

Salt Spring Island Parish and Home

AUGUST, 1896.

Mr. John Scovell has gone to join his brother in Assam, and will not return to Salt Spring.

Three more babies since last issue and all of them girls. This makes thirteen since New Year.

Rev. G. W. Taylor has resigned the parish of St. Alban's, Nanaimo, and expects to live on Gabriola Island.

Several of our white residents and a large number of the Japs are off to the salmon fishing on the Fraser. Reports so far, of the run, are not very encouraging.

Weather report for June—Kuper Island: Max. tem., 57 on the 26th, min. tem., 35.3 on the 13th; average for the month, 57.3. Rainfall, 1.17 inches. Hail on the 9th; thunder on the 28th.

The new school on the Divide is approaching completion, and it is expected it will be ready for use by the time the summer holidays are over. A teacher has been advertised for and there have been a number of applications.

Messrs. Wakelin and A. Silverson had the misfortune to drop a tree on one of Mr. Mansell's cows while doing some slashing for him in June. The trouble has been settled by the payment of \$25.

BIBLE QUESTIONS—(See notice on third page of cover.) (1.) How many friends had Job? (2.) What verses in Job are read at funerals? (3.) What stars are named in Job xxxviii? (4.) What animals and birds in Job xxxix? The first received correct answers for June were: St. Mark's—Martha Rule; for July, St. Mark's—J. Broadwell, jr.; St. Mary's—Bertie Raines.

There are five patients from Salt Spring Island at present in the Jubilee Hospital: Mrs. Haskin, who has been operated on for tumor, Mrs. Bean, internal complaint; Mr. George Dukes, general debility; Mr. Gage, stiff knee joint, and lastly, the little boy, Tahony, who was kicked by a horse, June 25th, and had his skull broken open and the brain exposed, but is now recovering.

His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese will administer the rite of confirmation at St. Mary's Church, Pufford Harbour, on Sunday morning, August 9th, service to commence at 10:30 a.m. In the afternoon the Bishop will preach at St. Mark's Church, Vesuvius, service to commence at 4 p.m. Church members are invited to meet His Lordship at the Rev. E. F. Wilson's residence on Monday afternoon, August 10th, between 3 and 5 p.m.

Mr. H. Ruckle has a beautiful field of white wheat. He expects it will yield fifty bushels to the acre.

Messrs. Geoffry, Alfred and Frank Scott are all away to the Old Country for a few months' visit.

The Rev. E. C. Cooper, of Wellington, who has been in England since April, is expected home with his bride on the 16th inst.

The Oddfellows' picnic at Ganges Harbour, July 1st, was quite a success and passed off very pleasantly, although the attendance was not quite so large as last year.

The bicycling craze has already reached the Island. There are now riders of bicycles at Ganges, Vesuvius, Burgoyne and Beaver Point. Among other uses to which the wheel is put is that of bringing home the cows—but the cows walk rather too slowly to suit the bicyclist.

The annual meeting of the Diocesan Synod was held on the 21st and 22nd July, in the large room adjoining the Synod office at Angela College, Victoria. There was a good attendance of both clergy and laity. The lay delegate from Salt Spring Island was Mr. W. H. Bullock. The two most important matters occupying the time of the Synod were (1) the proposed introduction of the so-called "Quebec System" for the payment of ministers' stipends, (2) the question of religious teaching in public schools. As regards the first, it is to be optional with existing parishes as to whether or not they will adopt the "Quebec System." If adopted, the church offertories, instead of being paid by the churchwardens direct to their clergyman, will be forwarded once a quarter to the Synod office, and the clergyman will receive his whole stipend in regular quarterly payments from the Synod office. In order, however, for this to be effected, there must first be a definite agreement entered into between the churchwardens of a parish and the Synod officers as to the amount that will be raised and forwarded, and should the parishioners fail in raising and forwarding the stipulated amount there will be danger of their mission grant being withheld, and possibly the mission itself may be closed and the clergyman removed. As regards the second matter—that of religious teaching in public schools—a motion was put and carried, that a committee be formed to meet and confer with representatives of other religious bodies, and that the basis of conference as to the course of religious instruction be that every school be daily opened and closed with prayer, including the Lord's Prayer, that a portion of Scripture, without comment, be read daily, and that the pupils be taught to recite the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed.