

"THE ROYAL CITY  
OF THE WEST"

# New Westminster

British Columbia

Beautiful  
Healthful  
Prosperous



Agriculture  
Horticulture  
Manufacture

PUBLISHED BY  
**NEW WESTMINSTER  
TOURIST ASSOCIATION**

FEW OF  
 NEW WESTMINSTER'S  
 BEAUTIFUL  
 HOMES.

W. T. COOMLEY  
 PHOTOGRAPHER  
 NEW WESTMINSTER B.C.

## “The Royal City Of the West.”

### Fore- word

Writing recently of books and authors, a well-known American paper said, “The American or Frenchman will brag uneasily, being doubtful of himself. John Bull does not brag; he never had a doubt of himself”

Do not expect, then, to find in this plain statement of facts about New Westminster any of the uneasy bragging and “tall talk” which many people, not without warrant, associate with the West. New Westminster never had a doubt of itself. The natural centre and distributing point of the richest agricultural country in the Province, it has grown by honest, persistent use of its natural advantages, without any booming by adventitious aids. Its growth is an effect of the development of the surrounding districts, and since, therefore, the roots of its progress strike deep and far among the settled, permanent industries of the country, it must continue to grow.

### Where The City Stands

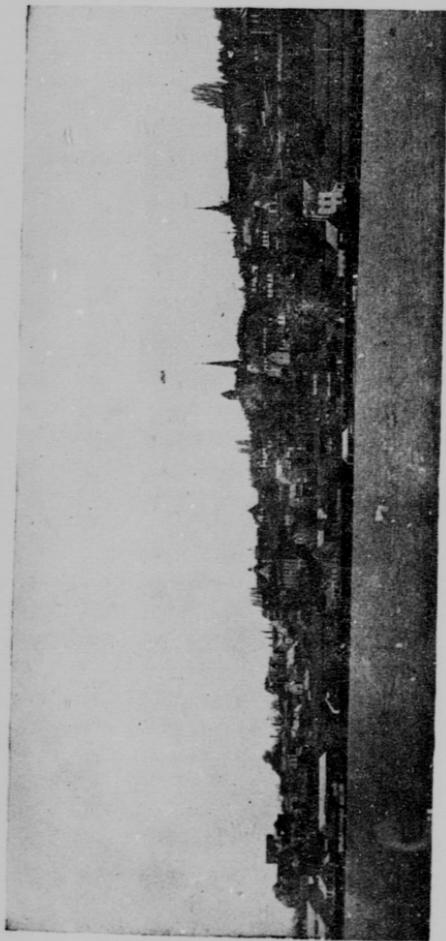
Forty odd years ago the site was chosen by the military authorities of the (then) Crown colony as the place where the Capital of British Columbia should be built. Just above the point where the Fraser divides into the channels (South Arm and North Arm) through which it rolls past its rich delta

lands to the sea, the waters had cut a path through the lateral moraine of a prehistoric glacier, scooping out, south of the present river-channel, a bay which became silted up again into a little patch of isolated delta land, but leaving on the north a rolling plateau of gravelly loam which, for the most part, begins to rise a few feet from high-water mark, somewhat steeply at first, then more gently, to an average height of some two hundred feet above sea level. On this slope, lying broad to the sun and the soft south wind, stands the City—the Royal City, as its people call it, because its name, “New Westminster,” was chosen by our late beloved Queen.

**The  
Right  
Place**

No better spot could have been chosen. Sixteen miles from the sea, on the tidal waters of a great river; berthing at its docks all but the largest class of ocean-going ships, needing but a little work of the powerful hydraulic dredge, built for the purpose, to offer easy entrance to anything that floats; in the very heart of a rich agricultural and fruit growing country; natural headquarters of the salmon fisheries; most favorably situated for the manufacture of lumber; a strategic point in the railway system of the Province, and to-day the meeting place of two great transcontinental roads, the Canadian Pacific and the Great Northern; heir to everything implied in the fact that it is the one great, easily-entered, well-situated river port of the North Pacific on the American continent,





View of the south-western quarter of New Westminster, from South (Surrey) side of the river. This mile of frontage has the principal docks. The river (five-eighths mile wide) is here confined to one channel, which has a depth on the City side of 40 to 70 feet,

