



# News & Views

PUBLISHED BY THE BAIE D'URFÉE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

MARCH 1954

## WHITHER BAIE D'URFÉE, EDUCATION-COST-WISE?

As more and more folk discover the beauties of Baie d'Urfée, and the desirability of living here, school accommodation is being taxed more and more--and so are we.

Eighth Year  
No. 77

Most of us are still twitching following receipt of our school tax notices some weeks ago, along with an explanatory letter which suggested that we can anticipate even further boosts as time goes on and Baie d'Urfée and communities within our school area continue to expand. Already, only short months after official opening of our brand new addition to Macdonald High School, there is urgent need for even greater facilities.

The letter outlining the situation was issued over the signature of W. Eric Butler, Chairman, the Macdonald Protestant Central School Board, and Mr. Butler has graciously agreed to address the next meeting of the Association, at the town hall, 8.15 p.m., March 12. The subject of our children, their education, the cost, now and in the future, is of vital interest and importance to all of us, and this is a meeting that should be attended by all.

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## WOMEN CAN NOW HOLD CIVIC OFFICE UNDER BAIE D'URFÉE'S REVISED CHARTER

As has been mentioned, but not detailed, the town has a new charter. It is the first revision since original incorporation in 1911, and was personally considered by M. Duplessis himself, upon

*Our Next Meeting*

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, at 8:15 p.m. in the Town Hall

SPEAKER -- W. ERIC BUTLER, Chairman, the Macdonald Protestant Central School Board.

presentation at Quebec by Mayor Jean Gelinas, Town Secretary-Treasurer John Long, and the town's legal counsel, Jacques Viau.

Among new features are:

Women can now hold civic office  
council is elected for two years, and on a staggered basis so that  
there are always at least three experienced councillors  
the fiscal year now ends at December 31 instead of June 30  
civic elections will be held on the first juridical business day of  
October, the next election being in 1955.

The next election will involve the mayor and the aldermen representing seats 2, 4 and 6. Those aldermen are H. B. Smythe, A. M. Christie and S. A. Macleod, respectively. Aldermen 1, 3 and 5, who are W. C. Corbett, H. G. Brookhouse and George Jost, sit until the first juridical day in October, 1956, when the first elections for those three spots will be held. Voting hours, incidentally, will now be from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m., for elections as well as referenda. Nomination day will be September 24, or if it is a holiday, on the first juridical day following, and hours will be noon to 2 p.m.

The fiscal year which began July 1, 1953, will end December 31, 1954, and taxes for the six-month period, July 1, 1954, and December 31, 1954, will be 50 per cent of the levy for the July 1, 1953- June 30, 1954 year.

The new charter puts no limit on what can be charged for a town building permit. A boost to a maximum of \$75 had been proposed.

Other details of the charter will be outlined in the next issue, but it is interesting to note that in the charter the name of our town, the most desirable on the island, is Baie d'Urfée, (with the acute accent on the first e)

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AH, SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE!

Don Fairbairn should get a kick out of this one. A well-known Baie D'Urfée gentleman was giving his cupboard a premature spring-cleaning the other day when he discovered a parcel. He found, to his horror, it was a sister's Christmas box to the family - its disappearance a mystery ever since Christmas 1950! Thinking better late than never, he distributed the packages to the kids. Figuring it was a joke, the youngsters at first refused to bite, but finally opened them. It turned out a bigger joke than ever- the gifts were clothes, and just three years too small for all of them!

## A HEARTY VOTE OF THANKS

Perhaps belated, but none the less sincere, is this word of thanks to the 1953 officers of the Association, chairmen of standing committees, members of the News and Views staff and the many helpers who gave their time, energy, and enthusiasm in the interests of their fellow citizens and the community as a whole.

Of the original 1953 executive, only one remains on this year's executive - Charlie Johnstone, our chairman. Of the standing - committee folk, only two are still with us - Ginnie Higman and Bill Norcott. The News and Views staff is entirely new, with the exception of Chester Ellis, now advertising boss, and reporter Chris Powrie.

