

Spindrift

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DANCING BEES

By GRACE A. HUGHES

All creatures, including man, look forward to the warm spring days that we feel must soon arrive. However, none look forward to them more eagerly than the bee, the most fascinating of all insects.

It has been said that there have been about twenty-thousand books written on the life and habits of the honey bee, and yet more books are still being published. Some of the newer ones being released record data about the highly developed instincts of the bee that are being hailed by scientists as being unbelievable as those ascribed to the electron. Furthermore, they are better established as they are subject to direct observation.

The dance of the honey bee has of late been observed with enthusiastic interest by professors of entomology and it is from this particular habit that new facts have been discovered.

During the long winter months many of nature's creatures have been dormant and slept through the cold, but not the little honey bee. The hive must be kept warm, the queen must be protected at all costs, though the last worker-bee perish.

The queen resides in the warmest part of the hive clustered round by worker-bees who protect her from any cold air that might seep into the hive and by nursing-bees who feed her constantly. Those on the outermost fringe of the cluster fan their wings constantly and act as living ventilators keeping the winter's icy blast from lowering the hive's temperature. Every twenty-three hours the worker-bees change positions, and those who have been doing the fanning now quickly feed themselves and cluster around the queen, while those who kept the queen warm now take their places at the edge of the cluster and carry on with the fanning.

From forty to seventy thousand bees inhabit one hive. In such a large colony it is not necessary for all the worker-bees to be doing the same job and various groups take on different tasks necessary to the healthy maintenance of the hive. Some build cells where the queen will lay her eggs; some forage for nectar and pollen; some act as watchers at the entrance barring all strangers, for a bee's identification is its smell and no bee is allowed back into the hive before being touched and examined by the watchers. If a bee's smell is that of another hive it will be pushed out and even stung to death by the watcher-bees; this same treatment

is given to other honey thieves such as ants, wasps, etc. Others nurse and look after the brood, feeding the very young with a "mother's milk" which they produce from feeding glands within their bodies.

Although a bee's life lasts for approximately five or six weeks it does not keep to the same task for its whole lifetime. The various potentialities of the bee are developed according to the need of the hive. For example: a young bee will first act as a nurse staying within the hive; as it becomes larger and stronger it will develop wax-making glands as the hive needs more cells to store honey or develop eggs laid by the queen. It also learns to keep the hive clean, carrying out any debris dropped on the floor, and anything too large will be sealed over with wax, for bad smells made by any decaying matter will not be tolerated.

As the bee approaches its full size and strength it makes short trips outside to orient itself with its surroundings and impress upon its memory the situation and characteristics of the hive. It then begins long forages over meadows and forests in search of nectar and pollen. Both are very necessary to the life of the bee, the nectar being almost pure sugar which gives the bee its energy for work, and the pollen being almost pure protein which, when assimilated, builds and strengthens its body.

Bees which began their foraging in the late autumn months often live through the winter and when spring emerges once more are the searcher-bees which first leave the hive endeavoring to locate early spring flowers from which nectar can be supped. Polishing its many-faceted eyes to ensure the utmost clearness of vision, the searcher-bee flies out eagerly, sometimes many miles from its home. (A bee can cover a mile in several minutes.) If a large group of flowers is discovered it stops and fills itself to almost bursting with the newly-found nectar. With its heavy burden it returns to the hive as best as it can and disgorges from its stomach all the honey it has just collected. Other bees, whose responsibility it is to dispose of the honey, walk along the honeycombs and according to the needs of the colony either feed hungry companions or store it in cells for future use.

Now comes the dance of the forager-bee. Having got rid of her load, she begins a kind of "round dance," or sometimes it is a "wagging dance." On the

part of the comb where she is sitting she starts dancing and whirling around in a narrow circle, constantly changing her direction. This dance is performed among the thickest bustle of the hive. A particularly striking and attractive effect of the dance is the way in which it infects the surrounding bees; those sitting next to the dancer start tripping after her, always trying to keep their outstretched feelers in close contact with the tip of her abdomen. They follow her closely in each of her manoeuvrings so that the dancer herself, in her madly wheeling movements appears to carry behind her a perpetual comet's tail of bees—a bee conga line. This whirling is kept up sometimes for a few seconds, a half-minute, or even a full minute, before the dancer suddenly stops. Upon finishing her dance and having polished her eyes once more the forager hurries towards the entrance hole again to take off for her particular feeding place.

