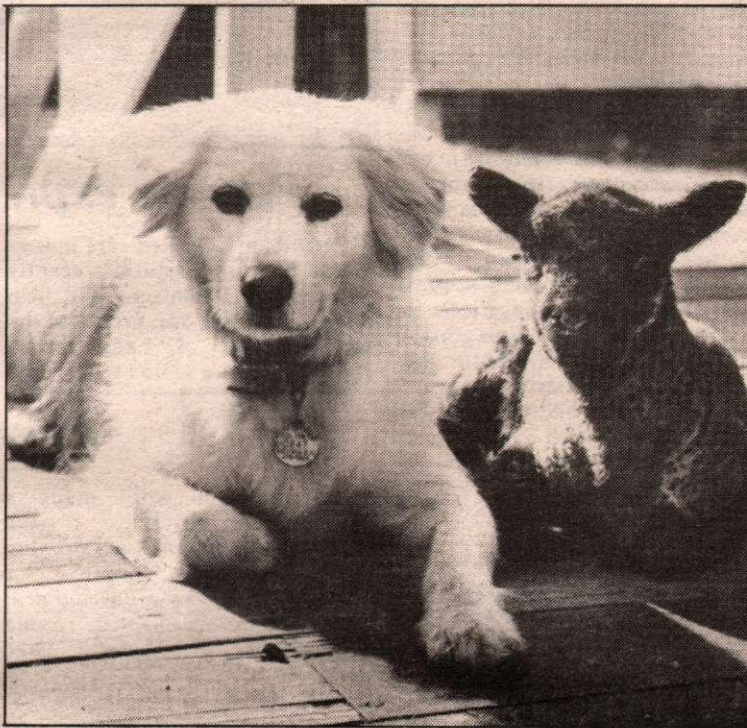
Drawings in hands of ministry

Construction of the new school at Fulford should begin soon.

The working drawings for the project recently received approval of the Fulford parents group and have been forwarded to the ministry of education for the final yes required for construction to start.

While at the ministry, the drawings will be checked by the Insurance Corporation of B.C. and the fire marshal's office among others. The process is expected to take about one month to complete.

When approval of the working drawings comes from all agencies concerned, the money for building will be released. The project is expected to cost more than \$1.5 million. The trustees are optimistic that the school will be ready for occupation by the end of the year.



Driftwood photos by Alice Richards

Sheep farmer's dream

Every sheep farmer's dream is probably a dog-sheep relationship such as this one. Lazing in the sun with trusting young lamb Calico is Pearl, who has likely never tasted Salt Spring lamb. The two are pets of Pat and Marlene Slingsby's family at Elizabeth Drive on Salt

Spring Island. At snack time, below, Tanya Slingsby bottle-feeds Calico as Pearl eyes Tanya's brother Aaron (missing from photo) with a view to a chase around the yard. Youngsters, not sheep, are for chasing as far as this dog is concerned.



Musgrave Landing plan draws protest

Proposal to develop 600 acres at Musgrave Landing by strata title met with strong opposition at the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee meeting on Wednesday afternoon last week in the Harbour House Hotel.

The proposal calls for 30 lots on the waterfront, overlooking Satellite Channel, with the remainder of the land under covenant prohibiting development.

Trustees were told that the main access to the property is by water, although the property is served by a road of very poor quality.

"There is a marginal dirt road for about five miles," reported planner Richard McKellar. "At present it is the type of road local residents want."

He also noted that the property is ecologically sensitive and includes one of the last stands of virgin timber on the island.

Owner of the neighbouring property, Dr. R. P. Makaroff, expressed his strong objection to the development.

Relaxation of the regulations for one subdivision could open up the field for others, he warned.

The property is presently zoned for a minimum lot size of 20 acres and the 600 acres is divisible into 30 large lots.

PLAN NOTHING

Makaroff explained that he and his wife own 393 acres. They plan nothing on their property which

might challenge the ecology.

"We are haunted by the spectre of a rash of inappropriate subdivisions placing a burden on an inadequate

Turn to Page 2

Office expansion planned

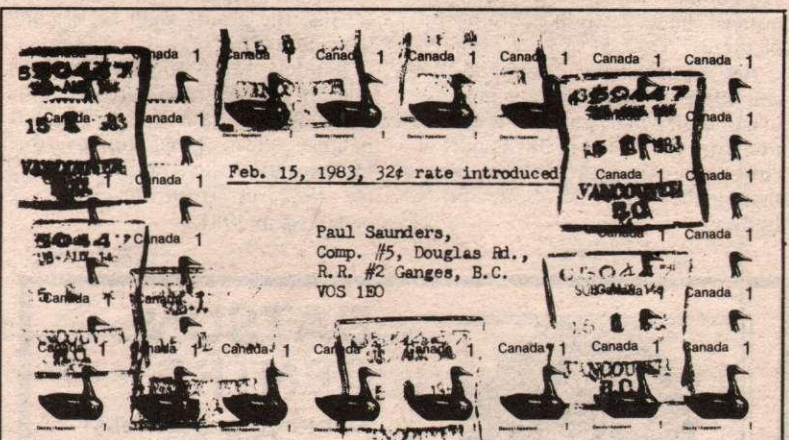
Gulf Islands School Board office has become crowded and school trustees are considering expansion of the facility.

Trustees at the board meeting last week approved expenditure of \$250 to develop working drawings for an addition to the building. The extra space would contain two offices and a storage area.

The proposed addition would require removing the wall between the offices of the secretary-treasurer and the supervisor of instruction. New walls would be built for the offices, creating a corridor between leading to the addition.

The new office space would be on the west side of the building near the tennis courts.

The trustees had earlier approved \$23,000 in the capital works budget for the proposed expansion.



Well-stamped envelope is rate hike protest

A Vancouver man who has been corresponding with a Salt Spring Island resident has found a unique way of protesting the latest increase in postal rates.

Paul Saunders, Douglas Road, received two envelopes from Vancouver last week, each bearing 32 one-cent stamps. With each one the post office was required to use a cancellation

stamp eight times to ensure that each postage stamp was cancelled.

Ganges postmaster Fred Smidt-Nielsen told *Driftwood* that as far as he knew, both pieces of mail met Canada Post standards.

The sender was protesting the new first-class rate of 32 cents, which took effect February 15.

Library's growth sparks formation of advisory, planning committee

Growth at the Mary Hawkins Memorial Library on Salt Spring has brought problems to the board of directors, but the problems are positive in nature.

Library board chairman Bob Robertson outlined the positive problems to the annual meeting last week, and gained approval for creation of an advisory planning committee to seek solutions.

The library has seen membership double to 1,764 members in the past five years. During that same period, book circulation, which by 1982 stood at 50,500, went up 67%. The stock of books went up 20% to count 16,200 volumes at the end of last year.

"No other library in Canada," noted Robertson, "serves the needs

of a population as large as ours without public funding."

That distinction comes through operating the library on a volunteer basis, he said. The volunteers work a two-hour shift and the circulation last year meant that in each hour of work, the volunteers processed 40 books in and 40 out.

The library benefits from the work of 56 volunteers who carry out such functions as selecting the books, registering new members, checking books in and out and repairing books which need attention.

The problems, said Robertson, "are important enough that they must be faced and decisions taken in the not-too-distant future."

The solution decided upon by the board of directors is to create a library advisory and planning committee.

"In this way," said Robertson, "any changes which may be considered necessary can be carefully considered, planned and undertaken in a smooth and orderly fashion."

The committee would be composed of persons having library experience but who are outside the library organization and "who can

independently consider its growth in association with the growth and future needs of Salt Spring Island," noted Robertson.

The committee will initially be made up of five residents of the island and the term of office will be decided by the board of directors. If more members are needed, they will be added with board approval.

The chairman of the board of directors will sit on the committee as ex-officio member.

Don Kertland has been given the task of setting up the committee and being its chairman through the formative stages.

The committee will be charged with looking at plans for expansion of the facility as well as book purchasing policies. The members will also offer advice to the board on investment of funds.

Other areas at which the committee will look include the pros and cons of obtaining the services of a paid librarian and how automation would fit into the operations of the library.

The committee will report to the board and a written summary of activities would be available to membership in the library at each annual meeting.



Patients express appreciation

Patients in extended care unit at Lady Minto Hospital recently thanked the volunteers who help them. Clara Bell, left, presented the past-president of Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary, Ethel

Davidson, with a bouquet in appreciation of efforts to help the patients. The luncheon was held in the lounge of the extended care wing of the hospital.

Two are new to board

With two new members, the board of directors of the Salt Spring Library Association begins another year of operations.

At the 23rd annual meeting last week the election of officers took place. Newcomers to the board are Norma Brown and Merle Sheffield, who join Norma Keech and Mildred Mitchell, who were re-elected.

Other members of the board are Bob Robertson, board chairman; Don Kertland, treasurer; and Margaret Macdonald, volunteer co-ordinator.

The newcomers, Brown and Sheffield, replace Betty Carroll who stepped aside and Biz Stratton who could not seek re-election in line with the constitution of the association, which prohibits consecutive terms.

The results of balloting were held up when the scrutineers counted a tie vote for the positions. Chairman Robertson gained agreement from the candidates to decide the tie on a flip of a coin.

When he returned to the meeting to announce the successful candidates, he said, "I hope you noticed the white smoke coming out of there."

An appropriate comment for candidates who, chosen at a meeting in a church will be governing affairs, not from the Vatican, but as part of the seven-member board of management for the Salt Spring library.

Library in good shape due to grants and gifts

The Salt Spring library is in good financial shape due to government grants and gifts from island residents.

The library association held its annual meeting last week and the treasurer's report showed a surplus on the operating expenses for 1982 of \$4,376.63, up from the surplus of \$3,504.93 for the previous year.