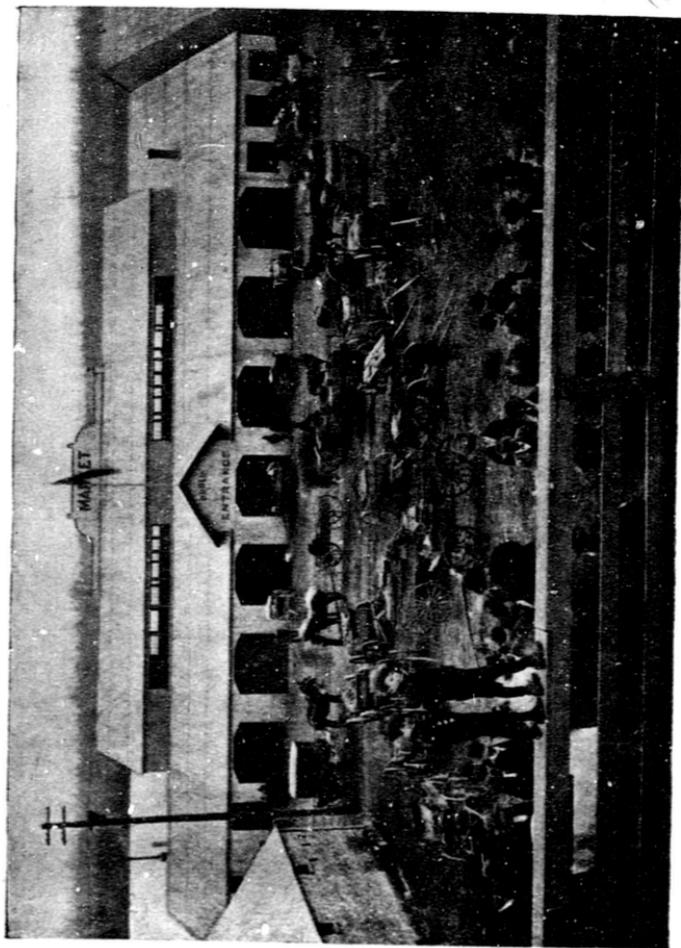
**New  
West-  
minster!**

Holds a position of peculiar advantage from the point of view of commerce and manufacture. Nor is less to be said of the wisdom of the choice of site when we turn to other considerations. Sheltered by hill and forest, with snow-clad mountain peaks defining her horizon line to North and East, the City enjoys to the full the advantages, while escaping the disadvantages, of the far-famed North Pacific climate. The cold, harsh winds, which in neighboring localities spoil many a summer day, are unknown. A high wind is as rare as a flat calm. Day and night, sea breeze and land breeze, fresh from the wide stretches of the broad Pacific or sweet with the breath of the great forests of pine, flow gently up and down the river valley.



**For  
Health  
and  
Comfort**

With such conditions of situation and climate, it goes without saying that New Westminster is a healthy city. There are no extremes of temperature to tax the constitution, and zymotic diseases are practically unknown. Fourteen years ago the City spent nearly half a million in bringing pure water from a mountain lake and pushing its distribution pipes far out into the suburbs, and now it has its reward in a standing "clean bill of health." The hot nights of the East are unknown; unknown, too, is that sudden drop in temperature as the sun goes down which in other places drives one indoors in the early summer evening.



The City Market.

## As to Economy

In touch at first hand with the producer, both through its favorable situation and through its successful weekly market; enjoying the cheap light and water which result from municipal ownership; with a reasonable rate of taxation; with rents and the price of real property on a commonsense and not a boom basis, New Westminster is a cheaper place of residence, by some 10 or 15 per cent., than other coast cities.

## Social Characteristics

The civic enterprise which fourteen years ago, undertook almost simultaneously the construction of a waterworks system, an electric light system, and an efficient steam ferry to connect the City with the farming settlements south of the river, and which, eight years later, made good in a year or two the awful devastation of the great fire, smacks of what we are accustomed to call Yankee "go" and hustle; but the absence of drunkenness and disorder, the quiet Sunday with its well-filled churches, the high moral tone of the community, are essentially British and Canadian. Thoroughly Western in its easy indifference to ceremony and in its frank hospitality to the stranger within its gates, New Westminster is as thoroughly British in its abhorrence of what is known as the "wide-open" policy in municipal government. Even from pioneer days it has cherished an old-fashioned veneration for the sanctity of the Home, and for the quiet domestic life.



The High School—one of the "central" group of Public School buildings—is beautifully situated in ample grounds on the sunny side of a broad up-town avenue.



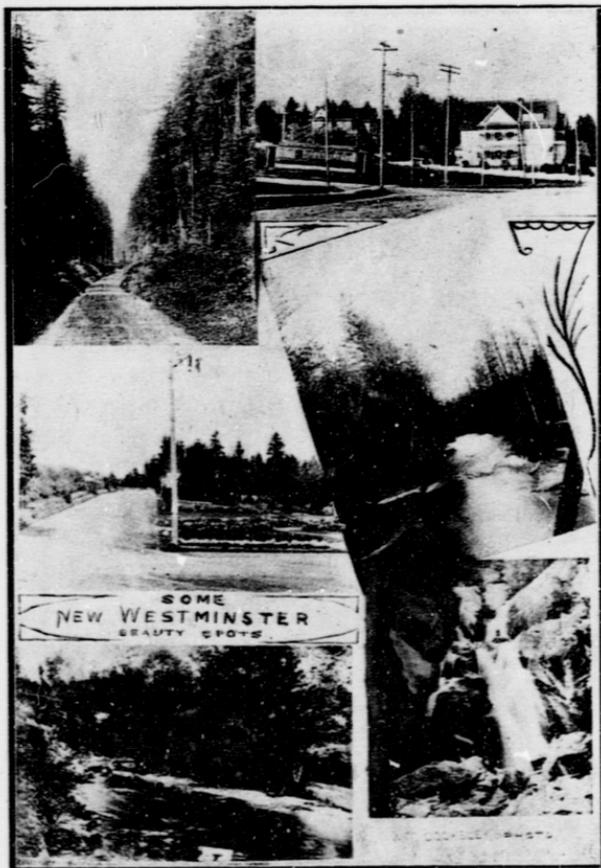
The Royal Columbian Hospital, dating back to the first settlement of the country, is now housed in a new building, and up-to-date in equipment.

## **Intel- lectual Status**

The ecclesiastical capital of the British Columbian mainland, New Westminster gives its name to the Anglican and Roman Catholic Sees which cover that portion of the Province. Both Bishops have their residences and cathedral churches in the City; and there are, besides other churches of these denominations, three Presbyterian, three Methodist, a Baptist, a Reformed Episcopal, a Lutheran place of worship, a Salvation Army hall, and several missions for Indians and Chinese. In educational foundations, besides the Public School (High School and Common School, four establishments in all, with thirty-four on the pay roll, absorbing 16 per cent. of the civic revenue) the City has a beautifully situated Methodist College, giving the full course in Divinity, and with a non-sectarian Arts branch which carries its students to graduation with Toronto University standing; and there are also in connection with the Roman Catholic Church a Seminary for Divinity students, a College for boys, and a Convent School for girls. The Free Library and Reading Room which the City supports, now housed in a beautiful building erected with funds provided by Mr. Carnegie, should also be mentioned.

## **Benevolent and Philanthropic**

The Providence Orphanage, in connection with the Roman Catholic Church, is one of the landmarks of the City, having a fine brick and stone building standing in extensive grounds on the western crest of the plateau. The same Church has a well-



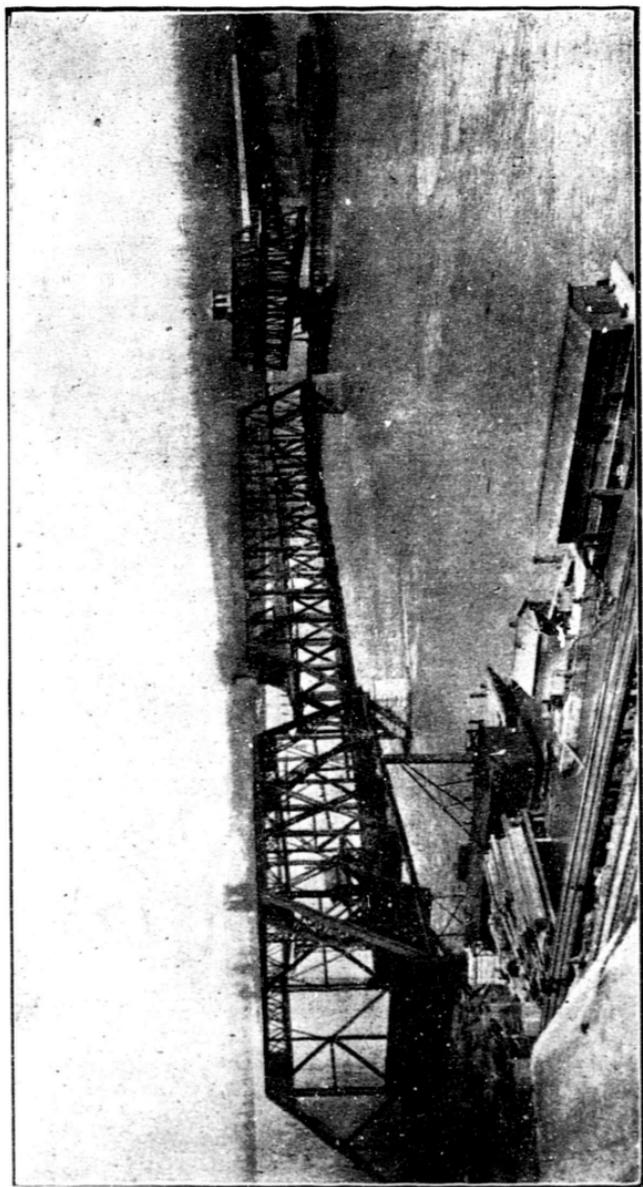
equipped Hospital, and there is also a Public Hospital, known as the Royal Columbian, which is conducted on modern lines. Both stand ready to give gratuitous service to those unable to pay for treatment, and the civic authorities also take care that all deserving cases of need are attended to. Fortunately such cases are rare.

## The City of Homes

Whether one's point of view, therefore, be the Moral, the Educational, the Hygienic, or the Material, New Westminster is pre-eminently THE CITY OF HOMES. New residences are constantly in course of erection and, more particularly in recent years, enquiry shows that a considerable majority of these are built for occupation by their owners. This home ownership was doubtless a principal source of the marvellous energy and determination shown in that restoration of the tremendous damage caused by the great fire already referred to; and it is also one great cause of the stability of business and prudence of civic management so evident to the observer.

## A Beautiful City

"A City set on a hill," New Westminster strikes most pleasantly the eye of one approaching it by the river, more particularly at the time at which these lines are written when the fruit trees in its thousand gardens are flashing into bloom. Nor will closer inspection, allowance being made for the inevitable Chinese quarter, disappoint the expectation. Wide and well-drained streets, a gravelly soil, and the quick "run off" for storm water which the elevation above the



New Westminster Bridge.

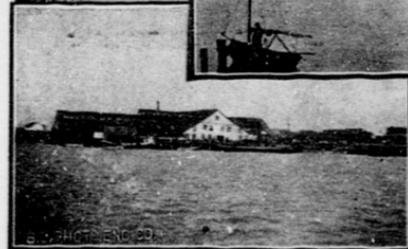
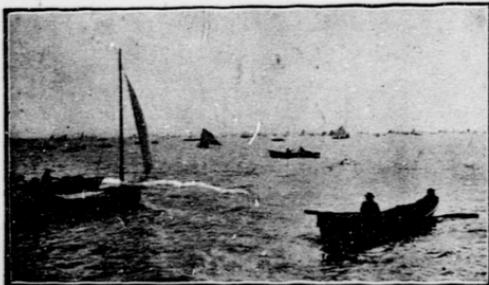
river gives, keep mud at a minimum even in the wettest winter weather, while the absence of high winds reduces also to a minimum the beauty-destroying effects of summer dust. The number and urgency of utilitarian demands upon the civic treasury have so far made impossible large expenditures upon the improvement of the Parks; still, a good beginning has been made and every year sees some progress towards the conversion into "things of beauty" of the extensive park and garden grounds in different quarters of the City—for there is no lack of ground for the purpose in possession of the municipality. Even to-day the Queen's Park Gardens, small in extent as they are as yet, out-rival anything of their class in the Province.

