

Trustees Review Record And Prospects Of School Unit No. 1 In The Royalties

In a prepared statement issued Friday the Trustees of School Unit No. 1 reviewed the school situation in the Royalties of Charlotte. It is signed by the chairman, Mr. G. P. Rodd, on behalf of trustees Warren Burns, J. Paquette, George Cairns, Ernest MacMillan, Andrew MacRae, Duncan MacInnis and G. P. Rodd. The Plebiscite in School Unit No. 1, to be held April 2, 1955, says the student has brought about a great deal of conjecture, interspersed with statements, some of which are true and some of which are evidently based upon guess work and imagination. The Trustees feel that at this time would be to set forth their position on this question and clarify the situation, in so far as they are concerned.

It might be well at first to look into the past and see what actually happened, since the formation of the Unit in 1949. In the Spring of 1949, all Trustees and Secretaries of the school districts which now comprise School Unit No. 1 were summoned to a meeting to be held in Parkdale School. At this meeting were also representatives from the Department of Education. The plan of the Minister of Education for the formation of a larger administrative area was then outlined and considerable discussion took place on it. At this and at a subsequent meeting the foundation of what was to be done was laid and before the school year ended on June 30, 1949, the then Minister of Education, the late Hon. J. Walter Jones, proclaimed the new school district and it was to assume the responsibility of administration as of July 1st, 1949.

MEETINGS WERE HELD

In retrospect, it appears that the Department of Education was faced with some serious problems at that time and evidently felt that the formation of a larger school administrative area could do much to alleviate the conditions. One or two instances should suffice to illustrate the point. In Central Royalty area, the fast growing population had made it necessary to enlarge school accommodation. 2. The problem of school accommodation at Highfield corner had become acute and steps had to be taken to find a solution. 3. The success of larger administrative areas in other provinces had done much to influence thinking in so far as school administration was concerned.

1948-1949 (last year before formation of Unit)	Enrolment	1954-1955	Enrolment
Parkdale	171	6	268
Spring Park	418	8	298
West Royalty	28	2	70
East Royalty	17	2	87
Unit No. 1	54	2	213
Central Royalty	7	1	82
Winsloe	30	1	23
Highfield South	23	1	31
	626	23	1014

It is worthy to note that the average supplement for teachers paid in 1948-1949 was \$353 while in 1954-1955 it is \$648. The future in not any more promising. A census taken of pre-school children residing in the area in January, 1954 indicates that by the school year 1957-1958 there will be a minimum of 1200 children attending schools in this area and this does not provide for any influx of future school population. Judging from the past few years there is every indication that the area will continue to grow and school population increase. We understand that there will in all probability be at least 20 new homes built in the Unit during the year 1955.

PLAN HELD UP

In order to meet these rapidly increasing school enrolments, the Trustees made a detailed study of the situation so as to find the best possible solution to the problem. Their plans were deferred for nearly a year as the village of Parkdale had made formal application to secede from the Unit. Until this question was settled all plans were futile.

The Minister of Education when pressed for an answer to this application for secession, instructed the Trustees that the Unit would continue to operate as such until June 30, 1955, pending further investigation.

Later, he instructed the Trustees to formulate their plans for further school accommodation. As the result of this the Trustees recommended the building of a central school (15 classrooms) to accommodate, as the need arose, the pupils of Grades 7 to 10. These plans were submitted to the Minister of Education as required by the Public School Act sec. 136 (5) which reads as follows: "Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Board of Trustees of each large rural school district shall have and exercise all the powers and authority which may by this Act be vested in any Board of Trustees at an annual School Meeting". The Trustees interpret this section as meaning they have all the powers of an annual meeting but must have the Minister's consent before putting any policy into force.

There appears to be little doubt that the Minister's decision to hold a Plebiscite is based largely on the Trustees' recommendation re new school accommodation and undoubtedly the situation was being aggravated by the demands of the people in Parkdale to secede from the Unit in order to solve their own problems.

