

## **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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## **FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH AUGUST JACK KHAHTSAHLANO, 4 AUGUST 1938.**

### **GASTOWN, 1884. GEORGE BLACK, BUTCHER. JERICO. JERICO CHARLIE. TOM CYRS. SUNNYSIDE FLOAT.**

August Jack Khatsahlano: "First I remember Gastown only four houses; just two saloons, one butcher shop, one Chinaman's laundry; may be more; I forget, long time ago; and a few shacks along beach by Cambie Street. Tom Cyrs have one saloon, south side Water Street; China laundry south side too

"Jericho Charlie, my stepfather, he take big canoe, go down Hastings Mill store. Load up. Maybe ten sacks oats, ten sacks barley, five bales hay, groceries; put all in canoe, then paddle up to Gastown; steer, in here between logs and floats, in between Sunnyside float and Joe Mannion's float; push canoe under George Black's butcher shop, and they's open trap door in floor and lower meat into canoe. Sail and paddle canoe down to Jericho and Point Grey logging camps; no float at Jericho; just run nose of canoe up on sand, and Jericho Charlie pack oats, one sack at a time, up to camp; camp just by beach. Big canoe, big load, two tons.

"Sunnyside float just two logs; may be float four feet wide; may be five feet; about two hundred feet out in water, foot Carrall Street."

### **METHODIST PARSONAGE. ANDREWS. "CHUCKLE."**

"I think that's boathouse" (photo of Gastown from water, 1884) "way over here. There's whitemans live in little shacks along there" (foot Cambie Street.) "There Andrews live in little shack there, and 'Chuckle' he's got hole in his throat, and when he talks he goes, 'chuckle, chuckle,' and we call him 'Chuckle.'"

### **SPARS.**

"These logs" (same photo which shows a few logs beside Sunnyside float) "may be spars. They square them on the beach, low tide. Put them on beach, high tide; chop them square" (octagonal) "with axe; float off high tide."

### **BLUEBERRIES. BLACKBERRIES.**

"I been pick blueberries and blackberries, but they's low; six cent pound blackberries, ten cents blueberries; my wife" (Swanamia) "go out Point Grey sell them. Indians boys break in our house and steal twenty baskets, and my hat what's in that picture there on wall; I got two more, though; not so good, though. Catch boys up Kamloops, bring back; priest says they's not to go to jail; they's get lash every Saturday."

## **MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH AUGUST JACK KHAHTSAHLANO, WHO CAME TO THE CITY ARCHIVES, AND SHARED MY LUNCH WITH ME, 22 AUGUST 1938.**

His wife is up at Sumas picking hops.

### **INDIAN IMPLEMENTS. ALDERMAN J.W. CORNETT. MAKING FIRE.**

August said: "This stone" (a round flat stone fell out of the bank at the summer residence of Alderman J.W. Cornett, lot 9, Hogan's Alley, Maple Beach, Boundary Bay [American side], August 1938, size 4½" x 4½" x 1½", with tapered 1½" hole on both sides, hollowed down to centre hole of 5/16" diameter; edges darkened with charcoal.) "This stone is for making fire. The ways they's do is, they get little stick, and twirl it in hole; roll it between hands, it gets hot; the cedar grinds, and the cedar dust glows; it's hard work, but it makes the fire all right. Then, under the little hole" (in the middle) "they's have a little pile of cedar bark dust, and little bits red hot dust from the cedar stick drop through the hole on the little pile, and you get fire. You can see the charcoal burn. When the smoke comes, they's lift the stone, and blow on the little pile."