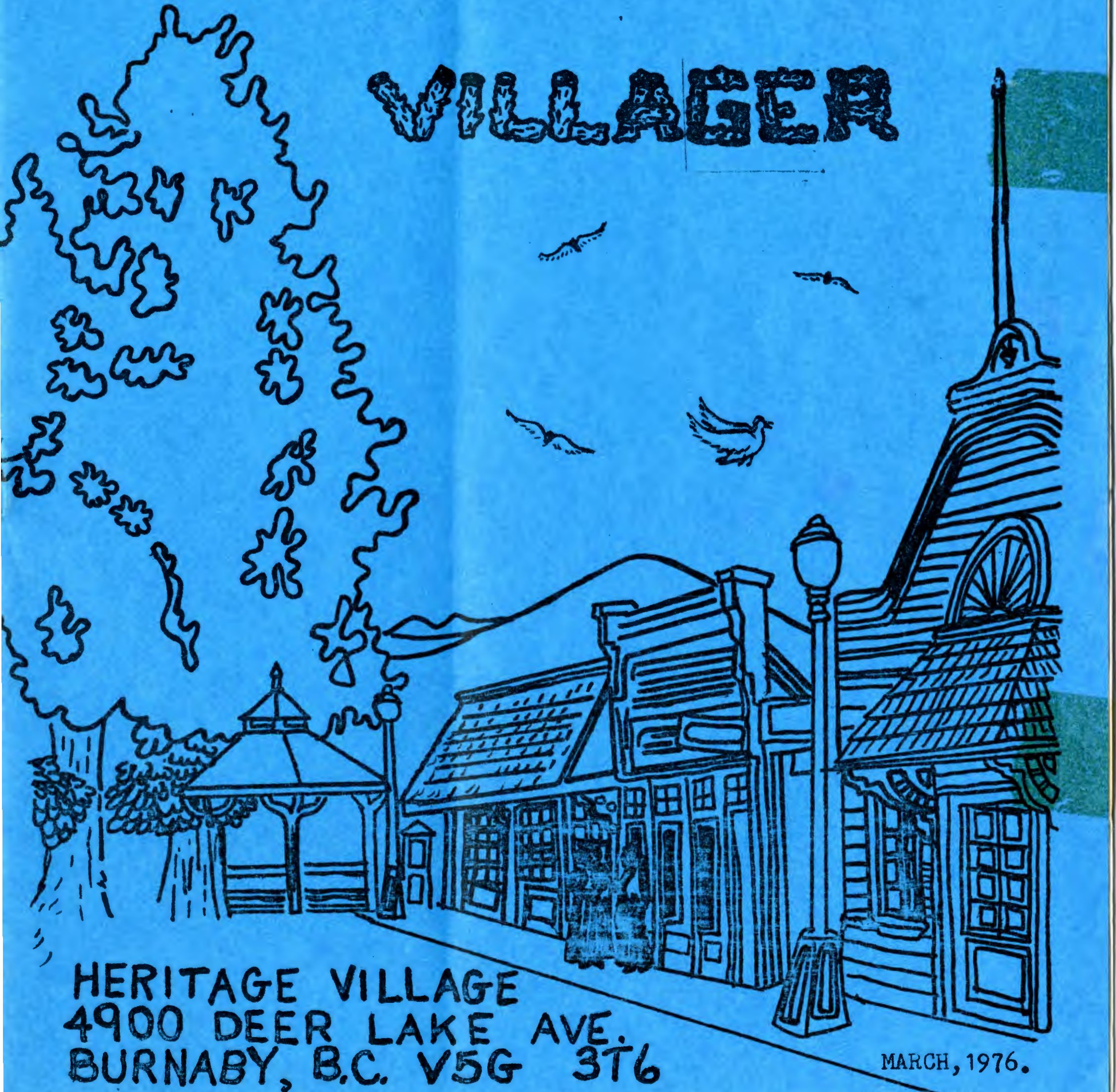


THE

VILLAGER

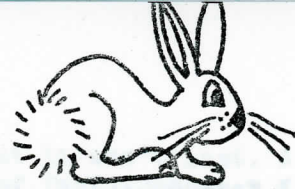


HERITAGE VILLAGE
4900 DEER LAKE AVE.
BURNABY, B.C. V5G 3T6

MARCH, 1976.



