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Crofton Gazette

and Cowichan News

Devoted to the Mining and Agricultural Interests of Vancouver Island, Texada Island, and Coast Mainland Districts.

J. H. WHITTOME,
Agent for London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., Royal Insurance Co.
Duncans, V. I.

VOL. 1. CROFTON, B. C., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1902. No. 29

VICTORIA R. I. IN MEMORIAM.

(By Bret Harte.)

(In Harper's Magazine for this month the following lines are printed for the first time. They were not found until after the poet's death.)

When your men bowed heads together
With hushed lips,
And the globe swung out from gladness
To eclipse,

When your drums from the equator,
To the pole
Carried round it an unending
Funeral roll,

When your capitals from Norway
To the Cape
Through their streets and from their houses
Trailed their crape,

Still the sun awoke to gladness
As of old,
And the stars their midnight beauty
Still unrolled,

For the glory born of Goodness
Never dies,
And its flag is not half-masted
In the skies.

THE MANY FUNCTIONS OF CORN.

The following from a paper by Mr. W. S. Hayward in the September number of "The World's Work" is interesting at the present moment:—

Food production is only one of the many functions of corn—the by-products lead into curious avenues. In time of naval battles this plant will be able to prevent the sinking of ships riddled with projectiles. By tremendous pressure the pith of the corn stalk, a light, yellowish-white substance, mainly composed of cellulose, is compressed into exceedingly small compass. A pinch of the compressed fibre placed in a drinking glass and saturated with water suddenly swells to the full capacity of the glass. It will absorb about twenty-eight times its own weight of water. Between the plates of the great battleships this compressed pith is now being placed. Should a projectile pierce the sides of the ship, it must pass through this wall of compressed pith. Immediately upon the inflow of water the would closes up, merely by the swelling of the pith.

This same pith is particularly valuable, also, in offensive warfare, as it is used as a base for the manufacture of explosives of high potentiality.

Cellulose is, of course, the basis of paper. Fears have been expressed that the spruce forests of the United States and Canada, which hitherto have supplied the main stock of cellulose, the basis of the paper trade, will not hold out. Just now, in the Southern sugar cane producing States, experiments are under way to prove that begasse, the refuse left after the cane crushing, is invaluable for paper manufacture, while tests have already been made, with a very satisfactory outlook, to show that the cellulose of the corn plant may, as a basis for paper manufacture, become one of the plant's most valuable by-products. The stalks, leaves and husks are also used for paper-making, and for fibres which can be wove into various kinds of fabrics.

Immense quantities of corn are now manufactured into syrups and starches. In the manufacture of the former, five grades are now produced. In the manufacturing of these come other by-products in the way of concentrated animal foods, made from the protein and germ, which, in such an establishment are deterrents rather than aids. Five kinds of starches are made and in their production are developed five grades of dextrine, five grades of grits or foods in the breakfast food line, together with three grades of gum for use in adhesive pastes, or for use in the manufacture of confectionery.

Corn oil is not only used in large quantities for the manufacture of olive or salad oil, but also in coarser forms as a lubricant for illuminating purposes, for dressing wool, and in the manufacture of soaps. Another by-product is oil cake of a high degree of food efficiency for cattle. Other forms of stock foods are manufactured from the by-products left after the sugar has been extracted, among them germ oil meal and corn bran. Another curious by-product is rubber, a form of the oil uniting with pure rubber in such a way as to produce what is known as vulcanized corn rubber. Various claims are made for it as a substitute for pure rubber.

Corn is used for fodder; for pipes; from the husks are made mattresses and from the silk medicine. Most of our starch is made from corn; nearly 3,500 000 cases of canned corn are put up each year: and 15,000,000 bushels are used for spirits. Three tins of cobs are equal to one of coal; potash is the residue.

If one stands before a field of corn a-wave on a stretch of Western prairie land, the green waves of the sea of wealth stretch away in the distance, and heap up at last upon the far blue line of the sky, a scene of surpassing interest. A single acre of this wonderful plant pumps up from the soil from three to four hundred tons of water in a single season. A single week's growth is recorded of 18½ inches, a growth of 5 inches has been known in a single day. The total leaf surface of a single mature corn plant is 24 square feet.

