

P. O. BOX 297

SHINGLE CAPACITY, 140 M. PER DAY

TELEPHONE 276

* G. F. SLATER *

MANUFACTURER AND WHOLESALE
DEALER IN

RED CEDAR SHINGLES | RED CEDAR LUMBER

OFFICE AND MILL

FALSE CREEK, WHARF 3, EAST OF FOOT GAMBIE STREET

⇒ VANCOUVER, B.C.

PRESENTED BY

YESTERDAY'S PAPER

By John S. Keenlyside

While many collections are formed by working through long-established catalogues, gradually ticking off such varieties as "Scott 37d, the copper red, 3 cent Small Queen, perforation 12 ?," the collector of paper ephemera must be content with what turns up in the disorganized chaos of material heading for shredding or recycling. We respond to the material we see and form our stories by bringing some order to the trail of mess left by other people's everyday transactions.

Some years ago, in anticipation of the 50th wedding anniversary of my parents, I wondered what gift might be appropriate to acknowledge a successful and admirable partnership of half a century. Their early days of courting required a rather tedious commute for my father from South Vancouver via the streetcar and ferry to North Vancouver. Dad was known as the young man who invariably was seen running to catch the last evening ferry back across the inlet.

Browsing through Bernie Spring's Antiquarius bookshop one lazy lunch hour I found a fresh, complete booklet of North Vancouver ferry tickets, fifteen rides for a dollar, circa 1938! This, together with a personalized card, became my gift for the

STRINGHAM & COOPER

SIGN WRITERS

SHOP, 68 HASTINGS ST.

REAR OF BEAVIS' CARRIAGE WORKS

Vancouver, B. C.

celebration. The tickets became a great conversation piece at the anniversary party, as many guests recalled the service across the water to the largely undeveloped bush of North Van. I paid Bernie \$2 for this modest but much appreciated memento of our local history.

I have been amazed by the amount of significant historical material that appears serendipitously. My special interest is the early settlement of our province, including the earlier colonial period. Robert Mathison was a man in his early 20s when the new City of Vancouver was destroyed by fire in 1886. In the establishment of an urban community, an important element is the presence of the commercial printer. Through the media of business advertising, new enterprise is promoted and changing tastes and style are reflected. In the context of ashes and turmoil, Mathison has left us with evidence of the first independent printing business.

Having established a small business in the city, I have always had a profound interest in the optimism of the early entrepreneurs who were prepared to invest time, talent and financial resources in the undeveloped future of Vancouver. Some years ago I was pleased to acquire an archive of material from Steve Lunsford that is representative of material from the press of Robert Mathison. His work represents to me a cornerstone in the initial commercial development of Canada's western me-

THE
CITY MUSIC & FINE ART GALLERY

WATER STREET

VANCOUVER, . . . B. C.

PIANOS ^{AND} ORGANS A SPECIALTY

—*— AGENTS —*—

For All the most renowned Makers of Pianos and Organs
Musical Instruments of All Kinds Supplied to Order
Latest New Songs, Dances, Instrumental and Band Music
* General Musical Sundries *

R. MATHISON, JR., THE PRINTER, HASTINGS STREET

tropolis. A pioneer himself, his work records the promotion of activities such as real estate development, hotels and ice cream parlours.

In my larger collection of B.C. historical material, I have enjoyed finding earlier examples of modest but fascinating invoices and billheads from Victoria in the 1850s and '60s. Most of these were printed in San Francisco, and therefore Mathison's original work may more accurately reflect his community in the first days of renewal following the fire.

Of the 30 pieces of Mathison's work in my collection, I am particularly interested in his early and modest business card, "The Job Printer," and a later, more sophisticated card. The latter shows he has developed confidence as an established "fine" printer and experiments with colour and varied fonts.

In *A Gentle Madness*, by Nicholas Basbanes, Michael Sadleir is quoted from the *Colophon*, No. 3, 1930, postulating: "In nature the bird who gets up earliest catches most worms, but in book collecting the prizes fall to birds who know worms when they see them." I suppose, but that seems somewhat self-serving. More accurately, the collector will develop taste and an eye by listening to dealers who have handled a wide range of material. In my case, respected dealers in our B.C. book fraternity such as Stephen Lunsford, Bjarne Tokerud, Don Stewart and Bernie Spring have introduced me to remarkable

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
Fun, Life and Enjoyment

— Free Entertainment at —

B. L. WOOD'S

Royal Free and Easy

WATER STREET



TO-NIGHT

J. Harvey, Clog Dance and Irish Reel

T. Jackson, Sentimental Song

R. Foster, Comic and Character Songs

N. Prentice, Negro Song and Dance

ACTS To Be Played in Different Parts !

