Richmond County Record

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT"

An Independent Journal Devoted Solely in the Interest of Richmond County

THE RICHMOND COUNTY RECORD, ARICHAT, N. S., JANUARY 26, 1963



Diary of a Vagabond

BY DOROTHY BARKER

A SMALL BOY'S NEED

A little boy with the big-man-name of Scott Peter Turner wrote to the President of the United States protesting the bulldozing of his special canyon for hunting lizards. This deed, he said, was in preparation for a new subdivision.

Scott wrote—"Dear Mr. President we have no place to go when we want to go out in canyon Becaus there a going to Build houses So could you setaside some land where we could play thank you for lisening love Scott."

His father added a postscript to his son's appeal, "In building our progressive world of supervised play and sterilized playthings we seem to have forgotten that a youth needs trees, and frogs, and earth with ants in it—and time for uninterrupted observations of the path he treads. Isn't it nostalgically sad when, in an era of seemingly intellectual advancement and highly civilized progress, a little boy can't find a place to play?"

MORE REASONS THAN ONE

This is the answer to a query so often expressed to me, "Why do you live on the edge of those wooded acres with only the denizens of swamp, creek and trees with which to fraternize?"

We bought these eight acres, which by the way are now almost entirely surrounded by new homes, homes, to give our two boys "a place to play." They built tree huts, captured fireflies in jars with pierced lids ("so the bugs can breathe"), bottled polywogs and crayfish from the creek and dangled worms over their sandwiches purposely just to hear me scream.

I think the reason I still live here is twofold. The next generation is just beginning to grow into that lanky age when to be alone in a tree hut, or to lie in a bed of weeds or snow and gaze at a blue sky is just as important to them as tomorrow's breakfast. They cannot do this in their well planned subdivision homes.

I am sure they do not think of this grandmother in the old fashioned way as a font of homemade cookies and pie when they head this way. Their hunting instinct is always at a fever pitch as they tumble out of their parents' car and head for the swamp, with hardly a hasty "hello" thrown my way. I can expect my supply of empty jam jars will be raided within minutes and for days after they have returned to riding their bikes around the crescents of their home moorings, I will be battling an invasion of ants and flushing down the toilet dead creatures of nature made captive and forgotten.

And the second reason I am domiciled on a country lane? Watching a red squirrel on his forage mission springing from tree to tree, or the shadow of rabbit tracks in moonlit snow, the mating song of bullfrogs in spring and the crickets' persistent click, click in fall can thrill me far more than the whirr of an elevator in a big apartment building or the hum of traffic on a city street.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES RESUMED AT ST. PETER'S

The Adult Education Classes have resumed at St. Peter's High School, where classes are held on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. The local Board of Trustees has granted permission to use the school for these classes. Instructor's salaries are paid by student fees and a grant from the Adult Education Department, which is represented in Cape Breton by Mr. Joseph Chaisson, of Sydney.

Home Catering classes are held on Wednesday evenings, under the supervision of Mrs. Rita Landry, who was trained in this field, in Boston Mass. and Washington, D. C. Here the students are taught to make fancy sandwiches, hors d'ouevres, ornamental cake icing, etc. Ten members make up this class.

A class in Home Sewing is presided over by Mrs. Mary MacNeil Mombourquette, of L'Ardoise, a qualified Home Economics teacher. Twelve are enrolled in this class, which meets on Thursday.

Two sections of Touch Typewriting are given on Thursday evenings, with instructer Mrs. Alice Currie, who taught business classes in New York City and Long Island, for many years. This is a basic course, continuing through letter set-up and tabulation, with sixteen students in each course.

In L'Ardoise, Mrs. Mombourquette has another Sewing class which meets on Thursday evening.

These five classes are held for two hour sessions, one evening a week and will continue for twenty-two weeks. Mrs. Duncan Currie, Adult Education Organizer for the Richmond County Council of Home and School Associations, is the organizer for the classes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Richmond County Record.

Mr. Editor:—A few weeks ago, by the medium of the Chronicle-Hearld, citizens of the Island portion of our County voiced their dreams and ideals relative to the economic progress of that important part .

Accordingly, we having long since realized, that a tree will not flourish without its extremities—its branches, etc.—we conclude neither will a Municipality flourish and grow if its outlying districts are left to wither and die. And the latter condition is just what is rampant in four of the Municipal districts. I refer to three of the most eastern districts plus the most westerly one.

Those areas in the past contributed greatly to the birth and development of this Municipality—made it possible to have one. The then hardy, energetic, pioneer drew his living from the soil, the forest and the sea, on the whole. Such was the fundamental economy of those distant days. Public authority, however, saw to it that he was provived with the general, over all needed, roads, bridges, breakwaters, reef markings, etc. Transportation was his own responsibility and at relatively small costs performed by the faithful horse.

Today the coming of the Gas Engine has changed all this and its use, in this modern age is a must, but comparitively at an enormous increase in costs. Modren cars, trucks, etc., with upkeep, add up to the proverbial fortune. But so far the authorities of our day have not provided the appropriate roads and bridges. The eastern part is without a foot of paved road. Local transportation must travel over dirt roads only—mainly the narrow, crooked, rutted type. This area is known to have a rich potential in minerals, farming, fishing lumbering, plus the economy yet to develop as the result of the current Louisbourg Fortress project. Still the area seems to be dying on its feet. Ordinary expansion seems completely halted and usual upkeep largely discontinued. The foregoing all points to a ghost paradise, surely in the making, with dire results for our Municipalty as a whole, particularly its how overburdened taxpayers. This is a serious matter, calling for the attention of our Legislative bodies from the Municipal Council up.

Next, what are the facts concerning in the case of the most western Municipal district, the part contained in the area beginning westerly of the Louisdale Crossing at the junction of the paved road from Arichat with the Whiteside road. This area embraces the Whiteside, Walkerville, Evanston, Lower River and Port Malcolm communities, covering in distance about twenty miles of roadway, and as in the case of the eastern districts, served with dirt roads —not a foot of paving in sight—all of them the rutted crooked kind.

This area also, in the past, played its part in making our Municipality, and in keeping it up. Its pioneers were of the

(Continued on Page 3)



SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

Look, I take it all back. I didn't mean a word of it. I'm sorry. I apologize I'll never say it again as long as I live. Truly. I mean that part about loving snow.

Ever since that column I wrote about us skiers revelling in real winer, things have gone haywire around here. It has snowed (about 24 hours a day and about one inch per hour) and blowed (gale force) and the temperature has plummeted like a hawk going down for a fat hen.

All I can deduce is that either Somebody Up There has no sense of humor, or that the Lord is on my side. I'm not quite sure which. But it will be a long time before I try getting flippant about the weather again.

oooooooo

One kid's in bed with the 'flu. The other is outside somewhere wielding a snow shovel, and we'll be lucky if we ever see him again. The Old Battleaxe has those mid-winter blues, and the dog and cat have to be literally kicked out of doors.

The only cheering note we have had this week was a letter from our sister-in-law, who is wintering in balmy old, toasty old, sweaty old Puerto Rico, in the Caribbean, stating that she had just recovered from the worst cold she had ever had in her life. Hah!

To top it all, the inspector is coming to the school this week. This event causes roughly the same panic among school teachers as an announcement that Princess Maragaret would be around for tea on Friday would cause among a gaggle of housewives.

It reminds me of the alarm and despondency that used to take over at any camp during the war, when it was learned that a senior officer would be making an inspection of the camp. Everybody knew perfectly well that the old trout would merely totter around the camp, inspect a guard of honor, and head for the officers' mess to maintain that purplish complexion he had taken so many years to acquire.

But there was always the chance that he'd be one of those maniacs who actually wanted to taste the slop about to be served to the other ranks, instead of joining the officers over their Scotch and steaks. Or one of those nuts who actually drew a white glove along that window sill, looking for dust. Or one of those fiends who actually believed that soldiers, or airmen, or ratings, were human beings, and asked them all sorts of human-being questions, to the complete and utter detriment of ordinary disciplinee, unit morale and the divine right of officers. You never knew what you were going to get.

Worst offender of this sort I've ever experienced was Winston Churchill. One time in France, we were warned that a Very Important Person would visit our wing, which was flying dive-and-rocket fighter-bombers from a field in Normandy. We sneered. Figured it would be some crummy Air Commodore who would try and convince us that our young juicy, fresh lives were fair exchange for some vague crap labeled "freedom" or "democracy" or "home-and-loved-ones."

Nonetheless, we spitted and polished. And cursed. On the big day, we were drawn up in a hollow square, on the field. Pilots' silk scarves were exchanged for shirts and ties, flying boots for polished shoes, bare heads for caps at the right angle, beards for clean-shaven faces. Officers in front, other ranks in the rear, where they jolly well should be, in a democracy.

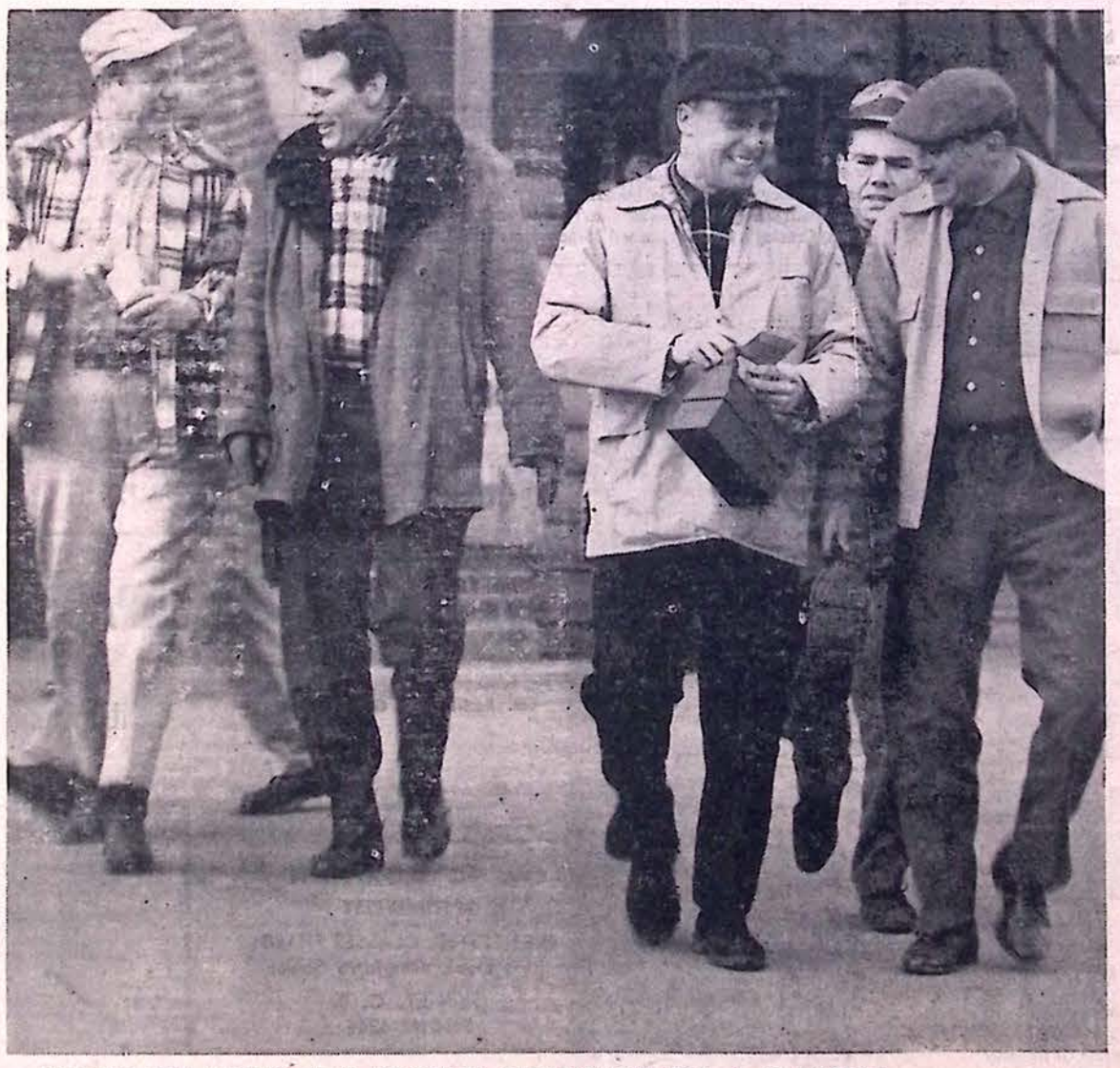
A little plane hopped the nearest hedge and butterflyed into the middle of the square. The motor was cut. A massive figure, rather like an old sea-lion, struggled out of the retad cockpit, and stood on the wing. We didn't need the jutting cigar to tell us who he was. He grinned. I'll swear his eyes twinkled, as he looked us over.