The corn plant is undoubtedly of American origin. It was known among the native Indians as far back as our history reaches, and when in 1879 some of the ancient mounds in Ohio were uncovered, where the remnants of a pre-historic race were buried, corn was found in complete preservation. This native plant, which yearly exceeds in value all our other cereal crops combined, is being separat-

ed by scientists and the farmers who carry their teaching into common practice into many divisions, and to each division is being given new growth and capabilities for wealth.

MINING NEWS.

A CHEERY VIEW OF THE COPPER INDUSTRY.

Mr. C. M. Palmer, of the Butte and Boston Copper Company, and one of the prominent copper men of America, thus states his view of the copper outlook. He evidently has no sympathy with the pessimists and croakers:

"I do not share in the belief that at 11 and 12 cents a pound copper cannot be mined at a profit," said Mr. Palmer to a Butte interviewer. "With higher prices it is apparent from past experience that the volume of consumption will be materially reduced, and this at a time when new properties are continually being opened and developed, is bound to result in such an overproduction as will be disastrous. With the price of copper at the first-named figure, I am confident there will be a market for all that can be mined. Copper consumers do not take readily to the substitution of other metals except in times when they think the ruling price is excessive.

"Indications point to a large advance in the volume of production within the next ten years. At the present time the Lake Superior district is but touched. That is a belt extending 150 miles or more that will some day be one continuous copper producing section. Considerable work is also being done in Arizona. Mining experts believe that the Treadwell mines will develop into large copper prolucers.

"The copper mines of Mexico are also attracting the attention of investors and development work and exploration is being pushed by companies holding concessions. The great ore bodies of Alaska are still untouched. It is known that there is copper all aong the coast, but it is not as yet demonstrated how far down operations need to be extended to get at the best of the copper deposits.

"In my opinion copper can be mined at a net cost of 9 cents a pound, and a ruling price of 11½ cents gives a better margin of profit than is to be obtained in the average commercial enterprise. Since I first came to Butte, and since the first organization of the Butte and Boston Company, the processes of smelting and reduction have been marvelously transformed. It is but reasonable to suppose that new and improved methods will be found to possess merit. The consumers of copper are familiar with the cost of mining and will resent vigorously any attempt to make them pay more than a fair price over and above the cost of production. This resentment will take the form of using other metals, although it has been found that copper is preferred at the right price. From what I have been able to learn there is small danger of aluminum being used as a substitute to any considerable extent."

MINING NOTES.

It is proposed, should the Garretson furnace at Crofton prove a success, to instal a similar one at the Sunset smelter, Boundary Falls.

The copper mine at Sooke is being steadily developed. Its owners talk very little, but their faith in the property has been tested by several tempting offers, all of which they have refused. The mine is within half a mile of salt water, but the intention of the management is not to ship any ore until it can be shipped continuously.

Machinery for the Tyee and Richard III. is being unloaded at Somenos by Mr. H. Keast. The new hoist was unloaded on Saturday.

Col. Hayes is visiting "the mountain," having a look round.

The latest sensation from Quatsino is the discovery of a large deposit of cinnabar by Messrs. Gresham and Murdock. The ledge is said to 40 feet wide.

A new discovery of mineral is reported close to Victoria at Mount Skirt on the Goldstream river. The ore assays a high percentage of silver, with a good amount of copper, and a trace of gold.

The Mineral Section of the Victoria Exhibition was well got up and arranged by Mr. Koelle; but it is to be hoped that this section will be better patronized next year. Lenora and Tyee ores were conspicuous both in quantity and quality, as well as ores from the Comstock mine, Quatsino. Sooke mine showed some good looking specimens, and Crofton sent a sample of the first matte smelted on the island.

The Royal Commission on Explosions in Coal Mines finished its labours at Nanaimo last week. The main conclusion come to was the necessity for a Government inspection of powder, also for the adequate watering of mines.

The Pacific Steel Co. seem to be in trouble with their Texada Island iron property which they are operating on an option. The property is said to be very rich, but this company have not made the shipments contracted for by the Puget Sound Iron Co to the Crofton smelter. Trouble with employees is assigned as the reason of their failure on the part of the Pacific Steel Co.