FORSEE FUTURE OF UNIT

We have no desire to enter into controversy with the people in the various areas regarding their wishes, but wish simply to state, as Trustees, duly elected by the people, we were simply planning to provide the best means of Education for the children in the area. We know fairly well what the future will be if the Unit is retained, but have no know-

...KING'S MILL, Montague, will not be buying logs again until April 15.

...BUYING logs daily by the cord or by the thousand. Birt's Feed Service, Souris.

...BUYING young pigs, market price. Birt's Feed Service, Souris.

...WHIST PARTY — The prize winners of the whist party held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Miles MacKinnon on Friday night were as follows: Ladies' first, Mrs. Colin MacDonald; consolation, Miss Edith MacDonald. Men's first, Mr. Miles MacKinnon; consolation, Mr. Stanley MacKinnon. The winner of the beautiful cake made by Mrs. Colin MacDonald was Mr. Miles MacKinnon. The hostess, assisted by the committee in charge served lunch at the close of the meeting.

...LADIES' AID — The Whim Road Ladies' Aid held their meeting at the home of Mrs. William D. Fraser, Albion, on Thursday evening, March 3, with a good attendance of both members and visitors. The meeting was opened by the president, Mrs. Fraser, with the Lord's Prayer. In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Colin MacDonald, the minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. Cecil Campbell. Following the calling of the roll, the evening continued in sewing and knitting, concluding with an enjoyable lunch served by the hostess.

...LODGE MEETING — The regular meeting of Hillside Lodge I.O.O.F. was held on Tuesday night with N.G. Sandy MacDonald presiding. Several bills were on motion ordered paid. The sick committee reported that Douglas Coffin has returned home from the hospital in much improved health. A basket of fruit was sent to Brother Coffin as a treat from the lodge. A poem composed by Alva Brehaut was read at the meeting. This poem was in connection with the recent anniversary of Rebekah Lodge. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the members. A transfer certificate was presented to the lodge from a brother belonging to one of the Charlottetown lodges. This brother now living here wishes to be affiliated with the Hillside Lodge. The brothers welcomed Harry MacGregor back to the lodge after his lengthy illness. As there was no further business the lodge closed in the usual form.

...Central Royalty — new three room school, (made necessary by the admission of Union Road, on the instructions from the Minister of Education) and to become effective on July 1st, 1950.

...West Royalty — new two room school. This was brought about by an almost unanimous vote taken at a meeting held in West Royalty.

...Winsloe — new three room school at Highfield corner, and where at the time, no school existed.

...Central Royalty — new four room school and since that time two additional rooms have had to be provided. These additional rooms were provided by moving the old Central Royalty School to the new site and completely renovating it.

In addition to the new school program it was found necessary to provide Spring Park School with adequate heating, lighting and toilet facilities.

POPULATION GROWTH

Since then the rapid growth in population in practically all parts of the Unit has given rise to the question of more school accommodation in the area. By studying of the following figures of school enrolments in the past, present and future, our problem of school accommodation can be evaluated.

...The present tax rate in the Unit is \$1.35 per \$100.00 and this compares favourably with other rural areas on P. E. I., where it has been found necessary to expand or build new schools. It has been estimated that the average cost per pupil at the present time is approximately \$40.00 per pupil for operating expenses and again find this figure is not out of line.

The proposed new school would mean a tax increase of from \$0 to 60 cents made up as follows. The architect has estimated that \$144,000 will be needed to provide the new school building and at the same time stated that to provide a like number of classrooms to the present school buildings would cost an estimated 25% more than the one central school.

We think it would be fairly safe to state that as certain grants will be received from the Government on the building projects and as equipment will amount to several thousands of dollars and if the architect's estimates are reasonably accurate the borrowing of \$150,000, should finance the new school.

This means that the average yearly payment of approximately \$10,000 for a twenty year period and this based, on the present assessed value of the district, is approximately three and one-half millions, would mean an additional tax burden of about 30c on \$100.00. To this will have to be added additional operating costs and here again if it is based on present per pupil cost it would mean an additional \$8,000 or 35c on the \$100.00 on the present valuation.