The income of the Mary Hawkins Memorial Library for the year stood at \$28,771.26 with the largest increase in income coming from grants from the provincial government.

The library had been receiving grants from the government, \$3.20 per resident of the island, based on the 1976 census. With the new population figures from the 1981 census, the grants went to \$19,469 from \$12,415.

Readers who took their time reading books and brought the volumes back late also helped the balance sheet. Fines for overdue books netted the library \$1,279.12 for 1982, up from the \$1,176.25 collected in 1981.

The balance sheet for the library showed increases as well. George Wells, a long-time supporter of the library who died recently, left the library \$23,000 in his will. Part of the legacy has been received and invested.

The library shows assets and liabilities for 1982 of \$151,531.19, an increase over the \$130,179.86 which the 1981 balance sheet showed.

Correction

One missing word made a considerable difference to the meaning of a sentence in a story on Page 1 last week.

The story about a development project being undertaken by Texada Logging in the Maxwell Lake watershed contained a reference to Texada selling its property in that

area.

Company spokesman Frank Rainsford was quoted as saying that Texada Logging was interested in selling the property.

The missing word was "not". The sentence should have read that the company was not interested in selling.

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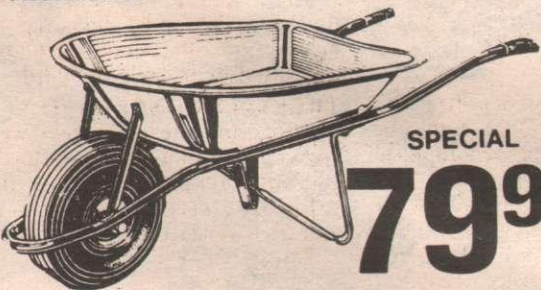


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That was some steno!

Advertisement in somebody else's paper: for sale, large oak stenographers' desk. I'd surely like to meet her!

What about Clark and Chretien?

I was talking to a Conservative: one that still talks to me. We came up with the same answers. The next Tory leader should, in fairness and good British cricket, be Joe. No longer do we have to ask, who? One day the long-term Liberal leader will step down and a lot of Liberals will be busy counting "Eeny meeny miny mo..." to make sure the next leader is an anglophone. We settled the matter without blows. Let's forget the altercation and settle for Jean Chretien. It would be an interesting national election that brought Clark and Chretien into the field of battle as leaders of the two parties. Oddly enough, neither the Tory leaders nor the Liberal administrators were listening to our brilliant conversation.

What a stamp!

I was also talking to a flatterer. That's a man who collects stamps. He was busy examining the Canadian tribute to the Commonwealth. In case you didn't know, it's a snappy little sticky stamp worth \$2 a shot. Now, Canada does not engage in the manufacture of stamps solely for the delectation of the collector and thus the profit of the issuing authority. It is not a proper conduct of postal services. And if Canada doesn't descend to such practices, then why would the post office celebrate Commonwealth Day with a two-buck stamp? There is nowhere in the Commonwealth which requires a \$2 stamp on a first class letter. So the Canadian letter-writer who wants to use a significant stamp in his overseas communications must pay three times the normal postage to get his letter to its destination. Or is the stamp issued as a half-hearted tribute to the Commonwealth and the introduction of a new policy of stamp-trading? My philophobic friend expressed eagerness to see what the post office might do with the issue of a stamp commemorating francophilia. Will it, also, be of an absurd denomination, he asked. His leer suggested that he does not expect it to be. Mind you, I'm not suggesting that an anglophonic gesture is necessarily francophobic. And perish the thought that any of mine might be! Or of his!

Cutting shakes and splitting costs

There was a furore over the daily allowance made to Donald McDonald as a reward for his enquiries into the high cost of being a Canadian. The initial announcement of \$800 a day was watered down by the prime minister to represent \$400 to the commissioner and \$400 to the cost of accommodation and office expenses. But \$400 is a lot of money to spend every day on this kind of enquiry, urged the critics. Last week Jack Webster, the Scots voice of Salt Spring Island, was busy debating the earning of a daily stipend of \$250 cutting shingles and shakes. We're getting dangerously close to the Victorian condition of looking at the stars. I'm thinking of the time when Queen Victoria paid a royal visit to the Greenwich Observatory. At the conclusion of her tour she asked the Royal Astronomer what salary he received. She was horrified to learn that he earned a hundred pounds a year. She was about to make sure he was given a rise in pay, she assured him. But he begged off. Please, no increase in pay, he pleaded. If the rate went up everyone would want the job. As long as the pay was pitiful only an astronomer would take the appointment, he told her. He worked all his life for that hundred pounds annually. The same thinking might be appropriate in some areas even today, a century later.

You can argue both ways!

East and west argue best. It's the same the whole continent over. Here we see a constant jostling for position between Ontario and Quebec and the western nation. In the United States they face the same geographical distribution of voters. The west is conservative and the east is liberal. Yet, there is the Crow's Nest to gnaw at the politicians' vitals on this side of the line while to the south they haul wheat without hindrance. But this picture of east and west was borne out in the list of new cars published in the American car buff's magazine, Road and Track. A European import is listed as \$49,827 in the east and \$50,108 in the west. The unfortunate pauper who elects to spend his \$50,000 on a car from Europe must pay the differential if he lives in the west. Yet there is no Japanese car listed at a lower price in the west than in the east. This is an aspect of living north of the line that can become galling. The European car, like the Ontario car, picks up value as it is hauled over thousands of miles of road or rail. Yet, there has never been any suggestion that the Japanese import should be several hundred dollars cheaper on the west coast due to the saving in hauling it overland. But the north-south debate then arises. Why is a car or a camera or a radio or whatever, made in the far east and brought to North America automatically cheaper in the United States than in Canada? If the picture never changes I just won't pay \$50,108 (US) for that \$49,827 (US) car from Europe!

Long tune and a short life

All the gals in the henhouse can boogie. That's where the work is done at Driftwood. And there's a strong feminine touch about the place. But that wasn't always the case. As Anne Lyon explained, she's known the word all her life. It's a short life. Oxford, written in 1933 and amended to 1955, didn't know boogie. It arose from an advertisement in another paper listed up in the Thorndike Barnhart of the same period, but not in Oxford. Must be some kind of intellectual snobbery. But boogie woogie was a form of music from the jazz age. Then the woogie went and only the boogie remained. Together they were a form of instrumental blues characterized by bass obligato contrasting with melodic variations. Separately, another matter. But don't confuse boogie with bogy. That's the devil! In fact, the bogy man was one to fear and from which to hide, yet the boogie man was a warm singer of blues. And the bogy man was the fellow who checked the wheels to make sure you got around the tracks. How did I get into all this?

CUPE objects to school closings

There is unrest in the ranks of the employees of the Gulf Islands School District as a result of the province's restraint program.

The school staff workers, members of Local 788 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, have expressed their displeasure at losing six days' pay as a result of school closings later in the year.

The ministry of education allowed the school board to close the schools and not pay the workers or teachers for those days as a means of reducing costs.

In a letter to the school board, CUPE secretary Dorothy Kyle outlined the concern of the union over the proposed layoffs.

"Local 788 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Ganges, B.C., wish to go on record as objecting to the six-day layoff imposed on our members, as a result of the effect of Bill 89 on the teaching staff of School District No. 64," she told the trustees in the letter.

The interpretation of the act stated that employee means a teacher and any other employee of a school district who is not covered by a collective agreement, she noted.

SHOULD BE EXEMPT

"As you are aware Local 788 is covered by a collective agreement, and therefore should be exempt from being penalized in this manner," the letter concluded.

John Zacharias, school board chairman, said the matter had been dealt with at a meeting of the labour-management committee and an agreement had been reached on the days-off issue.

The teachers, members of the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, on the other hand, are upset at other aspects of financing.

Mike Hayes, former president of the group, sent a letter notifying the trustees of several motions adopted by a general meeting of GITA. The teachers urged the school board "to submit a budget consistent with the needs of the district and not the requirements of the ministry of education."

Zacharias said at last week's board meeting that the budget limit imposed by the ministry of education allowed the district to work comfortably.

"We're not talking about good times now," said Zacharias in defense of the limited budget submitted by the school board.

TRUSTEES CONCERNED

He said the trustees were concerned about the minister of education's expressed opinion that school districts with high administration costs were

inefficient. He pointed out that the minister could close the school district if the budget was out of line with ministry expectations.

Hayes also noted in the letter that GITA "will not agree to any contract concessions in 1983."

The statement, he told Driftwood, was aimed as much at the school board as at ministry officials who could reduce the money coming to the district this year.

In line with that statement, the letter also noted "that in the event that any teacher in District 64 receives a termination notice or any temporary teacher's contract is not renewed as a result of budget shortfalls in 1983, an emergency general meeting be called to endorse a relevant action plan."

Hayes said the statement was purposely vague to give room for negotiations with the board in the event of teachers being laid off. The "relevant action plan" could go as far as strike action, he said.

SUPERVISION AN ISSUE

Members of GITA are also upset over the issue of bus and noon-hour supervision. The issue had been

settled last year with an agreement between the teachers and the school board which called for aides to take over the task.

When budget restraint was announced last spring, the teachers again became responsible for the supervisory chores. They agreed to take the job until the end of last year to save money for the board.


The unrest comes now that the new budget has been set and no provisions are apparent for the hiring of aides for the supervisory duties.

"Please take this letter as notice that GITA will be initiating a unilateral Learning and Working Conditions Grievance on the issue of non-implementation of the bus and noon hour supervision policy."

The school board policy on the matter states that no teacher should be involved in the supervision of pupils at noon hour or on the buses.

"We urge the board to budget sufficient funds in its 1983 operating budget to activate this policy to avoid an unnecessary clash on this issue."

The matter was turned over to committee to be worked out within the budgetary guidelines.



