

WHONNOCK NOTES

Occasional papers of the Whonnock Community Association to promote the research and understanding of the past of our community.

∞ Series Editor: Fred Braches ∞

No. 1

Winter, 1996

This first issue of WHONNOCK NOTES¹ marks the signature of an agreement between the Whonnock Community Association and Mission District Historical Society by which the Mission Community Archives will become the repository of the growing collection of documents, related to Whonnock's history, owned by the Whonnock Community Association. It seems proper that this first issue consists of news articles from early issues of Mission's own *Fraser Valley Record* on Whonnock and its residents. The choice is our way to say thank you to the volunteers of the Mission Community Archives and in particular to Archivist and Records Manager, Valerie Billesberger who opened the doors to professional safekeeping of our historical information.

Mission's first newspaper, the *Mission City News* folded in 1896. Regrettably hardly any of the *Mission City News* issues seem to have survived, and some fragile copies in the Mission Community Archives do not contain references to Whonnock. Its successor, the *Fraser Valley Record*, started in 1908². Fortunately the *Fraser Valley Record* is better preserved and Mission Archives also have a microfilm copy. From that source I tried to capture all references made to Whonnock and its settlers until 1912.

The Rev. J.W. Weatherdon, M.A., vicar of All Saints, Mission, who provided services at St. Paul's in Whonnock³ every two weeks, may have formed the bridge between Whonnock and the then weekly *Fraser Valley Record* and he was obviously the author of at least some of the "Whonnock Notes" between 1909 and 1910. Contributions continued during the following years but correspondence from Whonnock dwindled as time went on. References to Whonnock in the *Fraser Valley Record* from 1911 and 1912 are mainly from the minutes of the Maple Ridge Council.

Today's Whonnockonians, as the settlers are referred to in the *Fraser Valley Record*, may enjoy reading these bits of old news. Editing is restricted to the elimination of text not directly relating to Whonnock such as in the minutes of Maple Ridge Council. I did not attempt to annotate these texts but added a few clarifying footnotes. Generally I left the vagaries of spelling and grammar unchanged and did not mark variations from conventional spellings.

Fred Braches, December 1996

WHONNOCKONIANS IN MISSION'S *FRASER VALLEY RECORD*, 1908 - 1912

¹ A column which appeared occasionally in the *Fraser Valley Record* was also called Whonnock Notes.

² By comparison Maple Ridge is a latecomer. Its first newspaper, *The Gazette*, started only in 1919.

³ St. Paul's Church, built in 1891, is now a residence at 10184 272nd Avenue.

Vol. 1 No. 5: July 16, 1908

Entrance Examination -

Whonnock - number of candidates 1, passed 1, Marguerite Steele, 714

Vol. 1 No. 10: August 20 1908

Rev. Geo. A. Wilson, B.A., Superintendent of Presbyterian Missions conducted services at Silverdale, Ruskin and Whonnock on Sunday last.

Vol. 1 No. 16: October 1, 1908

Fruit Meetings Held -

Mr. W.J. Brandrith, secretary of the British Columbian Fruit Growers Association accompanied by Mr. H. Kipp of Chilliwack held meetings in this district during this month in the interest of the fruit growers. The one at Whonnock was of particular interest on account of the way the people fell in with the ideas advanced by the speakers. In conversation with Mr. Kipp he stated the meeting there was a success as the ladies had taken part in the meeting asking many questions about the way the association was run and the advantages it offered to the fruit grower in opening up for them a market for their produce. Mr. Brandrith gave an excellent address on the co-operation of the fruit growers for the assembling and sale of fruit and the spraying of trees. Mr. Kipp gave practical demonstrations of the most modern methods of packing plums, apples and pears. Meetings will be held later in this season throughout this district by the same gentlemen.

Vol. 1 No. 16: October 1, 1908

Miss Watson of Whonnock paid a visit to Mission last week to the great pleasure of many friends and acquaintances. Her bright face is always welcome.

Vol. 1 No. 17: October 8, 1908

A pretty wedding took place at Whonnock on the 6th instant at the home of the bride when the eldest daughter of Mr. Hugh Steele -- Mabel Jean -- was married to Mr. L.A. Hayman of Kelowna B.C. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. W.M. Reed in the presence of relatives and a few friends. The bride was supported by her sister Marguerite and the groom by Mr. Russell Gilchrist of Vancouver. The bride was dressed in lavender silk with cream honiton trimmings. The happy couple went east for a trip in the mountains before going to their home in Kelowna.

Vol. 2 No. 1: December 17, 1908

Maple Ridge Council -

... [F]rom the clerk stating that he had received three dollars from Whonnock for the Fernie relieve fund and had forwarded same.

... The municipal hall, Haney, was named as the place for holding the municipal and school trustees nominations, and the hall, Haney Post Office, Hammond and schoolhouse Whonnock as polling places.

Vol. 2 No. 3: December 31, 1908

Murder at Whonnock -

The people of Whonnock were horrified on Xmas morning to find that a man had been run over by the Seattle train and was mangled almost beyond recognition. The story of the murder comes primarily from a tramp who walked from Westminster Junction and being

hungry asked Odin Lee, a resident near that place, for a night's lodging and something to eat. They were on their way to the Whonnock store to get something when they met a stranger, who it is believed came off the eastbound train, the tramp's description tallying with that of a lady, who saw the man get off the train at Whonnock. The meeting it appears was the occasion for a drunken quarrel in which Lee met his death. The tramp claims to have seen the stranger hit Lee with a bottle, but after being threatened that he better make himself scarce unless he wanted to be shot sneaked off but was soon lost in slumber until he heard voices, exclaim, "My, isn't he horribly mangled!" Then he awoke and told his story. He is held to give important evidence.

Constable Land was on the scene early Xmas morning, and on Sunday located his man at Stave Falls, about nine miles from Whonnock. He also took with him on his nice little trip to Whonnock a logger, Joseph Kincaid is being held as an important witness. Some people near Mission heard the quarrel on Thursday evening but paid no attention and thought no more of it until the next day when they heard of the man being killed. At the coroner's inquest all three were sent up for trial.