What is the meaning of these dances? The object of the dance has been established beyond any doubt: the dancing, which is sometimes inside the hive and sometimes out if many bees are near, announces to the colony where a rich location of food is to be found, and manages to inform the other foraging bees how to find its exact place.

In the dance the forager-bee uses the sun as a compass. When it flies from the hive to the feeding place with the sun at an angle of 40° to the left and in front of her, she keeps this angle in her dance and thus indicates the direction of the feeding-place. The round dance also indicates that it is farther afield. In the darkened hive where the sun cannot be seen they indicate the direction by means of gravity, upward wagging runs indicating that the feed-place lies toward the sun, downward wagging runs indicating the opposite direction.

Other information is also produced during the dance. Through scent pockets in its abdomen the bee also carries the scent of the flower of its particular feeding-place back to the hive, thus indicating to its fellows explicitly what they can expect to find.

Many more interesting facts were discovered about the bee's dances but space allows for no more. However, this important discovery has led beekeepers and farmers to learn the language of the bees. They can thus encourage them to pollinate new areas making the land more fertile and productive. A series of successful experiments have been carried out along this line and the busy little honey bee is being coaxed to serve her fellow creatures and man even more fruitfully than before.

SPINDRIFT

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MOVE WITH CAUTION

The consensus of informed opinion appears to be that the principal cause of accidents on the road is failure to yield the "right of way." This cause is the most noticeable to anyone going about the city and the most striking by reason of the fact that it is a breach of good manners and consideration for others.

The tempo of the driving and walking in Victoria is leisurely and should lend itself naturally to avoidance of this fault but apparently does not do so to the extent it should. In seeking for the reason or reasons they are numerous enough to be called a list. Among them is youth, which is often in a hurry and inclined to consider itself equal to any emergency. The person who is mistakenly proud of his driving and thinks that while other people may have an accident he is one of the favorites of fortune and therefore safe from harm and from harming others.

The middle-aged, who it may be concluded, form the most numerous group and by reason of their number be involved in the greatest number of accidents, will probably be found to have the best average of freedom from accidents, with the possible exception of the professionals, who drive buses, trucks, wagons and deliveries day after day throughout the year, wet or shine, hot weather or cold, whose record of freedom from accidents which can be said to be their fault must be remarkable.

If the tempo of Victoria's driving is leisurely, that of Vancouver is fast. This is natural to a much larger city where the distances within the city are much longer while the working hours are the same. The first thing that strikes one about Vancouver traffic is its volume. It pours along in an unceasing stream, halted temporarily by the changing of the traffic lights.

If the wheeled traffic is fast the pedestrian traffic is also fast and is greatly assisted by the system of diagonal crossings so that there are six streams all crossing at the same time. A more convenient and time-saving method cannot be imagined and could only be improved by underground and overhead arrangements.

From the point of view of the walker the almost unflinching habit of keeping to the right is not only of great assistance

RIDICULOUS

Now that the heated situation created in Eastern Canadian hockey by that wonderful goal-scorer with the uncontrollable temper, Maurice Richard, has cooled off, it is possible to assess the whole set-up of the National Hockey League.

It appears that the league is BIG BUSINESS and that while it may be interested in hockey as a sport it is probably much more interested in the profitable side and for the latter reason alone, if for no other, will do everything to attract a paying audience. A remedy would be to remove the control from the League and set up an independent commission which was interested only in good, clean sport.

A number of situations have arisen out of this affair, some of them so absurd as to be laughable. One is the fan who cabled the Queen asking Her Majesty to intercede on behalf of Richard and to request Mr. Clarence Campbell to reinstate him. In case the Queen was in any way reluctant to meddle in something which is not her business, and she will be not only reluctant but quite positive about having nothing to do with such a mess, it is also suggested that as a reward for her intervention or to overcome her refusal to intervene, or as a bribe, the Queen be sent the gold-encased puck with which Richard scored his 400th goal, and that Prince Charles be sent a uniform—his size—of Montreal Canadiens, which uniform Richard has just dragged through the mud. The bright spot of the whole situation was the immediate and unhesitating action of Mr. Clarence Campbell in banishing Richard for the remainder of the season and his uncompromising refusal to alter his decision.

