

# Review Of Scholarships Shows Number Available

Further to the announcement in agriculture being offered of some time ago we would like to again draw the attention to our Young people of either sex interested in the Newfoundland Scholarship in pending a period of

## ACROSS THE ISLAND

### General Hospital is Unique in Canada

By NEIL A. MATHESON  
Provincial Farm Editor

FEW PEOPLE know it, perhaps, but we have a comfy, home-like children's hospital here that is unique in this country. The Sherwood Hospital is unique in Canada. Nurse administrator Mrs. Ella Wood told me a few days ago as I talked with her. It is the first cottage type hospital in Canada for mentally retarded children and is a combination of a hospital, home and school.

But, I gathered, the home atmosphere is stressed most of all, although neither of the other two functions is neglected. The effort is to make it in so far as possible, a home for children who cannot be in their own homes, and some of them have no homes of their own. Many of them will have unique medical problems available which is not visible on today's medical horizon.

AS MOST of you know, I've travelled this province from North Point to East Cape hunting for interesting and unusual stories to column. Yet here is a most unusual type of human-interest story a couple of miles from this office, and I have to thank Jack MacAndrew, CBC, for telling me about it. Jack who is in charge of outside broadcasts for this radio and television outlet if a few weeks ago when he was shooting a film sequence which will be seen on the television program "20-20" this coming Sunday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock.

After talking with Mr. MacAndrew and with some of the hospital staff, and seeing for myself some of the children who are being helped, I earnestly suggest you take the time to watch the late Sunday afternoon program.

Handled by Dr. Harold Beck, and Dr. J.H. O'Hanley and Dr. K. Ross Parker are available as consultants. All admissions and discharges are handled by a board. All of the 21 beds are filled, some being occupied by children from a number of the children attend city classes for slow learners.

### "We Love The Children"

THE DOMINATING note I found in the hospital is one of happiness and optimism on the part of the staff. "We love the children" was the observation I heard most often from people to whom I talked. And, I was assured, those children are lovable. They are unusually happy.

The home atmosphere is based on the "House Parents" plan and the children look after this part of the program. They include Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Payne, who farmed at French River and who looked after a light house at Trout Point, before coming to Charlottetown. Others are Mrs. Wellington Mackinnon, who came from Middlet, Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose MacKinnon, Parkdale and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Coffin, Cherry Hill.

I TALKED with Mrs. Payne this week—her husband was out at the time—because, they are the ones you will see in the TV show whose job title is "The diary of two house parents." Our work shows how happy the children are and how happy in their work, they are and of the children and absorbed in the goal, expressed by Mrs. Wood, of making the children as close to a normal environment as we possibly can, and to "develop the children to their greatest possible potential".

The term "institution" is avoided like the plague. That's one reason why the employees do not wear uniforms.

### Based On American School

THE COTTAGE Hospital is based on what Mrs. Wood saw at the South Eastern training school in Connecticut, but I gathered that new ideas have been added in the effort to make the program as helpful as possible.

Several of the children came from Riverside Hospital. Indeed before the Sherwood Hospital was built, there was no other place to send one of these children. Unfortunately there is an age limit and children cannot be there after their 16th birthday. There is hope that another hospital-home may be developed to care for older retarded children.

I'm purposely avoiding details, but I was told by one of the "very happy" whom I talked that a great deal of improvement has been made in most of the children, and the staff members are "very happy" about it.

No child is kept in isolation and there are no locks on the doors. No child has ever run away. I was told.

LIKE THE other house parents, the Playdars spend eight hours a day with the children in the Sunday program with them helping the children at meals, at play and preparing for bed. Mr. Playdars will tell you in the film that at first he had to be for the children but soon realized that it was what they needed. They are "some of the happiest kids I have ever seen in contact with and they appreciate every little thing we do for them."

There are "no major medical break-throughs" at Sherwood Hospital, however sometimes a day brings a small miracle tremendously important in itself. This is, for example, the 15-year old boy who finally learned to lace and tie his own shoes after six months of effort, and of an object fastened to a plastic doll, later on his own shoes. Another child was on massive medication for seven years and now finds it unnecessary after a year at the hospital home.

These are just two examples of a wonderful job that is being done right here in our own province and for our own children.

WHILE DIRECTOR Dr. Beck and his staff guide and advise the house parents, they are constantly encouraged to use their own initiative. This is an experience in kind and loving care as well as in child psychiatry. It is one of the most gripping and heartening stories I've found of my travels "Across the Island."

