The Semiahmoo Gazette

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WHITE ROCK LADIES SHOW HISTRIONIC ABILITY

Charmingly Display Characters, Costumes and Customs of Old Time Comedy.

With Mohawk crossroads as the place, the nineteenth century as the time, and twenty twentieth century ladies in Victorian era costumes as the artists, White Rock, on the evening of the 12th inst., witnessed an amateur performance of an amusing comedy presented in a style which would have done credit to a much larger center.

The title of the production explains the story, "An Old Time Ladies' Aid Business Meeting" and the characters ranged from a high society visitor from Boston city to Mary Jane, the maid of all work; from the nervous young mother to the strong-minded suffragette. The cast also included a village gossip, a sour old maid, a kindly matron, a very deaf lady and other dispositions found amongst communities even in this twentieth century.

It would be invidous to specialize the degrees of talent amongst so many differing qualities of proficiency, but those which stood out prominently may be more particularly mentioned.

Mrs. David Hughes, as Mrs. Green, the hostess, made it evident to the audience that she understood the art of "receiving" the Ladies' Aid society in her own home as well as on the stage.

Mrs. F. J. MacKenzie's delicate handling and portrayal of an ultra-society Bostonian proved her capable of coping with difficulties. In less tactful hands the character would have missed fire.

Miss Aldwyth Ireland, as Mary Jane, would prove a good draw in any professional company, whilst Mrs. R. C. Thompson amply filled the role of "Madam President."

Mrs. Rickard's pleasing personality was well disguised in the vinegary villarge old maid, and Mrs. F. A. Ferguson displayed sweet geniality both of voice and expression suitable to the lines of Mrs. Kindly.

Miss Simon's enunciation as Mrs. Hoyt is to be commended, and Mrs. Philips as the deaf Mrs. Harris, not forgetting Mrs. Crowler's oft mentioned husband (as played by Mrs. W. E. Johnston) all caused ripples of smiles and applause from the audience which changed into waves of laughter and hand clapping when the militant suffragette, Mrs. Christina Hawthorn-Sands, spoke her vigorous lines.

Mrs. F. W. Leeson, the cross-roads society secretary, put on the needful air of importance. Mrs. L. E. Carlisle, as Mrs. Scott, the Misses R. and M. Thrift as Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Brents as Mrs. Wise, Mrs. Roach as Mrs. Black, Miss Greyell as Mrs. Kane and Mrs. W. Finch as Mrs. Lowell did good work, as also did Miss McLeod as Mrs. Brown, the tired Yankee.

The stage setting was well in keeping with the play and it may be noted that several articles of property used were over 100 years old. The costumes of the ladies—but what mere man can describe a lady's costume in suitable language? It must suffice to say that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed with the taste and effect displayed on this ocasion by the White Rock fair sex.

A program of vocal and instrumental selections during the proceedings added the variety which charms and amongst the items of songs given by Mrs. J. W. Hetherington, formerly of the grand opera stage in England, stood out prominently.

Mrs. Hetherington has a rich, well trained contralto, of wide range, and her rendition of Roeckel's "Angus Macdonald" was a musical treat. In response to an enthusiastic encore the singer delighted the audience with Hullah's 'Three Fishers."

Mr. George Huckin won an encore by his fine baritone voice and Mrs. C. E. Sands met with a hearty reception by singing "Comin' Thro' the Rye," giving two verses of "Home Sweet Home" as an encore. Mrs Ferguson brought out the full tones of the organ with her solo.

Mrs. F. W. Leeson pleased with "A Winter Lullaby"; the Misses Thrift tickled the house with " Grandma's Day"; Miss Edna Greyell sang an old favorite, "The River of Years" and Mr. Rickard another time honored melody entitled "Old Marjery."

"The Flag of England," adapted for the occasion from Kipling's poem, rendered as a recitation by Mr. C. F. Sands assisted by Miss Irene Thrift, personating Her Britannic Majesty, proved effective.

The evening's enjoyment was brought to a close by the whole company grouping round the figure of Britannia with the Union Jack and singing the national anthem.

Thanks to the kind efforts of Mr. G. Huckin, both organ and pianoforte were available for the affair whilst Mrs. F. J. Mackenzie and Mrs. Hetherton divided the task of accompanist between them.

South Surry Conservatives Hold Session at White Rock.

A well attended meeting of the South Surrey Conservative Association took place recently at White Rock. Representatives from Vancouver, New Westminster, Hall's Prairie and other points were present.