Vol. 2 No. 6: January 21, 1909

Miss Watson of Whonnock is up at Mission for a few days shopping - quite necessary in view of immediately impending revolutions domestic.

Vol. 2 No. 18: April 15, 1909

Wedding Bells -

There was a very pretty wedding in Whannock [sic] last Tuesday when Mary, the daughter of Mr. Edward Watson was united in marriage to Mr. John Grigor of Vancouver. The ceremony, which was performed by Rev. J.W. Weatherdon, took place as soon as the express arrived with the guests from Vancouver at 11 a.m. The bride, attired in traveling costume, and led into the church by her father, was attended by Miss F. Weatherdon and Miss A. Watson, her bridesmaids. Mr. Grigor was supported by Mr. Allan Watson, and met the bride at the chancel. After the ceremony the party were entertained at luncheon by Mrs. Watson after which the happy pair received a hearty send-off at the station, rice, old shoes, etc. in abundance.

Vol. 2 No. 18: April 15, 1909

Maple Ridge Council -

The May meeting of the council will be held in the Whonnock school⁴ on Saturday May 1st.

Vol. 2 No. 18: April 15, 1909

School Board Meeting -

The regular meeting of the trustees was held on April 2nd. J.P. Thompson wrote, asking that the Whonnock school grounds be fenced so as to keep cattle out of his land. The secretary was instructed to call for tenders for the fencing of the Haney and Whonnock School grounds offer to be in by the 13th. The regular accounts were passed for payment. The meeting then adjourned.

⁴ The "new" school at 100th and 272nd. The old school on the Fraser was sold in 1908.

Vol. 3 No. 4: July 8, 1909

Maple Ridge Council [meeting at Whonnock schoolhouse] -

E.J. Whitney wrote re a road at Whonnock. The communication was held over as the presence of Councilor McDonald was required before the matter could be properly discussed.

Vol. 3 No. 9: August 12, 1909

Maple Ridge Council -

Mr. W.S. Hood of Hood Bros. was present in reference to some road he wished the council to build for him near property near Whonnock. He made a proposition to the council which they agreed to.

Vol. 3 No. 14: September 16, 1909

Maple Ridge Council -

Instructions were given to take action against Mr. Whiting⁵ of Whonnock unless he paid his store license.

Vol. 3 No. 16: September 30, 1909

Whonnock Heard From (from our own correspondent) -

Dr. and Mrs. Gaerlock, who have been spending a few days with Mrs. Benson and Miss Benson at their charming home at Whonnock, left on Monday for the Okanagan Valley via Sycamouse Junction.

Miss Hodgson returned to her home at Whonnock after a visit to Vancouver on Monday afternoon's train.

On Sunday next October 3rd. will be held at 10:30 am the Harvest Home festival services in Whonnock church when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. J.W. Weatherdon, M.A. Vicar of Mission City.

Following the example of the congregation of All Saints of Mission the members of Whonnock propose reshingling the roof of their church and will start weather permitting on Monday morning next. The work as at Mission will be all voluntary.

Vol. 3 No. 17: October 7, 1909

Whonnock Notes - (From Your Own Correspondent.)

"Come ye thankful People, come Praise the song of Harvest Home," was the joyful chant echoing from the church of St. Paul's, Whonnock on Sunday last. -- the day set aside for public thanksgiving to the Lord of the Harvest for the in gathering of the winter's store, through out the year just in the same way and in the same words as our forefather for generations. We pray in our Litany, "That it may please Thee to give an preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so as in due time we may enjoy them, we beseech Thee to hear us Good Lord." so when in answer to the prayer the harvest is come, the church calls upon her children to render thanks and offer the first fruits to their Creator, the Lord and Giver of Life.

To prepare for the service, on the previous day the congregation offered their gifts with which the ladies of the church dressed and adorned the sacred building. Festal indeed was the church on Sunday. Gone were the green hangings of Trinity, the violet of Lent, and in the stead the festive white, and over all streamed a wealth of color, a glamour of autumn like October's sun on the turning leaves of British Columbia's woods. The altar with its fair linen and gleaming vessels was a bank of asters; the altar rails, dahlias and ferns; the organ and the pulpit, festoons of flowers; and on the steps of the front were massed the choicest of

⁵The site of the store is now mostly under the Lougheed Highway. Richard Sidney Whiting purchased the store from Levi S. York in 1906. It burned down in 1911 (not reported in the Fraser Valley Record). That ended R.S. Whiting's interests in shop-keeping. He was postmaster at Whonnock from 1907 until 1953.

vegetables. The crimson of Virginia creeper and mountain ash berries vied with the tender green of the clustering vine, the purple bloom of the grape and the jet black blackberry with the yellow glist of dancing oats and bearded barley, which, with the gorgeous coloring of asters, dahlias, hydrangeas, of apples, pears and peaches were a fit setting for the rendering of the churches' greatest service.

The preacher, the Rev. J.W. Weatherdon, M.A., vicar of All Saints, Mission the mother church of St. Paul's, Whonnock, preached from the 19th chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Philipeans, "My God shall supply all your riches." The great lesson the church teaches in her Thanksgiving service is the Almighty power working in the same way with the grows of seeds the lives of men; sowing and the harvest; death and the Resurrection. "I am the Resurrection and the Life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, we read in the Gospel of St. John and we know that a seed must first die before it can fructify and ripen for the harvest. Just as the seed is planted in the cold ground and lies dormant, waiting for the touch of life so shall man when received into the grave rest, waiting in sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection. -- Com

The Rev. C. McDairmid, Presbyterian Minister of Mission, visited here on Monday last for the purpose of a burial of a baby in the private burial ground.

After the 6 o'clock p.m. bomb was fired to mark the ending of the compulsory two day a week "cease fishing" the fishermen put out and in spite of the wet coats from the heavy rain on Sunday night brought in fair catches of sturgeon and salmon of which part were retailed at very reasonable prices in the neighborhood.

