

Early Vancouver

Volume Three

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1935)

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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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.

HASTINGS GROVE. BURNABY MOUNTAIN. SNAKE HILL.

Very active real estate operations took place in 1911 out there, mainly through the offices of S.F. Munson, and C.A. Bodie, resulting in a very considerable influx of settlers and opening of roads, the former sold eleven hundred parcels of land in three months, mainly in District Lot 208, which he named Hastings Grove, and in District Lot 135. Mr. Bodie sold the western part of the top of Burnaby Mountain, also known as Snake Hill. The subdivision is numbered 209.

HASTINGS STREET IMPASSABLE. CAPITOL HILL.

Curtis Street was opened up from Sperling Avenue eastward for one mile and planked for the first half mile of the joint expense of the municipality and Mr. Munson who had agreed to contribute \$1,000 toward the cost of planking. In 1911 Hastings Street was impassable for autos, farther than the Capitol Hill Post Office and store and it was found necessary to use two horse democrats from there eastward. Between Capitol Hill and Boundary Road was partly cedar puncheon [*corduroy*], and the hill just east of Fell Avenue was so muddy that vehicles went axle deep.

MRS. EUDORA LOHEAD.

In August 1912 Mrs. Dora [*Eudora*] Lohead opened a store in a building then just completed on Curtis Street, now owned and lived in by Mr. Tomlinson, then termed the "Hastings Grove Store." It was the terminus of the [*auto*] 'bus line run from Boundary Road. Many men were then busy land clearing and road building and the upper part of this store was a lodging home for them. Mrs. Lohead ran a boarding house in connection and a number of tents were requisitioned to furnish sleeping quarters.

In 1913 Mrs. Lohead bought the property whereon the Lochdale post office stands and I built this store-building for her, also a residence and butcher shop for a Mr. Stevens just west of the store on Hastings Street. These latter are now the residences and garage owned by John Whittingham.

At that time there was no local post office. I feel sure that the Lakemere office had been closed some considerable time and at Mrs. Lohead's request I interviewed the Vancouver District Post Office Inspector, [*the late*] Mr. Greenfield, circulated the petition amongst the neighbourhood, and the post office was granted. At the request of the postal authorities, the prospective postmistress submitted several names for the new office, and I remember that Lochdale was the first on the list submitted.

After the death of her son William, Mrs. Lohead left the neighbourhood, selling the store to a Mrs. Young. The new post office was, of course, in part a perpetuation of Mrs. Lohead's surname. It is a sort of flat place around there and suggests the other part of the name chosen. After Mrs. Lohead left the vicinity I was postmaster of Lochdale for five years, that is to say, from 1915 to 1920, my wife acting as postmistress during my absence overseas. This office has always been served from Capitol Hill.

One of the local councillors of those days was Philip W. Fauvel, a shingle manufacturer with a mill on Sperling Avenue, at the Great Northern Railway tracks and it is from him that Fauvel Avenue receives its name. His offices were at 804 Holden Bldg. in Vancouver. He died in the Philippines shortly after the close of the Great War. Holdom Avenue in Capitol Hill is named from ex-councillor Walter J. Holdom, still resident at Capitol Hill. McDonald Avenue takes its name from ex-Councillor Angus McDonald of Vancouver Heights who is also an alderman of Vancouver city. [*This refers to McDonald Avenue of Vancouver Heights.*]

George Green.

402 East 20th Ave.,
Vancouver.
May 29, 1934.

Read to Mrs. Eudora Lohead, 7 June 1934, and approved as correct. J.S.M.