Francois Lake News

By AGNES H. NEAVE

FRANCOIS LAKE—The Weins family little grey cat followed them to church last Sunday evening and sat disconsolately on the window sill outside and watched us all through the service. I felt that it would be a good idea to let her come inside where it was warm, but am not sure if this is the right thing. When we lived on the prairie our old cattle dog, Bob, would slip inside the church and stay quietly underneath the bench where we used to sit and I doubt if anyone ever noticed him there.

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After bragging about having pansies in the school garden here in January we hear from Billie Schwab that they have a rose in bloom in their garden on Seventh Avenue, and that there were also two buds. I think we have lost out this time, Billie! And now we read that there are daisies, pansies and water cress and even salmon berries.

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D. McCooey, recreation consultant, northern B.C. area, was here for our annual Recreation Commission meeting in the hall on Saturday evening. There was a real good turnout although it was well below zero that night. We all sat near one of the colossal heaters which is about the size of a gasoline drum, and took turns at pushing logs of wood in the fire. Hugh's wife Josephine was asked to be president again, with John Logan vice-president. The board is composed of one representative from each of the clubs here and this works out splendidly. I resigned from being secretary-treasurer. I enjoyed the meetings and writing letters, but have always been poor at maths and nobody was more surprised than I when I found that the bank book balanced with my own records.

Mrs. John Logan has taken over this position. Mr. McCooey gave us a short talk, and explained how it was that he could not get this far to see us as often as he would like, and to other places like this. He lives in Quesnel. More commissions are starting up all the time. He hopes that before long a Consultant will be stationed at Smithers to care for this large scattered district from Prince Rupert to Vanderhoof.

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The cold has arrived at last, and it was seven below zero on Friday night, and 20 below on Saturday night. We were all surprised to see ice on the lake on Saturday morning which was added to on Saturday night. The children were able to skate close into shore on Sunday afternoon, and what a time they had, for the ice was just like glass. Even if it keeps very cold the ferry will be able to push its way through the ice for some time. We thought that perhaps this would be one of those rare winters when the lake doesn't freeze over and the ferry can cross all winter. But we seem to be out of luck this year again.

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We had planned on having our annual church meeting in the church on Monday evening, but instead we gathered here in our home as it is more comfortable. Rev. John Frame and Rev. R. A. Ferguson came down from Burns Lake to meet us eight parishioners.

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The Kinsmen's Club at Southbank sponsored a dance on Saturday evening for the B.C. Disabled Fund which was very rewarding in every way. Someone brought a tame goose which was turned loose on the dance floor wearing a hat, and it was auctioned off to the highest bidder. It fetched $5. The combined efforts brought about $600. The Mother's March netted $560.

Advertising in The Daily News Brings Results.

HEAVY AS LEAD — This Christmas cake turned out to contain more than fruit as police found out when they X-rayed the gaily-wrapped parcel. Addressed to inmate Andy Bolimovich, in the section for the criminally insane of a Toronto hospital. With the revolver came bullets and spare tear gas shells. Bilimovich has been charged now with conspiring to escape lawful custody. — CP Wirephoto

Competence check on teachers may form part of status change

VICTORIA (CP) — British Columbia's 12,000 public school teachers will decide this spring whether or not they will take the final step towards full professional status.

A plan for policing their own ranks to guarantee professional competence will go before the annual B.C. Teachers Federation meeting in Vancouver April 3-6.

"Under the plan we would assume responsibility for the competence of our members as do other professions," said B. C. Gillie, chairman of the 11-member special committee that drew up the plan after 2½ years of study.

FOUR CATEGORIES

The plan involves establishing categories for teachers according to experience and training. A board of review would designate the teacher's category on his annual membership card.

Incompetent teachers would have "category withheld" stamped on their cards as a warning to school boards that the BCTF did not vouch for their ability.

Teaching certificates are controlled by the department of education but proposed plan would give BCTF an opportunity to recommend, or withhold its approval, of any particular teacher who seeks employment.

A board of admissions and review, composed of eight teachers of outstanding ability, would be empowered to carry out investigations of complaints about teachers. Its rulings could be appealed to the BCTS executive.

SALARY RELATIONSHIP

Four categories would be established: professionally certified teacher; professionally certified teacher (provisional); teacher; probationary teacher.

One of the aims of the plan would be to establish a salary relationship among the categories so that the highest category would draw the highest salary.

Mr. Gillie said the specific salary schedules of various school districts would remain a matter of bargaining between teachers and school boards.

Advertising in The Daily News Brings Results.