A wet morning on Monday last put a damper on the enthusiasm of the voluntary workers who proposed shingling the roof of Whonnock church but a bright afternoon made a good start to be made and hopes are entertained of finishing before the next heavy shower. The work is carried on under the superintendance of Rev. J.W. Weatherdon of Mission.

A good fruit season has been experienced. Raspberries, blackberries and plums have been plentiful but apples have not been so good and many of what there are have found their way to the jam factory instead of the prairie cities. A good many men are now being kept busy by the fishing.

Whonnock finds a daily boat to New Westminster a great convenience.

Vol. 3 No. 18: October 14, 1909

Whonnock Whispering -

A meeting of the Whonnock Settlers' Association will be held on Monday evening, October 18th at 8 o'clock in the schoolhouse to elect officers and any other business. All inhabitants are welcomed and they must come prepared to entertain each other. Particulars can be obtained of Mr. J. Rolley.

A recently published by-law states that a reward of \$50 will be paid by the Maple Ridge municipality for information that will lead to the conviction of anyone selling intoxicating liquor within the limits of the municipality of Maple Ridge.

A very wet week, rain all day and all night, has resulted in a very small quantity of fruit shipped, but Thursday's steamer took a good quantity of poultry for Westminster market.

At Whonnock creek can now be seen a very novel sight, the fish crowding up the creek from the Fraser river just like a flock of sheep trying to enter one narrow gate. The inclement weather has not been favorable for the reshingling of the roof of Whonnock church, but in spite of wet coats some of the men of the congregation manfully braved the

elements and made a good watertight job on one side of the roof. May good fortune smile on them when they tackle the other side.

Sunday started a new week with a glorious sunny day and many people who had been confined to houses for days, took advantage of it and made the Landing quite busy with pic-nic parties going up river in the gasoline launches.

Vol. 3 No. 19: October 21, 1909

Whonnock Whispering -

"The Little Summer of St. Martins" experienced here last week was extremely fine and a great quantity of fruit was shipped, the wharf on some days being crowded with cases. The fruit season is practically over many growers keeping back apples, as owing to their scarcity better prices can be obtained later on. Tomatoes are still good and quantities are marketed at fair rates.

Thursday, the 14th the opening day of the "slaughter of the innocents" was duly observed, and though guns were out soon after daybreak, poor sport is reported. Two guns for half a day brought in 3 brace, which must be considered fair, as the severe winter proved very hard on the birds and left few in the neighborhood. If the coming winter only is mild, good pheasant shooting can be had next fall.

Jeff Hodgson sprained his ankle in getting through the fence on Sunday last, and in consequence must lay off for a time.

Several residents have visited Westminster Fair, and report it not as good as last year. The Maple Ridge Board of Trade will hold a meeting on Saturday, October 23rd at 8 o'clock at the municipal hall, Haney for the purpose of forming committees and general business. All members and others interested should attend and give the new venture a good send off. In aid of the funds of the Lutheran church, a bargain sale will be held towards the end of the month, at the residence of Mr. Tweedie. Further particulars will be announced.

On Sunday morning the east bound train was delayed here to detach a car which had broken after leaving Westminster Junction, and left nearly one hour late.

Vol. 3 No. 20: October 28, 1909

Whonnock Notes -

The grand bazaar in aid for the funds of Whonnock Lutheran church has been fixed for Friday evening, October 28th at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mr. Tweedie of Whonnock. Great preparations have been made and a good muster is expected. Admission to the bazaar and refreshments are free and a good moonlight night is all that is required to ensure success. Thanksgiving day passed off very quietly. The school children had the day as a holiday, but nothing further marked the day. The day was only published at the latter end of last week or something might have been done worthy of Whonnock's public spirit; Perhaps those in authority will take the hint and let us know some time before hand next year.

Mr. Jeff Hodgson, who sprained his ankle badly on Sunday week, is progressing favorable but some time will elapse before he is about again.

The general meeting of the Maple Ridge Farmers Institute was held at Pitt Meadows on Tuesday last when an interested company listened to a highly instructive lecture on Dairying by Mr. H.L. Blanchard of Puyallup Wash. These lectures, instituted by the provincial government, are of a highly scientific nature, and delivered by men well versed in their own particular line, and should be of great value to farming communities. Ladies are specially asked to attend any meeting. The lecture was repeated at Haney, the following evening.

Mr. C.W. Berg of Stave River Power was a visitor to Whonnock on Friday last. He reports great activity at the camp at Stave Lake at which over a hundred men are working. A very wet week was experienced for the 24 hours ending Saturday the rain gauge measured 1¼ inches, This is the greatest rain fall for one week registered this year.

Pheasant shooting prospects are a great deal brighter. Last Thursday when every man who had a gun was out, sport was poor, but now the excitement is wearing off, a sportsman with a good dog, can get a very comfortable bag by the end of the day. Sunday next, October 31st, service at St. Paul's, Whonnock, 10:30 a.m. by Rev. J.W. Weatherdon, vicar of Mission City.

Whonnock Rainfall -

Owing to the forethought of Miss Whiting, who conscientiously keeps strict tally on the rain fall the following figures are interesting, being the accurate readings of the rain gauge and readings of other parts of the Fraser Valley will be keenly appreciated by Whonnock residents.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Days rain</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Average</u>
March	16	4.79	.15
April	8	1.70	.05
May	16	3.50	.11
June	6	2.18	.07
July	12	3.25	.10
August	7	3.58	.11
September	9	2.26	.07
October 16	9	2.19	.14

Vol. 3 No. 21: November 4, 1909

Whonnock Notes -

On Friday evening last in aid of the funds of Whonnock Lutheran church a grand bazaar was held at the residence of Mr. Tweedie. In spite of a wet night about 60 people attended, in fact nearly all Whonnock was there, creeds and politics dropped for the occasion. All went for a good time. Unlike most bazaars admission and refreshments were free and the goods were sold by auction. Mr. Barlett in a neat speech welcomed the visitors, remarking that difference of creed had not kept any away and introduced the auctioneer for the evening, Mr. Walden, who has evidently mistaken his vocation, for as an auctioneer he excels. Although he had no hammer he knocked down articles at some rather startling prices, pillow cases, blouses, bed quilts, aprons, table jellies all fetched good prices and over \$80 was received at the end of the sale. Refreshments were then served, after which dancing was indulged in until an early hour.

