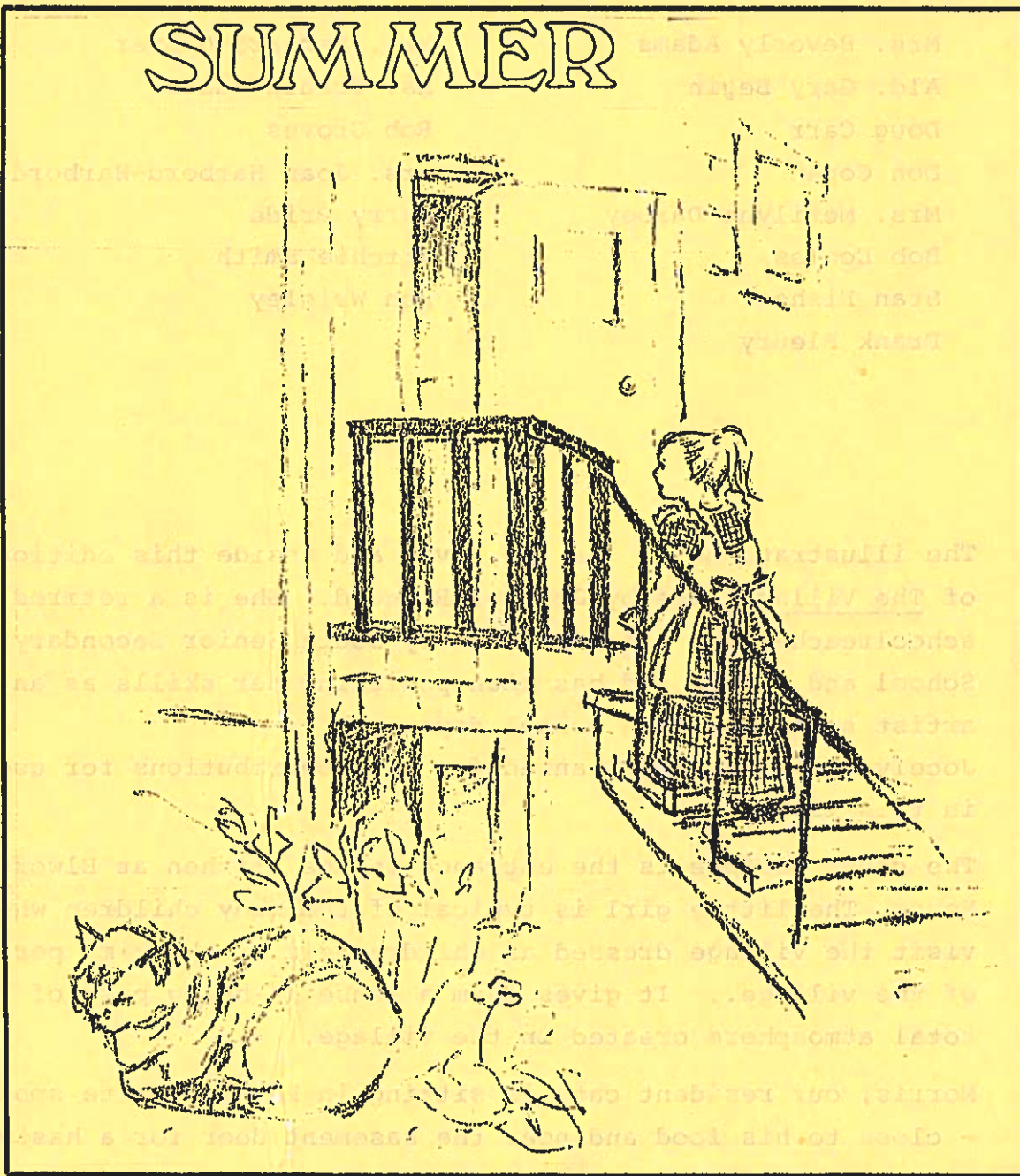


BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM

THE VILLAGER

4900 DEER LAKE AVE. BURNABY BC V5G 3T6

SUMMER





- Owned by the Corporation of the District of Burnaby.

