

# GAIN ISLAND POST

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FAMOUS ONE ACT PLAYS: "MONSIEUR GEOFF"

SCENE : AN ART GALLERY IN MARTINE PARISE

Monsieur Geoff: "Ah, a Matisse"

Guide: "Non, non Monsieur that's a  
Monet"



they move on...



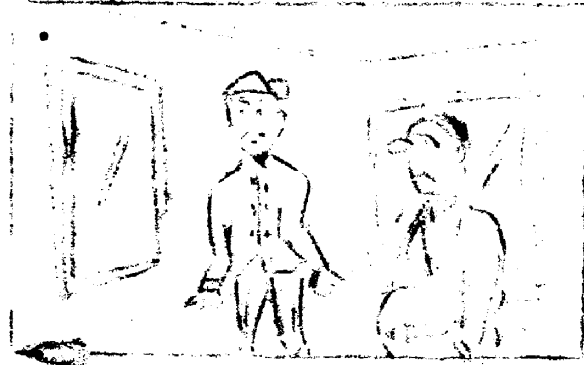
Monsieur Geoff: "Aha ! a Cezanne"

Guide: "Non, mon Monsieur - a Utrillo"

a few minutes later.....

MONSIEUR GEOFF: "You can't fool me  
this time.  
THAT is a Picasso"

GUIDE (sadly): "that ees a mirror  
Monsieur"



CURTAIN

Editorial

So the year that we have been waiting for has finally arrived. 1968 signifies home-going for most of us-though from the way the Laka Nuki, the Stagger Inn and The Journey's End were jumping on New Year's Eve one had the impression that a lot of people didn't want the Old Year to go out! What's more the impact that the return to work had on Monday seemed to confirm this suspicion.

The final figure for the assault on Everest revealed the surprising statistic that the end to end length of canned beer consumed over the holiday period fell short of the summit by some six thousand feet. This was no doubt compensated by the intake of hard liquor the consumption of which increased by . . . . . shall we say a considerable amount? By Tuesday, though, it was definitely all over and there were many sad hearts around the island as we watched the dismantling of the beloved billet bars. Still that's life sometimes rough, sometimes tough, but always terrific because on Friday the shining VC10 brought in the CSE party.

This caused spirits to soar and beer to be downed; particularly at the 180 and Corporals Clubs when the Gan trend setters entertained our guests. Full marks to Mike Cox, Barbara Low and all the party for their ready acceptance of us, and thank you for your company. There's no doubt about it. We are in for a treat.

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HAVE YOU HEARD?

1. That J.C. is going to be in the Easter Parade?
2. That Dad is double-boggling but soon will be home-going?
3. That Paddy Blew up the safe?
4. That Mervyn enjoyed the nosh but lost the snooker and George is a country member?
5. That Peter has a plan?
6. That a certain Flight Sergeant Policeman carries a handbag?
7. That Lingard is back and if Barbara plays her cards right...?
8. That Mecca and Moscow were easy but even Parson John didn't make the Azores?
9. That Jingo and Black Label is all the rage?
10. That Mike was given whisky when he sang for his supper and the chaperone admired the pin-ups?

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THIS WEEK'S THOUGHT OF JAMES McLie

"GOD BLESS US, ONE AND ALL" CRIED TINY TIM, WAVING HIS CRUTCH"

- 3 -

RADIO GAN CHRISTMAS APEAL FOR THE QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL  
FOR SICK CHILDREN

The appeal ended at midnight on 1st January and the facts are briefly:

- a. If all pledges are met, the final figure will be in the region of £1200.
- b. Radio Gan broadcast continuously for 258 hours, and there were quite a few tired and weary bodies walking around the studio at the end.
- c. From the number of collective bids for records and complete programmes, it seems that the appeal formed the basis for a great deal, of entertainment over the Christmas holidays, in fact, one well known civilian who shall obviously remain nameless was heard to say, when he drank lime and lemon on the day after Boxing Day, "when does the holiday start?"