Those who worked so hard last year deserve the thanks of all of us because a community is only as good as the interest, enthusiasm and cooperation of its citizens. Special thanks are also due the following ladies who helped Mrs. Mary Smith in getting News and Views out - Mrs. Gladys Johnstone, Mrs. Norah Taylor, Mrs. Violet Shonfield, Mrs. Rae Macdonald, Mrs. Sybil Lint, Mrs. Gladys Cooper, Mrs. Grace Barnes, Mrs. Mary Buch and Mrs. Anne Wyatt.

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### WHAT COUNCIL DID

Baie d'Urfée will have plenty of time to protest any diversion of the proposed new metropolitan highway, Mayor Jean Gelinas told council at its regular February meeting.

Alderman Herb Brookhouse reported attending a meeting at which Senneville and Ste Anne de Bellevue put through a resolution proposing a diversion of the new route, which would bring it through Baie d'Urfée, coming out at the highway approximately opposite Bayview.

Mr. Brookhouse said the route of the new highway had been homologated in 1931, and a lot of homes and other building were now built on it. If the new highway went through, many of these would have to be torn down. Hence the Senneville-Ste Anne's enthusiasm for a diversion.

Mayor Gelinas said approval of all communities on the island had to be obtained for the new highway route, and therefore for any delation in route similar approval would have to be obtained. The town would be informed in plenty of time to present their case, he said. It will be at least a year and a half before anything is done about the new highway, he declared.

Alderman Jost reported that all but 10 percent of the taxes had been collected. The mayor reported that for \$1 a year a right-of-way had been granted across cemetery lane, to enable students to get to school without having to walk along the Lakeshore highway. The right-of-way and

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permission to put a gate in the Macdonald High school fence came after some five years' efforts on the part of former alderman Peter Smith, Wm. Spriggs, school board representative, the mayor and others.

Discussing the new transformer now needed by growing Baie d'Urfée, Alderman Bill Corbett said at the moment it looked as though the only spot for it was the east corner of the Town Hall grounds. Of course, the town could seek some other piece of property but it would be very expensive. It should be central, he said.

Ald. Selby McLeod raised the question of community use of the town hall. A College Green group had requested its use in connection with a sleigh ride, he said, and Reg Vidler, who lives above it, had protested against it being used too often, and too late, as it made sleeping impossible. Mr. Vidler, he said, felt that the groups using it now were ample.

Discussing the problem of icy roads, Alderman Corbett said frankly it had him baffled, as well as concerned, particularly with respect to icy streets in sub-zero weather. Sand and salt wasn't very effective at below-zero temperatures, sanders might be better. One could sand the lakeshore road, and after one bus went over it was gone.

With the icy streets, he said, had come the usual "extravagant and unreasonable" complaints, but double as much salt had been used and as much sanding had been done already this year as last year.

"Frankly, "said Mr. Corbett, "I don't know the answer, unless we get a budget 7-8 times what we have now, and even then I don't guarantee anything in the really cold weather. Would the people be willing to have their taxes up 25 percent, for this service?"

"If we put more sand and salt on, it will cost more, but it will be better," said the mayor. "There can be no complaint if the streets are well-sanded."

Alderman Al Christie reported that lots in Bayview and Oak Ridge, including open lots, had been numbered, and a general plan of numbering for the whole town had been prepared. Plans for a new sub-division on Cambridge Road, involving 10 building lots, were discussed. The mayor announced that the town's new charter had been passed, pretty well as sought. Alderman Brookhouse tabled a history of Baie d'Urfée he had just finished writing.

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#### A THANK - YOU NOTE

The Editor,  
News & Views,

Dear Mr. Lee:

May I on behalf on Elsie, the children, and myself say thank you to all those people who so kindly favoured us with cards and gifts at Christmas time.

March 1954

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Their purchases of stamps and money orders has greatly encouraged our efforts and has also set a new record for sales from this office.

Our sincere thanks goes out to all of them.

Reg. Vidler  
and  
family

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LOIS MARSHALL TO SING AT STE ANNE'S

The Canadian pianist John Knight gave a brilliant performance in Macdonald College Assembly Hall. It was the second musical evening given under the auspices of the local branch of the community concerts Association.

