

Early Vancouver

Volume Six

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1940-1945.

Supplemental to volumes one, two, three, four and five collected in 1931, 1932, 1934, 1939 and 1944.

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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4. Miss Kathleen Blair; she stays at home with me.
5. And the youngest is Eileen, Mrs. D.L. Heaspit; they have one daughter.

“When Mr. Blair died, on the 10th or 11th November 1936, he had one of the largest funerals ever held in the city.”

Note: see page 150, Obituary Book.

[LETTER FROM GEO. BARTLEY.]

3636 West Third Avenue,
Vancouver, B.C.
August 13, 1940.

Major J.S. Matthews, V.D.,
City Archivist.

Dear Major: Your kind letter of August 6 received, for which please accept my sincere thanks—for I am now on your honored list in the City Archives.

Concerning the News-Advertiser, of which we had a brief chat on Monday (Aug. 5), I will add a few further notes.

The Morning Advertiser (daily), five-column and four page paper, was started by Wm. (Billy) Macdougall. It first appeared on May 8, 1886. He used a Washington hand-press (now being used as a proof press in the Vancouver Sun Job Office.)

On June 1, 1886, the Daily News was initiated by R. Harkness (editor) and James Ross, proprietors. After the great fire—The News (No. 12) on June 17 and for several weeks, was printed at the Columbian office, New Westminster, and brought over to Vancouver by horse and rig. Harkness left for California shortly before the printing of the News was resumed in Vancouver.

The late Hon. F.L. Carter-Cotton arrived in Victoria via Port Moody about a month after the Great Fire. In the fall of 1886 he purchased the Advertiser and became its managing-editor.

Early in 1887, I believe Messrs. Gordon and Cotton purchased the News, after which the News and the Advertiser were consolidated and became the News-Advertiser, being issued from the building on Cambie Street, corner of the lane, in the rear of where the present Dominion building is now situated.

An Illustrated Christmas Number of the News-Advertiser on which I worked, was sent to press in the building at the corner of Cambie and Pender Streets. The type was set in the lane office. There was no heat in the new building at the time, and Geo. Pound, Sr., veteran pressman, did the press work on it by putting coal oil lamps under the press for heat. This Christmas Number was supposed to be out about the middle of December, 1889, to catch the Old Country mail, but did not appear till February, 1890. Mr. Cotton never issued another special number. In the Fall of 1897, the Millar & Richards wharfdale press was sold by the News-Advertiser to a paper in Revelstoke. This was the press the Illustrated Christmas News-Advertiser was printed on.

In 1896, the News-Advertiser set up another wharfdale press, similar to the one on which was printed the Christmas number. This machine had been used by the Vancouver Morning Telegram. Mr. R.G. Gallagher, manager of that paper when it failed, took the press to Nanaimo, where he printed a weekly for a few months. Postmaster Jonathan Miller on a foreclosure of mortgage sold the press for \$100 to the News-Advertiser. Afterwards it was sold to Geo. Bartley of the North Vancouver Express for \$700 (now the North Shore Press.)

On April 4, 1910, Mr. Sam Matson, of Victoria, bought the News-Advertiser, but not the building.

Mr. Leslie E. Dennison, now of Boston, wrote a series of articles on local newspapers and the printing business, which appeared in the News-Advertiser, commencing June 29, 1913. They are of historical value and well worth the time of reading.

Files of the Advertiser, the News and the News-Advertiser are now at the University of British Columbia library.

Thanking you for courtesies extended,

I remain, yours truly,

[signed] Geo. Bartley.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. ALICE CRAKANTHROP, 1406 DAVIE STREET, WHO INVITED ME TO AFTERNOON TEA; MISS MURIEL, HER DAUGHTER, JOINED US; 22 AUGUST 1940. CAPT. MURRAY THAIN. MRS. MURRAY THAIN. REV. HARRY EDWARDES.

Mrs. Crakanthorp said: "This book, *Letters from Crete*, by Charles Edwardes" (Bentley, 1887) "was, as you see by the writing here on this front page, was given to Murray Thain by the Rev. Harry Edwardes of St. James' Church, in February 1888. Mrs. Thain taught me at school, Moodyville School, and privately also. She gave the book to me when I was Miss Alice Patterson; now I give it to you for your archives. Murray Thain came here in 1872."

LAKE BEAUTIFUL.

"I forget when it was, but it was long before 'The Fire'; Mrs. Thain organised a picnic; she was chaperone; we went up the inlet to the North Arm on a little paddle wheel steamer—it may have been the *Maud*—and we climbed up to Lake Beautiful. There was Mr. McPhadden, and Miss Kirkland, the school teacher, and Lida Bell" (Mrs. Austin) "and her sister, Nettie Bell" (Mrs. [blank] Connor, sic) "and Mr. Duncan Bell-Irving, C.D. Rand, W.R. Lord, Mr. Teschner, the second engineer at Moodyville, and Mrs. Thain's brother, Oliver Harbell, and two ship apprentices, and, of course, myself" (Miss Alice Patterson), "and we camped at Lake Beautiful for three days, and Mrs. Thain composed a poem about it; no, I have not got the poem; it was long before 'The Fire,' though."

Major Matthews: Mrs. Jonathan Rogers says a party of young ladies made the name "Beautiful" by taking an initial from each of their names, and that the lake received its name in that way.

(Note: Mrs. Jonathan Rogers was married in England, and came out to Vancouver in 1902 for the first time.)

Mrs. Crakanthorp: "Yes, I've heard that story, too, but we called it Lake Beautiful long years before Mrs. Rogers came; we never called it anything else. Mrs. Thain's brother cut a fungus from a tree, and wrote our names on it, and a bit about each of us, such as, 'Miss Patterson likes to dance,' and we kept it in the house for many years, but it's gone now."