## **Objects of Interest**

In what are you interested? is a preliminary question. Mount Baker yonder, lifting his snowy slopes 10,700 feet above the nearby sea, will compel more than a passing glance from the lover of the majestic in nature. So will the lesser, but nearer, peaks of the Coast Range, with their scantier diadems of white. Do the quieter aspects more appeal to you?—you will not soon tire of the glimpses of winding river reaches set in the dark green of pine woods, which greet one at so many points on the suburban avenues. Are you more interested in the signs of material progress, more attracted by

## **Industrial Development**

Then there is a long programme from which to choose. Here are the car shops of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, turning out first-class rolling stock not only



6. PHOTO ENC 20

for the Inter-Urban road which connects New Westminster with Vancouver by an hourly service, but also that required for the growing city service in New Westminster, Vancouver and Victoria. Here, dotted all along the south-eastern margin of the City, are the mills and factories which mould and fashion the splendid timber of the forest to the use of man. From the great "sticks" and heavy planks which bridge and ship-builders require to the finely finished stuff for the interior decoration of the home—all are manufactured here. One can see great logs shaved into the sheets of which fruit boxes are made, or the red cedar fashioned into shingles, or doors, newels, mantels, framed and polished and turned and carved. Strongly in evidence also are the

## **Canneries and Cold Storage**

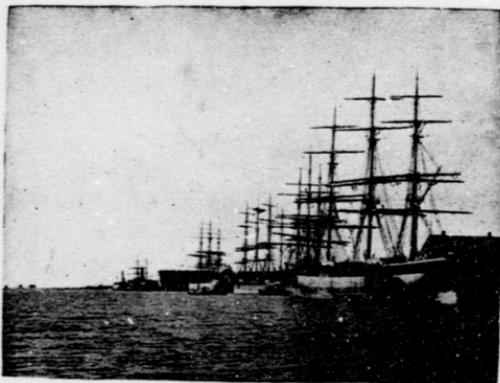
Establishments where the swarming salmon of the Fraser are made ready for the market. The latter are all within the City, but only four out of some forty canneries, the others being scattered along the river. The output of the canneries, which even in lean years runs away up into millions of pounds, is more than half of the entire "pack" of the Province; while, in the season, the cold storage houses ship to Eastern and British markets five or six tons of fresh salmon every day, and, all the year round, tons upon tons of frozen halibut.

## **These Big Industries**

Involve of course many others things. There is an Automatic Can Factory, with machinery all but intelligent, capable of turning out



The stern-wheel river steamers keep the farmers in close touch with New Westminster's famous market.



These ships are loading canned salmon for London and other markets, and incidentally having their hulls cleaned free of charge by old Father Fraser.

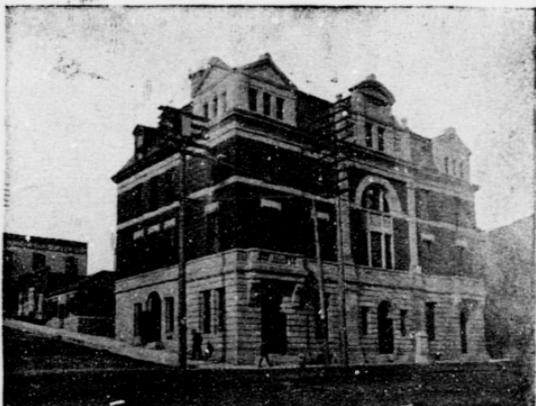
over a million cans per week. There is a whole fleet of steamers, from the little launch to the powerful tug. There are shipyards which will execute your order for a pleasure boat or an ocean freight-carrier. There are cooperages, foundries, machine shops.