It is surprising to find so many fans who are apparently unable to distinguish right from wrong but they are only a very small minority of the whole. A minority which is always vocal and is probably common to many parts of the world.

H. G.

in speeding the walker's progress but is a great comfort when compared with the necessity of dodging those who ignorantly or thoughtlessly walk on the wrong side of the stream.

X-2.

SAANICH GIRL GUIDES ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Saanich Division of Girl Guides held on March 31st at the Saanichton Agricultural Hall.

Division Commissioner Mrs. F. King welcomed those attending and introduced Mrs. W. S. Emmerton, who is the Provincial Camp Advisor for B.C. Reports given throughout the evening showed that there has been an increase in the past year of 31 members. There are now 433 Brownies, Guides, Guiders and Local Association members, representing 9 companies and 13 packs.

Two new districts were formed in the past year, Central Saanich and East District. Mrs. A. A. Mills is the new District Commissioner for Brentwood, Keating and Saanichton, and Mrs. D. Bosher is the District Commissioner for Cordova Bay, Elk Lake, Prospect Lake and Royal Oak. For many years Mrs. E. Charlesworth of Salt Spring has been District Commissioner for North District consisting of Sidney, Salt Spring Island and Deep Cove.

Mrs. Emmerton was especially interested in the Camp Reports of the Gu Commandant, Mrs. A. R. Mills, and the Pack Holiday Brown Owl, Miss Mary Lane.

Division Commissioner Mrs. F. King announced that eight Girl Scouts from the U.S.A. would be camping with the Saanich Division from August 1st to August 10th; also that an invitation has been extended for a return camping trip of eight Saanich Guides to attend camp in the United States.

Many and varied were the Good Turns reported for the Division for the past year. Guides and Brownies at Sidney had been particularly busy preparing Tray Cards and Flower Bouquets for the patients at Resthaven; making a complete wardrobe of clothes for the Doll they donated to the Children's Ward. The wardrobe included a complete Guide uniform. Other Packs and Companies had sent parcels to overseas Packs and Companies, collected pocket novels and books for the patients for the D.V.A. Donations of Pennies for the World Friendship Fund were received from the Packs and Companies of the Division.

Badges presented during the year included for Guides, 107 Proficiency Badges, One Gold Cord, 12 Little House Emblems, 10 First Class and 45 Second Class.

Brownies received 116 Proficiency Badges, 25 Golden Hands, 26 Golden Bars, and 15 Wings.

Brentwood Guides received a Company Players Certificate for the play they presented at Christmas time.

Two Thanks Badges were presented in the past year. One was given to the retiring Marigold Captain, Mrs. E. Watters and the other to District Commissioner Mrs. A. R. Mills in recognition of the able assistance they had given to Guiding in the Cordova Bay area.

Plans for a series of training meetings for Captains and Brown Owls, to take place in the near future, were discussed.

Mrs. K. K. John,

Division Secretary,

Saanich Girl Guides.

Cordova Bay Community Club

President—Edgar Jones
 Vice-President—Robert W. Macmurchie
 Past President—George Kirkendale
 Recording Secretary—Myrtle Dyer
 Corresponding Secretary—Beatrice Tucker
 Treasurer—A. Hugh Palin
 Social Director—Tory Lindal
 Sports Director—Victor Lindal
 Membership Director—Phil. Crampton
 Publicity Director—Harold Gorse
 Community Improvements Director—S. W. Tucker

CLUB AFFAIRS

The next General Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, May 4th, at 8 p.m.

The General Meeting held on April 6th was called to order and Myrtle Dyer, recording secretary, read the minutes of the previous General Meeting, which were adopted. The treasurer, Hugh Palin, formed the meeting of the bank balances which were all in good standing.

A new member, who was present as a guest, was introduced and welcomed to the Club. Beatrice Tucker, corresponding secretary, read the correspondence written and received since the last meeting including a letter from Captain Goolden saying that he wished to continue his membership in the Club.

Ken Genn read the totals of the Assets and Liabilities of Spindrift and agreed to give a talk at the next general meeting on the paper, its organization and how it operates. This should be of interest to all who receive Spindrift each month and those who are interested but are not members of the Club are welcome to attend the next meeting of the Club as guests.

