

Salt Spring Island Parish and Home

SEPTEMBER, 1897.

Very hot weather was experienced in the latter part of August, the glass rising on one day to 95 degrees in the shade.

✓ Don't give up the idea of a local steamboat. Pound at it till we get it. A more frequent mail service and fruit to market before it spoils.

Mrs. Fred Raynes gave birth to an infant son August 14th. Being sickly* it was baptized by the Rev. E. F. Wilson when a few days old, and since then the child has died.

Might not a new name be chosen for the vicinity of the Public Hall? It is a misnomer to call it Vesuvius, and "Central Settlement" is too cumbrous.

✓ Mr. Maxwell, one of the oldest pioneer settlers on Salt Spring Island, died in the Jubilee Hospital, August 23rd, from cancer of the stomach. His body was brought back to the Island for interment.

Harvest Thanksgiving services will be held Sunday, October 3rd (the Sunday after the Agricultural Show), St. Marks 11 a.m., St. Mary's 7:30 p.m. Fruit, &c., used in decorating the churches will be sent to the Jubilee Hospital.

HOME SUNDAY SCHOOL: The result of the examination at the close of the first year of the Home Sunday School will be given in the October number of PARISH AND HOME. The Sunday School work will be recommenced October 17th.

There is still a little debt on the "Vicarage," Fulford Harbour. The donations, besides those first acknowledged, have been, Miss Greaves, £1; Rev. C. E. Cooper, \$5; Mrs. Walker, £1; Rev. W. Martin, £1. To pay all off \$27.40 is still required.

The fruit crop in most of the orchards is very good this year; the yield of plums, pears and apples is abundant. It is a pity that market facilities are not yet improved. Salt Spring farmers pack their fruit and ship it to Victoria and Nanaimo and Union, depending entirely on the grocers with whom they deal either to pay them in cash for what they send or to credit them on their books for value received. They have no say in the matter as to what the price is to be, but just have to take what the grocers give them; and once in a while it happens that the market is overstocked and the grocer dumps the fruit on to his rubbish heap and allows the farmer nothing. The farmer too is expected to pay freight and wharfage both on the fruit and other produce that he sends down, and also on the flour and groceries that he receives back in exchange.

Mr. Broadwell marketed 2,200 pounds of black currants this season. Mr. A. A. Berrow shipped upwards of a ton of strawberries.

Several of our Salt Spring Island settlers contemplate removal to the Klondyke regions next spring. Possibly the idea may be frozen out of them before that time comes.

Subscribers to PARISH AND HOME are steadily on the increase. Those who are in arrear for the year now drawing to a close will much oblige by kindly paying in their subscriptions.

WEATHER REPORT FOR JULY — Kuper Island: Mean temperature for the month 59.9, max. (on the 10th) 83.2, min. (on the 25th) 45; mean proportion of bright sunshine 47, max. daily amount (on the 28th) 85; days completely clouded 1; rainfall 2.17 inches.

Wolves, panthers and bears formerly abounded on Salt Spring Island. The last wolves were disposed of twenty years ago. The last bear, a big fellow, who had killed six fat hogs, was shot by our member, Mr. Booth, fourteen years ago. The last panther fell to G. E. Akerman's gun two years ago.

The annual exhibition of the Islands' Agricultural and Fruit Growers' Association will be held at the Public Hall, Vesuvius, on Wednesday, September 29th. The present officers of the Association are J. P. Booth, M.P.P., President; Theo. Trage, Vice-President; P. Purvis, Secretary; J. T. Collins, Treasurer. The Directorate includes the following names: W. E. Scott, Joseph Nightingale, James Chalmers, Rev. E. F. Wilson, G. E. Akerman, J. Pappenberger, Ed. Rosman, T. W. Mouat, A. A. Berrow, William Caldwell, Henry Burchell, Wm. Grimmer, H. Macklin, W. T. Collinson, C. Bremer, John Richardson, H. L. Robertson. The divisions in which prizes will be awarded are fifteen in number, and comprise the following: 1, Cattle; 2, Horses; 3, Sheep; 4, Swine; 5, Poultry; 6, Dogs; 7, Dairy Produce, Eggs, Bread, Honey, Jams, &c.; 8, Vegetables; 9, Field Produce; 10, Fruit; 11, Flowers; 12, Ladies' Work (lace, wool-work, embroidery); 13, Ladies' Work (knitting and sewing); 14, Work by children under 15 years of age; 15, Work by children under 12 years of age. Attention is called to the following rule of the Society: "Members of the Society are entitled to free entries and admission to the grounds; no one but members will be allowed to compete for prizes." The membership fee is \$1, and tickets may be obtained on application to the Secretary. The prize list will be in the Secretary's hands ready for distribution, about three weeks before the show.