This accomplished young artist delighted a large audience with selections from Chopin, Beethoven, Ravel and Scarlotti. His playing of Prokofieff's Toccata, Op 11 was especially well received.

It is with pride that we hear a Canadian artist display such skill on the concert stage, and we were happy to note that he included two numbers by Canadian composers on his program.

Some listeners expressed regret that he did not include a few well-known old favourites, and some, including the writer, would have welcomed a slightly warmer approach to the audience. Had John Knight captured his audience as he had so obviously captured his music the concert would have been really memorable. Instead, it sparkled like a diamond, when it might have warmed like a fire.

Subscribers are looking forward to the next concert when Lois Marshall, the outstanding Canadian soprano, will appear. The program committee of community concerts is to be congratulated on their policy of including Canadian artists whenever possible.

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ERRATA, TRIVIA, ADDENDA AND DATA

EVERYBODY should support his community, particularly when it is as wonderful as Baie d'Urfée, by being a member of the Citizens' Association. YOUR \$3 gets you News and Views, swimming instruction and lifeguard in the summer and other benefits. Lars Firing says your \$3 is every bit as good as your neighbor's.

.....

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That whizzo skater, Missie Avey, became sisters in the February issue, when listed as Misses Avey. Our apologies .

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An Ingersoll washer, good as new, can be had for \$50 and no questions asked, by calling 4335.

.....

Paid your \$3 membership yet? Ted Trodd is heading up the current membership drive.

.....

Fifteen people got two copies of the February issue of News and Views, while 15 others got none at all. Blame it on the brand new editor - he HAD some bright ideas to speed up distribution.

.....

When you get a new neighbor, make a point of dropping in and saying welcome. It will confirm all he's heard about Baie d'Urfee's community spirit. Bring them down to a citizens' association meeting and introduce them.

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No doubt you noticed what nice things Howard Huston of the Herald had to say about News and Views. Best of its kind, he said.

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Baie d'Urfite George Lothian was in the news the other day when he brought up from California TCA's new super-connie. Baie d'Urfite John Bland was also in the papers as a judge in selecting the prize-winning design for Canada's new National Gallery.

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Patronize those who advertize in your paper. Those who support you deserve your support. You'd be surprised at some who declined to take any space, despite the thousands of dollars they take in from Baie d'Urfee citizens.

.....

Welcome to John Fenton and family, in a brand new house at 9, Lakeview Rd.

.....

Council has appointed Odie Grimm as buildings inspector during absence, through illness, of Pop Ware.

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CONCRETE BLOCKS & SILLS

News and Views is published by, for and about members of the Baie d'Urfee Citizens' Association. If you have anything to sell, swap or give away, or vice versa, say so in News and Views. Call your neighborhood reporter. (see masthead).

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Incidentally, subscriptions to ex Baie d'Urfites are \$1, to cover mailing.

Ted Trodd, we humbly confess, was left out of the list of officials re the ice carnival. He handled the speed skating-a bitter cold job well done.

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Sincere sympathy is extended to our printer, Mr. Richard Cornish, on the death of his father.

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INTERESTING LECTURE SERIES PLANNED  
BY BAIE D'URFÉE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Appointment of Erskine Kinmond to head the annual Flower and Vegetable Show in July and announcement of the Spring Lecture Series and annual Membership Drive resulted from the meeting of the Baie d'Urfée Horticultural Society executive Feb. 22 at Peter Smith's.

With a membership objective of 90% of the Town's population, Society members are knocking on doors this week collecting membership dues for the 1954 season. Costing only a dollar per family per year, the benefits are many, including discounts ranging from 5% to 10% on such items as fertilizer, grass seeds, shrubs, plants etc. arranged through various gardening supply companies by the Quebec Federation of Horticulture, participation in the Flower and Vegetable Show and eligibility for admission to the annual series of gardening and landscaping lectures given every spring at the Town Hall.

The Horticultural Society's executive plan to use local as well as imported talent on this year's series of six lectures.

A panel of local experts will be featured Monday, March 15 when the all important subject of growing annuals will be thoroughly discussed.