COUNT DOWN TO EASTER



Can anyone think of a new approach to the Village Easter egg hunt? It seems that last year all the eggs were hidden before the Village opened on Easter Sunday morning and the few early comers got all the loot. By the time the bulk of the kids arrived the grounds were all but eggless. Disappointment ran high. A few rather impractical solutions have been offered by staff members - only to be hastily discarded - and the big, egg hunt question is still hanging in mid air.

The rest of the Easter program seems to be taking shape quite nicely, however, and when the gates of the Village swing wide on April 18 all will be in readiness for the first 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday opening of 1976. Plans are being made for an Easter bonnet judging contest, a parade of vintage cars and plenty of rousing music from the Burnaby Firemen's Band and the "Box Brass". Volunteers and staff will be encouraged to wear costumes.

If the weatherman will co-operate it should be a great day in the Village.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH

For those who have not been in the Village since last summer there will be a few pleasant surprises. Changes and additions have been made in several of the displays. For instance, the Ice Cream Parlour now sports areas of colourful wallpaper (thanks to all the reaching and stretching executed by Fred Hicks, our Village custodian) as well as a new wall fixture with an interesting history.

This marble-topped counter came from the Old Ferry Cafe which many former North Vancouver ferry customers will remember. It arrived in the Village coated with bright blue paint. Hours of scraping revealed beautiful oak wood which has since been finished to show the grain. The mirrored fixture in the middle of the wall over the counter came from a house built about 1865 on Royal Avenue in New Westminster. The flavour bottles and ice cream parlour accessories, dating back to about 1902, came from a bakery and confectionary in Red Deer, Alberta.

Another new, eye-catching display is the toy-filled case which has been added to the General Store.

The dentist's office will be on view again this year and

it will feature the entire portable dental outfit that once belonged to a dentist who travelled up and down the B.C. coast on the Union Steamship Line, looking after teeth from Vancouver to the Queen Charlottes. The portable chair, the vulcanizer for false teeth, the foot-operated drill and the box of false teeth (a cataloguer's nightmare) were all part of his equipment.

It is hoped that the smithy will be operating this summer, too. Bill Dundas, who had his own blacksmith's shop in New Westminster until last year, has already fixed up the Village forge and mended the bellows. He will be showing his blacksmith skill and is planning to put on a practical blacksmithing course, possibly in April.

C.P.M.A. HAS NEW SLATE

At the Century Park Museum Association's annual meeting and election of officers held on February 26, Hazel Simnett was elected president for her second term in that office. The rest of the executive are: Dennis Meade, 1st vice-president; Edward Burnham, 2nd vice-president; Rose Bancroft, secretary; M.W. Bakkan, treasurer; John Thomson, past president; and directors - A. Antonson, D. Copan, J. Corsbie, Valerie Ladner, W. Lewarne, H.Pride, Jean Runcie, Isobel Varrick, F. Street, E.whitfield, Barbara Copan, J. Mason, D. Stevenson, R. Millway, G.H. Cannon, F. Randall.

THE ADAMS HEIR ARRIVED

On March 3rd, Christopher Michael Clayburn Adams came into the world making his parents, Donna and John, very happy people. Weighing in at

7 lbs. 2 oz., Master Adams has already succeeded in reorganizing the Adams' household to suit himself.



Brrrrrrrrrrr....

It was mighty cold in the Village for a couple of days in February and an unexpected fall of snow did not help matters at all when the electricity (and that meant the heat, too) was turned off so that B.C. Hydro could instal equipment to bring in more power. All of which brought to mind the fact that in the 'good old days' problems like this did not exist.

HAVE YOU SEEN HERITAGE VILLAGE'S COLOURFUL EASTER DISPLAY AT THE MCGILL BRANCH OF THE BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY?

THE GREAT RACE FOR SPACE

Take all the artifacts that are on display in the Village and multiply that again by half and you will approximate the extent of donations and acquisitions now on the site. And more keep coming in all the time. That is the way it should be because donations are the life blood of any museum. The only trouble is that until articles can be displayed they must be put in storage.

Storage. Now that is a word that makes Curator John Adams wince. With every cupboard, nook and cranny bulging to the point of explosion, the acceptance of more proffered articles had recently become a very touchy subject until John decided to gain some space by reorganizing the three large cupboards upstairs in "Elworth".

The sounds of hammering and sawing echoed through the house as plywood, shelving and one by four board were installed by two members of the L.I.P. crew. Betty Miller (our patient secretary) gradually disappeared behind a wall of books and boxes as they were brought out of the cupboards. But finally, when the sound of tumult died down, there were 227 square feet of organized storage space all fitted out with slots for framed pictures and neatly stacked with artifacts.

The pressure is off for a little

while but it won't last. As a matter of fact, John has "storage space" on the top of his Christmas list this year.

B.C. M.A. SEMINAR COMING UP

The B.C. Museums Association, a very active body interested in promoting museums in B.C. and in running training programs, will be holding their 1976 annual meeting and seminar at Port Alberni in September. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the B.C.M.A. or who would like further information on the seminar, call John Adams at the Village - 291-8525.

PASSING SCENE

Frank Street - putting a bolt in the ceiling.
 John Thomson - hoisting a sledge hammer.
 Cathy Rees - looking for the skirt to her costume.
 Barbara Copan - unpacking gift shop merchandise.
 Merilynn Darbey - phoning volunteers
 Ruth Clee - threading a quilting needle.
 Joan Harbord-Harbord - lighting the wood stove.
 Jim Mason - dusting off his bowler hat.
 Tony Scott - writing a report and answering the phone (at the same time
 Rosemary Burnham-winning first prize for her logo design.

BEANS SIMMER ON TOMMY'S STOVE

Many things have been happening in and around the little shingled building which is to be known as the Tommy Irvine House, and refurbishing should be complete by the time the Village is open on a daily basis. Again, teamwork between volunteers and staff has been instrumental in completing such jobs as putting on a new shingled roof, installing a cement foundation and constructing stairs.

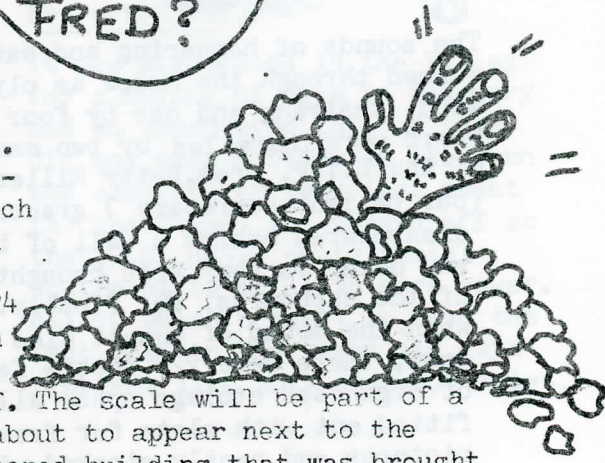
At the present time, sounds of scraping issuing from the house signify great activity as layers of paint are removed from the inside walls so that the original varnish finish can be restored.

Between now and the time the interior of the house is ready for public display, linoleum will be laid on the floor, Tom Irvine's simple furnishings will be moved in and his old wood and coal stove will be installed. A pot of beans will seemingly simmer on the stove and on the table a cribbage board will be in evidence - both beans and board having been very much a part of Tom Irvine's life. To complete the scene a vegetable garden **is** to be planted next to the house.

