

Island News Page

2 The Guardian, Charlottetown, Sat., Oct. 22, 1966.



CONFERENCE UNDERWAY

The Atlantic Association of Students Conference got underway last evening at the Basilio Recreation Centre. Approximately 50 students made up of student council presidents and Canadian Union of Students Chairmen are attending the affair, which will run

from October 21 to 23. Premier Alex Campbell delivered the welcome address last night while Rev. Francis Bulger, professor of History, SDU spoke to the students on Maritime Confederation. From left to right are Father Bulger, Premier Campbell,

Carol Ann Power, President of St. Dunstan's University branch of Canadian Union of Students; Donald Shea, President of St. Thomas University branch of CUS and Reginald Hunt, President of Mt. Allison University CUS.

FACTS FOR FARMERS

Rural Community School To Reopen In Kensington

By DONALD P. WOOD
KENSINGTON

Last winter in March and April the areas in and around Kensington co-operated to hold a Community School for the first time. In the next few paragraphs I would like to tell readers of this column of some of our experiences in this venture.

The idea of a Community School was first mentioned to me by Rudi Dallenback, Rural Development Officer with the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture. This kind of activity had been tried out very successfully in Beauce County, Quebec, and it was suggested that it might be worth trying out here.

The Community School is simply a group of people from an area coming together in the winter time for a few weeks to study or learn about something that is of interest. Classes can be held on any subject that a group is interested in. For the most part the teachers of the groups come from the same area and so it is entirely a community project. The need for the school comes about as science is changing very rapidly and new knowledge is becoming available. Since it has been sometime since most of us have been in school it gives people a chance to brush up on topics they may have forgotten about or to learn of new ideas and skills.

ORGANIZATION
Last year the Community School was taken on as a project of the Kensington Board of Trade. After deciding that the school was worth going ahead with, a committee was formed to organize and keep things moving. George Howatt was chairman of this committee with Jacques Berard, Kensington; J. Bremner, Kensington; and Mrs. J. MacLellan of Indian River as other members.

Over 100 persons signed up to participate and over 30 different subjects were suggested for study. These were finally narrowed down to nine courses as follows:

(1) Agriculture— a general course with different topics discussed each week, was under the direction of Stan Moore and about 20 persons took the course.
(2) Agriculture— with emphasis on Farm Records and Management was taught by Graeme Lindtner. About 16 participated.

(3) Bridge— was organized and taught by Mrs. Wm. Schaffer, Mrs. Gordon Cook and Mrs. Fred Semple. About six persons were enrolled.

(4) Conversational French— A course in this was given by Jacques Berard with 18 persons enrolled.

(5) Electronics— for Fishermen was taught by Don MacKay. Nine persons took this course.

(6) Home Economics— This course was taught by Mrs. Jacques Berard.

(7) Mrs. Maurice Clark taught a group of seven about painting.

(8) Public Speaking— was taught by Richard Bonthorn and David Carnegie of Summerside. About 16 took this course which consisted of learning and practicing how to introduce and thank a guest speaker, and other topics on public speaking commonly used at meetings and banquets.

(9) Last, but not least was a course in Typing taught by Mrs. Justin MacLellan of Indian River to a group of about 12 members.

The above topics will give some idea of the variety of courses that can be considered and handled in a Community School. Since we got organized rather late the courses were given in March and April for eight weeks. This is a bit late to have the courses since there is the risk of running into the start of the busy season for farmers and the storms of late winter. This year it is planned to start the

community school was a huge success, everyone got a lot out of it, everyone participated and learned a lot and it was a very useful and worthwhile event. One of the things which might have been done to make it even better would be a bit more social activity at each weekly meeting, perhaps coffee and doughnuts could be served. The whole program took a lot of effort but was well worth the time spent on it.

ORGANIZING A COMMUNITY SCHOOL
From our experience last year it would seem to me that the fol-

lowing steps might be considered if organizing a community school.

(1) It should be sponsored by a group in the community.

(2) A strong committee of from three to five members should be set up. These members must be willing to work and to plan and carry out the overall organization and running details of the school.

(3) Select teachers for the school from the local area if at all possible. This makes it a community project and helps people in the community to further develop their skills. You would be surprised too, if you looked around any community and saw how many people with different skills there really are to draw upon.

(4) Start organizing in November if you want to start the Community School in January.

(5) Plan an eight to 10 week course, meeting once a week. We met Tuesday evenings but this must be arranged to suit your local area.

(6) Get the whole sponsoring organization to take part in the survey of the community. This gives everyone a chance to help in the planning of the Community School.

(7) Select courses and work with instructors to make the school a success.

If you are interested in further information on Community Schools there are a number of meetings being held next week by the Rural Development Coun-

cil of P.E.I. which you might want to attend.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
On Tuesday, October 25 at the Charlottetown Rural Regional High School the first is scheduled.

The second meeting is on Wednesday, October 26 at the O'Leary Regional High School.

The third meeting is on October 27 at the Regional High School, Montague. All meetings are open to the public and will be held from 7.30 p.m. until 10 p.m. The program consists of a film: a talk by Rudi Dallenback on the Nature and Purpose of the Community School; a panel of members from the three areas that had a Community School last year and then general discussion. If you are interested, plan to attend.

Last year three community schools were active in P.E.I. These were held in Tignish, Kensington and Mt. Stewart. I have mentioned several people in Kensington who were involved. In Tignish I understand that Wilson Shea, Mrs. Frank Arsenault helped with the organization of

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the school. In Mt. Stewart, Miss Ida MacKay and Donald MacLellan helped to get the school going. I am sure that if any readers are interested that by contacting one or more of the people mentioned they could get further ideas on community schools and their operation.

Our responsibilities as citizens of this province and of the world. I think Community Schools are worth considering for all areas of the province.

SEX REPORT SELLS OUT
LONDON (AP)—A church report on sex and Christian

morality has soared into the best-seller class in Britain and the publishers have ordered a fourth printing. The report, put on the bookshelves Tuesday, sold out the entire first printing of 4,000 copies on the first day. With the fourth printing of 20,000 copies, the total number out will be 48,000.

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