Richmond County Record

"Pledged but to Truth, to Liberty and Law; No Favor Wins Us and No Fear Shall Awe"

SIXTY-FIRST YEAR | ARICHAT, CAPE BRETON, N. S. DECEMBER 28, 1957 | No. 17



Clerk and Warden Attend Meeting At Halifax



E. C. DOYLE, Clerk-Treasurer

Richmond County Record.

Dear Editor:

The recent Provincial-Municipal Conference which took place at Halifax on the 17th in the stately room of the old and historic Legislative Council Chamber, was meant, and in reality was a red letter day in the annals of Municipal Government

Our Premier, the Hon. Robert L. Stanfield, unfolded to the 125 assembled delegates the concrete plans of his Government in the years ahead and particularly for the year 1958 - to stem the tide of so rapidly mounting Municipal taxation- and yet maintain the many municipal services-the rightful product of the rapidly advancing standard of living in our day.

Mr. Stanfield mentioned that for the current year Provincial additional assistance granted Municipalities would approximate half a million dollars. He announced his Government, amongst other suggestions, favoured some of our specific burdens be shared by them, and further help rendered by Provincial grant in providing certain services.

He took time to dwell upon the Municipal costs of general Hospitalization - $1,845,539 in the year 1956 and announced his government was prepared to relieve us of a substantial portion of this when the Hospital plan comes into operation on January 1st 1959. In the meantime as an evidence of good faith and the desire to be helpful, the Provincial Government will pay to the Municipalities in the year 1958- a sum equal to half of our 1957 hospital costs.

In the field of Education the Provincial Government, he said, would share the costs of teachers salaries above the Foundation Programme to a degree, he later specified.

In summing up he apologized for the length of his remarks and avowed he welcomed comments from all the delegates, in a general way. The details to be later worked out by the Executive of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities in conference with his government.

The proceedings terminated on the evening of the second day-- at which time general appreciations of the conduct and fruits of the Conference were pointedly evident.

E. C. DOYLE,
Clerk-Treasurer
Municipality County of
Richmond.

(Mr. Doyle along with Warden Johnston, attended this very important conference and one can gather from the foregoing letter that this meeting has been very fruitful. We thank Mr. Doyle for conveying this message to our readers.—Editor.)

—o—

Unlike New Brunswick and Quebec, there are no leased fishing waters in Nova Scotia and residents are not requested to have licenses for angling. Protection against illegal fishing is administered by the Federal Department of Fisheries which also issue licenses to non residents.

St. Joseph's Credit Union, Petit DeGrat Tops $40,000

PETIT DeGRAT, N. S.

At the annual meeting of the St. Joseph's Credit Union Limited, Petit de Grat, the treasurer, Mr. Louis Samson, reported that as at September 39, 1957, total savings in the credit union totalled $40,694 with total assets close to the $45,000 mark. President Alphonse Landry reported that the Board of Directors had met ten times during the year under review to transact the business of the society. A 2% dividend on shares was declared by the Board of Directors and unanimously approved by the membership present at the meeting. The Credit Committee report was presented by Mr. Anthony Samson and the Supervisory Committee report was submitted by Dr. C. J. Forest.

Following these reports a very sparky discussion took place on such topics as: interest rates; Mortgage loans; loan contracts; delinquent borrowers; dividends and League loans

Urbain LeBlanc, St. F. X. Extension Department, addressed the meeting stressing the need for continuous education. He stated that a short course would be held in the community during the week of January 20, 1958, and he urged the officers of the local credit union to promote this educational program so that as large a number of people as possible would avail themselves of this medium of education. The importance of the Maritime Co-operator and Credit Union Chapter meetins were also emphasized as important means of instructing members of the aims and objectives of the co-operative movement.

Father Venegas of Santiago, Chile, presently studying the co-operative movement at St. Francis Xavier University, was introduced by Mr. LeBlanc and he spoke briefly to the credit unionists present.

Mr. Anthony Samson and Mrs. George Samson were re-elected to the Credit Committee and Supervisory Committee respectively. Mr. Lubin Boudreau replaced Mr. Directors while Alphonse Landry Vander Landry on the Board of and Clifford Sampson were re-elected for three year terms.

Skill's a joy to any man.
—Emerson

At St. Martha's



J. W. CORBETT manager of the local branch of the Royal Bank of Canada was rushed to St. Martha's Hospital on Saturday last where he is undergoing treatment.

