This book was compiled

by

Mrs Katherine Arthur

Mrs K. Arthur

W.I.

Kaslo

and

district

Women's Institute

Volume II

1957

Current History of Kaslo.

The first item of current interest was the 60th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the City. The celebration was held on August 14, 15, and 16th, 1953. Extensive preparations were made to make the Diamond Jubilee a memorable occasion.

Native sons and daughters had been invited and many of them came from far and near to join in the celebrations and renew acquaintances.

The Hall of St. Andrew's United Church was chosen as Memory Hall, and old pictures, newspapers, documents and memoranda were exhibited there, for visitors to brouse through. They also had a place to rest and visit.

The City Hall, the Masonic Hall and many private homes were given a fresh coat of paint for the occasion. Many of the towns folk dressed in costumes of the gay nineties.

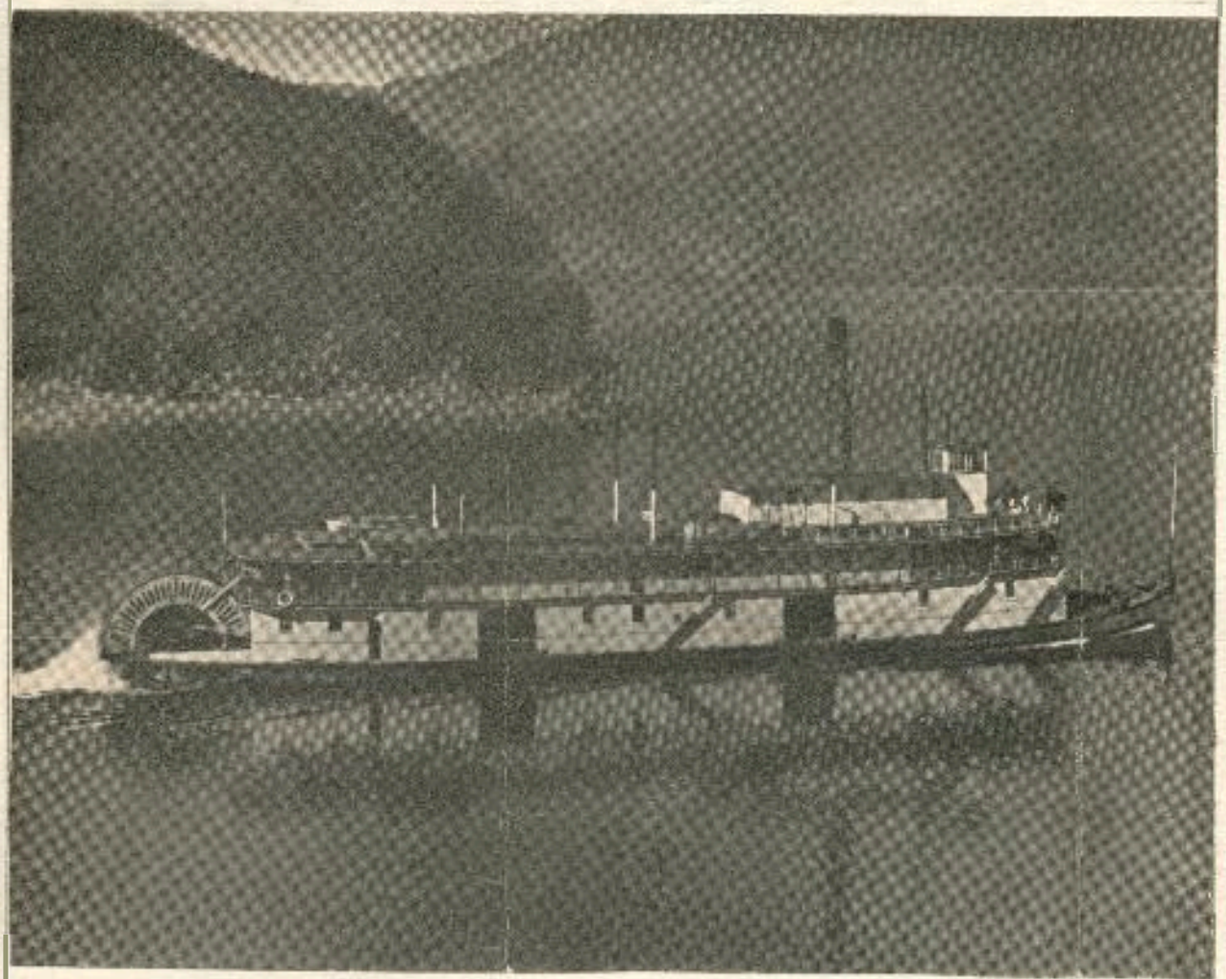
The weather was sunny and warm and not a cloud marred the happiness as old friends met and shouted their greetings.