Tory and Vic Lindal were not present owing to other engagements but had left word that they had nothing to report.

Stuckey Tucker, Bob Macmurchie and Harold Gorse had nothing to report on Community Improvements, Hall Building and Publicity, respectively.

Jo Crampton reported on the Hall Management which she considered to be going along quite nicely.

Bob Macmurchie drew attention to two articles in the March Spindrift, one on the Badminton Juniors' success and the other on the Juvenile Badminton Club Tournament.

Harry Savage spoke on the possibility of having a Shrine Band Concert about which he was not very hopeful because of the full list of engagements they had already made.

Don Lotzer undertook to get the microphones in working order.

Fred Sutton was appointed representative to the By-Law Committee of the School Board with George Ross as alternative.

H. G.

SPINDRIFT

Spindrift, the wind-driven crest of the ocean. How apt a term it is. To see this spidery-web-like crest blown for 20 yards before appearing to dissolve into thin air followed by another and yet another as far as the eye can reach is what many of the old sailing ship men were accustomed to see when down in the lower latitudes of the world, Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope.

Should you wish to cast your mind back over the years, pay a visit to the outstanding exhibit of sailing ship models and authentic photographs displayed at the clubroom of our local Bowling Green, which was opened for the season on Easter Monday, April 11th.

I suggest that a series of 15-minute talks on the rigs, voyages, etc., of these old, famous ships could be arranged by our School Principal. I believe the older classes would benefit by such instruction. Certainly the idea is worth considering from an educational point of view.

For general information I may say the exhibit is open to the public from 2 to 6 p.m. at present.

Robert Sutcliffe.

Badminton Juniors

Our Badminton Juniors acquitted themselves very well at the B.C. Junior Championships in Vancouver this month.

There were 190 entries and some very stiff competition and while we did not have a winner all our youngsters went far enough to justify their entry.

Promising Virginia Lindal who reached the singles semi-final, was, together with Valerie Lomas, runner-up in the under-14 doubles class and paired with Robert Schmelz also reached the semis in the under 14 mixed doubles. Young Robert reached the quarter-finals in his singles class and Roddy Cadell did very well in the mixed doubles.

Bob Callaghan and Vic Lindal Jr. ran up against very stiff competition early and were eliminated.

The experience has been very good and there's no doubt at all that in the next year or two one of our youngsters is going to cop one of the "big" titles. The keenness they show is heartwarming and the junior coaches are highly satisfied with their progress.

A. Elliott.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Spindrift acknowledges with thanks a donation from Mr. and Mrs. Brown Doumac Avenue, of \$2.00.

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— SOCIAL NOTES —

SYMPATHY—Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Fred Dyer and Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Foster of Parker Ave., in the loss recently of their father and brother, Mr. W. E. Foster.

COMING AND GOING—Mr. and Mrs. L. McLeod and two children visited at the home of Mr. McLeod's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McLeod, Cordova Bay Road for Easter Week.

The members of Cordova Bay United Church W.A. met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. Woodward on Monday afternoon, March 15th, to honor Mrs. Bell on the eve of her departure for Vancouver. The afternoon was spent playing games and in contests. Miss Hamilton composed and read a very appropriate poem for the occasion. Mrs. Rogers made the presentation of a piece of china to Mrs. Bell with the good wishes of all, to which Mrs. Bell graciously responded. The singing of "For she's a jolly good fellow" and refreshments followed with the men joining in this part of the programme. Mr. Alex MacLennan then delighted those present with his rendition of two Scottish readings.

Mr. and Mrs. Bell will be greatly missed in Cordova Bay.

At the close of the service at Cordova Bay United Church on Sunday, March 20th, Mrs. Brooks and Mr. and Mrs. Bell were presented with beautiful, enlarged, framed and colored photos of the Cordova Bay United Church. Mr. Bell made presentation to Mrs. Brooks and expressed the appreciation of the congregation of her services as organist and Sunday School Superintendent and their regret in losing her.

Mr. Wren made the presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Bell and expressed regret in losing valued members of the Church W.A. and community and wished them happiness in their new home.

