

Gulf Islands Driftwood

Serving the islands that make beautiful British Columbia beautiful.

SECOND SECTION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1976

Page Thirteen

Four decades of service behind Hospital Auxiliary to Lady Minto

BY ELSIE MACDONALD

Forty years ago January 15, 1936, to be exact: a small group of women met to pledge support and service to the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital. And so the Hospital Auxiliary was born.

Not that the hospital had lacked support. For the previous 25 years there had been an unofficial "Ladies Aid" to the hospital.

The Guild of Sunshine, organized in 1911, "to brighten other lives and to bring sunshine to all" held the care of the sick as a prior concern.

A hospital to serve the Gulf Islands was needed. It was a dire need and the Guild of Sunshine worked hard to raise money to achieve this goal.

According to the late W.M. Mouat - a member of the first hospital board - the \$600 raised by the Guild provided the cash nucleus that made possible the building of Lady Minto Hospital in 1914.

In the early 1930's the Guild purchased a cookstove and sewing machine for the hospital and during these depression years maintained their yearly \$25 donation to the hospital.

From the Guild's formation, in 1911, until the group disbanded, 55 years later, support for the hospital remained a prime objective.

32 AT 25 CENTS
The Hospital Auxiliary was organized in 1936 at the suggestion of the matron, Miss Tate. Mrs. G.J. Mouat was the first president. By the end of the year the tiny group had grown to 32 members. Annual dues were 25c.

Then, as now, the Auxiliary was concerned with patients' welfare.

In the Auxiliary archives is the original 1936 hand-written constitution. In the listed duties of officers we read: "The Social Secretary shall visit patients in hospital and ascertain the needs of the same as far as possible, and report at each monthly meeting".

The Auxiliary was also heavily involved in meeting the practical needs of the hospital itself.

The late Dorothy Atkins in her "History of the W.A. to Lady Minto Hospital" states: "The island was struggling out of the depression and the hospital... was desperately short of linen and even food. The Auxiliary gave generously... donating sheets, pillow cases, clothing, homemade bread and

IT WAS NOT FRED SIBLEY

Fred Sibley was never a wharfinger. Al Sibley has resigned from the supervisory duties at Ganges wharf.

Fred Sibley has asked that the confusion occasioned by the association of his name with the wharf at Ganges last week be clarified.

preserves, and even painted the furniture!"

Hospital Day was organized and became an annual event.

Mrs. Atkins' story continues: "it resembled a country fair - all the extra fruit, vegetables, baked goods, needlework (some brought over by boat from the Outer Islands) that the hospital couldn't use, was stacked on the wide verandah and sold."

ABANDONED AT 47

The present hospital was built in 1958 and the old building on Ganges Hill was abandoned after 47 years of service.

The larger hospital presented a greater challenge to the Auxiliary.

About this time the Annual Bargain Sale was instituted. It progressed from a small jumble sale held in a garden in Vesuvius, to the Legion Hall, and then to the larger Mahon Hall.

Even this hall became too small and the boardroom and stage, and even the porch were utilized. From a gratifying sum, of close to \$100, raised at the first sale, returns mounted yearly. The last sale held in 1971 brought in \$2,500.

Outstanding organization, months of hard work, and scores of willing hands lay behind this great success.

The Auxiliary Thrift Shop, organized and set up in 1972, was a natural outgrowth of the Annual Bargain Sale. Its fantastic success year by year is well known. The money raised has been well spent.

Since the Auxiliary was formed 40 years ago, tens of thousands of dollars have been raised and spent for hospital equipment and furnishings. Close to \$40,000 has been donated for this purpose in the past five years alone.

Also well known is the extensive volunteer work done by Auxiliary members in both Acute Care and Extended Care sections of the hospital.

Perhaps not so well known is the fact that a substantial bursary is awarded annually by the Auxiliary to a student of the local secondary school who plans to follow a career in the field of medical science.

Another item is the gift of a layette presented each New Year to the first baby of the year born in Lady Minto Hospital.

The Auxiliary is happy about the plaque presented at the October 1975 Provincial Convention of Hospital Auxiliaries. The award was given for an exhibit of craft work done by Lady Minto Extended Care

Car rolls

Walter Young, of Vancouver, rolled his 1975 Mazda, causing \$1,000 worth of damage.