IF BROKEN UP

Should the Unit be broken up the future of the area in question that the Minister of Education has not advised the Trustees as to what course will be followed. The Trustees have submitted the following questions to the Minister in hope that a satisfactory answer could be forthcoming.

KIDNEY TROUBLE?

If you suffer from kidney or bladder disorders, or backache due to these conditions, Dr. De Witt's Kidney Pills has brought relief to thousands. The cost \$1.25.

DE WITT'S PILLS

MAYFAIR THEATRE
MURRAY RIVER, MARCH 18-19 — FRIDAY and SATURDAY
"KING RICHARD AND THE CRUSADERS"
in CINEMASCOPE and Technicolor
Starring REX HARRISON - GEORGE SANDERS
REGULAR ADMISSION — SHOW TIME—8 P.M.



R.C.A.F. Ass'n Holds Annual Dinner Meeting

Head table group at the R.C.A.F. Association dinner meeting Thursday night. Left to right—Reg. Howard, President, Allison MacRae, Sinclair MacLeod, Roy Hughes, Frank Rush, President Canadian Legion, Farrell Gaudet, George MacDougall, Stan MacInnis, Arthur Carruthers, A. Walthen Gaudet.

Decrease Noted Locally In Unemployment Figures

The number of people drawing unemployment insurance benefits in Kings and Queens Counties decreased by 114 during the week ending March 18th. At least half of those returned to work, but the remainder are no longer drawing benefits because their benefit payments have expired.

The Back To Work Campaign now being conducted by the National Employment Office, is credited in part at least with the steady though not sensational decrease in the number unemployed over the past week. The local office has received a number of telephone orders directly traceable to its campaign, and has also been notified by various citizens that as a result of advertising, they have engaged carpenters and painters. The local office will continue to canvass business men and private citizens for possible job openings, and it is hoped that the general back to work movement will pick up further momentum.

The steel work for the whole first floor of the new Federal Building, in Charlottetown, is now about completed, and this has opened the way for the employment of more men. The contractors have advised the Employment Office that the number of men employed on the job should increase from now onwards.

The M. F. Schurman Company will commence the construction of the new Guardian Office building next week, and this considerable job will give early employment to both carpenters and labourers. The work on the new building will be pushed vigorously.

Contrary to earlier reports, contracts which have been let for further work in Labrador, may make demands on the construction force in this Province. It may be sometime before any considerable number of men are called for from Labrador, but present indications are that some men will be taken from this Province.

The local office receives many inquiries about the St. Lawrence River Seaway project. This big undertaking is only in the preliminary stages, and Upper Canada has so many unemployed that it is not expected that any men will be recruited from this Province until well on in the summer. Montreal alone, has 60,000 unemployed, and it is quite handy to the St. Lawrence River project. Cornwall, a town which is right in the middle of the job, and used by many of the contractors as a headquarters, has more than 3000 idle people.

The Charlottetown Office has been notified to warn people seeking work on the Seaway, to keep away from the area unless notified that positions are available. If any workers are taken from this Province, they will probably be highly skilled men only.

Curling Draw At Montague

Today's mixed curling draw at the Montague Club:
6:30—
West Ice—Dr. L. A. Johnston, Jean MacDonald, Danny Murray, Ina Hickox, vs. C. S. Stewart, E. Cudmore, Arnold Wightman, Dorothy Nicholson.
East Ice—G. G. Gordon, Rilla MacDonald, Wm. Baker, Marlon Judge, vs. H. M. Smith, Vera MacDonald, Gord MacNeill, Edith Clay.
8:00—
West Ice—Lorne Johnston, H. Clair, Ross Hamilton, Copnie Ings, vs. Horace Fraser, Mafy Nicholson, J. E. Cudmore, K. Hughes.
East Ice—Leon Johnston, B. Smith, Reg. Mellish, Janet Baker, vs. I. G. Phillips, Leona Sinclair, J. B. Baillem, Martha Poole.
9:30—
West Ice—Dr. P. MacIntyre, L. Davis, Richard Knox, C. Lilwilyn vs. P. Sinclair, H. Inman, R. Machou, C. Stewart.
East Ice—Dr. G. S. Inman, Beth McGowan, Ernie Robertson, Adah MacGregor, vs. J. A. MacLean, Lillian MacDonald, Allan Nelson, Edith MacDonald.
Draw in play for the R. K. Clements trophy: 2:30 west ice.

