

ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE

For the address of acceptance, the Chancellor called upon Magistrate H. C. Shaw, who said:

Mr. Chancellor, Mr. Sale, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am here before you this afternoon very regretfully because Mr. R. L. Reid, another member of the Board of Governors, was to have addressed you, but unfortunately could not be present. Now, Mr. Reid is well known to all of you as one who takes a very great interest in the early history, as well as the later history, of British Columbia, and knows probably as much about it as anyone in the Province and I regret that he is not here.

At the same time I am rather glad to have an opportunity of appearing before you this afternoon because there are one or two points that I would like to emphasize touched upon by the Chancellor. It was said by one long ago that "Where there is no vision the people perish." Now, that I think is perhaps specially true at the present time when we are so very much impressed by the commercial privileges that are now happily enjoyed that we are apt to look upon commercial prosperity—financial prosperity—as the be-all and end-all of human existence. It is a good thing, and remember I am not at all finding any fault with it. But I would like, if you will bear with me for a moment, to point out to you that if you go over to the old cities, such as Rome, Athens, and others, and ask what has survived there, you will find that no great fortunes have survived. Those things have all passed away, and you go to Rome to-day and what you find is some broken statues—largely broken, many of them, probably—executed by almost unknown men. Even the names of the great merchant princes have been lost. But these old statues, these old pictures are still art—something that goes a little deeper into human life than the mere evidence of material power.

Come down to the Middle Ages, the Dark Ages, as we say: there again you find what has survived is what we to-day go to view with marvellous pleasure,—great pictures by men like Michael Angelo, Raphael, and many others. They are there to give us often that which otherwise we would lack.

Now, with all the material prosperity that is about to settle down on British Columbia, it is a pleasant thought that amidst it all we have a number of young men, native sons of British Columbia, who, in the language of the old prophet, have vision. And they have presented to you, through the kindness of the Governor and Com-

pany, "the gentlemen adventurers trading into Hudson's Bay," represented here by Mr. Sale—they are giving you something that will last until Macaulay's New Zealander stands on London bridge! And I think they are to be praised for their happy thought in this gift to the University of British Columbia.

We hope that this gift is the nucleus of a great Art Gallery to-be of these things, of what I might almost call the spiritual life of the city that is going to put us possibly in the foremost place.

Our University is very young, but those of you who know what it has done in the last few years—what its students who have gone out and taken post graduate courses have done—will feel that this University of British Columbia is destined to take a very great place. But, in order to attain that, it will require the co-operation of all those ladies and gentlemen who have even "widow's mites" to hand over. In that connection I believe there are many men and women who only require to have pointed out to them the tremendous need there is—to have established a great University that is going to appeal to the spiritual nature of the people, and that then, to use a common phrase, they will not be backward in coming forward to do their part.

On behalf of the University of British Columbia I accept this permanent loan collection of pictures, and trust that they may remain for many, many years an inspiration to the young men and women who pass through these Halls—most of whom are likely to be native sons and daughters. On behalf of the Chancellor and the Governors of the University I accept them very gratefully as a sacred trust for the University as a whole. We thank you, sir, and your Company, as well as the Native Sons, for this beautiful gift. (Applause.)

"The Story of the Pictures"

The task of outlining "the story of the pictures" was given to Mr. B. A. McKelvie, Past Grand Factor, the Native Sons of British Columbia, and he excelled himself by an address which was altogether in keeping with the occasion. The following is a short summary of that address:

Just one hundred years ago today, the officer in charge at Fort Langley recorded in his journal:

"The Tlalams went away after having traded upwards of sixty beaver skins which were paid for wholly with blankets. These Indians make a great difficulty in bartering with us at our prices, on account of having been visited by the Americans last Spring, who

supplied them with goods more cheaply than we do."

I quote you that entry, because it has a bearing upon our meeting here to-day. It has a very significant meaning for every British Columbian and Canadian.

It shows the activity of the American rivals in the fur trade, and it tells how, by the establishment of Fort Langley British dominion was established on this Coast.

After the Spanish flag had been lowered at Nootka and Lieutenant Pierce of the Royal Marines had replaced it with the flag of Great Britain, the country was abandoned. The Spanish convention did not settle the sovereignty of this country, and indeed the United States and Great Britain, following the war of 1812-14, recognized, by their joint occupancy agreement, that it was a domain open for trade.

It remained, therefore, for the future political character of the land West of the Rockies to be determined through settlement and trade.

Under the old Northwest Company, the Americans—known as Boston Traders—practically captured the trade of the Coast, and if they had been permitted to continue to enjoy this commerce, there is no doubt that the Stars and Stripes would have been firmly planted along the whole coast line. But with the merger of 1821 it was determined by the Hudson's Bay Company to drive the Boston Traders from the Coast, and establish the trade under the British flag.

The first action in such a campaign was to establish Fort Langley on the Fraser River—and, as you will note, despite the efforts of the Americans to keep the trade, the Hudson's Bay Company, by occupying the territory was able to get the furs.

Just one hundred years ago that post at Langley was constructed. It is not my purpose to detail to you the marvellous history of that old depot. I want to show to you, however, that, realizing the part that the Hudson's Bay Company had played in keeping this country under the Union Jack, the Native Sons of British Columbia turned as does a child to its parents when it was desired to undertake a work that would be for the benefit of future generations as well as the enlightenment of the citizens of to-day.

The idea of having the story of British Columbia's past pictured in this way originated with the Historian of the Native Sons of British Columbia. He mentioned it to Dr. K. B. Casselman, then Chief Factor, and the idea was accepted and proceeded with at once. Mr. A. L. McLennan went to England and there he interviewed Sir