In Mr. Whiting's store on Saturday night although the night was drenching a very representative gathering held of residents in favour of McBride government and to elect delegates for the convention to be held in Mission on November 3rd. Mr. Patterson was elected chairman and Mr. Pullen acted as secretary. The meeting pledged themselves to support the party at the polls and after passing a resolution that the delegates when elected, be paid their expenses at convention, proceeded to the election. Three names were proposed, which after being balloted, resulted in Messrs. Fletcher and Harris being elected to represent Whonnock.

The Maple Ridge Board of Trade at their last meeting decided not to form their committees till a better representation was made from the districts, which it is intended it shall

serve. It is hoped that the board of trade will be incorporated shortly, and it behooves all residents, traders and ranchers, to join the board and help foster and support trade and trading facilities in all parts of the municipality. The fee for members has been fixed at \$2.50 per annum, and Mr. Beckett, of Haney the secretary will be pleased to receive the names of any Whonnockonians who have the interests of the district at heart and wish to join.

Residents who are householders are reminded that this is the last month on which to get their names placed on the voters list to enable them to have a voice in the matter of electing their representatives to the municipality of Maple Ridge. On December 1st the list closes and it would be a pity if any one who is entitled to a vote should find at election time that by neglecting to register they have no say in the matter.

Things are very quiet now, the rain has brought the season to an abrupt close. Nearly all fruit is shipped and the fishing season draws to an end.

Vol. 3 No. 24: November 25, 1909

Whonnock Notes -

Whonnock Settlers Association held their regular monthly meeting on Saturday evening last in the schoolroom and in spite of the cold evening a good number of members attended. Proceeding to the election of officers for the coming year, Mr. Rolley said he wished to retire from the office of president and Mr. Hamilton was elected in his stead. Mr. Pullen was elected secretary in place of Mr. Bartlett who resigned. With new officers such as these the association should go ahead and obtain even better concessions than the association has got in the past. Music and singing followed and put the finish to a pleasant evening. On Saturday evening next in Whonnock store at 8 p.m. will be held a meeting of the ratepayers to elect and nominate candidates for the coming municipal election also for the school trustees. This is an important gathering and should be very well attended and ratepayers are again asked not to neglect to register as Wednesday December 1st is the last possible chance.

The winter service of trains is rather a mixed blessing. We certainly have the old Agassiz local back which enables one to go to Vancouver and home again comfortably, with breakfast before a start is made, but the other trains are not good. There are a number of trains going through which neither love nor money seem to stop. We find the service very inadequate to meet our wants.

Election fever is rife, just at present and the visits of the candidates are eagerly looked forward to and views of all parties will receive a patient hearing. Owners of cattle are reminded that from the 1st of November to 1st of May grazing is not allowed on the highways and straying cattle will be impounded and the owner visited with all the dire punishments meted out by the bye-laws of Maple Ridge municipality. Ranchers who held back apples are now reaping their reward. Vancouver is now paying \$1.50 for best grade apples, with the freight paid by the purchaser.

As a sample of the exorbitant charge on steamers, a colt was brought across the Fraser from the landing immediately opposite to Whonnock to Whonnock wharf, a distance of about 500 yards, for the sum of \$1.50 by the C.P.R. steamer "Beaver." An excellent way of fostering trade!

Vol. 3 No. 25: December 2, 1909

Whonnock Notes -

On Thursday evening last a dance was given in honor of Mrs. West it being the anniversary of her birthday. Mrs. West being related to many Whonnockonians the affair was well taken up and about forty guests attended and danced till early morning. The rooms were

well decorated and the music good, adding to the pleasure of the evening. One and all spent an agreeable time which was unfortunately so soon over.

The ratepayers association met on Saturday night in the Whonnock store to discuss urgent business. Mr. Hamilton was elected chairman and Mr. Bartlett secretary. The principal business was to elect a representative who would stand for the Municipality of Maple Ridge and after some discussion Mr. Oly Lee was unanimously elected. Mr. Walden was subsequently asked to accept the responsible position of trustee.

Whonnock can boast some distinguished visitors lately. On Wednesday Premier McBride called in on Steamer Vedder to pick up Attorney- General Bowser, who was visiting in Whonnock, and both proceeded to Langley.

On Sunday last a new innovation took place in the services of All Saints church; an afternoon service was held. It has been felt by the vestry for sometime that a slight change would be beneficial the morning service being impractically impossible for members of the congregation having farm duties and living some distance out and the evening service not ending as it does before nine o'clock can only be attended by those within walking distance. The first service was well attended and as it does not commence till 2:30 enables church people from far outlying parts to attend. The service will take the place of Evensong.

The above was delayed from last issue.-- Ed.

Vol. 3 No. 26: December 9, 1909

Whonnock Notes -

The thermometer has reached 12 degrees of frost, and skating is in full swing. Miss Jean Duncan, the schoolmistress has resigned and will probably leave at Christmas. She is busy organizing a school treat for the school. May her successor prove as popular. The provincial government have under the direction of Mr. Fletcher, just built a fine new road from the school house running west through the heart of the woods which will let out many settlers located that way. A few more roads like this will increase Whonnock property which holds its own in value with Hammond and Haney.

Fall planting is now in full swing 1,000 apple trees being in one consignment from Oregon -- all for the planting of new orchards. Whonnock will be known as the Hood river of B.C. -- "the place where the apples come from."

The Settlers Association will hold their regular meeting on Saturday evening next 11th inst., in the school house. Service at St. Paul's church on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.