Friends in Arichat and elsewhere will join with us in wishing the genial Bill a speedy recovery.

—o—

H. H. Latimer Awarded Road Contracts

H. H. Latimer, of Truro, has been warded some sizeable highway construction jobs, in various parts of the province.

Nova Scotia Highways Minister G. I. Smith announced recently the awarding of a $450,000 highway contract on the Trans-Canada highway route through the Wentworth Valley to H. H. Latimer, of Truro.

W. F. MacKinnon, MLA, for Antigonish County, has also announced that the H. H. Latimer Construction, of Truro have been awarded two contracts by the Department of Highways for completion of the Antigonish portion of the North Shore Highway. The distance involved is approximately 15 miles. Cost of the work which will prepare the road for paving is approximately $300,000.

Still a further contract for reconstruction and grading of 11.8 miles in Halifax county on the West Chezzetcook-Lawrencetown road, from the second railway crossing at Lawrencetown Beach to the junction of trunk No 7, awarded to H. H. Latimer.

Mr. Latimer, who is a native of Arichat, and operates a large highway construction concern, with headquarters at Truro, has built many important pieces of highway in recent years and his reputation as a road builder throughout the province has been well established.

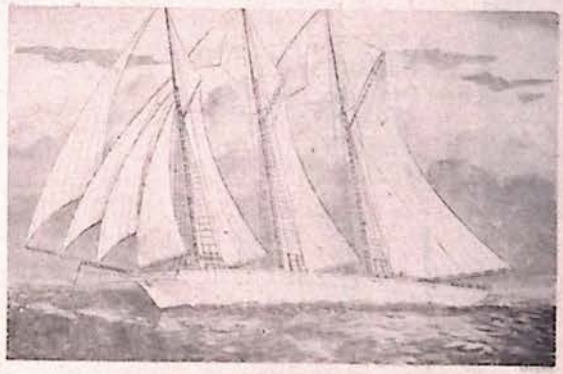
Congratulations "Bob" adn may the New Year hold for you continued success and prosperity.

—o—

Youth...is undoubtedly the proper, permanent and genuine condition of man, and if we look closely into this delusion of growing old, we shall find that it never absolutely succeeds in laying hold of our innermost convictions.
—Nathaniel Hawthorne



...AND A LONG DREAM COMING TRUE





Nova Scotians look forward to the New Year with the conviction that by united effort and co-operation they will make it a year of great accomplishments.

The four Atlantic Provinces and the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council have joined together in a common determination to overcome the obstacles which have for so long barred our way to a fuller and richer life.

There is a new spirit of confidence among us and a determination to take full advantage of our opportunities. The tide at last has surely turned and we may expect that in the New Year the hopes of the past will be the realities of the present.

The Province of Nova Scotia extends warmest wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year to Nova Scotians wherever they may be.

May we all enjoy fair winds and a pleasant voyage

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
Honorable Robert L. Stanfield
Premier

Richmond County Record
Established 1897

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No responsibility is assumed by the Editor for the opinions expressed by correspondents

M. J. BOURINOT, Publisher

ARICHAT, Cape Breton, N. S.
DECEMBER 28, 1957

Must Sign Letters

Again we ask correspondents to the "Richmond Record", to sign their names to letters addressed to the Editor, for publication. Letters of this nature find their way to the waste basket—however, their content, if published, would find the authors, (if their names were known), on their way to the County jail.

Letters must be free of personal and libelous statements.

Insurance!

PLAY SAFE Don't drive your car without insurance.

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Credit Uuion Chapter Meet

The first monthly meeting of the Richmond Mainland Credit Union Chapter for 1957-58 was held at L'Ardoise on December 8 with Joseph Gerrior, Johnstown as chairman and Eleanor MacNeil, secretary.

The meeting was highlighted by a panel discussion on "School Credit Unions" presented by the L'Ardoise Credit Union. The members of the panel, Tom Mombourquette, George Landry, Dianne Peterson and Mrs. Phillip Campbell discussed the organization and operation of school credit unions. After the panel, the meeting broke into small discussion groups in which the various aspects of school credit unions were discussed. Mr. Steve Muise, fieldman for the N S. Credit Union League assisted the different groups.

Reports from the following credit unions of the Chapter, Riverdale, River Bourgeois, L'Ardoise, Barra Head and Johnstown were received and discussed. All the reports showed substantial progress by the individual Credit Unions.