THE S. P. C. A.—REWARD OFFERED.

The Cowichan Branch of the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has posted notices throughout the district reminding all persons that the Criminal Code declares it to be:—

"Cruelty to animals to wantonly, cruelly, or unnecessarily beat, bind, ill-treat, abuse, overdrive, torture any cattle, poultry, dog, domestic animals or birds, or wild animal, or bird in a state of captivity."

The notice states that all offenders will be prosecuted—the penalty for such offence not exceeding three months' imprisonment, or a fine of fifty dollars, or both—and further proceeds:—

"A reward of $10.00 is hereby offered by the above society to any person who shall furnish sufficient evidence to convict any party of breaking the law in this or any other respect."

(Signed) DAVID FORD, Secretary.

Northwestern Smelting and Refining Co.

Purchasers of GOLD, SILVER and COPPER ORES, MATTES, COPPER BULLION and FURNACE PRODUCTS.

Location of Works, CROFTON, VANCOUVER ISLAND, B.C.

THE INDIAN TRAGEDY.

Simple, sad, and solemn are the events connected with the recent tragedy in the Quamichan Indian village. Domase and Lizzie were each married according to the rites of the church. Lizzie practically in childhood had been married to an old man in Nanaimo for whom she could feel no affection; Domase had married a woman from Saanich who, as he declared, made his home miserable. Domase and Lizzie met, and their hearts were stirred. They loved one another. They each sought divorces in order that they might be married in the church. Failing in this they married one another with Indian rites, and lived unobtrusive lives in a state of happiness which no cloud marred, until neighbouring busybodies interfered. The young couple were then socially ostracised, and made to suffer every possible indignity. At length their church-going neighbours said they should not be allowed to enter the same church with themselves. This was the cruellest blow of all. Domase said to Lizzie: "We will go." She was afraid, but he said "Why! I want to be good. I want to go to church. Let us go!" And they set out; but at the sight of their uncompromising enemies their hearts failed them. They returned home weeping. Presently Lizzie left the house, and her long absence alarmed Domase, who, going out to look for her, found her hanged to a tree. She had ended the wretchedness of it all. The grief of Domase was inconsolable; but even now his enemies added insults to injury. They took away Lizzie's body to her brother's house. Domase bought new blankets and other offerings, and entering the house laid them over the remains of all that was dear to him. His love offerings were rudely cast aside. This outrage was unbearable. "You shall not take her away from me!" he cried, and he went straight away and shot himself. He had justified his words. He and Lizzie journeyed together unseparated. It is pleasing to think that the only reparation possible was made to the faithful lovers. They were both buried in the same grave.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

Sunday, the 5th inst., was observed in the parish of St. Peter's, Cowichan, as a day of thanksgiving for the splendid harvest which has just been gathered in the district. Special services were held at Somenos at 11 a.m.; at St. Peter's at 2:30 p.m.; and at the Masonic Hall, Duncans, at 7:15 p.m. The special preacher was the Rev. D. Dunlop of St. Alban's, Nanaimo. The churches were prettily decorated, and contributions of produce, fruit vegetables, potatoes, etc., were received to be sent to the Protestant Orphans' Home in Victoria.

Thanksgiving services were held at the Presbyterian-Methodist Church, Duncans, on Saturday last, the 12th inst. The church was decorated with fruit, vegetables, jams, etc., which were afterwards forwarded to the Protestant Orphans' Home. The preacher in the morning was the Rev. W. N. Carr, of Crofton; in the evening the Rev. W. C. Schlichter.

SPORTS.

The Baseball Club ball came off on the 2nd inst., and from a social point of view was a great success. From a financial point of view, however, it was not so successful. Dancing was cointinued until a late hour, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all.

The football teams are now busy practising, and several matches are being organized.

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Room only 50 cents to $1.50 per day.

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VICTORIA VANCOUVER NELSON

THE CROFTON GAZETTE
and COWICHAN NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 1902.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Thanksgiving Day has come round once more, and has been celebrated quietly and with the customary Harvest Home entertainment at Duncans. We in this district have a good deal to think over and be thankful for at this season. The harvest has been bountiful, and the progress of Duncans and the district has been even greater than in previous years. The mining industry has grown by leaps and bounds, and a new smelting industry has been established in our midst—the first smelter on Vancouver Island. The future is bright with golden prospects.