The meeting endorsed a petition which is being circulated, asking the Minister of Public Works at Victoria for an early completion, if possible, of the two-mile connecting link on the Johnston road work, and, especially in view of the unemployment and labor conditions, that the North Bluff road work be continued. A copy of the petition was ordered to be sent to Mr. F. J. MacKenzie, M. P. P., at Victoria, as well as to the Public Works department.

In view of the fact that there are a number of competent local men out of work, and in view of the further fact that there are a number of United States citizens and non-residents employed in a local industry, the secretary of the association was instructed to communicate direct to the Immigration Department at Ottawa, giving details, and to furnish J. D. Taylor, M. P., and F. J. MacKenzie, M. P. P. with copies of the letter.

Mr. Geo. Huckin and Mr. H. Latham brought up the subject of muncipal elections, especially in regard to the large number of names omitted from the 1915 voters' list of Surrey municipality.

The secretary was instructed to obtain through the local member a copy of the Municipal Clauses Act, and a committee was appointed to look into the matter to obtain data in regard to the muncipal voters' lists.

Amongst the visiting members was Mr. A. Vashon, of Vancouver.

One Hundred Years

February 16, 1815 —of— February 16, 1915

Declaration Ratified **Peace** **Still in Force**

The British Empire——and——The United States

Cousin Canuck——and——Uncle Sam

"Two Nations great and free, Trusting, O Lord; in Thee;
Strong to defend the right, Pledged never more to fight."

BASEBALL.

The White Rock school baseball team challenged the Blaine boys to a match and won the game by a score of 16 to 7. The return match will be played in Blaine next Saturday. The White Rock line-up was as follows:

Norman Philp, pitcher; Greg. Wilkinson, catcher; Gordon Cottingham, first base; Bernie Charles, second base; Morley Philp, third base; Charles Thompson, Douglas Davey, Alec Dennis, Billy Randall, fielders.

Quite a number of grown-ups witnessed the game at White Rock and pronounced the playing of the home boys to be excellent and their success against the heavier Blaine team was due to spirited work.

VISITORS DEBATE.

An interesting debate took place in the lodge room of the Semiahmoo Orange Order. The meeting was an open one and number of White Rock residents attended. The Orange boys from the Hazelmere lodge were the particular guests and they maintained that country life was preferable to city life. White Rock members spoke for the city folk but the judges and umpire, in which latter position Mr. Nels Nelson of New Westminster acted, gave the decision that the visitors gained their point both by the force of their arguments and in the manner of delivery.

ANOTHER DEBATE.

The members of the Hall's Prairie Social Club will be entertained by the White Rock Club on Saturday evening, the 27th inst. An interesting debate on a popular subject will then take place.

ORANGE LODGE DEBATE.

The ladies of White Rock will try their debating powers against the men of the community—in public—at an open meeting of the Orange Lodge on Saturday, March 6. The subject is at present a secret between the two opposing teams. The betting so far favors the ladies.

A HARD TIME DANCE.

Mr. George Huckin is arranging to hold a Hard Time Dance early in March. It is understood that the hall of the White Rock hotel will be the place and that an excellent orchestra has been booked for the occasion.

CHANGE OF MERCHANTS.

Mr. H. V. Parr, the well known Cloverdale merchant, has taken over the stock and business formerly conducted by M. Beber at Hazelmere and Mr. Smith is in charge of the store as manager.

LOCAL NOTES.

Customs Officer A. A. Porter, who has been on the staff of the White Rock department for about two years, has been transferred to the Midway, B. C. office. Mr. Porter assumed his new duties this week and, to the regret of many friends at White Rock, he and his wife and family removed to Midway last Saturday.

Miss Ethel Short and Mr. Harry T. Sheppard, both of White Rock, were united in marriage on Friday, February 12. The ceremony took place in Vancouver with Mr. W. Finch as best man. The wedding party journeyed to town by the White Rock auto service, and on their return took up residence on Mr. Sheppard's ranch. Mrs. Sheppard, Sr., has removed to the new house recently erected just adjacent to the home of her son.

Mr. Wheeler, Mr. H. Eagleson, Mrs. Hawkins and several other Vancouver people were visitors to White Rock this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Brents have taken up their residence in the P. C. Young house, Sea Front road. Mr. Brents is attached to the staff of the G. N. depot.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Stewart from New Westminster were recent visitors to Ardgowan, their summer residence on Victoria avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Stovel of New Westminster are frequently down at Alowa, their sea front cottage.

