

them with gratitude and raising the standard of the fire equipments in the different cities, towns, villages and hamlets at the suggestion of the man who directs the department; Chief J. H. Carlisle. He himself has been 24 years at the head and and has outstripped all the younger chiefs by the way he has brought Vancouver to the front from a fire standpoint. He is ably assisted by Charlton W. Thompson, his second in command. Delegations from all over the country come up to inspect and, needless to say, they go away as satisfied with the courtesy of these two gentlemen as they are with the equipment.

S. J. GOTHARD,

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## The Vancouver Firemen's Benefit Association.

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The Firemen's Benefit Association was formed on November 14th, 1898, and was for the purpose, as stated at that time, of assisting any fireman who for various reasons was incapacitated from his employment. The assistance was for everything, whether accident or sickness. It can be easily understood that the exposure to the elements at all hours of the day or night is practically an invitation to all diseases, and at the inaugural meeting it was seen that there would have to be a fund gotten up the boys and increased through subscriptions and dues, so that in the event of an epidemic there would be sufficient to cover all calls made on the Association. This fund has been carefully looked after by the boys and to-day it is in a thriving condition.

The officers at the first meeting were: Chief Carlisle, president; A. W. Cameron (since deceased), vice-president; and Capt. Jim Lester (now Chief of the Dawson Department), secretary. Mayor J. F. Garden was elected the honorary president. It is interesting to note that the Department has more than trebled its force since that time, and each man is as enthusiastic over the Association as the old timers were in 1898. The officers at the present time are: President, Robert McCurdy; Vice-President, J. Mackenzie; Secretary, George Dunlop; and Treasurer, Arthur Clegg.

