

CITY TRAFFIC LIGHTS GO MODERN

Steady building growth in Souris

Souris, during the year 1964, continued its building growth. The second home for the aged was completed early in the spring, and was fully occupied upon its completion. In the fall, a third unit was started and expected to be finished early in the spring. The first unit, when constructed, was the first one built on the island, and was the first of many to be built all over the island.

Other homes were built during the year, and a great many homes had re-modelling and additions made. The new homes were few in numbers, but, continued the steady growth which has made Souris one of the steadiest growing communities on the island.

Some of the businesses existing in the town expanded in size while a few new businesses commenced operations, thus helping to improve the economy of the town. It is worthy of note, that once again, another year has passed with not one business failure, as all old businesses continued to operate. One of these, a type that is rapidly being outdated, but manages to hold on is a forge, where the business now not only attends to horses but to repairs of a more modern nature.

A major change, affecting mainly the young people, came about in June when a group of people formed themselves into a body and purchased the Souris rink, re-naming it the Eastern King's arena. This group included not only people from Souris, but also from all the school districts in the Eastern King's area.

By the fall, these people were able to announce, that due to grants, donations, fund-raising efforts the arena had been completely paid for. And then they started to re-model. The interior of the rink was completely painted, new floors were laid in the dressing-rooms, new heating systems installed, a new sound system installed, the ice surface was lowered, a new promenade was constructed, and a new floor laid around the promenade.

Due to poor weather conditions the arena did not open its doors for business before the year '64 had passed, but already plans have been made for the coming year, to improve even

further the operation and services for the youth of the area. The work of operating and managing and all aspects of work are being done strictly by volunteers.

During the year a new sport came to Souris with the opening of the new curling rink in the fall. The rink had been constructed the previous year, with the equipment being installed during the summer, and play commencing in the fall.

Four divisions of curling are being played: men's, women's, mixed and schoolboy. All divisions planned on competing in Island championship bonspiels, with the idea of picking up valuable experience for the future. All divisions are well represented in number. Already, both the men and women have had curlers in from other clubs and have played matches in other clubs.

NEW SCHOOL NEEDED

The school situation in Souris has progressed to the point that the local trustees are now admitting the necessity of building another school. At the present time, there are three schools in the town. The Regional High, which also services the entire Eastern King's area has over 350 students from grades nine and commercial.

Souris Elementary School and St. Mary's Convent are both packed almost beyond capacity. In both schools, classrooms are overcrowded and the teachers over-burdened. It is to handle the elementary students that another school is a necessity. It is thought that a new school would handle all elementary students, and would be of a size that would leave room for student increases in years to come.

The burden of schools has reached the point in this area, that few people want to take on the load of school trustee. At the last election, present trustees had to spend a great deal of their time filling out the slate of trustees, and some of the present board have served much more than their fair share of terms. The present board has done an exceptional job, but, deserves more support from parents and other tax payers of the town.

Construction value takes healthy rise

SUMMERSIDE — Construction in dollar value here during the year 1964 surpassed the previous year's total by \$219,300, as shown by building permits issued by the town during 1964.

The total for the past year was \$624,800 as compared to \$405,500, over the previous 12 months.

The greatest share of the 1964 total is being directed to a senior citizens hostel on Granville Street which is in the midway stage of construction. A value of \$450,000 has been placed on this building.

Also being erected in the same area are eight new Senior Citizens' housing units valued at \$65,000.

In April of last year the first of a series of homes for the aged were erected on Granville Street at a cost of \$94,000 for an overall total amount of more than \$600,000—shared jointly by the federal and provincial governments—being devoted to the elderly citizens of the town.

The next largest construction project during the year was the new Metropolitan store on Water Street. Work on this building began in August and the official opening was held on November 29th.

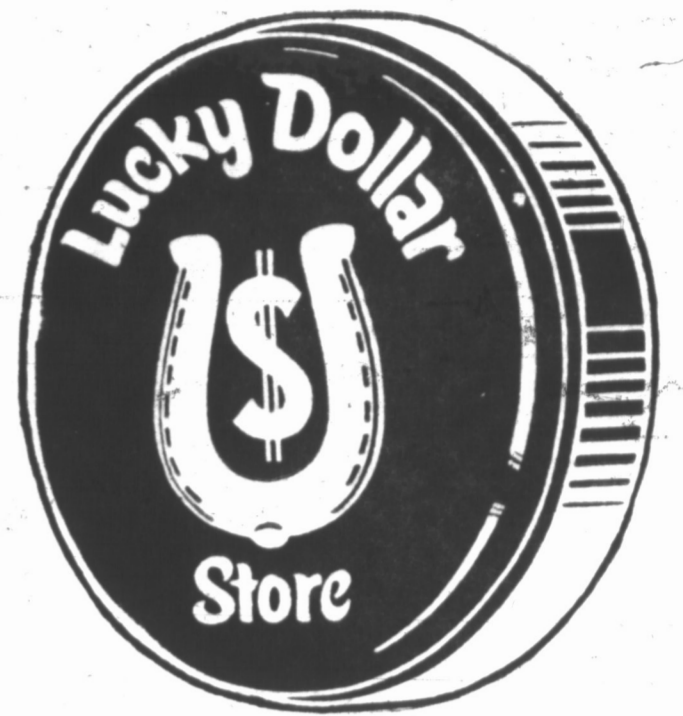
The building, erected at a cost of approximately \$100,000, has added considerably to the appearance of the town's business area with its glassed and well-lit front.

Seven permits for the construction for private dwellings were issued by the town for a total cost of \$108,000. Some of these dwellings were completed before the year expired while others are still in various stages of construction.

A central garage and warehouse is being built by the town on a site adjoining the town's electric light plant at a cost of \$58,000. During the year a permit was also granted for the conversion of a garage into a boys' club. Estimated value of this conversion, which is nearing completion is \$15,000.

Other commercial projects carried out during the year were the construction of a warehouse by Waite's Transfer at an estimated cost of \$8,000 and an addition to car dealer D. Alex MacDonald's public garage on Water Street East, also at a cost of \$8,000.

In addition the town granted repair permits valued at \$37,700 for a total construction value during 1964 of \$662,500.



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