

replied, "and you need not ask me any questions, because, if you do, it will set me off upon so many side tracks of memory, as I recollect incidents humorous and serious, of the old days and old-timers, that we shall certainly not finish this week, and I think a long-suffering public have already had more than enough of my reminiscences. Such memories as I may give you today can only interest old-timers here, as there will be nothing of the exciting or strenuous about them to appeal to a larger public."

"I found this a very different place from what it had been in 1874. Quite a little village had sprung up at the corner of Carrall and Water streets. The Sunnyside Hotel at that point was a comfortable establish-



Meeting of Vancouver City Council after the great fire which practically obliterated the city in 1886.

ment, run by Mr. Harry Hemlow, who is still here. 'Gassy Jack's' old place stood in the middle of Carrall street. The owners of the Hastings Mill had refused to permit him to sell liquor on their property, so he had gone just outside it, the boundary line being the centre of Carrall street. Mr. Joe Manion had an hotel on Water street a few doors from Carrall. There was a good road to Westminster, via Hastings, and also a good road via Mount Pleasant. A syndicate of Victoria gentlemen, with whom was associated Messrs. Oppenheimer Brothers, then of Yale and Victoria, had purchased all the holdings of the Hastings Mill Company, and was clearing that portion of it between Carrall street and Gore avenue. The timber was slashed, but the trees were lying on the ground, and this made