Richmond County Record

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT"

An Independent Journal Devoted Solely in the Interest of Richmond County

SIXTY-FOURTH YEAR | ARICHAT, Cape Breton, Canada, MARCH 11, 1961 | NO. 28

Ramblings In The Past

By OLD TIMER

Arichat and its Surroundings

"Arichat? Never heard of it. "How often I've heard those words in the past 40 years when asked where I hailed from, in the Maritimes and eastern Canada, both as a civilian and as a member of His Majesty's Forces. This lack of knowledge was probably due to a certain amount of apathy on the part of the natives who have never too strongly believed in advertising the charms of this particular part of the province.

Well, let's describe this more or less pastoral retreat. It is to be found, surrounded by the glory of its ancestry, on a spacious deep water harbor on Isle Madame, in the County of Richmond, Cape Breton. It is the shire town of the county, although not incorporated, and can still be described as a "quaint and quiet" village which has seen better times, has lost some of its old time charms, but is as yet unaffected by modern industry and technology.

I was in error in a previous column when I gave the alternate name of Conway to Arichat Harbor. Although Clara Dennis in her "Cape Breton Over" states that the name Conway is mentioned in the original grant to the Robin firm, the name Conway was applied to St. Anne's, C. B., by the English. Arichat was known as Darnly Harbor.

The first description of Isle Madame, Arichat and Petit de Grat I have been able to find is contained in a survey made by Capt. Samuel Holland between the years 1765 and 1767. The original description follows.

"Richmond Island hath the advantage of Darnly Harbor, by the French Narichat, which is covered by Darnly Island and hath two entrances; that to the South East is Largest and Safest, where Vessels of 3 or 400 Tons may enter and anchor with Safety. Behind this Island, the Entrance to the North West will receive Vessels of 200 tons burden, but they must enter with a leading wind as it is too narrow to turn to Windward.

"Darnly Island is well situated for the Fishery which was carried on here this summer by two Brigs from Jersey or Guernsey, which employed 18 shallops; but above 300 shallops might be employed, as well on the Island as several other spots in the Harbor.

"March Bay by the French Petite de Grat, is open to the Southward, but a Jersey or Guernsey Brig of near 150 Tons lay here in Safety last Summer & carried on the Fishery to Advantage; besides 12 Acadian Shallops. Four Vessels of the above Size may anchor & ride with great Safety during the summer; and 100 Shallops be employed in the Fishery. Aubigny (Alderney) Island which forms the East Side of March Bay hath several Coves within the Bay, fit for the Fishery; the Soil and Woods are very bad; yet at these fishing places some spots have been improved into Gardens. To the Westward of this lies Green Island, which affords good hay. Mary Bay is entirely open to the Southward, so that no Vessels frequent it. Tho' the Soil and Woods of Richmond Island are in general very bad towards the Coast, yet by the Report of the Acadians, they grow better as they Approach the middle of the Island proper; the one for Farms & the other for Domestic Purposes. The Acadians who fish here, after the season is over, retire to the North Side of Richmond Channel for the Conveniency of Hunting the Moose, Deer & other Game."

One American visitor years ago is said to have described Arichat as a village seven miles long and four inches wide. A slight exaggeration both ways. Actually Arichat has one of the best harbors in Nova Scotia.

About 4 miles long and 2½ miles wide at its widest point, it is protected at its mouth by Jerseyman's Island which gives two entrances to the port. It has practically no shoals, deep water prevailing over the whole harbor, in some instances as deep as ten fathoms within a few feet of the shore. Years ago no wharf was longer than 75 feet and any vessel of those days, up to 500 tons could be berthed at any one of them.

The harbor is divided into two parts by a point of land— Kavanaugh's Point which extends westward from the head of the harbor. The south side of the harbor extends from the Poulamond to Pointe a la Marache at the southern entrance where a lighthouse is erected. This is Cape Auguet where formerly at least 35 families were settled. Today no more than 15 families remain there. And the coves back of Cape Auguet, which 50 years ago were thickly settled, have not a single inhabitant at the present time. The north side of the harbor, in the form of a crescent moon, extends from the head to Babin's Hill, opposite the lighthouse on Jerseyman's Island, at the northern entrance to the harbor.

Arichat itself essentially consists of two parallel streets connected by several lanes and by-streets. Both main streets are paved, as well as some of the connecting streets. All highways leading to the village are paved.

Fifty years ago, Bertram Bourinot, late editor of the Richmond Record, wrote of the Arichat of yore:

"In those days Arichat had a distinctly intellectual atmosphere. This with its insular and sequestred position, its classic cluster of adjacent islets, Jersey, Janvrin's, etc., the bracing breath of the surrounding sea, the cultivated tones of the ruling families and it is said 'the catching charms of its young ladies', suggested irresistably to the reading mind-

'The isles of Greece, the isles of Greece,
Where burning Sappho loved and sang.'

Another quality of this village is its beautiful quietude. Order is the dominant note. The people are consumately given to peace. The place is a veritable Elysium for needed repose. The bracing evening breeze is conducive to the sleep of the just."

Easily accessible by land and sea, Arichat nevertheless lies off the main routes, and is an ideal haven for those seeking rest and quiet. There are no theatres, dance halls, card games, bingos, private culbs, golf courses. It is a place of quiet streets and old world charm. It is a village of almost perpetual peace. The beauty of its scenery, the charm of some of its old-fashined residences, the calm deliberate way of life of its people, all help to make a lasting impression on its visitors. The natives never forget it, and although they may roam far away from it, many return in their latter years to spend the remainder of their lives in the fondly remembered surroundings.

