



Fairbridge Gazette

Subscription:
Adults, 10¢ - Children 5¢

Published at:
Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School

Volume II

April 1941

Number 2

EDITORIAL

Trainee Girls.

We thank all our kind friends who have written or spoken appreciatively of our effort in compiling the last number of the Gazette. We feel encouraged to put forth another number.

We would like to dedicate this number especially to those boys who have gone out this month to their first employment. We wish them God-Speed and Good Farming. We think about them, and would like to think that this Gazette was going to be a close link between us and them. Their names are:- Arthur Cain, John Dee, Frank Morris, Horace Skelton, who have gone to farms on the mainland; Leslie Snaith, Peter Wilkes and Eric Winchester to Chemainus; Pat Webb and Arthur Worsnop to farms in the Cowichan District; Joe Fenton, Bill Renwick, Jack Wheeler and Leonard Smith to the neighbourhood of Victoria, and John Leebetter to Port Alberni.

We have to thank Mrs. L.A.Genge of Victoria, who sent, on receipt of the last number of the Gazette, a cheque for \$10. \$5 is to be spent on wool for the knitting of socks or comforts for Old Fairbridgians on Active Service, and \$5 to go towards the expenses of the Gazette. One pair of socks has just been completed and will be sent to the first boy who joined the Forces, Edmund Walton.

With 50 boys and girls now out in employment we are feeling the need of a Club House where they may gather. Wouldn't it be fine if Old Fairbridgians themselves made the effort to obtain funds for such a building?

Many noted visitors have come to Fairbridge this month, including His Excellency, the Earl of Athlone, Governor General of Canada, and H.R.H. Princess Alice, accompanied by their daughter, Lady May Abel-Smith; Sir Howard d'Egville, Secretary of the British Parliamentary Association; Mr. Howard Ferguson, former Premier of Ontario, and Mrs. Ferguson; Mr. T.W.F.Norton of Toronto. We thank them all for the encouragement their visit has given us.

Several times during the past months we have had visits from Mr. and Mrs. P.B. Fowler, Mr. and Mrs. Scurrah, Mr. Solly, Mr. Henry, Mr. Grogan and Mr. and Mrs. J.A.Humbird. As a matter of fact, we consider them just as much a part of Fairbridge as we are because we could not get along without them.



Letters have been received from:-

Mr. Joe Lewis, who was Farm School Cook in 1936-8; N.S. Myrtle O'Leary, C.A.S.F., Farm School Nurse 1938-9. Both are on Active Service in England. Mr. Lewis is married and had taken his wife

to see N.S. O'Leary. We know Fairbridge was mentioned. We thank N.S. O'Leary for her Easter cable- "Easter Greetings Love to all- O'Leary".

A DAY IN THE R.C.N.

When I first enlisted in the navy I never thought it would be possible to abide by the thousand and one rules called "The King's rules and Regulations" but willing shipmates soon taught me how and thanks to them I avoided the usual calamities suffered by a recruit. They taught me 6.30 is five bells and every morning at five bells the loud speaker system commenced by arousing the ship's company; from 6.30 to 7.00 must be spent in washing, dressing, shaving and neatly lashing then stowing away your hammock (no more beds). Breakfast is at 7.00 - six bells and just as soon as the Quarter Master pipes "cooks to galley" the food begins to be distributed from the galley (kitchen). At 7.45 hands fall in to clean ship and there Fairbridge training becomes invaluable, for one has to wax and polish floors, scrub benches and tables, wash windows and those other household jobs we all grumbled at. When living quarters are spotlessly clean, all ranks fall in for divisions, an old navy custom of marching past the Captain where he takes the salute; then prayers, followed by Colours where the White Ensign is slowly hoisted in perfect time to the band's playing of the National Anthem. After Colours the divisions begin to break up into the various training groups, then Naval training for the day begins.

On my first day, with 60 other recruits I was given a lecture by a leading stoker on the different traditions of the Navy, what we are expected to do and what we will have to do, it was very interesting. Then the loud speaker bellowed "Stand easy" - a twenty-minute period from 10.20 to 10.40 in which to smoke, buy candy or just rest. At 10.40 it was "Out Pipes" and we resumed our classes until 11.50, then were dismissed for dinner. Dinner is at 12.10 and at 12.0 it is "Up Spirits" a call for men to draw their rum ration.

At 1.10 we fell in for afternoon training, which for that day was rifle drill. The first afternoon was spent in explaining the difference between the butt and muzzle and what the various parts were for.

