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...THE...

Crofton Gazette

AND COWICHAN NEWS

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

THIS SPACE IS OPEN FOR ADVERTISEMENT AT A SPECIAL RATE

VOL. 1. CROFTON, B. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1902. NO. 18

CORONATION CEREMONIES.

TO-DAY, thoughts of the coronation so long looked forward to will be in most people's hearts, though, to their sorrow and anxiety, they do not yet celebrate the actual crowning ceremony of King Edward's accession to the throne of the British Empire. The ceremonial of a coronation appeals perhaps more to the heart and the imagination than to the reason. King Edward VII. is already King of Great Britain and Ireland and all the British dominions over sea, Emperor of India, etc., etc. In the British Empire our king is king by birthright. His formal coronation is but a beautiful sequence of symbolic ceremonies, all tending to impress the imagination of his subjects. And in this age, prosaic and matter-of-fact as it professes to be, experience yet goes to show that it is no less desirable than it was a thousand years ago that the formal placing of the crown upon a king's head should be attended by a certain pomp and magnificence.

In primitive times no doubt the strongest man simply called himself king, and none dare gainsay him. If his son should be equally strong, he succeeded his father; if not, the kingship passed elsewhere. In later times the conquering Roman legions simply acclaimed their General as Emperor on the battlefield, and by right of might he usurped the purple. Throughout a large part of verifiable history, however, the state of sovereignty and the ceremonies connected with it have been a religious institution or have been associated with the forms of religion. This was so amongst the Jews. With them at first the chief priest was ruler, and afterwards when they set up a king it was the chief priest that performed his coronation ceremony by simply anointing him with oil. The ceremonies of nearly all modern coronations were no doubt founded in the first instance on this simple process. The "stone of destiny," the substantial and emblematic portion of the coronation chair in Westminster Abbey to-day, has the legendary belief attached to it that it was the actual stone which Jacob used for a pillow at Bethel when he saw the angels ascending and descending to him in his dreams, and which on the morn he consecrated by anointment with oil, and set up as a pillar. In course of time the stone was transferred to Jerusalem, and we hear of it afterwards in Egypt, Greece, Spain and Ireland. Irish history indeed records its presence in the Emerald Isle about 500 B. C., and it is an authenticated fact that this stone was the "lia fail" upon which the kings of Ireland were crowned on Tara's Hill for many centuries. Thence it was taken to Scotland and there used as a coronation seat until brought to England and used for the same purpose by Edward I. A certain divinity accordingly hedges around the "stone of destiny" in the popular imagination. No doubt some modern Philistines maintain that any fairly comfortable chair would do for a coronation seat, and that the ceremony should consist of a few words of affirmation on the one hand and assent on the other. But the popular imagination calls for more. The utilitarian may be a good honest man, but he creates no ideals. His church is the modern stucco barn built to accommodate the congregation and shelter them from the rain and wind, and nothing more. The atmosphere is chilling to the popular imagination. But enter an old Gothic cathedral which has been the sole life work of perhaps a long series of architects and builders and in whichevery moulding, every ornament, every posture of an emblematic image or an effigy is embued with a special devotional or other significance—the heart is stirred! The popular feeling is moved. And in all the elaborate coronation ceremonial of a British king there is hardly a form or an accessory that has not a special symbolic meaning. The crown itself—St. Edward's Crown—is of course the emblem of sovereignty. The orb represents the outward and visible sign

THE KING AND QUEEN.

of predominance of the Christian religion. The sceptre with the Cross is significant of the King's championship of good against evil, the sceptre with the dove of his mercy. The swords of justice of course carry their own meaning, and so-forth. The coronation ceremonial looked at from the fundamental point of view is no mere meaningless pageant, but a great symbolic rite. How much the popular imagination has been stirred all over the world by its approach is sufficiently evident to-day. With this feeling, however, has been mingled a deep emotion of loyalty and affection for the King himself in person, and it will be the daily prayer of countless millions of people that the postponement of his coronation need not be for any long time.

MINING NEWS.

RE-OPENING OF THE VAN ANDA MINES.