Although there are no beaches in the village proper, beautiful sandy beaches are found at Baraehois, Pondville and Janvrin's Harbor, all within a few minutes' drive of Arichat, where you may bathe or swim in the bracing waters of the Atlantic, and all for free.

For those addicted to the fishing rod the island is dotted with lakes, all in their pristine beauty, unspoiled by cottages, boat houses, etc., and well stocked with trout averaging from one-half to two and one-half lbs. The writer can vouch for this as he has brought home the evidence on several occasions.

The hunter will find that deer abound in the fall both on Isle Madame and the mainland.

Within short driving distances of Arichat are the villages of Petit de Grat, a thriving fishing community with coves along its shores that rival Peggy's Cove for natural beauty; D'Escousse, its harbor dotted with picturesque small islands and overlooking the beautiful waters of St. Peter's Bay; West Arichat and its adjoining communities of Port Royal and Janvrin's Harbor, another thriving well appointed beauty spot.

All are rich in the history of the past. These and several smaller communities, with neat appearing homes and the most hospitable people in the world, truly make Arichat and Isle Madame a vacationer's paradise, where strangers and tourists are warmly welcomed and treated with the hospitality for which the inhabitants are noted.

Sorry, but this will be my last regular column. If and when more material comes to hand I will endeavor to pass it on. I wish to thank the editor, the many friends who have furnished me with notes and the readers who have been kind enough to give me a few words of encouragement once in a while. To me the past two years have been a revealing and satisfying period of research in the past history of Arichat. I hope I have revived a few pleasant memories for the old timers and given the younger generations an inkling of the storied past of their village. No one need be ashamed to proclaim that he hails from Arichat or any other part of Isle Madame.

Arichat Boy Operates a Thriving Electrical Business in Dartmouth

FIRM GREW WITH TOWN AND IS STILL GROWING

(Dartmouth Free Press)

A newcomer to Dartmouth might be confused if he set out to find Portland Electic and finally located it on Queen Street. He might be more confused if he learned that it never was on Portland Street, and presumably never will be. This is the way it happened.

When A. J. Goyetche decided to start out in business for himself twelve years ago, February 2, he was operating out of a basement. He had his eye on a property on Portland street, due to become vacant, where he hoped to locate. The property did not become vacant, his business grew out of the basement, and first opened shop at 41 Queen Street where he stayed until business expansion again forced a move—this time next door to 46, which had been altered to suit the firms specific needs.

Portland Electric began as a one man operation, but did not stay that way very long. Today twelve men are employed, and 80 percent of the staff have been with the firm for over eight years. Foreman Seymour Dawtie has been with it almost since the beginning.

Men have been recruited through the Training Apprenticeship Plan in Halifax. The beginners are indentured to the firm and follow a course of instruction concurrently with working with the firm.

Portland Electric started out as electrical contractors and specialists in refrigeration, today they are principally in electrical contracting and in armature rewinding, serving large installations in the area as well as householders. They can handle anything from range motors to a 50 horse power motor. They do anything around the home from check a light switch to rewiring a house.

Until 1955 A. J. Goyetche was sole head of the firm, but at that time took into partnership with him his brother, David. The firm literally grew up with Dartmouth. "It was a good time to get a start", says Mr. Goyetche, "Dartmouth was just beginning to boom".

As Dartmouth grew the firm grew too, and Mr. Goyetche is confident that the growth is far from over. "With the influx of industry Dartmouth can only continue to expand," he says.

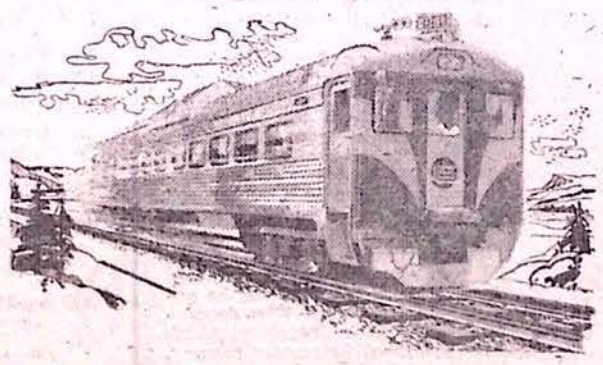
Mr. Goyetche not only does business in Dartmouth, he is very much part of community life. He belongs to the Kiwanis Club, the Dartmouth Curling Club, the Board of Trade, is a member of the Knights of Columbus and a parishioner of St. Peter's Church. With his wife, the former Helen Fougere, he lives with his three daughters, Donna 10; Maureen 8; Janet, 5; at 22 Slayter Street.

(We are glad to hear the good news of Mr. Goyetche's success in Dartmouth. Fred is a son of the late Capt. and Mrs. Alcide Goyetche of this town, who raised a large and worthy family, all of whom were highly regarded by everyone. We also note where Fred has his brother, Dave as a partner in the Portland Electric and we extend to both these young men our hearties congratulations and may their business continue to grow and prosper.—Editor)

NEW!

ANOTHER FAST

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SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

Couple of weeks ago, I suggested, with the delicacy of a Percheron, that it might be a good idea if I got some fan mail. Just a token—about a million letters.