COMING EVENTS

C.B. United Church, Evening Service,
7:30 p.m., each month 1st Sunday
L.A. to C.B.C.C., Meeting, Hall 8 p.m. 2nd Mon.
Elk Lake Playgroup, meeting Mrs. Phillips'
each month 3rd Tues.
Cordova Bay Community Club, General
Meeting, 8 p.m., each month 1st Wed.
Cordova Bay Playgroup Mothers, Meeting
Evening, each month 3rd Wed.
Cordova Bay P.T.A., school, 8 p.m.
each month 4th Thurs.
Card Parties, Community Hall, 8 p.m.
each month 3rd Friday
Baby Clinic, St. David's Hall, 2:30 to
3:30 p.m., each month 4th Friday
Old Country Garden Film, St. David's
Hall, 8:30 p.m. May 4
Guide & Brownie Meeting, Mrs. Lewis' May 10
United Church W.A., Meeting,
Church Hall, 2:30 p.m. May 12
Brownie Camp Aug. 12-16
Summer Badminton, 7-11 p.m. Thursdays

Badminton Tournament Concludes

The Badminton Club Handicap Tournament was concluded April 16 and it was generally agreed that the event was the most successful one ever.

Credit for this success must be given to Bob Macmurchie and his very able executive committee for the smooth organization. The idea of pairing stronger players with the weaker ones was a gem and, as hoped for, brought about lots of surprises and new faces in the finals. The exception was in the singles classes when the top players fought out the semis and finals.

Results: Doug Boniface defeated Ted Witter to take the men's singles and Barbara Ford beat Rene Conway in the women's singles. Pat Crampton and Al Kay downed Bob Macmurchie and Aus Elliott in the men's doubles and Barbara Ford and Yvonne Grant defeated Mary Elliott and Elsie Cooley in the women's doubles.

Judy Goddard and Doug Boniface beat Jennie McDougall and Bob Macmurchie in the mixed doubles and Greg Harvey and Mary Elliott won over Val Clarke and Mike Stewart in the mixed doubles flight.

After the games a social was enjoyed, and I mean enjoyed, by all members. Dancing and games and refreshments helped the evening along—if anything was needed to help! A happy ending to a very successful season.

No, not quite the ending. We have decided to play once weekly (Thursday, from 7 to 11 p.m.) May through August. Fee for the four months has been set at \$5.00, or if preferred, 50c a night for casual showings.

We are hoping to see some more new faces, beginners and learners especially, because practice and coaching sessions are on the agenda. So don't be shy about turning out because you've had little or no experience of the game. Remember, everyone can play badminton.

Further information can be obtained from any club member, or, better still, just roll up any Thursday evening. We'll be glad to see you.

"Oily Boid"

BADMINTON OFFICERS ELECTED.

The following were elected to office at the annual general meeting of the Badminton Club, held Thursday evening, April 21st.

President, A. Elliott; vice-president, G. Christopher; secretary-treasurer Barbara Ford; social convener, Tory Lindal; junior and juvenile coach, Jo Crampton.

Bob Macmurchie regrettably declined to continue as president and his decision was very sincerely regretted by the members. No one has worked harder or done more to put the club on its present sound, enthusiastic basis than our Robert, and again no one can deny him a respite, so once again, many thanks, Bob.

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St. David's Women's Guild

St. David's Women's Guild met at the home of Mrs. A. S. Miller, Cordova Bay Road, April 12th. Owing to the holidays a number of members were away.

Mrs. W. Ronald, treasurer, reported the annual sale of hot cross buns realized \$23.00. The annual summer bazaar and tea will be held in the Church Hall, on June 1st. Conveners and those in charge of stalls will be appointed at the next meeting of the Guild, to be held in the Church Hall, May 10th, with Mrs. B. J. Minchin and Mrs. V. Field, hostesses for the afternoon.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. A. S. Miller, conductor and organist, and St. David's choir, which was augmented by members from St. John's and the Cathedral, for their inspiring presentation of Stainer's "Crucifixion" in the Church Hall on Palm Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Miller served tea, assisted by Mrs. H. Stevenson, Mrs. E. M. Lewis and Mrs. N. Westwood.

A colored film, pictures of Old Country Gardens, will be shown in St. David's Church Hall, Wednesday, May 4th, at 8:30 p.m., under the auspices of the Flower Show Committee, Mrs. J. Wyper, convener. The film was photographed by Miss Gladys Woodward during a recent tour of England and Scotland. Collection will be taken.