Father Vandagas from Chile, at present studying with the St. F. X. Extension Department addressed the meeting briefly.

The next meeting of the Richmond Mainland Chapter will be held at St. Peters on January 19.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Property situated at St. Peter's, known as the late G. W. Kyte, property. One of the best locations in St. Peter's. 5 bedrooms, 1 with private washroom; Bathroom, Kitchen; Double Parlour; 15 acres of land; two-car garage. House partly furnished. Apply to:—J. S. MANCINI, St. Peter's, N. S.



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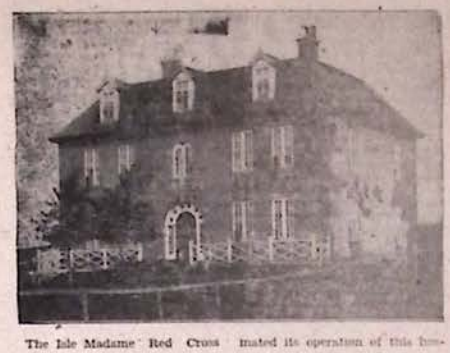
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ST. ANN'S HOSPITAL



The Isle Madame Red Cross Hospital under which name the hospital has been known for the past several years has taken on the new name of St. Ann's Hospital.

Since the Red Cross has terminated its operation of this hospital the Rev. Sisters have arrived here recently and are now in charge of this institution.

May their efforts be crowned with every success.

Feasting Important To World Observance Of New Year

Feasting is as important a part of a New Year celebration as of Thanksgiving, with a good meal on the first day of the year symbolizing that there will be plenty throughout the days ahead.

The New Year's day banquet differs as one travels around the world. An important dish among the Spaniards is sopa, rice cooked with olive oil, tomatoes, vegetables and meat particles. Africans partake of cous-cous, which is composed of wheat grains, lamb and vegetables. Pickled greens, raw fish, roast bird and shrimp fritters are menu headliners in Japan, with pickled chrysanthemums petals considered a special delicacy. The Swedes temper their feasts with a special drink, called glogg which is a claret wine sweetened with sugar and flavored with almonds, raisins, dried orange peel, cinnamon, cloves and cardamon. It is usually set afire before serving.

Feasts in England and Western Europe are similar to our American menus, chief difference being in the choice of side dishes. Turkey, duck or goose make the popular roast in England and in France. Latin countries bedeck their holiday fowl with truffles, chestnuts and olives and one might find snails on the menu in France.

Gregorian Calendar Unified Our Timekeeping

Our present calendar, the Gregorian—was the first calendar to achieve any semblance of world unity on the time front.

The coming of this calendar instituted by Pope Gregory in 1582 laid the groundwork for universal celebration of New Year's day.

Europe, which for centuries had celebrated March 25 as the first day of the year, was the first to adopt the Gregorian calendar. But it was not a complete adoption until 1752 when Great Britain joined the other European countries recognizing January 1 as the first day of the year and institutions use of the Gregorian calendar.

Of course, the date of January 1 is not celebrated by everyone. The Jews observe a 10-day New Year season at the time of the autumn equinox. The Moslem calendar, which dates to 600 A.D. has 12 months that begin with the approximate new moon without any intercalculation to keep them geared to the seasonal sun-years.

And the Gregorian although performed a great job of unification, still doesn't satisfy everyone that uses it. Periodically some one comes forth with what they consider a better way of marking time.

Although men are accused of not knowing their own weakness, yet perhaps a few known their own strength it is in man as in soils, where sometimes there is a vein of gold which the owner knows not of.

—Jonathan Swift

Husbands! Wives!
Get Pep, Vim; Feel Younger

Thousands of couples are weak, worn-out, exhausted because body lacks iron. For new younger feeling after 40, try Ostrex Tonic Tablets. Contain iron for new pep, vim, plus supplemental dose Vitamin B1. A single day, Ostrex supplies as much iron as 10 dzs. raw oysters, 4 lbs. of liver, 10 lbs. of beef. "Get-acquainted" size costs little—only 60¢. Or get Economy size and save 75¢. All druggists.

Treating Trees To Preserve Needles

Dropping needles or leaves of Christmas trees, which strip the trees of color and litter the floor, long have been a Yuletide bane. Therefore, the discovery of the New York State College of Forestry that waterglass spray will prevent the spruce leaves from falling comes as welcome news to family and housewife alike.

Besides preserving the foliage, the waterglass spray adds to the decorative effect of the spruce by leaving a slight silver sheen to the green of the needle-like leaves. The waterglass also has been found to be a good fire retardant.

The college found that the shedding of spruce leaves also can be retarded by placing the base of the tree in a bucket of moist earth, peat moss or water. Users have reported the success of this treatment.

Sydney-Arichat Bus Schedule
(EFFECTIVE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY
Leaves Sydney 9 a.m. Arrives Arichat 12.30 p.m
Leaves Arichat 1.45 p.m., Arrives Sydney 5 p.m.
TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY
Leaves Sydney 9 a. m., Arrives St. Peter's 11.30 a.m.
Leaves St. Peter's 2.30 p. m., Arrives Sydney 5 p.m.
NO BUS ON SUNDAY'S
GORDON BUS SERVICE

The Corner Store
We carry a good fresh stock of Choice Groceries--so let us fill your orders.
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Municipal Tax Sale

As provided by the Assessment Act, as amended, the following named lands will be sold at Public Auction on the 30th day of December, A. D. 1957 beginning at 2 P. M. at the St. Peter's Municipal Hall — unless taxes, interest and costs are sooner paid. Pursuant to a warrant issued under the hand of the Warden, James Johnston, Municipality of the County of Richmond and bearing the seal thereof:—

District No. 1

Lands situated at Arichat. Assessed to the Arichat Trap Company.

Lands and property at Arichat, assessed as the Estate of Peter Richard.

District No. 2

Lands situated at Cape August, assessed to Abram and Simon Briand.

Lands situated at Petit De Grat, assessed to Harry D. Boudreau.

District No. 3

Lands situated at D'Escousse, assessed to Willie Bona.

Lands at Poulamon, assessed as the Estate of Mrs. Simon LeBlanc.

District No. 4

Lands and property assessed to the Estate of Douglas Caswell, situated in the Grantville area.

Lands situated on the North Side of the Lennox Passage area, assessed to Clarence DeLorey.

Lands assessed to Clement Doiron, situated in the North side of the Lennox Passage.

District No. 5

Lands situated at the Points area, assessed to Robert Ross, Junior.

Lands situated in the Kempt Road area, assessed to the Royal Bank of Canada and to Lawrence W. Marchand.

District No. 6

Lands situated at River Bourgeois, assessed to John E. Sampson.

District No. 8

Lands and property situated at Soldier's Cove, assessed as the Estate of Tena Sutherland.

Lands and property situated at Soldier's Cove, Assessed to the Estate of John A. MacDonald.

District No. 9

Lands and property situated at Grand River, assessed to Mrs Flora B. Matheson.

Lands and property situated at Grand River, assessed to Daniel Kempt.

Lands and property situated at Grand River, assessed as Estate of Alex G. MacKay.

District No. 10

Lands assessed as the Estate of Martin H. B. Sampson, situated at Lower L'Ardoise.

Lands and property assessed to Mrs. Edward Bona, situated at Lower L'Ardoise.

Lands situated at Lower L'Ardoise, assessed to John G. Sampson.

Lands situated at Lower L'Ardoise, assessed to Napoleon G. Sampson.

District No. 11

Lands and property situated at West Arichat, assessed to Wilfred Bihlin.

Land situated on Crighton's Island, assessed to the Estate of Capt. Thomas Poirier.

Land situated on Janvarines Island, assessed to Mrs. Annie Pougere.

District No. 12

Land at Fuller's Bridge, assessed to the Estate of Dan J. MacLeod and to Charles Parekes.

Harry Cowan land situated at Sterling, assessed to Harry Cowan.

Lands situated at Sterling, assessed to John P. MacKillop and to Donald MacKillop.

Lands situated at Sterling, assessed to Neil Bishmip.

District No 14

Land situated at Point Tupper, assessed to A. H. Whalen.

District No. 15

Land assessed to the Estate of Alex LeRue, situated in the L'Ardoise area.

Land in the L'Ardoise area, assessed to Joseph B. Briand.

Land and property situated at West L'Ardoise, assessed to Frank Burkey.

Land and property situated in the Grand Greve area, assessed to Mary Kelly.

E. C. DOYLE
Municipal Clerk-Treasurer,
Arichat, N. S. Nov. 28, 1957.

Mistletoe Distinct As Yule Decoration

Mistletoe, that distinctive Christmas green so common in many parts of America, is usually thought of as merely good holiday decoration or as a creator of open season on ladies fair for otherwise bashful swains.