## **Agriculture and Horticulture**

too, have their subsidiary and complementary industries. A roller mill, a creamery, a condensed milk factory, a fruit can- nery, to say nothing of those who sell, make, or repair farm implements. That the list is as yet a short one will be apparent when it is re- membered that in the agricultural districts which surround the City on three sides, cattle may run in pasture all winter; that the temper- ate zone holds no more fertile soil, yields no more abundant crops; that the produce of the land brings a higher price than elsewhere in the Dominion; and that the demand has continually outrun, and still outruns, the supply. These facts are eloquent as to the opportunities both for rural settlement and urban investment in and around New Westminster, the key to and market centre of such a rich agricultural and horticultural country; and also headquarters of all the stern-wheel steamers plying regularly to ports up and down the river and carrying to the City's market—the only successful one in the Province—the produce of the farms.

## **The Port of New Westminster**

although it has not yet come to its own, has a trade signi- ficant of the importance of the territory of which it is the centre. The latest



The Dominion building, housing Post Office, Custom House, etc., shares a busy block with the Civic building, the Bank of Montreal and the Canadian Bank of Commerce.



The Court House and Provincial Government offices occupies the site upon which stood the gaol of pioneer days.

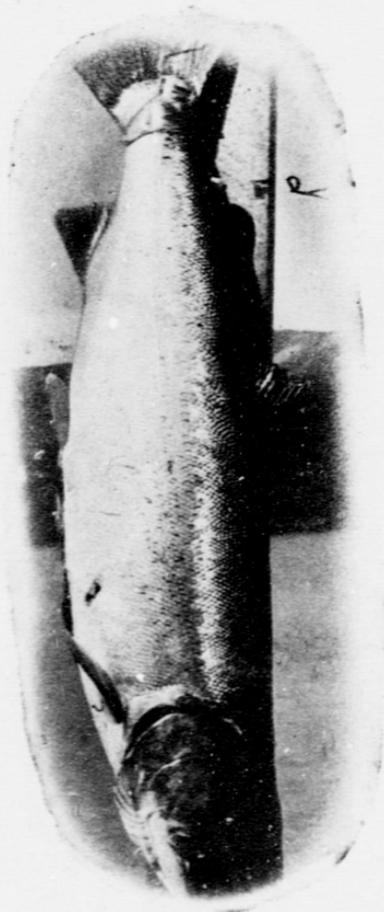
returns show imports of nearly a million dollars; exports of two and three-quarter millions, and collections of over \$180,000. The opening of the million-dollar bridge, nearing completion as these lines are written, which spans the Fraser at the centre of the City; the improvement of the channel already referred to, and the establishment of new manufacturing concerns, already arranged for, must speedily bring about a great expansion of the trade of the port.

### **The Business Opportunities**

Which New Westminster offers, not only by reason of her situation, as above mentioned, but by her ownership of a number of good sites for factories which she rents on the easiest terms, must also contribute largely to swell the volume of her trade in the near future.

### **An Administrative Centre**

In New Westminster are, besides the local branches of other departments, the Penitentiary, the Public Works Agency, Fisheries Headquarters (with the Hatchery a few miles away), the Land and Crown Timber Agencies under the Dominion Government; and the Provincial Hospital for the Insane, the Provincial Gaol, the Provincial Government Agent; the first named being, like the Dominion institutions, for the whole Province, the latter for the lower mainland only.



An 11-pound Rainbow Trout.—To have one of these game fighters on the end of one's line, the music of the tumbling river in one's ears, and the pine-spiced breeze filling one's lungs, is to get a deep draught of Ponce de Leon's fountain.

**Hunting  
and  
Fishing**

The lover of sport with rod or gun will find New Westminster a most excellent base of operations. Deer, black bear, grouse, pheasant, wild rabbit, are to be found within sound of her factory whistles. A few miles fur



A Day's Sport in B. C.—The Bag.



A Grizzly Asleep.

ther afield, where lake and forest and foothill break or bound the on-rolling stream of civilization, the hunter comes into touch with cougar, with wild cat, with mountain goat, with the mighty grizzly himself. In neighboring streams, notably the Brunette, the Coquitlam, the Lillooet, trout abound. Wild duck and geese are plentiful in their season among the sloughs and creeks of Pitt Meadows and Aluvia, both within an hour of the City.