SOMETHING NEW WILL BE ADDED



A great many things are hidden behind the scenes in the Village waiting for the time when space and opportunity arrive to make their display possible. Something which will come out of storage this summer is the coal scale which was used in a mine near Nanaimo until 1925 and then in a Nanaimo coal yard. It was acquired by the Village in 1974. Cost of installing the scale has been made possible through the generosity of several oil companies, mainly Gulf. The scale will be part of a wood and coal yard display which is about to appear next to the Carpenter's Shop which is in the restored building that was brought to the Village from 6th Street and 13th Avenue. It is possible that a log ice-house will take shape next to the coal yard and plans are being made to display an old road steam roller which will be on loan to the Village from the City of New Westminster.



PLEASE KEEP THOSE LETTERS COMING

They have been arriving at the Village by the bus load on an average of five times a week since last October. Big ones, small ones, shy ones, noisy ones, inquisitive ones and those who don't have a clue. **Children.** Those wonderful little individuals who bring life and chatter to the Village and then leave a marvellous silence behind them when they depart.

Volunteer docents smilingly lead them around the Village feeding them relevant information on the way and tactfully keeping the lid on their youthful exuberance. How do they react to their journey into the past? Some teachers encourage their students to write letters expressing their thoughts about the Village to Co-ordinator Margaret McInall. Here are some delightful excerpts from a few of those letters:

"The train was fastenating because of the adjustable seats."

"I like the Chinnse shop with the bugs in there."

"The glass eye balls were neat."

" There is one funny thing. I asked Miss Clee what they used for toilet paper she said catalogues and so when they went to the washroom the catalogues must have bin cold and that's why it is funny."

"Every time someone wanted ice-cream and it was Tuesday they would have to wait till Monday because they needed ice to make ice-cream and the ice came only on Monday."

"This trip really mixed me up on school. I want to come again but some other time."

"Thank you for showing us the Village. I enjoyed it even if it was my fourth time."

"...the part I liked best was the house, when I went into it it seemed so crazy I wouldn't mined living in it. Thanks again for being patience enough to listen to us and teach us all we didn't know."

"I liked the old fashend washing moshing."

"....and good bles you."

VOLUNTEERS ARE APPRECIATED

A recent evaluation from a teacher whose class had toured the Village sums up the appreciation that is felt for the time and efforts given by the volunteers to Heritage Village. It read:

"I really thought the docents were good and the material they were presenting was excellent. The orientation the week before was really very good."

Without the aid of these men and women the school program and tours in the Village would not be possible. The fact that the school tours are fully booked almost immediately the booking calls to out twice a year, proves just how popular the student visits have become.

At the present time, 40 volunteers take regular turns at being docents for these tours and also in being display hostesses/hosts when the Village is open to the public. They all belong to the Volunteer Council of Heritage Village, which has a representative on the Board of the Century Park Museum Association, and meet once a month for discussion.

From time to time volunteer field trips are planned with the idea of increasing the awareness of local history and community processes. A trip to Fort Langley, tours through both the Burnaby and Vancouver Art Galleries and through Simon Fraser University, have all been on the agenda. The next proposed trip is to the Museum of Mining at Britannia Beach.

Sometimes guest speakers are invited to volunteer's meetings to share their knowledge of historical subjects. For instance, a fashion show was recently staged by Ivan Sayers whose authoritative commentary revealed the changes in women's fashions between 1890 to 1910.

Village volunteers are all busy people who enjoy working with children and being part of a living museum. Without them Heritage Village would lose a very important dimension.

TRAINING SESSIONS

Anyone who would like to become part of the volunteer program is invited to call Margaret McInall at the Village - 291-8525 - for information on the April training sessions which will be followed by once-a-month orientations.



Newsletter editor - Pixie
McGeachie.
Illustrations by Shelley

L.I.P. PROGRAM BENEFITS VILLAGE

Development of museums such as Heritage Village would be very much retarded without the aid of funded programs. In the fall of '75 the Village was fortunate to obtain a L.I.P. grant making possible the hiring of nine people for approximately seven months. These L.I.P.'ers, of all ages, have been coming to the Village five days a week all winter. Each one was chosen because of the skills she/he possesses and all spend busy days benefitting the Village in some way.