From 2.20 till 2.30 we had afternoon stand easy, and at 3.45 we were dismissed for the day. Tea at 4.00 and Liberty men

proceeded ashore at 4.30. From 4.00 till 7.00 is free and at 7.00 is the supper call; after supper the canteen becomes the center of attraction until 9.00 when all is still for Rounds (an inspection by the Officer of the Day to ensure cleanliness in all dormitories) at 10.30 "Lights out", all hands pipe down.

That roughly describes my first day of service and now all my shore training is complete. I feel the old thrill of expectancy coming back, for my next move will be a ship and then my chance to do my bit.

John Hunter.

AN ODE TO KINGSLEY FAIRBRIDGE.

If you should ask me who was Fairbridge,
I would answer very slow,
A man who fought and won a battle,
For he died awhile ago;
All through life he bore his crosses
Lived up to the highest code;
Dined with highest and the lowest
Never left the honest road.
He faced misfortune with a courage
Very few of us possess;
He never flinched in times of trouble,
Nor his inner thoughts suppressed.
To me he is a silent hero,
In the helping of mankind.
His memory shall live on forever,
In our heart and in our mind.

John Hunter.

EXTRACTS FROM OLD FAIRBRIDGIANS' LETTERS.

Jack McNally - March 18th, 1941.

"I like very much the job I am at for the present. I don't think I will make my future farm of sheep and horses, but it is pretty nice working here. Mr. Turner is a pretty fine boss. He used to work at Fairbridge when Mr. Pemberton owned it. He asked me if "Slater Reed" was still there, he meant of course Bill Reed."

Tom Turner - April 3rd, 1941.

"We had a fairly long cattle drive last week. Mr. Devick bought 26 calves 25 miles from here and Frank, his cousin, and I rode over for them. We started 7.00 a.m. last

Wednesday, and got there at 12.00, had dinner and drove them half way back before nightfall. We stayed at another ranch overnight and got them home 6.00 p.m. Thursday.

The calves had been neglected, so last Monday we had to dehorn, castrate, wash them for warbles, brand and vaccinate them for blackleg."

March 13th, 1941.

"You asked quite a few questions on our hockey so I guess it's up to me to answer them for you. I have a pair of skates of my own that I bought just after Christmas. I learned to skate pretty quick considering that I hadn't had a pair of skates on till this winter, but I will admit I landed pretty hard on one point landings the first two or three times. We have a team in the district here but seeing that I only learned to play this winter I only took part in one game, but I live with great hopes of playing next winter if I'm still here and there isn't any reason why I shouldn't be. For floodlights there is a Delco on the ranch but the rink isn't wired for any lights to play hockey so next winter we are going to chip in so we will be able to play night-hockey. The ranch where we play is is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from here. I think that answers all your questions on hockey. Our hockey is finished now though.

We have had a very mild winter here also, the coldest it got was only 10 below zero and we only had about 14 inches of snow.

I am enclosing a photograph--of me riding a calf, just after the picture was taken I went over its head and landed pretty good on my shoulder and it wasn't any soft landing either because the ground was frozen. We were branding that day and before we were finished I had reddened six of them. I didn't feel it very much that day but I was sure stiff the next.

My present weight and height is 170 lbs. by 5 ft. 11 inches, I hope you dont mind the way I put that.

We have about 300 head of cattle here with six bulls and 19 horses. The horses are yearling colts, a 2-year old and a 3-year old.

GIRL' NEWS

Jessie Newbold.

Arriving April 12th. Katie Taylor spent a week at the Farm School. Annie Usher went to her second employment in Vancouver on Feb. 25th. Joan Buchan is still here after her operation.

During the Easter holidays we had lovely weather so the girls went to various places for picnics, some of the places being Koksilah, Cowichan Bay and Cowichan River. Mrs. Davidson and the trainee girls went picnicking at Cowichan Bay and had a lovely day there, bringing back clams and prawns.

During the mornings of the Easter Holidays there were duties to be done, but most of them were done quite early, so the girls brought their knitting and sat on the lawns. In the afternoon the girls had softball, and one day watched two games of soccer against an outside team playing with the Fairbridge boys.

When the girls were not playing softball they were at the gym. Miss Boulton, who is the games teacher, is having a competition in gym work between the girls' houses. This gym work is very interesting and the girls look forward to it very much.