**In a  
Word**

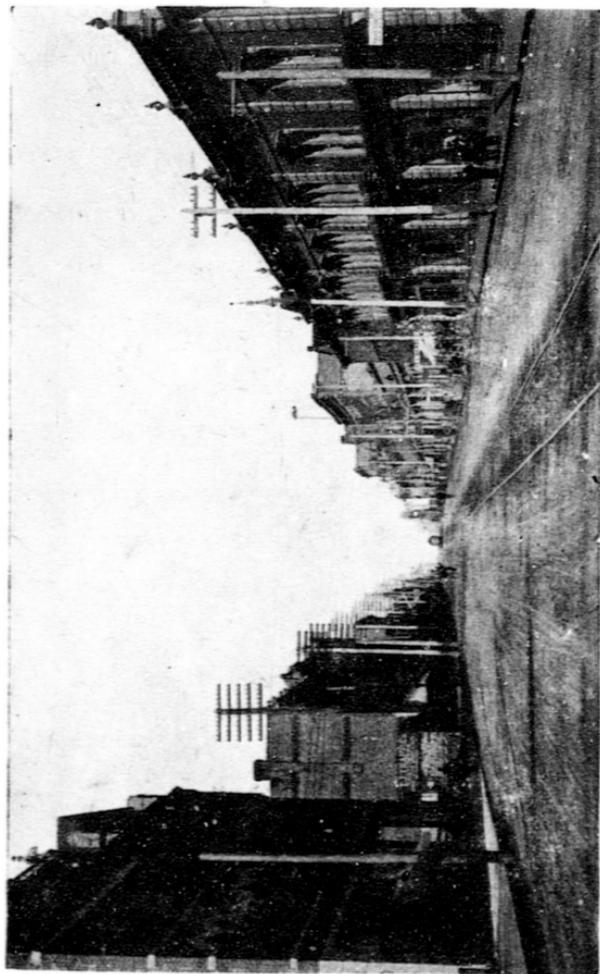
Whether one be in pursuit of health or pleasure, of sport or business opportunity; whether one's desire be to feast one's eyes on Nature's beauties or to take advantage of her bounty; to the fruit grower, to the farmer, to him who seeks opportunity for investment in the manufacture of the products of the soil; to the tourist, to the angler, to the hunter, New Westminster and its environs offer a most inviting field.

**Remember  
That**

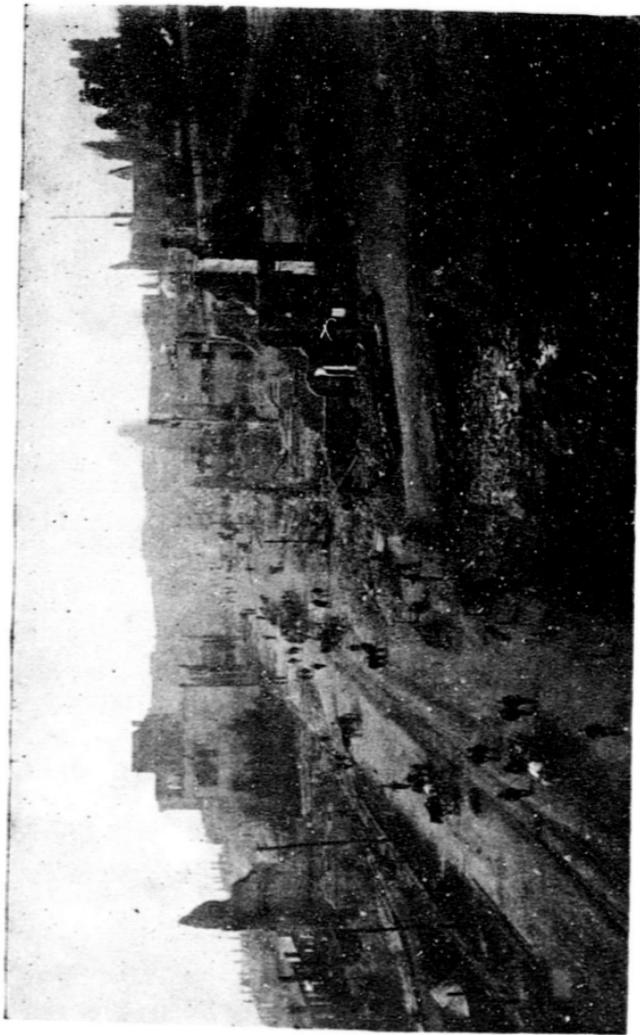
Extremes of temperature, violent storms, and epidemics are unknown; that these conditions and others make the City itself a health resort of no mean pretensions, and that Boundary Bay, within sight from its streets, and Harrison Hot Springs, but a short afternoon's journey distant, afford the best opportunity for sea bathing and the only spa in all the coastwise region.