Accident occurred March 9 on Vesuvius Bay Road. The Young vehicle hit a curve and rolled.

residents. The work displayed received high marks for excellent patient participation.

Forty years of service - 1936 to 1976. A larger hospital, a larger Auxiliary, a changed world. Unchanged is the plight of the hospital patient. The patient is still a sick person, still in need of help and the best care available. To give this care is the high standard held by Lady Minto Hospital. To support and serve the hospital in this high calling is still the pledge of the Hospital Auxiliary.

NIGHT IS IN DAYTIME SO NOT ONLY ADULTS GO TO SCHOOL

Adults may continue their education, but those who continue their education may not be adults.

In order to avoid any possible confusion between adults continuing education and non-adults engaged in the same educational processes, the educational authorities of the province have turned from the former term, Adult Education to the more appropriate designation, Continuing Education.

Adults, or others, who confuse the old term Adult Education and the new term, Continuing Education may continue their adult education

at night classes. It should be noted, however, that the expression, Night Classes is a legacy from the non-current term, Night School, which has been discarded in face of the circumstances today where many so-designated classes were and are held in day-time.

Adults who wish to continue their education, vocational, academic or interest-hobby courses, may do so at night classes at any time of the day.

The term, Continuing Education is in.

Adult Education is out. Night school is archaic.



Where was the picture of the Iroquois taken? B.C. Archives believe it may have been at Saturna Beach more than 60 years ago.

lieve it may have been at Saturna Beach more than 60 years ago.

Anybody have any ideas?

EVERYONE GOES TO DINNER

Everyone was there on Friday.

On Friday, March 12, for the first time on Salt Spring Island, the annual Parent-Child Banquet was made a combined event - and included Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides, and Scouts.

The Brownies made intricate serving table decorations for this potluck dinner which was held at Fulford Hall. The Rev. Peter McCalman gave the blessing, and Spencer Marr was a very capable master of ceremonies.

Following the dinner, Mr. Marr introduced the various leaders responsible for Guiding and Scouting on Salt Spring Island, and they are:

Beavers, Mrs. Jo Logan, Brownies, Mrs. Sharon Sparling, Mrs. Anne Harrison, Mrs. Joan McClean and Mrs. Rita McVicar; Cubs, Martin Ogilvie, Ron Beazley and Bill Hitchcock; Guides, Mrs. Lois Perkins, Mrs. Sherrill Adshhead and Mrs. Hanne Schroder; Scouts, Wayne Cooper, Don Funk and Matthew Coleman.

Mr. Marr asked Mrs. Logan to introduce her group and announced that Beavers is a newly-formed branch of Scouting for five to seven year old boys.

Mrs. Lois Perkins, the Guide Leader, said that it was a very rewarding time for her because six of the Guides had earned their all-round cords - the second highest award possible in Guiding, and the first such awards to be earned by Salt Spring girls. In order to earn these cords, the girls have already gained various badges, their Challenge Emblems, and have mastered many outdoor skills. The All-round Cords were presented to Heather Adshhead, Francie Byron, Karen Jensen, Laurie Perkins, Tracy Sparling, and Jenny Miller.

Entertainment for the evening was varied, and at times, hilarious: the Cubs offered an amusing Medic skit. The Scouts presented a comic Bridge Skit. The Brownies all participated in "This is the pack that we built", and the Guides

gave a little insight into a typical Guide meeting. Scouts presented a silhouetted medical skit.

Mr. Cooper, Scout Leader led everyone in an enjoyable action song.

Special thanks were expressed to the organizers of this banquet: Mrs. C. Buckley and Mrs. Betty Pinchin.

Campaign

Still rising

Earthquake relief fund is still going up.

Report this week shows a total of over \$2,600 collected under the auspices of the churches on Salt Spring Island.

The Bank of Montreal is continuing to collect the contributions on behalf of the Canadian Red Cross. Local churches have expressed their gratitude to the contributors.

Salt Spring Island Recreation Commission

WILL HOLD A

PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday - March 24 - 7.30pm - Activity Room

(Elementary School)

The purpose of the meeting is to hold public discussion on the forthcoming referendum and the work required to complete the playing fields and tennis courts on the Lion's project at Central.

Representatives of the Lion's Club will attend the meeting to provide whatever information is required.