YEO THEATRE MONTAGUE
FRI. - SAT. 18 - 19 — ADM. 40c - 55c
"CATTLE QUEEN OF MONTANA"
Color — Barbara Stanwyck - Ronald Reagan
ACTION FROM TEXAS TO MONTANA

MAYFAIR THEATRE
MURRAY RIVER, MARCH 18-19 — FRIDAY and SATURDAY
"KING RICHARD AND THE CRUSADERS"
in CINEMASCOPE and Technicolor
Starring REX HARRISON - GEORGE SANDERS
REGULAR ADMISSION — SHOW TIME—8 P.M.

The Week at S. D. U.

This has been one of the most disappointing years, as far as debating is concerned, that St. Dunstan's has ever seen. During the past several years we won the Maritime Intercollegiate Debating championship so many times that we gained permanent control of the Eaton trophy; this year we won one debate only, and one of our greatest rivals in every field, Mount Allison University, not only won the Maritime championship but the Dominion championship as well.

To whom can we look to regain our debating prestige? To the students of our high school course. And so, recognizing this fact, the local branch of the Maritime Intercollegiate Debating League under the capable direction of Rev. Father Cass on the evening of March 15, presented an oratorical contest in which seven students from high school took part. The seven students were divided into two groups — junior and senior.

In the junior division there were three contestants: Bob Donovan, Jack Ascoli and David Arnold. The senior division was made up of four contestants: John R. MacDonald, William Kelly, David Gallant and Gerald Tingley. All seven students presented orations showing noteworthy ability, but Jack Ascoli in the junior division and David Gallant in the senior division were singled out by the judges as having delivered speeches above the calibre of the others. All the contestants, especially the two winners, are to be congratulated on their efforts. As was stated by the chairman of the evening, Richard Wedge, this beginning can produce great results.

On Thursday night, March 17, the St. Dunstan's hockey team was defeated by the Charlotte town Royals in the sudden-death semi-final game of the City Hockey League. As indicated by the score of 1-0, it would seem that the game was a hard-fought affair but it was the Royals' goalie Roper (who is also the sub-goalie for the Islanders) who saved the day for the Royals as he came up with save upon save to receive a well-earned shutout.

On Thursday the class of '55 elected their life officers: President, Thomas McGaugh; vice-president, Regina Ald McQuaid; secretary, Alton Craig; valedictorian, Richard Wedge; committeeman, Mary Farmer and Andrew MacDonald. The election of these officers reminds us that soon we will be saying good-bye to another senior class and we can say, (as many seniors say them-

"C-I-L Singing Stars" Second Semi-Final Broadcast—Sunday



Norman Mittleman, baritone of Winnipeg, Emily Cundari, soprano, of Windsor and Gaston Harnois, baritone, of Shawinigan Falls will be heard Sunday, March 20th, on the second semi-final program of this year's C-I-L Singing Stars of Tomorrow series. Dr. Edward Johnson, retired former general manager and leading tenor of the Metropolitan Opera Co. of New York, is chairman of the final judging committee and will be featured on the broadcast as well as Greg Clark the prominent Canadian writer and raconteur. Rex Battle is musical director of the program which is broadcast at 10:00 p.m. on CFCY. Canadian Industries (1954) Limited

FROM THE LAND OF THE VIKINGS INTO THE HEARTS OF MILLIONS

20th CENTURY-FOX BRINGS YOU THE WORLD OF **Prince Valiant** IN CINEMASCOPE

YOU storm the castles of infidels with the Viking Christians! YOU fight at the tournaments of Camelot! YOU are a cheering participant in the most beloved story in all adventure!

