

# Quarter-Centenary Number of the British Columbia Magazine



IT is not easy usually to gather first-hand information about the beginning of a city from the men who dug the very foundations. They are generally dead when the history of the city they started is written. But in Vancouver lives yet the man who started the city. His name is John Morton, and he built the first shack on Burrard Inlet, the beginning of Vancouver, and he was the first white man on the Inlet. He came to the south shore of Burrard Inlet in 1862, and it looked good to him, so he decided to stay. He built a log shack on the waterfront against a peaceful background of green forest, and he took up a farm of land. The east line of Stanley Park was the west boundary of his land; its north boundary was the Inlet; Burrard Street was the east boundary, only Burrard Street was a moccasin trail then. The south boundary of his little farm was English Bay and False Creek.

In the Quarter-Centenary Number of The British Columbia Magazine John Morton's personal narrative, told with the careful attention to detail of an old man with a good memory, is a part of a dramatic and picturesque fact-story by J. H. Grant, dealing with Vancouver's earliest days. No story in the June number of the magazine is told with more human interest and color, and none will be read with greater interest than this tale of Gastown, the early saw-mills, the white settlers, and the Indians.

## The Story of the Fire

Mr. O. B. Anderson has taken down from the lips of an eyewitness, and one whose eyes have not yet grown dim and whose memory is still clear, a wonderful story of the great fire which destroyed Vancouver in June, 1886. This is by far the most