We were going to show that Pierre Berton, with his average of 30 letters a day, what real fan mail was. We were going to fill a truck with letters, drive to the city, dump the entire million in his office and sneer, "There! Howdaya like THEM apples, Buster?"

Well, all I can say is that I'm going to look pretty silly, pushing a wheelbarrow full of letters down that highway.

Come to think of it, though, we didn't do so badly. Berton writes a column a day, and gets 30 letters. I write a column a week, and I got 151 letters. Putting it roughly, I get five times as much fan mail as Pierre Berton. Say, this is sounding better all the time. Who does that guy think he is, anyway?

As I write, the letters are still coming in at the rate of about 10 a day. We topped 25 three days in a row. I've never had such interesting mail in my life. Main reason is because it's all about me.

Mighty flattering it was when the first letters were from newspaper people, who read the column before it gets into their papers. One of the first to arrive was from Art Reyhdal of Atikokan, a linotype operator who writes better than most editors. Four typed pages, lively and sardonic as only a lino operator can be.

Oddly enough two of the earliest arrivals were from readers of the most faraway paper on the list, the Whitehorse (Yukon) Star. Fred Heck sent a pleasant note and Rusty Erlam kept it to a brief "I'm witcha, boy".

Then they began rolling in from all directions— the west coast, the Maritimes, the prairie provinces, Ontario and Quebec, and a dozen or two different places in the States.

It's pretty exciting to know that Ted and Ruby Midgley are reading your column in their trailer in Chula Vista, California, just about the same time Molly Blackburn of Middle Musquodoboit, Nova Scotia, is picking up her local weekly to have a look at Sugar and Spice.

Mrs. Lilas Gillea, a Swiss born lady who loves Canada, scans it in Warwick, Quebec, before sending it to her son in England, and Madeline Vander Zanden, right across the continent in Forest Grove, Oregon, flips through the Red Deer Advocate to get at the column.

It's thrilling to know that you pack enough punch to make harassed housewives kick the kids out of the way, sit down among the breakfast dishes, and pen a note of encouragement to "keep it coming."

It's delightful to get mash notes from dear old ladies in their eighties, One of them, obviously written with great difficulty, ended, " . . . and I can tell you, it's no fun being 89," and made me deeply ashamed of the beefing I do about little aches and pains.

One gal was born the same day I was and likes the birthday columns. Betty Hall of Tillsonburg trained as a nurse with my kid sister, who taught her to smoke. Margaret Farnell of Edmonton says her husband was in Six Group, Bomber Command, and enjoys the air force reminiscences.

Roger Hartzel of Neepawa, Man., along with about 50 others, wonders how the Old Battleaxe likes being called The Old Battleaxe. As a matter of fact, she rather enjoys it. She's a pretty sharp-looking doll, and it makes her glow a bit when she meets strangers and they exclaim, "Surely YOU'RE not the OLD BATTLEAXE!" in amazement.

There's a good chance that she's going to have to be at her best to hold me, though. Now that I'm a popular idol, with 151 letters, she's going to have competition. One lady wrote to say that if I ever went farming, she'd go into partnership with me. Another said I was better looking than she'd expected, and that she just loved me.

She rather spoiled it by adding that she sends the paper each week to her granddaughter. Still another stated flatly: "Any time your Old Girl leaves you, I shall be waiting here with a beer to cheer. Old Maid."

* * *

It's amazing—but no news to weekly editors — how far some papers travel. Mrs. Lillian Smyth of Leader, Sask., sends her paper to her children in Seattle, and from there it goes to California. Many others reported similar skulduggery.

I was deeply hurt that I received only one letter from my old home town of Wiarton. It was from Bert Sinclair, the town clerk, and read: "Dear Bill thanks, for putting your address in your column. We didn't have it here at the office. This is not exactly a fan letter. It is just to inform you that your 1960 taxes are still owing, plus $5.62 interest." ... I'm planning to answer every letter, and I can assure you, that one is going to the bottom of the pile.

I can't begin to pass along all the messages I received but will add that they were generous, kind and interesting.

There wasn't a scurrilous one in the lot. Thank you, gentle readers, with all my heart. It's pretty nice to know that while there may not be any great demand for me in Hollywood, London or New York they wait for me in Watford, go for me in Georgetown, eat me up in Egansville, hang on my every word in Hanteport, and love me in Leader

———:o:———

Major MacLean Dies in B. C.

A distinguished citizen of Antigonish, Major T. A. MacLean died suddenly in White Rock, British Columbia recently, at the age of 87. He had been spending the winter months with his sister.

A retired mining engineer with an outstanding record of achievement in many parts of Canada, Major MacLean served with distinction in the First World War. He was an active member of St. James United Church in Antigonish, the Church choir, and the Antigonish Highland Society.

"The Major" as he was familarly known, was born at Charlottetown in 1873. He was educated at West Kent School, Prince of Wales College, and McGill in Montreal where he was awarded his B.A., and BSC in mining engineering in 1898.

In 1904 he married the former Margaret Louise MacLachlan of Marble Mountain, Cape Breton. She predeceased him in 1951, as did a daughter Margaret (Mrs. A. A. Gillespie) of Chatham, Ontario in 1959.

In his early life as an engineer, Major MacLean was consulting engineer when water and sewerage facilities were installed in the towns of New Glasgow, Pictou, Springhill, Chatham, Newcastle, Shediac and Charlottetown.