MR. CHARLES ARNOLD'S statement some two months ago that the Van Anda mine holders would continue work if the prospect seemed on investigation to be sufficiently promising, has been borne out by the latest intelligence from Texada Island. Evidently the prospect has been found to be encouraging, for we hear that in a few weeks' time a large number of miners will be put to work to carry through a systematic development of the mine on a large scale, under the direction of Mr. Vaughan-Rys, a mining engineer from the Old Country. Particulars as to the constitution of the new company are not yet forthcoming, but the capitalization has, it is believed, a strong English backing. Many evidences point to the fact that British capital is gradually finding its way back to British Columbia mines, and especially the Island section of it.

THE TYEE SMELTER.

Messrs. Haggerty and Colston have been under a month at work upon the excavation for the Tyee smelter works at Ladysmith, but they will complete their contract this week, and building can then begin. The aerial tramway from the Tyee mine to the E. & N. siding near Somenos is under construction, some 16 men being at work upon it, under Mr. Maclean, who is foreman for the contractor, Mr. R. N. Riblet, of Nelson.

MINING CONGRESS.

An Associated Press telegram from Butte, Montana, of the 23rd instant makes an announcement of importance to all mining men, that: "Secretary Mahon of the International Mining Congress has received a communication from the Secretary of State, John Hay, to the effect that the Federal Government will invite the foreign governments to send delegates to the International Mining Congress, which meets in Butte on September 1st for a five-days' session. Secretary Hay requested Mr. Mahon to forward at once 500 circulars of the forthcoming meeting, for distribution among foreign powers. Secretary Mahon has received word that all the trunk lines of the United States will join with the Western Passenger Association in offering a rate of one fare, plus $2, for the round trip to the Congress."

We hope that British Columbia, and especially Vancouver Island, will be represented at the proposed Congress, which must result to the welfare and furtherance of the mining industry in general throughout the world.

MORE RICH STRIKES NEAR CROFTON.

Very good looking ore has been found at several places on Mount Richards between Crofton and the Yreka mine. The lucky prospectors are naturally reticent as to the nature and exact locality of their "finds" just at present; but within a few weeks we shall no doubt hear of new work being started in this district.

THE PRICE OF COPPER.

Mr. J. P. Graves, the well-known manager of the Granby Mines, has been stating that he is not at all alarmed by the present low price of copper, and gives good reasons to explain his confidence in the market. "The surplus stock," he argues, "has been almost completely consumed, and the users of the brown metal have been living almost on a hand-to-mouth basis. The present low price of copper, ranging between 12 and 12½ cents per pound, is conceded to be manipulative, and under normal conditions it will soon right itself. I think that the price will be steady somewhat between 14 and 16 cents, and I look for a recovery in value in July. Whether or not the warring copper interests get together, the price of copper is sure to advance in response to the numerous demand for it, and we are already witnessing signs of that advance.

"Every business building, every manufactory, every ship, particularly every dwelling now uses copper in greater or less quantities for electric wiring. The use of copper in the electrical art is extended to Europe, which, aside from Germany, made little progress until lately in electricity.

"The consumption in the past year has been something like 10 per cent. more than the production. The enormous drain on the surplus stocks has wiped them away, and higher prices for copper are almost inevitable."

THE TELEGRAPH LINE ACROSS THE ISLAND.

Mr. John Wilson, Superintendent of the C. P. R. Telegraph Co., is busy with the new telegraph line across the Island from Departure Bay, on the east, to the Australian cable station at Cape Beale, on the West Coast. All arrangements for the construction of this line have been made, and work on it will be undertaken at once. The present single line from Wellington to Alberni will be used for the route, but new and stronger poles will be used, and the line will be well cleared and all dangerous timber either felled or supported, so as to insure a service with a minimum of risk of interruption from storms and falling trees. The work will be done at an expenditure of about $12,000, and the line thus completed will be the joint property of the Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. Mr. Charles Fiddick, of South Wellington, has secured the contract for the supply of poles.

SHOOTING ACCIDENT AT SAANICH.