With regard to the date of Thanksgiving Day it seems a pity that this cannot be fixed once for all. At present it is announced but a week or two beforehand, and all arrangements for its celebration have to be inconveniently hurried, and this is a serious disadvantage in getting people together over so large a district as this.

THE BLOW-IN OF THE CROFTON SMELTER.

Yesterday the smelting industry on Vancouver Island may be said to have been practically inaugurated. The results of the experimental blow-in of the Garretson furnace a week or two ago have not yet been decided, but yesterday the Crofton smelter, as it was originally planned, was started, and the work can now proceed continuously.

Messrs. Breen and Bellinger have come into our midst, and have put hundreds of thousands of dollars into a smelting plant, to treat primarily the ores of the Mt. Sicker district, but also ores from every part of the Coast. The full extent of what the initiation of this industry means to the Island, is difficult to speculate about at present, but its immediate effect must be a considerable stimulus to the mining industry, especially in this district, and the influence of every development in this industry is necessarily felt in many others. The cry that it costs too much to export ores for smelter treatment need be no longer heard. The smelter is at our doors, and every producing mine on Vancouver Island or every mine prospect within reasonable distance of production has reason to rejoice thereat.

THE INDIAN TRAGEDY.

The awful tragedy which recently took place in the village of Quamichan, but serves to point a moral upon the existing social system of civilization. The Pharisee amongst us will triumphant. The Indians of Quamichan hounded two unhappy lovers to death did but what white people are doing to one another every day. The difference is that white people have grown callous, to a great extent, both to the forms of religion and morality; whereas these two primitive Indians appreciated both acutely. Were the poet at hand to sing the love story of Domase and Lizzie its simple directness, rude pathos, and titanic intensity might rank it amonst the love tragedies of the centuries.

We were recently misinformed as to a statement made in these columns that Mr. Taylor, of Messrs. Taylor & Smith, of Crofton, had acquired ground in the vicinity of the town for building purposes with a view of laying out a suburban townsite. We have been informed that neither Mr. Master nor Mr. Dunne have sold any land for this purpose, though it is possible that one or other of them may erect a few suburban villas themselves.

As we go to press we learn that the school will be opened on Monday next. The children's desks have at length arrived. The school trustees were instructed by the Education Department to appoint a teacher, and have the temporary school room in readiness by the 1st inst. and this was done. It is a pity that nearly three weeks have been wasted waiting for the school furniture.

There has been a scarcity of labour at the smelter.

Vacant houses are being instantly snapped up. More low priced dwellings are needed.

We have held the paper over for a day this week in order to include in it reports of the blow-in of the Crofton smelter and the Harvest Home entertainment at Duncans.

We have again to regret that through an oversight the photo-engravers have not our cut of scenes at the Duncans Fall Fair ready as we go to press.

Victoria Terminal & Sidney Railway

FALL AND WINTER TIME CARD.

On and after September 15th, 1902, trains will run as follows:

NORTH BOUND.

Miles.	STATIONS.	A. M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
0	Victoria Central Station (leave)	7.00	12.30	4.00	2.00
17	Sidney ..... (arrive	8.00	1.10	5.00	2.45

SOUTH BOUND.

Miles.	STATIONS.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M
4	Saanichton	8.45	1.30	5.10
17	Victoria Central Station.....(arrive)	9.30	2.00	61.5

Sidney and Nanaimo Transportation Company

Steamer IROQUOIS leaves daily (Sundays excepted) on arrival of 12.30 train for

CROFTON, CHEMAINUS AND NANAIMO

Arriving at Crofton at 3.30 p.m., Chemainus 4.15 p.m., Nanaimo 6.30 p.m. Returning leaves Nanaimo every morning (Sunday exceped) at 8 a.m., Chemainus 10.15 a.m., Crofton 11 a.m., arriving at Victoria 2 p.m.