Later he was employed with the federal department of mines in Yukon Territory where he investigated deposits of gold, silver, lead and copper. He subsequently wrote a book on lode mining in the Yukon which was published by the department of mines in Ottawa in 1914.

He was a member of the Association of Professional Engineers, a member of the Engineering Institute of Canada, a member of the Canadian Institute of Mining Metallurgy, and a member of the Canadian Legion.

He is survived by three sons: Thomas, Lockeport; Archibald, Toronto; William, Dartmouth; and one daughter, Marion (Mrs. John Ryan), Niagara Falls, New York; a sister, Mrs. George Stewart of White Rock, B. C.

In recent years he had been living at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Levis Desjardins in Antigonish.

(Major MacLean was well known in Arichat, having been resident engineer for the Department of Highways, on the costruction of the Grand Anse-Arichat highway, via the North Side of Isle Madame. We were happy to be personally acquainted with our late beloved friend, in whom we found a man of high principles and genial personality. Major MacLean's name will be associated with our splendid highways on Isle Madame for many years to come. During his stay here he made many friends all of whom were saddened at the news of his passing. We extend our sincere sympathy to his bereaved sons, daughter and sister, in the passing of their distinguished father and brother.—Editor.)

NOTICE

Applications will be received by the undersigned up to and including the 5th day of April A. D. 1961, for the position of Director of Civil Defence for the Municipality of Richmond.

This is a part time job and applicants should have his own car. Salary has not yet been determined but will not be more than $850.00 per year. For further particulars please contact the Municipal Office at Arichat.

R. J. LeBlanc,
Municipal Clerk and Treasurer
Municipality of Richmond

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MARSHALL J. BOURINOT
Editor and Publisher

ARICHAT, Cape Breton, Canada

MARCH 11, 1961

The Rewards Of Tenacity

It is unfortunately true that discouragement alone prevents many of us from the accomplishment of seemingly impossible tasks.

In a "what's the use?" frame of mind we tend to underrate the true value of relentlessness in the face of overwhelming odds or circumstances.

Fortunately for the rest of us, the human race encompasses those who are imbued with several shares of dogged determination. It is their record of accomplishment which points the way to others to achieve greater things.

One such commendable record is that of your Canadian Red Cross in two of its little-publicized fields of endeavour-its Reunion of Families programme and its Enquiry Bureau services.

Much of your Red Cross work in these areas would break the patience of lesser jobs. It is a world of a plethora of correspondence, cables, telegrams, files, affidavits, telephone calls, the endless processing of documents to reunite families, the endless follow-up of "leads" in tracing missing persons for relatives or friends.

Completion of a case may take weeks, months, or even years, but the value of tenaciousness in both of these Red Cross endeavours can be measured by their results.

Since its inception in 1952 the Canadian Red Cross Re-union of Families programme has seen over 900 grandparents, parents and children from behind the "Iron Curtain" reunited with their families in Canada Without the world-wide affiliation of the Red Cross and the intervention of national Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with the competent authorities in the various European countries, it is doubtful whether many of these 900 could have obtained permission to leave. Without the help of the Red Cross they would probably remain as families divided.

Last year the Canadian Red Cross Enquiry Bureau processed 7,708 queries from 39 countries and successfully traced 1,118 persons for those who had lost track of them. On the domestic scene a similar service is carried on between Canadian Red Cross Divisions in each of our 10 provinces for those seeking information about victims of disaster, sickness, accidents or death.

There is no question of the rewards of tenacity in this Canadian Red Cross work.

The Reunion of Families and the Enquiry Bureau are but two of the vital Red Cross services which are available to all who need them and which benefit all of us as members of our Canadian society.

When the Red Cross volunteer canvasser calls at your door this year you are asked to remember that your contribution helps the Red Cross to serve in so many ways.

Much of its work never makes the headlines but, whether visible or invisible, the devotion of its workers ensures that your Red Cross is on the job, WHATEVER the need, because YOU help to make it so with your financial support.

Let us all keep our Red Cross READY to serve in so many ways.

RICHMOND COUNTY HOME & SCHOOL NEWS

MONTHLY MEETING LOUISDALE HOME AND SCHOOL

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisdale Home and School Association was held on March 2, with Mrs. Viola Landry presiding.

Before the meeting the film "Family Circles" was shown. This film indicated the changes in patterns of living in recent years and and descriptive influences on present day families.

Mr. Raymond Marchand introduced our guest speaker, Mr. A. J. Saulnier, Inspector of Schools. Mr. Saulnier thoroughly explained the two track program already in existence in Middleton, Bedford, Coxheath, New Ross and Digby. He stated that the two track program came into existence after a serious discussion on the question. "Is our curriculum suitable for our present day scholars." "Parents along with teachers must pivot this program," stated Mr. Saulnier. A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Saulnier on motion of Rev. C. P. Girrior.

Our program convenor, Mother Blandine announced that in observance of Education Week "Parent Day" would be on Thursday. The "Ways and Means" convenor, Mr Gerald Burt, in his report stated that $183.45 was raised from card parties in February.

After an enjoyable sing song the meeting was adjourned.

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HOME AND SCHOOL POINT TUPPER

The regular monthly meeting of the Point Tupper Home and School Association was held at the school on Tuesday, February 21. Twenty-five members and guests were present.

The meeting opened with the singing of O Canada, followed by the Home and School prayer. Mrs. Harold Oliver, President, welcomed the members and visitors. The Secretary, Carmel Oliver read the minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report was given by Mrs. Lester Swain.

Mrs. J. W. Cloake spoke a few words on the possibility of starting a Credit Union in our school. She told of the value of this organization among the pupils. A field worker would come to speak to the teachers and pupils, and discuss the setting up of a Credit Unfon. The idea was approved by the Association.

The members agreed that a sum of fifty dollars be given as prize money for the pupils at the end of the school term. Prize money convener is Robert King, Principal. The Association also agreed to donate five dollars to the Red Cross Society. Mr. King thanked the Home and School Association for the cod-liver oil capsules which they had supplied for the pupils.

Mrs. J. W. Cloake, Founder's Day Convener, gave a very interesting talk on the aims of the Home and School Association. She also spoke briefly on the history of our Association.

Lunch was served by the Social committee. The centre of attraction was a birthday cake, bearing seventeen candles, signifying the number of years since the Point Tupper Association was re-organized. Mrs. J. W. Cloake donated the Founder's Day cake.

Preceding the meeting two puppet plays were presented by the pupils of Grades 6, 7, and 8, under the direction of Mrs. Iris Letcher.

———:o:———

LAKESIDE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

The regular meeting of Lakeside Home and School Association was held on February 15, with president, Mr. Mark Samson, presiding.

Following the reading of the minutes, reports were heard from the Treasurer, the Membership Convener and the Ways and Means Convener. The New Ways and Means Committee to act for the two month period were named as follows: Mrs. George Carter, Mrs. Peter Burke and Mrs. Henry Landry.

A request for art materials was made by the teachers and granted.

There followed a talk on the meaning of Founder's Day, after which a silver collection was taken up.

On motion, meeting adjourned and lunch was served by the ladies.

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ST. PETER'S HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OBSERVES EDUCATION WEEK

In keeping with the Provincial theme for Education Week, "Why Stay in School", the St. Peter's Home and School Association held a panel discussion at the March meeting. Mrs. Helen Gogen, Principal of the School, acted as Chairman, and members of the panel, a representative of the Department of Education, a parent, a teacher, and a Grade XII pupil, were as follows: Mr. A. J. Saulnier, Inspector of Schools, Mr. Jack Adams, Mrs. Jesslyn LeVesconte, Mr. Paul Hureau, respectively. After the views of the panel were set forth, the members of the Association at large were invited to join in the discussion, and a lively exchange of views followed.

Mr. Paul Hureau was the Grade XII winner in an Essay Contest sponsored by the Home and School

(Continued on page 3)



Diary of a Vagabond

BY DOROTHY BARKER

Never has there been any thrill quite like the first moment when you open the front door, take a deep breath of sun warmed atmosphere and notice a small patch of green grass that has thrust its way through a blanket of snow. Yes, there is one to equal it, the instant when you notice that first pointed green cap of tulip leaves which has poked through a rockery's earthen pockets.

The thermometer at the side of the house read 32 degrees above zero, but in the lea of the front entranceway, where the sun danced on the black slate floor, it was nearer 50 degrees. I felt like a possum rousing itself from its hibernation sleep, warmed by the sun, but still dazed by the memory of consistent below zero weather that froze our water system tighter than the Arctic regions.

I should have been forewarned when that letter came out of the west reminding me there had been no catastrophe happen to our household this winter for me to write about. My correspondent jovially remarked Ontario must be basking in the perpetual glow of a high pressure system. Feeling as secure as a babe in its mother's arms I chose that particular day to shop and dine in the big city. Only to discover when I emerged into the great outdoors to take my train home that the mercury had taken a nose dive. Down, down it went, driving the frost deeper and deeper into the ground that covered the incoming water pipe servicing our abode.

Midnight and the wind howled. I prepared to tuck my little old cold toes into a nice electric-blanket-warmed bed and ignore the weather, when I discovered not a tap in the house had a drip in it. Usually I am guilty of leaving the odd pan or milk bottle soaking, but this time I had meticulously cleaned up the kitchen, even dumping the electric teakettle before I left for the city.

Suddenly I developed a horrible thirst. I panted from kitchen to bathroom hopefully turning taps. my tongue clinging to the roof of my mouth like a snail to the side wall of an aquarium. I tied an electric pad to one pipe and sat on my haunches trying to hypnotize it into spouting water, like a snake watching a toad. Nothing happened.

The craving for water was as nothing compared with the agony I suffered at dawn when I realized I couldn't even brew myself a cup of coffee. I watched the electric clock tick its way around to 8 a. m. when I could call the local welder and hope for relief. The radio cheerily announced we were in for a long spell of severe weather. What if I had to wait until spring to see that lovely aqua pura gush from those gleaming chronium plated plumbing fixtures!

Hours passed. I found a tumbler of water on the diningroom windw sill where apparently I had left it after watering the African violets. No prospector ever thrilled to a discovery as I did when I spied that meager supply. Stale and flat, it made me a cup of the strongest coffee I ever brewed.

Finally the welder drove his truck up the driveway. He barged into the hallway covered with snow and demanded to know where the pipe came into the house. He looked at me in sheer disgust when I said I hadn't a clue and prepared to wind up his cable and depart.

After some persuasion he consented to descend into the crawl space beneath the house and see if he could locate the incoming pipe. I should explain for those who have never had their pipes frozen that it is necessary to hitch a cable to this pipe and another circulating the water system to get a flow of currant.

He got beneath the house all right through a trap door in the kitchen floor, all six feet four of him bundled in downy stuffed parka and bound up in a rubber coil like a deep sea diver wrestling an octopus.

Then I heard oaths that curled my hair and shivered my timbers. He was down, but how was he going to get up again! Why do people build their blankity blank houses without basements anyway, he wanted to know from the very bowles of the earth.

I had visions of feeding him for weeks by lowering a pail to his prison quarters while a contractor practically demolished the house to release him, when the radio blared out "It's so nice to have a man around the house!"

He must have heard it and decided he'd rather twist a vertebrae than stick around this humble home much longer for I heard an agonizing groan. Soon a head appeared above the floor level, followed by a pair of broad shoulders, a mud covered parka, blue jeans and a pair of flight boots.

Not a word was spoken. He attached another cable to the kitchen tap, turned on the juice and in less than a minute the silver tinkle of water gushing into basin, sink and toilet was a glorious sound.

All he said as he accepted a sizable cheque for his service was "Better keep them taps runnin' till spring."

They are off just now, but this lovely false spring will soon vanish for a few weeks. Another flurry of snow is bound to cover that patch of green grass and the tulips are going to be surprised when a dark, cold blanket again smothers their growth. But there's a promise in that old query, "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" The first crocus is due toward the end of March. Then this most recent episode in the Barker menage will be only a laugh for my Saskatchewan correspondent.

FOR SALE

1 Belanger Kitchen Range. Practically new. For further particulars apply to- Mrs. Thomas Short, Poulamon, Nova Scotia.

FOR RENT

House for rent at St. Peter's. Apply, Clayton MacRae, Blue Hill River Rd., Canton, Mass.

FOR SALE

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WARNING

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS ARE NOT CLOSED NOW:—

but at a later date the Minister of Highways will publish a notice closing all highways in the Province to the following classes of traffic, namely:—

(a) Traffic by any vehicle having a SINGLE AXLE weight in excess of 8,000 pounds gross load where such axle is equipped with two pneumatic tires.

(b) Traffic by any vehicle having a SINGLE AXLE weight in excess of 10,000 pounds gross load where such axle is equipped with four or more pneumatic tires.

(c) Traffic by any vehicle having a TANDEM WEIGHT in excess of 12,000 pounds gross load with no single axle of the tandem pair exceeding 7,500 pounds where such tandem axle is equipped with two pneumatic tires.

(d) Traffic by any vehicle having a TANDEM WEIGHT in excess of 15,000 pounds gross load with no single axle of the tandem pair exceeding 9,400 pounds where each tandem axle is equipped with four or more pneumatic tires.

(e) Traffic by any vehicle having a triple axle assembly weight in excess of 15,000 lbs. with no single axle of the triple assembly weight in excess of 15,000 lbs. with no single axle of the triple assembly exceeding 7,000 lbs. where each axle is equipped with two pneumatic tires.

(f) Traffic by any vehicle having a triple axle assembly weight in excess of 18,000 lbs. with no single axle of the triple assembly exceeding 8,000 lbs. where each axle is equipped with four or more pneumatic tires.

Pursuant to the above a vehicle such as a truck, truck-tractor, trailer or any combination thereof may have a total gross weight which is the sum of the gross weights of all its axles.

This warning is now given in order that those concerned may make arrangements in advance.

G. I. SMITH
Minister of Highways

February, 14, 1961.
Halifax, Nova Scotia

A Four Generation Family Celebrate



The above photo was taken recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Morton S. Binet and shows four generations of Mrs. Simon D. Boudreau's family of this town. From left to right are: Mrs. Ralph Samson, (Lydia), a granddaughter; Mrs. Morton Binet, (Cecile), a daughter; little Sherry Samson, a great granddaughter and seated to the front is Mrs. Boudreau,, who recently celebrated her 72nd birthday and is the mother of a large family; the grandmother of 66 children and the great grandmother of 21 children.

A very industrious and highly respected resident of Arichat, Mrs. Boudreau has the best wishes of her friends for many more years of happiness.

NEWS ABOUT TOWN AND COUNTY



New Mail Schedule

The mails arrive here at noon instead of the evening, and outgoing mails leave at the same hour.

Stanley Diggdon is the new mail courier from Grand Anse, having recently obtained the contract.

———:O:———

Mrs. Flora Cutler

A full obituary to the memory of Mrs. Flora Cutler, will appear in our next issue. We extend sympathy to her daughter, Mrs. Alvin Whyte, and to relatives in Arichat.

———:O:———

Opens Harbour

The Government ice-breaker, General Wolfe, has opened Arichat Harbor to the Govt. wharf. The M. V. Vanaheim of the Arichat-Mulgrave Service, can now dock at the wharf.

———:O:———

Successful Operation

Mrs. James A. Dickie, the former Marion Bourinot, was successfully operated on for goitre, at the City Hospital, Sydney. The operation was performed by Dr. Douglas MacKenzie, eminent surgeon of Sydney.

Mrs. Dickie's friends will be pleased to learn that she is making a satisfactory recovery.

———:O:———

To St. Peter's

Mrs. Olla C. Mauger, who spent the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Marshall Bourinot and family, left for St. Peter's on Sunday, where she will visit another daughter, Mrs. Jack LeVesconte and family, for several weeks.

———:O:———

Recent Visitors

Mrs. Alex Pearce of Montreal, accompanied by her sister-in-law, Mrs. Thomas Brier of Brookline, Que., were recent visitors to Sydney and Arichat.