Vol. 4 No. 3: December 30, 1909

Whonnock Notes -

St. Paul's Whonnock, held its Christmas service on Sunday morning last when in addition to the usual service a selection of carols were given. The church was resplendent with greenery as is usual for the Christmas Season and all through the service was well carried out. The choir re-inforced by visitors staying over for the holidays successfully acquitting themselves with the numerous selections. The opening carol "Silent Night, Holy Night" was followed by the Processional Hymn "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" and in place of the office hymn was sung "The First Noel" and the anthem "Adeste Fidelis" (Oh Come All Ye Faithful) arranged by Novello as a solo, trio quartette and chorus, the quartette being Soprano: Miss Annie Watson, Contralto: Miss Whiting, tenor: Mr. Watson, bass: Mr. Whiting. The vicar of Mission preached on the history of the birth of Christ as recorded by St. Luke, introducing the slaughter of the Holy innocents, whose anniversary day we keep on Tuesday. The carol "Good King Wencelas" [sic] arranged as solos for four voices and chorus closed the service which was

keenly followed and greatly appreciated by the congregation who attended, many coming some miles in order to take part in the church's great festival of the anniversary of the birth of Christ.

Mr. and Mrs. McGregor of Vancouver, spent the Christmas holidays in Whonnock visiting Mr. & Mrs. Watson.

Mr. Berg, storekeeper of the Stave Lake Power company, spent Christmas in Vancouver.

Vol. 4 No. 5: January 13, 1910

Whonnock Notes -

School reopened this week after Christmas holidays and Miss Pringle, teacher, and successor to Miss Duncan, was introduced to her pupils by Mr. George Walden, school trustee.

Several Whonnockonians journeyed to Dewdney last Friday to dance the New Year in at the residence of Mr. Haine.

Miss Annie Wilkie, formerly the teacher at Hatzic, passed through Whonnock this week on her way to take up schoolduties at Kamloops.

Property here will be boomed for Mr. Robert Fletcher has entered the field as live real estate agent.

The completion of the roof of St. Paul's church is in the hands of Mr. Steele and will shortly be accomplished. There is a rumor of a concert coming off soon in aid of the church funds, and further rumor says there may be a dance to follow.

Mr. Paterson, one of our most respected residents has sold out and will leave shortly for Vancouver where he intends to stay for a short time.

Mr. Gilchrist of Ruskin entertained a large party of guests on Saturday eve all having a good time till 12 o'clock announced Sunday morning.

The monthly meeting of the Whonnock Settlers Association was held in the school house on Saturday evening last with Mr. Hamilton as president and Mr. Pullen as secretary. The minutes of the last meeting being confirmed, the secretary reported that with the proposed removal of the stump outside the Benson property, he had been advised by the path master to approach the council now to be elected. The report of the committee appointed to organize the concert was explained by the chairman, who stated that the association would be "At Home" to all residents for a social evening on Saturday the 22nd instant at the schoolhouse. The idea of the affair was to advertise the association and an officer will lay before the invited guests the object for which the society is organized, and by so doing increase the membership and general interest in the meeting. A lengthy and varied program is promised, songs, recitations, selections by Whonnock band, etc. etc. A large attendance is naturally expected.

Vol. 4 No. 7: January 27, 1910

Settler's Association Met on Saturday Evening in School and Treats Friends to Intellectual Feast. Objects of the Association Explained To the Visitors.

The social evening given by the Whonnock Settler's Association took place at the school house on Saturday evening last and despite the dripping night many residents came in, many from a long distance, and the audience was very fair considering the elements.

After a selection from the Whonnock Band, Mr. Hamilton as chairman of the association, welcomed the visitors and briefly stated the objects of the Society, simply that unity was strength and concessions could often be obtained by combination where individuality is of no use. Then followed a program of 26 turns and under each with such able chairmanship no time was lost in getting through the varied items, every one of them being contributed by residents in Whonnock and neighborhood.: -- Trio, Tell me Shepherds, "All's Well" Messrs. Watson, and Pullen. "Hunting Tower" Mrs. Gill and Mr. Hamilton; Readings, by Mr. Rolley and Mrs.

Gilchrist of Ruskin, Recitations; Mrs. Bunker's City Shopping by Miss Rolley, "The Water Melon" by Mr. George Walden; Violin Selections by Mr. Axel Nelson and Mr. Steele; Songs, "Sing Me to Sleep" and a Norwegian Song Miss Iverson, "Jock o'Hazledean" Mrs. Gill. "Stop Your Tick-Jock," and "Why I Wear a Kilt" Mr. Excell, "Mona" Mr. Hamilton, "Glorious Devon", "They All Love Jack" "Chorus Gentlemen" Mr. Whiting "Father O'Flyn" encored Mr. Benson. The various items were well received and amply applauded and considering the small of number of residents in Whonnock the musical abilities of the performers were of no mean order. The accompaniments were played by Miss Benson, organist of St. Paul's church. A good interval was allowed for conversation and refreshments were served by the ladies connected with the association. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. Anthony to Mr. Walden, school trustee for kindly granting the use of the school-house, to the association for entertaining the residents, and to the ladies and gentlemen who kindly offered their services and musical abilities, and last but not least to Mr. Hamilton for acting as chairman for the evening and for endeavouring to foster by all means in power the Whonnock Settlers Association.

The population of Whonnock is growing, four little strangers have seen the light of day since New Year began.

Building operations are steadily going on and the new houses of Mr. McKay and Mr. Pullen are nearing completion.

Mr. Paterson having sold his place has gone to the old country and Mr. Brodie the purchaser has moved in from Vancouver.

Mrs. Halpin who went east to Winnipeg to spend Christmas returned to Whonnock this week.

Miss Iverson of New Westminster has been spending a few days with Mrs. West.

Mr. Donald Gilchrist of Ruskin spent last week in Vancouver.

Vol. 4 No. 8: February 3, 1910

Three Wilcox Boys Sent Up for Trial - Case Came Before Magistrate Verchere on Monday Afternoon Last - Small Court House Crowded to Fullest Capacity.

