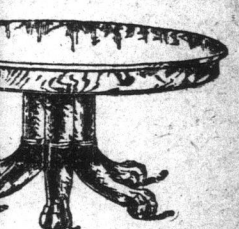


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ST. ANN'S ACADEMY

One of Victoria's Leading Educational Institutions

There occurred at St. Ann's Academy on Monday a very important and touching ceremony. Two venerable members of the order attained the fiftieth year of their profession as members of the Sisterhood. These aged sisters, one of whom is eighty-one and the other seventy-six years old, are the revered survivors of the first band of brave missionaries who founded the convent in this city. In 1838, few who visit the well-furnished St. Ann's Academy, and the well-equipped St. Joseph's Hospital, are aware that for these institutions Victoria is indebted to the tireless zeal of these heroic sisters, who almost a half century ago began their work in the little cabin still standing on South Park street.

The accompanying view of the splendidly-conducted Academy is of special interest. The school is embellished by its fine grounds and avenue of beautiful trees leading to the main entrance, a charming and healthful. The building is a brick structure, from the verandas a beautiful view of the Parliament Buildings, the city, and the harbor can be obtained. The school is situated on a hill, and the pupils enjoy the invigorating sea air in their daily outings for health and pleasure.

Whilst in the city, the school is yet out of it, thus enjoying the needful seclusion for conventual life, the silence and pleasing environment of which must needs contribute to close study on the pupils' part, for when one is in earnest, who is not glad to escape the distractions of the world, and at home and abroad for which the precious years for self-improvement are so frequently sacrificed?

A close inspection reveals the gratifying fact that the education given in the school is practical, solid, and refined. It embraces all that is commendable in the education of a young woman, and the blending of these two must needs appeal to all wise-minded parents of the present, for, unhappily, the young girl's disposition, the character-making qualities are too often sadly neglected in the city.

St. Ann's Academy is the oldest private educational institution in British Columbia, having been founded, well-nigh a half century ago. That period is a date far back in the history of both city and province. The excellent school of today is a joint result of the early years of self-sacrifice on the part of the founders above mentioned, and the hearty broad-minded co-operation of the people of Victoria.

It is a delicate art to train young minds, but the sisters gave, and still give their lives to the task, and the fact that their patrons include the representative families, not only of the province, but also across the border line as well, is proof sufficient that their work has ever won the recognition and appreciation of a discerning public. As the country grows richer in culture, demands higher education, the sisters hesitated not to improve their standards. There has been, however, no hasty grasping of fads, but a conservative study of the value of all things before adoption, and thus the school's progress has been both steady and solid.

The work in music, art and literature is well handled. Yielding to the demands of the times, both Latin and German are taught, as well as French. Devotion and physical culture are taught by trained lady teachers, and excellent vocal training is also provided. It is safe to say that in no school on the coast is womanly culture more thoroughly taught, for at the head of the school's various classes are teachers who bring to their work the happy blending of deep knowledge together with lives untrammelled by any interests, all their strength being concentrated on the sole object of their vocation, the education of their charges.

The curriculum for the class work proper is the course of study followed throughout the High School and the Schools of the province. Students desirous of taking the provincial examinations are duly prepared, and are successfully passing reflects credit on the ability and progressive spirit of the staff in charge.

Due provision is made for laboratory and physics rooms, also an excellent library of valuable volumes. Besides a library proper, there are branch libraries, each classroom being furnished with a well-fitted book case to meet the demands of the grade. The study halls, music halls, dormitories, dining-rooms, and the long, cheerful corridors, are all arranged with a view to health, comfort and convenience; numerous bathrooms with hot and cold water supply adjoin all sleeping apartments.

In the Art Department the students are surrounded by everything that serves to cultivate taste; the methods of instruction are of the best and latest; excellent work in painting, water color, and oil painting, as well as carving, is evinced the skill of both teacher and pupils. The course of instruction consists of:

Drawing from the antique, Drawing from life, Perspective and art composition.