Don W. MacDonald, President of the Horticultural Society in Baie d'Urfée, is scheduled to take over the next three lectures. Methods of pruning shrubs, trees and hedges (including "live" demonstrations), as well as how to grow beautiful lawns, are the topics for the March 22 lecture, followed by a discussion on Fruit and Vegetable Cultivation Mar. 29. On April 5 Don will take over the subjects of insecticides, weed killers, fertilizers, soils etc., all of which are very important in helping the serious gardener grow lush plants. Paul Gagnon, expert from the Botanical Gardens of Montreal, will conclude the series April 12 with a lecture on the Perennial Border.

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The cost of the series of six lectures is \$2.00 per family and is open only to Horticultural Society members.

In compliance to the Town Council's request for help on weed control, the Baie d'Urfee Horticultural Society has appointed representatives in each district to compile a list of vacant or uncultivated lots in the town to be presented to the Council who in turn will hire someone to cut and spray the offending lots. Co-ordinator for the project is Lionell Evans, of Morgan Road, assisted by Dot Edward, Janet Fisher, Don MacDonald, Peter Smith and Lang Godfrey.

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#### COMBINED WELFARE APPEAL PLANNED FOR EARLY APRIL

The Combined Appeal for Welfare Services initiated in Baie d'Urfee last year with such good results is being planned again for this year. One canvasser will call for contributions to all causes at the one time.

The dates for this year's drive are April 5 - 10. Two seasoned appealing persons are in charge, Mrs. Nancy Dawson and Mrs. Pat Laird, with Mrs. Ruth Tait, last year's chairman, available for guidance. Mrs. E. Ivins, Mrs. Dot Edward and Mrs. Mary Coulter will help where needed in the planning. Monies collected will support the Combined Appeal for the Blind, the Salvation Army Red Shiel, the Joint Cancer Fund and the Lachine General Hospital Women's Auxiliary. In Addition, something new has been added - the Red Feather Services of Welfare Federation. Though this organization does not ordinarily have a springtime appeal, when Welfare Federation covered the Lakeshore as far as Ste. Annes for the first time last fall Baie d'Urfee was not campaigned in the hope and expectation it might be included this spring. (They are much in favour of combined drives in any case.) The committee, with the blessing of the Citizens' Association, has decided to include it. Incidentally, it was Montreal Parks and Playgrounds, a Red Feather service, which offered our Association help in planning a summer day camp program. It is one of 28 organizations this fund supports.

Because the town has grown, a larger staff of canvassers will be necessary and all who worked on the drive last year plus some additional persons, will be asked to help. Volunteers will be welcome indeed. There will be a coffee party at Mrs. Dawson's home April 2, when canvassers will be given necessary information and cards. The committee is anticipating the same generous support and cooperation which made last year's effort the success it was.

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#### PEEWEEES FETED AT TROPHY PARTY

A trophy in the town hall wound up Ernie DeWitt's Peewee hockey activities for the year. Members of all four teams, together with their managers, were guests, and the league winners, the Royals, were each presented with a cup with his name on it.

Mr. DeWitt, who organized the league, with the assistance of Tom Vauthier and George Moore, presented the trophies, assisted by Doug Proudfoot

and Bryan Smith. The lucky recipients were: Allan Hale, David Lint, John Greenfield, Robert Wells, Phil Amys, Nick Nikolaiczuk, David Moore and Ted Wickson, Denis Burns and Michael Godwin.

All the boys got a photograph of last year's Stanley Cup Champions, the Canadian, and Tom Vauthier showed a film featuring highlights from Stanley Cup games.

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#### COLLEGE GREEN TADPOLES HAVE MASQUERADE CARNIVAL

About 50 youngsters took part in the carnival fun on the Oxford Road rink.

Judges for the best costumes were, Mrs. Spriggs, Cecil Coulter and Mr. Thurn of Bayview. The grand prize went to Carolyn Cooper. Marjorie Johnstone, Peter Taylor, Andy Godwin, Gordie Baker, Malcolm MacDonald, Kerry Norcott, Daphne Barnes and Leslie Coulter also won prizes for costume originality. All on their own Myra Johnstone, Janet Smith, Elizabeth Wyatt, Bly Ritchie, Sandra and Judy Smith put on a skit of Cinderella. Linda Macdonald and Rosemary Ellis did a duet on skates followed by Leslie Bain and Patricia Loke. The P.A. system was operated by Fraser Farmer. John Windebank became Bobo the Clown while Steve Albulet and Don MacDonald were respectively the front and back ends of a horse. Mayor Gelinas presented the prizes.