[Mathison, The Printer]

— GOD — SAVE — OUR — QUEEN —

— 1837 —



— 1887 —

— Vancouver's — Jubilee — Celebration —

— OF THE —

Fiftieth Anniversary of The Reign of
Her Most Gracious Majesty

— Queen : Victoria —

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
JULY 1st & 2nd, '87

R. MATHISON, THE PRINTER, VANCOUVER, B.C.

Protection Charity

Yourself and Ladies are Cordially Invited to attend

— THE —

Grand Social Ball

— TO BE GIVEN BY —

Regina Lodge

No. 276, B. OF L. F.

— AT THE —

* Wilson Hall, Monday Evening, December 31st *

VANCOUVER, B. C.

— 1888 - 1889 —

Sobriety Industry

touchstones to our history. The examples of Robert Mathison's printing included here tell us about our history; their graphic vibrance and variety alone make them worthy of this special issue of *Amphora*.

John Keenlyside was born in Vancouver and graduated from the University of British Columbia in economics and political science. He operates an investment counselling firm with his two sons and enjoys collecting early B.C. historical material, including ephemera.

R. Mathison, Jr.

THE
JOB PRINTER VANCOUVER, B.C.

Coquitlam Water Works Co'y



Mr. E. A. Wilmot, representing the Coquitlam Water Works Company, explained :

The cost of work to bring water to Vancouver, including a distribution system for, say 5,000 people, is estimated at \$350,000. The city is asked to guarantee 4 per cent interest on the company's bonds; the interest on the first year, while the work is under construction, to be paid by the Company. The works to be completed in one year from time of issue of guarantee, the Company being willing to give a bond or a forfeit that this should be done. The City to have a lien on all receipts up to the extent of its liability for interest; and any amount advanced by the City for deficiency under the guarantee, is to be charged against the Company and repaid by them, the City to be secured by a lien on the revenue.

If within two years there are five thousand inhabitants in Vancouver the revenue from water rates, estimated on the basis of \$4.50 per annum, will be \$22,500, on which the City will have a security for its liability on account of its guarantee of \$14,000. The guarantee not to extend beyond twenty years and the liability on guarantee will be lessened each year by sinking fund.

The Company will furnish hydrants, wherever the Council think necessary, free to the Corporation, and maintain a first-class fire protection, whereby insurance will be reduced to a minimum rate not exceeding say $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, provided that a fire protection rate is levied on property thus protected, sufficient to cover the expenses necessary to furnish such fire protection.

The rate to be levied on insurable property not to exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent.

The Company will furnish water free for flushing sewers when necessary, or for other public use that will not interfere with the revenue of the Company to the extent of 300,000 gallons.

The main, from the source to the reservoir near Port Moody, will be 14 inches in diameter, or of sufficient capacity to supply 25,000 people with 60 gallons a day per head, and from the reservoir to Vancouver, not less than 16 inches in diameter, the latter distance being about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

The elevation of the reservoir about 350 feet above sea level.

The reservoir will have sufficient capacity to supply 25,000 people for ten days.

The Company will guarantee the feasibility of the scheme, and an opinion thereon from a disinterested engineer will be submitted.

The Vancouver

Water Works



The Vancouver Water Works make the following proposition :

That they will construct a complete system of water works for the supply of the City of Vancouver from Capilano Creek on the north side of the Inlet for a sum not exceeding \$300,000. The water to be conveyed under the waters of the narrows to the south shore by a 12 inch main, and as a safeguard against accident they will, as may be determined by the Council, either lay a duplicate pipe at some distance from the other or provide a reservoir on the south side capable of containing a supply of water for a population of 10,000 for twenty days. The distance from the source to the city is nine miles and the difference in elevation 430 feet.

That they will furnish water for the purposes of protection against fire, free of charge, the necessary hydrants to be provided by the City, or the Company will furnish the hydrants at a rental of \$25 per annum.