One great and decided advantage for those studying china painting is the fact that the institution owns a first class modern kiln, where not only the pupils' work is fired, but a great deal of firing is done for ladies of the city.

The music department is second to none in the city. Pianoforte lessons, harmony, counterpoint, and harp, guitar, mandolin, violin and zither, receive due attention. A well-selected library of students is at the disposal of the students, and they are encouraged to become acquainted with the masterpieces and works of the masters, and to play bridge and chess, and to attend to their own business, and to be able to do so, is a commendable aim.

In addition to the above described courses the Academy has a well-furnished commercial department. A roll of successful graduates, many of whom hold positions of responsibility, thus attests the utility and wisdom of the course of their studies. A thorough course in stenography or book-keeping, or both combined, proves a valuable asset to many a young lady.

St. Ann's Kindergarten is a popular annex of the Academy. It is the well-attended kindergarten on Blanchard street. A successful primary

St. Ann's Academy a Splendid Educational Institution—Pleasures of Life Amongst the Gulf Islands Told by Capt. Clive Phillips-Wolley—An Englishwoman's Impressions

school is also conducted in the same building, where reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, singing, gymnastics, and sewing for little girls are taught. No one is allowed to spend all his or her time on mere kindergarten work, but a fundamental education is begun at once. The large attendance at the school is a proof that this plan is satisfactory to both parents and staff. The Queen Ann cottage is admirably adapted to the work; one apartment, the large bright kindergarten room, is indeed an ideal quarter for the little children. Lighted as it is by a flood of soft light from large windows and canopied by fine, high ceiling, it is truly a beautiful sun-parlor for these little ones of tender age.

This kindergarten enjoys the unique privilege of having its own assembly hall, fitted with a fine stage and drop curtain. The latter, which is truly a piece of art, is the work of the studio teacher at St. Ann's Academy.

A WOMAN'S IMPRESSIONS

Victoria Most Charming City She Has Ever Seen

Miss Kathleen Dundas, an English lady who has recently completed a journey to England, Japan, and Canada, writes entertainingly of British Columbia. She says:

"We landed at the capital, Victoria, in a lovely motor car, and after eleven days of the heaving North Pacific we shouted with excitement at the sight of a dandelion. The grass was green, too, not yellow, as in

neighboring inlet, the divinest fairy-land of a place I ever saw—a horse-shoe in shape, facing east towards the hilly American islands, beyond which rises huge snow Mount Baker, 11,000 feet high, and sixty miles away. To the north it is sheltered by the big Salt Spring Island, where there are many deer. On the west this fairy-land is but a little over a mile from Vancouver Island, while to the south the way to the station (Sidney, under three miles) leads through romantic rocky islets, with glorious views of the gigantic Olympians. The island itself is wooded with gnarled old pines and red-stemmed arbutus, which were then in full flower. The undergrowth is composed of sweet briars, shrubby spires, daphniphyllum, and deep orange honeysuckle. Below these again is a carpet of tall white dog's tooth violets, many blue and pink creeping flowers, and a soft mossy vetch much beloved of sheep. In the centre is a clearing, some fifteen acres of rich grass, with tall well grown fruit trees in full bearing, and the prettiest little fresh water tarn.

"The natural charms include miniature grassy mountains, jutting boldly into the sea, and snowy beaches, whence one may collect driftwood to make one's fire. The material advantages consist at present of two rough shacks, a rougher barn and a boat-house. I saw many wild ducks and Brent geese, besides the pheasant and grouse aforementioned. In their various seasons one may fish for cod, herring, whiting, salmon and trout, besides pursuing the luscious lobster and the crafty clam."

and Nanaimo. North of Nanaimo the same climatic conditions may not prevail. There is probably more rain up north, and at any rate the southern end of the gulf is the settled end of it. A glance at the map will explain the advantages of our position better than the most lucid article, and the use of an atlas would do the average Englishman no harm. He makes maps better than anyone else, he also makes the world which they portray; but I sometimes fancy that he does not keep them in his library.

