

decker boat house with 6 rowboats, a wharf and a breakwater. This made the finish line of an annual mile swim competition which he organized in the mid-1930's and provided with a cup. The first trophy was replaced with a new one a few years ago.

The strip of ravine land later named Coldicutt Park adjoining the Villa was part of the resort conveniences and provided the way along a well-kept shaded trail for guests and others to travel to and from the beach.

There was also a telephone service, and Tom Coldicutt recalled that it was supplied from the town, a mile and a quarter east of the Villa, after he had provided a pole line. Smiling, he noted, "The telephone company charged only \$7.60 to put in the phone!"

Before selling to present owner Max Zack, in March 1946, he moved some of the cottages to Coldicutt Avenue, just north of the Villa property.

The foreshore and ravine land of 3.064 acres now comprising Coldicutt Park, and belonging to White Rock, was sold to Surrey August 18, 1947, for \$1,665.

That year, always mindful of civic development, while president of local Board of Trade, he helped to bring about the leasing by Surrey of the first 14.33 acres of the 172 which now make up Semiahmoo Park on Marine Drive (since 1975, 24.57 acres).

At 87, no longer seeking new fields to conquer, Tom Coldicutt now lives quietly with his wife, his youngest son and daughter in their large Vancouver home. There he can look back on a lifetime of interesting activity which includes work with various fraternal lodges.

He has six children, including Margaret in White Rock, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He golfs for recreation, and although retired from hunting and fishing he now enjoys more reading and TV viewing for spare time pleasure.

S.H. (Bert) Coldicutt died October 31, 1969

T.D. (Tom) Coldicutt died June 16, 1970

Coldicutt Villa changed ownership in 1968 and was demolished in April 1970 to make way for the 36 self-owned townhouse development, Ocean Ridge.

EARLY MERCHANTS . . . Barge — Fowles

DATELINE: July 6, 1967

Although the "go-ahead" trend that prevails everywhere on the local scene promises well for the future of White Rock, a look back still holds an appeal both for the oldtimer who enjoys the bittersweet of nostalgia, and the newcomer who is interested to know something of early days.

One phase of pioneering that means a great deal to a new community is, and always was, the shopping facilities. For in any place where people settle, one of the essentials of living is the local store providing at least the basic requirements for everyday needs.

Such was the business of shopkeeper Harry Fowles who, by operating the first store on hilltop over 40 years ago, undoubtedly contributed in a vital way to the state of development there today.

He is not here to tell about it, for he died in 1962 at age 84. But his daughter Betty (Mrs. Eric Hickey) recalls details clearly, including taking



Mrs. Earl Barge



Betty and Eric Hickey — 1932 calendar reminder of first Hilltop store

over when her father retired, and that, in partnership with another young woman, she carried on in the store near the intersection of Buena Vista Avenue and Johnston Road until her marriage in 1932.

By that time, with land clearing and some building in the vicinity of the school, hilltop was heading for the up-coming residential and business area it is now.

But for years before Harry Fowles went into business in White Rock, merchants had been operating on the waterfront. The first of these was Fred C. Philp who in March, 1910, with his wife Williamina, opened the first store and post office, in a tent set up in the vicinity of what is now Duprez Street and Marine Drive. Named the Pioneer General Store, the business was moved often in subsequent years.

Then there was David Hughes who came in 1912 and build a combination home, store and office in a clearing on the north side of what is now Marine Drive between Oxford and Anderson streets. Living with his family in the small building facing the bay, he stocked confectionery items for sale, and started the first local real estate business.

Later on, as the town grew eastward after the Great Northern Railway moved its offices to the present site, and when the Central Hotel was built opposite, pioneers Philp and Hughes relocated their stores, and other shops started up in and around the hotel. One of these early merchants was William R. Barge.

In 1912 Barge began by opening a fish store in a small building across