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7-2

Two omitted

List of honour roll students at Gulf Islands Secondary School was incomplete last week.

The names of two Grade 12 students were inadvertently omitted. They are Ingrid Temmel and George Woernle.

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SECOND CLASS MAIL REGISTRATION NO. 0803

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1983

Little concern for water

Preservation of potable water sources is not among the great accomplishments of the provincial government in the past. The province, seen as a continuing administration down the years, has been careless and indifferent towards the protection of drinking water. There are two protected watersheds in the southwestern corner of the province. The people of Victoria and Vancouver, good solid voters all, enjoy protected water sources.

Other lakes and sources in the province have been used for many years in other communities but the governments have shown little concern with protecting quality.

On Salt Spring Island the only help offered to preserve the Maxwell Lake watershed has come from Hugh Curtis, finance minister and local member of the legislature. The government has not been prepared to spend public money on protecting public water.

The water consumers of Salt Spring Island will watch with some interest the disposition of plans for a new Squamish highway through the Vancouver watershed. If the proposal is dismissed as a threat to water supplies, then the people of Salt Spring Island will know that they are being shafted. If, on the other hand, the government agrees to open up the watershed and push through a road, then the people of Salt Spring Island will have clear evidence that the province couldn't care less what goes on in any area devoted to the accumulation of good, clean water.

Concerns resolved

Mary Williamson has finally won a favourable vote from the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee. After a series of green lights and red lights from the Advisory Planning Commission and the Trust Committee, the would-be restaurateur last week gained what appeared to be final approval of her plans for a take-out food service at Central.

In the past the Trust has shown an acute concern for the effect of increasing volumes of sewage on the water of St. Mary Lake. Their concerns in that direction have been finally resolved with the health inspector's demand for a holding tank.

The need for cycle paths

On July 21, 1982, a Vancouver cyclist died on the side of the road on Galiano Island. She had apparently been thrown from her bicycle due to the poor condition of the road and had lain, unconscious, until a car struck her.

In October Coroner Hugh Ross called the attention of the ministry of highways to the need for cycle paths in the islands. He urged the B.C. Ferry Corporation to let cyclists off the ferries after motor vehicles were despatched and he asked for close supervision of cyclists by the RCMP.

The fact that it proved impossible to adopt most of the coroner's recommendations is unfortunate.

We don't have to wait for death. It strikes too often already on island roads when tourists are inveigled into a cycling holiday in the islands. But we have to wait for the government.

It would be absurd to expect support for cycle paths from the government at this time. But it would be very reasonable to expect some intelligent comment from Victoria. The coroner and other responsible people in the islands have asked for cycle paths as a measure to prolong the lives of tourists. Surely it is not unreasonable to expect some concern for human life among members of the legislature?

We, the coroner and the people of the islands, are entitled to a reply. Even if the minister were to reply explaining that we are all woefully uninformed and that he cannot recognize a need, we would know where we are going. Right now, it doesn't look as if we are going anywhere on cycle paths.



Tony Richards

ARE EXHAUST FUMES posing a threat to air quality in Fulford Harbour?

Yes, but only when a certain commuter decides to burn off excess gasoline.

The unfortunate young lady boarded the Fulford-Swartz Bay ferry last week and realized, minutes after the ferry sailed, that she'd left her car running.

The captain had to refuse her request to return to the dock, so she sailed to Swartz Bay and back again. Returning to her car, she found that some kind soul had shut her engine off for her.

She went back on the ferry to make the crossing a third time.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS that may have wondered why their advertising was changed when reference was made to the sale of liquor will wonder no more. Until very recently, the law made it clear that no one could advertise that liquor would be available at wine and cheese parties, beer gardens, dances and other events.

We're moving out of the dark ages, was one comment made following the change. And it's about time too.

The only stipulation with the change is that the advertiser must be incorporated under the Societies Act as a non-profit organization.

A LOCAL RETAILER made a very good attempt at scaring off a customer last week.

The store owner was relating to me his opening-night impressions of the Salt Spring Players' production of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*.

He wasn't speaking loudly as he described a conversation that takes place near the beginning of the play. That is, he wasn't until a customer approached the counter. As he moved over to serve him, he raised his voice slightly.

I'm certain that the only words of the conversation which the customer caught were "sexual intercourse".

He left without saying a word.

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU'D CALL planned obsolescence, because it was obsolete when I bought it. But I'm sure there must be someone in business in the islands who could use my Radio Shack payroll program.

This cassette-operated program would be a boon to the employer who likes to delay paycheques for a few days. Say you've got some cash flow problems and the money won't be in the bank until three or four days after payday.

If you're in that position, you need this software. On payday, or even the day before for that matter, you can set it up to prepare the payroll.

The thing is so slow that it won't have the figures ready for days.

Or perhaps you're a bit old-fashioned and prefer the deduction amounts that were used back in 1979. Your employees would certainly like you for it, because this four-year-old software doesn't take such big chunks out of the paycheques as are taken out today.

There's only one minor problem. The program will only load successfully about 25% of the time. Half the time it doesn't load at all, and the other 25% it comes up on the screen as a garbled mess.

THE HIGHLY-ACCLAIMED German movie about a submarine in the second world war was the Cinema Club showing at Central Hall Monday evening.

The club suggested to its members that German dishes would be appropriate for the potluck supper that would accompany the screening of *Das Boot*.

One member decided to ignore the suggestion and instead took -- what else? -- submarine sandwiches.

LOOKING FOR A GOOD BAND? On Salt Spring you needn't look too far because there are several stagefuls.

One that is steadily improving (and they were so good a year ago I didn't think they could get any better) is Clubb Mongo.

In addition to excellent music, they've always got a few gimmicks to enhance their show, such as their latest act which includes a robot.

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Letters to the Editor

Now is time to prepare for cyclists

Sir,

I note, six months later, that the coroner has at last issued a report on the tragic death of my friend on a Galiano highway. I remember also a friend who was severely injured two weeks earlier on a Salt Spring Island highway. Both individuals were enjoying a well earned rest on a safe rustic island refuge. I look around to see what we have learnt from these accidents.

It was thought that perhaps some reminder of the dangers of cycling on the islands should be posted close to the ferry exits. Instead, on Galiano, I see a bright new notice advertising the presence of the "Lions", to what purpose I do not know. I would have thought a group

such as the Lions would have been one of the leaders in promoting traffic safety instead.

A single new sign signalling "Limited Visibility" is the highways' only response, on a lengthy narrow road with many blind corners and areas of poor visibility. The ferry did sporadically warn cyclists to ride carefully for a month or so last summer, but has long since discontinued the practice. Will they be issuing warnings in the future?

There was never to my knowledge any attempt to request cyclists to leave after the motor traffic. The coroner has recommended a surrealistic scenario of checking that cyclists are not overloaded or ill-equipped as they arrive on the

island and presumably the police have been recommended to turn back riders too heavily loaded - or with improper equipment.

I can just imagine the riots when overloaded cyclists are turned back on to the ferry and not allowed access to the islands. Would it not be far better to have the local islands organizations contact mainland school boards, media, and cycling organizations and ask them to properly educate the cyclists before they plan trips to the islands? Should not there be warnings at the mainland terminals, that safe cycling equipment should be boarded on the ferries.

I am hoping that plans of this kind are afoot since in a month or so the cyclists will be back again in their hundreds. The school parties will be weaving back and forth across white lines and careening out of control down steep hills.

We have been given ample warning that our island roads are dangerous, and we should be planning that the coming summer would be much safer for our guests. If we wait for cycle lanes, we may all have grey hair.

KEVIN R. NOLAN,
Galiano Island.

February 11, 1983.

Minister deserves holiday

Sir,

The column written by Nicole Parton expresses a point of view and sentiments favouring teachers. The minister of education has come in for criticism just as the teachers have.

He also seems to me to be the man most fitted to the job. He was a man that they couldn't push around. He met them face to face on all the issues and I believe that the teachers were treated fairly in comparison with all the difficulties others are having.

He deserves a holiday in Hawaii.

B.C. Ferry workers can afford to go there - why not the minister of education also?

Another thing - what would be wrong with Mr. Vander Zalm teaching in the classroom for a couple of days. So should the minister of forestry go out and set chokers or fall a tree. Nothing like getting the first-hand experience, so as to be able to understand teachers' point of view.

GEOFF HOWLAND,
Ganges.

February, 1983.

It's a sorry spectacle

Sir,

Until recently, Canada was an independent nation pursuing a nuclear-free policy, a policy that most Canadians were proud of. Now, we are seeing the sorry spectacle of our government participating in President Reagan's first-strike, nuclear war policies.

The Cruise missile agreement, signed in Washington, D.C. without even a representative of the press in attendance, allows the United States Airforce to test its missiles - specifically designed to carry nuclear warheads - in our land.

In having our Canadian Ambassador sign this most crucial

document in a secret manner, the Liberal government is showing its complete disregard for parliament, and the democratic procedure. Canadians may well wonder if we are selling our proud heritage for a few defence contracts.

Is our present financial situation so desperate that we will have to continue to co-operate with "Reagan-atomics" no matter how misguided these policies are? Our forefathers would never believe that we could "sell the farm" so easily with so little protest.

WILLIAM S. PATERSON,
Box 135, Galiano Island.

February 14, 1983.

Imposing views on everyone

Sir,

The attempt to erode individual freedom by groups such as the Pro-Lifers is of concern to me. Groups such as this one want to impose their views on everyone - individual choice and the ability to think for oneself are considered of no importance.

For some, abortion is an emotionally charged issue. Others, however, have earned an awareness of life that goes beyond the limits of this physical world. We know that, as Soul, we enter a physical body after a chosen body separates from the mother - after birth. This awareness is everyone's birthright. It is up to the individual, however, to choose to prove it for oneself.

