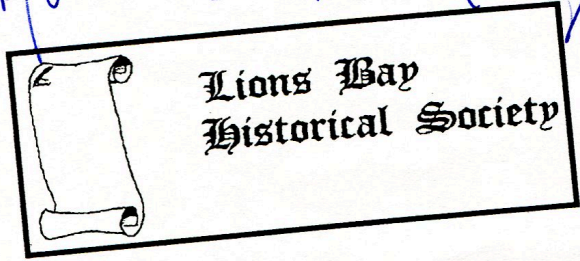


oct/03 Br. Beach X



The Seagull

lots on the foreshore side of the P.G.E. Rly right-of-way in D.L. 1815.

Letters Patent were issued by the Provincial Government on June 5th 1956, incorporating the water improvement district, know as BRUNSWICK BEACH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

Watch for more on Brunswick Beach next month.

LOOKING BACK

LBHS salutes Brunswick Beach in the first of a two part article from the archives of the society. The author of this brief history is unknown.

Alberta Bay, in Howe Sound, was surveyed in 1908, and according to a clipping taken from the Vancouver Province of April 27, 1909, "Brunswick Beach is Vancouver's newest pleasure resort and summer retreat. Lots can be purchased from Bishop Brothers in the Loo Building corner Abbott & Hastings, for \$ 1.00 down and \$ 1.00 a week. Full prices range from \$100.00 to \$ 250.00."

Mr. & Mrs. A. H. Cowherd and family summered at the beach for years, commencing in 1909, traveling by private boat. In 1910 a Government dock was built in Alberta Bay at the foot of Park Avenue and Union Steamship boats such as "Britannia" and the old sternwheeler "Baramba" called twice a day during the summer. As the Government stopped repairing the dock in 1912, the ships eventually were unable to use it and so would come fairly close to the shore and the passengers would be ferried ashore by row-boat. In 1911, Japanese lumbermen moved in with a cedar logging outfit near Crystal Falls, and cedar bolts were floated to sea via flume. Around that time, a house was built on the point - later blown down by the strong winds. In the '20s, another house, owned by Mr. Norman, an author, was built and used as a lodge. It was abandoned, and burned down in the late '30s.

Property owners in the twenties and thirties included such names as Ganger, Rimes, Copp, Loutet, Cowherd, Purmal, Smith, Elliott, Woodworth, Loveridge, Burnham, Bennett, Edwards. In 1941, Dr. Patterson, B. Watson and Jas Edwards brought lumber from North Vancouver to Alberta Bay on a huge scow. The scow was beached and left to rot. It was finally pushed into deep water by a bulldozer in 1965, or thereabouts.

The water system in those early days consisted of many varieties of pipe and hose. The intake was just a pipe placed in a pool up near the falls. The first person arriving in the summer would put the pipe into the water and the last one to leave in the fall would remove it. It was a beautiful walk along the deer paths, through the huge trees and mammoth ferns up to the falls. Spray from the many connections added to the interest of the hike.

In 1954, a survey work for the P.G.E. Rly was commenced, and next spring Ray Grant called a meeting of property owners to be held at his home in Vancouver on March 13. In 1955 the Alberta Bay and Brunswick Beach Ratepayers Association was formed. At the first annual meeting held on February 20, 1956, Wally Fearn moved to incorporate as a water improvement district, to include all