

OLD FAIRBRIDGIAN ASSOCIATIONNEWS LETTER

June 19, 1950

R.J. Hancock, President
 Thos. E. Speed, Sec-treas.
 and Editor.

6050 Chancellor Blvd.,
 Vancouver, B.C.
 Canada.

EDITORIALWhat do you think?

Although we had not thought very seriously about it before, we were asked a short time ago what we thought of the idea of Fairbridge. Many of you are now mature enough to see your early life in fairly accurate perspective. How would you rate Fairbridge? Be honest! Doubtlessly, you can now perceive many weaknesses in your upbringing; mistakes were made. Yet, to a large extent, you are a product of that early life, be it bad or good.

The real test of Fairbridge lies in to what degree it has equipped us to meet the world successfully. We would say that in most cases it has succeeded. Are you a healthier, happier, more stable individual because you were raised at Fairbridge? Admittedly, to isolate what results are due to Fairbridge life is a difficult and possibly impossible problem. Some would have succeeded in almost any circumstances; others would have failed regardless of the environment they were given. We think that the essential factors necessary to build physically and mentally healthy adults were present at the Farm School.

The modern world is troubled and unstable. The financial puzzle, only a phase of a dangerous international situation, has drastically curtailed the work of the Fairbridge Society in Canada; the Fairbridge we knew is gradually diminishing. In the light of the opportunity for potential, future Fairbridgians we sincerely hope that this condition is only temporary. However, we O. F.'s, can help keep the 'idea' alive and strong through our organisation (i.e. The Old Fairbridgian Association). Probably what mankind needs most in this unsure age is comradeship and all it entails. Comradeship is, or should be, the basis and essence of our Association.

Ronald J. Hancock, President

Ed. note.

After attending the University of British Columbia at the last Fall and Winter session, Ron has returned to the Okanagan Valley. He remarks in a letter, "Here, in the Okanagan, I am spending an enjoyable and profitable Summer acquiring a tan and a bank-roll!"

There were a number of Old Fairbridgians in attendance at the University during the 1949-50 term. There are two names that should be of special interest to all of us. R.H.(Dick) Speed B.A. graduated at the Spring convocation with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. He is the first Canadian Fairbridgian to achieve this distinction but, if one may attempt a judgment, he will not be the last. Congratulations Dick! Also for especial mention is Ron Hancock. (Incidentally he forgot to mention this little item in his letter. It must have slipped his mind.) Ron again won a scholarship. This was the Beveley Caley award for the student who attains the top marks among the male students attempting the first year English course. I have been informed that this is a most difficult award to win. Keep up the good work Ron.

Dick Speed intends to return to his studies in the Fall.

Other Old Fairbridgians who will be returning to the University in the Fall are:

Johnny Cowans	Arts
Ron Hancock	Arts
Pat Hood	Law
John Hunter	Arts
Tom Speed	Arts and Theology
Bill Stoker	Engineering

Johnny Cowans is studying to become a graduate in the department of Social Work. Ron Hancock may take courses leading to the study of medicine.

During the Summer Ron is working in the Okanagan, Dick and Pat are working at Powell River, John Hunter is at the White Spot on Georgia St., Vancouver, Tom Speed is again in the Hospital Orderly work and is employed at the Vancouver General Hospital and Bill Stoker is with the Canadian Army Officers Training Corps at Camp Borden, Ontario.

At the moment I have no news of the whereabouts of Johnny Cowans.

EXTRA

The late governor, Al Smith, delighted in conducting visitors on tours of the Empire State Building, but one fussy old lady tried his patience sorely by asking him a dozen sill questions at every turn. Finally as the express elevator shot down from the eighty-first floor to the lobby, she gasped, "What would happen, Governor, if the elevator cable broke suddenly? Would we go up or down?"

Smith gulped convulsively, then answered gravely, "That would depend entirely, madam, upon the kind of life you've been leading.

WEDDING

Of interest to Fairbridgians was the recent wedding in St. Matthias' Church in Victoria, Jimmy Dean and Lilly Clabby. Jim works for the Island Tug and Barge Co. Ltd. and Lilly was employed as an upholsterer for the Standard Furniture Co. of Victoria.

The wedding was held on June 6th. John Newell was usher and Margaret Caldwell was the bridesmaid. Others attending the wedding were Lawrence McCarty, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Duncan, Kieth Pritchard, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Smith and daughter, Ethel Riley and Agnes Taylor. Mrs. Duncan is the former Bunny Arnison and Mrs. Smith is the sister of the Groom.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

Persy Millman, married and living in Vancouver, is the proud father of a baby girl, Mary Ellen, born May 2nd. Percy is working at the H.R. McMillan plywood mill in Vancouver.

Malcolm Macdonald has joined the R.C.A.F. and is in training in the East.

Muriel Lister married Wallace Bell at Port Alice, B.C. an April. The couple will live in that town. Some Fairbridgians will remember Mr. Bell's aunt, Miss Alberta Bell, who was hospital assistant at the School in 1942-43.

Three Fairbridgians are working in the Douglas Lake cattle country: Denys Beechey, Pat Conlon and Fred Harding. Nearby (as distances are considered in that country) is Ted Spencer at Nicola.