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#### CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION MEETING

Although chairman Charlie Johnstone several times tried to steer the evening's business into more constructive directions (earlier he had reiterated that the Executive was trying to ascertain all details concerning issuance of building permits and would present them at a later meeting), nevertheless, various aspects of the topic of the month, the mayor's garage, were intermittently brought up.

Clary McGuire's main objection concerned the apology in the February issue of New and Views which he termed a "whitewashing" and not the decent apology he thought Mayor Jean Gelinas justly deserved because of the personal attack upon him by Chester Ellis in his swan song as Editor of News and Views. He moved, seconded by Mrs. Jean Ross, that the Association tender to the Mayor a stronger apology. The feeling of the overwhelming majority was that the editorial was sufficient and no further apology needed, and the motion was voted down.

Harry Dixon aptly summed up the sentiments of most citizens present when he stated that Ches' purpose had been accomplished, so why not drop the matter.

A happier note was interjected when Ruth Tait, Chairman of the 1953 Baie d'Urfée Combined Appeals Campaign, announced that last year's drive, March 1954

when twenty-three women contacted 220 families, averaged 30% more money for each of the five charities represented than given in previous years. It was felt that the whole Town seemed overwhelmingly in favor of continuing the system of combining Appeals into one drive. Thus early in April volunteer canvassers will be out soliciting funds.

Treasurer Lars Firing reported a balance of \$181.66 in the Treasury at present (February 12). Ted Trodd, Membership Chairman, requested all citizens, whether attending Association meetings or not, to join the Association and take part in the Town's activities. The annual fee of \$3.00 per family is now being collected, \$2.00 going to various Association projects while \$1.00 is allocated for Life Guarding during the summer.

Roy Cape, chairman, reported this year's Carnival a financial success and said a permanent shack at the Morgan Rink is imperative. Chairman Johnstone, said the matter of fire protection is on this year's agenda.

Both taxes and taxis were brought up by George Buch who, regarding the former, said he understood the assessors are revising their methods of assessing property and recommended the Council get a statement on how they are revising their former methods. As for taxis, George, seconded by Bill Norcott, read a formal proposal for looking into taxi permits as a source of town revenue. It was generally agreed the taxi drivers would merely raise their prices to pay for the license and we thus wouldn't be any better off!

Following the business meeting, Miss Frances Maunsell, Librarian for the McLennan Travelling Libraries with Macdonald College as its local headquarters, gave an entertaining and informative sketch, accompanied by movies of the Fraser Valley Travelling Library system, on the life of a travelling librarian. Refreshments were served by the new Hospitality Chairman, Elizabeth Davis, and her committee consisting of Elizabeth Delmar, Wilma Albulet and Dee Baker.

Bill Spriggs, chairman of school affairs, reported that school grants were to be increased. A spring music festival is being planned. Purchase of lockerroom and cafeteria equipment has been approved. A group accident insurance coverage of all the youngsters was discussed and parents are being asked if they are in favor of it. Their response will decide if it is to go into effect.

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GINNIE SAYS:

WE'RE TRULY AMAZED at Ruth Tait's ambitious plan of holding Open House Luncheons the first and third Wednesdays of every month with a blanket invitation for any Baie d'Urfitte to attend--no RSVP needed unless you're going to bring along a half dozen or so neighbors to keep you company! The time is 1:00 and Ruth assures us she really means it. Apparently this has been going on all fall and winter and is a highly successful way of getting acquainted. Ruth's lovely home is at 20821 Lakeshore Road.

BABIES IN BATCHES that's what we like to hear, and what with two March babies on Oak Ridge, three College Greenlings and a Lakeview Roder to add to the collection, the Town's population can scarcely be considered static!

IF HE WASN'T BORN with a Scottish brogue, at least he has the names for one, for Eric Stuart Campbell Buch, son of George and Mary Buch certainly must have the highlands of Scotland in his background! Eric was born Feb. 16.