In Home Economics, with the consistent teaching of Miss Cosgrove, the girls seem to be progressing very well. The junior class and the intermediate class have been making shorts and the trainee girls have been making their wardrobe ready for when they go out to work. The girls are looking forward very much to making their own summer dresses. They choose the pattern and the material themselves. The trainee girls served supper in the Home Economics and invited members of the staff. The intermediate girls served a luncheon and invited members of the staff.

School has started again but will not be lasting long as the summer holidays commence at the end of June.

FINTRY NEWS

J. Moore.

The boys have been very busy cutting down trees also pruning. We have quite a nice little bunch of calves now and one of the pigs littered to start the 1941 Pig Crop. The deer have been plentiful. Three milk testers have been up here since January.

(Come on Fintry! - Give us some real news for the next Gazette! - Ed.)

As we go to press the following information has come to hand from Jimmy Dobbs, who writes, "We have finished the first spray and are working up the bush sawing logs and it sure is hot. Mrs Gray got an electric washer this morning and washed our sheets, they were lovely and white when we got them back".

FAIRBRIDGE HAPPENINGS

On April 1st. there was great excitement here at Fairbridge when the Governor-General of Canada, accompanied by Princess Alice and their daughter came to open the new hospital. Princess Alice was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Eileen Ryan. After the ceremony at the hospital tea was served by the older girls in the dining hall, where over two hundred visitors were met by Their Excellencies.

A confirmation service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. Harold E. Sexton, Bishop of British Columbia, on April 8th., when 15 children were confirmed. They were confirmed in time to have their first communion service on Easter Day.

We had a visit from Nanaimo Band on April 20th. They played on the lawn for about one hour. The entertainment finished by singing "There'll always be an England" and "God Save the King". Tea was served to the bandsmen and visitors by the trainee girls.

Pictures shown lately depicted the life at the Indian school, Lytton, by the Rev. Lett, and Forestry pictures which are shown every year. Both of the pictures gave a great deal of information on the life of other people, and how we should be careful about fire.

FARM NEWS

R. Anderson.

Livestock

We were very sorry to hear that Susan, our oldest cow, was killed due to old age. She was one of the highest producers we have had.

There are now 22 cows milking. Fintry Mistletoe is about the highest, producing around 45 lbs. per day. We now have plenty of milk, 60 gallons every day are sent out from the barn.

Duchess, youngest of our colts and the daughter of May, has sore legs. We all hope she will get better as she is such a nice little colt.

Poultry

The poultry have gone up considerably this month, they are producing from 315-325 eggs daily. Mr. Rootjes the new poultry supervisor is bringing the 600 chicks along very well.

Garden and Crops

Mr. Woods has worked very hard on the garden and it is looking very fine. He has added a lot more land which now bears small fruits which came lately. The whole garden is about three times bigger than it originally was.

The lower pasture by Brown's Bridge is being seeded with oats. The Upper Ranch is seeded with oats and is growing well. A large portion of the old playing fields is being seeded with oats.

BOYS' SPORTS

Jock Bennett.

The month of April was a very exciting month for the boys who take part in sports. We had several visits from St. Louis College in Victoria. We lost each football game. Our rugby team played the University School, Mt. Tolmie, twice and we lost again. Ladysmith sent senior and junior football teams, again we were losers. All this was very disappointing but we picked up on our boxing which took place in Duncan and we brought home five challenge cups and medals.

Our cross country race always comes off

during the Easter Holidays. We have a four and a half mile course. A hundred boys take off but not all come in at the finish, but it is a great day for us all. In this race Horace Skelton came first, Ken Arnison second and Robert Anderson third.

JUNIOR GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

Eddie Philps.

The first league game of the series was against Shawnigan, played at Shawnigan, where Fairbridge was defeated, the score being 23-18, Shawnigan having a five point lead. The second game at Duncan proved very successful, the score being 19-8 in favour of Fairbridge; this meant that Fairbridge won the Cowichan District championship, after Shawnigan had played Duncan and won.

While waiting for our next game there was a practise every Tuesday night for three quarters of an hour.

On February 25th. we played Ladysmith junior girls at Duncan; although the Ladysmith players were very tall, the Fairbridge girls walked over them, the score being 23-12. To the second game at Ladysmith we were accompanied by a junior boys' team. This game, although it was on Ladysmith's own home floor, was played very well and won by Fairbridge girls. The final score was 13-8 in favour of Fairbridge. Total score for both games was 46-20.

The last and one of the most exciting series that we played was against Alberni. The first game of the series at Duncan was a very hard game. The Alberni girls' height was much greater than the Fairbridge girls, but this did not worry us because we had lots of "pep". The score was 13-10 in favour of Alberni.

Our last game of the league series was at Alberni. The trip to Alberni and so many other interesting things to see impressed the girls very much.

Arriving at Alberni at 5.15 p.m. we were taken by Alberni girls to their various homes. The game started at 9.15 p.m. and proved to be a very hard, close game.

First quarter score was 4-4, half time score being 7-7. At three quarter time the score was 23-16. At the the three-quarter mark the Fairbridge girls were getting very determined to catch up the seven points. They rallied very well until the score became 23-21. At this point however the final bell sounded making the total series stand at 24-23 in favour of Alberni. The team was able to get this far in basketball by the everlasting coaching of Mr. Gower. Three cheers for Mr. Gower!!!

"EASTER"

Olive Turner.

On Easter Sunday the church special service was conducted by Mr. Garnett, while the address was given by Mr. Hugh Savage. His address was about "Faith". He stressed this by telling a story of two chickens.

The decorations consisted of polyanthuses, easter lilies, and ferns. Around the chancel there was moss with easter lilies and hyacinths partially planted in the moss.

We had easter eggs from our dear friends Mr. and Mrs. Humbird and Mrs. Kearly. We express our thanks to these people on behalf of the entire school. We must not forget to thank the staff who also helped to make our Easter happy.

WE HEAR THAT:-

Henry Brayfield has joined up.
Mr. Garnett's chalet is ready for occupation; he needs a Shower (most equipment lacking).
Horace Skelton likes his work at Frasea Farm.
Jeannie Morrison visited Sally Dillon at Easter week-end.
Florrie Cowans has a Sunday School class.
Peggy Auton has lost her pen.
Andy Anderson made headline news in a Victoria paper.
Laurie Drape has mastered the printing business - he thinks.

FAIRBRIDGE FARM SCHOOLS Inc.
Savoy House,
115 Strand,
London, W. C. 2.

Dear Lavinia,

It was a most delightful surprise to find a letter from you to me in the Fairbridge Gazette. At first I did not realize that I was the Mr. Green. When I tumbled to it, I sat back in my chair and ate it all up. I found it delicious! For myself, I look forward to the day when I can come to the Farm School and toast weiners on "Bill's Hill". If I tell your friends here about these feasts, I know they will worry the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to put them on the first boat that leaves for Canada when the war is over.

When we get the news of all the fun the School has (expeditions and operettas and movie shows etc.) we say "lucky ones!" But then we know that you also do a lot of good work in and out of School and deserve the good time you have. We expect great things of you all. You can't be Mr. Logan's flock and not turn out to be Fairbridge Wonders.

And it is nice to know that the School is proving to be such a good backer of the Red Cross. When I see the Canadian Soldiers here in London and hear that they have a big job to do, I feel so pleased that our Fairbridge children are helping to look after them. That is grand and I am going to tell those lads when I get a chance.

It is most truly kind of you children to save me from any worry (see last para. of your letter). I've been wondering why I was worried out of doors, whilst indoors I knew that the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School saved me from any anxiety. The truth is in my hat. I will explain. My hat is a real bad character and has got worse and worse. I dare not describe its horrors to you. No Fairbridge child would own such an unspeakable head-dress. I seem not to have time to go to the hatter and ask him to give me a new hat with no worry in it. Still, by the time I can come to Canada I shall have put this right and my friends from New-

castle (they, particularly) will no longer be able to gibe: "What! Still the old black hat?". So you see what a worry I have.

Please give my love to all Fairbridgians and tell them I live for the moment when I can come and see them again.

Yours very sincerely,
Gordon Green.

A WORD TO MR. LOGAN

Anonymous.

Thank you for your cheery smile.
Thank you for our cottages.
Thank you for our games.
Thank you for our hikes and holidays.
Thank you for your thought for us.
Thank you for getting a new coat.-
But - What about your summer hat?

HEARD AROUND FAIRBRIDGE

"Which is the highest, Canon or Hugh?" Because they say "Canon Hughes," and they say "Hugh Savage"?"

A small boy to Mr. Garnett - "Mum says, will you please come and saw her".

In Sunday School - question "Why did Queen Esther not come when the king called her to meet the nobles?" Answer "Because she didn't like meeting people".

Small boy "Dont call me Michael, call me Micky. I dont like Michael." "Are you Irish?" "Me, Irish! I'm Britain."

Letter to a Godparent - "We are now in the new Hospital. It has four wards, two isolation wards, a trained nurse, an assistant nurse, a trainee girl and a few other odd things."
