

"OUR INDUSTRIES"

1.—THE SIDNEY PACKING PLANT

From the sandbanks on the shores of our little peninsula and adjacent islands to an erstwhile resting place in the shipping room of the Sidney Packing Plant, is part of the final chapter in the lives of that succulent little shell fish commonly known as the clam, and in order to note the various processes through which they pass prior to reaching this place of rest, the writer secured the services of Mr. J. J. White, a member of the firm, who kindly acted as pilot on a tour of the plant.

On reaching the wharf our attention is attracted by the medley of craft anchored there, some waiting to be relieved of their cargo whilst others are in the midst of that operation, which is being performed by the Indians, who in these parts seem to be responsible for the greater part of the catch. No time, however, was allowed for weaving romances around these hardy sons and we passed into the plant to be met with clouds of steam, which plays an important part in the process of packing. Here the little shell fish get their first baptism for they are thrown into large tanks containing fresh water, which being strange to their taste, causes them to open and close their shells, which action expels any sand that might have collected there.

From these tanks they are put into revolving tubs where they are subjected to sprays of steam and where they are partially cooked, after which they are dumped into long troughs where they are quickly removed from their shells. But what

of the juice which has collected in the tubs? Let it be noted that the Sidney packers were the first in British Columbia to utilize this very essence of the fish they were packing, and so it is drawn off to be used later in the process.

After being removed from their shells the fish are thrown on a large table where in the hands of an operator better versed in the anatomy of a clam than the writer is, they are shorn of the parts not fit for consumption, after which operation they are thoroughly washed and then placed in cans, the latter being afterwards filled with juice from the tubs.

The full tins are then placed on large square trays and elevated to another floor and here the cap is soldered on. But our attention is called to the very small hole left open in this cap, which in the next process of immersion for about ten minutes in boiling water, allows the gasses to escape, after which the hole is soldered up. After this process, which is one of the important parts in the packing industry, the cans are placed in a large retort where they are subjected to a temperature of anywhere above 220° Fahr. They remain in this for two hours after which they are lacquered, labeled and put up in boxes. Here for a while our succulent friends will rest, but with an ever increasing demand for the delicacy their stay will not be a lengthy one for by rail and sea they will be carried to all parts of the globe advertising at once the place of their youth and demise.

"CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH SAANICH" IS NAME

(Continued from page one.)

mation, Secretary Eaton casting the necessary ballot.

The election of vice-presidents was then called for, the chairman making the suggestion that three be selected, one to be a resident of Sidney, one at Deep Cove and another at Bajan Bay. The meeting agreed to this and five names were presented to be balloted for: Messrs. F. North, H. North, K. Sproule, J. G. Billings and R. Scoles. On the ballot being taken it was found that the first three named were duly elected as first, second and third vice-presidents.

Nominations for secretary-treasurer were then called for, and in this instance as in that of the president, only one name was submitted and Mr. A. J. Eaton found himself elected to this position by acclamation.

The appointment of an executive was then proceeded with and the following eighteen names were presented in nomination: T. Harrison, F. Sproule, F. R. Davis, Barrow, J. B. Kelly, F. Morris, J. Neaves, R. F. Smith, F. Smith, G. J. Billings, J. Bryce, F. Wilkinson, Capt. L. Adamson, G. J. Brethour, G. Parks, W. Dick, P. Scholes and A. E. Moore.

On the recommendation of the chairman, who stated that an executive of this size was none too large for an organization of ninety-six members, and as this number would be very largely added to in the near future, he thought it advisable that the whole eighteen be elected by acclamation. After some discussion this advice was followed.

The association being now fully organized the chairman requested the newly elected president to take his place and transact the balance of the business. The first business done by President Harvey was the calling for the nomination and election of two delegates and two alternatives to attend the convention of the British Columbia Association to be held in Victoria on Friday and Saturday of this week. The names of President J. S. Harvey, Capt. L. Adamson, Mr. J. B. Kelly and Mr. F. North were presented. As this was the number called for these four gentlemen will arrange among themselves which two shall attend the convention as representatives of the association.

A short discussion on the name to be adopted by the new organization then took place. It was moved and seconded that the name be "The North Saanich Conservative Association. In amendment it was moved by A. E. Moore, seconded by F. North, that the old name be changed a little to read thus "The Conservative Association of North Saanich." The amendment was quite popular

and carried without a dissenting voice.

This closed the business for the evening and President Harvey called upon those present for a standing vote of thanks to Dr. Schardsmidh for the able manner in which he had conducted the arrangements for the evening.

A vote of confidence in the B. C. Conservative Association was also passed, as was also a vote of confidence in the member for this riding, Mr. W. W. Foster, which was responded to by all rising to their feet and singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

This brought the proceedings of the evening to a close and the large crowd broke up well satisfied that at last there had been organized in Sidney a Conservative Association that will be not only a credit to the town and North Saanich generally, but the whole of the Islands constituency as well.

—For an after dinner smoke. The Morena cigar.

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