While in Arichat Mrs. Pearce sold her property to Warren Mauger.

Mrs. Pearce is the former Haidee Thurgood, a daughter of Mrs. Mary Thurgood and the late Albert Thurgood for many years residents of this town.

During their stay they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Bourinot and it was indeed a pleasure to see Haidee and to make the acquaintance of her sister-in-law, the former Dorothy Pearce.

———:O:———

PETER HUGH MACINTOSH

The funeral of the late Peter Hugh MacIntosh, who passed away February 19th. in the City Hospital, Sydney, was held from his late residence in Oban February 21st.

He was born at Oban, 84 years ago, the son of John MacIntosh and Mary Bouchannan. He was predeceased by his wife, the former Christie Ann Ferguson, 19 years ago.

Survivors are two sisters; Mrs. Cassie MacDonald of Grand Anse and Mrs Christie M. Ross with whom he resided. also several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. G. O. Mattinson of St. Peter's United Church.

The pallbearers were: D. A. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Angus MacDonald, Donald MacDonald, Albert Bouchard and Robert Ross.

A man of kindly and cheerful disposition, he will be missed by his many friends in the community.

———:O:———

BACKWARD PROGRESS

The latest invention from behind the Iron Curtain is a reversible bicycle. When you get tired of peddling one way, you can pedal the other and still get where you want to go. It required five years work to produce it.

FOR SALE

New 28 foot boat for sale, with engine, hauler and cabin, only used 2 months lobster fishing.

Anyone interested, please get in touch with-- Oakley Pitts, West Arichat Rich. Co. N. S.

To Sydney

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Kennedy, the former Priscilla Theriault, were visiting in Sydney and Louisbourg for several days.

Mr. Kennedy was recently appointed an engineer on the Government ice breaker, Wolfe.

This popular young couple was recently united in marriage and we are happy to learn that Mr. Kennedy will be taking up residence in Cape Breton. May good fortune follow the couple throughout their wedded life.

———:O:———

C. W. L. MEETING HELD

At the L'Ardoise C. W. L. monthly meeting held Feb. 8, the spiritual convener reported that the rosary was recited by five different groups at wakes. Social convener reported three old couples remembered on their anniversaries.

Correspondence read acknowledgement of three Mass Cards sent to a deceased member and deceased relatives of members.

Resolution adopted at the 40th. Annual National Convention of the C. W. L. of Canada were reviewed at the meeting and donations for "Rosaries for Chile" were requested from those who have not already done so.

Plans are being made by the members to have a reading stand of good books in a convenient place in the parish to supplant objectionable literature.

This being Catholic Press Month Rev. Father J. A. MacDonald, explained why we should support our Catholic Press, contribute to it and share it. At next monthly meeting he will conduct a study on the sacraments.

There being no further business meeting adjourned with prayer.

———:O:———

K. O. C. CONFER DEGRESS

The Degree Team from Laurence Kavanagh Council conducted the initiation of eight candidates on Sunday, March 5th, at the Council Chambers in West Arichat.

The Degree team consisted of Fr. C. Gerrior, E. Power, A. Rankin, J. Currie, P. Jollymore P. MacDonnell and W. Corbett.

Eight members were initiated in both degrees and a good turnout of members were present. Those candidates will present themselves for the 3rd. Degree at St. Peter's Hall, Port Hood, on Sunday night, March 19th.

It was also announced by M. A. MacNeil, Six-Point Program Chairman, that a Corporate Communion will be held in West Arichat Church on Friday evening, March 17th. This will be followed by a fish chowder to be held in the hall afterwards. The wives and girl friends of the members are also invited to attend this gathering.

———:O:———

Love makes everything lovely; hate concentrates itself on the one thing hatred.

—George Macdonald

Successful Operation

Friends of Alex Theriault of this place will be pleased to hear that that he recently underwent a successful operation at the V. G. Hospital, Halifax and is expected home shortly. Alex is one of our industrious farmers.

———:O:———

BIRTH

Born to- Mr. and Mrs. Bill Newman of Sarnia, nee Betty Packer, formerly of Martinique, recently, a son.

ST. PETER'S HOME AND SCHOOL

(Continued from Page 2)

Association during Education Week. Other pupils entering prize winning essays in the senior and junior high school grades were as follows: Grade XI: Gary Campbell; Grade X: Colin Pottie; Grade IX; Sylvia Adams; Grades VII-VIII: Kemp Ross and Richard Cotton.

The teachers commended the pupils for the quality of the essays and the views expressed by them on the subject, "Why Stay in School".

The Education Week Program for the Association was arranged by Mrs. Ada LeVesconte.

PLEASE RETURN

Anyone having in their possession an air-cushion belonging to the Isle Madame Unit of the Cancer Society, please return same to Mrs. Xyste Landry or Mrs. Clarence (Capt.) Forgeron, West Arichat.

