

Salt Spring Island Parish and Home

NOVEMBER, 1896.

The event of the month on Salt Spring Island was the Agricultural Show which was held in the new Public Hall and a field adjoining on Wednesday, Oct. 14th. The day was a perfect one, and there was a large assemblage of both old and young from all parts of the Island, beside a number of visitors from the other islands and from Victoria. Our very limited space prevents our giving the prize list, and we can only refer very briefly to the various matters of interest.

The one thing that would strike a stranger above all others would probably be the magnificent display of fruit. It was unfortunately too late for plums; but apples of some twenty-five different kinds and pears of some seven or eight varieties of various sizes and colours covered thickly the long white tables down the centre of the Hall, making a most tempting show, while along the two sides of the room were arrayed sacks of grain, immense turnips and mangolds, beets, potatoes, onions, sweet corn, tomatoes, melons, citrons, celery, etc. There were also several separate collections of garden vegetables, one of which contained forty-four different articles of garden produce. At the end of the Hall, on the raised platform, were displayed the home made jams and jellies and canned fruits, also loaves of bread, butter and eggs, cut and pot flowers, besides specimens of ladies' work.

Outside the Hall, in a field kindly loaned for the purpose by Mr. Broadwell, were a number of horses and ponies in extemporized stalls, and in another part of the field were a few horned cattle and some pens for pigs and sheep, the latter unoccupied except by a small boy who sat swinging his legs on the board fence. Next year, no doubt there will be a fine array of milch cows, sheep and swine. In the old log school house, close to the Hall, lunch was provided for those who desired it, and in the school enclosure was a fine lot of beautiful Scotch collies, besides some pens of turkeys, ducks and other feathered fowl.

There was no flagging of interest all through the day; every hour something or other was going on. While the judges were making their rounds in the forenoon, the equestrian competition took place—both gentlemen and lady riders and single and double driving. At two o'clock, the judging being completed, the exhibition, at the request of the president, was formally opened by the Rev. E. F. Wilson, and the doors of the Hall thrown open. Later in the afternoon there were horse racing and foot racing, and perhaps the greatest attraction of all was the baby show. Two bachelors were the judges; they dangled the babies one by one in their arms and weighed them in the scales, and finally the first prize was awarded to a baby two months old, weighing sixteen pounds, and the second prize to one of three and a half months, weighing eighteen and three-quarter pounds—both were girls. About six p.m. the exhibition broke up, and

visitors began departing for their homes, all well pleased with this first attempt at an agricultural show on Salt Spring Island.

His Lordship the Bishop of Columbia consecrated St. Mary's Church burial ground, Fulford Harbour, on Sunday, Oct., 11th, and also administered the rite of confirmation.

Three new buildings make quite a change in the appearance of the valley. They are the new school house, Mr. Collins' creamery and Mr. Edwards' general store.

Johnny Collins had a very narrow escape on the 17th ult.; his gun, loaded with buckshot, went off accidentally and sent eight shot through the fleshy part of his arm, besides peppering his face with the powder. The wound is healing nicely, and he is already about again.

HOME SUNDAY SCHOOL, *November 15th.*—Joshua (1) How did the two spies escape from Jericho? (2) What river did the Israelites cross over? (3) What happened to Jericho? (4) Who was stoned to death, and why? Text, Ephes. vi., 1. *November 22nd.*—Acts. (1) Who was stoned to death? (2) Who heard Jesus speaking from Heaven? (3) Who put Peter in prison? (4) How did Peter escape from prison? Text, Isaiah lv., 6. *November 29th.*—Judges. (1) What did the angel say to Gideon? (2) How many men fought against the Midianites? (3) What did they do with their lamps and pitchers? (4) What great things did Samson do? Text, 1st Thess. v., 2. *December 6th.*—St. Matthew. (1) How were the wise men guided to Bethlehem? (2) What was John the Baptist's food? (3) What did Jesus say to the leper? (4) Tell about Jesus walking on the sea. Text, Matt., xxiv., 27.

Weather report for September—Kuper Island: Mean temperature for the month, 51.3; max., 80.7 on the 4th; min., 35.4 on the 27th; mean bright sunshine, .223; days completely clouded, 14; rainfall, .33. Dense smoke prevailed during the month.

Eight boxes of fruit and vegetables were forwarded to the Jubilee Hospital from St. Mark's Church, after the thanksgiving service. There was also a contribution from St. Mary's Church.

Mr. H. W. Bullock, churchwarden, has presented St. Mark's Church with choir seats.

Guy Fawkes is to be burned on the 5th. The old Vesuvius school house has been pulled down, and the logs and shakes piled up to make a huge bonfire.

One of our ranchers, while out deer shooting, had the misfortune to kill a neighbour's colt. Damages were demanded, and the affair amicably settled.