Islanders' Club Of McGill University

A large proportion of the Island students attended the Annual Meeting of the Islanders' Club of McGill University which was held at Douglas Hall of Residence on Saturday, April 5th.

After the usual business the election of officers was held for the ensuing year, as follows:

Honorary President—Dr. G. R. Brow.

Honorary Vice-President — Dr. C. J. Tidmarsh.

President—Tom D. DeBlois.

Vice Preesident —W. W. Tidmarsh.

Secretary—J. Ralph Calder.

Treasurer —Malcolm F. Reeves.

TOM DEBLOIS, PRESIDENT

The retiring President, Mr. H. Lloyd Henderson, reviewed the year's activities in his report. He commented on the great success of the first annual banquet held in December last at the Ritz Carleton Hotel, and also at the interest shown by the members in the activities which they undertook.

Arrangements were made to greet new Island students coming to the University for the first time and to introduce them into campus life. A tentative plan for next year's activities was also submitted.

Members expressed their willingness to meet students on the Island this summer who are interested in attending McGill, and to acquaint them with the entrance requirements and courses of study.

Hunter River And Vicinity

Mr. Reagh Bagnall left on Monday morning for Hurst, Ontario where he is employed with the Storms Construction Co.

Mrs. Herbert MacLeod, Hunter River spent the week-end in Summerside the guest of her husband Airman Herbert MacLeod.

Pte. Chesley Wood of Amherst spent the week-end in Hunter River visiting his wife and little sons Kenneth and Allison, also his father Mr. Lefuta Wood and Mrs. Wood.

Mrs. David Edwards was a passenger to Charlottetown on Monday.

Mr. Pope Bagnall, Hazel Grove, was a visitor to Charlottetown this week.

Misses Dorothy Bagnall, Marion Stevenson and Helen Stevenson were visitors to Charlottetown on Saturday.

Mrs. Phoebe Stewart and daughter Mrs. White, Fredericton, were visitors to Hunter River on Tuesday guests of Mrs. Angus Stewart.

Recent letters from Earl Stewart, Wilfred Watts, and Clarence MacLean the three boys from the local Red Cross branch here, who are "some where in England" report that they are well and as happy as they can be under the circumstances. They receive parcels and are always glad to get letters from home and delighted to get parcels from the home folk.

The Starch Factory is now operating and farmers from this and out-lying districts are busily engaged hauling in their surplus potatoes.

Miss Irene Craswell of Rustico who has been in the Prince Edward Island Hospital for some days is reported doing well.

Master Freddy Hitchcott of Hunter River who is also a patient in the Prince Edward Island Hospital, having been operated on for appendicitis is reported as being on the mend.

Miss Verna Robertson, young daughter of Mr. Fulton Robertson, was taken to the Prince Edward Island Hospital Saturday last, by ambulance, suffering from pneumonia. At present time of writing her condition is considered serious.

Mr. Walter Rackham who has been on the sick list for some weeks past is still confined to the house but latest reports are that he is feeling somewhat better.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gallant, Rennie's Road are receiving congratulations upon the arrival of a baby girl.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Mr. Silas Chappelle in the death of his brother James.

Miss Gladys MacNeil returned on Wednesday last from St. John N.B. where she has been employed during the winter and is receiving a cordial welcome.

Mrs. Luther Young and Mrs. Frank Cousins, sister of the late Mr. Daniel MacQueen, have returned to their respective homes in U.S.A., after attending their brother's funeral. In the recent report of Mr. MacQueen's funeral, the name of Mr. Duncan Nicholson, who was one of the pall bearers was inadvertantly omitted. Also the services at Hartsville were taken by Rev. A. A. MacLeod of O'Leary Nephew of the deceased.

MILK IS GRASS

A cow must eat 100 pounds or more of grass daily to produce 20 to 25 pounds of milk.

THE EDUCATIONAL HORIZON

—A SATURDAY FEATURE—

PRESENTING NEWS AND VIEWS OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS AND ALL OTHERS SEEKING IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATION

This column is conducted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers Federation Committee in charge: Ralph MacLean, Zilpha Linkletter Millar MacFadyen, Dan MacDonald, and Harold Lawton. We welcome contributions which should be addressed to H. Lawton, Charlottetown.

