

## **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**

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**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. W.R. LORD OF 3050 OAK STREET, VANCOUVER AT CITY ARCHIVES. MR. LORD TALKED AS J.S. MATTHEWS TYPED, 21 JANUARY 1941.**

**DONALD ROSS LORD, FATHER.**

(See *B.C. Directory*, 1882-3, "D.R. Lord," British America Cannery, Canoe Pass, page 248.)

"Don't know about his parents; he was born in Elsworth, Maine, U.S.A., and he married Sally Rose at Port Blakeley, Puget Sound; he was a millwright at the time, and about 76 years ago he went into the furniture business in Seattle, Washington, and then he went out of that and went over to the Columbia River and built a summer resort out at Clatsop, outside of Astoria, and then from that he drifted into the salmon canning business; he was in the salmon caning business with John A. Devlin of Astoria, Oregon; then in 1881 he came to the Fraser River and built the British America Cannery, Canoe Pass, and then the next year he built a cannery for the same company—he was a shareholder—on the Skeena, also the British American. Then he sold his interest in 1885, and came over here and built the Royal City Planing Mills on Carrall Street; then he went back into the cannery business on Puget Sound. I forget the name, on Puget Sound. He was there for a few years and then he took ill, and was ill for a long time with a tumour, and then he died in Seattle, Washington, about 1910 or 1911, leaving Mother a widow. He is buried in Seattle, Washington. The family was always Presbyterian."

**SALLY ROSE, MOTHER.**

"Mother was Sally Rose of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, daughter of a Mr. Rose, naturally, but I never saw him; Mother came to Port Blakeley as a governess, I don't know what year; that was where she met my father. She died in Seattle, Washington, not so very long after Father."

**CHILDREN.**

"I" (W.R. Lord) "am the only one left of the seven children, four sons and three daughters. The order of their birth was:

"Harry C. His photo is in Lewis and Dryden's *Marine History of the Pacific Coast*.

"Frank L.. He married Miss Ladner of Ladner.

"Charles R. He was a cannery man in B.C.; he married a Miss Parmiter of Ladner.

"Amanda; she married J. Prendergast. She has no children

"William Rose, that's me. I married Mary Whiteside when her people were farming on Lulu Island, 26<sup>th</sup> March 1890.

"Lottie E., she married Mr. Evans; he was a manufacturer's agent; I never met him; they lived in New Canaan, Connecticut, U.S.A., and no children; not one of my sisters has children. But my brothers, they all have big families, all but one; he only had one daughter."

**WILLIAM ROSS LORD.**

"Born 17<sup>th</sup> July 1866 at Seattle, Washington Territory" (don't know where.) "Educated at public schools of Portland, Oregon and San Francisco, California. Married Miss Mary Whiteside at the little old Presbyterian Church, Sea Island, 26<sup>th</sup> March 1890, and crossed from Lulu Island to Sea Island in a row boat—as the bridge was out with the ice—then was married in the church by the Rev. —, then by Freeman Steves' stage across the bridge to the mainland, and up the Vancouver Road, now Granville Street, through the towering trees, a narrow slit in the forest, to catch the *Islander* for a honeymoon in Victoria."

**MARY WHITESIDE.**

"Daughter of John Whiteside, farmer, No. 4 Road, Lulu Island. She is a cousin of his Honour David Whiteside, and W.J. Whiteside, a barrister, King's Counsel, both of New Westminster. She was born in Scarborough, Ontario, 1<sup>st</sup> September 1866. Her father and mother were born there, too, and came to British Columbia in 1887 and settled on Lulu Island. No members of her family there now.

"Our children are:

Charles Percival, born in Vancouver, he was drowned off the Fraser River, 1910, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, unmarried; he was only 19.

Frederick Melvin, born on Lulu Island, married, and has three children. He lives in Vancouver; he is a lieutenant, looking after recreation, all B.C.; has his office in the old Hotel Vancouver. He was in the Social Service Dept., Vancouver.

William Ross, born on Lulu Island, married, and has three children. He is manager of the Phoenix Cannery at Steveston.

Arthur Edward, born on Lulu Island, married, no children, City Solicitor, City Hall, Vancouver.

Harry Donald, born in Vancouver, married Gertrude Bickle, daughter of the owner of the Coast Quarries; she is a niece of the Chief Justice of Canada; and they have two children.

Frank Nelson, born in Vancouver, married, one child, he is in the automobile license department, cashier, British Columbia. His wife was Rena Stinson of Vancouver.

Grace Edna, born on Lulu Island, she was our second child. She is now Mrs. A.L.P. Hunter, three children; he is a barrister.

“On Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> January 1941, at St. Mark’s Church” (Anglican), “Kitsilano, my granddaughter Margaret Hunter married Frank Holland, a member of the staff of the Great Northern Railway.”

See *Early Vancouver*, Matthews.

**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. CHARLES JONES, BRIDGEPORT, LULU ISLAND, SUPERINTENDENT, WATER DEPARTMENT, MUNICIPALITY OF RICHMOND, WHO KINDLY CALLED AT THE CITY ARCHIVES, 22 JANUARY 1941.**

**FIRST TOWN HALL, RICHMOND.**

Mr. Jones said: “The old Town Hall stood on the southwest corner of Church and Seventeenth Road; that means the ‘River Road’ on the Brighthouse Estate; right directly opposite the old Presbyterian Church, now the Richmond United Church, and on the former site of the old Town Hall, now stands ten auto tourist cabins. I joined the Richmond Municipality service in 1911, have been with them continuously since; attended Council meeting in the old Town Hall, and saw it burn down January 1<sup>st</sup> 1913. At that time Mr. Charles Blyth was Municipal Clerk, followed by Mr. Samuel Sheppard. Minutes of the Council meetings were put on a blackboard with chalk, and the clerk used to shout to the men in the workshop, which was in the front of the same building, ‘Don’t make so *much damn noise*.’” See photo No. C.V. P. Out. 254.

**INDIAN GRAVES. WOODWARD’S LANDING.**

“One day we were digging a trench for a water main on the property of Mr. James Gilmour on the South Arm, west of Woodward’s Landing, and east of No. 4 Road, and when we got down about three feet, we struck a board in a shell dump. Further excavation brought to light a stone pestle and mortar, a big flat stone, about, I should think from memory, about twelve inches square, hollowed out, and a spearhead of bone; no barb on it, but it looked like a tusk which had been split; also the skeleton of a deer. Still further excavation was stopped on account of our getting onto the Canadian Northern Railway right of way, which had recently been put through. I have the pestle and mortar and spearhead in my home. I will give them to the citizens of Vancouver to keep for posterity to look at.”

**FIRST BRIGHOUSE FIRE BRIGADE, 1919.**

“There was a volunteer fire brigade at Steveston in earlier days than mine, and we have the old hand pump, horse drawn; it would take about twelve men on the ends of a walking beam to work it; we have it at the Municipal Hall at Brighthouse yet, and taking good care of it although it is never used.

“But the first fire brigade at Brighthouse was also a volunteer fire brigade; here is a photograph of it taken outside the Municipal Hall at Brighthouse. The names of the men from left to right are Levi Fair, farmer; James Cherry, municipal truck driver; Charles Jones, that’s me, water staff; John Cosens, farmer, now near White Rock; G.H. Anderson, bricklayer, at Brighthouse; Rev. Nixon, formerly minister of the old