I am simply saying that we should have the freedom to choose whether or not we want an abortion. For individuals interested in insights on the processes called birth and death, and the shouldering of individual responsibility, I recommend

Consciousness, the Key to Life by Darwin Gross.

"Soul uses the physical body to exist in this coarser vibration. If one physical body is not used by a particular soul, it will use another."

CAROLE PUNT,
Box 194, Nanaimo.

February 12, 1983.

Try taxpayer instead

Sir,

We hear a lot these days about what "the government" is doing to and for "the people".

I have a suggestion. Every time you read the word "government", replace it with the word "taxpayer". Try it. You may or may not like it.

DAVID J. WESTON,
1371 Discovery Ave.,
Nanaimo.

February 8, 1983.

Replacement needed for tour

Sir,

Perhaps you have heard of me and my nation-wide campaign in the cause of temperance. Each year for the past 15 I have made a tour of Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia delivering a series of lectures on the evils of drinking.

On this tour, I have been accompanied by my young friend Clyde Linstrom. Clyde, a young man of good family and excellent background, is a pathetic example of a life ruined by excessive indulgence in women and whisky.

Clyde would appear with me at the lectures and sit on the platform

drunk, wheezing, staring at the audience through bleary and bloodshot eyes, sweating profusely, picking his nose, passing gas and making obscene gestures, which I point out as an example of what over-indulgence can do to a person.

This winter, unfortunately, Clyde died. In order for me to continue my '83-'84 tour I must find someone to take Clyde's place. Interested parties please reply to the undersigned.

REV. ROBERT "SALVATION" McCULLY,
Box 91, Reynolds Rd.,
Fullford Harbour.
February 17, 1983.

Figures found puzzling

Sir,

When I first read the school budget figures in last week's *Driftwood* it struck me only as a series of depressingly large numbers. A few days later I re-read the article and did a few mental calculations. The results were so startling I sat down to do some long (very long) division.

After all the news about the teachers' salaries and Mr. Vander Zalm's continuing tirade on their selfishness I found that, although the budget has increased 7.2%, teachers' salaries are only up 2.5%.

But the real surprise was that the administration account is increased by 20% including administration salaries which are up 30.2% (yes, the decimal point is in the right place).

With the elimination of teachers'

aides, failure to replace teachers on leaves of absence and other staff cutbacks there should be fewer people to administer to.

I'm puzzled....

NICKI CAMERON,
R.R. 1, Ganges.
February 18, 1983.

\$\$\$ U.S.

premium

20¢

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



Bill Webster

One murder is too many

Ten Days for World Development exists as one of the many channels through which citizens of this earth can express their concerns.

Recently *Driftwood* published a two-part look at the efforts of the Salt Spring group. The first instalment offered a brief history of the actions of the group while the second part looked at what is being done this year.

That the efforts of the group now extend year-round rates commendation, but a letter to the editor earlier this month gives pause for reflections.

David Reid wrote "to make two corrections to Bill Webster's article..." In the ordinat course of events, letters to the editor require no answer, but Reid made a couple of statements which have caused me to recheck the information which he supplied for the article.

He said that the governments of El Salvador and Guatemala, but not Honduras, should be condemned for violations of human rights. That phrase, violations of human rights, is an antiseptic way of saying people are being murdered by their leaders.

People die because they oppose, in whatever fashion, the efforts of the governments.

The Ten Days campaign this year consisted of writing letters. The letters were to go to leaders of our government urging them

to protest the actions of other governments.

To aid those who would write letters, the Salt Spring Ten Days Committee handed out a sheet of paper listing the points which should be covered. One item reads:

"d) express concern with the government of Honduras for the increasing human rights violations in that country and for their support for destabilizing activities against the government of Nicaragua..."

In a letter which Reid wrote to local MP Jim Manly, he said, in part, "We are concerned about the arms build-up in Honduras..."

Part of the package supplied by Reid for the article on the Ten Days efforts this year was a pamphlet, *Central America Update*, which offered an overview of conditions in Central America.

In the section labelled Honduras the following information appeared.

"The Honduras Human Rights Defense Committee has expressed great concern over the deteriorating status of human rights in the country. While an investigation was called following the discovery of three clandestine cemeteries on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, no results have been produced."

Later in the same article, "The body of a student...was found

with signs of torture 12 days after his arrest in October."

A university professor had been murdered outside his home and two youths with him at the time were abducted. The situation in the country has the Catholic bishops concerned.

But Reid claims the protests should be directed at El Salvador and Guatemala "for some of the worst violations of human rights the world has known."

A recent article in a daily newspaper stated that 2 million people around the world in the past 15 years have been killed by governments. Honduras was listed along with the two governments against which Reid urges protest.

If we are to protest various governments and their actions based on the degree of violations, then I for one want no part of it. A murder is so final and just one person suffering such a fate at the hands of government is far too many.

Protest, certainly. Write to the Canadian government urging action, but don't pick and choose targets.

To quote from a speech by Martin Luther King, also supplied by Reid: "A true revolution of values will soon cause us to question the fairness and justice of many of our past and present policies."

Practical, possible solutions

Sir,

In reading about Maxwell Lake and the land surrounding it, or any watershed area, I think restrictive covenants could be placed where residences are placed in such an area.

Also, as septic tank disposal is one of the chief areas of concern, why not have holding tanks installed within a watershed, then it would be perfectly safe and people could make use of the land.

Another way would be to install a community field away from the lake area drainage.

These things are practical and possible.

GEOFF HOWLAND,
Ganges,
February, 1983.

Showing his age

Sir,

Tony Richards, you are really beginning to show your age when you admit to plugging your ears against the loud music while at Richards on Richards in Vancouver. Perhaps you will soon be old-time dancing with the rest of us seniors and near seniors on Salt Spring!

You also admitted to stealing when leaving the above establishment. What an example to set for the young folks. Teh! Teh!

J. BENNETT,
Dukes Rd.,
Ganges.

February 21, 1983.

Zone festival here in April

Sir,

Theatre B.C., which celebrated its 50th Anniversary last year with a play commissioned from Eric Nicol (acted largely by a Salt Spring Island cast), sponsors an Annual Drama Festival. We belong to the South Island Zone, and this year the zone festival will once again be held on Salt Spring Island.

Few of us will forget the excitement and enthusiasm generated by this event in 1978, and it is greatly to our credit to be able to host this event again.

Most islanders plan their activities well in advance, so I am taking this opportunity of drawing your and their attention to the week of April 5 through 9, so that all calendars may be marked in good time.

As further details become available, they will be well advertised in *Driftwood*.

Thank you for your co-operation.
CATHERINE FAULKNER,
Festival Chairperson,
Box 661, Ganges,
February 19, 1983.

They depend on community

Sir,

It is my pleasure to write on behalf of the Salt Spring Island Community Planning Association to thank all those who kindly donated to the work of the Association at our recent Annual General Meeting.

As you know, this is a purely voluntary organization which depends on gifts from the community it strives to serve.

If any readers were unable to

attend on February 9, we would be glad to receive further donations at the address below.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our gratitude, and to draw attention to the fact that we do have operating expenses which can only be met in this way.

JUDY RIPLEY,
Correspondence Secretary,
Box 12,
Ganges,
February 18, 1983.

More Letters to the Editor

Fun was put back into fund-raising

Sir,

The economy is in disastrous shape, but the hearts of Salt Spring Islanders are doing just fine, thank you.

The auction and dance held February 12 for the benefit of the art program and cultural activities in Salt Spring Elementary attracted a lively crowd. Bidding was spirited and friendly, and the grand total from the 60 items auctioned exceeded \$1,700. Ticket, beverage and food sales added up, and when expenses were paid, profits were well over \$2,000!

Thanks are due to everyone involved with the evening, notably the Salt Spring Elementary parents who, individually or through their businesses, donated goods, services or their time. You are too numerous

to mention!

A few generous contributions, though, deserve special recognition. There were donations from people with no children in our school, from people with children attending other schools, from organizations and businesses not specifically associated with the school, and a very sizable donation from the Community Arts Council.

And there were donations from children themselves: thank you, Abba Skye and Kim Jensen. Delivering flowers by bicycle, splitting and stacking a cord of wood - were terrific and imaginative services to offer!

In addition, a number of S.S.E. teachers worked to help make the evening a success: Tom Watson with the bar, Wilf Davies with the music,

Only one fault in play

Sir,

Tonight I spent an evening at Mahon Hall being thoroughly entertained by the very talented Salt Spring Players production of *The Prime Of Miss Jean Brodie*. I hope the actors enjoyed giving this "theatre in the round" production as much as I enjoyed watching.

I can well imagine the dedication, self-discipline and hard work that each member of the production has endured to continue these delightful plays.

The only fault in the whole evening was the interruptions of an infant in the audience. I only hope that other parents would take note and hire a babysitter. These actors work too hard to deserve anything

but an attentive audience.

Perhaps the Players should consider charging for infants so that parents would be discouraged from bringing them until they can appreciate these finer things of our community.

However, to end on a positive note, well done Salt Spring Players - again!!

R.M. SLOAN,
Ganges,
February 18, 1983.

Misconceptions could have been dispelled

Open letter to Hugh Borseman:

We are sorry you did not meet with us prior to the preparation of your articles. Perhaps we could have dispelled your many misconceptions as to:

1. Whom we represent
2. What we have and have not been responsible for and
3. What our research indicates are viable methods of waste disposal.

May we assure you that we remain willing to co-operate in any effort that seeks a rational, democratic solution to the problem and that restores respect for divergent viewpoints within our community.

SHARON MCCOLLOUGH,
for Sewer Alternatives Committee,
General Delivery,
Ganges,
February 18, 1983.