- Administered by the Museum Board of Directors:

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The illustrations on the cover and inside this edition of The Villager are by Jocelyn Reynard. She is a retired schoolteacher who attended Burnaby South Senior Secondary School and U.B.C. and has been polishing her skills as an artist since her high school days.

Jocelyn is sincerely thanked for her contributions for use in this issue.

The cover picture is the entrance to the kitchen at Elworth House. The little girl is typical of the many children who visit the village dressed as children did in the time period of the village.. It gives them a sense of being part of the total atmosphere created in the village.

Morris, our resident cat, is sitting in his favourite spot - close to his food and near the basement door for a hasty retreat should the weather turn nasty.

July 1988

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK:

Having just passed the milestone of one year at Burnaby Village Museum, I am indisputedly older and certainly wiser.

The wisdom comes from dealing with the Museum's expansion. This expansion, which has been discussed in its many guises for a decade, has presented a major challenge to myself and the Board of Directors in terms of resolving the large number of details presented to us by the architect, engineers, planners, inspectors, environmental representatives, municipal management and affiliated groups. Then there are the equal complications of all of the questions, concerns and details generated by the Board of Directors and the Museum staff which must be resolved "in house" through contact with the aforementioned group of specialists and professionals.

Each time I have been queried by Museum staff (paid or volunteer) I have talked of the imminent expansion. I have used the word imminent so often with nothing happening that I have been forced to look up its definition.

"Imminent" - likely to occur at any moment. (Random House Dictionary 2nd Edition.)

With the suggestion of surprise in the definition, I guess it is still an appropriate word to use.

As I start my second year working on the expansion there are three main concerns to be resolved. The first of these is the question of money for both Phase I and the remaining two phases of the master plan. The Phase I budget has been prepared and reviewed by an independent cost consultant. A meeting between the Board of Directors, Municipal Staff and Museum staff will be held in July to confirm the best way to put the financial package required before the Municipal Council for review and, hopefully, approval.