Nursing Homes Act

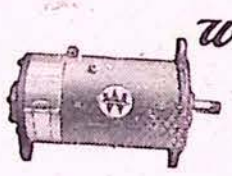
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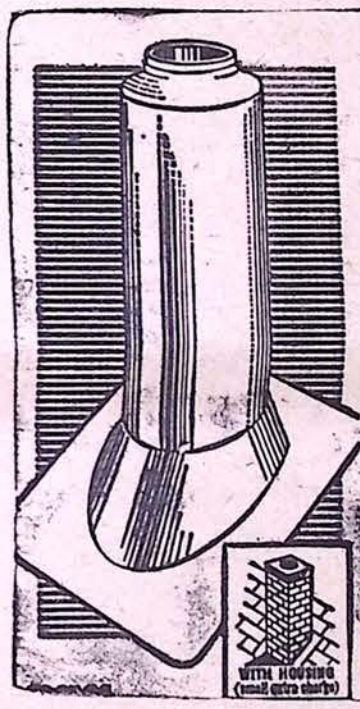
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Passenger Plates March 31st, 1961

Operators Licenses At end of Birth Month Fee $1.00
Do not apply for renewal of your Operator's License until the month of birth as shown on your present license.

Chauffeurs Licenses December 31st, 1960 Fee $5.00

1961 registrations will be available on and after December 20th, 1960.

1960 passenger vehicle plates will be used for 1961, revalidated by a DECAL STICKER which is to be placed on the inside of the windshield at top centre in front of the rear view mirror so that it may be read from the outside. For windshields with centre divisions place sticker to right of top centre.

All other registrations will be new plates with black numbers on canary yellow background bearing year 1961.

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4617

Return of the Eelgrass

COME BACK MEANS MORE SCALLOPS, CLAMS AND CRABS

(The following article written by Edward A. Sherman, Information Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and appeared in a Massachusetts daily. The clipping was sent to us by Mrs. May Kilburn, a former resident of D'Escousse and is no doubt interested in the return of this sea plant, which at one time covered the coastline and at low tide was considered a very troublesome weed to fishermen and bathers. Like the American coastline, a return of the eelgrass is here again and although not as plentiful as past years, no doubt this eelgrass has again taken root, and in a few years will be as plentiful as ever. This plant is not so worthless as we thought and the following article will enlighten us on its value as one of natures means of providing life to the fishes and waterfowl that frequens our shores.—Editor.)

In 1931 the narrow, ribbon-like marine plant known to scientists as Zostera Marina, commonly called eelgrass in this country, mysteriously sickened and died on both sides of the Atlantic and on our Pacific Coast, with serious consequences to marine life, the fisheries, as well as the topography of the hore line.

The story of how the disappearance of millions of acres of this plant disrupted an entire biotic community, removing a direct source of food for some aquatic birds and fishes and indirectly affecting many marine invertebrates, which, in turn, served as food for other animals, highlights the interpenence of all living things.

Eelgrass constitutes a base for the pyramid of higher life that rests upon it. This base serves as a food factory for fish and waterfowl by transforming the energy of sunlight, together with the carbon dioxide and nutrients dissolved in the water, into almost inexhaustible quantities of rich food. Microscopic plants and animals live on its foliage. The young of clams and other shellfish use the plant as an anchorage. Shellfish and worms live on rain of decaying matter it deposits on the bottom. These forms of live in turn serve as food for the larger animals—such as flatfish, codfish and waterfowl.

Nature uses eelgrass in an attempt to alleviate the evils of polluted water, since it acts as a sort of friction filter for sewage sediment which clings to the plants' surface until transformed into nourishment for lower forms of life.

The existence of eelgrass at the mouths of rivers, in whose brackish water it flourishes, prevents erosion by holding silt and sediment.

Commercially, eelgrass is sometimes used as fertilizer mulch for gardens, packing material and insulation.

Various forms of shellfish suffered as the eelgrass sickened and died off, not only from the loss of food supply but from deposits of silt on the shellfish beds formerly checked by the plant.

What caused this catastrophe on our coastline? Some scientists point to an epidemic of particular fungus whose scientific name is Labyrinthula. Others believe enviromental changes, principally increase in the salinity of the water, weakened the plant to the point where an epidemic of the fungus caused almost total destruction of this latter theory is the fact that when the plant started to make its comeback it first appeared to thrive in waters of low salt content.

The amount of destruction of eelgrass was almost to the point of complete extinction along our coast as well as in Europe, violating what scientists describe as a principle that a parasite seldom completely destroys the host upon which it depends.

After nearly several years of desolation, beds of eelgrass started to come back, first signs of life being in areas of low salinity, as at the mouths of rivers.

With the return of the eelgrass came the scallops, clams, crabs and other forms of life that needed the plant as an essential part of their environment.

In Massachusetts, Pleasant Bay on the Cape was one of the first areas to see the return of normal growths of the plant that is so essential to many human interests, excepting perhaps swimmers and motor operators who sometimes become tangled in the plant's long narrow ribbons. Over the past few years the plant has slowly returned in rather spotty fashion in areas of its former abundance along our New England coast, although there are still large sections which are still bare, where formerly luxuriant growths provided food for birds and marine life as well as good habitat for valuable shellfish.

—:O:—

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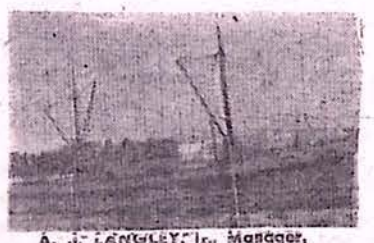
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The Romeos present a copy of their first recording to CBC-TV singing star Juliette. The record includes an original number, Three Times Over, adapted from a Ukrainian folk tune which the Romeos first heard on the Juliette show early this year, when a group of Ukrainian dancers were guests. The Romeos appear on the Juliette show every Saturday night on the CBC-TV network.

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