Antagonistic, divisive attack

Sir,

We are disappointed that your newspaper would print Dr. Hugh Borsman's abuse, antagonistic and divisive attack on the many responsible members and supporters of the SAC.

Hugh, please be advised that we are strong supporters of a less costly and more environmentally sound system of waste treatment than that being proposed by the "Big Sewer" advocates.

We also feel that you have disqualified yourself from future participation in the Citizens' Committee by your bias and disrespect for those who represent and support viewpoints different from yours.

PHIL AND MARYANN HUME,
Scott Point Drive, Ganges,
February 17, 1983.

Dinner a disaster

Sir,

To whom it may concern: I know I am going to get a lot of flack over what I have to say concerning the nicotine addict.

I was having a very nice Valentine dinner at a certain eating house in Ganges with my date, both of us non-smokers. I quit this filthy habit years ago, thus added a few more years to my life. Some donkey smoking a pipe had to invade my meal area, thus the air I breathed was polluted to such an extent that our dinner became a disaster.

We couldn't stay without an incident so we left and never again will we eat at these premises.

BOB CREAMER,
Ganges,
February 15, 1983.

Organizational meeting Thursday

Sir,

The continuing debate over the sewage problem in Ganges is a particular concern to the ratepayers and residents of the proposed sewer area. It is, after all, these individuals who will pay for the solution, whatever it might be.

Because of this particular concern, many residents of the area have expressed a desire to establish a formal group to represent their interests.

To this end, an organizational

meeting will be held on Thursday, Feb. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Elementary School Library. Anyone resident or owning property in the area of the proposed sewer is invited to attend.

MICHAEL HAYES,
Acting Chairman,
Ganges Proposed Sewer
Area Ratepayers,
R. R. 3,
Ganges,
February 21, 1983.

Trust is stumbling block

Sir,

On February 11 approximately 110 Galiano residents gathered at the South Galiano Hall at the request of the Islands Trust.

Truly one must ask why this meeting and why more of those off-islanders chairing and voting on Galiano matters. If you can't do a better job, fellows, then please stay home.

Why weren't the zoning applications dealt with by the Trust and then, where appropriate, call for a public hearing?

Absolutely no leadership. A week prior to this meeting the local planning council spent five hours to arrive at some conclusions on these very same applications.

If we elect people to do a job then they should do it or get the hell out of the way. It's a terrible, horrible way to conduct any business.

I vowed I would not write any more on the inefficiency of the Trust but it has turned out to be a terrible stumbling block to effective action when, so often, they haven't the guts to make simple yes or no answers to the plans in effect.

It's so bad it stinks. More than half of those in attendance left the meeting well before it finally ended.

CHAS. J. GARDNER,
R.R. 1, Galiano,
February 13, 1983.

P.S. It's like watching bridge players who read so many rules they become confused and never play any better.

Treasure chests of living history

Sir,

I would like to thank the many people who have congratulated me both in person, and by phone, for the work I have done in eliciting and collecting many of the Greenwoods stories and music which have been published in the book *Bits and Pieces*.

Much of my spare time was spent on the project for 2½ years. It was an enriched time of sharing with the Greenwoods residents who are indeed treasure chests of living history and very special people.

ARIADNE SAWYER,
Ganges,
February 19, 1983.

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537-5041



School district budget story one of organized confusion

BY BILL WEBSTER

The story of the 1983 budget for the Gulf Islands School District is one of organized confusion as a result of the provincial restraint program.

The ministry of education has set a spending limit for the operating portion of the budget at \$4,611,274. The ministry may or may not fully finance that amount.

While the limit has been set by the ministry, the local trustees can add the 1982 surplus from the budget sections labelled A to F to increase the amount to be spent. The surplus stands at approximately \$154,679.

The figure is approximate because the ministry has not certified the auditor's findings on the surplus. The extra money from last year's budget resulted from hesitation by the school board to spend in the face of the provincially-imposed restraint program.

The operating budget for the district has been set at \$4,766,453, which is \$500 more than the ministry-approved figure plus the surplus from 1982. The extra money will cover a correspondence course requested by the Gulf Islands Secondary School and added to the budget at the meeting of trustees last week.

While the total budget has been set at \$5,438,354, the difference between the operating sections and the remainder of the budget does not reflect the requirements on residents' tax bills.

Portions of the budget sections not strictly directed to the operation of the schools are funded by the government while some accounts are shared by the ministry and the school board. The amount for one section must be raised through local taxation.

Once the ministry has looked at the budget and the financing formula applied, the local share of the entire budget to be raised through taxes will be known.

The three sections outside the operating area of the school budget cover non-operating expense accounts, debt services as well as non-shareable capital expenses.

The debt services, for instance, cost the district more in 1982 as a result of the restraint program and

the restructuring of educational financing imposed by the provincial government. The money to operate the school district usually comes to the school board by April of each year. Last year the school district did not receive the money until late in May. The financing for the interim period was covered by borrowed money, which cost the school district interest.

The non-operating account includes adult education and the local portion to be covered by taxes has been set at \$17,600. The school board had sought permission to have that portion dropped but the ministry would not permit the efforts to save local taxpayers the expense.

The debt services account is shared, approximately 60% by the ministry and 40% by local taxes. The account stands at \$553,280 for the year. The amount covers principal and interest payments for loans for construction and renovations to various schools in the district.

The non-shareable account is covered by local taxes and is limited, by a school board resolution from several years ago, to an amount equivalent to one mill.

The amount set by the local trustees has been sent to the ministry for approval and the tax requirement for Gulf Islanders will be set when the ministry returns the budget to the school board.

ACCOUNT	1981 BUDGET	1981 SPENT	1982 BUDGET	1982 SPENT	1983 BUDGET
Section A	\$238,085	\$248,483	\$309,143	\$298,627	\$358,847
Section B	2,586,414	2,558,039	3,354,240	3,279,346	3,392,101
Section C	265,750	263,447	315,145	308,745	386,958
Section D	193,800	183,128	241,465	235,259	272,940
Section E	268,000	260,322	314,252	303,284	332,357
Section F	58,400	54,954	34,908	37,500	23,750
Sub-Total A-F	3,610,449	3,568,403	4,569,153	4,462,761	4,766,453
Section G	24,688	24,688	46,398	31,690	34,376
Section H	477,344	480,978	481,643	498,184	553,280
Section J	79,225	68,427	74,245	80,588	84,245
TOTAL BUDGET	4,191,706	4,142,496	5,171,439	5,073,223	5,438,354

ACCOUNT	1982 BUDGET	1982 SPENT	1983 BUDGET
SECTION "A": ADMINISTRATION			
Salaries	\$166,888	\$163,859	\$213,407
Office Expense	32,462	29,512	33,360
Trustee Expense	76,733	67,349	68,370
General	33,060	37,908	43,710
TOTAL, SECTION "A"	309,143	298,628	358,847
SECTION "B": INSTRUCTION			
Teachers' Salaries	\$2,994,042	\$2,934,669	\$3,008,597
School Clerical Salaries	127,163	132,187	141,388
Teaching Supplies	137,994	137,034	157,400
Other Expense	95,041	75,456	84,716
TOTAL, SECTION "B"	3,354,240	3,279,346	3,392,101
SECTION "C": OPERATIONS			
Janitors' & Engineers' Salaries	\$211,220	\$204,658	\$252,378
Janitors' & Engineers' Supplies	12,600	13,129	15,235
Utilities	82,600	82,139	103,025
Insurance, Rentals, Other	8,725	8,819	16,320
TOTAL, SECTION "C"	315,145	308,745	386,958
SECTION "D": REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE			
Salaries & Wages	\$131,700	\$117,874	\$153,125
Grounds & Buildings Expenses	62,300	58,718	68,600
Equipment	40,340	53,300	43,990
Other	7,125	5,367	7,225
TOTAL, SECTION "D"	241,465	235,259	272,940
SECTION "E": CONVEYANCE OF PUPILS			
Bus Operating Expense	\$141,300	\$130,655	\$153,812
Contract Expense	147,600	147,801	153,812
Transportation Assistance	11,200	11,121	11,200
Other	14,152	13,707	15,565
TOTAL, SECTION "E"	314,252	303,284	332,357
SECTION "F": AUXILIARY ACCOUNT			
Health Services	\$18,610	\$18,895	nil
Fees	nil	nil	500
Dormitory & Boarding Expense	16,298	18,606	22,750
TOTAL, SECTION "F"	34,908	37,500	23,250
SECTION "G": NON-OPERATING			
	\$46,398	\$34,593	\$34,376
SECTION "H": DEBT SERVICES			
Sinking Funds	\$468,143	\$446,641	\$542,281
Bank Charges	13,500	31,543	10,999
TOTAL, SECTION "H"	481,643	498,184	553,280
SECTION "J": NON-SHAREABLE CAPITAL			
Sites	\$20,000	\$17,972	\$25,000
Equipment	54,245	62,615	59,245
TOTAL, SECTION "J"	74,245	80,588	84,245

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FEATURING: Gary Lundy, Doug Rhodes x 2, Tom Martin, Dwaine Prosk
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FROM EFFIE'S KITCHEN



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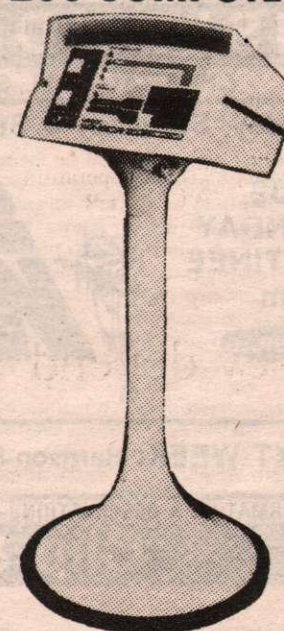
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John Loban



Kum Sing Lee

Well known artists to give concert Sunday

A violin and piano concert will be given Sunday at Ganges by two well known artists.

The Salt Spring Concert Society is bringing violinist John Loban and pianist Kum Sing Lee for a concert at Mahon Hall at 2 pm.

Frequently heard on CBC as a solo and chamber music artist, Loban is co-ordinator for the string division at the University of B.C. He has been associated for many years with the National Youth Orchestra and more recently with the Banff Centre where he teaches a summer course for gifted youth.

His teachers included Sidney Griller of the Griller Quartet and Louis Persinger of the Juillard School.

Kum Sing Lee made his New York debut at Carnegie Hall and

has also performed in France, Italy, Belgium, England, Germany, Australia and Southeast Asia.

He has represented Singapore on cultural missions and was invited to perform at the Southeast Asia Cultural Festival and at inaugural concerts of the National Theatre in Singapore. He was also guest soloist with the Vancouver Symphony.

He has recorded for the BBC, the ABC in Australia, the CBC and others. Lee is currently head of the piano department of the Vancouver Academy of Music.

He is a member of the music faculty at UBC and has become well known as a master teacher. His students have won many major competitions in Canada and the U.S.

Golden-age news

BY BILL HARPER

Family and friends of Mrs. Ethel Claibourne gathered at Rita's Inn Friday for a surprise dinner to celebrate her 85th birthday.

Those present were Mrs. Josephine Durand, Mrs. Myrtle Holloman, Mr. and Mrs. O. Wallace, Mrs. Cleo Weston, Father Bergin and Mrs. Nadine Sims.

Mr. and Mrs. Einar Petersen were honoured at a tea on Saturday afternoon at the Golden-Age Recreation Club, put on by the Golden-Age Bowlers. Einar and

Pearl started bowling when the club first started some 11 years ago but had to give it up a couple of years ago on account of health.

Frank Cullis, president of the Golden-Age Bowlers, presented them with a purse of money. They also received a table lamp and good wishes from all present. They are moving to Duncan at the end of the month.

Sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Al Woodley and their families on the passing of her sister this past week.

President thanks local group

H.M.S. Ganges chapter of the IODE recently contributed \$1,000 to the Victoria Cancer Lodge and the president of the provincial chapter came to Salt Spring Island to thank the group.

Mrs. J. Longley, accompanied by provincial chapter treasurer Mrs. W.J. Marquardt, told the local chapter that the contribution was outstanding considering the size of the Salt Spring community and the local chapter.

At the same meeting, the election of officers for the coming year was held. The following will hold office for the group: Dorothy James, honorary regent; Margaret Mayo, regent; Christine Searles, vice regent; Madge Farncombe, secretary; Anna Warrington, assistant secretary; Marjorie Cuttall, treasurer; and Jean Shopland, assistant treasurer.

Other duties will be performed by: Olive Mouat, education; Ena Patrick, membership; Searles, citizenship; Fran Elliot, echoes; Alma McQuiggan, public relations; James, services.

The standard-bearers will be Joyce Parsons and Margaret Howell.

Conveners will be: Anna Warrington, hospital; Howell, talent; Violet Thompson, assistant talent; Joy Whitecross, tea; Barbara Saunders, assistant tea.

The annual meeting of the provincial chapter will be held April 10 to 12 in the Empress Hotel in Victoria. Activities of the various chapters, through pictures and news clippings, will be exhibited at the meeting.

Retiring regent Roma Aston thanked the members for their efforts during her term of office. She also reminded the chapter that the contribution to the Cancer Lodge is an ongoing project and the members should engage in further fund-raising efforts.

James T. Fogarty

Tax Accountant.

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Saturday Night Live — March 5

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invites you to a

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Players are still in their prime

Review

BY TONY RICHARDS

Salt Spring Island audiences made a number of discoveries last week, chief among them being that the Salt Spring Players are still in their prime.

Another major find was that there is yet more talent to be found here, particularly in the island's student population.

Those discoveries were made at Mahon Hall last week when the Players gave their first three performances of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. Theatre-goers will have three more chances to see the Players in their prime when the curtain rises again for performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Those who have not seen the play will likely know what they can expect from veteran performer Dawn Luker. To say that she will live up to those expectations would be an understatement.

SUPERB

In the leading role of Jean Brodie, the passionate, emotional and devoted teacher, Dawn's performance was superb. She almost had two parts to play, in that Jean Brodie herself was an actress and used that talent in her unique method of teaching, a method that didn't go over too well in the conservative Scottish school.

And there was no question about the nationality: Dawn's Scottish brogue was quite convincing.

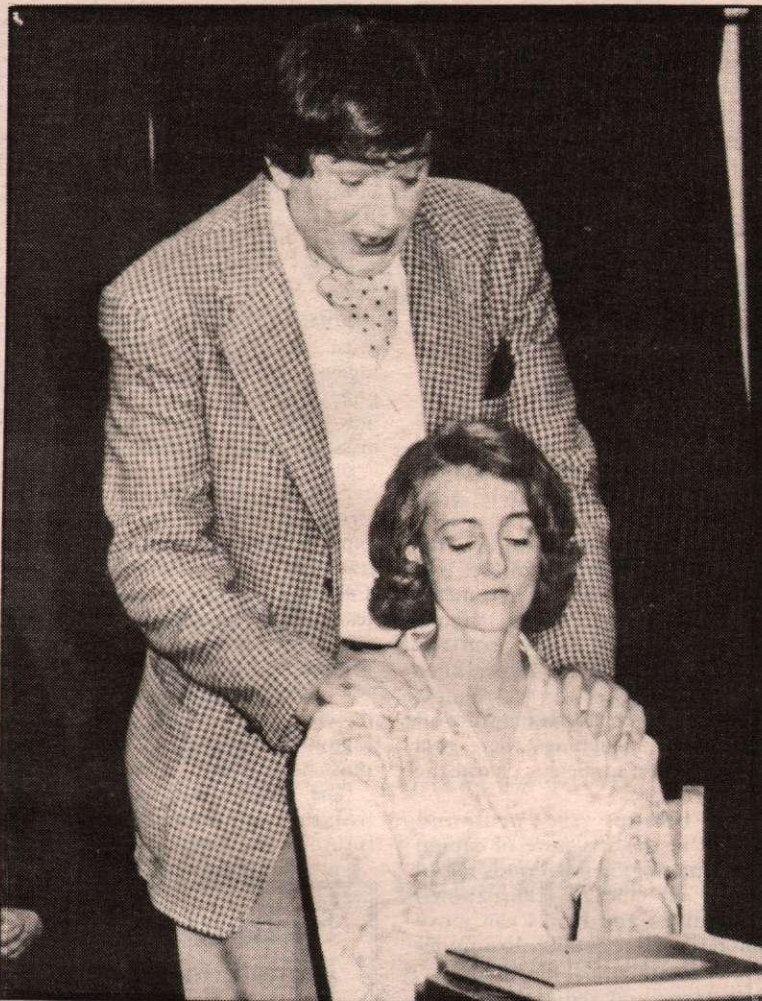
Another fine performance was that of Deneen Grant as Sandy, one of Miss Brodie's "girls". She was something of a ringleader among the girls and teacher's pet as well, but as time progressed she became less enamoured of her teacher and finally "assassinated" her with a betrayal.

The students in the cast ranged in age from about 11 to 19 and now that they have demonstrated their skill for stage work, ought to be seen in many more Players productions.

SKILFUL DIRECTION

I have neglected to give recognition to someone who perhaps should have been mentioned earlier. Dawny Scarfe not only did a very skilful job of directing the theatre-in-the-round production, but was first-class as the old battleaxe Miss MacKay, the school's headmistress and eventually a formidable opponent to Jean Brodie's out-of-the-ordinary style of teaching.

One actor is described in the program as no stranger to the Players but Sidney Filkow was, until last week, a stranger to audiences. It is to be hoped that he will spend less time backstage and devote more time to utilizing the acting ability he displayed as the meek and mild-mannered Gordon Lowther.



Alan Wyatt as Teddy Lloyd and Dawn Luker as Jean Brodie in scene from Salt Spring Players' latest

production, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*.

Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Lou Rumsey, Alan Wyatt and newcomer Bill Webster also deserve to be mentioned for very creditable performances.

SOME LINES INAUDIBLE

Some of the actors, Dawn Luker for instance, had little difficulty dealing with an audience on all four sides of the stage. Others, however, had not become well enough accustomed to the theatre-in-the-round, and some lines were inaudible as a result.

The experiment could well have been a flop had it not been for well

handled lighting and flawless between-scene set changes.

It seems to me that perhaps there was one intermission too many but on the other hand, Mahon Hall's chairs were not designed with prolonged use in mind.

Minor discomfort aside, the play was one of the local drama group's better accomplishments in the past couple of years. And now that we know what talent there is among the island's younger generation, we can look forward to more of the same in years to come.

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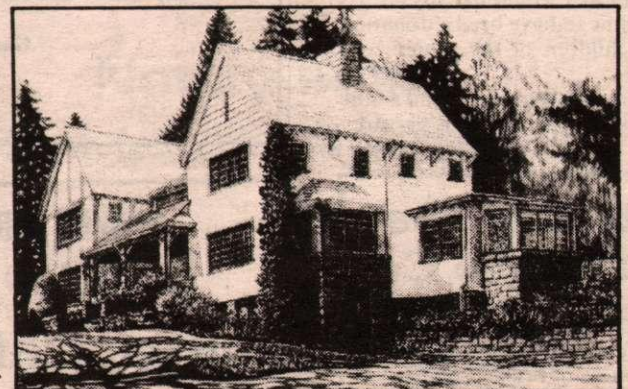
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The poor and the cost of recovery

Catholic Church looks at the economy

BY FRANK RICHARDS

Pronouncement by the Catholic bishops of Canada has prompted more debate in the country than any previous statement by any group of clergymen.

At the beginning of the year the Social Affairs Commission of the Canadian Catholic Bishops published its "Ethical Reflections on the Economic Crisis".

The commission of eight bishops, whose chairman is the Bishop of Victoria, Remi de Roo, had examined the Canadian scene and had found cause for concern in the pattern whereby the working force was footing the bill for the fight against inflation.

But the observation was not made as a political reaction to a social condition, but as the answer of a man of God.

"We believe," said the commission, "that the cries of the poor and the powerless are the voice of Christ."

Had it been the expression of a less traditional group, of a less conservative organization than the Catholic church, the reflections might have met with less surprise.

The answer? They didn't offer any. The published observations were not offered as an answer to the present economic crisis facing Canada. They were intended as a warning that a situation exists to demand the concern and the consideration of all Canadians.

In recent years, stated the message, the Catholic Church has become increasingly concerned about unemployment, the scourge that plagues society.

The reflections on the crisis are addressed to the immediate economic and social problems as well as some brief observations on the deeper social and ethical issues at stake in the development of future economic policies.

Contractor won't send a bill

The Christmas program at the Mayne School went on as scheduled despite the aftermath of the storm which had shaken the Gulf Islands.

Many parts of the islands had been without power but temporary connections made by Bob Clark, an electrical contractor on Mayne Island, brought light to the school and allowed the event to be staged.

Clark wrote to the Gulf Islands School Board and the letter was read to the recent meeting of trustees.

"I will not be submitting a bill for this work as I would like my efforts at this time to have been a donation to the children of the school," he wrote.

The trustees agreed to send a note of thanks to Clark for his gesture.

The concerns expressed about the economy are not politically inspired, but rest on two fundamental Gospel principles, said the publication.

The first is the preferential option for the poor, the afflicted and the oppressed. As Christians they are called to follow Christ by identifying with the victims of injustice; by analyzing the dominant attitudes and structures that cause human suffering and by actively supporting the poor and the oppressed in their struggles to transform society.

Second Gospel principle cited by the commission is the recognition of the special value and dignity of human work in God's plan for Creation.

Work enables people to exercise their creative spirit; to realize their human dignity; to share in Creation.

It is from the perspective of these principles that the commission of bishops shares its reflections on the current economic crisis. The economy is in serious trouble. The economic realities are plant shut-downs, layoffs, wage restraint programs and suspension of collective bargaining for workers in the public sector. There are abandoned one-industry towns, depleting unemployment insurance benefits, cut-backs in health and social services and soup kitchens.

These have brought personal tragedies, emotional strain, loss of human dignity, family breakdown, even suicide, warned the message.

In developing strategies for economic recovery, urge the bishops, first priority must be given to the real victims of the recession: unemployed, welfare poor, working poor, pensioners, native peoples, women, young people, small farmers, fishermen, some factory workers and some small businessmen and women.

The strategy must recognize that the needs of the poor have priority over the wants of the wealthy; that the rights of workers are more important than the maximization of profits.

And the bishops call for priority for these short-term strategies, priority by governments and business:

- No. 2 problem is unemployment, not inflation.
- Industrial strategy should be addressed to the creation of meaningful jobs for people in local communities. And emphasis should be on the establishment of labour

intensive industries and the need for job security.

- A more balanced and equitable program should be developed for fighting inflation by shifting the burden for wage controls to the upper income earners; price controls and new taxes on investment income.

- Curtail cut-backs in social services; maintain adequate health care and guarantee special assistance for the unemployed, welfare recipients, the working poor and one-industry towns.

- Labour unions should be asked to take a more decisive and responsible role in the fight against economic slow-down and unemployment.

The recommendations run counter to some policies or strategies advanced by governments and corporations. Some labour unions suffer from limited perspectives and excessive demands. There are no simple solutions. From the standpoint of the Church's teachings there is a moral disorder in society, charge the Reflections.

The bishops see profound changes in the structure of capital and technology with serious social impacts on labour. Transnational corporations and banks can move capital from one country to another to take advantage of cheap labour, lower taxes and reduced environmental restrictions. Computers are taking over in some areas from human work. These factors spell an increasing problem for the future.

To restore profit margins needed for new investment, companies are cutting back on production, laying off workers and selling off their inventories. This policy has brought economic slow-down and unemployment. Governments are called on to encourage more investment in industry and the resultant measures range from cutting back on social services to restraint of civil liberties and control of unrest arising from repressive legislation.

Capital is re-asserted as the dominant organizing principle of economic life, contradicting the ethical principle that labour, not capital, must be given priority.

Further, the principle of the survival of the fittest as the supreme law of economics invites the domination of the weak by the strong.

The strategies for Canada's

economic recovery call on the working people, unemployed and the young and those on fixed incomes to make the sacrifices necessary for recovery. Government wage controls impose the same control rate on lower incomes as on higher wages.

The alternatives? A process of serving the human needs of all people before considering increased profits or growth. Human dignity must rank above highly technological machinery. An economic policy that sees unemployment as inevitable in the fight against inflation would be intolerable.

Switch attention from mega-projects such as nuclear plants, pipelines and hydro-electric projects and look for the self-sufficiency of Canada's industries. This would lead to the creation of jobs rather than the increase of economic growth and profits. Capital should be redistributed for industrial development in underdeveloped regions. Labour and community must be involved.

The bishops are not impressed with the conventional dream of the future of the nineties, with its high

technology, computers and capital-intensive industries; energy intensive development and foreign controls. Goods are made to be consumed at home, they urge, not exported.

Why not an economic vision that looks at the basic needs of all the people? On the value of human labour? An equitable distribution of wealth and power among people and regions?

The bishops are looking to an alternative economic model emphasizing socially useful forms of production; labour-intensive industries; community ownership and control of industries; worker-management and ownership.

And, finally, public debate. They urge the participation of all Canadians in mapping out an economic course into the future. Public dialogue about alternatives; public forums on economic justice and the ethical principles of economic life.

The bishops may or may not be looking down the right road into Canada's future, but they assuredly initiated public debate on the national economy in the light of their own reflections.

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Women's: S.S. Sockeyes vs Victoria, Sun., Feb. 27, 11 am, Victoria.

Div. 4C: S.S. Wranglers BYE

Div. 5C: S.S. Sting vs Prospect Lake, Sat., Feb. 26, 12:15 pm, Victoria.

Div. 6C: S.S. Selects BYE

Intra-Island: Senior - Saturday, 9:30 am. Sounders vs Stingers, Portlock; Sharks vs Dodgers, Portlock; 10:30, Cosmos vs Fury, Portlock.

MEN'S SOCCER: Every Sunday 3 pm at Portlock Park. All ages, sizes, ability welcome.

PEE WEE SOCCER: Every Saturday 9:30 am at Portlock Park. Open to all youths 2-5 yrs. of age.



Adventure in Citizenship is an annual competition for Gulf Islands high school students. Front row, from left, are Bea Nord-Leth, Paul Betts, Heidi Hume, Kathleen Mouat and Mark Wenzel. In back row from left are Rotary president Don Harrison and youth coordinator Charles Baltzer.

Heidi Hume wins Rotary contest

Five students of Gulf Islands Secondary School went on an Adventure in Citizenship and two of them will go on a trip as a result.

Heidi Hume, a Grade 12 student, won the Salt Spring Rotary Club public speaking contest and she will travel to Ottawa in May as a prize. Kathleen Mouat, also Grade 12, came second in the annual event and won a trip to a Rotary youth leadership assembly to be held in

Tacoma, Washington, in March.

Other students who made it to the finals to speak to a Rotary Club meeting last week were Mark Wenzel and Bea Nord-Leth, both Grade 11 students, as well as Paul Betts, Grade 12. Betts will be the Rotary exchange student from GISS for a visit to Japan in the summer.

The students spoke on the meaning of citizenship and five adjudicators passed judgment on their abilities.

Hume will travel to the nation's

capital May 16 to 19. The local Rotary Club will pay her expenses and supply \$100 for spending. She will be welcomed by Jim Manly, MP for Cowichan, Malahat and the Islands.

While in Ottawa she will attend a dinner hosted by foreign embassies. A visit to parliament and the governor-general are also on the itinerary.

Mouat's trip will take her to the university in Tacoma for a four-day conference of youth sponsored by Rotary International. The dates are March 17 to 20.

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Planning group elects officers

The annual meeting of the Salt Spring Community Planning Association February 15 elected a new slate of officers.

Ray Hill is chairman, while Rice Elkington is vice-chairman. Recording secretary is Richard Nemeth, correspondence secretary is Judy Ripley and treasurer is Jean Brindamour.

The Maxwell Lake watershed was discussed by the meeting and the group resolved to work towards the preservation of the area in its natural state. Letters will be written to the minister of environment, the Islands Trust and MLA Hugh Curtis.

Next meeting of the association is at 7:30 pm March 9 in the school board office at Ganges.

Lines downed when car hits pole

When the car hit the Hydro pole, the lights went out.

Roy Barclay of Victoria was driving his 1979 Chevrolet at 12:30 am Saturday when he struck the pole. He told police that he had swerved to avoid another vehicle which was on the wrong side of the road at Cusheon Lake and Beddis Roads.

The Chev smacked into the pole, knocking down the wires, and rolled over into the ditch. The automobile suffered extensive damage but Barclay was not injured.



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Action Fitfest 83

Three-week fitness program to be conducted by hospital

A three-week self-administered fitness program begins at Lady Minto Hospital next week.

"Eat right, keep fit, try not to smoke and get enough sleep - everybody can do it," is the motto behind Action Fitfest 83.

The program is based on a point-reward system and all participants attaining 45 points or more will receive a certificate and will be eligible for draw prizes.