Then he lifted his right arm, as though to make the famous V-sign. Instead, he made a rude gesture, then beckoned. The "other ranks" safely in the rear where nobody would be offended by their cheap uniforms and low pay, could take a hint. They gave one wild cheer, and ran toward the plane. So help me, several officers in the front rank of the hollow square were trampled so deep into the mud of Normandy that they weren't found for days.

oooooooo

The old man with the great heart, who should have been safely at home in England, not dodging about the airfields of France in a tiny, unarmed aircraft, gave us five minutes of the famous

(Continued on Page 4)



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MARSHALL J. BOURINOT

Editor and Publisher

ARICHAT, C. B., Canada

JANUARY 26, 1963

Of Many Things

By AMBROSE HILLS

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

The other night, a television documentary pictured the tearing down of old West Boston Mass., in favour of an urban development. This was supposed to be a great boon to those who lived in the slums. But the so called slum dwellers were there to say they didn't like it. One woman talking of the little stores, where they could purchase so many kinds of cheeses and their own special brand of bread, and talk with the merchant . and she had tears of nostalgia in her eyes.

She said, "We've lost something. We walked around in the neighbourhood any time of day or night, and we knew each other and were never afraid. We – loved each other." She said it reticently, but meant every word.

The homes were not impressive. They were old style. Some curbs were cracked or broken; stairways reached every way. But there were parks where the youngsters played ball, where their Dads had softball matches too, and though all were fairly poor they were – in retrospect – a happy group of people, living in places they could afford, with a routine they had made for themselves. And now society—in the name of their welfare—has uprooted them. Modern buildings have gone up, but they don't look homelike. West enders, in the main, moved out—but come back to the district to shop, even though many of the little stores have gone and few of the market places of another day remain. Bus drivers laugh about the number of these folks they see returning to visit the old neighbourhood from which they were removed "for their own good."

The thing that has stuck in my mind since watching the show was that declaration, so earnestly made, that "We loved each other." This is sometimes true of very small towns — perhaps without waterworks or indoor facilities or much of anything that is supposed to make people happy. Yet they know each other well—weaknesses and strengths—and they love one another. And that is what makes small towns so wonderful. Occasionally, certain sections of large cities win for themselves something of that spirit. Parts of Montreal have it, I am sure of that.

Material progress is a fine thing, far more precious is a mistake, almost a crime. What I may call a slum may be a fine place in your eyes; or what I love may not please you at all. If we really loved our neighbors, we'd be careful not to "do them good" in ways that destroy their most cherished traditions and pleasures. Progress o often overlooks the true needs of humanity, replacing warmth, friendship, and familiarity with bricks and concrete. It's a poor trade.

EARLY BUILDING FOUND UNDER LOUISBOURG RUINS

Archaeologists digging in the ruins of the 18th century French Fortress of Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island have undercovered the foundation of a building older than the Fortress.

Resources Minister Walter Dinsdale, whose department is engaged in a $12 million program to partially restore the historic fortress, said the building could have been erected around 1713, seven years before the Fortress of Louisbourg began to be constructed by French engineers.

Louisbourg was settled in 1713 by French fishermen who moved from Placentia, Newfoundland. The settlement had been known as Harve a l'Anglais.

The foundation of the old building was found beneath the Place d'Armes, or rallying place, of the Chateau St. Louis where research is being carried out to restore a guard-house that once was located there.

So far all that is known about the building is that it was not a part of the Fortress and dates from an earlier period. However, the foundation will be used as a training area for workmen engaged in archaeological excavation and its expected more information will be gained on its origin and history.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF CANCER SOCIETY

The St. Peters Area Unit of the Cancer Society, at their annual meeting held in the School auditorium, on Thursday, heard reports from committee convenors and from Miss Elizabeth J. Hartling, executive secretary of the Nova Scotia Division of the Canadian Cancer Society. R. J. O'Leary, campaign chairman, gave his report on the very successful drive, when the area quota was oversubscribed. Mr. O'Leary gave special thanks to the co-chairman Rev. G. O. Mattinson, and to all the area campaign chairman. Other reports were given by Mrs. T. Lafford, welfare; and Mrs. J. Adams, transportation.

President A. O. MacLean, gave a report on the year's activities, including the highlights of Divisional meetings and Cape Breton meetings, to which he was a delegate.

The following slate of officers were approved for 1963; president A. O. MacLean; Vice-president,

(Continued on page 3)

DOUG CROSLEY — — SINGER AND ATHLETE



Whether working out his six - foot, one inch frame in a gymnasium or working in nightclubs, on stage or before television cameras, singer Doug Crosley is equally at home. Doug became known as host of CBC—TV's Swingalong last summer and now has his own weelley radio program, Crosley's Quarter, heard Mondays on the CBC radio network.

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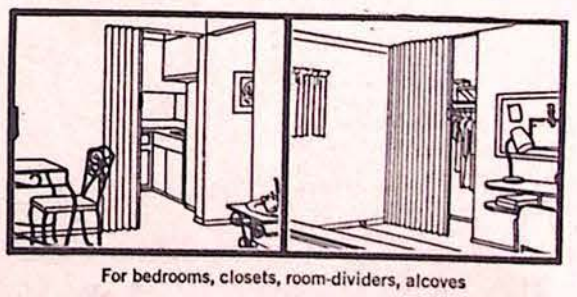
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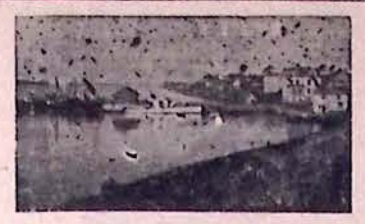
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 1)

stout and hardy type and vigorously carried on the economy of that time. From the excellent, all year open Port Malcolm harbour study ships sailed, both foreign and coastwise.. Fishing in the Gulf, Magdalean and Anticosti areas—was actively and successfully plied by the residents of that charmng Harbour (more Anon) formed by the Basin of the River Inhabitants.

The question may be asked. Why consume time and space dwelling on the economy now dead and gone forever—the builders thereof long since sleeping on the hill sides? Our answer is that the pioneer rose to the situation as he found it, and successfully built his economy out of the material and resources surrounding him and that now his decendents have but to exercise their vision. Then they will surely proceed to build upon the old foundation another economy in keeping with modern times and its demands, the material required is already but awaiting the hand of man to be put to use. Among others we have in mind the Tourist industry.

Considered as a whole, nature has indeed contributed much to this idea. The lovely River Inhabitants has its source far into Southern Inverness and flows southerly to empty its waters into that beautiful sheet of water, one of the finest in the County, named in pioneer days the Basin of the River Inhabitants. The area now known as Whiteside together with Walkerville were, previous to the building of the Cape Breton Railway, known as the Basin community or village. It's harbour—the Basin—has always been known to be a dreamlike sheet of water. Redolent with charm and beauty reflected from its almost land locked peaceful fish laden waters, and the numerous islets nestling upon its bosom, together with the green fields and habitation, comgraceful rise of its shore line into plete a picture always dear to all lovers of nature at its best.

But the exotic, the compliments of graceful nature, must come from the hand of man in the form of modern roads and bridges. Not one foot of paving is in evidence, to repeat. Why, when, excepting the eastern area already referred to—paving extends to almost every gate. Let the powers that be and have been, supply the answer, without all talking at one time. So much for much needed modern roads.

Now we come to what would prove to be an all completing idea for the area under review, and in fact for the whole of Western Richmond. We refer to the idea of bridging the River Inhabitants. The idea is not new. It was mooted years ago, and for alleged various reasons unsuccessfully. Chief reason the alleged claim, that the river floor consisted only of endless mud. In consequence a bridge not practical. But subsequently, the Cape Breton Railway, at the turn of the century, threw its own bridge over this river, and with comparative ease. Allegedly, reported at the time, it is erected on a reef. The truth of the latter was never public knowledge. Be the foregoing fact or fancy, the said Railway according to the press reports is about to fold—that is the rails removed and the bridge, in all probability reach the auction block. Here then is our Provincial Highway Board's chance to serve us well and very efficiently. Relatively speaking, for the proverbial dollar the opportunity presents itself to that body wherein it may secure possession of both site and bridge. Then, in fact, we shall be the masters of our destiny - either to bring the needed roads to the acquired bridge - or if more feasible and convenient, build or transport a bridge to connect the existing roads on each side of the said river.

In conclusion, we announce to all our Isle Madame workers, now each day commuting to the Point Tupper area, that their savings in both time and costs would then be considerable. May we suggest they compute this over at least a ten year period.

Thanks for your valuable space Mr. Editor, and our best wishes by this medium are now extended to all your readers.

Yours faithfully
E. C. DOYLE, Secretary
Richmond County Ratepayer's Association.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Mrs. Josephine Bonin wish to express their sincere thanks to kind neighbors and friends who helped in any way during their recent sad bereavement. Special thanks to Rev. Father Doucet, of West Arichat; Monsignor Boudreau of D'Escousse and to Very Rev. Fr. A. P. Poirier of Arichat. Also to all who sent Mass and Sympathy Cards, messages of sympathy and floral offerings. To all we are deeply grateful.

Inserted on behalf of the family by Mrs. Harold Covin (Jean) of West Arichat.



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COUNCIL NEWS

A full report of the annual session of Council will appear in our next issue. A good year has been reported.

ALBERT WHITE

Albert White, a highly respected resident of Halifax passed away after a long illness. His wife is the former, Lilly LeBlanc of this town. We extend sincere sympathy to the bereaved wife and family. A full obituary next issue.

MRS. JOSEPHINE BONIN

Mrs. Josephine Bonin, a highly respected resident of Poirierville, passed away at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Covin, West Arichat on Saturady, January 19th. The late Mrs. Bonin resided with her daughter during the winter.

Mrs. Bonin who was in her 81st year had been in good health and her sudden passing came as a shock to her family and friends. A very industrious lady she was highly regarded in her community and throughout the whole of Isle Madame. She was a devout member of St. Hyacinth's Church, D'Escousse, from where the Monsignor Boudreau, the pastor was the celebrant at the Requiem Mass., assisted by Very Rev. A. P. Poirier, Deacon and Rev. A. Doucet, sub-Deacon. The funeral was largely attended.

We were happy to have been well acquainted with the deceased, in whom we found a kindly lady and one who was always ready to help her neighbour in time of sickness or sorrow.

Her husband the late John Bonin predeceased her some years ago. Surviving are: Mrs. John Bouchard, (Minnie), Halifax; Mrs. Dominic Petitpas, (Florence), Halifax; Mrs. Harold Covin, (Jean), West Arichat; John, Portand, Me., Wilfred, Halifax; Louis, Arthur and Michael, all in Ontario.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the bereaved family.

ANNUAL MEETING OF CANCER SOCIETY

(Continued from page 2)

Rev. G. O. Mattinson; secretary, Mrs. George Campbell; treasurer, Miss Lois MacDonald; welfare, Mrs. T. Lafford and Mrs. A. MacDonald; transportation, Bernard Jessome and Mrs. Jack Adams; education, Mrs. Jean V. MacCuish and campaign, R. J. O'Leary.

A special feature of the meeting was a film which showed the importance of regular medical examinations in the prevention of cancer. A general discussion followed, with Miss Hartling responding to questions. The ladies of the society served refreshments, following the business meeting.

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DAVIDSON DUNTON — president and vice-chancellor of Carleton University, Ottawa, presides over Inquiry, CBC—TV's Tuesday night program which examines subjects of national importance.

GIRL GUIDES ENTERTAIN AT PARTY

The Girl Guides, St. Peter's 1st. Company, entertained their mothers and friends, at a postponed holiday party, on Tuesday. Special guests were Area Commissioner, Mrs. Guizidol; District Commissioner, Mrs. Chisholm; and a number of Guides, from the Port Hawkesbury Company. Gifts were presented to the two commissioners and exchanged by the girls. A special feature was the presentation of the following badges: Quartermaster, Captain Mrs. Myrtle MacDonald; Homemaker, Rebecca Digout, Leona Boudreau, Mary Agnes Touesnard; Friend to Animals, Jo-Anne Gillis, Earldina MacDonald; Religion, Beth MacRae; Industrial, Sally MacKenzie, Earldena MacDonald; Needlewoman, Rebecca Digout, Janice Steele, Valerie Willamson, Brenda Williamson, Margaret Steele, Leona Boudreau; Cyclist, Jo-Anne Gillis; Hostess, Karen Gillis, Theresa Mancini; Friend to the Deaf, Beth MacRae; Child Nurse, Kathleen Boudreau, Dianne Williamson, Joyce MacDonald, Renita MacAdam; Laundress, Kathleen Boudreau; Little House Emblem, Rebecca Digout Margaret Steele, Leona Boudreau, Janice Steele, Margaret Adams; Swimmer, Beth MacRae; Three new Guides were enrolled, Karen Gillis, Theresa Mancini and Pauline Theriault. Company Lieutenant Gladys Samson, read several letters acknowledging with thanks, gifs sent at Christmas, including a donaton to the Barron family, of Intigonish.

Area Commissioner Guizidol congratulated the Guides and their leaders on their achievements. The party concluded with games and refreshments.

FOLK - SINGING TEAM



Songs of the sea and the land, from Canada and abroad, are featured when folk - singers Elan Stuart and Bud Spencer team up in a new CBC radio network program, Songs from Here and There, broadcast each Wednesday from Halifax.

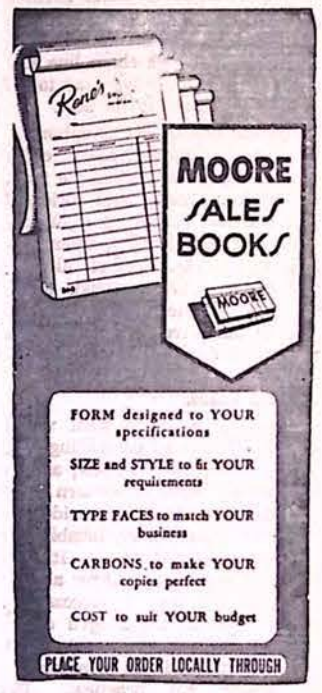
SUGAR AND SPICE

(Continued from page 1)

Churchillian prose. Not the kind you'll find in the history books, I'm afraid. More like the kind that Julius Caesar used to give his legions. Roars of delight answered him.

Now, how in the world did I get from the white wilderness outside to a blistered baked, octane-stinking, converted pasture in Normandy? Frankly, I've no idea. I keep telling my students to stick to one idea to write in logical sequence. I hope the inspector doesn't read this.

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