On Thursday last, in the evening, Richard Williams, a young lad, was up in a cherry tree on the property of his grandfather, Mr. Durrant, at Saanich, who, mistaking what he saw of the dark object amongst the boughs for a crow, went indoors and got his gun. The shot was fired, and the lad now lies in a precarious condition, to his grandfather's very great distress. Mr. Durrant is over 70 years of age, and is prostrated at the sad accident. Young Williams is so far progressing satisfactorily at the Jubilee Hospital, under the care of Dr. Frank Hall, but the full extent of the injuries cannot yet be ascertained.

SIMPLE WAY TO MEASURE A RIVER.

To measure the width of any ordinary stream, or even of a good-sized river, it is necessary to make use of only your eyes and the brim of your hat. This seems queer, doesn't it? But it's true, and here is the way to do it: Select a part of the river bank where the ground runs back level, and, standing at the water's edge, fix your eyes on the opposite bank. Now, move your hat down over your brow until the edge of the brim is exactly on a line with the water line on the other side. This will give you a visual angle that may be used on any level surface, and if, as has been suggested, the ground on your side of the river be flat, you may "lay off" a corresponding distance on it. To do this you have only to hold your head perfectly steady, after getting the angle with your hat brim, supporting your chin with your hand, if necessary, and turn slowly around, until your back is toward the river. Now, take careful note of where your hat cuts the level surface of the ground as you look out over the latter, and from where you stand to that point will be the width of the river—a distance that may readily be measured by stepping. If you are careful in all these details you can come within a few feet of the river's width.—Nelson Economist.

PRESENCE OF GOLD IN IRON PYRITES.

How gold came to be present in quartz veins is very hypothetical. All that can be said is that it was evidently deposited from the solutions which gave rise to the formation of the inclosing quartz; and this appears the more evident from the presence of that metal in pyrites inclosed in silicious incrustations, as well as from the fact of large quantities of gold having been formed in the interior of the stems of trees, which in deep diggings are often converted into pyrites. The constant pressure of iron pyrites in auriferous veins, and when so occurring its invariably containing a certain amount of gold, suggests the possibility of this sulphide being in some way necessarily connected with the solvent by which the precious metal was held in solution. It has been shown that finely divided gold is soluble in the sesquichloride of iron, and more sparingly in the sesquisulphate of that metal. It is also well known that iron pyrites sometimes results from the action of reducing agents of the sulphate of that metal. If, therefore, sulphate of iron, in a solution containing gold, should become transformed by the action of a reducing agent into pyrites, the gold at the same time being reduced to the metallic state, would probably be found inclosed in the resulting crystals of that mineral.—Professor Whitney.

THE STEAMER STRATHCONA.

The steamer Strathcona, a stern-wheeler from the Stickine River, will make her first call at Crofton in a day or. two. This day she starts her regular run between Nanaimo and Crofton. Some particulars of the schedule we published last week, but the final arrangements have not yet been announced. The new boat has 40 state cabins, and her passenger accommodation will be a pleasure to travelling Croftonians. She is, moreover, a fast boat. On Tuesday Mr. James Anderson, the general manager, brought about 250 representative citizens of Nanaimo for a free trip in her to Sidney, thence to Victoria, and took them back to Nanaimo the same day. The trip was entirely successful, and all present expressed themselves very much pleased with the accommodation and steaming capacity of the new boat.

BAND CONCERT AT DUNCANS.

On Sunday last the pretty little village of Duncans—the Mecca of anglers, as some one has styled it—was the scene of an unwonted excitement and gaiety as crowds of pleasure-seekers from Nanaimo and Victoria issued from the excursion trains and bombarded the hotels. They had come to flirt, frolic, and to listen to the band, which indeed in a variety of popular selections was well worth their undivided attention. Local young ladies were, with one or two exceptions, conspicuous by their absence, but there was a goodly sprinkling of the "jeunesse doree" of Cowichan, attracted thither, no doubt, by the opportunity so seldom offered in a bucolic community of observing town styles in their pristine splendour. Bay window collars were "de rigeur," also batwing ties of violent design. Rainbow-tinted shirts, overlapped by sashes a yard in width, set off flannel suits of vehement patterns in green and gray, while natty little straw hats and white tennis shoes seemed popular. Airy-fairy Feorodoras flitted down Government Street, busily engaged in chewing gum, and the conflagration of colour must have caused the Fire Brigade serious alarm. However, it was a well behaved crowd; everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and the music of Finn's Band was excellent. R. S.