A GOOD DAY was chosen by Nancy and Harvey Little for their newest daughter's arrival for not only did Henry Wadsworth Longfellow consider Feb. 27 as his birthday, but we do too! The little girl (we debated whether to capitalize that adjective) must also be a wee Scotch lassie from the sound of her Big Brother's and Big Sister's names: Graeme, five, and Faeye, four.

A LITTLE BOY on Oak Ridge can hardly contain himself these days. English-born Julian Hay three, has a brand new Canadian sister born March 1 at Catherine Booth Hospital. The children as the son and daughter of Tony and Penny Hay, newcomers to Oak Ridge.

SHAUN AND HELEN BLACK are expecting two things to happen the week of March 12: They, with their two children Karen and Kevin, seven and five, are planning to move into their new home on Oak Ridge Drive and also that week the newest little Black should arrive... just about in time to keep the Ritchie and Shonfield babies also due in March, company!

WE'VE BEEN WANTING to give brief sketches of some of Baie d'Urfée's newcomers, though heaven knows we can't reach 'em all! Tony and Penny Hay, moved into their new home on Apple Hill Road a few weeks before Christmas. Tony--an insurance man with Marsh & McLennan--should have been a contractor from the looks of the magnificent sun reflector and wind break he built out of ice blocks for Penny and the new baby to get their fill of suntanning à la Laurentians come balmy spring days.

A STRAWBERRY BLONDE, peppy and very interested in handicrafts, is the briefest profile we can give of Helen Black whose husband, Shaun, is with the Aluminum Company.

BOB BUCKHAM, who first became acquainted with our Town in a prisoner-of-war camp in Germany where he became good friends with P.O.W. Bob McBride, who grew up in Baie d'Urfée, moved to his very modern two story house atop Apple Hill last month. Bob is Art Director of Lockfield Brown, the advertising agency, and a magazine illustrator. Bob's charming wife, Marian, their children Scott, five and Christie, three, have been living in Beaurepaire all fall with the Leo Valois family (just a few feet out of Baie d'Urfée proper), watching their home slowly take shape.

WE HAVE A REAL GO-GETTER for a next door neighbor in the person of Joanne Boyle who already has endeared herself to the older grammar school girls at this end of Town by teaching them sewing Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in her home. Joanne, her husband, Pat, comptroller for Johns Manville (who incidentally is learning to square-dance call and had one of the nicest voices we've ever heard), seven-year-old Johnny and four year old Sharon moved to Oak Ridge a week before Christmas.

ACROSS THE STREET the A.C. Patstones and their three children Patty, fourteen, Diane, eleven and Jobey, seven, were the pioneers of Oak Ridge Drive, having moved to their new home way back early in November and



have practically their whole place landscaped already! "Pat", away in Europe taking in all the watch and clock factories, is with Birks and is an amateur artist on the side, while his wife, Marian, writes poetry (or "verse" as she call it) for amusement.

OTHER NEWCOMERS in the Oak Ridge development is that vivacious English family, the Ron whitesides who moved to Baie d'Urfée from England last August. Ronnie, star of the Oak Ridge broomball team, is with Rolls Royce, and his saucy wife, Fay, an Irish girl from way back, even though she fought the war in Coventry and has lived in England for most of her years, is a Guider, along with Esther McNutt, for the Ste. Annes Girl Guide Troop of which her eleven year old daughter, Anne, is a popular member.

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IF YOU DRIVE along Lakeshore Road and see a half dozen MG's in various stages of undress, you'll know where Sylvia and Harold "Kirt" Kirton live, for son John, 19, is a sports car enthusiast whose friends all hang out at their Oak Ridge home because there's plenty of yardroom to take the cars apart. The Kirtons, whose "master" is with the Royal Trust Company, have been in Canada six years, originally living in London. Besides John, they have another son, Nicholas, nine.