Mistletoe did not always hold this position in our lives. The Druids called it "all-heal," and thought it held many miraculous virtues. The Scandinavians dedicated it to their goddess of love, Friga. Probably this goddess of love is responsible for the custom of kissing under the mistletoe.



The power to heal, to protect against sickness, to perform magic deeds—all these and more are the qualities ascribed to this plant in legends, traditions and even in ancient histories and literature.

Mistletoe is a parasite, which insists branches of various trees of both hardwood and conifers, but mainly on hardwoods. One species is found exclusively, however, on conifers.

Among the Celts and others mistletoe which grew from the oak was considered to have peculiar magical virtues not possessed by that from any other trees. Some even considered it so rare as to be only cut with a gold knife.

Another old tradition is that the mistletoe supplied the wood for the holy cross, as previous to that time it was a forest tree but after the crucifixion was condemned to exist only as a dwarf parasite.

Mistletoe was taken over into the Christian tradition in due course and dedicated to the Christ Child. An old rhyme reads:

The mistletoe bough
At our Christmas board
Shall hang to the honor
Of Christ our Lord.

m. v. **VANAHEIM**

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Re-Elected Union President



VINCENT L. LANDRY

At a recent meeting of local 109 Canadian Seafoods Workers Union, of Petit de Grat, Vincent L. Landry, was again re-elected President of the local.

Other officers appointed were: Clem Benoit, Vice President.

Stanley L. Boudreau, Secretary-Treasurer.

Bernard Landry, Recording Secretary.

Rudolph T. Martell, Guard.

Shop Stewards: Baptiste DeCoste, Louis Landry, Raymond W. Boudreau, Arthur A. Boudreau, Corrine Dorey and Delia DeCoste.

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NEWS ABOUT TOWN AND COUNTY



PERCY JOLLYMORE Sr.

The sudden passing of Percy Jollymore Sr. of Boudreauville on Christmas night has cast a gloom over the community where he resided for the past many years, and also throughout Isle Madame.

A further account of his pastime and funeral service will be published in our next issue.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to his wife and family.

—:O:—

Home on Furlough

Conrad Bouchard of the Royal Canadian Navy, stationed at Cornwallis is spending the Yuletide holiday with his parents Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Bouchard Friends are glad to see Conrad.

—:O:—

At Pondville

Mr. and Mrs Peter J. LeVesconte are spending the holidays at the home of Mrs. LeVesconte's mother, Mrs. May Dunphy. Their daughter Miss Lailoah LeVesconte who is a student at an Art College in Massachusetts is also spending her holidays at the home of her grandmother.

—:O:—

Home for Winter

Our good neighbour Raymond LeBlanc has arrived home from the Great Lakes to spend the winter months with his wife and son Mederic. His eldest son Carroll who was also employed on the Great Lakes will remain in Ontario for the winter where he is employed in a nickle plant.

—:O:—

From Germany

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Drysdale arrived recently from West Germany where Mr. Drysdale served three years in the Canadian Army.

They are at present visiting Mrs. Drysdale's parents Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Dobson. Friends are pleased to see Maurice and Betty.

—:O:—

From Chatham

Capt. Hubert Forgeron of the Department of Public Works tug Canso, arrived from Chatham, N.B., where dredging operations have been going on during the past summer.

Capt. Forgeron will spend the winter with his wife and family.

—:O:—

Wedding Invitations

We can supply the bride-to-be with wedding invitations, announcements and Thank You Cards. Why pay more for your wedding invitations when you can get them right here at home. Call at the Richmond Record Office and let us help you choose the invitations of your liking. We print the Bridal Rose series. Our work is guaranteed to satisfy and our prices are sure to please.

Visiting Family

C C. Bouchard arrived from Halifax to spend the holidays with his wife and family.

—:O:—

Home for Winter

Capt. Clarence Forgeron has arrived at his home in West Arichat where he will spend the winter with his wife and family. Capt. Forgeron is in command of a tug boat at Port Alfred, Que.

—:O:—

From Dundee

Bert MacIntosh of Dundee was a recent visitor to Arichat. Bert is a son of Mr. and Mrs James H. MacIntosh of Dundee.

—:O:—

Business Visitor

Earl W. Urquhart, M.L.A., West Bay was a recent visitor to town attending to some legal business.

Mr. Urquhart recently presented Petit de Grat Branch 156 of the Canadian Legion with a flag of the Province of Nova Scotia. Mr. Urquhart served for five years in the RCAF during World War II.

—:O:—

MRS. MARTHA JANE LANDRY

After an illness of several months Mrs. Martha Jane Landry of Petit de Grat aged 63 years passed away at the V. G. Hospital Halifax, during the past week where she had been a patient for over a month.

Surviving are six sons and five daughters: Thilmon of Arichat, Clem of Halifax; Louis, Montreal Alfred, Boston, Mass; Charles and Harry of Petit de Grat. The daughters are, Mrs. Edith Stanhope of Halifax; Mrs. Marleau, Estelle, of Quebec; Mrs. Leola Morrais of Halifax Mrs Eleanor LaPorte, Boston and Mrs. Clair Wodell, Halifax.

Her mother Mrs. Thomas Boudreau predeceased her by only a few weeks.

Funeral took place from St. Joseph's Church with Rev. Chas. Forrest celebrant at the High Mass of Requiem and also officiated at the grave.

We extend our sympathy to the bereaved family.

From Toronto

Capt. Edmund Forgeron has arrived from Toronto to spend the winter with his wife and family at West Arichat. Capt. Forgeron is in command of a tug boat at Pictou, Ont. where the St. Lawrence Seaway project is under construction.

—:O:—

From Yarmouth

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hankinson, and family, spent the Christmas holidays with her mother, Mrs. M. Edwards of this place. Mrs. Edwards made the return trip to Yarmouth where she will spend a few weeks visiting at the Hankinson home. She will also visit other members of her family in the Annapolis Valley. May she have a very enjoyable visit.

MONUMENTS

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FUNERAL DIRECTOR

ARICHAT, C. B.

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EQUIPMENT FOR SALE—As we are closing our Canteen permanently on December 20th, we will have the following equipment FOR SALE:

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RON. HOPPER

Phone 20 ST. PETER'S, N. S.

From North Sydney

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Latimer, of North Sydney, spent the Christmas holiday with Mr. Latimer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irvine Latimer of this place.

—:O:—

From Halifax

Lloyd Bourinot, of the staff of the Royal Print and Litho, Halifax, spent the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Bourinot.

—:O:—

Newly-Weds

Mr. and Mrs. Rene Boudreau, newly weds arrived from Quebec, to spend the winter with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey H. Boudreau, of this place.

We extend our best wishes to the young couple for a long and happy wedded life.

More particulars of the wedding in our next issue.

NOTICE

The Board of Revision and Appeal — Municipality of the County of Richmond—shall meet at the Court House, Arichat at 10 A. M., on the first Tuesday of January, A. D. 1958 to hear such appeals as have been filed with the Municipal Clerk at least eight days before the said first Tuesday and if need be adjourned later to the St. Peter's Municipal Hall, to complete proceedings.

E. C. DOYLE,
Clerk-Treasurer.

December 28, 1957.

FOR SALE — Ford Tractor with farming attachments. May be seen at Martell's Garage, Pondville. If desired payment can be financed.

MARTELL'S GARAGE

Pondville, N. S.

WANTED — Raw Furs, market prices, experienced grading, same business, but on circulars. Mink is slipping, most other furs are still active. Shipments held separate nine days.

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BARRISTER, SOLICITOR

NOTARY, ETC.

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The Best Place To Buy

SYDNEY and SYDNEY MINES



By F. L. Rowley

SOME folks liked Happy Falcrum, and some didn't, but if election day had been January 2nd, he'd have won by a whopping big margin.

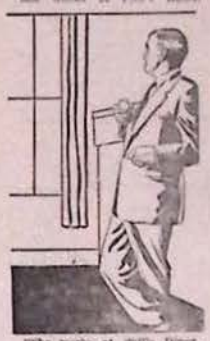
Mollie Nesbitt had gone to Hillcrest nearly eleven years before we found out about her sister Elsie. We heard the news from Mrs. Parker, who seemed a wee bit ashamed for not having discovered it earlier.

"Imagine!" exclaimed the talkative Mrs. Parker, as we wrapped the last of the New Year decorations in the Hillcrest Town Hall. "The poor soul hasn't seen Elsie in more than ten years."

"Why?" asked Mayor Falcrum.

"Mollie says her sister lives out west, guess she just can't afford to buy a round-trip ticket."

"She works at Phil's Diner, doesn't she?" remarked the mayor.



"She works at Phil's Diner, doesn't she," remarked the mayor.

doesn't she?" must use Dr. mayor, stuffing Christmas candy into his mouth. "Phil pays her. I presume."

"She's always writing someone," said young Mrs. Rogers with a frown, as she reached for the mayor's candy bowl. "Whenever any one of us needs a baby sitter we think of Mollie Nesbitt. When the children want a mother, or kibitzing, or pick up a street—it's always Mollie Nesbitt."

"Why doesn't she call her sister on the phone?" asked the mayor. Then, tossing his book on the little group, he strode off in search of new tid-bits.

Good Idea

"No! No!" cried Mrs. Parker as Mrs. Rogers raised her hand unceasingly above her head.

Mrs. Rogers grinned. "I wouldn't mind it—not really. Besides, I think his honor has a good idea. Why not have Mollie visit her sister—at our expense. I think we all owe her a holiday gift."

We heartily agreed. The mayor himself said that the idea was a dandy when we told him about it. He promised to write to Elsie to make sure she'd be home when the call came through; it wouldn't be a surprise, or a present, if Elsie weren't at the other end of the line on New Year's Eve.

When Mollie Nesbitt left Phil's Diner on New Year's Eve it was snowing. When she reached home it was snowing harder. By the time she opened the front door to admit our joyous delegation a regular blizzard was under way. We charged the intruders, carrying Mollie with us. She let out a squeal of delight when we told her that she'd soon be talking to Elsie. Her eyes grew bright with information when Mrs. Parker placed the call.

Then Mrs. Parker stopped our chatter. Her face was grim as she faced us.

"Martha thinks says the lines are down. Big snow storm out west. We'll not be able to talk to Elsie tonight."

We were stunned. Mollie sat still for awhile, trying not to look too disappointed. A lit takes she trotted into the kitchen for a tray of cookies but they stuck in our throats.

Company

Someone's coming up the walk," said Mrs. Parker. "Looks like Agnes Falcrum, but it's hard to tell with all the snow. It is the mayor—and there's a lady with him!"

Mollie opened the door—it on let out a cry that brought everyone to our feet. "Elsie! Oh, what a wonderful present!" And she threw her arms around her sister's neck.

"Happy New Year, mayor!" I cried, grasping his hand warmly. "You sure brightened things up around here. Whatever made you decide to bring Elsie to Hillcrest?"

"Well, I ran into Mollie last week at the post-office, where she was sending a package to Elsie. She was sending hearing aid batteries. Thinking that Elsie might be too hard of hearing to hurry on a phone conversation, I enclosed a round trip train ticket in my letter."

"She's not wearing a hearing aid now," I said.

"Never did. The batteries were for Mollie's uncle."

Yule Seal Idea Was From Denmark

This year millions of Americans have received a letter from their local chapter of the National Tuberculosis association containing Christmas seals, the seasonal reminder of the never-ending fight to stamp out the disease.

The idea was conceived by a Danish postal clerk. He thought of the idea in 1903 while mailing Christmas packages and letters.

The clerk was Einar Holboell. He mentioned it to his fellow workers and they decided it would be a great help in defraying the cost of fighting tuberculosis. The idea reached King Christian, who approved, and the image of Queen Louise was placed on the first seals in 1904.

Jacob Riis, Danish-born American, heard about the idea and sold it to the American public in 1907 through a magazine article. A Red Cross worker, Miss Emily Bissell, started the first American sales that year.

Door Decorations

In the last few years it has become more and more popular to decorate doors and doorways with bells and tree ornaments instead of the conventional wreath.

Your door and window frames can be made bright and cheerful by framing them with ribbon and sprigs of holly. You can hang the ribbon in festoons across the curtains and tie at the sides in wide wash bows for colorful effect.

●●●●●●

Egypt, Rome Observed New Years in Spring

Ancient Rome and Egypt celebrated New Year in the spring.

Egypt used the overflowing of the Nile as a calendar and celebrated the New Year accordingly, in June.

The Babylonians began their year in March and the early Romans followed the Babylonian pattern.

Bearing this in mind, the custom of invoking the gods of fertility at New Year's time—the origin of which is lost in antiquity—seems logical and appropriate.

The Romans were accustomed to hanging tiny masks of Bacchus upon trees and vines, the idea being to impart fertility to every side of the tree to which the masks were turned by the wind.

