

VOGAR VOICE



VOGAR, MANITOBA

MARCH 10, 1978

CANADA WORKS PROJECTS

The Canada Works Project in Vogar has been hard at work over the winter months. They have cut many cords of wood off the new park site in back of the school and stacked it for future use behind Vogar Hall.

Major renovation has taken place in Vogar Hall. The ceiling was lowered and the whole building insulated. New gyprock was put on the walls and a small stage constructed. The upper walls and ceiling were painted off-white and the lower walls bright orange, set off by a black stripe. The Hall is now open after school for crafts- this is open to all ages- and for Bingo on Wednesday afternoon. Dances and other activities will be hld in the Hall, also.

Renovation is progressing on the church building with new insulation and gyprock. The Archdiocese contributed a new wood burning stove, and the old stove will be moved to the rink shack.

The rink was iced early in the winter and has been used extensively ever since. It is supervised during the week.

Looking forward to warmer weather, the final clearing of the park site will be done by heavy equipment. Picnic tables have been constructed for the park. A major job just underway is pouring concrete slabs to be used as a sidewalk on the west side of the road. This sidewalk will add greatly to the convenience and safety of those afoot.

Tutoring continues at the school, and crafts, bingo and home visiting of elders are regular activities for some staff.

VOGAR CALENDAR

EVERY WEEK

Monday night- Bingo at Siglunes

Wednesday afternoon- Bingo at Vogar Hall- 2:00

Wednesday Night- Vogar Development Board Meeting- 7:30 at ICA staff house. Open to the public

The Vogar Development Board is responsible for economic and social development in Vogar, and works with such things as the Store and Vogar Products.

Daily- Crafts- Vogar Hall- after school

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, March 10. 4-H Speech contest. Dog Creek School, evening.

Sunday, March 12. Manitoba Metis Federation Meeting. Vogar Hall 3:00. Election of officers and discuss baseball uniforms.

Wednesday, March 15. Health Meeting. 1:00 ICA staff House

ANDREW BONE'S BIRTHDAY

Andrew Bone, a longtime resident of Vogar, celebrated his 78th birthday this past week. Mr. Bone has traveled and worked across western Canada in his lifetime. Along with most Vogar residents, he has hunted, trapped, fished and cut cordwood. However, he has also had the unique experience of working in a gold mine in Red Lake, Ontario and fishing at Reindeer Lake where the fish were brought out on a 6 day, 300 mile trip. Another time he fished at Great Slave Lake where the men flew in from Hay River, 100 miles away. Mr. Bone also worked on the Alaska Highway, drilling holes for blasting. For many years, he worked for the C.P.R. Andrew and his wife Catherine live in Vogar.

VOGAR PRODUCTS GETS LEAP GRANT

On February 20, the LEAP Review Board approved a grant of \$22,945 for 6 months of operation of Vogar Products. This grant will provide funds for renovation of the building, supplies, training and marketing activities. Sally Monkman, Andrea Hopner, Bonnie Paul, Stephanie Pelletier, and Gay Kennedy represented Vogar Products at the meeting. Lloyd Pelletier, representing the MMF, and Elsie Desjarlais, representing the Vogar Development Board, went to support the proposal.

Bill and Justine Desjarlais are making their log house available until such time as a permanent building is obtained. Their support has been essential in the starting of this business. New paint, new linoleum, work tables and shelves have made a fine working space. Bolts of fabric and sewing supplies have been purchased.

Ten women are now working in the industry. Gay Kennedy is the manager for the first 6 months, and Sally Monkman is the manager-in-training. Sally will be going to Winnipeg for a few days in April to attend the management training provided by LEAP. All the women will eventually be trained in the book-keeping and financial aspects.

Vogar products will make 90-140 quilts during the first 6 months, which will bring in approximately \$12,000. Twelve quilts have been sold to Eatons and private individuals. A brochure is being prepared for marketing and advertising.

If you are interested in purchasing a quilt, call Gay or Sally for details.

VOGAR COMMUNITY STORE PRICES

Prices of items carried by the Vogar Community Store were checked against prices of the same size and brand in other stores. Of the 18 items listed all were lower or equal to the same size and brand in Ashern, and most were lower or equal to Loblaw and Safeway in Winnipeg.

EDUCATION IN THE NEWS

OFFICIAL SCHOOL OPENING

The Official Opening of the Dog Creek School will take place on April 28, according to Mr. Grosse, Lakeshore School District Superintendent. Many guests have been invited to join in celebrating this event. Vogar residents will be asked to help host the guest by providing refreshments, and, of course, attending the ceremonies. Watch for further announcements.

UPGRADING CLASSES

A group of young men and women are planning to work together in informal Upgrading sessions. The classes will be held in the evenings (time and dates will be decided this week) and will make use of the materials provided by Red River College. If you are interested in joining this group, whatever your age, call Jean Smith or Duncan Holmes at 768-2839.

LIBRARY BOOKS RETURNED

Vogar Community Library has had a loan of 200 books from the library extension service of the University of Manitoba. The first loan has been returned and a new set of books will be available very soon. A few books are missing. Would you look around your house, and if you have any, return them either to Vogar Hall or to the ICA house.

Samples from the list:

	Vogar	H.Otto	Tomboy	Loblaw	Safw
Milk	.47	.49	.53	.45	48
Offee	3.89	4.29	4.49	3.79	3.79
Tea	2.35	2.39	2.69	2.35	2.35
Lard	.75	.77	.79	.72	.77
Oil	1.95	2.19	2.19	1.99	2.19

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT CONSULTS

Expansion of Human Development Projects is going on in many parts of the world. Each of the first 24 Projects, of which Vogar was #24, will eventually be involved in some type of expansion. The nature of the expansion will depend on the country and the particular project.

In June, the 4 Projects in the United States will be expanded to 12 more. The locations are still being selected, but they will be in a variety of types of communities. For example, there probably will be sites in a farming village in New England, a river milltown in the northeastern U.S., an Appalachian mining community, a southern white rural location, a Mexican American community, mining towns in the Rocky Mountains and near the Great Lakes, an Apache village in the far southwest, and a settled migrant community on the west coast.

Other sites are beginning in Africa, Latin America and India. Each of the new Human Development Projects will begin with a week-long Consult, as Vogar did.

Consultants are needed to go to these Projects. Farming, carpentry, homemaking, teaching, business, health skills, are needed. But what is needed most is an interest and concern about small communities and their planning for the future. People who have lived and worked in a Project will be particularly valuable. Vogar residents are invited to consider participating in one of these Consultations. Check with someone from the ICA, if you are at all interested.

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION MEETS

The Vogar local of the MMF will meet this Sunday at 3:00 in Vogar Hall. Election of officers will take place and there will be a discussion of forming a base ball team and purchasing uniforms. You are invited to attend.

SIGLUNES BONSPAIL WINNERS

In the mixed bonspail at Siglunes this past weekend, 1st place in the first event was taken by the rink of Keith Willett, Andrea Sweetland, Ray Sweetland and Randy Willett.

First place in the second event was captured by the rink of Steve Hallson, Elsie Hallson, Leo Peterson and Rick Podlaski.

BERENS RIVER COMMUNITY STARTS MINI-FARM ON ISLAND

Berens River Metis Community has started its own mini-farm on an island in the middle of the Pigeon River.

The 250 member community bought 20 head of cattle, which will be bred for slaughter. They are also planning to grow vegetables.

The cattle are corralled on a 40-acre island, 12 miles south of Berens River in the middle of the Pigeon River. The land is leased from the provincial government for \$50 a year.

An \$8,000 grant from the province helped pay for buildings and clearing the land. The rest of the project is being paid for by the Metis community council.

"We want to save out people's money by providing them with good, cheap food," council clerk Chris McKay said.

It is hoped the farm will eventually provide full-time work for at least two people, but meanwhile most of the work is done by volunteers from the community.

A government agriculture expert makes a visit periodically to give advice and check that everything is going well.

"We hope to be putting fresh meat and vegetables on our people's tables this year and the savings on weekly food bills should be good," McKay said.

from Winnipeg Tribune