

deposits within a radius of about fifty miles of Vancouver, with which other great and already developed mine districts further distant are well connected by rail and water facilities, there is good reason to expect the city to become, in the early future, a mining center of importance, especially in connection with ore smelting and refining. These and many other circumstances forbidden mention by necessary limitations of space, assure Vancouver's early future as a city that shall be, beyond peradventure and for all time, the greatest commercial city and seaport of British Columbia, as also one of the largest and most important cities, certainly, in all Canada, most probably also in the whole of this continent.

Schools.

There are eight school houses located throughout the City, embracing 47 class rooms, all built most substantially, having extensive grounds surrounding each building.

Extract from the last report of C. W. Murray, Secretary to the Board of Trustees:

"The work throughout all our schools has been of a very satisfactory character. Total expenditure on schools for twelve months, \$53,463 53."

Value of school buildings in Vancouver, including furniture:

West School, built 1888, wood...	\$ 10,000
Mt Pleasant, " " "...	6,700
Central, " 1889, brick....	58,800
East, " 1890, "	52,600
West, " 1892, "	58,800
High, " " "	48,075
Mt Pleasant, " " "	41,800
Fairview.....	18,200

\$294,975

Extracts from the Annual Reports of the City of Vancouver—1895.

Board of Works.

"The maintenance of the sewers during the year has been carried out very economically, considering the extent and the large area they cover, the work being attended to both thoroughly and well and without complaint from any quarter."

The following is a summary of the amounts of money spent in the different Wards:

Ward 1.....	\$ 6,424 33
Ward 2.....	7,356 56
Ward 3.....	5,684 32
Ward 4.....	5,388 00
Ward 5.....	7,539 48

\$32,392 69

In addition, \$30,505.40 was spent in bituminous rock pavement, making a total amount expended by the Board \$62,898.09.

Health Inspector (Extract)—"There is an abundant supply of pure water maintained, taken from the mountain elevation of the coast range, and distributed by gravity pressure of an average of 70 pounds, supplied by pipe to nearly every house in the city. There are twenty-two miles of sewers, having 147 man-holes, with 65 automatic flushing tanks, one at the head of each branch line of sewers, thereby giving a frequent flow of water throughout the entire system, keeping the sewers free from the foulness of deposit."

Medical Health (Extract)—"The total number of deaths occurring within the City during the year were 161, giving a death rate of barely 9 per thousand, reckoning the population at 18,000."

Chief of Police (Extract)—"During the year there were a total of 818 cases brought before the Court. Of these 185 were summonses, 313 were dismissed and 505 convicted."

Vancouver Free Library and Reading Room.

Secretary and Librarian, EDWIN MACHIN.

Reading Room open from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. Sunday from 2 p. m. to 6 p. m.

Library open from 10 a. m. to 9 p. m., except Sunday.

The Board consists of seven members, elected annually by each Council, and meet once a month. The total number of books in Library is about 3,200 and in the "reference" section about 300, comprising Encyclopedias, etc. The number of books issued during the twelve months was 29,594, being largely in excess of any previous year, thus showing the increasing popularity of the institution.

In the Reading Room are to be found the leading magazines, periodicals and newspapers—English, Canadian and American. During the past year \$3,600 was appropriated by the Council, \$1,000 especially for new books.