The great collection is underway and Radio Gan Staff are asking for £ S D from everyone who entered into the spirit of Payola and Juke box and who pledged themselves to give us amounts both large and small. They will also collect monies for "OGGIN - DIPPING". Organisers of other appeal - raising efforts are requested to pay direct to Flight Lieutenant Dodd, Service Institute Treasurer. If anyone is still seen carrying a collecting box around the island, perhaps someone will tell him that the appeal has really finished and will be good enough to bring the box to me in the Accounts Section. When we feel that all money that can be collected is safely under lock and key, GIP will publish full details of how this magnificent sum was collected.

Finally - how to dispose of the money and here we must recapitulate a little. The appeal was late in being started and it just could not start until we knew for whom we were going to collect. The Radio Gan staff had voted unanimously to sponsor an appeal for a hospital for crippled children. Despite efforts to find details of such hospitals, there was only one hospital known to us on 14th November (just 6 weeks before the appeal began - but it now seems months to us!), and it had to be that one - the Queen Mary Hospital for Sick Children Carshalton Surrey. We don't think that we could have waited longer or changed our minds half way. Once the final amount collected is known, we shall ask the hospital to tell us what they would like us to buy, so that it can provide a permanent reminder of the wonderful efforts of this small island community.

This first report of the success of the appeal cannot possibly finish without a general thank you to everyone who helped in any way, how big or small their effort or whether it was through special Christmas work or just pulling a hand in a pocket (their own, we hope).

A C HULLSTON  
Officer i/c Radio Gan  
for the Staff of Radio Gan the  
Sponsors of the 1967 Appeal Christmas

### THE ALKALINITY OF SEA WATER

Everyone knows that some substances are acid and others are alkaline. Nitric acid, which will dissolve gold, and fluoric acid, which will dissolve glass, are examples of strong acids. An example of a strong alkali is lye. But there are also weak acids, such as carbonated drinks; and there are weak alkalis, like bicarbonate of soda. We mean the weak kinds when we speak of the acidity or alkalinity of natural waters.

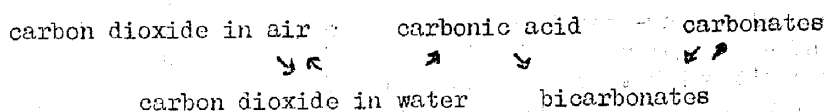
Carbonated drinks provide a good illustration of what happens when carbon dioxide and water are brought together. In the preparation of such beverages, carbon dioxide gas is forced into the liquid under pressure. So long as the pressure is maintained, the gas remains in solution; as soon as the pressure is removed by taking the cap off the bottle, the gas emerges in the form of bubbles. Such beverages are commonly referred to as "soda water", not because they contain soda but because carbonated drinks were first prepared by adding a little bicarbonate of soda to a mildly acid liquid such as lemonade, causing it to fizz. One still finds the term "soda springs" applied to various natural waters, although they probably contain no soda whatever and their only resemblance to soda is that they give off bubbles.

Carbon dioxide is almost universally present in both air and water. Whenever the carbon dioxide pressure in the air exceeds that in the water, the gas will go into solution; but if the carbon dioxide pressure in the water exceeds that in the air, the process is reversed and carbon dioxide passes from the water into the air. Oceanographic chemists use the term "carbon dioxide pressure" in stating the relations between carbon dioxide in air and water. Our example of soda water is not farfetched.

When we distill water we get a chemically pure product that is "neutral", that is, neither acid nor alkaline. But as soon as this purest of waters is exposed to the air, it begins to take up carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and becomes a weak solution of carbonic acid. All fresh waters are slightly acid unless they contain alkaline earth minerals dissolved from the earth or rock through which they have passed.

Sea water, on the other hand, is always slightly alkaline because it contains several alkaline earth minerals, principally sodium, calcium, magnesium and potassium. When carbon dioxide is dissolved in sea water, the initial reaction, just as in fresh water, is the formation of carbonic acid. This, however, promptly reacts with the alkaline elements to form carbonates and bicarbonates, rendering the water alkaline. Bicarbonates are less strongly alkaline than carbonates; compare bicarbonate of soda, which is baking soda, with carbonate of soda, which is washing soda.

