

**Early Vancouver**

**Volume Five**

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

**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 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City's founding. The project was made possible by funding from the Vancouver Historical Society.

**Copyright Statement**

© 2011 City of Vancouver. Any or all of *Early Vancouver* may be used without restriction as to the nature or purpose of the use, even if that use is for commercial purposes. You may copy, distribute, adapt and transmit the work. It is required that a link or attribution be made to the City of Vancouver.

**Reproductions**

High resolution versions of any graphic items in *Early Vancouver* are available. A fee may apply.

**Citing Information**

When referencing the 2011 edition of *Early Vancouver*, please cite the page number that appears at the bottom of the page in the PDF version only, not the page number indicated by your PDF reader. Here are samples of how to cite this source:

Footnote or Endnote Reference:

Major James Skitt Matthews, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 5 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 5. Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011.

**Contact Information**

City of Vancouver Archives  
1150 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3J9  
604.736.8561  
archives@vancouver.ca  
vancouver.ca/archives



**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH WILLIAM TEMPLETON, "BILLY," SON OF HIS WORSHIP WM. TEMPLETON, AND NOW OF THE METER DEPARTMENT OF THE B.C. ELECTRIC RAILWAY.**

**VANCOUVER LACROSSE CLUB, COLOURS.**

"Well in 1899, at any rate, they were grey sweaters trimmed with maroon, and a monogram, 'V.L.C.' in maroon on the chest." (See photo, C.V. P. Sp. 4. N. Sp. 5.) June 1899.

**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH GEO. MATHESON, DEPUTY LAND REGISTRAR, COURT HOUSE, WHO WENT TO SCHOOL AT THE OLD HASTINGS SAWMILL SCHOOL, 1886.**

**VANCOUVER LACROSSE CLUB, COLOURS.**

"Grey, with maroon wrist bands and collar, and the monogram in maroon."

City Archivist Matthews: Was that for senior, or junior teams?

Mr. Matheson: "Senior, the junior had no set uniform; you must remember there was not much organisation in those days for junior teams; they took what they got; mostly wore their own sweaters, or anything else they felt like when they played."

**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH DR. H.E. LANGIS, NOW THE OLDEST LIVING PIONEER MEDICAL DOCTOR IN VANCOUVER, WHO HONOURED ME BY CALLING TO SEE ME, 2 MARCH 1936.**

He came to Port Moody in 1884. A short and stocky man, French or French-Canadian, not more than five feet two or three, pointed Imperial beard; iron grey hair with sandy patches and fairly luxuriant and even yet not quite grey. Reads without glasses, hearing good, and walk quite firm for his 78 years of age. He says that his residence at Parksville has completely cured the neuritis from which he suffered so severely some twenty years ago—but says he feels he is getting weaker. His old contemporary, Dr. Brydone-Jack, is in hospital, has recently had one leg amputated through diabetes.

**FIRST HOSPITAL IN VANCOUVER. C.P.R. HOSPITAL.**

Dr. Langis said: "Dr. J.M. Lefevre was the first doctor at the C.P.R. Hospital, Dr. A.M. Robertson was his assistant, and I went down there sometimes; there were just three of us. Dr. McGuigan and Dr. Beckingsdale did not visit; there were only six beds. One of the first patients operated on was a Mr. Pitt, real estate man, who had his right leg cut off and that is all I know about him.

"The hospital was on the north side of Powell Street, about 150 feet from the Hastings Sawmill water flume from Trout Lake. It was in the middle of the block between Campbell Avenue and Hawks Avenue. It had a kitchen at the back. It was not a new building as I first remember it; perhaps it was a year old, unpainted, and my recollection is that it had a little verandah; there were no tents near it. The C.P.R. tore it down, and the patients were moved up to the City Hospital on Beatty Street; the wooden one."

**SMALL POX, 1891 AND 1893.**

"The only tents I recall was when we had tents for the small pox down at Cedar Cove, three small pox patients died, and were buried right there at Cedar Cove. In 1893 we had a floating hospital near Cedar Cove for small pox patients; we had about nine, and two of them died; one was a woman from Dupont Street; she died almost on the stretcher as they were carrying her in, and the other was a man who said he had had small pox in Chicago, and I thought he was immune, but he drank so much; he went away for about three days, and when he came back had small pox, and died in two days. Old Mrs. Gorman was nurse; not a graduate nurse, we had to take what we could get; she was cook too, down on the floating hospital, a scow, for the small pox cases, 1893."

**JOE HUNTLEY. CITY COUNCIL, 1886. FIRST HEALTH OFFICER.**

(See minutes, first meeting City Council.)

"Joe Huntley was the first health officer; he married Jonathan Miller's" (the constable) "eldest daughter. Huntley went, I think to Honolulu, or Australia; anyway, he disappeared and was never heard of again."