Dispute over stalled vehicle delays ferry at Swartz Bay

The 9 pm sailing of the Queen of the Islands from Swartz Bay was delayed for about half an hour on Saturday morning while the ferry captain deliberated with the control tower over the fate of a woman and her stalled vehicle.

The man was second in a long line-up boarding the ferry and had to be pushed on board. Some passengers and ferry crew members had evidently offered to push the car off at Fulford but the captain, who was following company policy, ordered the car towed off the ship.

The driver was told by the mate, Driftwood, learned, that her car would be towed to the nearest garage and that she would have to pay the towing charges.

When the woman refused to co-operate the police were called. According to the woman, who wished to remain anonymous, the only person who checked her vehicle registration and her driver's licence.

She told Driftwood Monday morning that she had driven her car from Duncan to the ferry terminal Sunday night, stepped at the ticket booth and waited for half an hour for the gate to open. With the gate still closed, her car started normally and she proceeded into the line-up.

WOULDN'T START.

The engine trouble began. When the ferry arrived the car wouldn't start, so some friends pushed it to the ferry for her. Not long after, all ferry-related traffic was ordered to move back to allow a company truck access to the car deck.

While the mate told her that the captain had ordered her vehicle towed off she decided to go and see if she could reason with him. "After all," she explained, "the car would have started with the help of battery cables which the ferry truck was carrying.

This, she said, she explained to the captain, but he insisted that company policy would not allow it and added that the police had already been notified.

When she returned to the car deck the mate informed her that the captain had changed his mind. However, someone in the control tower had informed the police of the woman's presence and she was asked to leave. The police were shouted at by the mate and the woman, who then said she would proceed with her complaint.

ANGRY, CURIOUS.

By the time RCMP got to the scene, a partly angry, partly curious crowd of passengers had gathered on the loading ramp to try and get a glimpse of what was going on. The police checked the driver's registration and licence and then left.

Shortly after, a ferry employee signalled to the waiting passengers and cars that the drama was over and everyone could board the ferry.

Betty Nisbett, information officer for the ferry corporation, defended the policy which states that under normal conditions vehicles must be able to move from the Valcourt Centre and see if she could reason with him. "After all,"

Opinions differ over testing

Two Agriculture Canada veterinarians have offered opposing viewpoints on the manner in which the government tested samples of fat taken from Salt Spring Island poultry.

District veterinarian Dr. C. M. Seal said that the samples of fat taken from six different farms on the island were pooled together rather than tested individually.

Seal said that this way of testing would still indicate a high level of PCB content in one sample if it existed. The whole composite sample would show a high level, he explained.

However, Dr. W. Dowd, director of the agriculture ministry's Animal Chemistry Laboratory in Vancover, disagreed with Dr. Seal.

Dowd said that any sampling procedure that pools chicken fat together would not show a high level if that level existed in only one of the samples and not the others.

Eat chicken with discretion—farmers

BY BRIAN SOBER

Eat chicken with discretion seems to be the advice now of local chicken farmers who may have fed their birds PCB contaminated grain last summer.

Most of the farmers interviewed this week said they would like to throw out the meat which they have kept frozen for over four months. But none of them believes there is any hope in getting compensation from the government or from the Billings, Montana, company responsible for the PCB spill.

Pat Lee of Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply, where the grain was sold, said that his own chickens were contaminated along with an estimated number of other Salt Spring birds.

Although he isn't happy with any level of PCB in his poultry, he has been eating the meat with care. "Don't eat the skin or the fat," he advised. "The PCB accumulates in the fat."

BELOW THE MINIMUM

A recent government-sponsored test of fat from local chickens showed that the PCB level was way below the acceptable U.S. minimum.

Gail Escor of Beaver Point started eating some of the meat after hearing the results of the test. She said she will also be selling meat, "but not too much to any one place."

She also agreed with Tom Gossett of Foxglove who earlier expressed dissatisfaction with the expressed dissatisfaction with the manner in which fat samples,
Friends, neighbours play important role

The assistance of friends and neighbours still plays an important role in emergency health situations on the Gulf Islands in spite of trained personnel and more sophisticated equipment being available. This point was emphasized in the report prepared by Miss Jean Lockwood to the annual meeting of the Galiano Volunteer Fire Department on January 30.

Her report touched upon the measures taken in years gone by when there was an accident or disaster and victims had to be conveyed to hospital as quickly as possible.

In 1966 the serious need for first-aid facilities on the island became a matter of public concern when it was brought to the attention of the Chamber of Commerce that a small child had almost died on the island 10 days when there was a call from Gossip Island. Dr. and Mrs. Barner went over and stayed the whole night with a well known radio announcer from Vancouver who had suffered a heart attack. With the Barners' help and the oxygen equipment his life was saved.

After that, donations to the community first-aid fund came in regularly, and many useful items were purchased for emergency and for sick-room needs which could be borrowed without charge.

DONATED A TRUCK

In 1973 Victor Zala donated a second-hand panel truck which was outfitted with ropes, tools, first-aid kits and other items useful in responding to a call to an accident scene. Victims in stretchers were usually transported to Lady Minto Hospital in one of the three station wagons made available by private parties for this purpose.

The Galiano Emergency Health Service was organized in December 1975 by a group consisting of Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Armitage, Dr. and Mrs. Hurt Scarrow, Miss Jean Lockwood, Hall Tingley and Mrs. Betty Stewart.

In the spring of 1976 the island received its first real ambulance which was housed in the new fire hall. A small number of volunteer drivers and attendants took care of the transportation needs of the sick in the community, with the assistance of willing friends and neighbours.

Last December the arrangements were completed for the Capital Regional Ambulance Dispatch Centre to take over Galiano, which up until then had been in the Nanaimo zone of the Emergency Health Service.

NEW MEMBERS

Senior driver Pat Weaver and Miss Lockwood, secretary-treasurer of the unit, called for new volunteers to train for the work and several meetings have been held to introduce the new members to the routine. Dr. Hugh Machre, now a permanent resident in practice on the island, is working closely with the group, and he and five others have been supplied with pagers by the dispatch centre to facilitate communication in event of an emergency.

Peter Dunn is now co-ordinator for Galiano, and Mrs. Jeanne Dunn, a former nurse, has taken over supervision of supplies and equipment formerly done by Mrs. Steward. Three of the members of the unit are on the fire alarm telephone system which many visitors have found invaluable contact in summer during a medical emergency.

Plans are now under way to hold an industrial first-aid training class for the new first-aid team within the next two months.