We have thus a rather complex balance involving carbon dioxide in the air, carbon dioxide in the water, bicarbonates and carbonates, which is known as the carbonate equilibrium. It may be diagrammed thus:



The double arrows indicate that the reactions may proceed in either direction, depending on whatever portion of the system gets out of balance.

/This may seem.....

This may seem rather complex and, fortunately for all living organisms, including ourselves, it is complex. This complexity of the reactions prevents anything from happening too fast. This is known to chemists as buffer action.

Both plants and animals use up oxygen and give off carbon dioxide in the process of respiration. This would result in a steady decrease in the amount of oxygen in the ocean and an increase in the carbon dioxide until life became impossible, if it weren't that plants have the fortunate capacity of being able to reverse the trend through the process known as photosynthesis—the manufacture of carbohydrates from carbon dioxide and water, using the energy derived from sunlight and giving off oxygen as a by-product. Thus a workable ratio is maintained between carbon dioxide and oxygen.

Since photosynthesis goes on only during the daylight hours, while respiration of both plants and animals goes on day and night, every night there is a building up of carbon dioxide in the water with a resultant shift of the carbonate equilibrium toward decreasing alkalinity. We speak of decreasing alkalinity rather than greater acidity because sea water always remains on the alkaline side.

Many if not most marine organisms are highly sensitive to changes in the alkalinity of water and would be disturbed by any large or sudden change. But because of the buffer action resulting from the step-by-step changes in the carbonate equilibrium, the alkalinity of sea water changes rather slowly, and the ocean thus presents a reasonably comfortable and stable environment for its various inhabitants.

Shifting our attention now from the ocean to the land — and it is the point of view in this book that practically everything that happens in the ocean has a direct and often immediate effect on what happens on land—the relation between oxygen and carbon dioxide is just the same in fresh water or on the land as it is in the sea. Both plants and animals use up oxygen in their respiration, but plants, through photosynthesis, produce more oxygen than they use and thus compensate for the oxygen deficit that animals are continually creating. But in fresh water and on the land there is no buffer action. Changes are immediate and direct. Thus we have had the unfortunate situation of a number of people dying, as in Donora, Pennsylvania, in 1948, and in London in 1963 from respiratory failure due to the sudden development of what is called "smog" in the air they breathed.

Since the industrial revolution in the mid-nineteenth century, there has been a steady increase in the carbon dioxide content of the earth's atmosphere from the output of factory chimneys, blast furnaces, and the growing consumption of coal and petroleum products. The present century has seen more and more use of the internal combustion engine — to the point where in the more highly developed industrialized countries the average citizen drives a smog-producing machine on business or pleasure every day.

At the same time that sources of carbon dioxide and producing oxygen has been steadily decreasing, through cutting of forests, use of agricultural lands for building and the paving of millions of acres. Even weeds perform the vital function of removing carbon dioxide and giving off oxygen.

Since carbon dioxide may either be taken up or given off at the interface between air and water, many authorities consider the ocean to be a regulator of the amount of carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere. Processes in the ocean have thus far been little affected by man. With growing population and increasing industrialization and urbanization, the ocean may prove to be the key to continued human life on earth.

ROBERT C. MILLER

CROSSWORD

1		2		3	4		5		6		7	
				8					9			
10												
				11		12						
13			14		15							
		16						17	18	19		
	20						21		22			
23						24						25
					26				27			
28			29					30				
							31					
32					33							
			34				35					

Clues Across

1. Fight to reform one's sister?(6).
5. A man might keep it under his hat! (3).
8. Norse god (4).
9. Copy number ten is at the top (4).
10. Condition of being behindhand (6).
11. They play the game (9).
13. Shows the branches of the family (4)
15. A sailor may agree to say it twice (3).
16. What one may do after dinner, or tea, perhaps (5).
17. Have a bad effect on the starting price of oil?(5).
20. She's in the Navy (3).
22. Hail (3).
23. Shot on the billiard table (5).
24. Sincerely, you have to rely on it (5).
26. An animal loses its tail in the river (3).
27. Such love can never be false (4).
28. Weighing machine (9).
31. Rulers (6).
32. Battle girl?(4).
33. Demonstration of unruliness (4).
34. Wife of the RSM?(3).
35. Tried to get Ted outside (6).