Mr. and Mrs. George Blakeley, Capt. Fenton, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Nelson, Ald Bryson, Mr. V. Heber-Brown, the Messrs. Biggar brothers, Mr. H. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Brown, Mr. H. Hutton, Mr. C. Smith and others from New Westminster were White Rock visitors this month

Officer Ferguson of the local customs staff has been under the doctor's hands for some time but is now on the convalescent list.

Mr. E. H. Sands, who formerly acted as representative of the townsite company at White Rock, has secured a lease of the Wheeler ranch on the Campbell road, where his family will shortly take up its residence.

WHITE ROCK COTTAGE

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CHARLES E. SANDS,
Editor and Owner

SIR CECIL SPRING-RICE, K. C. M. G.

The post of British ambassador at Washington may be regarded as the most important office in the diplomatic service of King George, even in times of peace, at this juncture Sir Cecil Spring-Rice needs all that breadth of view, all the level-headedness and the exceptional tactful qualities with which he is endowed in order to steer a clear course through the complexity of questions which are daily arising in connection with the present war.

Sir Cecil is no stranger at Washington, in fact, his diplomatic career began there, and he has a great liking for everything American. He has held office in Petrograd, Teheran, Stockholm and is perhaps the only British ambassador who is a foreign office man.

Lady Spring-Rice is the only daughter of Sir Frank Cavendish Lascells, a veteran of the English diplomatic service, whilst Sir Cecil comes from a noted Irish family closely allied to several houses of the Isle of Erin.

A PRESCRIPTION

Germany Is Tasting It These Days.

Baseball.

Take a little touch of English,
Only just a little bit;
Mix it well with Scotland's muscle,
Add a little Irish grit.
Then of Welsh one tablespoonful,
Shake it well and it's complete;
And you call the mixture Britain,
And it's damned hard stuff to beat!
—From John Bull.

WHITE ROCK SCHOOL GROUNDS.

Our recently elected school trustee, Mr. J. Brannigan, has secured a grant from the Surrey trustees for the purpose of laying out the acreage belonging to and surrounding the White Rock school. The municipal engineer has been down to plan the work and arrange for the contract to be let. The well drillers are at last working at this important job in real earnest.

OLD RESIDENT OF SURREY PASSES

The death in New Westminster is announced of Jos. Solomon Pepin, a resident of the district for the past 28 years. Deceased, who was 72 years old, had been in the city for the last three years. Prior to his coming here he was engaged in farming at Hall's Prairie. He is survived by five daughters, Mrs. Harry Carrol, of New Westminster; Mrs. Jack Farrell, of Fraser Mills; Mrs. Thos. Adair, of Sperling; Mrs. C. Olsen and Mrs. John Larston, of Blaine, and a son, Mr. Thos. A. Pepin, residing at Birch Bay, Wash.

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Electric Shoe Shop
Next to Hawkins & Agee, Blaine
H. LAPIDUS, Prop.

LOCAL NOTES.

The Rev. Mr. Crux from New Westminster, who is a summer visitor to the beaches of White Rock during the season, delighted his friends and pleased a large audience in the White Rock church hall recently by delivering one of his popular lectures here.

FURNITURE FOR SALE—Bed springs, stoves, chairs, crockery and household sundries for sale. On view at Beach Cottage, Sea Front Road, White Rock.

The Great Northern railway is now using the new steel coach in their Portland-Vancouver trains 356, 357, 358 and 359, making trip more pleasant and considerably safer. Seating room in these new cars for eight-one persons, comfortably, being considerably larger cars than the old style of passenger equipment.

Mr. J. Brown and family, recently of Vancouver, have rented 'Rocklands, 2", adjacent to the office of the Semiahmoo Gazette and Mr. Davis and family are now occupying "Glendower," the former residence of Rev. A. B. Owen. It is understood that Mr. Owen has accepted a call to the Reformed Episcopal church at Victoria.

The White Rock Company No. 2, Imperial Reserves, headed by the White Rock band, held church parade last Sunday.

The public crossing to the government pier and wharf at White Rock was constructed last week under the orders of the public works department, directed by Engineer Gross and Mr. Trodden, Sr.

Mrs. R. C. Thompson held an afternoon reception on Saturday last at her residence, Victoria avenue, in honor of her sister, Mrs. T. D. Tucker of Hall's Prairie, who has been visiting her for a few days.

The Rev. Mr. Matthews, missionary delegate, preached a short sermon on foreign missions at the White Rock church last Sunday and the Rev. Mr. Baldersten gave an address on the "Peace" question.

BORN—To Mr and Mrs A S Vachon at Vancouver, Feb. 13, a son.