C. T. F. BULLETIN NO. 2

Last week we gave a summary of C. T. F. Bulletin No. 1, which showed a comparison of salaries paid teachers in different Canadian provinces.

This week we shall summarize C. T. F. Bulletin No. 2 "Rich Man, Poor Man, Beggarman, Teacher."

The bulletin first points out that "there is minimum wage legislation in 7 of the 9 Canadian provinces designed to protect girls and women from the physical and moral dangers inherent in working for wages which do not provide food, clothing and shelter." It then uses the 1938 Canada Year Book to determine the average wages paid certain classes of workers. From this source it shows that the average weekly minimum wage for all female minors, learners etc., covered by minimum wage legislation, is $459.25. (The average wage paid our one-room rural teachers is $445).

The average minimum wage set by Provincial Wage Boards for experienced female workers is $601.70. (Over 500 P. E. I. teachers work for less).

The standard rates of wages in male occupations, covering five leading cities from Halifax to Vancouver for the year 1937 were as follows:

Carpenter	$1716.00
Painter	$1473.00
Sheet Metal Worker	$1727.00
Laborer (Building)	$ 913.00
Machinists	$1496.00
Pressmen, Job	$1709.00
Truckmen, Laborers, Electric Railway	$ 983.00
Laborers, unskilled factory	$ 933.

The average wage paid our first class male teachers is only $733.82).

The average wage of bindery girls "which will throw an interesting light upon relative values set by our civilization upon the dexterous hands which put covers on books, and the dexterous brains which train our Canadian Youth to read and understand those books" is $713.50.

With relation to the above we quote the bulletin.

"No wonder the teacher salary situation has been called the greatest scandal in Canadian life today! Let nobody mistake our meaning. We do not suggest, and we are far from believing, that any of these workers is receiving too much, or that the tasks which they perform are essentially less worthy than those performed by teachers. We shall be happy to see the day when the word "menial" is described in Webster as obsolete. But to-day's situation is what we are concerned with, as it has been created by people who have believed that financial reward should be adjusted to the intelligence, training and skill demanded by the job in question. And from now on the C. T. F. is in revolt against the National stupidity which rates more than half our teachers as something inferior to unskilled labor."

The bulletin goes on to show that during the depression years (1930-36) Canadian people consumed liquors and tobacco to the volume of 91 1-2 millions per year. "So that the cost of a clean-up of this national disgrace —just to the extent of paying teachers a minimum industrial wage —would be one cigarette (or pipe, or glass) in twenty-eight." It points out also that to bring the worst paid groups of Canadian teachers up to the minimal level of $750 would require $6,566,000, or 1 per cent of the 1934 Dominion and Provincial expenditure. "But," says the bulletin, "that is not enough. Education for democracy has to be more than a grudging, minimal doling out of three "R's" by persons of the lowest economic and social competence. So at least have decided Britain, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, and Australia. They start their young teachers at an average minimum of about $750 and give them regular statutory increases with growing experience."

The bulletin gives the following figures to illustrate their statement (referring in all cases to Rural Women teachers with 1st class certificates).

	Minimum	Average Increment	Maximum
England and Wales	$819	$45	$1365 x
Scotland	$750	$25 or $50	$1100
North Ireland	$725	$45	$1175 x
Prov. C. of Good Hope	$750	$37.50	$1350
New Zealand	$840	$60	$1080

Australia comparable to New Zealand. "It is to be noted also that in England and Wales, Scotland and New Zealand the rural teacher rates a slightly higher salary than the urban teacher of equal experience; in no case does the rate lower.

J. R. MacDONALD,
Gen. Sec'y. P. E. I. T. F.

A LIBERAL EDUCATION

(By W. W. Steeves, M. Sc.)

We may have seen or heard others complaining that the schools are turning out pupils satisfied with haphazard work. Let us consider this idea from the teacher's point of view. It is a well known axiom that no one can progress without making mistakes. In our courses, the work is made progressively harder, so sooner or later, the work goes beyond the abilities of the majority. At that point, instead of holding those pupils back in order to require perfection, or eliminating them, we continue to impart the idea of education as best we can in the manner expressed by Huxley: "That man, I think, has a liberal education . . . whose intellect is a clear logic machine, in smooth wroking order, ready like a steam-engine to be turned to any kind of work; whose mind contains a knowledge of the truths of Nature and of her laws; who has learned to love all beauty, to hate all vileness; and to respect others as himself." While we attempt to produce these results to the best of our abilities, the actual result depends upon our raw materials, our skill, our tools, and the number of pupils. The obvious conclusion is that as we grow older and improve, our products become better.

We must think of the school not as a phase separate from real life but as a part of real life. So instead of eliminating those who cannot meet perfection standards in a grade, we continue to improve their general knowledge. Ruskin expressed the same idea but directed it to the business realm: "It is something to use your strength to war with the waywardness and thoughtlessness of mankind, to keep the erring workman in your services until you have made him an unerring one, and to direct your fellow man to the opportunity which his judgment would have lost."

Possibly, I am expressing a new idea to some of us when I suggest that the perfection standard can be a real handicap when we are dealing with others. For all of us, life is too difficult a problem to accomplish perfectly and it is only by making mistakes ourselves that we can sympathize with the mistakes of others. At any rate, in school or elsewhere, when we expect perfection from those who have been assigned tasks beyond their abilities, we are showing a definite lack of understanding.

Most of our subjects do not encourage the perfection idea, for the subject is rare in which there is not some worthless material. We do not and cannot expect 100 per cent retention in those subjects. We must try to discriminate between the essential and less essential things in our teaching, and suitably impress the former upon our classes. We believe that this teaches our students to make similar evaluations with articles that they will read in later life. We may try to coordinate our subjects by showing that the facts learned in one course often help in another, but this too cannot be done perfectly. All in all our subjects are so vast that even perfection in the elementals cannot be achieved, for even they cannot be thoroughly understood without a complete knowledge of the entire subject.

However, there are subjects better fitted to the aims of perfection than others. These are our mathematical courses and the teaching of spelling. Here definite improvement could frequently be made by realizing such possibilities. Unfortunately, in these subjects, we meet the apathy that the others have unconsciously encouraged. Even many teachers cannot see why the perfection aim should be taught in this part of our curriculum when it obviously must be neglected elsewhere.

The aim of perfection is slow in any activity no matter how simple. A child does not learn to walk in a day. The same is true in the mental realm. Our lack of success in this aim may be the cause of the deficiency of exactness in the common person's thoughts and speech. This can be readily noticed in the custom of guessing at the relationship between a coincidence or a series of coincidences and stating the guess as a fact. Yet every scientific thinker knows that many theories are often necessary before the correct one is found and even then a great deal of proof is required before that theory can be accepted. Only in this way can we come closer to Truth.

So let us remember that we must expect error since learning always involves errors, and too that when the aim of perfection is required concerning a section of our work, we must make that aim thoroughly understood. When work is beyond their abilities, we endeavor to make them do their best, but since we cannot make them perfect, we have let our desire to impart general knowledge supersede the aim of perfection.

The aim of perfection may be a high one but consider what has happened to the world because the German peoples tried to develop such an aim. Always, it seems to breed a contempt for the aims of others, who perhaps are doing, better work with their ideals of sympathy and kindness than are the so-called perfectionists, for they forget that even they are not perfect. The English peoples, whom the Germans have called "muddlers," are apparently characteristic of the other group. So in a democracy, we believe largely in a liberal education rather than a perfectionist education, and in that belief, we do not eliminate from our educational system those who have reached the limit of their abilities to do their work perfectly. As a result, any who are seeking perfection in our graduates will always be disappointed while we are trying to educate the great masses to the degree that we are trying to do at present. We are using our strength to war with the waywardness and thoughtlessness of children, and we are keeping them in our schools, continually endeavoring to make them better.