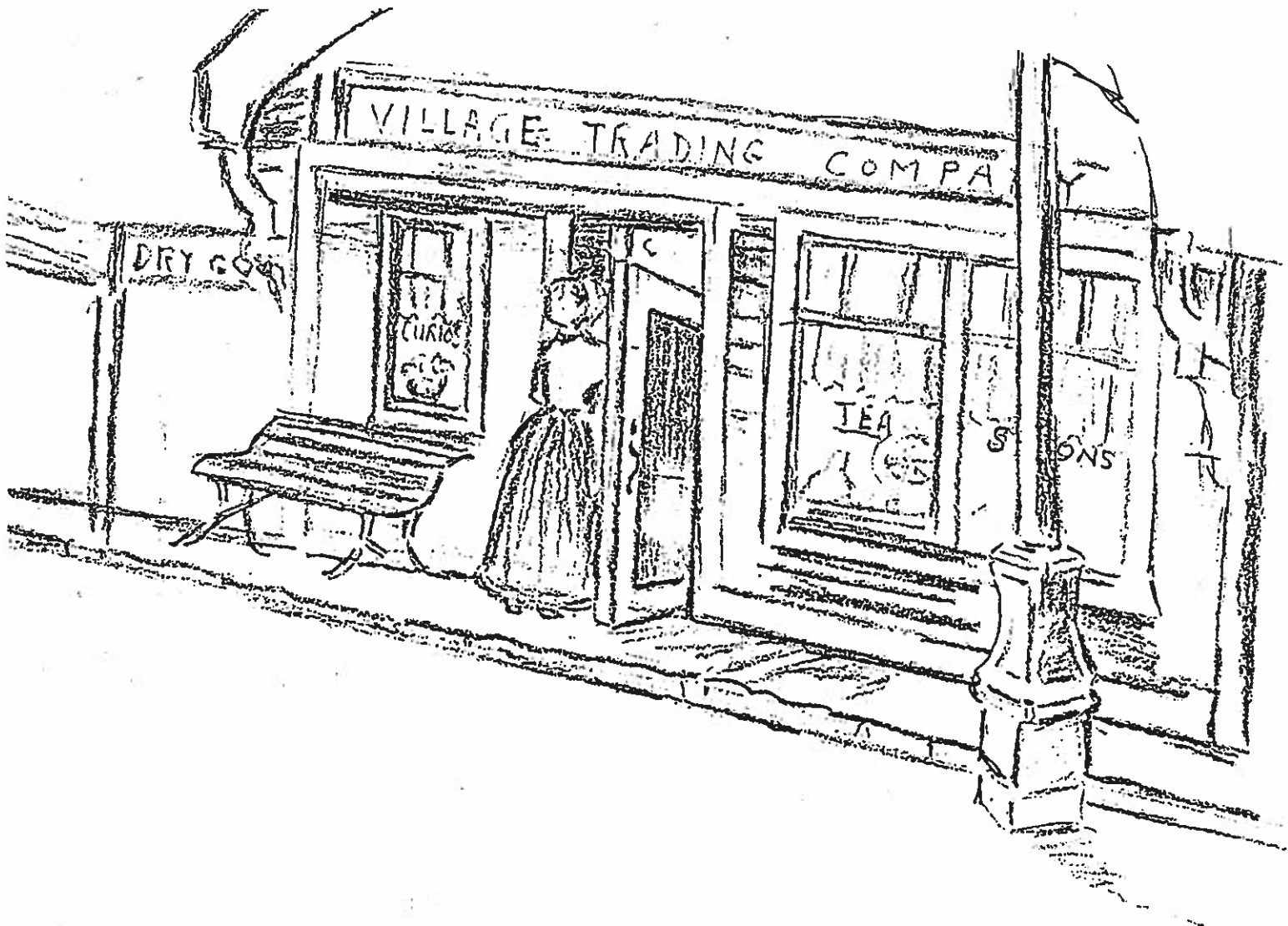
The second concern has to do with confirming the details of the inclusion of affiliated groups (especially the BCSME and the Vintage Car Club of Canada) and the degree of involvement in the expansion of these groups. The Board of Directors and Museum staff are endeavouring to explore every reasonable possibility to meet the needs and aspirations of both Burnaby Village Museum and the affiliated groups.

The third concern is really an outgrowth of the resolution of all other concerns and details. Once the preceding items are dealt with then the following can occur: final confirmation of

the logistics of moving the location of the entrance of the Museum, centralization of the collection, relocation of departments of the Museum, readjustment of all our public programs, co-ordination of all advertising and printed material to reflect the new address and location. These must come together as a result of the regular, auxiliary, and volunteer staff's efforts.

Although I am now wise enough to know that we will not be in our new entrance building by opening day 1989, I am more determined than ever, as Museum Director, to preside over the imminent expansion of Burnaby Village Museum.

Terry Malone.



In May 1988, Burnaby Village Museum acquired a major 'new' artifact in the form of an old farmhouse for use in the Museum's expansion. The house was originally owned by Jesse Love and was located at 7651 Cumberland St. at 14th. in East Burnaby.

The house was threatened with demolition but by fortunate circumstances it has been saved and moved to the Museum. Mr. Harvey Elder, a local member of the ratepayers' association, had read the stories of the Love family in "Pioneer Tales of Burnaby" and he alerted the Burnaby Historical Society who in turn notified the Museum staff.

The house is believed to be Burnaby's oldest surviving building, and although needing a full restoration, it escaped a lot of modernization that has affected so many old buildings. We are told that it was built on Burnaby's first building permit. The house was apparently built in 1892, the year of Burnaby's incorporation. The Love family, which later numbered 13, was 6 people at this time, and as such 2% of Burnaby's population of 250 for 1892 lived in this house! The Love family and their descendants lived in the house from c.1892 to 1971 and we have access to many family photographs and memoirs. Two of the daughters of Jesse Love, who were born in the house in the 1890's, are still alive and have been interviewed by museum staff.