The youngest of the group is Shelley Dowson who came to Burnaby from Saskatchewan. Her title is 'Village housekeeper'. Cleaning and arranging displays, polishing silver, washing windows and laundering curtains are all jobs that Shelley tackles with vim and vigour. And when she has a moment to spare she brings out her artistic talents to turn out Village posters and illustrations.

Carpentry is something that goes on almost constantly in the Village. A railing, a shelf, a new storage cupboard, an added fixture and large jobs like the restoration of the Irvine House, all need the attention of the saw, the hammer and a good man on the end of each. Again, the L.I.P. grant provided the manpower to get many of the jobs completed under the supervision of Fred Hicks and carpentry supervisor, Wilf Reason, who has made cabinet work and both residential and commercial construction his career. As Past President of the Burnaby Centennial Lions Club, Wilf gives much of his spare time to community service. Photography, wine making and badminton are tops on his hobby list.

Calva Clark and Rick Duckles have been steadily plowing through box after box of clothes, gadgets, ornaments, doilies, false teeth and numerous other wonderful things, numbering, illustrating and measuring each item (no matter how small) so that a comprehensive catalogue of each donation and purchase is easily located. Calva who won a scholarship to Sadler's Wells and danced with them for three years before teaching at the Royal Academy of Dancing in England, is also a fencing expert. At the Village she has displayed another talent by cataloguing all the photographs - a job that no one had found time to do since 1971. Each photograph in the Village collection has now been identified as far as possible, enclosed in plastic and sorted into an up-to-date file ready for display or illustrative purposes.

Rick, born in Mexico, is poet and a part-time university student working towards his B.A. (English). He and Calva can be found working in the office-cum-storage space, behind the Auto Shop, fondly known as the "The Tomb".

Laura Mousseau, who holds a B.A. (Honours English), wrote for the

Toronto Telegram and has taught Senior Secondary School English and journalism, brought her ability to work with people in expanding the Village's education programs. Her first masterpiece was the compiling of a book of words to old time song favourites (with illustrations by Shelley), the taping of these songs by the Edmonds House Rhythm Rascals, and the packaging of a kit which can be borrowed from the Village by anyone who wants to promote a rousing sing-song. Her next project has been the co-ordination of a program which will see old-time costumes being created by senior citizens for a travelling fashion show in tableau. A New Horizons grant is being sought to carry out this interesting program.

Another member of the L.I.P. team is Pixie McGeachie who answers to the name of research-historian. A couple of binders getting fat on researched information on Burnaby, interviews with oldtimers and copies of old documents dug out of archives, attest to her industry. She has compiled about 6,000 words (to date) on the life of Robert Burnaby and is just recovering from the task of cataloguing 555 Burnaby subdivision maps which were recently found snuggled away in one of the large up-stairs closets in "Elworth".

DID YOU KNOW?

That Burnaby Council flatly turned down the application for the installation of a whoopee+ in Central Park in 1929?

That the speed limit for bicycles in Burnaby in 1911 was 10 m.p.h. The fine for speeding was \$5.00 with \$75 costs or three months

That before and just after the turn of this century cattle and swine drives were common sights on the Vancouver-Westminster Road (Kingsway) and on Hastings Road (Canada Way)?

That 12th Street was originally named 3rd Street?

That Robert Burnaby teamed up with Walter Moberly (of C.P.R. fame) to search for coal in Burrard Inlet?

That Jubilee Avenue, originally called Hatch Road, was renamed in 1897 in honour of Queen Victoria's 60th year of reign?

+ Oh yes, a whoopee was a sort of 'roller coaster' for cars' constructed of wood, about 60 feet wide by 200 feet long and containing several dips. People would pay a small amount to drive their cars over this device. Whoopeeeeeee!