The canvass for funds for the Red Cross was held throughout the month of March and \$331.75 was contributed by residents of Cordova Bay. Canvassers were: Mrs. M. Woledge, Mrs. G. M. Hughes, Mrs. B. Dyer, Miss F. O. Lewis, Mrs. J. Wyper, Mrs. S. Anderton, Mrs. J. J. Hutton, Mrs. N. Westwood, with Mrs. K. M. Lewis as convener.

Guide and Brownie News

There doesn't seem to be a great deal to report this month. Our meeting of the Cordova Bay Local Association of Guides and Brownies was held at the home of Mrs. W. A. Pearson and the immediate business quickly taken care of. One member only, of the Brownie Pack, will receive a well-earned badge this coming month—Sara Mattick. She was very highly commended by the examiner, Mrs. W. Boshier, on earning her Golden Hand.

Brown Owl, Mrs. K. K. John, reported that Brownie Camp will be held this year August 12 to August 16, and there will be accommodation for 12 girls (they must be nine years of age). However, so far, there is just one catch—no cook! Any volunteers?

Folks, don't forget Cookie Day on April 30th, and girls, several volunteers with cars will be helping you on Cookie Day, with pop for everyone after the work is done.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Lewis, on May 10th.

Winnie Pearson,
Publicity.

St. David's-by-the-Sea

CORDOVA BAY

Rev. D. C. O'Connell, M.A.

Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Morning Prayer	11:00 a.m.
Evensong	7:30 p.m.
Holy Communion—	
1st Sunday (Choral)	11:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays	8:30 a.m.
Choir Practice, Tuesdays	8:00 p.m.

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Cordova Bay P.T.A.

On Thursday, March 24th, four members of the Cordova Bay P.T.A. presented the following results from a study of the effects of TV upon the home.

1. Television is producing some of the same problems radio did in its infancy. Through proper guidance it is hoped children will grow more selective in their viewing, especially as the novelty wears off.

2. Definite rules governing bedtime, no TV with meals and no TV with home work.

3. Good viewing habits from a visual aspect, such as correct distance, lighting and time limit.

4. It was felt that television plays an important part in keeping many young people home of an evening, drawing the family closer together.

In general members after discussing the committee findings, felt that TV is here to stay and that it is a parental responsibility to help youngsters obtain the most benefits from this new medium.

One good point brought up by a staff members was that the children's initiative may suffer. Rather than spend time developing their own ideas, they appear contented to watch someone else's accomplishments.

Mr. Roberts, in outlining school administration from departmental to local level, explained the position of our local inspector as a liaison between the school board and the Department of Education.

He explained that because few board members have had any actual teaching experience it is here that the inspector can bring his experience to assist the board. At the same time the inspector interprets the board's wishes for the department.

Don't forget our "Green Thumb" garden sale after the next meeting. Save those cuttings and bulbs and bring them along.

Thelma Stephenson,
Publicity.

United Church W.A.

The regular meeting of the United Church W.A. was held in the Church on Thursday afternoon, April 14th with Mrs. Wren presiding and Mrs. Rogers leading the devotional exercises. Several members were absent due to illness.

The meeting opened with Hymn No. 108, Miss Hamilton, pianist. Mrs. Wren offered the opening prayer and all repeated the Lord's Prayer in unison.

Secretary Mrs. Lefler and Treasurer Mrs. Elliot gave very satisfactory reports. After routine business was disposed of, arrangements were made to hold the Annual Daffodil Tea, Parcel Post and Sale of Home Cooking on Wednesday, April 20th, at 2:30 p.m. in the Church. Mrs. Lefler and Mrs. Woodward will convene the tea. Mesdames Foster and Quirk will assist. Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Wren will welcome the guests. Mesdames Fowler, MacLennan, Jeune and Townsend will pour tea. Mrs. Miller will be in charge of Parcel Post and Mesdames McDiarmid and Morden in charge of Home Cooking Stall.

The meeting closed with the benediction. The ladies then enjoyed a social hour, presided over by Mrs. Quirk.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 12th, at 2:30 p.m. in the Church.

A note of thanks was sent to the Junior W.A. for the lovely electric kettle which they had donated towards kitchen equipment.

M. L. Woodward.

BAY STUDENTS' CONCERT

On Thursday, March 31st, the students of Cordova Bay School put on their Annual Concert in the Community Hall. As usual, the performance was excellent and showed every sign of the effort put into it by students, teachers and parents.