Points can be accumulated by being physically active and by eating

a well balanced diet. Bonus points are given for each day that a smoker doesn't smoke, for weight loss, for exercising and for adequate rest.

Lady Minto is one of 45 hospitals and communities that will be initiating the program Monday, Feb. 28. About 6,000 people across the province are expected to participate in Action Fitfest, which was developed by Action B.C. and the provincial health ministry.

Local hospital employees are inviting residents to join them. The

goal of the program, say the organizers, is to motivate individuals to take responsibility for their health by adopting sensible lifestyle practices.

Participants in the program will begin by completing the Physical Activity Readiness Questionnaire, a simple medical screening device. It is designed for those people for whom physical activity may be inappropriate or those who should have medical advice on the type of activity that would be suitable for

them.

The next step is to choose one of the activity options on the score card. Option A, for example, the simplest of the three, enables the participant to get one fittest point for every 15 minutes of vigorous activities. They include brisk walking, hiking, jogging, swimming, cycling, fitness classes, soccer and others.

Under the same option, a bonus fittest point is awarded for a game of curling, a game of bowling, a half-

day of downhill skiing or climbing 12 flights of stairs in one day.

Copies of the Action Fitfest instructions and score cards are available from the business office at Lady Minto Hospital, the Salty Sweaters or the Continuing Education office at Mouat's Mall.

Participants will be given identifying ribbons and Fitfest T-shirts will be available at the General Store in Ganges.

The program runs from February 28 to March 20.

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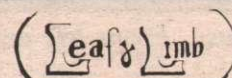
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Paper clips and magnet keep these three-year-olds busy. From left are Sandy Kerman, Cameron Woodsend and Jessica Blagborne.

Children get renovated quarters

Salt Spring Island Nursery School is the first group to benefit from renovations being undertaken at the Community Centre on Ganges Hill. Previously occupying three separate rooms and sharing a bathroom, the school is now self-contained and boasts three large rooms, including a paint and storage room and its own bathroom, as well as new

skylights and a new electric heating system. Three- and four-year-olds enjoy the benefits of playing and learning together under the guidance of Sony Baron. Administration is the responsibility of the parents who meet regularly, and who participate in daily classroom duties. Classes are held every morning, and there is still room for more youngsters.

Driftwood photos by Alice Richards



Kyler Jukes, left, and Christopher Davies play together in the activity centre of classroom.



Becky Bazzard is painting a full-size portrait of herself in the art room.

Take-out gets green light

Take-out food service at Central has met with tentative approval of the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee.

After a series of rejections of her proposal to open a restaurant on her North End Road property, Mary C. Williamson found a response last week when she asked for a permit to establish a take-out restaurant with no meals served on the premises.

The Advisory Planning Commission had earlier rejected the proposal.

Health inspector P.J. Jemmeson gave his sanction provided that a holding tank be installed and that certain other provisions be instituted.

The operation would be divorced from any domestic kitchen operation and restricted to single-service equipment. These are plastic and paper materials to the exclusion of crockery and cutlery. Only family members will be permitted to take part and it will operate only in June, July, August and September.

Chairman Mike Humphries expressed some concern that the advisory commission would approve a restaurant and reject a take-out service.

The applicant wrote outlining her plans for the sale of salads, homemade soups and sandwiches as well as tea, coffee and fruit juice.

Some concern was expressed by Nick Gilbert that a property is approved for intensive use because the neighbouring property already provides for that use. It is the beginning of strip development, he warned. The property is alongside Central Hall, which doubles as the island movie theatre, the committee was told.

When planner Richard McKellar expressed concern for garbage on the roadside, Williamson replied that she couldn't stop people throwing beer bottles into her garden.

"We can only be responsible for our own property," she noted, "and we already have a problem."

The committee directed that rezoning be undertaken for the property.

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Miss Burnay from D.V.A. Services will be at the
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Appointments may be made at the office —
537-5822 or 537-2487.

B-1

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Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

Rotary, Lions benefit

The Harbour House Hotel in Ganges threw a banquet as part of its opening recently. The money raised was split between the Salt Spring Rotary and Lions Clubs. Rotary president Don Harrison,

left, accepts a cheque from hotel owner Stan Lam, as does Lions president Bob Nicholson. Hotel has also offered use of its swimming pool to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

To finance improvements

District to raise parcel tax

North Salt Spring Waterworks District is increasing its parcel tax this year to help finance major improvements to the distribution system.

Most of the work in the five-year upgrading program has now been completed, with the cost amounting to \$1,291,087.

Financing was provided by district funds (subdivision capital charges, etc.) of \$177,855, Canada Mortgage and Housing grants of \$64,708 and a provincial grant of \$39,404. The balance of \$1,009,120 was borrowed through 25-year debentures from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the provincial government.

Meeting the annual payments of the debentures has necessitated the parcel tax increase.

The district expects that most future projects can be financed

through capital charges on property development rather than increased taxation.

The water district saw rapid growth during the early 1970's, which put a severe strain on its nearly 25-year-old trunk mains. A study completed in 1976 by John Motherwell & Associates Engineering provided the basis for much of the work to upgrade the system.

Major portion of the work involved replacement of trunk mains from Maxwell Lake towards Ganges, and from St. Mary Lake

towards Vesuvius and back to Ganges.

The old four-inch mains were replaced with eight, 10 and 12-inch pipe.

Because the Maxwell Lake pipeline will be able to draw the total available capacity of the lake, it will never need replacement due to inadequate size, the district says.

To date, the district has completed 6.1 miles of mainline, increased storage by 43,000 gallons and upgraded the St. Mary Lake pumping station.

The water district has no plans at present to increase the user charge.

Trustees to review 'hasty' decision

The decision to stop allowances for Mayne Island students attending Gulf Islands Secondary School was "hasty" and the school trustees will take a second look at it.

Jeannine Dodds, school trustee for Mayne Island and chairman of the transportation committee, introduced a notice of motion at the school board meeting last week to rescind the motion dropping the allowance.

"I decided, after talking with Mayne parents," she told the meeting, "that we acted in haste."

The motion to drop the allowance was made at a meeting in January and the money for students boarding in homes on Salt Spring while attending high school was to have stopped on February 1.

Dodds said the deadline was unfair to the parents in that it gave them only two weeks' notice of the school board's intent.

Her notice of motion was to rescind the ruling and replace it with

another calling for an end to the boarding allowance as of September 1. Students going into Grade 12 in September and currently boarding on Salt Spring would be exempt from the ruling.

Dodds explained that such students, having become used to boarding, may suffer disruption in their last year in the secondary school if they had to change to daily commuting from Mayne.

There are currently six students from Mayne, one in Grade 10 and five in Grade 11, who travel from that island to Salt Spring each Monday morning. The students board on the island while attending school and return home on Friday afternoon.

There are also five students from Saturna and one from Pender who board in homes on Salt Spring during the school week.

In addition to the students who board, four other students from Mayne Island join eight from Galiano Island on the water taxi daily to and from Salt Spring.

The earlier decision to drop the boarding allowance for Mayne students was made when the transportation committee thought that the parents were not paying their share of the allowance.

The school board allows \$175 for boarding students and parents are expected to pay \$56 of that amount.

The decision to rescind the motion came about, said Dodds,

when the committee discovered that parents were in fact paying their share. The school board also received letters protesting the move from parents in the Outer Islands.

The matter will be discussed at the March 9 meeting of the school board.

A related matter, water taxi service for all the Outer Islands except Pender, will also be discussed at the next meeting.

Equipment malfunction

First Choice pay television was off the air for about one day this week following a malfunction of the receiving equipment at Salt Spring Island.

Island subscribers went without pay TV on Sunday and Monday morning.

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Local resident is published author with book printed on rice paper

BY BILL WEBSTER

"This story was told to me and it is worth retelling."

Those words begin a book written by Pender Islander Caroline Woodward and the story is worth retelling.

She had been in India in 1981 with Canada World Youth and several things combined to result in the book. She heard stories about India's youthful rebels of the 1960's. Some were swallowed by society; some were killed. Others faded into the woodwork.

Many of the survivors "drank the pure waters," which is an Indian phrase for saying they were preaching to the converted.

When Woodward journeyed to Kathmandu, she made another discovery on the way to becoming a published author. She met Amrit Man Shakya who owned and operated New Printing Press. Many of the books, articles and reports produced by his company were printed on rice paper.

Woodward watched the process of producing rice paper. The workers mixed rice straw and ash with water. They stirred in the inner bark of the daphne tree, an uplands bamboo. The mess resembled porridge. A chemical, a kind of alum, was added to the mixture as a settling agent.

The workers spread the mash very



Caroline Woodward

Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

thinly on screens and left them to dry for eight hours or so. When the results were peeled from the screens, the rice paper was ready for printing.

"It was totally an intimate process," said Woodward, as she explained the production methods

at New Printing Press.

She gained access to printing type in English and set about writing her story. It was about those who "drink the pure waters".

With 1,500 copies of her book (12 pages in length and printed on rice paper) in her suitcase, Woodward returned to Canada.

Woodward began to distribute the book to stores which would accept it. She was in Toronto at a publishers' seminar and received good advice on distribution.

The Toronto experience, she said, was "just a case of being in the right place at the right time."

With the book being offered in such bookstores as This Ain't the Rosedale Library, she has sold 500 copies in Toronto to date. She mails the book to various library services across Canada. On Salt Spring it is being sold at et cetera and Volume II.

"I realize it's not going to be a best-seller," she said, "but it was something I had to do."

She is currently working on a novel and lives on Pender as "a caretaker, part-time odd-jobber and gardener." She has written travel articles for various publications as a free-lance writer.

The story touches people in many ways, she said. "Different people read it differently."

But for an initial investment of less than \$700, she is a published author.

"You could just call it a modest success," she said.

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