

Early Vancouver

Volume Three

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Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1933-1934.

Supplemental to Volumes One and Two collected in 1931-1932.

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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Memorial Park, at 43rd and Fraser, was largely of Alex's creation, as was also the very pretty and fully improved McDonald Park, situated at 45th and Prince Edward street, and named in his honor.

The absorption of South Vancouver by the city gave Alex. a wider field for his activities, and he is at present a very useful and energetic member of the Vancouver park board.

His gardening enthusiasm has affected many of his fellow employees, and has resulted in the organization of the B.C. Electric Employees Gardens Association. The flower show staged in July at the Granville Street show rooms was a fine example of what the association can do, and very much of the success of this show was due to Mr. McDonald. His advice on horticultural matters is always there for the asking. He is as much interested in the other fellow's garden as he is in his own, and his great objective appears to be to make Vancouver a city noted for its beautiful private gardens as well as for its public parks and open spaces.

THE CLEARING OF SHAUGHNESSY. "THE BUNKERS."

"The Bunkers," residence of His Honour Judge J.A. Forin, 3651 Granville Street, takes its name from the fact that when the "First Shaughnessy" was being cleared and laid out by the C.P.R. into streets, the C.P.R. had a rock and gravel bunkers, a huge affair connected by rail along 24th Avenue with the Lulu Island railway (now Marpole Interurban) and had a small railroad yard up there to which C.P.R. locomotives took train loads of gravel, sand, cement, etc., for building the roads, sidewalks, curbs, etc.

24 MARCH 1934 – LOCHDALE, B.C.

Lochdale is a small settlement and a post office at the corner of Hastings Street East and Sperling Avenue, Vancouver; the strange thing is that though quite a little settlement, few people know its name.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. JOHN ALFRED DUKE, GROVE STREET, LOCHDALE, WHO WENT TO LIVE THERE IN 1927.

Mr. Duke said: "I heard you lecture on *Early Vancouver* at St. Margaret's Anglican Church Hall on Sperling Avenue last night, and heard a lady say Lochdale was named after Mrs. Lougheed, who, about twenty years ago, kept a little grocery store at the corner of Sperling Avenue and Hastings Street.

"Mrs. Norman, who has lived there for many years—one of the earliest settlers—came to me afterwards and told me that such an explanation was absurd. She said that 'lough' in Irish means 'lake'; and 'loch' in Scotch means the same thing; all that land around there drains into Burnaby Lake; it is the 'dale of the lake'; some of the pioneers decided to call the place 'Lakedale,' but the name did not catch on, and they changed it to Lochdale. Mrs. Norman says she does not think Mrs. Lougheed's name had anything to do with it.

"When the Shell Oil Co. built their refinery out there they proposed to change the name to Shellburn, but the settlers protested.

"A few of the old timers out there are George Easthope, Alex. Norman, Ralph Brewers and Mr. Pavey."

Lochdale lies between Burnaby Mountain, elevation 1,000 feet, and Capitol Hill, 600 feet.

Mrs. Lougheed (who had neither husband nor children so far as is known) is not there now. (NOTE ADDED LATER: Wife of James Lochead, only child William, died in California, aged 15. J.S.M.)

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. EUDORA J. LOCHEAD, 5 JUNE 1934.

(Eudora: said to be a biblical name, and to mean "A gift of God.")

WEST BAY, WEST VANCOUVER.

"After I left Lochdale, I went to West Bay, West Vancouver, in 1922. At that time there were only three small cottages there, one belonging to A.A. McEvoy, son of Bernard McEvoy of the *Province*, Norman Forbes, living there yet—he was beachcombing—and Guy Cave. My first store there is still standing, but

they have added to it. I sold 8,000 loaves of bread in the first six weeks I was there; I repeat, 8,000. The train, the old P.G.E., came out there. In those days, they were running thirteen trains a day and five packed cars to a train at rush hours."

LOCHEAD POST OFFICE, BURNABY.

"The name Lakemere was obsolete long before I went there. I feel certain that the first letters addressed to me at that point were addressed 'Lozelles.'"

"THE TREASURE."

(Set to waltz music)

Words by Eudora J. Lohead, in whose honour Lochdale is named. J.S.M.

28 June 1934

Vancouver.

Would life be worth living
If we were not giving
The friendship and kindness
We all can bestow
Let us share earthly treasures,
Help others find pleasures,
Make life a grand journey
Wherever we go.

Let truth be our motto,
Let right be our guide,
For right will prevail
Whatever betide.
While we jealously guard
The course we pursue,
May the fruits of our labors
Prove worthy to you.

STATEMENT, MADE IN WRITING (BY REQUEST) BY EX-COUNCILLOR GEO. GREEN OF BURNABY.

LOCKDALE. LOCHDALE POST OFFICE. BURNABY NORTH. EARLY SETTLERS.

That section of Burnaby served by the Lochdale post office was practically unsettled prior to 1910. A very few settlers were there earlier, notably W.V. Bainbridge, who lived on the north shore of Burnaby Lake, 500 yards east of the foot of Bainbridge Avenue, now living at 4419 West 4th Avenue, Point Grey; John Dyck, a native of Holland, still living on Broadway just east of Sperling Avenue; Oscar Berry, now at High River, Alberta; and one or two others. In 1910 quite a few others settled there, one of whom, William Duthie, secured a post office at his home, the south west corner of Bainbridge and Broadway. He named the post office, or rather had it named, "Duthie." Duthie Avenue is named after him. Mrs. Duthie is now Mrs. Martin Stevens, living in Suite 21, Beaconsfield Apartments, 884 Bute Street, Vancouver, phone Sey. 4542X. When, in 1911 Mr. Duthie died, the post office was taken over by the late Tom Prince West, and moved to his residence on the east side of Cliff Road, midway up the west boundary of District Lot 136, that is, between Broadway and Halifax Street. There was then no Halifax Street east of Sperling Avenue, the present street from Cliff Avenue was expropriated in 1916 from the James Inman estate. Mr. West had the post office name changed to "Lakemere." Both Duthie and Lakemere offices were served from Burnaby Lake station on the B.C.E. inter-urban. Lakemere office did not long survive the change of name and location. Mr. West being very dissatisfied with the patronage and consequent salary paid. The settlement was at that time very sparse. Mr. T.P. West died about four years ago; a son C. Percy West still lives in that vicinity, at the corner of Halifax Street and Cliff Avenue.