



INTRODUCTION



PRESENTING this Souvenir to the public, the Vancouver Fire Department desires to extend greetings to one and all, and especially to thank those friends and patrons who have so materially assisted by their liberal patronage in making this work a thorough success.

The chief object of the work has been to promote the best interests of its patrons and replenish the Firemen's Relief Fund, as well as to form a more thorough acquaintance of the citizens with this branch of the City Government, without doubt the most important of all from the property owner's point of view.

The highest commendation is due those of the present administration, and especially Chief J. H. Carlisle and Assistant Chief C. W. Thompson, who, by their untiring efforts, have succeeded in giving Vancouver a Fire Department in keeping with a metropolitan city, and one of which the city may be justly proud.

Of the firemen, whose lot is a hard one, a word should be said. He is always on duty, day in and day out, and true appreciation is given him only when the thinking man pauses to listen to the startling clang of the gong or look upon the tall columns of smoke sweeping towards the sky above a burning building. At other times the fireman, to the casual observer, is a seeming idle fellow. We do not remember that our lives and property are in his keeping and that he is merely waiting the call that requires him by day or by night to take his life anew in his hands and hasten where danger awaits in the protection of our lives and property from destruction and ruin.

As an advertisement there is not a citizen in Vancouver but will say that the Fire Department occupies the premier place. From the snowy hills of the Yukon, from the torrid winds of Panama, from the continent of Europe—from east, west, north and south—come the inquiries in regard to the far-famed apparatus of this city, asking for suggestions, taking