Magistrate Verchere held court house to enquire into the charge against Edwin, Emile and Harry Wilcox for the death of Henry Garner on January 27th last. ⁶

Vol. 4 No. 9: February 10, 1910

Whonnock Notes -

Last Sunday marks one of the annals in the history of the church of St. Pauls, it being the first service held under the newly reshingled roof and the establishment of an organized choir. The refreshing has been done practically by voluntary labor and the shingles were purchased out of the proceeds of concerts given by members of the congregation. In spite of a wet morning a good number filled the church and no ladies of the choir being present, the seven male voices owing to the lack of sopranos could hardly do justice to the chants. The processional hymn "Praise to the Holiest in the Height." led to the order of morning prayer which was chanted throughout, save only the psalms, Venite by Dr. Pimbault; Te Deum by Langdon and Pandall with the Ferial responses. The office hymn, "Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost" was followed by the sermon hymn "Lord on our Life." The sermon was preached by the vicar of Mission on the words of St. Paul "Him that ruleth let him rule diligently". Then

⁶ Those interested in the detailed report on the hearings are referred to the Fraser Valley Record. Henry Garner lived in Whonnock and was buried in Whonnock. In June of 1910 Edward Wilcox was sentenced to serve fifteen years for the murder of Harry Garner.

followed the celebration of the Holy Communion at which most of the congregation participated. The forming of the choir was met with general approval and shows the upward tendency of a district passing from simple woodland into an organized township where its residents expect and obtain the same musical service as takes place in city churches.

The Rev. C. McDairmid of Mission paid a visit to Whonnock last week for the purpose of attending the funeral of the late Henry Garner who was buried in a private cemetery, on the hill side. The widow and children with many relations were present at the grave side.

The monthly meeting of the Settlers' Association will take place on Saturday evening next at the school house at 8 p.m. to which all residents are invited.

The provincial government library is now in working order and books can be obtained from Mr. J. Rolley on Tuesday afternoons.

Lenten service will be held by the vicar of Mission in Whonnock on Friday evening.

Vol. 4 No. 10: February 17, 1910

Settlers Association -

Whonnock Settlers Association

The regular monthly meeting was held in the school house on last Saturday evening under the chairmanship of Mr. Hamilton. After confirming the minutes of the last meeting the chairman reported the success of the social evening given by the association. Mr. Watson laid before the meeting a communication from the Farmers' Institute of Hammond, stating that arrangements were being made for lectures to be held shortly in Whonnock and asking for suggestions as to what subjects would be of most interest to the district. After some discussion it was decided to ask for lectures on poultry and fruit growing. A proposition was brought up by a member, that a widow in Whonnock being in needy circumstances it behoved the Settlers Association, being the only organized society in the settlement to do something to aid her. It was proposed and seconded that a committee consisting of officers and Messrs. Hutton and Rolley, and with power to add to their committee, proceed to draw up as they thought best, a benefit for Mrs. Nelson. The meeting without binding the committee suggested that a dance would prove the most popular form. To interest the inhabitants more in the doings of the society a new by-law was formed that members make a notice of motion of matters they propose to bring before the next meeting for discussion and the said matter be advertised on the notices calling the meeting together. It was thus thought that settlers seeing the subject for discussion advertised would if matters interested them look up the facts and come prepared to take their part in the debate. Under the new by-law Mr. Rolley gave notice that he will at the meeting in April start a debate on the proposition "That the Settlers' Association prepare a petition to circulate through Maple Ridge municipality, calling upon the council to allow the rate payers the opportunity of voting on the ward system for the election of councilors." There being no further business the meeting adjourned till Saturday, March 12.

Vol. 4 No. 10: February 17, 1910

Miss Pringle, teacher of Whonnock school has resigned her appointment and will be leaving in a short time.

The estate of thirty acres belonging to the Kirconnel⁷ trustees recently changed hands, the purchaser being Mr. Dobie of Victoria price paid \$130 per acre.

⁷ It is not clear how "Colonel Kirconnel" or "Kirconnel" made it to Whonnock and acquired property. He was arrested and sent to New York and prison. "What had the Colonel done? Not much, just forged papers and stolen a ship and cargo -- that is all. He was an underwriter of something of that sort, in New York, and got possession of the ship, which he sailed to Honduras, where he sold her and the cargo." (Province, Sept. 13, 1932)

Mrs. Edward Watson, now convalescent is staying with her daughter, Mrs. McGregor in Vancouver.

The Maple Ridge council has arranged for their next meeting, Saturday March 5th, to be held in the Whonnock school house at 10:30 am to which all residents interested in municipal affairs are invited to attend.

Mr. J. Metcalfe has been elected president of Whonnock Farmer's Institute; Mr. Watson vice-president and Mr. Percy, a director.

Several Whonnockonians journeyed to Ruskin on Saturday evening for a dance in the large hall of Heaps building and all report a very enjoyable evening.

Lenten service Friday evening and morning and prayer and celebration at St. Pauls on Sunday next at 10:30.

Vol. 4 No. 11: February 24, 1910

In the Winter Grip -

(From our Own Correspondent)

The committee of the Settler's Association appointed to promote the benefit for the needy lady, Mrs. Nelson are arranging a dance for about three weeks time, and are approaching the trustees to see if the school house can be had for the occasion.

The school trustees are in communication with a teacher from Saskatchewan to take our school from the 1st of March as Miss Pringle the present teacher leaves at the end of February.

Following the sale of the Kirkonnell estate the property of Mr. Tweedie, along the river front, has also changed hands. Mr. Tweedie is now east visiting his father the governor of New Brunswick.

Mr. Waugh has sold his land and gone back to the southern States.

Owing to the efforts of Mr. Steele and Mr. Brodie, an undenominational Sunday school is about to be started on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 in the school house which will fill a long felt want as there has been no Sunday school for some years.

A gang of C.P.R. plasterers are now busy replastering Whonnock station.

With the rest of the Fraser Valley, Whonnock feels the winter grip and sleighing is in full swing. Monday registered a minimum of 8 degrees and a maximum of 14 degrees of frost.

Mr. Watson paid another visit to Mission to be present at the confirmation of his daughter and spent a morning looking around. He reports a wonderful change since his last visit.