Having given my reader the chance of obtaining scientifically accurate information, I feel free to write now of things as my eyes show them to me. The books say that Vancouver Island is a "group of upturned gneissic rocks, embracing certain tertiary areas." It may be. To us, looking westward, it is a splendid breakwater between the peace of our quiet gulf and the fury of the Pacific, a background to our view, the ridge of which is sometimes brightened by snows, and daily, towards evening, floor with the ever-varying glories of sunset. There is beyond the window at which I sit, a sweep of sheep-trimmed sward, a grimmer of the world, and the edges of it, and then a plain of colors which no brush could paint or pen portray.

It is not the same, and that is the charm of it. Just now it lies like a shield of silver and azure, and the island and breakwater itself rises ridge upon ridge, bayous and ridges of a different tone of purple or blue, but I have seen that sea plain, a transparent chrysopease barred with little

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ways, the sea will be a changing glory of color, upon which the smallest craft will be safe.

Until very lately this district, which contains at least one island as big as Bermuda, was the home only of bush farmers—men who cut out clearings for themselves from amongst the pines with which the islands are covered, or cleared the alder swamp, and made an ample if simple living from what they grew on their land, or caught in the teeming waters which lap their island homes.

You cannot starve in the Gulf of Georgia. That is a simple impossibility. In New York steamed clams are a luxury; in London salmon is for the rich only. Men are building a little steamer now to take away the clams, which our Indians dig from the free beaches; and I have known my wife catch three salmon in half an hour almost alongside our wharf. I have sent the local policeman round at Christmas to find out if there was any one in our district who would accept anything in the way of food or clothes, and I have his written answer by me now. There was no one who would not have been insulted by such a gift, all of them had enough and to spare, and most of them had ducks, geese or turkeys fattening for the festive season. Look at the size of the district and try to imagine what that means. The very prodigality of nature is in some sort, our misfortune. It is almost impossible to get people to work for wages which are remunerative to the employer. The Indians are confirmed loafers, wanting nothing which the sea or the beach

Burchell, with its picturesque home-stead, built for the most part by its owner's clever hands, with its excellently farmed lands, sawmill, private chapel and gasoline launches. These launches are rapidly becoming a feature of the district, and by their aid the men of the district are enabled to see more of one another than they did in the old days when a "blunger" or a row-boat was the ordinary means of moving from place to place, excellent in themselves, but dependent upon winds which are not always available in summer, or upon labor, which grows less popular as the summer advances.

There are advantages attaching to these islands over and above the advantages common to this side of British Columbia. There is no danger of anything particularly appealing to men used to country life.

Of these one is privacy. In your island home you can do what you like, and if you choose to cultivate well and spray carefully you need suffer neither from Canadian thistles nor from the fruit pests which exist in this province; there is no danger of your dogs being poisoned; and if you choose you can encourage the wild things, eagles and herons, great divers, seals and such like, and have them for friendly neighbors, whose ways are every bit as interesting as those of Mrs. Jones.

Reckless of their own business, and do not talk. We, of course, who live upon the islands are prejudiced, and yet if I were called upon to do so, I should be ready to make oath and swear that, good as the general coast climate of British Columbia undoubtedly is, the climate of the islands is better.

Lying between Vancouver and Victoria, the islands have not as much wind as Vancouver, or as much cold as Victoria. Some of the climate may be derived from the fact that at Thetis and elsewhere figs and grapes are grown, and ripened out of doors, and we also have a host of roses for Christmas. But this also happens in Victoria.

Upon the larger islands deer are plentiful, and to the fruit-growers, and upon all of them there are plenty of grouse, pheasants, ducks, and where they have been turned down, quail; whilst panthers, wolves and other beasts dangerous to the sheep farmer have long ago been exterminated. A steamer carrying the mail calls at most of the islands twice a week, and a little boat, which is anxious to exchange cash or groceries for the settlers' superfluous eggs and butter, makes a weekly round.