THOUGH THEY'RE IN Florida right now, Stuart and Stacia Smith moved into their new home in the early fall, becoming acquainted with their Oak Ridge neighbors by holding Open House Christmas eve. The Smiths and their four-year-old son, Donald, are one of those rarities in Baie d'Urfée: native-born Quebecers! Stacia's from St. Lambert and Stuart's a McGill electrical engineering grad, now heading the Westinghouse Supply Co. in Montreal.

NEXT DOOR TO THE SMITH'S, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Martin recently purchased the yellow bungalow (earmarked for Stacia Smith's sister and brother-in-law before their abrupt transfer to Toronto) and will move in the end of this month. A break for the Ste. Anne's Curling Club, if they can latch onto him, for Ken is an ardent curler and has been on the Heather Curling Club team in Westmount. Two things drew the Martins to the Lakeshore to live: Anne Tait, of the Morgan Road Tait's, is their daughter, and Mr. Martin is with Dominion Bridge in Lachine and hates fighting city traffic twice a day! Besides Mrs. Tait, the Martins have a grown son, Kenneth, Jr., and a daughter, Patti, 12.

THE COLONIAL STYLE home built by Vic Daoust on Lakeshore Road last summer was bought and moved into in November by Douglas and Martha Van Loan and Douglas, Jr., 8. The Van Loans are from White Plains, N.Y. and--like other Baie d'Urfée Americans whom we know--think this is a wonderful Town. Working for the Sperry Gyroscope Co. and considering gardening his chief hobby, Doug Van Loan's neighbors got a big bang out of watching him keep his driveway and parking area spick and span with his little side-walk snow blower! And Martha, we understand, is a trained librarian and no doubt will be put to all sorts of good use around this town once she gets acquainted.

WITH OAK RIDGE pretty well covered from the newcomers' standpoint, we'll concentrate on the central part of Town next month, getting the "vital statistics" on the horde of newcomers moving into Lakeview Road, for instance.

PRACTICALLY IN MOURNING were many Baie d'Urfites two weeks ago Saturday when that very popular George Lint family moved kit and caboodle to Toronto, leaving in their wake a number of life-long friendships. And it was quite a houseparty they made the night before their departure, what with the kids staying the night with the Ross Davidsons while George and Sybil were guests of the Don MacDonalds.

TAKING OVER THE Lint home and due to move in next week are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Crostan of Vancouver.

Daniel Peter Davies, D.F.C. and BAR

Baie d'Urfée suffered a real loss Thursday, March 4, in the sudden death of Daniel Peter "Pete" Davies, of Sunny Acres.

Pete, only 30, had for some months been gradually winning a fight against polio, when suddenly stricken in Montreal General Hospital. He will be greatly missed, and all Baie d'Urfée extends sincere sympathy to Mrs. Davies and Bryan and Jill, who will be three and one respectively this month.

The funeral was held Saturday, March 6, at St. Monica's Church, Benny Avenue, Notre Dame de Grace. A Guard of Honor was formed by members of No. 401 City of Westmount Auxiliary Squadron (R.C.A.F) of which Pete was a member.

Pete, formerly a Flight Lieutenant with the R.A.F., and holder of the D.F.C. and BAR, was born and educated in France. He escaped to England, via Portugal, in 1940 after France fell and joined the R.A.F. He served with the famed Pathfinder force of Bomber Command.

He was shot down over France, and worked for a year with the underground. Escaping once again, he rejoined his squadron, and was shot down again over Germany in 1943. He made his way to Sweden, was interned, then escaped back to England.

He joined TCA after the war and flew on the airline's transatlantic service. His wife, the former Betty Ramsey, was a stewardess with TCA. Pete was President of the Canadian Pathfinders' Association, comprising veterans of the Pathfinder force.

He is also survived by his mother, Mrs. B.J. Davies, of Montreal. His father died last year. The family is Canadian, Mr. Davies having operated a travel agency in Paris, and all fled to England when France capitulated.