STEAMER UNICAN—Mondays: Leaves Sidney on arrival of 7 a.m. train from Victoria for Fulford Harbor, Beaver Point, Ganges, Mayne Island, Fernwood, Gabriola, Nanaimo. Returning from Nanaimo Tuesday at 7 a.m., calling at Gabriola, Thetis, Kuper, Chemainus, Vesuvxius, Crofton.

WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS: — Round Trips Through the Gulf Islands. Leave Sidney on arrival of 7 a.m. train for Moresby, Peir, Fulford, Ganges Harbor, Mayne, Galiano, N. & S. Pender, Saturna. Returning, arrives Victoria at 7 p.m.. (N.B.—This is the finest tourist trip on the Pacific Coast)

THURSDAY:—Leave Sidney on arrival of 7 a.m. train from Victoria for Cowichan, Burgoyne, Maple Bay, Crofton, Vesuvius, Chemainus, Kuper, Thetis, Gabriola, and Nanaimo. Returning Friday at 7 a.m. for Sidney and way ports.

Close connections, efficient service and reasonable rates. For all additional information apply to the Company's Offices, Central Station, Market Building. Tel. 511.

J. ANDERSON, General Mar[illegible]

Crofton Up to Date.

THE BLOW-IN OF THE CROFTON SMELTER.

WITHOUT any "blowing" at all or any formal ceremony the Crofton smelter was quietly blown-in at 7:00 a.m on Wednesday morning, the 15th inst. This applies of course to the water jacket furnace, and is a matter apart entirely from the experiments that have recently been made with the new Garretson furnace. From the very start every operation has gone without a hitch of any kind, and as we go to press the "water jacket,' is working full blast, and dealing with something like 400 tons a day. This is a much larger furnace than the Garretson, and once lighted will be lighted forever: though it may be necessary to close it down for a day to complete arrangements which have been somewhat hurriedly made. To-day the cupola furnace will be lighted, and the converter will be brought into operation, and the first blister copper will be produced on Vancouver Island.

The Northwestern Smelting and Refining Co. have made so litle noise about their great work that it is difficult to realize the tremendous stimulus that has been given to copper mining on the Island by the simple process of blowing in the Crofton smelter. Equipped in every detail these large smelting works are now prepared to deal with ores from every part of the Coast. The works have been planned for economy and convenienece of treatment. No detail has been overlooked. The work of construction has been carried out with admirable thoroughness. In the large engine room the huge engines run so smoothly that there is not a tremor of vibration. In the furnace and converter houses every man knows his work and does it. Mr. Bellinger here controls a bewildering scene of activity with a word.

Meanwhile experiments with the Garretson furnace will still be continued, and Mr. Bellinger is very sanguine of their successful outcome.

THE SCHOOL.

The new teacher, Mrs. Bertiaux, has now been in Crofton nearly a fortnight waiting to open school until the desks for the children shall have arrived. The teacher's desk has arrived and the school room premises are all ready otherwise. Many of the children, too, are anxious to get to work after their long holiday.

AT THE SMELTER BUILDING.

The elevator to the different floors of the furnace and converter house is now completed and working daily.

The roller crusher for pulverizing the silica preparatory to using it for lining the converters has been put in place at the side of the converter house.

The new blacksmith's shop at the back of the boiler house is about finished.

LOCAL NOTES.

Mr. George Wilson, section foreman on the Mt. Sicker Railway, is building fine new house on Edmund Street, next to Capt. Thompson's place.

Mr. Jeffery, our worthy and popular estate and steamboat agent, and "Mayor," has taken the end house on Arthur Street. He is expecting Mrs. Jeffery out from England very shortly.

Mrs. Mackenzie, school teacher at Chemainus, spent Saturday and Sunday last with her friend, Mrs. Bertiaux, our new teacher. The latter is staying at the Osborne Hotel.

We regret to hear that Mrs. Parker Clark may have to go into hospital at Chemainus.

Mrs. Rombauer is back from Chemainus Hospital, we are glad to say.

Mrs. Depiesse and her son have gone away on a pleasure trip.

At the Osborne Hotel recently a visitor found a lady's gold ring in a tin of tomatoes which had been opened for him.

Mr. and Mrs. Engle and family from Mt. Sicker have arrived to stay.