The family has an amazing history. Jesse and Martha Love were both born in England and met in Ontario. They lived in the Canadian prairies west of Brandon, Manitoba, and then in North Dakota. When they came west in 1887 to join Martha's father who had survived the 1886 Vancouver fire, they arrived on the first transcontinental train into Vancouver. This train was pulled by pulled by engine No. 374 which is still preserved! This is the engine that sat at Kitsilano Beach for years and was displayed at Expo 86. The Love family lived in Vancouver, Lulu Island, Mud Bay and finally Burnaby. Jesse Love bought the property from J.C. Armstrong who had owned it since 1861. Jesse had the farmhouse built and operated a farm on the site. Some of his children attended the first classes of the first school in Burnaby in 1894. Mr. Love served on Burnaby Municipal Council for five years and also on the School Board. Eventually, Jesse and Martha had eleven children, and they all lived in this house. Two of the Love daughters have stories in "Pioneer Tales of Burnaby".

The new owner of the house, Mr. Singha had intended to subdivide the property and demolish the old house, but

when he was approached by the museum, he agreed to donate the house if we could move it by a certain date. Through the magnificent co-operation of Burnaby Village Museum Association, Burnaby Municipal Council, Municipal Staff, Nickel Brothers House Movers, Historical Society, B.C. Hyrdro and others the house was moved. Now that was an adventure!

The house was too big to move in one piece and so the plan was to cut the house into three pieces, move them separately and then reassemble them on the new site. The sectioned house was then supposed to just slip under all of the hydro lines that cross over Burnaby streets. The move was planned for 1:00 am just before the May long weekend. No problem!

Murphy's Law surfaced as usual. If anything can go wrong it will and it did! The procession led off with the roof on a truck, followed by the main portion of the house, and this was to be followed by the kitchen. Right away it was found that the house was about three feet too tall to slip under the wires. The B.C. Hydro crews had to lift wires all along the route. By 5:00 am the house was still at Canada Way and 10th. and the permit had expired. The house was parked in the church parking lot at that location, and the roof and kitchen were rushed down to the museum site. The kitchen played havoc with the soft muddy ground and its truck sank about one and a half feet into the mud. After the kitchen was positioned, the roof was parked and its truck became stuck.

Everything had to be left until after the long weekend. The house was finally moved and placed on a temporary siting at the museum. We could not put the roof on right away as the crane had broken down, so that happened a few days later. Rain was threatening and the roof had holes in it, so to protect the house we stuck umbrellas up to cover each hole! You may laugh, but it worked! The house has now been sealed up to protect it, alarms have been installed and the house has been cleaned up after its move. We had one big mess in particular where a mover had fallen through the ceiling at one point where it was lathe and plaster!

