

the city. He continued to hold the position of cashier and accountant with the Hudson's Bay Company until 1862, when the Nanaimo coal mines were bought by the Vancouver Coal Mining & Land Company, and Mr. Bate, in 1869, was appointed manager of the new company, a position which he retained until the appointment of his successor, S. M. Robins, in 1884. In 1886 he was appointed government assessor of the extensive district of Nanaimo and capably discharged the duties of that office and, for eight years those of district registrar and county court registrar, until 1913, when he retired from the government service. The city of Nanaimo was incorporated in 1874 and at the election for the first council in 1875 Mr. Bate contested for the mayor's chair and was elected by a considerable majority. During the succeeding five years he was elected by acclamation. He was the first mayor of Nanaimo, serving from 1875 to 1879, and declining the nomination in 1880. In the following year, however, he was importuned to again manage the affairs of the municipality and was returned without opposition, being continuously elected from 1881 to 1886. It may be mentioned that in 1883 his vote was double that of his opponent. He was again mayor from 1888 to 1889, and from 1898 to 1900, having been elected sixteen times by acclamation. He has since refused to again be a candidate. In 1878, in behalf of the coal company of which he was manager, he gave the hospital site to the city and also the cemetery site, and aided in founding and keeping thoroughly efficient the fire department and other public and private institutions. In 1866 he was part owner and editor of the Nanaimo Gazette, the first paper published in this city. It was he who turned out the first casting in iron ever made in British Columbia. The wisdom and energy of Mr. Bate's government when mayor are proven by the present prosperous conditions prevailing in the city, which must be largely ascribed to him, although it has been years since he served in the capacity of mayor. In 1887 it was doubtful if he would accept the nomination and therefore a request signed by nine-tenths of the voters was presented to him, and in the following year he was made the recipient of an address from the citizens, accompanied by a gold watch, a gold-headed cane and silver tea set. During his incumbency as mayor Mr. Bate received all the governors who visited British Columbia since the confederation. Mr. Bate is proud of the city and gives tangible evidence of his interest in her progress by having his financial interests confined exclusively to this district. He was several times requested to accept nomination for parliament but always declined, having urgent business at home.

In 1859 Mr. Bate was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Ann Cartwright, of Worcestershire, England, and they have the following living children: Emily, who is in South Africa; Mark, Jr., who is an accountant in the Western Fuel Company's office; Sarah Ann, the wife of W. J. Joepel, of Nelson, British Columbia; Lucy Alicia, who married Montague Stanley Davis, of Nelson; May Peatrice, the wife of George Wadham Bruce Heathcote, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce of San Francisco; Elizabeth Ada, whose husband, J. H. Hawthornwhaite, is an ex-member of parliament from Nanaimo; and John Augustus, who is the youngest. George Arthur and William Charles Bate are the two sons who have passed away.

After having filled the office of government assessor for a period of about twenty-seven years and registrar of the superior and county courts for eight years, Mr. Bate now lives retired. He was appointed the first justice of the peace in the district of Nanaimo, receiving his commission in 1873 and has taken a leading part in all magisterial functions. He was the first chairman of the board of education of the city and has been continuously connected with school affairs since 1865. For many years he served as president of the Nanaimo Literary Institute and is a government nominee on the hospital board. Mr. Bate is very prominent fraternally, being a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Ashlar Lodge No. 3, A. F. & A. M., and is a past deputy grandmaster. On May 19, 1913, he was presented by the brethren of Ashlar Lodge with an illuminated address, a beautiful work of art, in high appreciation of his eminent services. He is past district chief of the Order of Foresters, a past noble grand in the