#20
They further agree to furnish to the Council the opinion of a competent and independent engineer as to the feasibility of their scheme, and that the work shall be completed, if possible, within a year from the conclusion of the proposed agreement with the Council, and not later than eighteen months. To better enable the Company to prosecute the work they ask that the Corporation of Vancouver shall enter into an agreement that when the works are completed and in successful operation the Corporation will guarantee to the stockholders 3 per cent per annum on the cost of construction for ten years, subject to the proviso that the works shall be kept in efficient operation. Should the Corporation be called upon to pay the whole or any portion of the interest so guaranteed, such sums shall, as they are advanced, be charged to the account of the Company as loans, and repaid to the Corporation from the receipts for water rates, when such shall have increased sufficiently to admit of such payment being made, and for such purpose and to such extent the Corporation shall have a lien on the rates.

The Corporation shall have the power to purchase the entire works at a fair valuation to be settled by arbitration, with 20 % added and paying to the Company an amount, which, together with the annual dividends of the Company shall be equal to 10 % per annum on the amount invested from the date of commencement of operations to the date of transfer to the Corporation.

THE

COLONIAL HOTEL

COLUMBIA STREET

NEW WESTMINSTER

BRITISH COLUMBIA

JOHN E. INSLEY, PROPRIETOR

MEAL HOURS

Breakfast, : : 6 to 10

Lunch, : : 12 to 2

Dinner, : : 5.30 to 7.30

R. MATHISON, THE PRINTER, VANCOUVER, B.C.

COME AND SEE

GOOD WORK

FULL COUNT

FAIR PRICES

Water Motor at Work

It is the next best thing to
Perpetual Motion, and
is away ahead of



THE PRINTER'S DEVIL

Power and attends strictly to
business



R. MATHISON, JR.

THE JOB PRINTER

— 323 HASTINGS STREET —

Large Number of the Latest Faces of Type Just Added

Fast Presses Driven by Sparkling Capilano Water

No.....

TO BE RAFFLED

— A CASE OF —

62 ELEGANT STUFFED BIRDS

ALL NATIVES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

AT THE SENATE SALOON

— 200 Chances at \$2 Each —

HOP YICK

DRUG STORE

No. 9 Dupont St., - Vancouver, B. C.

Importers of and Dealers in

Tea, Sugar, Rice, Nut Oil and Chinese Merchandise

Are prepared to contract for the supply of first-class Chinese labor to any extent on public or private works, at lowest current rates.

Estimates Furnished for Drainage, Dyking, Clearing, Etc.

AND CONTRACTS TAKEN.

Ice Cream THIS **Afternoon**
—AND— **Evening !**



AT
GRAVES BROS'
CONFECTIONERY

BYRNES BLOCK, - No. 3 CARRALL ST.

[Mathison, The Printer]

A Happy New Year

R. Mathison, Jr.
The Printer

HASTINGS ST.

Vancouver, B. C.

SEITZ & CO.

Real Estate AND General Agents

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE OFFICE

9 ABBOTT ST.

VANCOUVER, B.C.

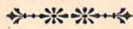
BETWEEN CORDOVA & WATER STS.

Wm. PERKINS

Wholesale and Retail Dealer and
Commission Salesman of

FARM & GARDEN

PRODUCE



CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED

PROMPT CASH RETURNS

Vancouver, - - B.C.



The Cabinet

✦ CHOICE ✦

Wines, Liquors & Cigars

COR. OF WATER AND CAMBIE STS.

F. McLENNAN VANCOUVER, B.C.

PROPRIETOR

The West End Meat Market

▷ BROAD & NEVARD ▷

FAMILY BUTCHERS

FAMILIES WAITED ON DAILY FOR ORDERS

PENDER STREET

Bet. Seymour and Richards Sts.

VANCOUVER, B.C.

Vancouver Clothing Store

ABRAMS & McLEAN

DEALERS IN

Clothing, Gents' Furnishings,

BOOTS & SHOES

CARROLL STREET

VANCOUVER, B.C.

TONG YUEN

LAUNDRY

38 Dupont St. - Vancouver

B. E. Teetzel

Merchant Tailor

205 YONGE ST.

Toronto, Ontario

W. F. TEETZEL, representing the firm, has a Full Line of
Samples of Scotch, English and Canadian Tweeds,
French Plain and Fancy Worsteds, Etc.

AT ROOM 35 SPRINGER & VANBRAMBER BLOCK
OPPOSITE LELAND HOTEL

Suits at Toronto Prices and a First-Class Fit Guaranteed

Hours from 2.30 to 5, and 7.30 to 10 p.m.