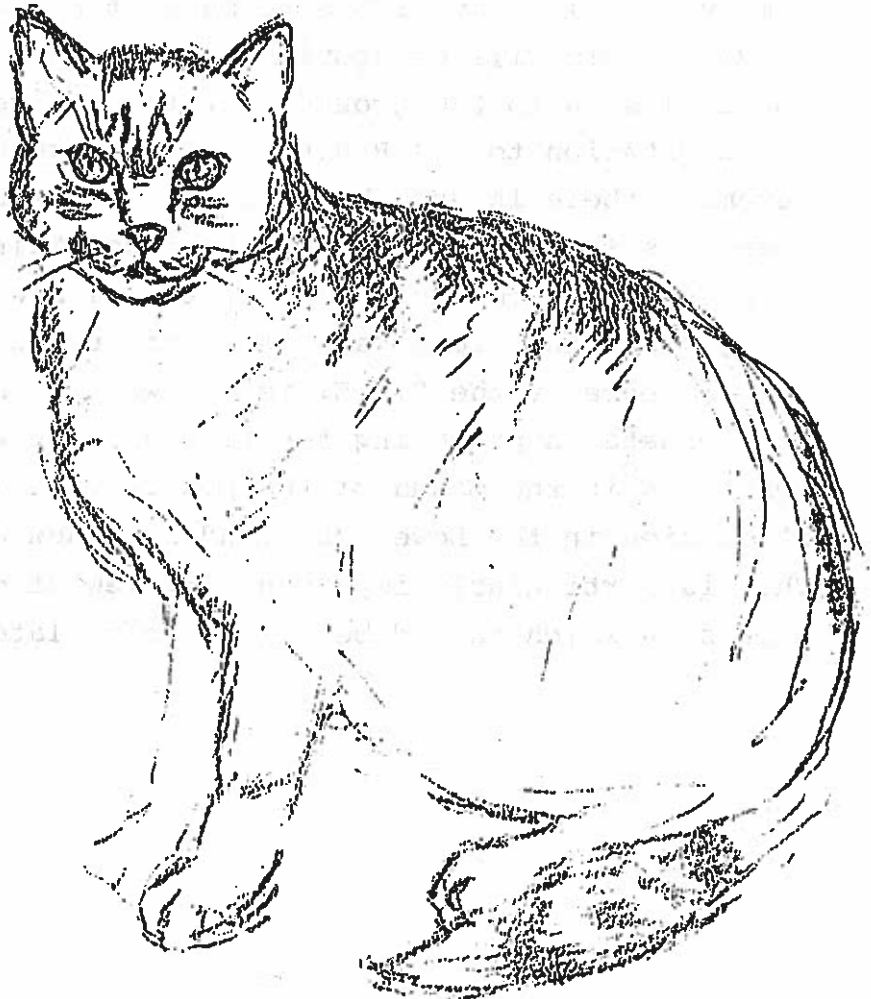
For now the Love House sits facing the Hart House on Deer Lake Avenue. By the end of this year, we expect to have chosen a permanent site for the house and to have decided upon the 'period' of restoration for the house. This will determine whether or not the c.1905-08 kitchen will be kept or not, and which if any of the porches will be recreated. The actual restoration will take years, but the detective work has already started.

We have found samples of at least nine of the old wallpapers used in the house, determined where the stairs went and what changes have been made to the house over the years. Basically no major changes were made after 1929, and we have already talked to two of the men who made those changes, so we have a very good idea of the appearance of the house for circa 1912. We have copies of photos dating back we think to 1892 showing the house site before the house was built, and showing all major alterations done to the exterior, as well as some historic interior photos!

The Jesse Love Farmhouse is a wonderful addition to the museum. We knew that we needed a farmhouse for our expansion and we have literally lucked onto the best possible one around! We now have a good selection of house types at Burnaby Village Museum - the log cabin, the 1890's Jesse Love Farmhouse that grew with its family, Tommy Irvine's tiny bachelor house and finally the Batemans' country retirement home "Elworth".

The hope of the staff is to have the Jesse Love Farmhouse restored and open to the public by the centennial in 1992 of Burnaby and, we believe, the house itself. We look forward to it.

Colin Stevens, Curator, July 1988



PACIFIC NATIONAL EXHIBITION DISPLAY

The Village Museum has again been invited to participate at the P.N.E. August 20 through September 5 in a much enlarged area and on the main floor at the B.C. Building.

Merilyn, Terry and Colin have had discussions regarding this year's display and plans are well under way in terms of detailing the specifics of what is to be included. With an enlarged area major changes in the exhibit will be required.

Several people have already volunteered to transport the materials, etc. to the P.N.E. prior to the set up.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO STAFF THE BOOTH during the open days of the P.N.E.!

If you can spare a 3 to 4 hour shift, please call Merilyn Darbey - 437 9984 or Joan Harbord-Harbord - 299 3329 or the Village - 294 1231 to advise of the day, date and time you will be available to be at the P.N.E.