German steel contract lower than Canadian

OTTAWA (CP) — Use of Canadian steel sheet piling in construction of an assembly wharf in Nanaimo, B.C. cost $86,361.54 compared with a West German tender of $74,901.60, Works Minister Walker said Thursday.

He gave the comparison in a written Commons reply to Maurice Bourget (L-Levis).

Mr. Walker said the works department issued a directive to the contractor calling for use of Canadian steel following a practice of insisting upon use of materials of Canadian manufacture.

Mr. Bourget asked whether there is any limit to the cost differential over imported products in directing the use of Canadian materials.

The works minister replied:

"Yes. Each project is reviewed on its merits. Canadian parts and materials are, however, used to the full extent to which the same are procurable, consistent with proper economy and the expeditious carrying out of the contract."

Jail food good

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — Ex-convict Roscoe Baldwin's allegiance is to federal prisons.

Louisiana state troops arrested the 35-year-old Baldwin while he was sleeping in a stolen car Thursday. Baldwin readily admitted stealing the car in Winchester, Ky.

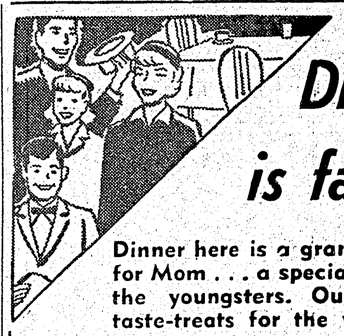
"I'm sure happy to be on my way to a federal prison," Baldwin told the troopers. He said he was released from a federal penitentiary last September after a three-year term for auto theft in Michigan.

"This ought to be worth at least five years," he said happily in jail while awaiting FBI agents.

"I'm strictly a federal prison man. The food is good — it's clean and you get a pack of cigarets every day. I don't want any part of these state pens."

Girl shoots mother

CARRIZOZO, N.M. (AP)—A 13-year-old girl is being held in connection with the fatal shooting of her mother Wednesday night. State policeman Jim Clayton said the girl allegedly shot her mother after she was told to do her homework instead of watching television.



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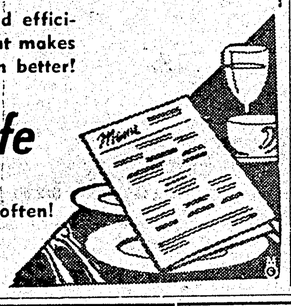

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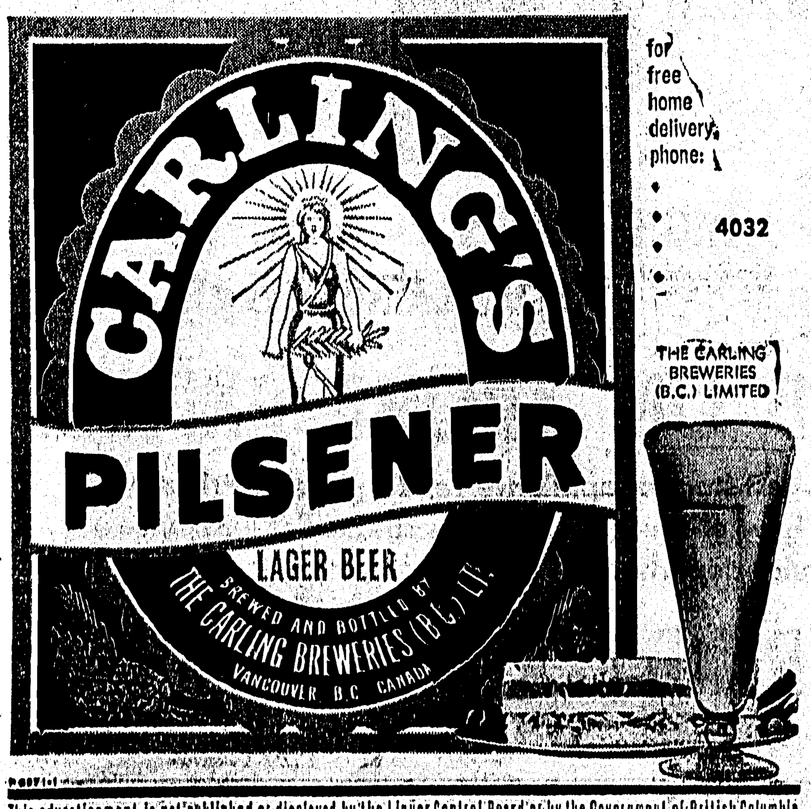

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