

Ballinafad district news

By WINIFRED SMITH
Herald correspondent

Well, as far as we know everyone in the neighborhood survived that awful winter storm. Many were inconvenienced perhaps, and several could not get home from their days work, but fortunately hydro was not interrupted and we did not suffer the hardships that many residents in near by areas did.

Some residents are still on the sick list. Lloyd McLean is

recovering from an appendix operation. His two little grandchildren, the older two of Mr. and Mrs. Ross McLeans were in hospital at the same time after having their tonsils removed.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Del Linstead are also recovering from surgery for the removal of tonsils. Jimmy Linstead was getting over his operation, when he had the misfortune to fall in his home last week and fractured his

shoulder bone. He is able to be home from hospital but wearing a cast.

Visitors were out to Church on Sunday including Mr. and Mrs. Baumann, of Berlin, Germany, who were spending Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sewartz. Mrs. Arina Howes was welcomed into the fellowship of Ballinafad Church by transfer from Morgan's Point United Church.

Mr. Howes was also present with his wife as they presented two of their children for bap-

tism, Rebecca Lyn, and Kevin Andrew. The Howes are now residing in Ballinafad, after recently moving from Morgan's Point.

A nice addition to the Morning Service was the anthem by the Junior Choir.

The Congregation was reminded of the Pancake Supper to be held on Strove Tuesday, at 6 p.m. at the Church. Whole families are invited.

The Hancock family recently suffered a bereavement when Mrs. Hancock lost her mother. Sympathy of the community is extended to the Hancock.

The final meeting of the needlepoint Craft was held in the Community Centre on Monday of last week. Unfortunately Grace McEnery was unable to attend due to a death in the family. Linda O'Connor,

who is assistant to Grace conducted the meeting and plans were made for Summary day to be held at Hillcrest Church on Feb. 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sewartz entertained at their home on Sunday afternoon for members of the men's choir, and their wives.

Boy's Town nears reality

Yet another link is being formed in the chain of Boy's Town which Acton resident Arthur Meunier hopes to establish from coast-to-coast in Canada. It was revealed recently.

Mr. Meunier says that New Brunswick is interested in having him establish a Boys Town in the province and he is looking at a site in the Petitcodiac area between Moncton and St. John's.

He will be visiting Manitoba next week to meet Premier Sterling Lyon and his cabinet to discuss a \$1 million

provincial grant as well as a land grant towards the establishing of a Boys Town in that province. Negotiations are already under way for the purchase of a ranch in the Kootenays in British Columbia and a farm near Milton for his Ontario headquarters.

Mr. Meunier, a 52-year-old ex-convict who spent 42 years in jail, sees the setting up of a network of Boys' Towns throughout Canada as his mission in life.

Three commitments towards his national fun-

draising tour begins on Feb. 12 when he will be the guest speaker at Beautiful Saviour Lutheran Church in Winnipeg. April 12 he will speak to the Toronto Kiwanis Club. Aug. 19 he will address a student convention at Queen's University in Kingston which a crowd of 5,000 is expected to attend.

Plans are also being arranged by a South Dakota congressman for him to meet United States President James Carter in June, although it has not yet been finalized.

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Travel

Cruising: on a popularity wave

A "holiday home" away from home

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SWAPPING YOUR HOME with someone far away as a means of arranging a comfortable and inexpensive summer holiday?

Charles and Marion Woolley, Gulf Islanders off the British Columbia coast, did just that a few years ago, following Mr. Woolley's retirement from the airline and travel industry.

They liked the entire concept so much that they have now become owners of their own Canadian-based home-exchange program.

"LOTS OF PEOPLE PREFER A HOME atmosphere to costly hotel or motel accommodation with limited facilities, particularly during a long vacation," said Mr. Woolley.

"While we are based in Canada, we operate in other countries," he explained. "We have subscribers in the United States, the Caribbean, Europe and the United Kingdom."

Cruising, according to experts in the travel business, is winning a surprising number of new enthusiasts these days. Sailings in many areas of the world are reported to be well booked, and this has encouraged a number of shipping lines to renovate and build better liners. The reason this is surprising is that not many years ago cruising was just about given up as a dead cause; now, it seems, there's still a good deal of life in this form of travel.