For the farmer who rears fawns, and knows how to, there is a good living to be made; but work must go to the getting wherever money is got here as elsewhere, and there is more work—more personal work—for a man upon these bush farms, which he makes whilst he farms them, than upon a well ordered, ready-made English farm. Still, sheep, apples, small fruit and poultry can be extremely profitable here; and even a man who has only watched his sagas, which his tenant's farm knows enough, or should know enough, to make his place pay his butcher's and grocer's bill in return for the hire of his horse, and labor upon your own place, growing more beautiful day by day, set among summer seas, with a great cone of Mount Baker, and the snow peaks of the south, the snow peaks of the mainland to the north of you (sheltering you from the north winds), and the deep blue barrier of Vancouver Island to the west of you—laboring with no one to boss you—is very sweet indeed.

For distinction this is always the chance of a run down to the club in your own puffer, or the possibility that a dainty yacht from Vancouver may put into your wharf, carrying some globe totters with the latest piece of the pack you used to hunt with, or may be one of the few ships left upon this station will spend a few days in the district. If nothing better happens, at least the thrasher pack may be depended upon to go by, snorting and blowing, at least once a week; and if you who rears fawns, and knows how to, when there is nothing to fish for or to shoot here, you will know more of these islands than I do.

SEEING VICTORIA

Tourist Association Issues Revised Map and Pamphlet

The Victoria Tourist and Development association has just issued a revised edition of the folder "Seeing Victoria." It contains an up-to-date guide map to the city, suburbs and chief points of interest. Visitors are urged to "take in" the following points of interest:

Beacon Hill Park—This is one of the city's public parks, and covers 300 acres, laid out as recreation grounds and pleasure gardens. It contains an aviary, menagerie, bear pit, deer run, and a large lake, and is, with its artificial lakes, rustic bridges, etc., a very picturesque and delightful place in which to spend an afternoon. It is situated on the seaward walk of the city, and can be reached by street car at intervals of 15 minutes, leaving Government street at five minutes to the hour. The magnificent view is obtained of the city and the Olympian mountains from the top of the hill. The park is included in the tour of the city, and is a most interesting observation car and by most of the hackmen in their usual drives.

Cadboro Bay is one of the most beautiful spots around the city; has a hard, smooth, sandy beach, the water being extremely shallow, the tide receding a considerable distance. A good many of the best of the city's favorite places for camping and bathing are within four miles of the city, reached by wheel in half an hour; two miles from the street car, and is included in many of the drives from the city.

Cordova Bay is a splendid stretch of water, with fine, sandy beach, at the foot of Mount Douglas. The water

here is also very shallow, and excellent locations can be had for over five miles. An excellent spot for picnics; a favorite camping place for residents of the city. One of the finest views in North America is to be had from the top of Mount Douglas, while the climb itself is very enjoyable and exhilarating. It is five and a half miles from the city; four miles from street car and forty minutes ride on the wheel, with a good road all the way. Cowichan Lake—This is one of the finest trout fishing resorts on the island. There are two or three good hotels there, and a trip to Cowichan Lake is most delightful. It is reached from Duncan station by stage, which leaves on the arrival of the daily train from Victoria.

Duncan is the centre of one of the most prosperous settlements on the island. The principal occupation is farming; but at Mount Sicker, a few miles away, there is a very prosperous mining town, for which Duncan is the distributing point. Its chief interest to tourists, however, lies in the fact that it is one of the best places on the island for river trout and salmon fishing. There are two very good tourist hotels, at which many Victorians spend their vacation, their week-ends. Forty miles from Victoria; train leaves Victoria 9 a.m. daily and 4 p.m. three days a week during the summer months.