OXYGEN EQUIPMENT

The first portable oxygen equipment was bought in, together with a supply of splints and first-aid kits. The committee bought air-vascular units and stationed them at the marinas and public places around the island, and also purchased several large basket-type stretchers.

The oxygen had only been on the island 10 days when there was a call from Gossip Island. Dr. and Mrs. Barner went over and stayed the whole night with a well known radio announcer who had suffered a heart attack. With the Barner's help and the oxygen equipment his life was saved.

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Better Homes Solar or Conventional Trelawney Contracting 35 years Contractor - Designer 537-5104
Committee prepares for Sea Capers 1980

Preparations by the Salt Spring Island Sea Capers committee are under way, and the annual event will be held on June 6, 7 and 8.

Recent discussions by the committee have resulted in plans to introduce some new attractions as well as improvements to some of the events of past years.

The free Friday night concert, which successfully kicked off Sea Capers last year, is to be held again and island musician Valdy has agreed to take part.

Among the new events being considered are windsurfing races, kayak races, log hurling and jokes.

VIEWPOINTS

The committee has decided that the most important part of the organization of Sea Capers is in providing spectators’ viewpoints.

It was suggested that if the log-booming area adjacent to the Gulf Ohi bulk plant could be cleared of logs for the weekend, many of the water events could be held there. It was also decided that owners of the land near the K & R Store should be contacted to obtain permission to use the area for a viewpoint.

Mr. Forster indicated that Sea Capers 1980 is to be held out a little differently this year. It will be more oval in shape with more buoys and located where it can be seen more easily by spectators.

Various groups are being encouraged to visit Salt Spring Island for the occasion. They include the Blue Water Cruising Association, the Rainbow Sea Cadets Band and the Vintage Boat Club from Victoria.

Committee this year consists of Charles Sutcliffe, who will serve a second term as commodore; Ralph Newsstead, treasurer; Arvid Chalmers, vice-commodore; land; and a nominee from the Salt Spring Power Squadron is to serve as vice-commodore, sea.

The bathtub course is to be laid out a little differently this year. It will be more oval in shape with more buoys and located where it can be seen more easily by spectators.

The money for the new Yamaha piano was raised by the Choral Society at the “Pig n’ Whistle” evening last September, with a New Horizons grant and a contribution from the hall society grant.

** Five impaired charges laid **

RCMP report that two types of offences occurring on Salt Spring Island, breaking and entering and impaired driving, have increased during the month of January.

Sgt. Mitch Hanks said there were five charges of impaired driving on Salt Spring last month. For a community this size, he said, one doesn’t expect so many drunk drivers.

Hanks said that he wished to point out to Salt Spring motorists that the police here will continue to watch for impaired drivers.

** New piano for Choral Society **

President of the Pender Choral Society, Tom Madden, assisted by Lloyd Gould and Joe Billyead, unveiled a new piano before an audience of 190 at the School Community centre on January 25.

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KEITH RAMSEY 537-5534

LES RAMSEY
That Sunday sailing was not at all smooth.

Generally speaking, islanders have little to complain about when it comes to ferry service. The boats continue to run, day in and day out, despite the fact that the B.C. Ferry Corporation operates with a substantial deficit. And ferry travel in the islands during the last few months has been relatively free of the problems which we had almost come to take for granted.

But the incident at Swartz Bay Sunday night was a sharp departure from the smooth sailing to which we have become accustomed.

The incident leaves one with the impression that the ferries don't operate solely for the benefit of island residents. A Salt Spring resident was returning home, taking the last ferry of the day. But when her vehicle had to be pushed on to the ferry, officials decided that it must be towed off. Consequently, the driver was to have paid the towing costs and then find lodging for the night.

It would be far more sensible to have the car towed off at the ship's destination and avoid causing considerable hardship to the passengers.

In addition, the RCMP were called in to investigate a dispute for which only the ferry corporation was to blame.

But that wasn't the only episode on that evening. A group of travellers boarding the same ferry were greeted with an inauspicious display of offensiveness and pomposity by a corporation employee. Seven of the nine passengers in a vehicle had residents' cards and they were produced for the ticket agent. One by one they were passed up to the driver of the vehicle, inspected by the agent and then passed back to their owners.

Almost all of the cards were back in wallets and pockets when the agent demanded to see them all again, this time all together. It appears that he decided he was dealing with a carload of potential crooks who would stoop to anything to avoid paying the full fare.

Do islanders deserve such a reputation? We think not. We also think that some of the ferry employees at Swartz Bay should be required to take a course in civility and good manners. They need it.

Rumour Club is to blame.

It's more than just a rumour that a Pender Island club has been actively engaged in what appears to have become a major issue: the debate over Pender School.

According to a letter to the editor of the Pender Post, the Pender Island Rumour Club "has had a busy time with an imaginary threat to our school".

If the writer is correct, then his letter explains why this issue, which began simply with a list of suggestions for improvement in education, has become the subject of a controversy.

R. W. Fearn suggests that the Rumour Club has interpreted the proposal for improvements as a threat to the Pender School's existence.

The Rumour Club, he says, has stated that the group of parents who wanted to see a few changes want to start a separate school, want a separate classroom, want all sorts of curriculum changes and want the removal of certain teachers.

And we could add to that list of rumours the one about parents being permitted to wander at will in and out of the classrooms.

Mr. Fearn concludes that the incident is another example of "a serious problem in the community. He says that he doesn't know of any island group that has been able to operate "without serious bickering and controversy".

Unfortunately, Mr. Fearn is quite right.

We share his view that an early demise of the club would contribute immensely to attaining harmony within the community.

Gulf Islands Driftwood

Letters to the Editor

Sewer treatment plant 'spells death' of harbour

Sir,

It seems that few of the people polled for their views on the Ganges sewer could have attended the Pollution Control Board hearing on the matter. What a pity.

I was one of the people who did attend through the five long days, despite the bitter, relentless opposition.

On the basis of what I heard there, I can't stress too sharply that the sewer as proposed is playing with dynamite. Far too delicate a system to make snap decision on whatever the proposed treatment simply doesn't work to get the job done.

The plain truth of the matter is that this particular sewer system as planned could easily end up causing Salt Spring far more problems than the present Ganges swamp.

One reason for this is that the bio-disc machinery does not have a 100% clean track record, as evidenced by what has happened in thousands of similar installations to make certain they will not have major replacement parts handy. While the engine people like the bio-disc was ready to bet his life on its reliability and longevity, the manufacturer was not so inclined and would only guarantee it for a year.

If any component breaks, the sewage could only hold for eight hours then, treated or not, it takes to discharge out to sea. Imagine this over the several days or weeks it takes to make repairs. Furthermore, the bacterial action of the bio-disc can be stopped by toxic substances in the sewage and the like, in the sludge.

Secondly, the ultra-violet treatment system involved is an extremely delicate process it appears, which apparently only works under optimum conditions. If the effluent coming into the ultra-violet tank is murky, say because of grease inhibiting the bacterial action of the bio-disc, then the ultra-violet treatment simply doesn't work to the required specifications. This would result in infected effluent being discharged into the harbour.

Thirdly, there will not be a top-class, full-time plant operator off in Sooke or sick or on holidays in Mexico. Then what happens to our Ganges sewer and our harbour?

Fourth, this plant operator doesn't even have experience with the ultra-violet treatment system because the Ganges plant would be the first of its kind in North America.

Fifth, there is a larger question of water. This plant would need a constant supply of 45,000 gallons of fresh, clean water every eight hours.

Where are we going to get this water? Is Maxwell Lake to be the cup of plenty keeping our Ganges toilets clean?

In my estimation, this particular plant spells death to Ganges Harbour. If the businessmen in Ganges are so terribly concerned about the harbour as much as they claim, then why don't they get together and hook themselves together into a small, private bio-mass treatment system? Then they would need very little water, and could provide themselves with methane gas to heat their buildings and compost for some potted plants to jolly up the outsides.

The argument that we have already spent so much money and can't throw it away now is a sham when one considers what could very well happen to Ganges Harbour!

JERMAINE HEARNE,
Fulford Harbour,

Invitation to former residents

Sir,

Thank you for following us to use your newspaper to invite all former residents of Fillmore, Saskatchewan, home to Fillmore for our 75th birthday celebration.

This important event will encompass January 29, 30 and July 1, 1980. Many interesting community events have been planned to make our stay nostalgic and interesting. We consider this to be an excellent opportunity for the entire family to meet old friends and acquaintances, as well as view the progress which our town and community has made since your departure. We extend to you a warm and sincere invitation to attend.

75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE,
Fillmore, Saskatchewan.

Stark family history a 'fine series'

Sir,

As one who has enjoyed a long love affair with the Gulf Islands and their people, I want to give you my personal thanks for the fine series on the Stark family which you have been printing in the pages of Gulf Island Driftwood lately. The story is an extraordinary one and says much about the compassion of the Vancouver Island colony authorities in those early days.

The reception of the Starks and their associates was a generous act of statecraft. No wonder those black families turned out to be such excellent citizens.

It certainly is an act of public service on the part of Gulf Island Driftwood to re-acquaint those of us who love the islands with this unique story of early January, 29, 30 and July 1, 1980.

STARK FAMILY COMMITTEE,
Bellingham, Washington.
January 24, 1980.
Driftwood

Protesting trap, association urges

Sir,

I have just seen the most surprising information about trapping season and other parts of Salt Spring Island. We hope that you will present this information promptly and clearly. We believe that knowledge is power and we are on the lookout for any helpful information.

A registered trapper may be more than a trapper. He may be a trapper with a basket of weapons that could make it difficult for any of us to receive help or even to receive help.

As a registered trapper and member of the Union of B.C. Trappers, I have found that the use of guns and weapons is absolutely necessary in this profession. It is the duty of law enforcement officers to ensure that these weapons are used only for their intended purpose, and not to be used against any individual.

Dear Editor,

I am writing to draw attention to the issue of the use of weapons by law enforcement officers. It is imperative that we, as members of the community, work together to ensure that these weapons are used only for their intended purpose, and not to be used against any individual.

Yours faithfully,

John Smith

GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

Wednesday, February 6, 1980

Page Five

Parents' freedom to visit classes would be 'impossible'

Sir,

As an ex-teacher and father of four children I wish to point out the impossible situation which would be created if parents were not granted unrestricted freedom to visit schools with and participate in any program under the jurisdiction of the school in a crisis situation.

As a parent, I sent my children off to school each day, with the sure and certain knowledge that they would, at all times, be protected, supervised, and control of a trained and responsible member of the teaching staff who was answerable to both the B.C.T.C. and the school board for his or her every action. How could that teacher be in total control of a situation if he or she was not permitted to enter and leave a classroom at will? What of non-voluntary and unplanned parents who of mentally unstable parents, what of violent parents? Can one imagine the society in which we live: our jails and institutions full of parents.

There are also drug pushers, and child molesters and any school board that did not require tight security to restrict entry of unauthorized persons to its schools is not a fit body to care for children.

The cup of learning is a fragile vessel for a parent should not be an unwelcome adult presence in the room. The teacher spends half his time in planning lessons so that an area of knowledge is reached by carefully

Unstructured system would be cruel fate for students

Sir,

In answer to the editorial January 23 I wish to inform you that I believe the Hunting Panners are very proud of their system. This is a unique situation brought about by hard work and community work by a large number of people who believe that we would make this school a model for the rest of the province.

I know the majority of parents, let alone the students, of our school will not stand by and see their children's lives and their staff stomped on by a ground of dirt people who are unable to cope with a structured system. Structure is a part of our daily living and surely the parents in a minority group would not wish to have their children thrust into the structured society of today, having come from an unstructured school system. They would be a cruel fate to these children.

I agree wholeheartedly that parents should take more of an interest in their children by being involved in various school programs. I believe that the idea of a school system which is not to be accomplished by coming to grips with one's innate lower nature, by discipline, but rather with one's natural and positive nature.

The voter is a representative to whom the voter is a measure of the man for whom he feels a measure of affinity. In other words, he is looking for a leader who is similar to himself regarding back-ground, inclinations and temperament. The voter wants a representative to whom he can relate and for whom he feels a measure of affinity. In other words, he is looking for a leader who is similar to himself regarding background, inclinations and temperament.

Better governments are possible, but not until the voting public elevates its collective consciousness sufficiently so as to produce a better electorate. It appears that a system could be accomplished by coming to grips with one's innate lower nature, by discipline, but rather with one's natural and positive nature.

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Liquor charge nets fine

In provincial court last week Michael Larry Fraser pleaded guilty to a charge of being a minor consuming alcohol in licensed premises.

Fraser was seen in the Harbour House pub on the night of December 7 by a policeman on routine patrol.

The court was told that Fraser had been sitting at a table with a partially consumed glass of beer in front of him.

According to police, Fraser co-operated with the officer and accompanied him out of the pub.