## SOME NOTES ON SCHOOL TAXES

1. Since the type of education favoured by most people living in our Province of Quebec differs from that common to the other provinces and many other countries, a few introductory comments on the basic principles involved may prove useful to newcomers. Education in this Province is controlled by the Education Act (1856), which is designed to perpetuate and further this type of education without undue discrimination against other types. While the basic provisions of this Act may have been quite as adequate as a horse and buggy in 1856, this is hardly true today, for in many instances they fail to serve their intended purpose to the point where they often operate contrary to the development of better education.
2. One of the first things you will note is that, whereas you may have been in the habit of thinking of children as "children" and of paying taxes which were applied in aid of their education, this is not so in Quebec. Here children cannot be "children"; they must be either "Catholics", "Protestants", or "also-rans". From this you may conclude that when little Pierre and George left the hospital they were stamped as one category or another, like sides of beef, or that in the course of their discussions while playing in the sand box they took time out to explore the merits of various religions to the point where the matter was settled when they were ready to start school at age five.
3. In any event, the Act states that you must educate Pierre and George. It also makes it quite clear that, irrespective of their wishes, it is intended that the parting of the ways for Pierre and George should be at the sandbox. They should attend separate schools. What schools? The two which the Act requires you to build and with your money. But you have already given the Government considerable money in taxes, presumably for education - how about that? This is the cue for the great benefactor to put on the long white whiskers and make a "government grant" in aid of education. Yes, the taxes you paid to Quebec for education have gone through a transformation. That portion which you now get back is, for obvious reasons, called a "government grant"; but, for equally obvious reasons, the formula used in determining the size of such grants is not to be found in text books.
4. Well, you take what you can get, thank the government for it, listen to the locally-defeated Member of Parliament tell you how you could have obtained much more, and get on with the school. You find that you need still more money. The government tells you how you can or cannot raise it by borrowing, and how you must spend it. Then, months of tedious negotiations with the government raise doubts in your mind as to whether the government is actually for or against schools.
5. Having completed the schools for Pierre and George, you find that the government also stipulates how they must be operated. Most of the money required for their operation must come from property and corporation taxes. Fair enough, let's set a tax rate, collect the taxes and then divide it according to the number of Pierres and Georges - after all, it is in aid of their education. "Not so", says the Government. Our devout representatives at Quebec are so smitten by religion that they insist that even houses have one. Take your pick, so long as it is either





The total contribution in aid of the school from all of the corporation property in Ste. Anne's, Isle Perrot and Dorion is \$1,726, or about \$2.00 per child. However, the Act requires that the comparatively small amount of corporation property in Baie d'Urfe - Senneville contribute \$2,000. to the Catholic School.

10. How about the many commercial establishments in Ste. Anne's, which we all patronize. Baie d'Urfe - Senneville contributes about 50% of the trade to Ste. Anne's, but for what purpose? In return, Ste. Anne's contributes to the school 131 children but only enough taxes to educate 42 of them, the rest at your expense. The law also ensures that any school sales tax which might be imposed in Ste. Anne's will not rectify this situation. The law also ensures that the builder of half a dozen apartments will not have to contribute to the "free school up the street", which he advertises, even though these apartments do contribute another 100 children. ( $100 \times \$175 = \$17,500$  on your tax bill). Whatever the expressed purpose of the Education Act, this is typical of the use to which it is put. It encourages real estate investment which can be profitable only at the expense of education. No school, no apartments. The Act makes it impossible for Ste. Anne's to collect more in aid of the school, even if it wished to. The Act also specifies that the School Board can collect only 50 cents per pupil per month from those who contribute nothing. (In junior grades.) In spite of the provisions of the Act which prevent taxes from the "Catholic houses" contributing to our school, the school can and does educate several Catholic children for about one-half the cost of their education.

11. Since there is a good chance that you will be required to finance more and more "free education", it appears that it is about time to look for some other source of taxes. Although Ste. Anne's is the logical location for a commercial centre to serve Baie d'Urfe and Senneville, even when the population of these municipalities is trebled, the only solution to the problem appears to be to set up a commercial and industrial area in competition to every enterprise in Ste. Anne's. While such a move may be contrary to the wishes of Ste. Anne's, Baie d'Urfe and Senneville, it must, like the Education Act, be sound, for both are in aid of education.

12. The Executive Committee, with the help of our hard-working members of the School Board, intends to continue its study of the overall problem and to come forward with some concrete proposals for consideration by the Association. Such proposals would then be forwarded to the Council and/ or School Board, as appropriate.