James Mason - Leigh MASON - LEIGH
Robert Wagner - Debra Sterling WAGNER - PAGET - HAYDEN

EXTRA (In CinemaScope) . . . "POLOVETZIAN DANCES"

PRINCE EDWARD STARTS MONDAY

FINAL TODAY — SHOWS 2:30 - 7 - 9
"SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS"

...seaves! that a better class never left the campus.

Second team basketball is nearing its termination as are all other sports (except softball) on the campus for this year. On Wednesday, March 16, Prince of Wales College played host to our second team and in the game that took place St. Dunstan's won by a score of 42-41. Thus our team takes a slim one-point lead in the two game total point City Basketball League semi-finals.

As indicated by the score, the game was a hard-fought affair which saw the Welshmen leading in three quarters of the game, only to be overtaken and passed by the Saints in the fourth. A basket on a foul shot by forward Bob Ferran with less than a minute remaining in the game proved to be the winning point in the game. Dave Arnold of the Saints and Mark Ladner of the Welshmen were the big point-getters each collecting a total of 19 points.

Another great presentation, "Romeo and Juliet," has gone down into the history of St. Dunstan's. It was one of the best plays the St. Dunstan's Dramatic Society has ever staged and many congratulations can be offered to the director, Rev. Adrian Arsenault, and to the very talented cast, especially Bill Cameron and Grace Seaman.

On March 8 and 9, the play was presented at the Queen Charlotte High School auditorium before an appreciative, but not a very large audience. Many of the people who saw the play the first night came back the second night to see it again, such was their appreciation. How so many people from Charlottetown could afford to miss such an opportunity cannot be understood.

Well, that's all for this week. So, until next week, from S.D.U. to all of you, health and happiness.

HOCKEY TONIGHT

MONTAGUE RINK
Summerville Bantams vs. Montague Bantams —and— Summerville Beavers vs. Murray River

In the final game of the Southern Kings Playoffs The Bion Trophy for the Southern King's championship will be presented.

Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve)



Part of a great team

The Navy is proud of its women sailors. In every naval division across Canada the Wrens are training one night a week, side by side with the men, to be ready in the event of mobilization.

During your two weeks summer training period, you may go to the Atlantic or Pacific coasts for advanced and specialist training in such branches as Radar, Search and Defence, Communications, Supply, Electrical and Air Maintenance.

The attractive Wren uniforms are tailored to measure. Complete summer and winter uniforms are issued on enrolment in the RCN (Reserve).

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU ON THIS GREAT TEAM

Enquire now!

H. M. C. S. QUEEN CHARLOTTE Charlottetown

THIS WEEK'S Shopper Stopper

AT MONTAGUE
5-1.00 STORE
51 gauge, 15 denier nylons
Regular price \$1.19
Sale Price, 2 prs. \$1.59
March 19-25 inclusive

CAPITOL

NOW SHOWING
CANNIBALS ON THE RAMPAGE!



JOHNNY WEISSMULLER in JUNGLE MAN-EATERS

"BATMAN" No. 7

MONDAY - TUESDAY "Dawn At Socorro"

MIDNIGHT SHOW MONDAY AT 11:30

HORROR SHOW! "Revolt Of The Zombies"

FROM THE LAND OF THE VIKINGS INTO THE HEARTS OF MILLIONS

20th CENTURY-FOX BRINGS YOU THE WORLD OF **Prince Valiant** IN CINEMASCOPE

YOU storm the castles of infidels with the Viking Christians! YOU fight at the tournaments of Camelot! YOU are a cheering participant in the most beloved story in all adventure!

James Mason - Leigh MASON - LEIGH
Robert Wagner - Debra Sterling WAGNER - PAGET - HAYDEN

EXTRA (In CinemaScope) . . . "POLOVETZIAN DANCES"

PRINCE EDWARD STARTS MONDAY

FINAL TODAY — SHOWS 2:30 - 7 - 9
"SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS"