

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

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2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1936-1945.

Supplemental to volumes one, two, three and four collected in 1931, 1932 and 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 125th anniversary of the City's founding. The project was made possible by funding from the Vancouver Historical Society.

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McGill is an old farmer,
And Morris, he's a charmer,
And Ellery and Aiken are all there. (Chorus.)

There's lack of woman's nursing,
There's lack of woman's tears,
A famine of their love and tender care.
So open up your purses; assist those two brave nurses.
Who for Jesus' sake are going right up there. (Chorus.)

Composed by Thos. J. McGill, in Brandon, Manitoba, 1898.

18 SEPTEMBER 1945 – MOODYVILLE, BURRARD INLET. EARLY FIRE PROTECTION.

Memo of conversation, over the phone, with Miss Muriel Crakanthorp, R.C.A.F. No. 2 Equipment Depot, Indian Reserve, False Creek, only daughter of Mrs. Alice Crakanthorp, 1406 Davie Street, pioneer of Burrard Inlet, 1873; first at Hastings Sawmill, 1873, and afterwards at Moodyville Sawmill, 18 September 1945.

MOODYVILLE SAWMILL. MOODYVILLE, B.C. FIRE PROTECTION.

Miss Muriel Crakanthorp: "Mother says to tell you that there was no fire brigade at Moodyville; all they had was barrels and buckets of water on top of the roof of the sawmill; the buckets had something painted on them like 'Property of Moodyville Sawmill'; something like that.

"In the case of fire, the men of the mill were supposed to rush up on top of the mill and man the buckets. There was lots of water at Moodyville, and there were very few fires. If a house caught on fire, the men all gathered and put it out with buckets; bucket brigade. There was no hose, or fire brigade; just buckets."

As told to me. J.S. Matthews.

CONVERSATION, SAME DAY, WITH MR. CALVIN PATTERSON, BROTHER, MRS. ALICE CRAKANTHORP, PROPRIETOR, CIGAR STAND, HOTEL GEORGIA.

MOODYVILLE SAWMILL. MOODYVILLE, B.C. FIRE PROTECTION.

Mr. Patterson: "Oh, they had some hose, and hose reels about the sawmill too."

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. THEODORE BRYANT, LADYSMITH, B.C., 24 SEPTEMBER 1945.

Son of the Rev. Cornelius Bryant, minister of the (Wesleyan) Methodist Church, more commonly known as the "Indian Church" at Granville, or "Gastown" from 1878 to 1881. Mr. Bryant is on a visit to Vancouver; has been up to Prince Rupert for a trip; also to Ashcroft, and is on his way home, and spent this afternoon in the City Archives. Despite his age he is sound of mind and thought, and as active as a cricket. He has been a postmaster over *fifty years*; first at Wellington, Vancouver Island, for thirteen years and eight months, and at Ladysmith since 1907.

ROLLER SKATING RINK. HASTINGS TOWNSITE. GEORGE BLACK.

Mr. Bryant: "It was earlier than 1881 that George Black had a skating rink, roller skates, at Hastings, because Father was here from 1878 to 1881, and it was before we left. George Black used to get a wagon, fill it with straw, and come down to Granville, or 'Gastown' as they call it now, and pile all the children he could get into the wagon; sit us on the straw, and take us up to Hastings Townsite to his skating rink."

GRANVILLE HOTEL. SULLIVANS OF GRANVILLE. MAGEE BROS. STORE. JOSEPH MANNION.

"In this photograph here, this Granville Hotel" (photo C.V., Dist. N. 19, P. 30; Granville, 1884) "this hotel was not the original Granville Hotel; the one you see here was built while we were in Granville, probably in 1879 or 1880. It replaced an earlier building, which was pulled down or moved or something, but I