Esquimalt—For many years Great Britain's only naval station on the Pacific Coast. The Dock Yard has now been handed over to the Canadian government and it will no doubt eventually be the base on the Pacific for the future Canadian navy. There is a large dry dock immediately adjoining the dock yard, which is being used for the repairing of the Merchant Marine fleet and is a great factor in helping to build up the ship-building industry, which is destined to be one of Victoria's biggest industries. Esquimalt is a very beautifully situated, quaint old town, which is very interesting. Four miles from the city; reached by street car leaving Government street every fifteen minutes.

Fishing Resorts—There are many places around the city where excellent trout fishing is to be had; The Gorge, Pike Lake and Prospect Lake. But of course, the best fishing is at the resorts, such as Shawigan, Cowichan, John River and Lake, Salt Spring Island, etc., some little distance from the city, for particulars of which see the description of the individual places.

Fowl Bay—A lovely little spot within two and a half miles of the city, where many of our families camp for the summer. It can be reached from the city on wheel in fifteen minutes, and is a mile from the street car. It is expected that by next year the cars will be running to this resort.

The Gorge—A natural reversible waterfall, spanned by a steel bridge, at the head of Victoria Arm, one of the most lovely stretches of salt water on the coast. It is the favorite boating resort for the young people of the city, and its banks are lined in summer time with camping and picnicking parties. It is also included in one of the best drives of the city, and no stranger should leave without visiting this charming spot.

The Gorge Recreation Park—This was opened by the B. C. Electric Company about two years ago. With the exception of the improvements that have been made by the Company it is a perfectly natural park which adds much to its attractiveness. It is a favorite resort for picnics and other parties. Every evening in summer there is an orchestral concert with a Bioscope Exhibition and other amusement features. There is a boat house for the hire of boats, a bathing pavilion, Japanese Tea Garden, and many other attractive features. Cars leave Government and Yates Streets every twenty minutes until 7 p.m., after which they leave every ten minutes.

Golf Links—These are situated at Oak Bay, and have been said to be the most beautiful links in the world. They are within five minutes walk of the end of the Oak Bay line. For the privilege of using them enquire at the Tourist Rooms.

Goldstream—To lovers of nature, Goldstream is particularly inviting. It is one of the most picturesque spots it is possible to find, and is a very forcibly of such beauty spots in England as Bolton Woods. A magnificent camping ground and picnic place. There is an excellent hotel, and about one-quarter of a mile from the railway depot. It is fourteen miles from the city and is reached by the E. & N. Railway twice daily, the road to Goldstream is very fine, and is one of the most popular drives. For railway time table see page 8.

Gold-Copper Mines—To those interested in mining, the trip to Mount Sicker mines—Tyee and King Ridge—will be found very interesting. Samples of the ores can be seen at the Tourist Rooms. The trip can be made in a day and a half from Victoria.

Islands of the Gulf—The Islands of the Gulf of Georgia have been proclaimed to be even more beautiful than the Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence. Taking the morning train out of Victoria, the connecting steamer at Sidney for Crofton and the islands, returning the same day, is one of the most beautiful excursions by rail and sea in the world. For excursions, enquire at the Tourist Rooms.

Macaulay Point—This innocent looking point, jutting out into the harbor, is honey-combed with fortifications commanding the entrance to the Straits. The barracks are situated here, where is stationed a detachment of the Royal Canadian Artillery, also one of the Royal Engineers. Visitors are allowed in the barracks, but not in the fortifications.

North Saanich is a very beautiful agricultural settlement, where farming and fruit growing are engaged in very profitably. It is also a good fishing resort. The sea coast at this point is picturesque. It is about eighteen miles from the city. Splendid roads all the way. The V. & S. railway runs within two or three miles of it. Nanaimo—This city is the center of the extensive mining industry on Vancouver Island, and is an interesting town in many respects and is very beautifully situated on a gentle slope overlooking a magnificent harbor and bay. The trip to Nanaimo by the E. & N. is a very fine one, the tourist passing through nearly all of the principal tourist and health resorts on that line.