Scottish lads always had a howling good time going about on New Year's Eve switching the trunks of fruit trees and petitioning a "good howling crop."

Reflecting the fear of starvation, peasant families in various parts of the world baked a special New Year's cake which they dashed against the door; member of the household hastened to pick up a piece and eat it, prayful that neither hunger nor want should enter the house during the year.

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Hunting the Wren In Old Ireland

Once upon a time in Ireland, the wren was hunted and killed on Christmas morning; a branch of holly and bright ribbons were attached to his body which was carried from house to house by wren boys who sang songs and expected to receive a dole from each household.

The story goes that during the Danish-Irish war, the Danes were resting after an arduous march and the Irish were creeping up quietly. All of a sudden a wren, spying a few crumbs which the drowsy Danish drummer had dropped on the drumhead, swooped down and began to peck at the crumbs. The pecking awakened the boy, who aroused the camp; the Irish, driven off and defeated, blamed the wren.

Modern Irish, ashamed of the once-honored tradition, say the guilty bird may have been a starling or a sparrow anyway, and now welcome the wren to their farms and houses.

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Superstitions, Traditions Mark New Year Scene

Traditions and superstitions have long been a part of the New Year scene around the world.

The Chinese believe one must pay up all their debts if the New Year is to be a successful one. The English, on the other hand, consider it a good idea to start a savings account on January 1, since what you do on the New Year's Day is indicative of what you will do the rest of the year.

One of the most widespread superstitions concerns the "first-footer," the first person to enter a household on New Year's morning. In early days, women and light-haired men were considered "unlucky" first-footers.

Ancient custom in Japan was to scatter parched beans about the house, supposedly driving away evil influences and inviting good luck to enter.

The Romans were accustomed to hanging tiny masks of Bacchus upon trees and vines, the idea being to impart fertility to every side of the tree to which the masks were turned by the wind.

Peasant families in various parts of the world once baked special cakes for the New Year. The cake was dashed against the door and as the family members gathered up the pieces to eat them they prayed that neither hunger nor want should enter the house during the new year.

In olden times some families also sought a glimpse into the New Year by "flipping" into the Bible. The head of the family, with his eyes closed, opened the family Bible and indicated a passage with his finger. The text, read and interpreted was supposed to be indicative of the luck—good or bad—that would be in store during the twelve months ahead.

Many People Still Celebrate Feasts By Ancient Calendar

Many people who use the Gregorian calendar still solemnize traditional feasts, including New Year, in accordance with ancient calendars.

The Jews observe a 10-day New Year season at the time of the autumn equinox. The observances begin on Rosh Hashana and end on Yom Kippur; Rosh Hashana commemorates the Day of Creation and is also the annual day of judgment, with judgment being irrevocably sealed on Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement); therefore the spirit of penance dominates the solemnities.

Penance is also a feature of Hindu observances, solemnized in accordance with the ancient lunar calendar during the spring equinox.

The Moslem calendar, which dates from 626 A. D., is unique since the twelve months of the year begin with the approximate new moon without any calculations to keep them geared to the seasonal equinoxes. Thus, the months—and New Years, too — retrograde through the entire year in about 33 years.

LONGEST YEAR

Once there was a year which contained 445 days—or an extra two months.

Numa Pompilius supposedly created the Roman calendar in the seventh century B. C. Although revised several times, the calendar by Julius Ceasar's time was two months behind the sun.

When Ceasar set his experts to the task of revising the calendar in the 16th century, they found they had to meet the problem of catching up with the sun. So two months were inserted between the months of November and December for the year 46 B. C.

Egyptians Pioneers In Study of Time

The Egyptians were probably the first to develop any "exact" method of calculating time—about 4,000 B.C. they devised a "calendar."

The Christian era begins on January 1, in the middle of the fourth year of the 194th Olympiad, the 753rd year of the building of Rome and in the 4714th year of the Julian period.

The Jewish calendar reads 5711 in relation to 1950 A.D., since according to Jewish dogma and tradition the Creation antedated the birth of Christ approximately 3,761 years. The Jewish calendar was adopted during the 10th century.

Use of the notation A.D. (year of our Lord) was inaugurated in 879 by Charles III of Germany.

PARADE OF FIREMEN

Firemen have always been popular heroes in Japan because the construction of Japanese homes makes them fire hazards. So an annual feature of New Year's Day is the annual dezomeshiki—parade of the fire brigades.

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