Volunteers will be provided with gate passes that give you admission to the grounds for the day you volunteer. Transportation to the P.N.E. is your responsibility; but remember there is good bus service to the P.N.E. during its open days from everywhere in the Lower Mainland.

PLEASE, check your calendar to see how much time you can give to this important facet of our advertising program. Our presence at the P.N.E. is one way in which we can all participate in promoting the Village or creating a greater awareness in the minds of the public that we are a major attraction in the Lower Mainland and should be investigated. This is particularly important in view of our impended expansion which should be 'kicked-off' later in the year.

PARADES

This is the fourth year that the Village Museum has entered its float in the various parades held in the Lower Mainland; in partnership with the B. C. Society of Model Engineers. On Occasion, some of the dancers from the vaudeville have accompanied us.

In the beginning, our float was very simple - a farm wagon pulled by the railway's half-scale model of a 1910 Case steam tractor.

In 1986 we entered the P.N.E. parade for the first time and took a second prize. Last year we acquired a new float - at the front, a model of 'Old Curly' and at the back, a model of the church facing forward and a portion of a model of the gazebo facing the rear. Volunteers in costume are always on board and carry our banner announcing whom we represent. Our presence is always recognized by the parade spectators with appropriate applause.

So far this year we have entered the Cloverdale Rodeo and the Westminster Hyack Festival parades in May; the Steveston Salmon Festival (July 1st), the Vancouver Sea Festival and the White Rock Torchlight parades. Still to come are the Surrey Centennial (August 6th) P.N.E. (August 20th), Hope Brigade Days (September 17th) and the Hyack Santa Claus Parade (December 3rd).

Our first trip out this year - to Cloverdale - was an unexpected adventure, when we lost part of the roof of the church as we travelled along the freeway. Undaunted, however, we turned this happening to our advantage. With the help of a friendly Cloverdale resident we fashioned a sign: CHURCH SOCIAL, MAY 23rd, FUNDS FOR THE NEW ROOF and tacked it to the side of the church below the missing roof. This turned out to be a hit with the spectators who thought that we had left the roof off, on purpose.

For this effort we took the first prize for Clubs and Organizations. We entered the float in the Hyack parade without repairs and received second prize.

Our efforts at participation in the Steveston parade were rewarded with a special recognition ribbon for the Best Floral Decorations. The Sea Festival judges liked our float and awarded best for Clubs and Organizations.

FOOTLIGHT THEATRE COMPANY

During the 1890's and the 1920's, Vaudeville was a great training ground for singers, dancers, comics and performers of all varieties. These troupes travelled from town to town giving the townspeople an opportunity to escape from their troubles and woes through the medium of laughter and melody.

With this in mind, the Footlight Theatre Company (formerly the Heritage Musical Theatre) opened with four vaudeville shows on Father's Day, June 19th to very enthusiastic audiences.

The Company also took the show on June 17th to the Senior's Barbeque at the Bonsor Recreation Centre in Burnaby and on June 23rd to the Seniors' Night at the Kiwanis Lodge on Gordon Street in West Vancouver. Both evenings performances were greatly appreciated by the respective audiences.

The Vaudeville Show in the Burnaby Village Museum will be held every Sunday and Labor Day holiday with performances at 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00 each afternoon.

COME TO THE VILLAGE AND SEE OUR SHOW. Audience participation is encouraged and we guarantee that you will enjoy yourself.

THE GIFT SHOP

Visitors to the gift shop these days tell us that it smells wonderful. The fragrance comes from our Pot Pouri, scented soaps, bath salts, etc., of which there is a large selection.

We also have a new collection of unusual cards and gift wraps most of which is unique to the village and not available in most retail outlets.

Be sure to check out our selection of new books. We even have a few copies of Pioneer Tales of Burnaby, which should be in every home in Burnaby in that it contains so many interesting and informative stories of the early days in our municipality.

Also, don't miss our beautiful collection of China Dolls and for the sweet tooth, a tremendous selection of candies.