What is it that is bringing travellers back to the sea? Certainly not speed in this age of the supersonic Concorde. And it isn't economy, when you can zip across the Atlantic and back for just over \$300 these days.

No, the appeal of cruising is, and always has been, that

you can travel and take your comfortable "world" with you. The ports change and you are moving through time and space, but you remain surrounded by hotel-like luxury where everything is familiar and as orderly as you want it.

Cruising has to be the most relaxed way of getting about the world's most pleasant waters. Warm sunshine is practically a guaranteed daily event. Passengers can choose their own shipboard pace, from complete idleness to a frenzied schedule. Days are punctuated by ambitious mealtimes, where the choice usually runs from substantial familiar fare to the more exotic dishes. After-dinner dancing in a nightclub atmosphere contrasts with the soft moonlit sea outside. And inevitably, people meet people.

There are certainly worse ways of shugging off the effects of future shock, the frenetic whirl of business, and the problems of living... for those who need it. And it can be a suspended existence — half the time is between ports — for those trying to get themselves together.

Of course, there's more to cruising than its real or imagined therapeutic advantages. The emphasis is obviously still on the travel element because the passenger does have the opportunity to explore exciting cities — exciting because they've grown up beside the sea over the centuries, and have participated in much of the action of history. Even for the passenger who remains on board, though, the harbour area is a fascinating focal point of commerce.

Even though it will never be cheap, cruising has recently become good value for the middle-income mass market, whereas formerly it was inclined to be the preserve of the wealthy.

Cruises are changing too, no longer does the main theme have to be only tranquil or hectic fun and sun. Educational, sports and unusual photographic cruises are becoming popular.

For example, Sitmar is offering a series of "Science at Sea" lectures. One 11 day cruise from \$765 to \$1615 and a 17 day cruise from \$1345 to \$2625. Both cruises will offer an opportunity to view the phenomenon of a total eclipse of the sun.

On board Sitmar's Fairwind, passengers will learn how the Mayans predicted eclipses, why scientists are calling our planet "Spaceship Earth." What effect the changing sun is having on our climate, how man is doing in his search for extraterrestrial life and how to photograph the stars.

Additional lectures will cover the Viking landings on Mars, past and future eclipses, the civilizations of Mexico and Central America and a special report on "The Panama Canal: Political Hotspot and Engineering Masterpiece."

Cunard have offered special cruises for "Senior Citizens" with group activities and lectures geared to seniors. Cunard also offers photographic cruises with noted photographers giving demonstrations and lectures.

There is a special cruise to Bermuda by Cunard offering special golf and tennis facilities both on board and at the point of arrival. Carnival cruises offer full gambling casinos and top name country and western groups.

Two Canadian tour operators are offering some phenomenal packaged cruise buys. Suntoours to Yugoslavia and the Greek Islands (\$499 including air). Strand Tours to the Caribbean and South America (from \$399 to \$1019 including air), the Mediterranean from \$699 including air.

If cruising appeals to you, there are a few tips you can take from the experts to ensure that your investment in a vacation voyage lives up to your expectations. First of all, get the facts about the cruise from a reliable travel agent who has the information at his fingertips.