The Kaslo Women's Institute held its Annual

Flower show during the celebrations at the Hatchery close to the grounds. The show continued for two days. Refreshments were served in the afternoons, thus providing a favorite resting and meeting place.

The Legion Auxiliary and the Sunrise Rebekah Lodge served dinners in the Legion Hall since other available accommodation could not cope with the crowds.

The big day of the celebrations started when the Moyie" arrived at its old anchorage near the park. The band played while its passengers disembarked.



Moyie

One of the C.P.R. Lake steamers leaving Kaslo for the lake head. Moyie runs from Nelson to Lardo.

After lunch, a parade was formed which wound its way To Vimy Park where a platform had been erected from which Mayor Green welcomed visitors and townsfolk. The crowning of the May Queen, which usually Takes place on May 24th, was held on this occasion and so the festivities were off to a good start.

Kaslo ladies representing the pioneers days. 1953

Grandstand entertainments, contests, dinners and dances in the evenings - everywhere there was good fellowship; these all provided pleasant memories of the Kaslo Diamond Jubillee. which will linger with all those who were able To take part in it.

Miss Jeanette Cousins May Queen of 1952 crowns Miss Ruth Aldous May Queen of 1953.

Kaslo, British Columbia, Thursday, Sept. 4th, 1952

THE KASLO-LARDEAU TRAIL

When Autumn came with its mornings keen,
And the poplars speckled the mountain green,
The big cats met at a point half way
And the trail went through to Lardeau Bay.

It was only a trail, or not much more,
But the natives thought it an open door.
Could the frozen trade of the North come down
Past the Kootenay Lake into Kaslo town?

For fifty years they had coaxed and prayed,
And voted, petitioned, and taxes paid,
While woodland and farm and mineral raw
Held wealth that the owners never saw.

The Big Brass came in their shining cars
To take the credit, and grumble at jars;
To explain to the yokels, when they'd stand,
How proud they should be in this happy land.

How hard they'd worked! They should be praised.
Such progress they'd made, and such families raised.
How the latest Government, shrewd and wise,
Had opened an Eden before their eyes.

Well . . . not quite opened it, sad to say;
That would have to wait for another day.
They had so much on their minds just then:
They were working till five, and starting at ten.

So the settlers looked at their crops and game,
The timber and fish and the mineral claim,
And figured how much of the public wealth
Had gone into that scratch on the mountain shelf.

And they sat them down, or lay in the sun.
In the fullness of time their race was run,
And Old Dame Nature, who does have a plan,
Covered over the foolish works of man.

The Department of Works sent a student down
To make what he could of the parchments brown.
But little he found that sense would make
Till he came to a map of the Kootenay Lake.
Came the year two thousand four, or five.
A charwoman cleaned a Victoria dive.
The wall paper tore, and behind the grime
Was a shelf full of plans of an ancient time.

"Funny folk, these," they heard him say,
"That made these plans in a far off day.
Here it shows a road, where our latest rolls
Marks 'Unexplored Territ'ry, Rocks and Holes.'"

—NORM. CAMPBELL.

The pleasant afterglow of the Jubilee was rudely shattered on the night of September 28th, when a disastrous fire destroyed the King George Hotel, the only Hotel in operation in Kaslo at that time. Nothing but a pile of rubble was seen in the morning. Since then Kaslo has been without hotel accommodation.

In 1955 a syndicate was formed by an enterprising promoter and a new modern Hotel was begun, but to date has not been completed through lack of funds.