Vol. 4 No. 11: February 24, 1910

The February number of the Scrap Book contains a story of Bailey the Twentieth-Century Pirate, otherwise known as Kirkonnell. After tracing Bailey through the different stages of his career it says "he bought a small ranch in New Westminster, thirty miles from Vancouver." There is apparently much work for the secretary of the New Westminster Board of Trade yet to do in making New Westminster known as a city.

Vol. 4 No. 14: March 17, 1910

Maple Ridge Council -

The monthly meeting of the Maple Ridge Council was held in Whonnock on Saturday, March 5th. The party arrived from Haney by the ten o'clock train and the party proceeded to inspect the proposed new road over Whonnock Creek and at 11 o'clock the schoolhouse was reached and a large number of residents were waiting. The reeve and all the councilors were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as read and signed, after which the reeve addressed the meeting stating that this meeting was held in Whonnock to give the

residents a chance of complaining of any grievance and he was ready to hear any ratepayer who had any suggestion to make or any petition to ask.

Mr. Scott asked that a ditch be dug about 200 yards long in front of his property.

Mr. Rolley asked that about 3 chains on the edge of the Indian reserve might be slashed as it shaded his orchard.

Mr. Hood supported by Messrs. Crickmay, Mulvey and Jansen, that a new road should be opened up through the Hood property. Mr. Scott further drew attention to the dog tax which was an imposition to farmers who required a dog on their land. Mr. Crickmay supported him.

The reeve acknowledged the requests and said after lunch the council would give the decision. The council then rose and were entertained at lunch by Councilor Lee and after resuming business informed the meeting that Mr. Scott's request for a ditch be left with Councilor Lee to act upon and for Mr. Rolley to apply to the Indian Agent at Westminster as council had no rights on Indian reservations. With regards to the new road through Mr. Hood's property, he, the reeve, and the clerk had been to Victoria and was [sic] assured that they would get an appropriation of \$2,000 for Whonnock roads. The matter however being urgent it was proposed and seconded by councilors McKenzie and Lougheed that \$100 be immediately granted for the purpose.

With regard to the dog tax, it was imperative that something should be done to stop the number of ownerless curs that were overrunning the municipality and the by-law must run one year till October 1st, when if found necessary to repeal it the council would do so with pleasure. ... a petition from residents at Carmichael's corner [was read] ...

The cattle by-law Act 1910, was read for the first time. The members of the Council were not in full accord with the by-law, and on being put to the vote two voted for and three against. The by-law therefore drops to the satisfaction of the Whonnock farmers.

Vol. 4 No. 17: April 7, 1910

Ruskin Breezy Items -

Mr. Porter went on business to Vancouver on Wednesday on business... Mr. E.H. Heaps spent Thursday in Vancouver. Mrs. Harry Skipper left for Vancouver on Friday where she will remain for a few days.

The C.P.R. has started to grade here for a new depot, west of the present site. A concert was given in the Ruskin Hall on Saturday evening by the Whonnock orchestra. A dance finished up the evening.

Vol. 4 No. 19: April 21, 1910

Whonnock Whispering -

(From our Own Correspondent)

A most successful basket social was held last Saturday evening, the proceeds of which amounted to upwards of \$180, was divided between Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Garner, two widow's who were in need of assistance. The school house was filled and great interest was taken in the bidding for the fancy baskets, the highest price being \$6.75 for the basket of Miss Cormick of Glen Valley. A varied program of songs, recitations, etc. was carried out and a dance completed the evening.

The meeting of the rate payers to discuss the proposed money by-law of Maple Ridge was well attended. Unfortunately no member of Council was present to argue for the scheme and the meeting decided that the time was not ripe for the Municipality to borrow money for road purposes.

Vol. 4 No. 26: June 9, 1910

Edward Wilcox will serve fifteen years for the murder of Harry Garner. He put in a honest plea for clemency.

Vol. 5 No. 4: July 7, 1910

Whonnock Whispering -

Miss Annie Wilkie formerly of Hatzic has been appointed to Whonnock school. A picknick for the joint schools of Whonnock and Ruskin was held in Whonnock on Thursday last, under the direction of Miss Kneeshaw of Whonnock school and Mr. Donald Martin of Ruskin school. Sports followed in the afternoon, most of the prizes being captured by Ruskin scholars. Donald Gilchrist of Ruskin sat at Haney for the entrance examination.

Vol. 5 No. 4: July 7, 1910

Maple Ridge Council -

The Maple Ridge council met on Saturday at Haney in the municipal hall, all members being present. ... Communications were read and dealt with ... From Cooper, Chapman and Mulvey, asking that the road be improved so that they might get to Whonnock station with their fruit. Matter referred to councilor for that ward -- Councilor Lee. ...

Vol. 5 No. 5: July 14, 1910

Entrance Exams -

The results ... for the rural examinations for entrance to highschool ...

Maple Ridge - 1 wrote, 1 passed, Mildred B. Davenport 565

Stave River - 1 wrote, 1 passed, Donald H. Gilchrist

Vol. 5 No. 6: July 21, 1910

Ruskin Mill Destroyed -

Fire which started about two o'clock on Sunday morning in the boiler rooms of Heap Lumber Company's mill at Ruskin and which blazed steadily for over five hours, reduced to ashes the plant and buildings of the company and a large quantity of dressed lumber which was being held for shipment at an early date.

As soon as the fire was discovered every available man was called out to fight the fire. About one hundred men organized themselves into a fire brigade to endeavor to save the mill, but when this was found to be impossible, attention was directed to the saving of the hotel and store operated by the company. These were saved.

The dry kilns escaped destruction, but by only a narrow margin.

The extent of the damage is in the neighborhood of \$50,000. The mill and lumber was insured. It is altogether likely the mill will be rebuilt.

Vol. 5 No. 6: July 21, 1910

The Stave River Line -

Two large gangs of men are now at work on the construction of an electric road from Ruskin up the West side of the Stave River to the works of the Western Power Company about seven miles from the mouth of the river. It is expected that the road will be completed in three months. The new road is to enable the company to haul the heavy machinery to their works. Heretofore the company have hauled over the wagon road, which, at times of the years proves very expensive. The road will expedite the hauling it is expected.

Vol. 6 No. 13: March 9, 1911

Port Haney Jottings -

The Maple Ridge council met in the school at Whonnock on Saturday last instead of in the municipal hall where the regular meetings are held each month. This is following out the usual custom to hold a council meeting in the eastern part of the district once in each year.

Vol. 6 No. 17: April 6, 1911 - supplement

Haney News Items -

Mr. Ferguson was recently married to Miss Rowley [Rolley] of Whonnock and they have decided to still remain in Maple Ridge.

Vol. 6 No. 26: June 8, 1911

Maple Ridge Council -

[M]oved by Councilor Rowley [Rolley] and seconded by Councilor Ansell ... that Councilor Rowley purchase for his ward on Climax Road Hone for \$50.00. The road hone is to be for the Whonnock district. It is three cross pieces about 5 ½ feet wide placed on two runners and for the purpose of leveling the roads. It is 10 feet high and weighs 330 pounds. It can be weighted down if necessary. In place of the front bar being plane steel teeth spaced about three inches apart may be substituted. With this machine the cost of keeping a good road in repair is estimated at \$3 per mile per annum.

Mr. Rowley and Mr. Beckett were delegated to interview the C.P.R. re Whonnock road at the station. A communication was read by the clerk from Supt. Graham and in reference to cattle running at large within half a mile of the railway tracks. Filed. Mr. Hodson of Whonnock addressed the council re government work in front of his ranch. He was told that the government road when completed would not injure him. He will see Mr. Bonson. ... Mr. Spilsbury wrote re a road now under repair and asking for a bridge. Filed.

Vol. 7 No. 4: July 6, 1911

Maple Ridge Council

From G.E. Graham of the C.P.R. re the road at Whonnock and stating that the work asked for would cost \$850, but he promised additions to the platform, and also stated that he would put off some ballast at the station for the road if council would take charge of same. This councilor Rowley promised, and the C.P.R. will be notified to that effect. Constable Scott of Whonnock resigned stating he lived too far back to be able to act properly.

Vol. 7 No. 9: August 10, 1911

A Garden Party

The ladies of Whonnock intend holding a big garden party at Whonnock on August 10th on the grounds of Mr. Whiting. The money obtained is to be devoted to the building of a public hall. A subscription is being passed around for this purpose now and the funds are not coming in fast enough to suit the ladies who have the work in hand.

Vol. 8 No. 12: March 7, 1912

Maple Ridge Council

... that the Clerk write to Western Canada Power Co. asking them to use every effort to supply power to Whonnock as the residents most urgently require it. ...

Vol. 8 No 25, June 6, 1912

Maple Ridge Council

... from E.A. Hedly, Whonnock, stating objects of Ladies' Benevolent Society in constructing a hall at Whonnock. He, however, omitted asking for a grant.

... an interesting communication was received from a number of rate payers of Mission Municipality asking for annexation to the Municipality of Maple Ridge. The letter went on to state "... the residents of that portion of ward four lying west of the Stave River have not for some years past received a fair or equitable treatment at the hands of the Council of Mission Municipality, and have never received a fair proportion of the expenditure of revenue collected from said ward for roads and other improvement. We have been assessed on a valuation higher in proportion than any other portion of the Municipality. Business sittings of the Council are held without proper notice, rate payers not knowing when many of the meetings are held have no opportunity of attending and are unable to obtain information in the business transactions at such meetings from time to time.

The names of a large number of persons in said portion of said ward 4, legally entitled to be on the voters list for said ward 4 and who are still so entitled, have been willfully and improperly struck off the list and said persons disfranchised, with the object, as the petitioners wisely believe, of preventing residents of said ward 4 bringing about a change in the representation of said ward.

The said portion of said ward 4 which petitioners desire to attach to the Municipality of Maple Ridge, is cut off by Stave River and is adjacent to Maple Ridge and its affairs could be much more conveniently carried on your petitioners believe [and] would be much more equitable administered as part of the Municipality of Maple Ridge.

signed: J. Brackley, Wm. Bell, G. Nikula, James Yeo, J.R. Krause, J. Sproule, S.C. Henderson, E.T. Baker, A.F. Ritchie, E. McArdie. ...

Vol. IX No. 2, June 27, 1912

The funeral took place on Friday last in Vancouver, of the late Mr. William Walden who died in Whonnock, the Rev. C.C. Owen, vicar of Christ Church officiating.

Vol. IX No. 4, July 11, 1912

Maple Ridge Notes

The results lists of the scholars of Maple Ridge who sat recently for the High School entrance examinations have been received as follows:

Whonnock School: Gudrun Lee, Harold Armes, Charles Black

Vol. IX No. 4, July 11, 1912

Maple Ridge Council

The plans of Mr. James Armes, of Vancouver, being S.E. Corner of 1/4 Sec. 12 situate at Whonnock were returned for redating, the date of them being over 30 days old, and too far back for registering. ...

Communications were read by the Clerk. From Ladies Club at Whonnock asking for donation towards the cost of building the new hall at Whonnock. The acting Reeve stated that they had no power under the Municipal Clauses Act to make such a grant, to which the council concurred.

Vol. IX No. 8, August 8, 1912

Maple Ridge Council

Mr. Graham of Whonnock interviewed the council as to a road on to his land for the purpose of getting in building materials as he wished to build a house and settle up the land; over \$700 had been paid for taxes since 1905. Councilor Fulton, in replying, said that for a mile west of Mulvey's corner the road from Whonnock was good. Mr. Whiting of Whonnock took loads up there several times weekly, and from 400 to 500 feet of lumber could be taken

up. Councilor Hall was not prepared to deny work was not required on that road, but money had been spent on the lower part of the road from Whonnock which had been taken all the money allocated for that road. He would however see what could be done when the rest of the road was in good repair.