Mr. and Mrs. Doherty have taken the house lately occupied by the Bakers, on Arthur Street.

A new first class hotel is contemplated in Crofton.

Mr. Joel Broadwell proposes to start a lending library —an excellent project.

It is intended to enlarge the wharf to provide further facilities for the increasing trade.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Musgrave of Mt. Sicker have left for Victoria for a few days.

Mr. W. P. Jaynes will resume his feed mill operations next week. Owing to the high price of imported feed stuffs Mr. Jaynes anticipates a great demand for home products. The orders he has already received will keep him busy for at least two weeks.

G. T. Corfield, Esq., of Corfield; R. E. Barkley, Esq., of Westholme, and H. Bonsall, Esq., of Somenos, were conspicuous amongst prize winners at Victoria exhibition.

Amongst our advertisers at the Victoria exhibition were Messrs. Weiler Bros., who exhibited a beautifully furnished drawing room and a splendid collection of carpets, curtains, etc., also Messrs. Thorpe & Co., of Victoria, who on a very effective crystal pedestal surrounded by green moss exhibited soda-water, kola wine, champagne cider, ginger beer, pepsin wine, and other such drinks. Both deservedly won first prizes.

The exhibition was well managed and arranged, and a great success. The Cowichan Creamery was second to the Victoria Creamery in butter both in bulk and in prints.

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Return $3.00

S.S. "CITY OF NANAIMO"

Sails from Victoria, Tuesdays at 6.00 a. m., and on Saturdays at 7.00 a.m., calling at Crofton on both days, handling freight and passengers at reduced rates.

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Daily connecting with all E. & N. Railway Trains

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Duncans and Cowichan Local News

THE HARVEST HOME ENTERTAINMENT.

THE Harvest Home entertainment given in the Agricultural Hall, Duncans, on Thanksgiving Day, the 16th inst., comprised a concert, a dramatic performance, refreshments, and dancing. The arrangements throughout were excellent, and reflect great credit on the committee of which Miss Jaynes was the secretary, and the moving spirit. Miss Holmes and Miss B. Jaynes did invaluable work on the Dancing Committee. The Rev. J. A. Leaky presided, and the hall was completely filled, not to say crowded. It was decorated with boughs of maple with fine effect. Amongst those present one noticed Mr. and Mrs. Elkington, Mr. and Mrs. James Maitland-Dougall, Mrs. and Miss Marriner, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Maitland-Dougall, and Miss Maitland-Dougall, Mrs. Hadwen, Mr. G. H. Hadwen, and the Misses Hadwen, also Mr. Seymour Hadwen, Mr. Norcross, C.M.C.; and Miss Norcross, Major and Mrs. Mutter and Miss A. Mutter, Mr. and Mrs. Persse, Mrs. Dickie, the Misses Holmes, Mrs. Harry Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Jaynes and with them Miss Fawcett from Victoria, Mr. and Mrs. Blythe, Miss Hall, Mr. and Mrs. H. de M. Mellin and Mr. Guy Mellin, the Misses Jaynes, Miss Lomas, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. H. Keast, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. Nelson and Mr. W. R. Robertson.

The programme was as follows:—

(1.) Overture by Miss Lovell and Miss Clark.

(2.) Song, "Loch Lomond," given by Mr. Guy Mellin with admirable spirit.

(3.) Piano solo, charmingly played with excellent execution, by Miss Clark.

(4.) Song, "The Heavenly Song," by Hamilton Gray. This was a difficult number finely rendered by Mr. Hearn, whose accompaniment was played by Mrs. H. de M. Mellin.

(5.) Song, "Ora pro nobis," sung with rare feeling and effectiveness by Miss Jaynes, and eliciting an encore for which she gave "Siegert."

