

## **Early Vancouver**

### **Volume Four**

**By: Major J.S. Matthews, V.D.**

**2011 Edition (Originally Published 1944)**

*Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1935-1939.*

*Supplemental to Volumes One, Two and Three collected in 1931-1934.*

### **About the 2011 Edition**

The 2011 edition is a transcription of the original work collected and published by Major Matthews. Handwritten marginalia and corrections Matthews made to his text over the years have been incorporated and some typographical errors have been corrected, but no other editorial work has been undertaken. The edition and its online presentation was produced by the City of Vancouver Archives to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City's founding. The project was made possible by funding from the Vancouver Historical Society.

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Thos. Dunn, \$5; J.R. Northcott, \$2.50; J.S. Clute & Co., \$2.50; R. Balfour, \$2; Malee and Brown, \$5; Rev. Thompson, \$2.50; A.C. Muir, \$2.50; J.R.B. Smith, \$2.50; Dr. Lefevre, \$2.50; Allen & MacPherson, \$5; total, \$32; past subscriptions, \$70; grand total, \$102.

From the *Vancouver News*, 13 October 1886. In City Archives, City Hall, Vancouver. (Austin File.)

(Note: the first brass band on Burrard Inlet, approximately 1884, was the Squamish Indian Band at the Indian Reserve at Ustlawn [North Vancouver.] See Mrs. A. Crakanthorp conversation, 7 July 1938.)

### **MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH W.J. BARRETT-LENNARD, IN CITY ARCHIVES, 16 NOVEMBER 1936, WHITHER HE HAD COME TO HAVE A CUP OF TEA AND A BUN WITH THE CITY ARCHIVIST.**

W.J. Barrett-Lennard, of Foster and Barrett-Lennard, chartered accountants, is now engaged at the Temporary City Hall, 16 Hastings Street East (His Worship G.G. McGeer's second year), to make an examination extending over about nine months, and for a fee of \$10,000 (*NOTE ADDED LATER:* Actually, I think, paid \$9,000) into the interior economy of the City Hall, and its several departments. He is the son of W. Barrett-Lennard of Manitoba, and grandson of W.J. Barrett-Lennard, and in addition to many other activities in Vancouver, is past Worshipful Master of Western Gate Lodge, No. 48, A.F. & A.M.

The conversation turned to the Dominion Government's scheme in operation now for providing single unemployed with winter work on farms, the Dominion Government paying them a small remuneration, etc., etc.

Mr. Barrett-Lennard: "I replied to the young fellow, when he approached me on the street asking for a 'handout,' that most of the single unemployed had taken advantage of the offer, and had left Vancouver for the farms; nearly five hundred of them had gone in three weeks. Why did he not want to go?"

"He" (the young unemployed) "replied, 'Nix on that stuff. No farms for me.'"

Mr. Barrett-Lennard continued: "What do these young fellows want? Why, I 'rode the rails' when I was a boy; ran away from home when I was twelve; worked on farms on the prairie, up around Edmonton, Calgary, etc.; hard work, too, daylight to dark, but we always had plenty to eat, and that was the main object when I was boy, to keep the 'tummies' full. Of course, the fellows used to 'grouse,' swear they would never come back again, but I noticed they were usually back next year.

"And I have worked for fifteen dollars a month, too, and glad to get it. Why, I rode" (drove) "cattle in northeastern Saskatchewan for twenty-five cents a day."

Approved after being read to him.  
24 November 1936.

J.S. Matthews.  
City Archivist.

### **EXCERPT, "REPORT ON THE REORGANIZATION OF CIVIC ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER," BY W.J. BARRETT-LENNARD, DECEMBER 1936, PAGE 40.**

#### **CITY ARCHIVIST.**

Of all the persons who are serving the city's interests none is devoting himself more whole heartedly or conscientiously to the carrying out of his duty than is the City Archivist, and not one is placed in the position of having to work for such meager remuneration. The total cost of the archives office, salary and expenses, for the latter part of the year 1933 and for the two full years of 1934 and 1935 was \$1,503.58. The budget for 1936 provided \$600 for salaries and about \$725 for expenses (the archivist employs his own stenographer). The budget allowance has been increased, slightly, but when one contemplates the amount of work he undertook in connection with the preparation of data which later appeared in approximately 200 of the leading British papers respecting Vancouver's Jubilee year, there can only be one conclusion, that his treatment by the city is a public disgrace. Mr. McAdam, the Agent-General, deserves full credit for his splendid assistance in obtaining advertising of tremendous value. Some have estimated it at over

\$30,000. He, however, could have done nothing without the information which was mainly provided by the archivist—and that archivist received \$50 per month!

**EXCERPT, AGENT-GENERAL TO CITY ARCHIVIST, 10 NOVEMBER 1936, GOLDEN JUBILEE, VOL. 5, CORRESPONDENCE.**

Summarised: 267 publications provided editorial amounting to 11,380 inches, which based on the advertising rates of each paper realise a value of £13.421.9.10, which converted at \$4.85 to the pound sterling gives a total of \$65.094.23.

The above publicity was afforded by the British press entirely free from cost.

I appreciate most highly the cooperation which you extended to me in this connection, and frankly I am surprised at the extent of the goodwill shown by the British press to the story of Vancouver's 50 years of progress.

W.A. McAdam.

**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH E.G. BAYNES, OWNER, HOTEL GROSVENOR, PARK COMMISSIONER, ETC., ETC., ETC., VANCOUVER, 12 SEPTEMBER 1936.**

The City Archivist was exhibiting to Mr. Baynes a photograph of the "Brickmaker's Claim," i.e. D.L. 185, Burrard Street to Stanley Park, False Creek to Burrard Inlet, a survey made in March 1863 by Corp. Turner, Royal Engineers, original of which is in Provincial Archives (also see *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 3) and which shows John Morton's cabin on the northwest corner Burrard and Hastings Street, beside, and to the east of a creek running down from about the Court House, Georgia Street, a creek once dammed up for water by the Red Cross Brewery, and prior to that, in the earliest days, used by John Morton as his source of water supply; the "Spratt's Oilery" also used it for their water supply. Also see George Cary who states he used to shoot ducks "in the swale," now the Court House lawn.

JSM.

**"BRICKMAKER'S CLAIM." WEST END. ROYAL ENGINEERS. JOHN MORTON.**

Mr. Baines (park commissioner): "I remember Charlie Worsnop" (Lt. Col. C.B. Worsnop) "going up that ravine shooting snipe when he was a boy; oh, that would be about 1894, say, when he was about fifteen. It was the day after Christmas and he had got a rifle for a Christmas present; it would be higher up than Pender Street where I saw him after the snipe."

**"WEST END."**

"And don't I remember, I got two dollars a day, clearing logs and brush off the 'West End.'"

**STANLEY PARK.**

"It almost breaks my heart the way they are cutting Stanley Park to pieces, cutting down the trees; it's awful, but I don't seem able to stop it; they take no notice of me. Crone and Rowe Holland.

"Why, I remember the first time I ever saw it. I saw a horse and buggy coming up Georgia Street without a driver; I stopped the horse and got it, and started to drive back to where I thought the horse had come from, and that was down Georgia Street and into the park across the bridge. When I saw the inside of the old park driveway among the trees I was just enraptured; so enraptured I forgot all about the horse and buggy I was driving, which did not belong to me; it was beautiful; all gone now though. Too bad.

"The horse had strayed only a short distance when I caught him, as I found out when I got back, and a doctor came out and took him from me; and wasn't the doctor 'mad.'"