I was surprised to find that in some of the numbers the voices were not carrying out into the Hall but blamed it on my slightly impaired hearing until I found that others were having the same experience. Further consideration led to the conviction that the performers were in no way to blame and that in spite of the efforts of the Club to keep the sound from going up towards the ceiling and direct it out into the Hall, a considerable portion of the volume was being wasted. A further effort will have to be made to remedy this defect. The installation of a Sounding Board might be the cure.

The attendance appeared to be fully as good as last year and the appreciation of the audience was evidenced by the unstinted and enthusiastic applause.

Congratulations must go to all those who worked so hard to produce an excellent and most enjoyable show.

H. G.

A Good Place to Eat . . .

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A PERMIT FOR MARY

Not many people would suspect that the position of a senior assessor in a Provincial Income Tax Department could be a source of entertainment.

The Provincial Government which had passed an Income Tax Act had also decided to reimburse itself for the cost of setting up the organization by imposing a charge of \$4.00 on each person who was taxable. This charge applied only to the first year but was the cause of constant grumbling and argument which was not to be wondered at since a taxpayer with a dollar or less to pay had to fork out another \$4.00.

The date for filing returns came round with all the inevitability of death and taxes and also with the last minute rush of those who put everything off until the last minute. Two cashiers were being rushed to death taking in money and returns from a line of people which stretched to the door and out on to the street.

To the counter dealing with this medley a senior assessor was summoned to find himself confronted with a young couple who were obviously of Ukrainian origin and whose English was of the simplest and by no means extensive. The male member of the pair announced, confidently, that he wanted "a permit for Mary." This set the senior back on his heels and to gain time he took them round to his room and found that they were accompanied by two other couples who were middle-aged.

He got them seated and asked them to repeat what they had said. It was still the same. Suddenly, in a blinding flash the meaning of the three couples became clear. The young couple wanted to get married and needed a license. The other two couples were the father and mother of the bride and the father and mother of the groom. The rest was easy and only required the sending of a junior with the party, across the street, to the Vital Statistics Department to see that they got a marriage license.

The next real difficulty did not occur until the following year when the same assessor found on his desk a letter from a lady who had only just found out that she had paid her tax and had included \$4.00 which she should not have done and was very annoyed at not getting it back immediately if not sooner. She trod roughly over the whole Department and demanded immediate action. The peculiar thing about the letter was that he could read every word except her signature and could not reply until he knew her name. The senior let it lie on his desk for a couple of days by which time he could read it without getting hot under the collar.

Suddenly he saw a clue in the lady's reference to another school-teacher whose return had been assessed and her \$4.00 returned. It was only a matter of moments to look up the return of salaries paid by the School District which had employed

them both. The Senior Assessor could now get his own back by pointing out certain failures on her part to follow the instructions on the form. Her reply was a handsome acknowledgment of her errors and a request that we assess her husband's return. Since she had filed her return under her maiden name and did not tell him her married name another exchange of letters was involved. In the end and after much tribulation the affair was settled.

All was quiet on that front until one day the same assessor, while passing through the office, found himself assailed by a somewhat stout lady, with the words "Come here, you with the Scots voice." She turned out to be the owner of a small grocery store to whom he had written several letters pointing out the improbability of her having made a net profit of \$3,000 on a turnover of \$6,000 in spite of which she had insisted that her return was correct. She now wanted him to send someone out to audit her books and was annoyed when he told her that she would have to call in an accountant herself.

It seemed to be the fate of this assessor to become involved with feminine school teachers and on writing to one asking if she had received a certain payment from Wainwright Buffalo Park he received the reply that she was a school teacher and had no time to chase buffalo. H. G.

Ice Cream Cone Please

Can you imagine this scene at the soda fountain on a Saturday afternoon as the little pig-tailed girl of about five years of age came in to part with her weekly allowance. As this was a very shy little girl she walked around to the back side of the counter and whispered that she would like an ice cream cone please.

The lady behind the counter encouragingly asked if she would like an orange, chocolate or vanilla, my dear. The answer was very prompt, but hardly above a whisper. She said, "No thank you, I would like an ice cream cone please."

STORY OF SPINDRIFT

— CLUB MEETING —
MAY 4th

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