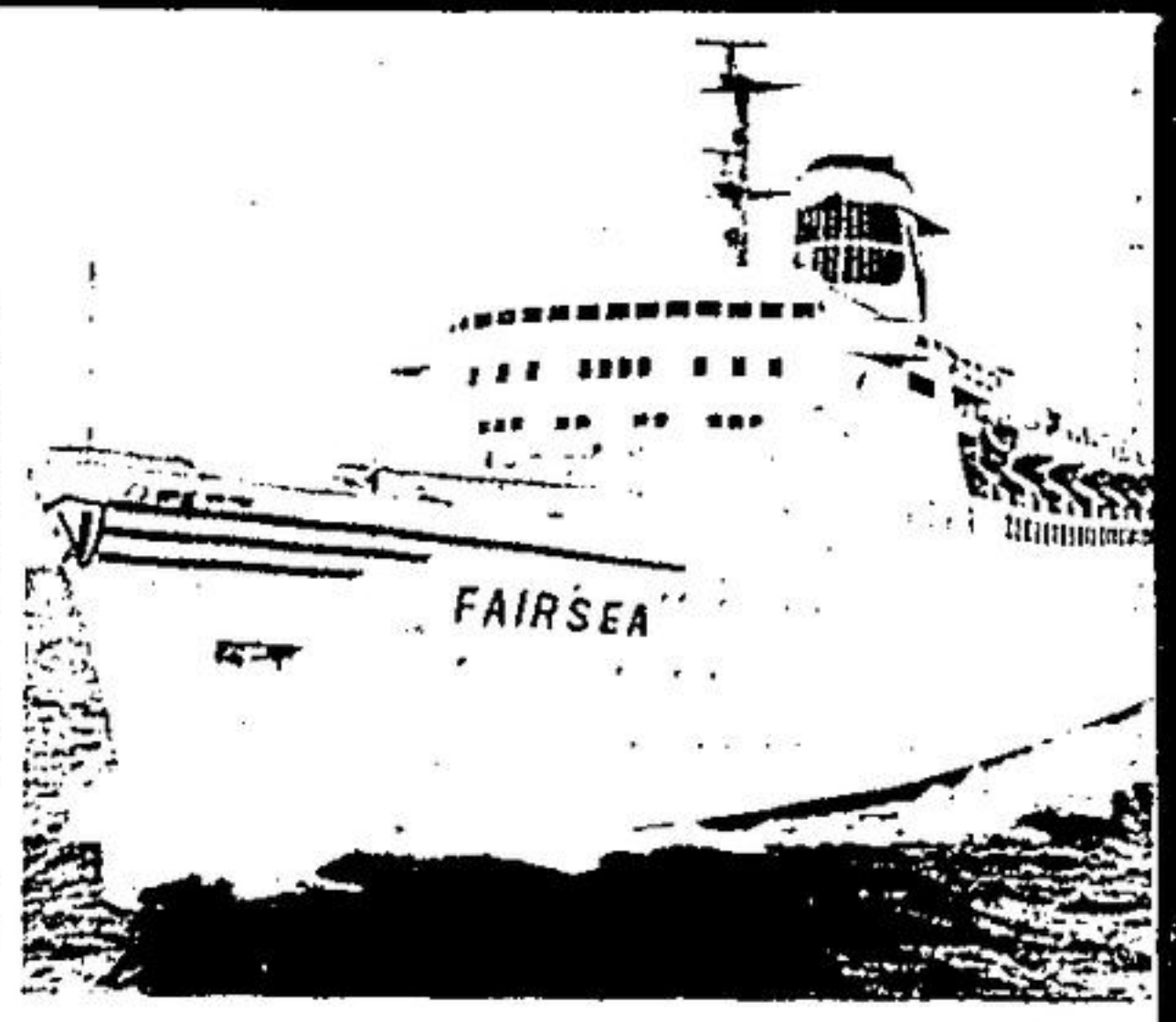
Know what you're getting and getting into. Check if the air is included in the price — ask if there is a special promotional air fare, there often is. See exactly where your shipboard accommodation will be on a deck-by-deck chart of the ship, and compare it with whatever else is available. Most ships are air conditioned (but make sure) in warm-weather areas these

days, so some of the old-fashioned preference for an outside cabin no longer applies; but you don't get a view from an inside cabin, which makes them less expensive.

Also make sure that the facilities and details mentioned in the travel brochure for the cruise actually apply to the ship you will be on. This isn't a matter of deceptive advertising; it's just that there are differences in ships operated by the same line.

But probably the wisest warning the experts have for the traveller who has cruised before is this: never move down the ladder in your style of cruising. In other words if your memory of cruising is based on first-class accommodation on a reputable ship, stay first-class, or move up to deluxe; economy class will likely be a disappointment for you.

By and large, cruise passengers get what they pay for.



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