Fraser was fined $100 for the offence by Judge D. K. McAdam.

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Manly: NDP offers positive alternative

Barrett: Canadians not stupid but naive

The New Democratic Party candidate for Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands told a meeting Saturday that those who voted for Joe Clark to get rid of Pierre Trudeau last year have found "they're out of the frying pan and into the fire".

Jim Manly told over 100 people in the Activity Centre at Ganges that his party offers a positive alternative.

And at the same meeting, provincial NDP leader Dave Barrett said it was time the Liberals and Conservatives "got into bed together.

They've been living common law for years," Barrett said, "and now it's time to tie the knot."

"FAIR CHANCE"

Campaigning for the February 18 election, Manly said the NDP offers a "fair chance" for Canadians.

He outlined a number of policies that an NDP government would introduce, including a $40 increase across the board in veterans' old-age security pensions, a rent freeze of $50 a month and tax breaks for homeowners.

"It's not right," Manly said, "that our seniors should be living below the poverty line."

He promised a fair chance for women: equal pay for equal value, and increased funding for day-care facilities.

A program similar to one in the United States, where one-third of government contracts go to small businesses, was needed in Canada, he said.

NEED A BREAK

"We don't object to people making profits, but we do object to gouging."

Manly observed that Canada was getting a great deal of credit for its role in helping six American embassies officials out of Iran. Canada should use that credit, he said, and ask the U.S. to keep supertankers away from the B.C. coast.

Routing the tankers off the coast could not be regarded as a friendly act, he stated.

Finally, he said the NDP wanted a fair chance for all Canadians who want to make a living.

UNEMPLOYMENT

"Everywhere people are talking about unemployment, either for themselves or for their children, it's costly in terms of what it does to our self-respect and it's also costly in terms of our wallets."

The New Democrats, he said, would provide a full employment program and an industrial strategy.

He recalled a recent visit to the sawmill at Honeymoon Bay which, he said, had been in operation for 30 years. The mill is in the process of cutting back its operations and may be shutting down permanently due to shortage of logs, he said.

If the people of Vancouver Island had had a chance to rationally plan for their communities, Manly said, they would have done better than the large companies have done.

HAVE THE POTENTIAL

"We have the potential here to create a good life."

Provincial Opposition Leader Dave Barrett told the meeting that he'd known Manly for about 12 years and forecast that "he will do a terrific job when he's elected February 18."

Looking at why the election came about, Barrett said the art of handling a minority government was in compromising.

He said the Conservative budget should have demanded that the oil, mining and manufacturing companies tighten their belts, not the Canadian people.

ASTRONOMICAL PROFITS

The oil companies are making "astronomical profits," Barrett went on.

"But Hockey Night in Canada is the only thing we get back from Imperial Oil."

He recalled that when his party held office, they had formed the B.C. Petroleum Corporation. "It's your own gas company," he told the audience.

"We set up the only marketing agency for natural gas. Social Credit voted against it, fought against it and screamed against it, and now it's making money for them."

Barrett pointed out that it was making more money than B.C.'s year-round ski areas, "which has been going up ever since Social Credit was elected."

FEAR OF NDP

He said that fear of the New Democratic Party had forced the other provincial parties, the Socreds, the Liberals and Conservatives, to "jump into bed with each other.

"They pulled the blankets over top of themselves and to this day we don't know who's doing what to who."

Barrett said that many years ago the Mexican government had taken over all the oil and gas production in the country, putting it under the control of a state-owned company, Pemex.

"Mexico," said Barrett, "found that God placed gas and oil in the ground for people, not for oil and gas companies.

The provincial leader noted that he "gets fed up" with hearing people say that "we're living beyond our means."

CRUMBS

"It's a bunch of hogwash. Sure I don't have the answer to how we pay our bills."

The speaker observed that people born in Canada were "the most politically ignorant people in the nation."

He recalled that people from elsewhere have asked him why Canada has a million people unemployed when the country is rich in timber, oil and mineral resources.

"And I'm embarrassed because I don't have the answer to how we get into this mess."

NAIVE

"Canadians aren't stupid, he said, "they're naive."

Later in the evening, Barrett referred to the relationship between the major oil companies and the other federal parties.

If a party is elected on oil company money, he said, that party doesn't work for the people.

"Who pays the piper calls the tune."

In a question period which followed the addresses by the two speakers, Manly was asked about the NDP's policy on nuclear power.

He replied that the party wants a moratorium on new nuclear power installations pending an inquiry.

He said the party as a whole had not favoured an amendment to that policy which would have included a moratorium on uranium mining.

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thinkmetric!

Alaskan critic convinced him it's the only way!

BY FRANK RICHARDS

Metric system? Or the old and trite round numbers and feet again? I don't very much care. If a Canadian metricist is going to change with the United States, he probably finds the metric system somewhat less than understandable, south of the line. If he trades with Pan Am, the far east, then the metric system is probably most readily acceptable.

I have a miles-per-hour car that was made in a land where they wouldn't know what a speedometer was. And Women's Lib has a car with odometers right there on the clock. I have bought gas in litres and I've bought it in gallons. I spent dollars and cents.

It didn't matter very much, either way. Then last week I got a letter from an American resident of Alaska offering some very emotional reasons why Canada should not go metric. So I had to think.

If I go for metric I am offering the Canadian of the future an easier way to calculate. I am encouraging the next generation to be calculating in gear with most of the world. I'm convinced.

If I agree with the writer, who probably suffers sweaty feet every time he works out his sums, then I am agreeing that inches look nicer and fractions are better, dozens and dimes are cheaper. After reading the letter critical of the metric system I am convinced. He has won me over. I have to favour metric measurement.

For example, the opponent of the metric system tells me that it is undesirable because prefixes are similar in some instances. He cites "dec" and "Deka".

Feet and pounds and miles are "human Anglo-Saxon", whereas litre, gram and metre are either foreign or awkward, multifidly Greek or Latin names. This is an interesting reason for opposing changes. For the proponent it may even appear rational. Not to me. He edits the metric system because the "metric definitions have changed up to four or five times.

I think he has a point. The basic yard is the distance from the end of King Henry's arm to his nose and not very well that changes!

NATURAL AFFECTION

The affection for the dozen is a natural enough explanation. It is natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. However, the duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths. The duodecimal system was "developed in the natural for people to divide quantities into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and eighths.

The critic condemns the decimal system for its simplicity and its metric definitions. It is almost the same, he contends. NOT SO VULGAR

The only thing I know about the system is that in about the fourth grade I discovered decimals and thankfully abandoned the chore of calculating vulgar fractions. I have yet to find an effective pocket calculator which gives me the answer in thirds, sixths and 12ths. Instead of the hateful tenths! No vulgarities!

It had me thinking. This perfection of metrology that is the present foot-pounds-seconds system is worth investigation.

I ran into problems straight away. I had encyclopedias. Each tells the story in its own words. The Canadian edition tells the reader that there is an American gallon and a U.K. gallon. Although it is supposedly a Canadian reference work, it is, or was unaware of the fact that Canada uses an imperial gallon equal to the U.K. measure. But if we retain the present system do we use the Alaska scale or the Canadian. The British pound, avoirdupois, is 0.45392040 kilograms, whereas the American pound weighs 0.453592477 kilograms. Discovered.

Do we embrace the avoirdupois or the troy weight? WHICH TON IS WHICH?

Which ton do we use, the short ton of 2,000 pounds, the long ton of 2,240 pounds or the metric ton of 2,204 pounds? They are different.

Do we standardize with the U.S. or the imperial gallon?

The metric is 39.37 inches. It is 39.370044 inches, according to the book it doesn't tell me whether the Canadian system uses the short yardstick or the long one. It seems the British inch and the Canadian inch are not the same. The silly aspects of measurement are obvious to most of us. What is less obvious is the fact that the metric system offers a clear-cut simple means of calculation which fits in admirably with mechanized and electronic calculating devices.

If the old, complicated methods were better, why did Britain abandon its simple calculation of 12 pence to the shilling; two shillings to the florin; 10 florins to the pound, avoirdupois, is 0.453 kilograms and ill-fitting traditional measurements are better, the British should still be selling food by the peck, seed by the gallon and oil by a different
Cubs, scouts have been busy with indoor, outdoor projects

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING
It would enable the new recruit to take advantage of some on-the-job training, and also to attend official leaders' training in Victoria during the summer. Any interested and potential scout leaders out there can contact Matthew Coleman or Charles Bazzard.

This year's Lord Baden-Powell Banquet will be held on February 21 at the Catholic Church hall. It's a parent-son affair, with scout and scout entertainment to be provided.

Also in February is Scout Week. This takes place from the 17th to the 24th. The Victoria Sea Scouts are in need of a new leader and theots. They had a winter camp-out on the 16th through the 18th of November at Maracibo. They had a fine opportunity to test out their new tents, as it rained and blew most of the three days. The Tents found out they prefer motor boats to the sailing version. However, I'm sure the weather had a lot to do with it. The recently-adopted motor sailor has been a well-received addition to the fleet.

Scouts are in need of a new leader to train with the troop, and eventually to take over the responsibilities of scout leader. Our present leader, Matthew Coleman, has indicated that he would like to step down in due time. Matthew has been involved with Sea Scouts here on Salt Spring for four years, and a leader for two years. He is willing to stay on for the remainder of the year, but feels we should start our search for a new leader now.
Do the benefits outweigh the risks?

It’s economics versus ethics in uranium mining debate

BY JEZRAH HEARST

The debate would experience this mining seems to take many obscure twists and turns, but basically the argu- ment revolves around benefits one. Will the mining company fork over? Is the exploration of uranium mining too much of a risk due to inadequate safety measures or won’t it? Many mining officials will argue that you can’t get away from a lot of risk in any industrial process. First, the obvious one is that the big corpora­tions stand to make a bundle, but if costs are high enough, will it be worth the risk? Many have been thoroughly irradiated and it is too late to do anything for them.

The communities opposed to uranium mining see short shrift of any benefits versus risks argument, stating that they are the ones who carry the risks. The benefits versus risks theory certainly does seem to fall apart when it is found one out of every thousand irradiated from all the radiation of the accidents and claims, there are those who have known of this back in the early 50’s, but Eldorado has been thoroughly ingrained and it is too late to do anything for them.

The government is reported to have known of this back in the early 1950’s but said nothing about it. Army trainees were reportedly sent to Port Hope to learn how to use the radiation detection equipment as early as 1951. Disasters are now beginning to manifest themselves in Port Hope, choosing an “ends justify the means” approach to everything. A “heroic” move to Iran taking advantage of the atomic technology and turning the town, choosing instead to move it five miles less than prescribed. It is this company which British Columbia would be admitting into its midst if uranium mining became a real industry here. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that mining uranium would not lead to a full-blown nuclear industry in the province.

The debate over uranium mining has been thorough and will continue as it involves moral and financial responsibility to the people of British Columbia and to the people of France by supplying them with our uranium. This is the new Hong Kong for western workers.

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Pender Island Lions Club stages dinner to honour Burns

BY ELEANOR HARRISON

The Pender Island Lions Club put on a traditional celebration dinner in honour of Robert Burns on Saturday evening at the School Community Centre. It was attended by about 165 people.

Lion J. Moebes, past-president of the club, presided at the head table. The master of ceremonies was Gordon Wallace.

Twelve guests were seated at the head table. They included Jack Little, president of the Pender Island branch of the Royal Canadian Legion and Mrs. Little, and Lions life member George Pearson attended from Victoria.

The traditional dinner was prepared by the ladies of the Lions Club and served by 10 Pender Island students.

Mrs. Millie Colley sang a beautiful Scottish song, accompanied on the piano by Douglas Harker, and Rob Barrica played special Scottish airs on the bagpipes during the evening.

The affair was convened by Douglas Harker and his wife, Betty.

Woodley to continue as chairman

Glenn Woodley has been elected to serve again as chairman of the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission.

Bev Unger has been named vice-chairman and Edith Sacker, treasurer. Kathleen McCurdy will continue to serve as secretary.

Real change deserves a fair chance

VOTE FOR

A strong Western voice

VOTE FOR

Increased pensions for senior citizens

VOTE TO

Cut government spending

CAMPAIGN OFFICE 537-2133

Inserted by the PC Committee to re-elect Don Taylor
This week at Fernwood School

Hard to believe but the first month of 1980 is already over and we are two weeks through the school year. Yeah!

Well, the snow has disappeared only to be replaced by Jack Frost. Let's hope he sticks around long enough for us to dust off our skates and our skating!

A busy eventful time at the school though and some of the happenings are listed below.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Highlight of the week for the children was the visit to Greenwoods with Mr. Powell. While there they entertained the folks with a play, The Snowman, sang several songs and several of our members showed off their instrumental expertise on the piano.

An invitation was extended to the residents to come and visit us in our school. We are proud of our school and it is our privilege to share our enjoyment with our senior citizens.