The sixth item on the programme was the representation of the farce "Done on Both Sides.' In this Mr. Whiffels, a retired exciseman living in a London suburb and his wife and daughter, are trying to sustain their society reputation on a salary of £100 a year. In order to offer their neighbours tea and muffins every fortnight they are eventually obliged to part with their maid of all work and do the housework themselves. Into this circle comes one Mr. Brownjohn, a self-assertive person who makes up by "gall" for his financial shortages. He accidentally knocks down poor old Whiffels in a 'bus scrimmage outside the bank. Lydia Whiffels is present at the time and attacts Brownjohn's eye. He wonders if there would be any money behind a match with her. With this idea in mind he unexpectedly obtrudes upon the morning labour of the Whiffels household. There is of course consternation, with many laughable incidents as the family try to hide the signs of their household drudgery, stating that the servants are out. The Whiffels family are satisfied that their visitor is a most eligible parti for Lydia; and Brownjohn comes to the conclusion that old Whiffels is a wealthy but eccentric old fellow, and with the object of furthering acquaintance with the daughter he invites himself to dinner, and even goes so far as to sketch out the menu which is to include champagne and old Medeira. The Whiffels have no money and very little credit, but in their despair what to do, their relative, Pygmalion Phibs, appears upon the scene with a haunch of venison. They seize upon it and Whiffels borrows the price of a bottle of wine, and the dinner comes off. Whiffels ashamed of the countrified appearance of his relative passes him off privately to Brownjohn as an old servant. Brownjohn immediately takes the law into his own hands, and orders "Piggy" as he calls him, to lay the table and "wait" upon the family. Piggy unwillingly complies on being confidentially informed by Whiffels that Brownjohn is the head of the veterinary department from which Piggy wants promotion. So complications ensue until the end of the scene when Lydia gives the whole fraud away, becoming engaged to Brownjohn. Piggy provides money for the wedding—goodness knows where he gets it —the Whiffels senior retire subdued and disgraced, and it is generally conceded that the parties have been done on both sides.

The farce was decidedly amusing, but lacking action, and not strong enough to bring out the full abilities of the actors, who did their best with the parts allotted to them, emphasizing every possible point. The acting indeed was excellent. Mr. H. Williams was exceedingly comical as Whiffels. The Mrs. Whiffels of Miss Louise Jaynes was a spirited bit of acting. Mrs. Harry Wilson was charming as the demure Lydia. As Mr. Brownjohn, Mr. Harry Wilson was admirable and exhibited a very fine piece of characterization. Mr. G. O. Pooley as Pygmalion had an unconvincing part, but made it "go. He rendered his song, "Behold a Poor Unlucky Man," excellently.

At the conclusion Mr. Leakey proposed a vote of thanks to those who had given their services to the occasion and the National Anthem was sung.

Refreshments were then served, and at about 10:15 p. m. dancing was commenced and kept up until past one o'clock, bringing to an end an enjoyable evening. To Mrs. Mutter, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Springett, Mrs. H. de M. Mellin, Miss B. Holmes, Miss Z. Holmes, and the Misses Jaynes the thanks of the community are especially due for their kind services at the piano.

FLOCKMASTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Mr. J. H. Whittome, secretary of the Flockmasters' Association, announces that thoroughbred rams are now being shipped to Salt Spring, and the Islands generally.

LOST.

On or about the 6th inst. was lost from Mr. E. H. Hicks-Beach's house at Koksilah a sable collie bitch with white ring round neck and white tip to tail—very timid. Will any person who should come across a dog of this description kindly communicate with Mr. Hicks-Beach, Duncans.

ROAD BRIDGE ACROSS THE COWICHAN RIVER.

Mr. C. H. Cookson, of the Lands and Works Department, has been busy on the construction of the road bridge across the Cowichan River. The trestles are already framed, and will be erected immediately, and the bridge will probably be completed in about ten days.

LOCAL NOTES.

We regret to repirt that Dr. D. G. Perry is in Chemainus hospital suffering from overwork.

Mr. G. Mellin is staying with his brother, Mr. H. de M. Mellin, having returned from a record survey trip in the Kootenay country.

Our correspondent who stated that Mr. Keast owned the first rubber tyred buggy probably referred exclusively to the town of Duncans. Mr. W. H. Elkington and after him several other gentlemen in the district have been driving rubber tyred buggies for some time.

Mr. Sam Robinson is putting up the new library building at Duncans, next to the Council Chamber.

Mr. Seymour Hadwen, brother of Mr. G. H. Hadwen, has just returned from South Africa.

Everyone should see the beautiful silverware that Messrs. Pitt & Peterson, of Duncans, are giving away with every cash purchase. This is an innovation in Duncans.