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WORDS FREQUENTLY MISPRONOUNCED

Monastery—MON-as-tehr-i
prelate—PREL-at
Apache—a-PATCH-ee
Advertisement— ad-VER-tiz-ment
Address (to talk to)-a-DRESS
Address (directions for mailing) A-dress
Slough (skin): SLUF
Slough (mere) SLOW (as in now)
won't (will not): WOHNT
wont (habit) : WUNT
tyrraneze: —TIHR-ah-nyz
strata:—STRAY-tah, STRAT-ah
scion—SY-on
real: REE-al
native: nah-EEv
ocher: OH ker
Mirage: mi-RAHZH
jocund: JOK-und
isotherm: EYE-so-therm
irreparable: ih-REO-ah-rah-bl
ego: EE-goh
chic: SHEEK
Avid; AV-id
Asthma: AZ-mah
Asthma: AZ-mah
facile: FAS-il

CURRENT EVENTS

CANADA U.S.A. DEFENCE POLICY

By far the most important recent event of the month of April was the agreement reached by Prime Minister King and President Roosevelt, and which Mr. King calls **"the Hyde Park Declaration."**

The Hyde Park arrangement provides for the most effective and quickest way of getting war supplies. It is, in effect, the mobilization of the war resources of Canada and the U.S.A. It enables Canada to accelerate the production of certain war supplies for which her facilities are best fitted—such as, aluminum, small ships, chemicals, zinc and other metals, and gun barrels.—and similarly the United States will greatly expand output of those to the making of which her plants are best suited—such as, aircraft production, warships, and other heavy equipment. This joint action puts the defence policies of Canada and the United States on a **Continental bases, and, will prevent unnecessary overlapping in industrial efforts and will harness the industrial machines and raw materials of the two nations to a common purpose.**

This plan will ease the difficult foreign situation now confronting Canada, in that it will not only enable the United States to buy nearly $300,000,000 of additional war supplies here and provide Canada with American funds in payment for them, but Canada will also be able to get without cost component parts of war weapons being made for Britain under the lease-lend law. To help further the exchange situation Canada will pay for the parts and materials required from the U. S. A. with goods instead of money.

SITUATION IN IRAQ

Sudden coup in Iraq, engineered by a group of senior army officers, has resulted in the disappearance of the pro-British Government of **Gen. Tahael- Hashimi** and the installation of a pro-Axis Ministry headed by **Rashia Ali Beglani.** The coup took place when the **Regent, Emir Abdul Illan,** who ruled in the name of his five year old nephew, **King Faisal II,** was absent from Baghdad.

Iraq is an Arab State which occupies the valleys of the two famous rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates, and comprises the old Turkish Provinces of Basra, Baghdad and Mosul.

It has been an independent State, since 1932, when the British mardate over it finally terminated but as the result of treaties, it has special relations with Britain which has provided officers to train the Iroqui army and retains some rights in the local courts.

When the Supreme Council of the Allies decided at a council held at San Remo in April 1919, that Turkey should be stripped of all territory inhabited by an Arab population, they assigned Palestine and Iraq under mandates to Britain and at the same time appointed as King of Iraq, **Faisal,** one of the sons of the famous Hussain, Shifeef of Mecca, who began the Arab revolt against the Turks in June, 1916.

British officials controlled the administration, and the real ruler of Iraq was the late Sir Arnold Wilson; who joined the Royal Air Force in his middle fifties, died a gallant death at Dunkirk. He was a competent administrator but he sternly repressed any agitation for self-government, and his arbitrary policy fanned the flame of Arab discontent. In 1920 the Arab rose in revolt against the British regime. The struggle was violent. The result was that the British Government then moved to take conciliatory action, with the result that the independence of Iraq was recognized and a treaty of alliance between it and Britain replaced the unsatisfactory arrangement of mandate.

King Faisal, conscious of his debt to Britain, was consistently friendly as long as he lived, but after his death Iraq's affairs fell into confusion. The German and Italians sedulously exploited the Anti-British sentiment to such an extent that Gallani was able to secure power in 1940, but when he proposed to abrogate the Anglo- Iraq alliance he was beaten by a vote confidence and had to resign. Now he has managed to recapture the reins of office.