On behalf of the school, especially the kindergarten children, a big thank you to Joanne McNeil for donating a beautiful gingerbread house for the class. Oh to be in kindergarten again. Yum!

MILK SALES

The student council, under the sponsorship of Mr. Prendergast, is selling milk and fruit juices on a daily basis.

The student council will charge only 25c, a drink, reasoning that it is easier for the younger children to carry one coin to school rather than several. It is also quicker to make change and above all, it is a real deal!

White milk, chocolate drink, apple juice and orange juice are available and the idea is to offer a service that is both healthy and not to make piles of money. The student council will be co-signers of the bank account and Mr. Marsh has indicated that they will make the decision as to disposal of the profits. He also added that it must be spent on an item which would benefit the school or a special occasion. Now I wonder how much of a small swimming pool we would end up with? Maybe a trip to Hawaii for every body?

STAFF TOWE

It gives me great pleasure to remind all teachers that Mr. Marsh has informed me that February 7 as the day when Mrs. Stewart will give the staff their pupils and teachers shots. Ho! Ho! Ho! I could make a small fortune charging admission to see the great event. I'll see all you teachers there!

CRAFT AFTERNOON

Mr. Marsh has informed me that he will shortly announce a craft afternoon for making small fortune charging admission to see the great event. I'll see all you teachers there!

GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD

Call for trade sanctions by NDP 'irresponsible', says Gervais

The call by a number of NDP candidates for trade sanctions against the United States over its refusal to sell Canadian companies plans to introduce energy-saving devices to the public while Mr. Prendergast, he says, "is one of the Liberal government's greatest accomplishments."

"It proved to be an effective Canadian presence in the largely foreign oil and gas industry and served successfully as Canso's main agent in securing foreign oil supplies."

Gervais points out that the Liberal government under previous Liberal governments have been dealt with in a responsible manner.

He says Canada should demonstrate to Russia its foreign policy, specifically with regard to Afghanistan, by presenting positive steps that are acceptable to Canada's friends and allies.

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Roy Lee Petroleum Ltd.,
Box 489, Ganges, B.C.

B.C. OLD AGE PENSIONERS BR.32

ANNUAL DINNER

Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 12:30 pm

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On wet soccer pitch

Strikers down Sooke 4-2

BY STRICK AUST

A cold driving rain and an inch of water on the soccer pitch greeted the Strikers as they climbed out of their cars in preparation for a very important match Saturday.

Our opponents, Sooke, were in second place in our division with a total of 13 points for the season. Salt Spring, along with two other teams, was one point behind in a joint third-place position. The only difference between the three teams was that we had played one less game than they had, and a win or tie on Saturday would give us a definite advantage of securing second place for the season.

The last time we played Sooke they beat us 2-1, and the boys knew that they were not going to be easily beaten.

For the first five minutes, neither team could gain effective control of the game. Because of the water on the field, passes which normally might have sprung a forward for a shot on goal were falling short and being scooped up by the opposite side.

WOULDN'T WORK

The Strikers normally push-pass the ball, keeping it on the ground for better control, but they quickly realized that under those close conditions this was not going to work.

Instead, they started to chip the ball when passing, thereby getting the distance they needed to complete their passes. Almost immediately, they started to control the game and keep Sooke hemmed in at their own end.

Sooke is very strong defensively and having them in their own end does not necessarily mean that you are going to get many shots on goal. Their defence kept clearing the ball out and if it weren't for some very determined work by the Strikers' half-back line, they could have broken out at any time.

Our forwards were being fooled time after time just seconds before they could get their shots off, but finally their sustained pressure paid off and Stuart Lyon pounded home a rebound from a shot by Jeff Moger. Two minutes later, Jeff registered his own goal and with only minutes to play in that half, Erin Fewings registered his second goal of the season.

The score was now 3-0 for the Strikers and Sooke was unable to register any offensive drive at all. DID HIS HOMEWORK

Sooke's coach had been doing his homework during the first half, and had noticed that we used our wings almost continuously. When we started up the field at the beginning of the second half, we found that our passing play were being shortcircuited, as Sooke had our wingers double-covered, effectively eliminating them from the play.

This tactic put the Strikers into a bit of a panic and for the first 10 minutes Sooke took control of the game on the Strikers' half-backs. Todd Chase and Mike Kruger, were working the ball into the centre and their tactic, to overload Stuart Lyon for his second goal of the game.

Determination and head-ups play by the Strikers had overcome an excellent tactic by Sooke and although Sooke did score one more goal late in the game, once they lost their flow, the game was virtually over.

This Saturday the premiere game in our division will be played here on Salt Spring, at Portlock Park at 11 a.m.

Sooke, Salt Spring Strikers host the Ladysmith Mavericks, the first-place team, who have played only 12 games.

They intend to make No. 13 unlucky for the Mavericks, but to do so they will need all the support they can get. If you enjoy good soccer, please come out on Saturday and root for the Strikers. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Down the Gutter

With KEN COLLINS

It's always good to see some nice triples coming from the lower-average leagues. For the first time in the Golden-Agers' league we have Brett Taylor (average 109) coming through with a 391 triple, Jim Holder (average 136) having a 491, and Anne Code (average 109) having a 391.

Here are the top scores of the week:

Linda Schwagley, 713; Ken Collins, 727-736; Bob Akerman, 725; Terry Jenkins, 773; Frank Kopepel, 727; and Connie Hardy, 684.

The bowlers of the week were Linda Schwagley and Terry Jenkins.

Did you know that bowling is the biggest participant sport in British Columbia with a grand total of 144,000 people bowling every week? Another fact is that far more women bowl than men.

Many thanks to the many sponsors of the Queen of the Lanes competition. Who are they going to have a King of the Lanes competition?

One of the happiest groups to be found bowling at Leisure Lanes is the recreation group, which bowls every Wednesday. These people don't let the fact that they are handicapped stand in their way.

A lot of credit must go to Donna Ford and the other girls, plus Eddie Waddell, who spend their time scoring and encouraging them.

Tip of the week

Try to stay cool at all times. If you tense up you will only start to push your ball.

Man or woman, boy or girl,
Everyone loves to curl!

Join the Curling Club.
Information or brochure call Don Macdonald 537-9692
Public Meeting Thursday, Feb. 7
7:25 pm — Legion Hall
Sockeyes chalk up important win over Gordon Head Sunday

By Malcolm Legg

A very wet, muddy weekend managed to close all soccer fields on Salt Spring but a couple of our local teams found fields available in Victoria, and also found their hosts very hospitable. Both Strikers and Sockeyes found the conditions to their liking in picking up wins over Gordon Head and Salt Spring Kicks, respectively. The Sockeye victory held even more importance for our local girls' squad.

Salt Spring Sockeyes, 3; Gordon Head, 2.

Sunday will long be remembered by every girl not so much for the fine win over Gordon Head, but more for the moving in attitude and team play.

All season long the Salt Spring girls have struggled with player shortages, injuries, bad luck and inconsistent play. The biggest problem seemed to be the girls' lack of confidence in their own abilities both as a team and as individual players.

TEAM MEETING

After the previous weekend's loss the girls' attitude became one of a meeting in an attempt to get to the root of this problem. A full complement of players made the trip into Victoria and they out-played their opponents for a full 80 minutes to pick up the win. But the biggest difference came in the girls' attitude because they went into the game believing they could win, and even after they fell behind they retained their composure, rallied and forged into the lead.

For the first time this season the girls played as a fully cohesive unit, where every girl worked with one another. Every girl came up with several key saves to preserve the one score lead.

The defence had its finest match of the season, showing a renewed aggressiveness and ability to tie the defenders in knots. For Denise it was her finest game of the season as she paralleled her wing as a possessed demon.

For the victory finally in the bag the Sockeyes have proved they belong in the Division, something they accomplished earlier. Now they must try to maintain this newfound spirit and attitude.

With the realization that every player is an important part of the Sockeye unit, the girls should be steady in their play and develop into a very competitive team.

Salt Spring Kicks are victorious over Donn's

Contributed Juan de Fuca Donn's, 1; Salt Spring Kicks, 6

This was the second game the Kicks played since the Christmas break. The first game, played at Portlock Park, ended in a 3-3 tie. In that game the Kicks had more scoring opportunities than their opposition, but they failed to take full advantage of those chances.

Last Saturday the Kicks played against a team from the Salt Spring of Metachin. They dominated the field for most of the game, but in the last 15 minutes they lost contact with the ball and with each other. During those last minutes there were some unfortunate defensive lapses, one of which resulted in a penalty for Donn's. Jack Andrews, who played a first-class game for the full 70 minutes, had no chance against a very well-taken penalty kick.

For the better part of the game, however, the Kicks were in control. They moved well, passed well and took advantage of most opportunities.

Paul Cottrell, back in scoring form again, produced a hat-trick for the team. Andrew Hoeller scored from a well-placed free kick, taken from outside the penalty area. Jonathan Jenkins and Lyle Brown both scored similar goals, curtailing Donn's defence to the ball and allowing the goalkeeper no chance at all.

There were weaknesses in the Kicks' game, but their play was better than it had been the previous week. Two players were missing, so the team played with 11 men. Everyone played the full 70 minutes, fortunately without injury.

Women plan formation of softball association

A group of local women met to discuss the organization of the Salt Spring Island Women's Softball Association for the 1980 season. Such an association would make it possible for women's softball teams on the island to organize and administer their league, a spokeswomen for the said said. It would ensure fair representation at all decision-making meetings and increased cooperation for fundraising and promotion, she said.

Membership structure and voting policy were major concerns. Some expressed the opinion that it was important for the players to control their own league while others felt that coaches and any other interested persons should be allowed to participate in the membership. Yet others felt that there could be open membership with a player-only executive.

The next meeting will be held February 13 at 7 pm in the Salt Spring Elementary School library and will finalize the structure of the association. It is hoped that all teams intending to participate in the 1980 softball season will be represented by at least two players. Details were to be distributed.

"Hopefully, this new organization will unite the teams in a harmonious way and generally benefit the recreational community of the island," said the spokesperson. "Let's make it happen!"

Nature Club program

The Salt Spring Island Trail and Nature Club's program for February 1980 is as follows.

On February 5 the Strattons will lead a combined walk and hike in the Ganges Heights area. This will be followed by a slide show at Central Hall of trekking in Nepal. Participants are requested to take a lunch. Meeting place is Centennial Park at 10 am. On February 12 Marjorie Beggs will lead a walk in Ruckle Park. Meeting place is Centennial Park at 10 am. or Drummond Park at 10.15 am. On February 24 there will be a guided tour of the new Natural History Gallery at the Provincial Museum in Victoria. Meeting place is at the front entrance of the Provincial Museum at noon. The tour is limited to 25 members and reservations may be obtained by phoning 537-3354.

On February 19 Anne Marie Dahlke will lead a "mossey" walk in the Beaver Point area. The club advises that a magnifying glass would be useful.

Ruby Alton will lead a hike in the subdivision at Reginald Hill. Meeting place for both walk and hike is Centennial Park at 10 am. or Drummond Park at 10.15 am.

On February 26 there will be a guided tour of the new Natural History Gallery at the Provincial Museum in Victoria. Meeting place is at the front entrance of the Provincial Museum at noon. The tour is limited to 25 members and reservations may be obtained by phoning 537-3354.

Val Keys will lead a hike and walk to Nose Point. Meeting place is Centennial Park at 10 am.

Dutch Canal Walks

February 13 at 10 am.

On February 17 there will be a guided walk on Driftwood Island.

Nature Club's program for February 1980 will be as follows.

East-west: first, Shirley Love and Phyllis Henderson; second, Helen Shandro and Audrey Allan; third, Mary K. Thomas and Gordon Hutton.

North-south: first, Dr. and Mrs. Hayston; second, Hilda Orchard and Anne McConnell; third, Irene Hawkesworth and Dorothy Seddon.

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On February 19 Anne Marie Dahlke will lead a "mossey" walk in the Beaver Point area. The club advises that a magnifying glass would be useful.

Ruby Alton will lead a hike in the subdivision at Reginald Hill. Meeting place for both walk and hike is Centennial Park at 10 am. or Drummond Park at 10.15 am.

On February 26 there will be a guided tour of the new Natural History Gallery at the Provincial Museum in Victoria. Meeting place is at the front entrance of the Provincial Museum at noon. The tour is limited to 25 members and reservations may be obtained by phoning 537-3354.

Val Keys will lead a hike and walk to Nose Point. Meeting place is Centennial Park at 10 am.

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The Recreation Commission has promoted the car-pooling concept since it discontinued the bus service.

The skating and swimming party leaves Fulford Harbour on the five o'clock ferry and returns on the 9 pm sailing from Swartz Bay.

Nan's Coffee Bar in Fulford stays open Sunday afternoon so one can enjoy something to eat before boarding the ferry. Nan's is also a good place to connect with a ride.

If an hour of soaking in the pool is not enough, there is a duffer hockey game which begins at 7 pm. The teams are made up of Salt Spring Island men and are roughly divided between those who live in Fulford and the rest of the island. There is even hockey for the youngsters who want to play. From six until seven o'clock a team of Sidney hockey players practices. Salt Spring kids are invited to join in if they wish.

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It was Sunday night, and the Panorama Leisure Centre in Sidney was for Salt Spring Islanders only.

Each week two hours of pool time and one hour of ice time is provided for islanders by the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission.

Participation in the free program is increasing despite some minor transportation problems. A free bus service from Ganges was cancelled.

Panorama Leisure Centre is 10 minutes drive from Swartz Bay and offers a sauna, whirlpool, swimming pool and skating rink. The swimming pool has a low diving board, a slide, a rope for swinging into the pool with and a basketball hoop and ball for water sports.

CAR POOLING
Anyone headed for the pool without a ride can be sure of a lift from the ferry.
The murder of Louis Stark

The final chapter of Marie Stark-Wallace's family history is presented here. The manuscript, which she wrote herself, was researched by Peggy Walker, a cousin of Mrs. Frank Waterfall of North Beach Road. Mrs. Walker spent four years tracing the history of the Estes and Stark families.

Louis Stark was born on a plantation in Louisiana. He never knew his own age, but he remembered seeing the stars fall in 1833.

From his earliest recollections he wore a one-piece garment of coarse home-spun cloth, his only covering. It served, too, for a sleeping gown. The children’s cabin was a dirt floor.

The children slept on old mattresses, with rags for a covering. For their dinner a large pot was placed in the center of the room. There were no seats. Each child had a spoon and a piece of cornbread, and they all ate from that one pot of stew.

KEPT A NURSERY

In spite of these handicaps, Louis grew up to be a strong young man. He was the son of a white woman who kept a nursery and taught Louis how to graff fruit trees.

Under another master, he learned the trade of a barber and worked as a barber on the boats plying the Mississippi River. It was never learned how he stood with his boss, but the slaves sometimes worked and shared their money with the boss. Otherwise they must have free papers to work for themselves.

During this time Louis shaved the automata in Louisville. John, who was fleeing from the police and wanted to hide his identity, came to Louisville. So in 1858, with a group of 600 to 800 black families, John and the butcher were very close friends.

AT THE BEGINNING

Louis Stark went to California during the gold rush. If he was a free man, his free papers could not be trusted, for he had to pass as a Spaniard to hide his identity.

It was there he met his wife, Sylvia Estes. They were married in 1855. Their two oldest children, Willis and Serena, were born in California. Three of the family of seven were born in British Columbia.

TO CANADA

The high risk of possibility of the laws in California being changed to make it a free state, the Estes families decided to join a group of free slaves (Howard Estes, Sylvia's father, having been set free and allowed to migrate to San Francisco, and migrate to Canada. It was learned that Sir James Douglas, whose father was West Indian, would be partial to the petition of the coloured people. A delegation had gone before to ask permission from Douglas, then governor, to settle in B.C.

So in 1858, with a group of 600 to 800 free people, they came to B.C. and settled in the Saanich Peninsula. Different members of the group scattered to various sections of B.C., some settling in Victoria. Land could be obtained at the rate of 20 shillings per acre, one-quarter to be paid on taking possession.

AN OATH

The taking of an oath of allegiance was required for citizens to enjoy all the rights and privileges of British subjects. In 1860, Louis Stark, with his wife Sylvia and their two children, arrived on Salt Spring Island.

In the early 70's Louis sailed from Salt Spring Island to a new home in Nanaimo. He moved to Nanaimo with his mother, and his other son, John, was prospecting on the Stikine and Skenna Rivers.

After farming on Salt Spring, Louis moved to Nanaimo, where he lived for some time before purchasing a farm in the Cranberry district, outside of Nanaimo.

John Stark had written to his father, naming the day he would produce an alibi and was released from the charges. Another man who offered information to John was a Scotman who lived in northern B.C. He telegraphed John, saying to hold the investigation until he arrived. He was murdered in Prince Rupert on his way to Nanaimo.

BRIBES

John and the detective soon discovered that the man caught near the trail where the hat and the cane were found was not the guilty party. They also discovered that bribes were given to men whose duty was to guard the lives of the public. Willis, John's brother, joined him at the farm. By now they were suspicious of the butcher. One day the butcher invited them to dinner. They both had pistols, so if there was any intimidation of food poisoning, they would shoot him down before they died in true western style.

The butcher seemed to be getting suspicious. He came to John's house, holding an axe handle in his hand. But John thought he saw murder in his eyes, so he took his gun from the wall and pretended he was ready to deal with the butcher. The last until the butcher went home.

WENT HUNTING

It was strange how the butcher seemed to take John's detective in his confidence. And he and the detective often went hunting together. Some days they were camping out. The butcher said to the detective, "I like Willis, but I don't like that John."

"If you will help me put him out of the way, you will be well paid for it." This knowledge came back to John. From then on he never slept a wink at night. Sometimes he rode his horse as far away as Wellington and stayed all night with friends, that returned the next day.

One evening John went to the butcher's to get his milk. He still continued to take milk from him, regardless of the case. He was still working with the detective.

He was standing on one side of the cow while the butcher was milking on the other side. Suddenly a flash from a pistol shot over his head and John shot the butcher. He was arrested for a conviction. He had the butcher arrested, not for attempted murder of himself, but for the murder of his father.

ARRESTED

An autopsy revealed that the tale the butcher told was entirely false. The victim had eaten his breakfast shortly before his death. The remains were found. The butcher said he saw nothing on the rock where the butcher claimed that John was searching for Stark, but the hunter thought he saw murder in his eyes, so he took his hand. He was so restless, John

CONGELAMENT

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FREED

After all the evidence and witnesses were heard, the butcher was allowed to depart. The butcher said he would not have given his testimony if he had known the case would prove a failure, for he had to live in the district.

The last evidence, proving his tale was false, came too late to be classified with the other evidence. A cougar had caught a lamb, and the butcher had it to look in a thicket close to the barn to find it. He did not find the lamb, but he found a bundle of clothing which he thought had been in the habit of taking to a neighbour to be laundered.

It was the belief of the people who lived in the area, and members of the butcher's family later agreed, that the butcher that had been paid $50,000 by the mining company to kill Stark. The murder was in 1895.

But he had been set free and allowed to proceed to England with his wife.