

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

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

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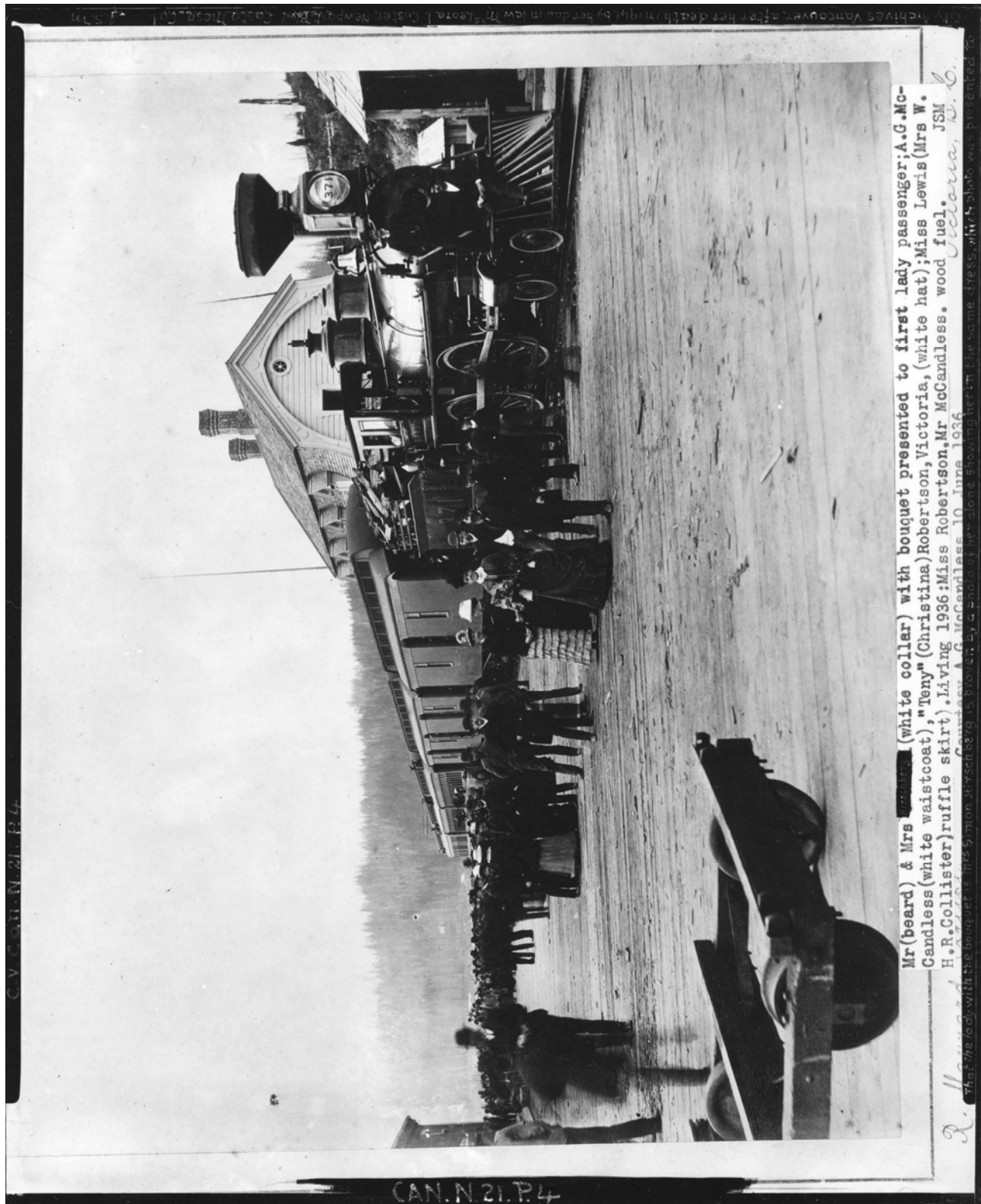
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[photo annotations:]

Mr. (beard) & Mrs. Hirschberg (white collar) with bouquet presented to first lady passenger; A.G. McCandless (white waistcoat); "Teny" (Christina) Robertson, Victoria, (white hat); Miss Lewis (Mrs. W.H.R. Collister) ruffle skirt. Living 1936: Miss Robertson, Mr. McCandless. wood fuel. J.S.M.

That the lady with the bouquet is Mrs. Simon Hirschberg is proven by a photo of her alone showing her in the same dress.

Courtesy, A.G. McCandless, 10 June 1936

First train through to arrive at Port Moody, B.C.

July 4th, 1886.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. A.G. McCANDLESS, VETERAN OFFICIAL OF THE B.C. ELECTRIC COMPANY, 9 JUNE 1936.

ARRIVAL FIRST TRAIN, PORT MOODY, 4 JULY 1886.

Mr. McCandless said: "You see, the *Yosemite* charged fare to those who came up on her from Victoria, but it was free to all of Vancouver who wanted to go up to Port Moody to meet the first train, consequently everyone who could get away got aboard, and too many people went for the food supply. The *Yosemite* was not prepared to dine so many; there was no place at the railway wharf, Port Moody, where anything to eat could be got; many had not had their breakfast; so many went hungry. Coming back we stopped at Moodyville, and at Capt. Power's Moodyville Hotel, and at the store, a few got something to eat, but most went without. Then when we got back to Vancouver, tied up—I think at the Hastings Mill wharf—some tables made of boards and trestles were set out in the open on Water Street, and the crowd got what they could—not much.

"There was quite a crowd at Port Moody to see the train come in; they climbed up an embankment above the track to watch the arrival. Yes, a bouquet was presented to a lady; I don't know how many got off the train—not many, and they were lost in the crowd."

"*The Vancouver Weekly Herald*, 9th July 1886" (Dr. Mathison Collection) "says 'over 1500 welcomed train.' This is exaggerated—nothing like 1500 welcomed train. Mrs. Angus' statement" (*Manchester Guardian*) "of 500 or 600 is much more exact." (Note: W.H. Evans, C.P.R. engineer in charge locomotive says, "30 or 40 passengers got off train.")

FIRST LADY PASSENGER. MRS. AND MRS. O'NEILL.

"This is a photo" (No. C.V. P. Can. 4 N. Can. 21) "of Mrs. O'Neill carrying her bouquet, and Mr. O'Neill" (beard), "taken just after the train arrived. The rest of the group, taken by R. Maynard of Victoria, are Miss Lewis" (after Mrs. W.H.R. Collister, of Albion Iron Works, Vancouver), "Miss 'Tony'" (Christina) "Robertson of Victoria, and myself; Miss Robertson and I are the only two of the five now living. I do not understand why other accounts say Mrs. Hirschberg got the bouquet; perhaps she did, but I thought it was a Mrs. O'Neill, whom I did not personally know and have never seen since."