Gallani is forty-nine years old, born and educated at Baghdad. He practiced law, he held several important posts, was Premier in 1933, and then in 1940 enjoyed a second short-lived term until he was ousted in February of this year. Gallani was anti-British and fought bitterly against those clauses in the Anglo-Iraq treaty which allowed the Royal Air Force to maintain bases at **Dhibban,** fifty-two miles from Baghdad on the bank of the Euphrates, and at Lake Habbaniyah, which is used by flying boats.

He resented the presence on Bagndad of a British military mission, he opposed having British inspectors running the city's police force; he insisted in greater royalties from the Royal Dutch and Standard Oil groups connected with the exploitation of the Mosul fields.

Due to the Axis threat in the Middle East, the British decided to send troops into Iraq. By the British Iraqui Treaty such an action was perfectly permissible "in the event of the imminent threat of war." Iraq protested the arrival of British troops at Basra and refused to comply with a request that she withdraw forces around **Habbaneyah** airport treaty base of the Royal Air Force. The pro-Nazi Government ordered the Iraqui forces to attack and shell British position. Today, May 7th., the British have the matter in hand and the vital **Mosul-Haifa Oil pipline** is in British hands again.

U. S. in Greenland: President Roosevelt extended American protection to Greenland under an agreement with Denmark. The chain of Atlantic defense sites on which the U. S. is to build bases now reaches from Greenland to British Guiana. In a sweeping agreement with the Danish Minister in Washington middle of April, the U. S. took over protection of the world's largest island, moved the U. S.'s outermost line of potential defenses 900 miles nearer Europe, only three miles from Nazi war zone.

The man who made the Greenland deal possible was **Henrik de Kauffmann.** When the Nazis seized Denmark last year, Minister de Kauffmann refused to leave the Danish Legation in Washington; he intended and intends to represent his country's interests, regardless of Nazi-inspired orders from Copenhagen (Berlin). When the U. S. A. seized 39 Danish ships, he did not protest; but arranged their transfer to the U. S. The Germans demanded his recall **but the U. S. would not recognize any other Danish envoy.**

By the agreement's terms which were signed by Cordell Hull and the Danish Minister de Kauffmann:

1. The U. S. reiterated its recignition of the sovereignty of Denmark over Greenland;

2. The U. S. received the right to build and maintain landing fields, seaplane bases, etc., and "do any and all things necessary" to maintain defence facilities;

3. The U. S. agreed that the deal should remain in force "until the present dangers to the peace and the security of the American continent have passed."

The American action was not a high-handed act. She acted under the **Monroe Doctrine,** which forbids the transfer of territory in the Americas from one non-American power to another.

U. S.-Mexican Air Defence Pact: United States and Mexico concluded recently negotiations of a defence agreement providing for reciprocal use of air fields and bases. The agreement greatly strengthens the aerial defences of the Panama Canal by making it possible for the United States to shift air force reinforcements rapidly southward over the Rio Grande if danger threatened the Canal Zone.

U. S. army and navy planes will be able to fly the length of Mexico, utilizing Mexican air fields en route for refuelling and repairs, and thus be able to reach Panama in the shortest possible time.

Next Week. Plan to mention the Russo-Japanese Pact recently negotiated, the Dominion's Third War Budget, and the main things done by the Canadian Parliament in 1941.

Place Names. Teachers would do well to have their pupils know the location and importance of the following: **Iraq, Basra, Persian Gulf, Haifa, Tripoli, Mosul, Syria, Habbaniyah and Dhibban.**

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

Many booklets and pamphlets are prepared by the various companies of Canada and U. S. A., and by the different governmental departments both of Canada and the United States. They are well worth having in the school, and teachers may secure them free of charge on application. The following is a list with addresses:

Sulphur, An Essential to Industry and Agriculture—Texas Gulf Sulphur Co., 75 East 45th St., N. Y.

Seven Minutes with Seven Metals—International Nickel Co., 67 Wall St., New York.

The New Story of Lighting — The Canadian General Electric Co., Toronto.

The Story of the Tea Plant — Salada Tea Company of Canada, Toronto.

The Land of Coffee — Standard Brands, Dominion Square Building, Montreal, Que.

How to Build Sound Teeth—National Health Publication, No. 30, Dept. of National Health, Ottawa, Canada.

