

Early Vancouver

Volume Six

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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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"Then Jericho Charlie die, and we put the canoe away, keep it in boat shed up Squamish, keep it dry. Then fifteen years ago I bought motor boat engine; I have canoe, so I put engine in canoe. The canoe is now over at my home in Capilano."

Major Matthews: What are you going to do with it?

August: "I was going to pull it out of the water and keep it, but the Parks Board want it, and I think I might sell it if they want to put it in the park for peoples to look at."

Major Matthews: How old was it when your stepfather bought it from the ten Indian women?

August: "I don't know; it was second hand then. Cedar canoe last long time; maybe two hundred years; it you paint them all the time they keep."

CHINALSET'S FATHER. BEAR.

"Jericho Charlie's father was Chinalset, too; he shoot the biggest grizzly bear up at Squamish; the bear must have been twelve feet long; cut him in half across the middle, and use the hide to cover the frame door to the cedar slab house; long before whitemans come."

CONVERSATION WITH CAPT. B.F. DICKENS, 3582 WEST 14TH AVENUE, OVER THE PHONE.

Note: Mount Dickens, North Arm, Burrard Inlet, is named in his honour; he was one of the principals of Wigwam Inn, Indian River; was secretary-treasurer of *World* newspaper about 1907. He is still very hale and hearty despite his years, and speaks clearly and hears clearly over the telephone.

"100,000 MEN IN 1910." "IN 1910, VANCOUVER THEN, WILL HAVE 100,000 MEN."

Major Matthews, City Archivist: (after preliminary compliments) Mr. Dickens, do you remember the "100,000 Club."

Capt. Dickens: "I should think I do; I organised it. I was secretary-treasurer of the *World* newspaper at the time; L.D. Taylor was editor. I read the clipping in the *World*; clipping from some newspaper in Texas, U.S.A.; there was some city down there which wanted to reach 100,000 by 1910; they had the idea first; we copied it because it suited."

Major Matthews: Do you recall the exact words?

Capt. Dickens: "In 1910, Vancouver then, will have 100,000 men."

Major Matthews: But there was an abbreviation of that we used to paint on the sides of "band wagons" at carnivals, or processions; the long form was too long, so we used "100,000 MEN IN 1910," didn't we? And there was a great big banner all across Hastings or Granville Street, "100,000 MEN IN 1910."

"MOVE HER, MOVE HER. WHO? VANCOUVER."

Capt. Dickens: "Yes, that's right. And then we had another slogan, 'Move her, move her. Who? Vancouver.'"

Major Matthews: Of course, I had forgotten that one. Do you remember how the hot headed young bloods used to hire a wagon and two horses, and decorate it all up with banners, paint on the banners, "100,000 MEN IN 1910" and "MOVE HER, MOVE HER. WHO? VANCOUVER," and go up Granville Street shouting at the top of their voices, those slogans while they rode all packed together in the wagons, and we on the sidewalk laughed and pitied the fools as we thought them. Most of them are in responsible positions now.