Mr. Chas. Vernon has been having great sport at Cowichan Bay.

Mr. H. D. Morten has rented Mr. Geo. Lewis' house in Duncans, and is now "batching."

Mr. Jack Savannah, the well-known protographer of Victoria, has been fishing at the Bay, and taking photographs of the houses and hotels in Duncans and neighbourhood. He just missed his twenty-pound salmon.

Another bakery is going to be started in Duncans.

Mr. Curry has rented Mr. J. Bibeau's house at Duncans.

The other day a Siwash horse which had strayed into the garden of the Tzouhalem Hotel was being hunted out when it tried to jump the fence, but impaled itself, and carried away six inches of the paling in its body.

Mrs. Hearn's handsome collie dog was on Tuesday last run over by a freight train and completely cut in two The train afterwards ran into a waggon loaded with bricks, and derailed a car.

THE WATERWORKS.

Mr. E. M. Skinner has just completed a survey for the Duncans waterworks supply. A dam will be made on Skinner Creek at the foot of Mt. Prevost, and the water carried thence and into the town down Ingram Street by a box flume. From this piping will serve the various cross streets. Mr. Skinner found that an excellent grade is obtainable throughout, and estimates that the work will not be at all costly as such works go.

Mr. F. L. Wilmer has left Mt. Sicker.

Mr. J. C. Lang of the Lenora mine is spending a few days in the city for his health.

Amongst visitors at the Alderlea Hotel have been:—Mr. Taylor of London, England; Mr. Robert Mills, New York; Mr. James Wilson, San Francisco; Mr. Boyd, Vancouver; Mr. and Mrs. Lutter of Rossland; Messrs. T. Thompson and Geo. Kane, Trail; Messrs. Jack Verdie, Abe Mayea and James Mills of Cowichan Lake; Messrs. Ed. Brickenden, Strawberry Dale; and Wm. Jones, Nanaimo; Mr. Chisholm of New Westminster, and Mr. Jack McGilvray, Victoria.

Amongst visitors at the Quamichan Hotel during the week have been: Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Cottenham of Victoria; Mrs. J. Cathcart, Chemainus; the Misses Cathcart, Victoria; Miss Roberts, Cupid Island; Messrs. R. A. Blodgett, Victoria; D. McPherson, Nanaimo; Mrs. Wm. Lewis, Seattle; Messrs. J. H. Hadley, Victoria; S. W. Bodley, Victoria; Geo. Buscombe, Vancouver; H. Ward, A. M. Ward, and L. Bonsall, Ladysmith; Thomas Dodd, Thomas Powle, and David Francess, Nanaimo; and Joseph Callender and Joseph Aurry, Ladysmith; Messrs. F. J. Gavin and Ed. Windsor, Vancouver; Messrs. Carl Hansine, Wm. Redmond and Wm. Galbraith, Victoria; Mr. W. W. Armstrong, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Simmond, Victoria; Messrs. C. R. Smith, Victoria and D. F. Dickson, Vancouver; and Miss Steowns, London, Ont.

At the Tzouhalem Hotel, amongst other visitors during the week, have been:—Mr. and Mrs. McKay, Mrs. A. Huxtable, Victoria; Mr. H. Morton, City; Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Marvin and daughter of Victoria; Mrs. Baxter and son, Victoria; Miss Ermatinger, St. Thomas, Ontario; Miss E. Maitland-Dougall, Corfield; Miss M. E. Roberts, Kuper Island; Miss Marion A. Newcombe, England; Rev. D. Roberts, Kuper Island; Messrs. George A. Cheeke, Shawnigan; J. B. Spooks, Rossland; Thos. Jones, Golden City; Duncan Anderson, Rugby, Ont.; E. Molander, Port Townsend; and S. Y. Wootton, Victoria; Mr. Cecil H. Cookson, Victoria; Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Crichton, Kilowna; Mr. J. G. Potts, Montreal; Mr. W. R. Worth, New Westminster; Mr. E. M. Molander, Port Townsend; Dr. T. J. Jones, Victoria; Mr. Robert Prior, Circle City, Alaska; Col. Hayes, Victoria.

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