Farm Water Supply—Bulletin 398, Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

Grow a Vegetable Garden — International Harvester Co., Hamilton, Ont.

Attracting Birds with Food and Water — Canadian National Parks Branch, Dept. of Interior, Ottawa.

The Telephone in Canada and Evolution of the Telephone — Bell Telephone Co. of Canada, Toronto, Ontario.

DRYNESS REQUIRED FOR INSIDE FINISHING

Because of the inherent "wetness" of lumber that is not kiln dried, interior finish fibre boards should not be nailed directly to building members. Although lumber used in building is called "dry" it actually is not dry in many cases unless it is kiln dried to an exact standard, home technicians say.

When framing lumber begins to dry, a shifting of the house members results — not harmful to the building as a whole, but often damaging to fibre walls fastened directly on them.

When furring strips or plywood are used as nailing bases, the shifting of wood members goes on independently of the solidly-nailed wall panels and bases. The wood members act as a separate unit, and dried completely, the nailing base and wellboard as another.

RENEW COVERS

If you have a quilt that needs a new cover, here's an attractive idea that is easy to carry out. Select good quality crinkled seersucker in a plain colour. Cut from glazed chintz or figured linen huge clusters of brilliant flowers and applique onto the seersucker. Three flower clusters would probably be enough, since such designs stand out more strikingly if not overdone. Quilt in a large simple design by hand or with sewing machine.

ON UMBRELLAS

To prevent umbrellas from rusting and rotting, after using keep them open indoors until they have

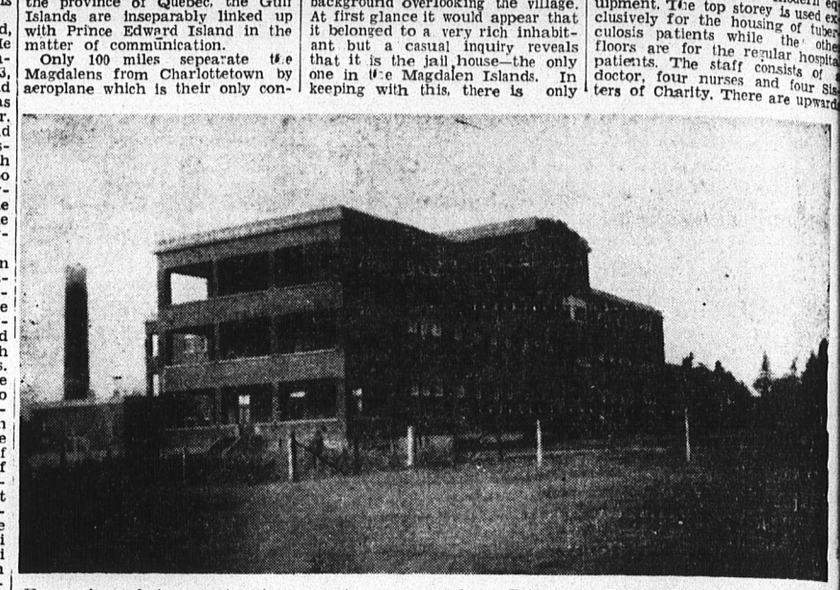
Magdalene Islands Served By Fine Modern Hospital

About 10,000 people live on the Islands where fishing is main industry.

