

tremely pleasant neighborhood to live in, rural mail delivery, and a healthy, wholesome, happy environment for the rising generation.



Members of the Sooke Rifle Association Shooting on the Range

A rifle club and other similar institutions afford facilities for sports and amusements in addition to those already mentioned.

Sports and Pastimes at Sooke.—Endless facilities are offered for out-of-doors sport, in a delightful climate, amid picturesque scenery. The river, a beautiful stream, with a tidal estuary at its mouth, offers trout fishing and canoeing of the most attractive kind. The inlet, the basin and the straits offer further facilities for many varieties of fishing, boating and sailing. Good bathing and swimming are offered both in river and inlet. Smaller trout streams flow into the river or directly into the salt water. Clams and crabs are plentiful.

An Eminent Writer on Sooke.—The following description of Sooke is taken from the published works of Mr. Bonnycastle-Dale, the eminent field-naturalist and nature writer, to whose kindness the compilers of this booklet are indebted for many of the accompanying photographs:—

"Let me first of all attempt to describe this ruggedly magnificent harbour and inlet of Sooke. Picture to yourself a red-topped range of hills, a veritable sea of mighty waves petrified in full sweep that runs along past your limited vision for many miles. Clothe this almost to the summits with gigantic red and white firs and tall, noble cedars. Fill in all the valleys and bench lands with alder and scrub oak, bull pine, and sallal, salmon berry and wild rose bushes, drape all the half exposed ridges and summits with waving fern and clutching moss and lichen, people all this with wapiti and blacktail deer, black bear and cowardly panther. Cut up every mile of the shore into fantastic harbours, spit sheltered or rock guarded, some many