PROTECTION OF FISH.

Following is the order-in-council passed by the Ottawa Government for the protection of fish in Victoria Harbour and Cowichan River:

"Whereas it is found to be necessary to provide better protection for migrating salmon and other valuable fish, in Victoria Harbour, at the City of Victoria, and Cowichan Bay, Vancouver Island, British Columbia, from serious injury by excessive and improvident netting for fish carried on by non-residents:

"Therefore, the Governor-General-in-Council, in virtue of the provisions of Section 16 of the Fisheries Act, Chapter 95 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, is pleased to make and doth hereby make the following fishery regulation for the Province of British Columbia:

"Fishing by means of nets of any kind or description is prohibited in: (a) The waters of Victoria Harbour inside of an imaginary line running from Macaulay Point to Clover Point, and embracing all waters to the head of Victoria Arm, including the inlet; and (b) the waters of the estuary of Cowichan River, including Cowichan Bay, within an imaginary line running from Serpentine Point to Cowichan Head."

At the Hotel Strathcona, Shawnigan Lake, have registered during the week Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kent, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kent and four children, Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Hunter, Miss Hunter, Mr. Douglas Hunter, Mrs. Robson, Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont Boggs and family, Mr. A. B. Fraser Sr., Mr. J. H. MacGill, Miss Evans, Mr. H. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Purcell Johnston, Mrs. Godson, Mrs. J. Godson, and Mr. J. B. Wanhauer. Canon and Mrs. Beanlands and family, of Victoria, returned home last Saturday, after spending two pleasant weeks at the Hotel Strathcona.

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Room only 50 cents to $1.50 per day.

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AND COWICHAN NEWS

PUBLISHED BY

THE CROFTON PUBLISHING CO.

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All communications for the present to P. O. Duncans or Crofton.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1902.

OUR KING.

TO every corner of the world the telegraph brought consternation when it ticked out the alarming information that the coronation of King Edward VII. was indefinitely postponed. The shock was so sudden that many persons at first refused to believe the news. However, its verification was succeeded by the profoundest sorrow and anxiety when it was learned that the state of the King's health had necessitated that he should undergo a serious operation. All thoughts of "celebrating" of course vanished. The universal feeling was one of the deepest anxiety, and the worst news of all was dreaded in many quarters. The greatest relief was afforded by the arrival of later details showing that the operation had been performed perfectly successfully, and that the royal sufferer was progressing towards recovery as well as might be. This was indeed relief. We cannot afford so soon to lose our King, not only because of the pre-eminent kingly qualities that he has shown during his short reign, but for the deeper feelings of personal loyalty and affection that he has inspired in his people by his many acts of kindliness and consideration — most of all, perhaps, that supreme consideration for the interests of his people when he heroically braved daily increasing pain and suffering in order that an acknowledgment of his illness should not mar the efforts and aspirations of his loyal subjects to celebrate his coronation. This will be remembered to him through many generations. Human endurance, however, has its limits, and to our good Queen Alexandra, we are informed, we are indebted for the happy fact that surgical action was eventually taken in time to save the King's life. Our deepest sympathy and our loyalest and sincerest hopes and prayers will be for His Majesty's speedy recovery, when, if possible, an even heartier twofold celebration will await his restoration to health, and his coronation ceremony.

THE FERNIE INQUEST.

The result of the inquest on three of the victims who lost their lives in the explosion which occurred in the coal mines belonging to the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company at Fernie, B. C., is now to hand. The jury find that the initial cause of the explosion is unknown, but that the conveying medium was coal dust, and that the inadequate method of watering and removing of the dust left the mine in such a condition as to be dangerous, and thereby provided a medium whereby the initial cause was augmented and intensified.

This finding we cannot but consider to be a distinct indictment of the company for neglect. The jury further recommended the Government to take such steps as to enforce (1) the immediate installation of the most approved system of watering for allaying dust in coal mines; (2) that a more thorough inspection be adopted at these mines throughout the old workings and rooms contiguous to the air channel that are not being worked; (3) that the safest explosives and most approved safety lamps be hereafter used.

All these are suggestions that there should have been no necessity at all for the jury to make to the Government, and we hope they will be immediately acted upon. Too many workingmen's lives are already annually lost through nothing less than sheer neglect.

THE CELEBRATION POSTPONED.

No further thought of a coronation celebration remained in the heart of any resident of the Cowichan district when the unhappy tidings arrived that the King's illness necessitated an indefinite postponement of the coronation. All the festivities arranged for to-day are consequently postponed. We let the programme of events remain in our columns only because we think that by doing so we shall place on record the loyal intentions of the people of the district, and in the hope that it may be of some assistance in arranging the next programme, when with even more abundant feelings of joy and thankfulness we shall celebrate King Edward's recovery, as well as his coronation.

In His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's speech on the prorogation of parliament we note a clause which reads as follows: "I congratulate you on your thoughtful remembrance of the devoted young men who have given their services in South Africa, and contributed their share in bringing about the peace for which we are all so thankful." No doubt the Legislative Assembly has done a good deal in the way of legislation for the brave young fellows who upheld British Columbia's honour and loyalty in South Africa; but the fact yet remains that not a few of these returned soldiers, who gave up the work they were doing at the time of their enlistment, are still without the suitable work that was promised them on their return. Many of them have applied for government or municipal appointments, but have failed to get any encouragement. Our legislators would deserve the congratulations of the Lieutenant-Governor very much more liberally if they would interest themselves in seeing that these claimants on the public gratitude received their promised and well-merited rewards.

VICTORIA & SIDNEY RAILWAY

Trains will run between Central Station Victoria, and Sidney as follows:

DAILY:

Leave Victoria at	8.00 a. m.	4.00 p. m.
" Sidney at	9.00 "	5.45 "

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY:

Leave Victoria at	8.00 a. m.	2.00 p. m.
" Sidney at	9.00 "	5.45 "

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Special Sunday Excursion to Crofton leaves Victoria 9 a. m.
Fare, round trip, $1.50

J. ANDERSON, General Manager.

Crofton Up to Date.

BUILDING ACTIVITY IN THE TOWN.

OF five new dwelling houses being erected—two on Queen street and three on Robert street, at the smelter end—four have already been rented, and will be tenanted as soon as construction is completed. All will be ready for occupation within a week or two. Mr. Croft is also erecting four new cottages on Arthur Street, just behind York Avenue. The building of other dwelling houses is also under consideration. This work cannot be commenced too soon, for at the stage at which the smelter construction has already arrived, smelter employees are arriving almost daily, and the demand for house room will be more and more imperative. As an investment the outlay of a few hundreds or thousands of dollars on small living houses at the present moment should return immediate dividends. The three small houses which Mr. C. W. Dunne had the enterprise to erect on his lots on King Street, some time ago, are already let and in the way to return him rents.

CLEANING UP THE STREETS.

All the main streets are now being cleaned up, and the lots adjoining or in the neighbourhood of the present built-over portions of the town are being cleared and burnt, in order to prevent the spread of possible bush fires. There have been two or three small fires during the week. Joan Avenue is now entirely cleared of stumps and is a fine thoroughfare, with sidewalks and a much improved roadway.

PROGRESS OF THE SMELTER CONSTRUCTION.

The furnace and converter houses have now been framed; the feed and furnace floors of the former are practically completed. In the sampling house most of the machinery has already been installed, and very heavy material has been hoisted up even to the fifth and sixth floors of this massive structure. In the engine house, portions of the engine are in position; the Connesville blowers have also been placed. The boiler-house has long been completed and furnished with its three boilers and iron boiler-stack. The assay office, lately commenced, is now nearly completed, with three side rooms, and two others where are already built up the muffler furnace and sand bath, etc. The big stack is over 85 feet high, and progressing. The contractors for the construction will probably be done with their work well within thirty days.

THE RECREATION GROUND.

The ground where the baseball practice matches are being held every evening is at the back of the smelter reserve. Willing hands have cleared and levelled it as far possible, and the hope is that it may be feasible to make further improvement and create a permanent recreation ground. The smelter company are making a tennis ground close by.

NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

A new long-distance telephone wire is being laid from Crofton to Westholme, and this, when completed, will make direct communication from Crofton to Victoria or any other point on the long-distance system possible. At present the connection is broken at Mr. Menzies' place at Westholme, where messages have to be re-transmitted. Mr. E. Castley, of Duncans, has the contract for the work, and most of the new telephone poles are already in place. Another week will probably see the completion of this important work.

LOCAL NOTES.

The baseball team are now, thanks to liberal subscriptions, fairly well outfitted in all except bats.

Mr. H. C. Bellinger, director of the Northwestern Smelting & Refining Co., left for Victoria on Monday.

The whole of the Utah Press Association excursionists, to the number of fifty registered at the Crofton Hotel last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have taken one of Mr. Dunne's cottages on King Street. Mr. Anderson is electrician to the smelter company.

Another dance will be held on Salt Spring Island on the 1st July. This will be under new and better management than the last, and promises to be a most enjoyable affair. Guests are freely invited.

At the Crofton Hotel during the week have been registered: Mr. and Mrs. Dresser, from Mercur; Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Cameron, and Messrs. L. G. McQuade and W. S. Fraser, of Victoria; George A. Walkem, of Vancouver; W. H. Brown, of Orillia; N. S. and W. S. Henry Jr., of Harperville, Man.

Mr. Jansen has taken over the Sidney Hotel from Mr. Dawson, for whom Mr. Norris has been managing. The house-warming will be on Saturday next.

Mr. George Rae, of Vancouver, who has been building the big smokestack at the Crofton smelter, has gone to Victoria on business connected with the work.

Mrs. E. Davis, of the well-known firm of Messrs. Davis Bros., of Government Street, returned to Victoria on Monday, after spending a week at the Osborne Hotel.

Mrs. Elsworthy, who has been in Crofton a week, is so pleased with the place that she has decided to remain another week. She is staying at the Osborne Hotel.

The first dance took place in Crofton on Friday night. The boat from Nanaimo being very late, the excursionists joined with Croftonians in a very pleasant social "hop," the music being supplied by Mr. A. White.

Keast's Livery Stable.

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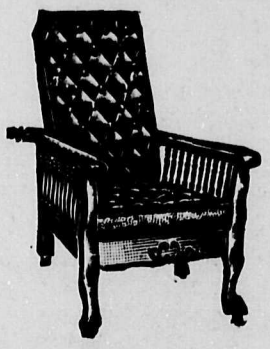

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Duncans and Cowichan Local News.

THE CORONATION CELEBRATION.

FINAL arrangements have been perfected for the Cowichan celebration this day of the crowning of King Edward VII. The Sports and Finance committees have held several meetings, and the Reception Committee has made every preparation for entertaining numerous visitors. The following programme of events will testify to the interest of the day's proceedings:

At 8 a. m. every man possessing a gun will fire a salute.

At 10:45 a. m. a coronation service will be held at St. Peter's Church, Quamichan, to be officially attended by the Reeve and Councillors of the municipality, as well as the friendly societies and the public of all denominations.

At 12:30 p. m. there will be a basket picnic taken on the Recreation Ground if the day is fine, or in the Agricultural Hall should the day be wet.

At 2 p. m. a baseball match will be played between the Duncans Diehards and the Crofton Crushers. This is expected to be a most exciting contest, and both sides are eager for the fray. The prize will be $10 worth of baseball goods to the winners. The teams chosen are:

Duncans Diehards—Dr. D. G. Perry (captain), shortstop; Mr. Andy Peterson, pitcher; Mr. Arthur L. Spear, catcher; Mr. O. Smythe, first base; Mr. William Gatt, second base; Mr. P. C. Peterson, third base; Mr. C. Grassie, right field; Mr. L. Smythe, centre field; Mr. A. H. Lomas, left field; Mr. D. Alexander Jr., spare man.

Crofton Crushers—Mr. W. J. Wriglesworth (captain), pitcher; Mr. G. W. Watkinson, catcher; Mr. Bass, shortstop; Mr. J. W. McDonald, first base; Mr. Frank Young, second base; Rev. W. N. Carr, third base; and Messrs. P. Gilchrist, H. Sword and McIlmoyl, fielders.

A few alterations may, however, be made at the last moment. Mr. C. H. Dickie, M. P. P., has very kindly consented to umpire the game.

At 3 p. m. the old English and athletic sports will begin. These include:

	Prizes— First.	Second.
100-yard flat race	$3 00	$1 50
Bun-and-treacle contest	2 00	1 00
Running high jump	3 00	1 50
Walking greased pole	5 00	2 00
100-yard flat race (handicap), for boys under 14 years	1 00	50
Grinning through horse collar	3 00	1 50
Pole jump	3 00	1 50
75-yard flat race (handicap), for girls under 14 years	1 00	50
Jockey race	3 00	1 50
Steeplechase (the course to cross the river)	5 00	2 00
Egg-and-spoon race (handicap), for girls under 14 years	1 00	50
Wheelbarrow race	3 00	1 50
Potato race (handicap), for boys under 14 years	1 00	50
Siamese race	3 00	1 50
Tug-of-war, 12 ladies vs. 6 gentlemen—Prize	Box of candies or box of cigars	

The "Crofton Gazette" has also placed at the disposal of the Sports Committee a ping-pong set, value $6, to be given as a prize during the meeting.

At 9 p. m. a great bonfire will be lighted on the peak of Mount Prevost, and this will be a beacon to all the country round, for at least twenty-five or thirty miles. There will, moreover, be a bonfire at Duncans, and probably fireworks and a ball.

Mr. James Norcross, as Hon. Secretary, has issued a large number of posters, setting forth the well-filled programme, and no doubt large numbers of visitors, as well as residents, will attend. Croftonians will assuredly be present in great force, if only to watch the prowess of their ball team. All are assured of a hearty welcome.

ELECTION OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE.

A public meeting of the resident householders and freeholders of Duncans School District will be held on Saturday, 28th instant, at the School House, Duncans, at 11 a. m., for the purpose of electing a fit and proper person to serve as school trustee in place of Mr. W. C. Duncan, whose office is about to expire. The meeting has been called by Mr. James Evans, Secretary of the School Board.

MASONIC HONOURS FOR A DUNCANITE.

At the Grand Lodge of Free Masons held in Victoria last week, Mr. Harry Smith was the recipient of the very high honour of being appointed District Deputy Grand Master. Mr. Harry Smith's name is a household word in the Cowichan district, for which he has done great work as exploiter, merchant and mine-owner, and congratulations have been very general on the new honour that has been bestowed upon him.

POLICE NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that I have impounded one white and roan bull, about three years old, which was unlawfully at large on Cowichan Flats. If within ten days the owner shall not reclaim and pay all fees, costs of arrest, maintenance and detention of same, it will be sold.

A. H. LOMAS,
Provincial Constable.

Government Office, 28th June, 1902.

LOCAL NOTES.

A very pleasant social dance was held at Chemainus Hall on Tuesday last.

Mr. N. Parks, shoemaker, late of Mount Sicker, has started a shop at Duncans, where good work may be relied on.

Messrs. Arthur Evans and Alex. Blythe, both of Somenos, are building the big coronation night bonfire on Mount Prevost.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Blythe and family, of Duncans, have been spending some time at Shawnigan Lake, enjoying the change of air and scene.

Messrs. Warwick and Saunders, of Victoria, secured a 28-pound salmon (a beautiful, well-formed fish) near the mouth of the Cowichan River last week.

The baseball game is assured of fair play and judicious direction in the fact that Mr. Charles Dickie, our popular M. P. P., has kindly consented to act as umpire.

Mr. Fred. Nelson, of the Quamichan Hotel, Duncans, and Mrs. Nelson have been on a business visit to Victoria. Mr. Nelson has postponed his housewarming ball until next month.

Twenty-six scholars in all from various school districts came to Duncans to be examined for entrance to the High School. The result of the examinations will not be known until August.

Mrs. Rogers, wife of Mr. James Rogers, the worthy proprietor of the Alderlea Hotel, Duncans, has just returned from a few weeks' visit to the Sound. She brought over her other two daughters.

Mr. H. de M. Mellin, Secretary-Treasurer of the Agricultural Society, is calling for tenders for improvements to cattle sheds and sheep pens, etc., within the Agricultural Hall grounds at Duncans.

Mr. R. H. Whidden has moved into his new shop on the Government road, nearly opposite Mr. C. Bazett's store. Mr. Whidden is an old resident in the district, and well known for his excellent work. He announces that he is now prepared in his new premises to undertake all kinds of wheel and carriage work, as also the construction of coffins, etc., and wooden headstones, lettered.

NEW LABOUR WEEKLY.

It is announced that Mr. H. Buckle is about to start immediately a new weekly newspaper, to be devoted to the labour interests of the whole of Vancouver Island. It will be called the "Clarion," and will be published at Nanaimo. Mr. Norcross, late of the "Daily Herald," will be associated with the new publication.

FOR SALE.

Clydesdale colt, one year old, by "Newnham."
A. R. Wilson, Duncans.

FOR SALE.

Second-hand bed-lounge, in good condition; also second-hand baby carriage. Apply Duncans Emporium.

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Housekeeper; must be an experienced cook. Apply to Price Bros., Duncans.

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THE BASS SEASON.

THIS is the month when, as soon as the law permits, which in most sections is June 1st or 15th, the bass, as a candidate for popular favour among bait casters, has the first call. The rapidity of its growth, its pugnacious nature, endurance as a fighter; and its gameness when hooked all tend to contribute to the appreciation and esteem in which it is held. There are only two distinct species of black bass, namely, the small mouth and the large mouth, commonly called the green or Oswego bass.

During June, by following the edges of the deep weeds, one should be favoured with luck, and as the summer advances and the shore water gets too warm, deeper water and holes where the temperature of the water is lower must be sought.

With the modern fishing tackle and the dexterity required in employing it, bait-casting has developed into no mean science. Sportsmen cannot keenly relish fishing until they have mastered the art, and once mastered will never again have recourse to the primitive methods employed by the uninitiated. Too many of our modern anglers are not informed on this point, and hence are deprived of a large share of the pleasure that fishing affords. The bait-caster is an acute observer and a close student of nature, as well as a lover of fish. He is always positive; he is not theoretical; he does not go fishing — he is an "angler."

To become a successful bait-caster it is necessary to have a well-arranged assortment of tackle, especially designed for the purpose, which, when in use, gives the angler only supreme satisfaction. The end the seeker of this pastime has in view is the perfect conception of how to delicately cast a quarter-ounce bait from 75 to 100 feet accurately with a rod (not a pole) from 6 feet to 8 feet 6 inches in length, and weighing not more than seven ounces, using a free-running quadruple-multiplying reel, capable of spooling 50 yards of fine silk line.

The rudimtntary principles of bait-casting are getting the line out without allowing it to overrun the reel, which can be done by properly thumbing it and spooling and retrieving the line.

There are three styles in casting the bait, known as the right-to-left, left-to-right, and forward casts. Arm force is not the essential feature in making a cast, the wrist and forearm being the only motive power needed, while the main reliance should be placed in the spring of the rod to quietly and delicately throw the bait. The rod in the cast from right to left is held at a side angle of 35 degrees, with the elbow nearly touching the body. As the rod and bait rise on the first part of the circle, with the thumb pressing lightly the spool to prevent the line from running out too rapidly, to be sure to take advantage of the upward spring of the rod and let the bait go, for by holding the line until the tip of the rod has reached the 45 degree angle on the opposite side from the start, the bait will be thrown down, instead of up and forward.

The same principle applies in the left-to-right cast, the only difference being back-hand motion, which may seem more difficult to master. There is much fancy in this, however, for with a little patience and perseverance it can be readily accomplished. The forward cast is used more in wading a lake or stream than from a boat, and the bait is started from the rear, with the rod pointing directly over the shoulder at the same angle as is used in making the other casts. Casting should be practised with the left as well as with the right hand, and anglers will find it a most desirable acquisition.—Field and Stream.

EUROPEAN PROSPECTS FOR CANADIAN COAL.

Partly no doubt owing to the fluctuations, both in price and supply, of English and Continental coal, large European consumers are turning their eyes to the advantages of Canada as a base of supply. The Swedish state railways have come to the conclusion that they can get coal a shilling or two cheaper, and at the same time suitable for their requirements, direct from Canada, and are making a trial shipment of 7,000 tons.

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