Trevor Stochbridge is just completing a trip in a freighter which took him through the Kiel Canal into the Baltic, where calls were made at various Ports in Denmark, Finland and Occupied Poland. Of the latter port, Gydnia, he writes, "as soon as the ship hit the dock I saw about ten guys packing machine guns, they had us collect in one spot while they searched the ship when we arrived and left, for people trying to sneak in or out of their wonderful country". Further he says, "Everybody is in some service of some kind, all uniform happy"; and finishes by saying "if that's their form of Communism, they can have it". Ironical, at this port, the ship took on a cargo of Christmas Tree ornaments. Trevor was due back in Vancouver early this month. We have not yet heard whether or not he has arrived.

EXTRA

I was visiting in the Fraser Valley the other day and was told the story of the farmer who was experimenting and crossed a cactus with an apple and got a prickly-pear. But one night last Fall he made a mistake. He crossed a water-melon patch with a wheel-barrow and got buck-shot.

O. F. Briefs

Victor Garside is driving for Vancouver Island Coach Lines out of Nanaimo.

The whole Turner family is living in or in the neighbourhood of Calgary.

Fred Roberts is married and living in Port Alberni.

George and Donald Cumming have just completed a voyage and at present are ashore in Vancouver. Don had the misfortune to again break his arm which he broke last year.

Ronald Emerson lives in Ontario, where he is employed by the Dunlop Tyre and Rubber Co.

The Duffy girls are all living at Qualicum beach. Joe, when last heard from, was living in Meaford Ontario.

Sid Jarvis, John Leebeter, Bob Duncan, Frank Danks, Margaret Caldwell, Doris (Taylor) Cunningham and Agnes Taylor are some of the Fairbridgians who make their homes in Victoria.

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- 4 -

Bill Cockburn is an orderly at the Vancouver General Hospital.
Dereck Jarich is still employed as an orderly at the T.B. Sanitorium
at Tranquille B.C.

A short Message from the Rev. T.L. Hipp, former School Chaplain.

"It is a pleasure to accede to the request to contribute a few lines to this News Letter.

One has many happy recollections of four years at Fairbridge, and since coming to Vancouver it has been a pleasant surprise to run across some of the younger boys and girls who are now living somewhere around the city.

It has been gratifying too to hear how well many Fairbridgians are doing in their employment or in the continuance of their studies and training for their chosen work.

All good wishes to you all. "

T.L. Hipp
(Rector, St. Nicolas' Church,
Vancouver Heights)

FLASH

The Fairbridge Day School team again won the tug-of-war cup at the annual school district sports day held recently at the Farm School.

A few Words from the Editor:

It has occurred to me that perhaps this is the place where I should insert a few words.

I find great pleasure in using up some of my spare time for the Old Fairbridgian Association; but the work most assuredly requires effort. Ron feels exactly the same way as I do. But if we do not have any correspondence from any of you, we most certainly have no way of telling whether or not our work is appreciated. After the last bulletin was put out, at the beginning of the year, we received only one letter. That was from Bob Warnock at Duncan. Thanks a lot, Bob. We know that you are interested in what we are trying to do.

Another little matter that should be brought to everyone's attention is the cost of these editions. The total cost is approximately ten dollars. I am able to get supplies at a cheap rate, and as I do the stencil cutting, typing and mimeographing myself, the cost is kept to a minimum. Ron is unable to help me get this edition out, as he is in the interior, but I will be able to find willing hands to help with the mailing. The O. F. Association has a minimum fee and we would very much like members to meet their obligations and send in their contributions to help with the work of the Association.

I have just been listening to the news of the flood situation in the Fraser Valley. It appears that the disastrous floods of 1948 are being repeated. There are a number of Fairbridgians and friends of Fairbridge in the Fraser Valley, and among those who are known to many of us is the McFarlane clan who reside at Dewdney where Mr. Andy McFarlane is manager of the Malabar Farm.

As Editor of this News Sheet I must make a formal apology to the girls of our Association. For some reason beyond my control, I have little news of their activities or whereabouts. I hope that this will be remedied on a future occasion.

If any O.F. has any news that would be of interest to all would he or she please forward it to Ron or myself. It will enable us to put together two or three sheets of news for everyone.

Good wishes and success to all of you-

Thomas E. Speed,
Sec.Treas. and Editor.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

On Monday June 36th at 7:30 P.M. (PDT) there will be a half hour program about the Fairbridge Farm School. The script for this program has been prepared by Mr. David Savage, who writes the script for the well-known Carson Family heard daily on the C.B.C. Farm Broadcast. The Monday night program will be carried over the C.B.C. National Network.

A Message from the Bible.

Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man. Colos. 4:6

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Mr. H.T. Logan reports that he was pleasantly surprised upon meeting Stanley Blake at the University Church Service for the Graduating Class held at the Canadian Memorial Church. Stan is a sidesman at the Canadian Memorial United Church.

Mrs. Peter Forrest (nec Annie Usher) is reported to be doing excellent work in her community. Ann belongs to various women's organizations and also works with the Girl Guides.

Brian Strawbridge was another one of our group who attended University last year. He took a course in Chemistry through a bursary supplied by the B. C. Electric, for whom he works.

I have a letter from Miss Hall in London. She sends her greetings. Avril Ingram visited the London Office recently.

That is all I've got for this time.