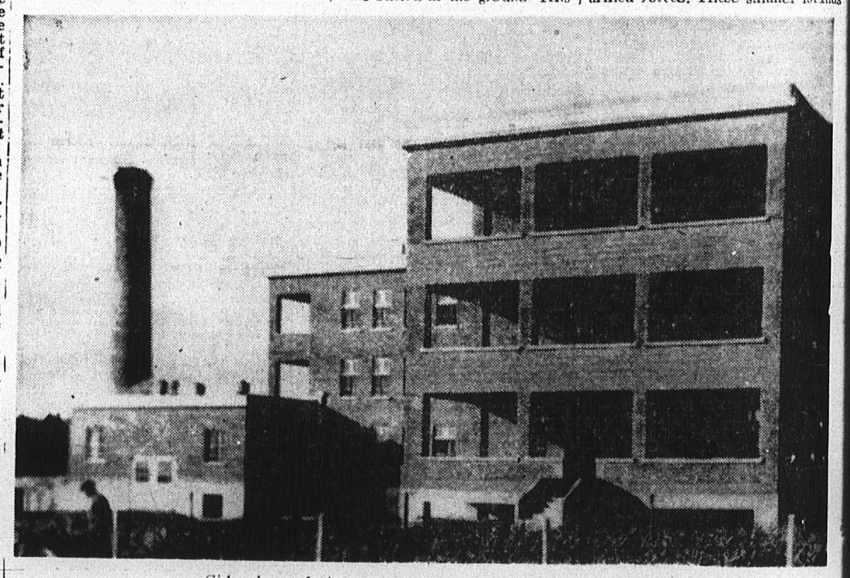
The Magdalen Islands, resting on the waters of the beautiful Gulf of St. Lawrence, is a veritable fishermen's paradise. Yearly the hardy inhabitants of the Islands reap a golden harvest from the waters which isolate them from the rest of the world. Although a part of the province of Quebec, the Gulf Islands are inseparably linked up with Prince Edward Island in the matter of communication.

Only 100 miles separate the Magdalens from Charlottetown by aeroplane which is their only connecting link with the outside world during the long winter months. In the summer an eight-hour run by the S.S. Lovat from Souris lands mail and passengers at Grindstone Island, one of the eight in the group. The eastern extremity of Cape Breton Island is about the same distance away as Souris.

Many people have a wrong conception of this group of islands in the Gulf. They believe them to be little more than a lonely outpost. This is a mistaken idea as the Magdalen Islands are very much like our own little Garden of the Gulf. The habits and customs of the people are similar to those of the inhabitants of this province. French, English, Scotch and Irish make up the population which is about 10,000 or roughly about one ninth the population of this Island. The main group of Islands extends for a distance of 35 miles but the widest part is only a little over five miles. Sand beaches over which cars are able to travel with ease, connect the main Islands of the group and there are about 200 automobile owners in the Magdalens.



Front view of the new hospital recently construc ted on Grindstone Island in the Magdalenes by the Quebec Government. The Grey Nuns and a doctor paid by the Government constitute the staff of the new medical institution



Side-view of the new hospital on Grindstone Island.

schools, of which there are many scattered throughout the Islands, add colour to the scene. There is a noticeable lack of trees on the Islands.

A large, bright-colored building which holds the attention of the visitor is perched atop a hill in the background overlooking the village. At first glance it would appear that it belonged to a very rich inhabitant but a casual inquiry reveals that it is the jail house—the only one in the Magdalen Islands. In keeping with this, there is only one policeman to enforce the law on the eight Islands. However, the people are law abiding citizens and only occasionaly is there a "guest" in the gaol. The policeman is a member of the Quebec Provincial Police.

Madamoiselle Hill

A striking feature of Amherst is the large bowl shaped hill which towers to a height of over two hundred feet in the background of the village. The perfectly shaped hill gives the appearance of a huge ball, half buried in the ground. This is the famous Madamoiselle Hill as it is called by the inhabitants. Pretty green grass covers the hill and a large white wooden cross, about six feet high, is mounted at the top. The late Rev. Thomas Curran, Ph.D., better known as "Father Tom" of St. Dunstan's University, solved the problem of reaching the top of this steep hill on foot by building a winding walk on it. Father Curran was stationed in the Magdalens at one time. Half up the walk there is a huge parapet which was erected for the benefit of the distinguished French visitors—who called there on the large liner Champlain during the Cartier celebrations several years ago. It is commonly believed that Cartier was the discoverer of the Gulf Islands.

Amherst Island in general and Lavernier community in particular, lost a great friend about a month ago when Rt. Rev. Msgr. J.A.H. Blacquiere passed away. He was parish priest there for about forty years. The Roman Catholic churches on the Magdalen Islands belong to the diocese of Charlottetown.

Many Anglican churches are to be found on the Islands as there are numerous communities made up entirely of English speaking people. Protestant churches are also scattered over the various Islands.

Grindstone Island is the most important of the group as it is the main business centre. The large Grindstone rock, which stands a silent sentinel at the head of the wharf, gives the Island its name. The only bank is situated on this Island. It is the Banque de Canadian Nationale.

Magdalen Hospital

Also on this island is the beautiful new hospital building which was erected about two years ago. It is a magnificent structure built by the Quebec Government to fill a much needed want of the people of the Islands. Grindstone was selected as a site because of its central location.

Formerly patients, who were to undergo operations, had to be taken to Charlottetown and this entailed a great deal of hardship not only in the winter but also in summer. Many "mercy flights" were made to the Islands during the winter months by Canadian Airways pilots to bring patients here before the hospital was built.

The three-storey brick hospital building is one of the most modern of its kind. It is fire resistent and houses the most modern equipment. The top storey is used exclusively for the housing of tuberculosis patients while the other floors are for the regular hospital patients. The staff consists of a doctor, four nurses and four Sisters of Charity. There are upwards to 100 beds in the building. The hospital contains its own electrical plant and also has its own cows and chickens.

Other Islands in the Magdalen group are: Alright, Coffin, Grosse Isle, Brion, Bird Rock and Entry. Only the lighthouse keeper lives on Bird Rock while Brion Island has a light keeper and one family on it. Out of this many families there have been 40 enlistments since the outbreak of the present war. The remaining Islands have also shown their loyalty and patriotism by contributing many young men to the armed forces. These smaller Islands are not connected with the main group and are only able to be reached in a small boat.

To the tourist who is in search of an unusual place to spend a vacation, the Magdalens holds a real treat. Climatic conditions are practically the same as they are in this province.

Not Much Farming

Very little farming is carried on by the inhabitants as the place is not suited for agriculture but many have their own small gardens and are able to grow sufficient vegetables and potatoes for their own use. The main livelihood of the population, of course, lies in the fishing industry. Lobster fishing is probably the most important with many thousands of dollars worth of the tasty crustaceans being marketed in the two-month season which opens on May 10 each year. Factories for canning this catch dot the Islands and many crates of live lobsters are shipped. Cod, mackerel, herring and many other varieties are also caught by the thousands.

Smoke houses, used in the processing of smoked herring, are numerous. A shortage of hard wood on the Islands forces the importation of this brand which is used in the smoke houses. Much of this is purchased in the southern part of this province and shipped to the Magdalens in schooners from Murray Harbour. Manganese, used in the steel industry, is to be found beneath the rocky surface of Grindstone Island. Only recently a man lost his life when a Manganese mine caved in.

Amherst Island is the capital and largest of the group. The majority of the people living on this Island are of French descent. Probably the most hilly place on the Magdalens is Amherst. Visitors are greatly impressed by the sight which greets them as they sail into Pleasant Bay which is a fine shelter for boats. From here can be seen the quaint little houses on the tops of the hills. Fine churches and

CROP REPORT

WINNIPEG, Man., May 9—A general heavy rainfall has created excellent moisture conditions in Manitoba and Saskatchewan but has retarded seeding operations. In Alberta weather conditions have been more favorable to seeding operations with less precipitation, according to reports received by the Department of Agriculture of the Canadian National Railways.

In Manitoba wheat seeding is variously reported from 20 per cent to 90 per cent completed, the average being about 30 per cent. During the week the weather has been rather changeable, quite warm for several days and turning cooler in the last few days. Rainfall varying from one half to two inches is reported. There is no damage from any source.

In Saskatchewan wheat seeding has proceeded slowly and heavy rainfalls, especially in northern districts, were very welcome. High winds have been reported from some areas but no serious soil drifting has resulted. Fine warm weather is now required to permit land being worked and to germinate grain already sown. Seeding will be somewhat later than in most years.

Southern Alberta reports weather mostly warm and dry with light scattered showers in some districts and about 50 per cent of the wheat seeded some high winds but no soil drifting.

Northern Alberta reports the majority of districts have received good showers since May 4th ensuring sufficient moisture to germinate grain now sown. Some wheat is showing above ground and coarse grains are being sown.

Ideal seeding conditions are reported from the Peace River district with wheat seeding practically completed and much of the coarse grains in the ground.