### Horrible Monster At Mingogash

THEY HAD a sea monster on Prince Edward Island 88 years ago and it was based near Mingogash. I find in a scrap book in our library with tales from "Old Charlottetown and P.E.I." It was August 16, 1879 and Matthew MacDonald and James Doyle were hauling their traps when "they observed an unusual commotion on the water near them." Suddenly the line MacDonald was hauling was jerked violently and broke through his hands, and "a huge form arose from the sea, full 20 feet out of the water."

The pair set all sail to get the boat away from there with all possible speed, but the monster of the deep gave chase. And what a monster it was. Listen to this. The pair described the fish as a sort of snake, striped yellow and white, with a mouth as large as the open end of a punchbowl—some snake oh—"and each time it raised out of the water it uttered a roar like the bellowing of a bull."

MACDONALD TRIED tossing hake to the monster from the land in the boat, in an attempt to pacify it, but the thing greedily devoured the hake and kept coming.

MacDonald appears to have been doing most of the work with the pursuing monster, and he fashioned a weapon from a long knife which he fastened securely to the end of an oar blade. When the pursuing closed the gap and came close to the boat, he rammed the improvised harpoon into the monster's eye, driving the knife clear to the handle or end of the oar blade. The knife broke in two wounds. With a gurgle of pain the monster sank out of sight. The old story relates "reddening the water around with its blood."

Doyle who was watching the performance said he "counted 12 sharp fins on it, each surrounded with a sort of horn, and both men say the fish was 200 feet long."

NEXT DAY while repairing their broken line they took from one of the hooks a large tuft of yellow hair, attached to a piece of skin resembling pigskin. The two men worked for J. G. Palmer and the story said, this tuft of hair, "could be seen at his establishment."

An incredible yarn for sure, and yet it was told as a true story, with the tuft of hair and skin to prove it. The old times may have missed many things we enjoy today but they surely did have some colorful tales. I'm wondering if any reader has a clipping describing the monster that inhabited the "bottomless lake" at Portage. I read it in one of the scrap books a year ago or more, but cannot find it now.

### Harold Bots Is Correct Name

LAST WEEK'S colorful story on fox prices, fur trapping, etc. should have been credited to Harold Bots, Fortune Cove. Frank Weeks tells me I had his name spelled incorrectly in last week's

and the early birds have been doing some combining. Generally the harvest is an excellent one and the barley crop is perhaps the most valuable ever in the history of the province. Harvesting weather has been calm, but there is no sign pointing to a repetition of last year's disastrous season.

**BUTTER RELIEF**  
For the first time in many years there are signs that the butter situation might be starting to stabilize. During the first four months of the calendar year butter production in Canada was 3.5 per cent below that of last year in the same period and consumption was up 9.5 per cent. In the same four month period cheese production increased by 18 per cent. A strong domestic and export demand has taken up all the production and a Breadstabilization Board has not had to purchase any cheese. The same time there has been an increase in the price level for skim milk powder and Board purchases will be below those of a year ago. These changes have been brought about with little or no reduction in the price paid to shippers of manufacturing milk and at the same time with some important savings to the government.

**DAIRY QUEEN**  
Plans are now well advanced for the visit of the Dairy Queen of England and Wales on September 15th to 16th. The Queen is designed to provide a balance of recreation, sight seeing, entertainment, etc. but at the same time acquaint the visitors with the dairy industry of the province. Associates and the operation is, of course, the basic and important purpose of carrying out public relations for the dairy industry and keeping its importance to the forefront. Leaders in the industry will have the opportunity of meeting the visitors but in addition young people in 4-H Clubs and Junior Farmers will also be involved.

**PLOWING**  
There is a basic farm operation it must be plowing. With plowing the first step is made in preparing for the next year's seed time and harvest. In this operation as in many others on the farm there has been considerable evolution from the days of the oxen to the modern tractor with a pointed stick drawn by men or even women. The biggest advance was the single plow with the steel mould board. Further stages included the tractor plows with mechanical

**LITTLE SANDS**  
It spite of the fact that haying was underway over two months ago the operation is in some cases not yet completed. Certainly the early cut hay is superior feed and will stand more heat waves in the curing. August hay is definitely not in the same class and this year the weather during that month has been quite satisfactory.

The winter is difficult to estimate the acreage, but certainly it is quite substantial where there are good stands of hay that are not being harvested. This is an economic loss to the province as hay represents raw material that should be turned into milk, beef or mutton. It is a great opportunity to increase livestock production here by improved haying methods and by seeing that all the production is used.

While it can hardly be said that harvest is general, yet nevertheless considerable acreage has been cut with the binder.

There is a smart practical way for farmers to stretch their family budget to have more of the things that make life more enjoyable. Here's how you can do it! Shop THIS WEEK and EVERY WEEK at the merchants listed on this page. You will find bargains for every member of your family... bargains in machinery, machinery repairs, and automotive buys... these merchants invite you to drop in when you are in town.

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