Clues Across

1. Broken crates (6).
2. Nurses go for doctors!(8).
3. Mother wouldn't go to such a party (4).
4. Unpromising promises!(7).
5. Make a record (5).
6. Entrance to which thousands may contribute (4).
7. Always in a dream (7).
12. Politician of the lean years?(3).
14. Great times (4).
18. An agreement to raise one's cap first?(4).
19. Cloudy (8).
20. Descriptive of a man of the world?(7).
21. An entertaining fellow (7).
24. Island surroundings (3).
25. Let half a meadow (6).
26. They do a colourful job (5).
29. Made up to be eaten (4).
30. Appointment, but not with a peach?(4).

AFTERWARDS

We all know from the earlier days of our life that the Christian celebration of the Birth of Christ includes the coming of three men to the child with gifts of gold frankincense and myrrh. Often however we forget one or two significant sentences about this occurrence. There is no mention in the bible of their being Kings; they are only referred to as wise men. They were however obviously of international reputation for Herod with all his conceit and his self importance saw them himself. It is very likely that their journeys had taken a very long time, and Herod at least realised this because when they did not return to tell him about the child he ordered every male under two years old to killed. The odds are then that the child was no longer in a stable but that his father had stayed for some time in Bethlehem and had found a home and a job for the time being. The facts perhaps destroy some of the romance of the carol where we see the line about the star.

'And there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay.'

He was probably at the walking stage and, if not, he was certainly crawling around.

The gifts were obviously meant to show the interpretation that each King put on the function of this baby's life.

Gold. This is normal sign of earthly Kingship and the giver must have thought that Jesus was to have some kind of power which would bring the ordinary allegiance of men and even possibly riches.

Frankincense. This was used for incense and was thought therefore to have a meaning that God is close. When the incense is burned (apart from the horrible smell) the smoke rises and this is meant to symbolise the prayers and praise of mankind to God. The gift therefore showed that this wise man thought that this was somebody Godly and also that all men should join together in prayer and praise.

Myrrh. This was a perfume used for embalming and was a symbol of suffering and pain and death. The giver of this must have realised that this was no earthly king in the normal sense but was more involved with dying for a particular cause. The parents of the child must have been quite disturbed by this gift because death is the last thing, they would be preparing for.

After the wise men had left Joseph had a hunch or even a tip-off or even he just decided the time was ripe for him to move, and he went to Egypt. This at face value seems a little out of context but there was quite definitely a colony of Jews in Egypt and there was a fair amount of contact with those in the homeland. It is quite possible Joseph had some relations there or felt that he could earn a better living there in a richer country with his carpentry. Whatever his reason he went and took Mary and Jesus with him and only returned when the child was much older.

SPORT

BADMINTON

TELECOMS 4                      POLICE 1

The Police team tried very hard to win each game, but tend to lose their concentration easily.

A classic example was in the set cumming and Stevenson v Barrass and Penman. The Telecoms pr. were leading by 1 game and 14-5 in the second, then the Police pr. took advantage of this and took the game to 17-15, but lost the set after a very good third game.

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MCS/CATS                      V                      FIRE

Fire Section claimed the match as opposition didn't turn up.

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RMC 3                                      MT 2

In this match, Mayes & Gay, a new partnership for R.M.C., lost their first set against Hare & Cross, after 3 close games. Newman & Edwards then beat Raynor and Young, 15 - 6, 15 - 2.

Frazer of MT, and Winwood had a fairly even battle in the singles that followed, but Frazer produced some fine shots towards the end of each game to pull ahead and win 15 - 11, 15 - 9.

This gave MT a 2-1 lead, but Edwards/Newman played smoothly together to beat Hare/Cross, in straight games.

The deciding set, in which Mays/Gay played Raynor/Young was eventually won by RMC after a display of excellent smashes by Mayes.