**Remember  
That**

Owning fine sites for factories and being also the owner to a large extent of its public services, New Westminster can and does offer peculiar advantages to those who wish to establish industrial con-



Columbia Street, New Westminster.



New Westminster After Great Fire, Sept., 1886.

cerns, while her central position among the producers, and her easy communication by road and rail and ice-free river with ocean and lake, with farm and forest, indicate the City as the most advantageous place for such establishments.

**Finally  
Remember  
That**

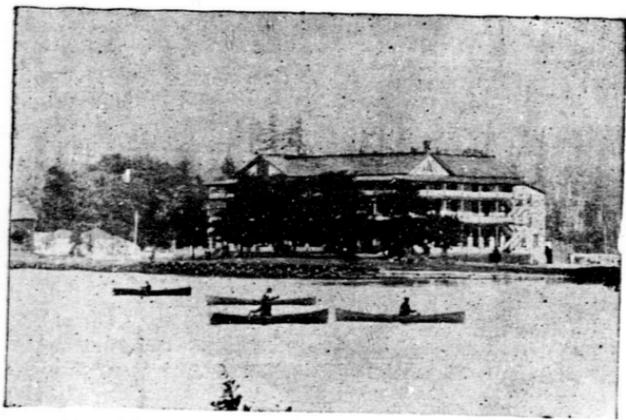
While the City Council and the Board of Trade are ready not merely to extend to all visitors a cordial welcome, but to give them any information or assistance in their power, The Tourist Association, which has now the honor to address you, has been formed and is maintained for your peculiar benefit. At its office accurate and detailed information is obtainable as to lands, improved and unimproved, which may be in the market; as to openings for mercantile or industrial establishments; as to the daily excursions one can make, by road or rail or river, for business or sport or pleasure, east and west, and south into the surrounding country; as to everything and anything in which you may be interested; be assured that not only is all such information most heartily at your service, but that the Association will feel that you place it under an obligation by availing yourself of its offer.

J. C. ARMSTRONG,      ELEANOR M. JOHNSON,  
President.                      Secretary.

## •• View Points ••

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- Bridge over Fraser (City car to the Crescent)—1-Million-Dollar, Double-Decked Bridge, ending at City side in curved Y. Main span over channel, 380 ft., resting on pier 160 ft. base to summit. Length of bridge, half a mile.
- Sapperton (City car)—Penitentiary, Automatic Can Factory, Lumber and Shingle Mills, Reservoir, Lower Brunette River.
- Hospital for the Insane (City car to Leopold Place)—Provincial Government Institution. Extensive buildings and grounds.
- Queen's Park (City car)—Public gardens, Exhibition buildings, training ground of world-famous lacrosse team.
- Glen Bridge—Sixth Avenue. Wooden viaduct over deep, secluded gorge. Happy hunting ground for botanists.
- Catchery—Up river, 30 minutes by steam launch.
- Brunette—Nearest trout stream, enters Fraser at Sapperton, near end of car line.
- Coquitlam—Lower reaches by steam launch, one hour. Upper waters by road, buggy from town, or rail to Junction, and fish upstream.
- Lillooet—Splendid trout stream. Two or three hours by steam launch.
- Views in and about City—From upper deck of ferry on regular trip. From Queen's Park. From crest of plateau, east and west, on up-town avenues. Fine point, intersection of Fourth Avenue and First Street.
- Pitt Lake—Running fifteen miles into the heart of the foothills. Alpine scenery. Reached in two or three hours by steam launch.



St. Alice Hotel, Harrison Hot Springs.



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New Westminster Tourist Association**

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