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FARM SCHOOL

# FAIRBRIDGE GAZETTE

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## Fintry News

### Editorial

It gives the editorial staff of THE FAIRBRIDGE GAZETTE great pleasure to publish the first number of a paper which it is hoped will serve the purpose of keeping Fairbridge friends in close touch with all the activities of the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School. These friends include not only those who live at Fairbridge but Old Fairbridgians, Australian Fairbridgians, and all those people in England who have done and continue to do so much for us here.

As our readers will see we are starting in quite a modest way. Perhaps one of these days we shall be able to have our own printing press and publish a magazine complete with photographs and long articles by successful Fairbridgians, but for the present we are going to stick to the Office mimeographing machine, and the news items will nearly all be contributed by boys and girls now at Fairbridge. The one exception is a letter from our Fintry correspondent. We think our readers will be particularly interested in this item.

It is hoped to publish the paper monthly and to include the following items as regular features: editorial, Boys' and Girls' Councils, sports, farm news, visitors for the month, Fintry news, cartoons, an extract from the life of Kingsley Fairbridge, and a selection of Fairbridge songs and slang.

A cold spell having descended on the Okanagan Valley leaving temperatures hovering close to the zero mark, Fintry does not in any way fit the beautiful descriptions one so very often hears in the summertime. Work however is proceeding as usual. Although the weather at times does not permit work in the orchards, great progress is being made in the pruning of the fruit trees.

Captain J.C. Dun Waters having now removed all his effects from Fintry House to Burnside has left the house now ready for the occupation of the party of boys expected this summer.

Fintry Bumblebee, daughter of the famed Fintry Honey-suckle, freshened last month and we all at Fintry look at Bumblebee with great hopes, as does the farm manager we realize she may be a future world's champion.

During the last few weeks mountain sheep and deer have come down in the orchards in quest of food as at the present moment their usual haunts lie beneath two or three feet of snow. Up in the mountains food is harder to seek on account of the snow being so thick, whereas the Fintry Orchard seldom has very deep snow thus enabling them to get at the alfalfa. Not until you have seen a mountain sheep do you realize what beauty they possess and so we consider ourselves fortunate indeed to have them abide so close.



As this is the first publication of the Fairbridge Gazette, Mr. and Mrs. Gray, the staff and the boys all wish it the greatest success and luck that the future can possibly hold.

From Your Special Reporter,  
J. Hunter.

A Message From  
the  
Principal

May I extend best wishes on behalf of all our staff to the Fairbridge Gazette for a long and successful career. The news and views published in its pages will not only play an important part in Farm School life but will also serve to bind together the members of our Fairbridge family wherever they may be.

Congratulations to the editorial board for their splendid effort!

Harry T. Logan.

Extract from the Life  
of Kingsley Fairbridge  
J. Buchan

Kingsley Fairbridge, son of Rhys Seymour Fairbridge, a mining engineer, was born in the Cape Province of South Africa, in 1884. His ancestors of English and Scotch origin had lived in South Africa for four generations.

Kingsley Fairbridge's great grandfather was a member of "The Children's Friend Society", which in 1841 made an attempt of establishing a Farm School. This fact was quite unknown to Kingsley Fairbridge when he commenced his first Farm School at Western Australia.

As a boy Kingsley Fairbridge saw life for himself in the lone outposts of the African Volt and at a very early age his father sent him out with a native to put up some grass huts on his land. The job took much longer than they had expected and their food supply ran short, a heavy rain storm added to their troubles.

It was on the return from this trip that the idea came to him, "Why so much land and so few people", hungry and miserable this vision came to him, "Some day I will bring farmers here." He loved the struggle of makeshift and pioneer days, although he might, like other boys, grumble at times.

(To be continued next month)

Farm News  
E. Wheeler

Cows

Eighteen of our cows are on R.O.P. (Record of Performance). The following four were the highest for the month of January: the highest was Mistletoe with 1212½ lbs and 3.2% butter-fat; the next was Crocus with 1154 lbs and 4.4% butter-fat; third Marigold with 1078 lbs and 3.8% butter-fat; fourth was Amy with 1034 lbs and 4.2% butterfat. Amy, the last one, is only a two year old cow, the rest are over four years.

Outside Work

There is a good deal of work going on at the upper ranch. Quite a big piece of land has been cleared and ploughed in preparation for a grain crop. In this work the farm side was given valuable help one Saturday afternoon when a party of over 50 boys volunteered for work instead of games and slashed over three acres. In preparation for the spring application of fertilizers Mr. Brown has taken several samples of soil from different fields and we will get the results later on.

One useful piece of work the farm side has undertaken since January has been the draining of one half of the big timothy field. The ditches have been cut in preparation for the tile and the effect is already noticeable. Mr. Reid has been busy ploughing the half of the field nearest the Home Site



and all agree that the farrows could not possibly be straighter.

In addition to this draining several new fences have been put in.

#### Visitors L. Smith

Peggy Auton, who is in Vancouver, visited the Farm School during January. This is the first time that an Old Fairbridgian has returned to the Farm School for a visit.

During January 49 visitors signed the Farm School visitors' book. There were 17 from Vancouver Island, 6 from Victoria, 2 from Vancouver, 6 from the United States, 6 from England and 1 from West Africa.

#### The Sporting Outlook E. Todd

As this is the first edition of the Fairbridge Gazette I will, in endeavour to show to you what an important part sports play in our daily life here.

Almost every person plays some game and there is competition in all classes of sport between the four boys houses--the Blues, Maroons, Greens and Blacks. Although there is a competitive feeling there is no enmity between the houses.

The end of 1938 brought to a close an exciting season in which the school soccer team brought the District honours home. The Maroon House won the inter-house championship after a hard season, making the second set of ribbons they had won in a year because they also won the cricket ribbons.

The predominant game in school life is basketball, the Green House having won the first half of the schedule and the Blues the second half.

We were pleased to have a visit from the acknowledged world champion Basketball players, the New York Shamrocks, who have us a few tips and general ideas on basketball.

Most of the boys are very keen on boxing and we have classes for boxing where we are taught a considerable amount of technique in the "Noble Art of Self Defense". This subject was much advocated by King-ley Fairbridge himself as he won his Blue for boxing at Oxford University. The Captain of Boxing at present is D. Brayfield, who was a member of the 1937 team that won a large proportion of the trophies and medals in the District competition of that year.

We are at present entering a season that looks rather promising in the rugby line. We have two games set for Brentwood College and two for Duncan High School.

We wish to congratulate the Girls' Basketball team and their Coach, Mr. A. E. Plows, on the winning for Fairbridge of the Island Basketball Championship and wish them the best of luck in the B. C. finals.

#### Boys' Council J. Lally

At the Farm School we have a system known as the House system. It was brought into action by Mr. Rogers, our Duties Master, on the 15th June, 1938. The Houses consist of about 31 boys with a prefect and second at the head. The Council is made up of the prefects and seconds also a Council Leader. It is the Council Leader's job to lead the way for the prefect and also the rest of the boys. Henry Brayfield had the privilege of being the first Council Leader; he was then succeeded by Pat Hood, our present Council Leader. The following are the prefects and seconds of the four different Houses:- M. Alsop, S. Park for Greens; D. Brayfield, J. Dobbs for Blues; P. Forrest, A. Anderson for Blacks; J. Lally, J. Duffy for Maroons.

The work that the Council has in hand is the selection of the new council because the members of the present Council will all become trainees or will be leaving the



hope to give the names of the new Council in the second issue of this paper.

### Girls' Council J. Pritchard

The Girls' Council started about the same time as the Boys'. There are seven girls in the Girls' Council, Jean Buchan has the honour of being Council Leader. Florence Cowans is Prefect of the Eagles and Winnie Hardy serves as her Second. Kathleen Taylor is Prefect of the Owls and has Joyce Pritchard as her second.

The Girls' Council helps with the conduct of the girls in all ways. Every Sunday the girls go for walks in Houses with the Prefect and Second in charge. Mrs. Davidson is the Girls' Council Honorary Member.

### Girls' Sports A. Usher

The Fairbridge Junior Girls' Basketball Team was very fortunate to win the Island Championship because they only had to play two games to win it, the score of the last game being 23-18 for Fairbridge. Special practices are taken every week by the girls who are looking forward to playing in the B. C. finals.

We wish to congratulate the girls and also Mr. Plows, their Coach, for his excellent work in bringing the girls through successfully. The girls take weekly gym under the instruction of their Sports Mistress, Miss McAdee.

Saturday is an exciting day for the girls due to their liking for treasure hunts and hikes.

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The first of the 1938 Trainees to leave will be Tom Turner. He goes to Fintry on Thursday, Feb. 23rd, to take the place of Henry Brayfield who is very shortly going to a job on the Island.

### Inter-House Basketball

F. Todd

On Wednesday, Feb. 15th, the Green House was defeated in a spectacular game of basketball with a score of 33-19 in favour of the Blues. The Greens who won the first half of the season's basketball schedule played the Blues who won the second half; the game was the first of a series of two to decide the winner for the season.

According to some lockers-on the game was one of the finest ever played within the boundaries of our School.

The Green house will start with a handicap of 14 points in the last game of the season that is to be played next week.

The teams were:

Blues	Greens
F. Renwick (18)	T. Turner (6)
D. Brayfield (11)	N. Alsop (7)
P. Hood (2)	S. Park (6)
B. Renwick (2)	J. Wheeler
T. Kemp	J. Morgetroyd
M. McNally	A. Worsnop

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As we go to press news comes of the birth of the first Fairbridge baby. We congratulate Mr. Plows, the Day School Principal, and Mrs. Plows on the birth of a daughter.

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Tom Renwick has returned from a week of work at Commander Windeyer's dairy farm near Duncan. We hear he gave a very good account of himself.

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Interesting visitors during the past week were Mr. Richard Leon and Mr. Michael Burn. Mr. Leon was on his way back to England after a tour of Fairbridge Farm Schools in Australia and Mr. Burn paid us a visit on behalf of the London "Times".

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Yes, Mrs. Bigshot, I can always trust Tommy to keep on with his work! Hear him chopping now!

So true, so true, I always see Tommy working, Mrs. Blowhard, Tommy is an example to any other boy, Ahem!

Tommy



### FAITHFUL WORKER

#### Fairbridge Slang A. Cain

Fairbridge has a variety of slang words and phrases which deserve to be recorded. The following are a few of these:

ganin	going	bugle	nose
haraway		conk	
scram		dominoes	teeth
bunk	get away	anna	I know
blow		mo - annal - to - no	Mo as well
skidaddle		chala	
giraway		chuck	bread
		scram	
bean		mucky	dirty
boco		clarty	muddy
pan mug	head and face	scruffy	dirty
bonz		hackio	
leaf		ganzie	jersey
		shopped	done in
		strangler	scarf or muffler