BADMINTON LEAGUE TABLE

	P.	W.	L.	F.	A.	TOTAL
R.M.C.	2	2	0	7	3	4
TELECOMS	2	2	0	7	3	4
EQUIPMENT	1	1	0	3	2	2
APOSTLES	1	1	0	3	2	2
SASF	2	1	1	6	4	2
MT	2	1	1	6	4	2
FIRE	2	1	1	2	3	2
SHQ	1	0	1	1	4	0
POLICE	2	0	2	2	8	0
MCS/CATS	2	0	2	1	4	0

SPORT  
SOCCER

SHQ 1 MCS/CATS 2

After a dour struggle for "First Blood", Gillard put MCS/CATS one goal up after ten minutes play. SHQ's defence held firm despite some continuous pressure by MCS/CATS forwards. A few minutes from half-time Walters scored from a well placed ground shot. At half time MCS/CATS still led 2-0.

The second half started with SHQ doing all the attacking. A goal had to come and what a goal it was. BRAMWELL beat off two tackles and let fly, the ball hit the far upright and ended in the back of the net. The best goal of the match without doubt.

With time running out fast MCS/CATS held on to win their third final in a row. McClelland Walters, Marsland, and recent signing for 24 Charlies, Heaton stood out for MCS/CATS while Bomber Davis, Legs Diamond and Bramwell were well to the fore for SHQ.

LEAGUE KNOCK-OUT CUP

COMMCCEN 1 v EQUIPMENT 2  
(AFTER EXTRA TIME)

Yet another outstanding game with the decision in doubt until the final five minutes of extra-time.

Attacking right from the start Commccen went all out for goals. Equipment's defence had some anxious moments but their goal stayed intact. Shots from all the Commccen forwards rained around the Equipment goal but still Commccen couldn't score. With the first half drawing to an end Commccen scored a goal by Westwood and thus went off at half time leading by this solitary goal.

Like Friday's game the second half found the complete opposite happening. This time it was EQUIPT's turn to shine they now looked a different side and played some confident and attractive soccer. Blythin scored a brilliant goal with a header following an equally good centre from Harvey. At 1-1 the game was wide open again. A disallowed goal for offside, only helped to build up the tension as both teams strived for the winning goal. At the end of normal time the scores were still level so extra-time had to be played. Quigley scored the deciding goal in the second period and thus Commccen were fated to be runners-up again. For Commccen Sandelle and Westwood played very well. Blythin, Harvey and Neale turning in good performances for Equipment.

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MONTHLY WEATHER NOTES - DEC 1968

Although some people are likely to argue the point, it is a fact that the month of December was relatively dry. Only 8.1 inches fell on Gan and although that is almost three times the amount that fell in December, 1966 - the driest one since records started - it is still well below the average December rainfall of 10.4 inches.

The thunderstorm that occurred on the night of the 22nd was only the second storm to have affected Gan in the last five months although several have occurred in the near vicinity.

Winds were generally moderate from a Northerly quarter, though gales occurred on a few days with a maximum gust of 46 knots.

Sunshine was about average with just over 7 hours per day so there's no excuse for being a Mooney.

N.D. Williams  
Meteorological Officer



# UNCLE BUNNY'S AGONY COLUMN

UNCLE BUNNY'S GUIDE TO TWENTIETH CENTURY HERALDRY

Admit  
Middle Earth  
to the  
U.N.

SAVE  
WATER- SHOWER  
WITH  
A FRIEND

Yes,  
please

LIVERPOOL  
FOR  
THE  
LEAGUE

I'm a happie

I FEEL NOTHING

SUPPORT  
MENTAL HEALTH  
OR  
I'LL  
KILL YOU

Chastity  
is its own  
punishment

STAMP  
OUT  
PAY TOILETS

GO  
HOME  
POSTY

WE  
LOVE WALLY

Forget Oxford  
Feed  
Twissy

DRAFT  
BEER  
NOT  
STUDENTS

Liverpool  
for  
the  
League

BLOW UP  
NAAFI

WHO  
WAS LORD  
KITCHNER'S  
VALET?

MAKE  
LOVE

I AM A  
ESD  
ADDICT

Eating  
people  
is wrong