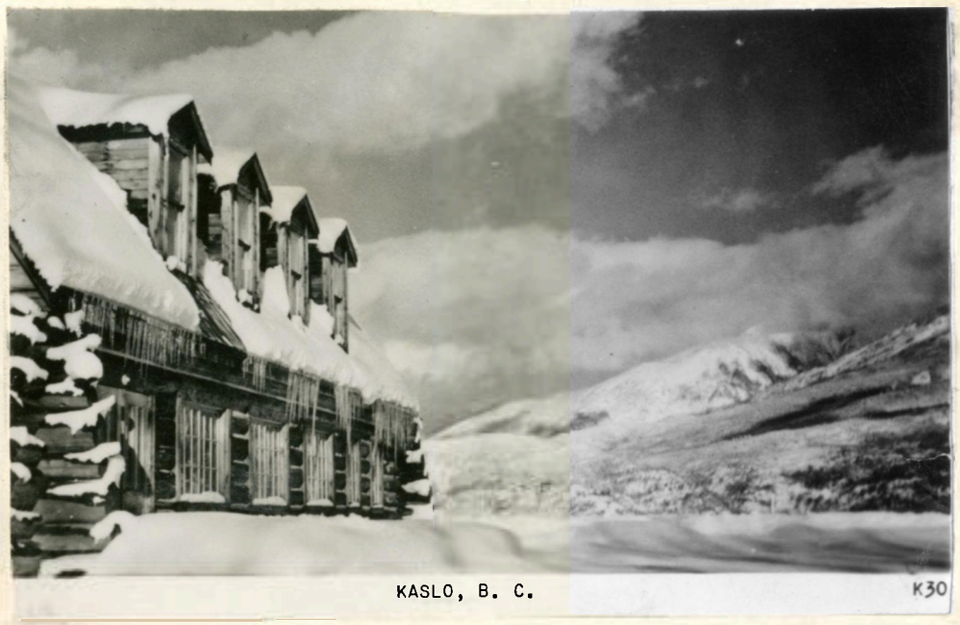
The long hoped and prayed for road to the Lardeau has been built, and is being steadily improved, much to the satisfaction of the residents of the valley as well as tourists and Kasloites who love to motor out on a Sunday afternoon to enjoy the beautiful scenery. To offset this blessing it has just been made public that the C.P.R. has been given permission to abandon the rail-way between Kaslo and Sandon. This will be a blow to the economy of the district as it may well discourage opening some of the mines in that area.

Kaslo-Lardeau road under construction. 1955

In 1954 an addition of two classrooms and an auditorium, which is also used as a gymnasium, was added to the school. This addition relieved the overcrowded classrooms as well as filling a much felt need for the recreation facilities.

Several good plays have been performed by local talent in the new auditorium: "Pirates of Penzeance," "Pinafore" by Sullivane "Stolen Identity" by Ch. Emery, "Shot Your Wedding" by Ned Albert, "Fright" by J. Reach, etc..

In 1954 the abandoned Fish Hatchery in the Park was loaned by the City for use as a Scout Hall.



The Fish Hatchery

After renovation and repaire it has proved a very satisfacatory place for Cub and Scout activities.

On December 11th, 1955, Mr Wm. English, one of the pioneers of Kaslo passed away at the age of ninety-four. Thus another link with the past was severed.

In May 1956 the Kaslo Women's Institute purchased a building which with a lot of voluntary labour has been converted and renovated for use as a Senior Citizens' Rest and Recreation Centre. It was officially opened on October 13th, with a well attended party.

Mrs. H. Carlson W.I. presedent addresses crowd during opening ceremony.

Since then the Senior Citizens' Rest and Recreation Centre has been in steady use and has given much comfort to the old folks.

Richard Hughes the first child born in Kaslo died in Victoria in January 1957 at the age of 64.

At long last the much neglected stretch of road from Balfour to Kaslo is getting attention.

Much blasting and bulldozing has been done, and it has been promised that it will be all black-topped in the near future.

Unfortunatly in the doing of this work there has been tragedy. One man was seriously injured in December 1956, and another killed in February 1957, both mishaps caused by falling rock.

On Saturday February 1957, (23th) The Rev. J.M. Spurrell, the Anglican Curate of the Kaslo-Slocan Parish was killed when buried in a snow slide on the road near Woodbury.

C.P.R. sold the steamer Moyie to Kaslo for $1 at May 1957. Kaslo will convert Moyie into a floating museum.

KASLO.

Situated right on the shore of beautiful Kootenay Lake, Kaslo has a beauty and freshness all its own.

Snowclad peaks touch the horizon most of the year, even when summer is smiling her best.

It boasts parks and excellent bathing beaches, and boating that compares with the best anywhere.

The fishing around Kaslo is excellent.

The city also boasts one of the sportiest golf courses in the province.

Kaslo is long famous for its Rainbow Trout and is also the Cherry Capital of the Kootenaysand The Bings there are absolutely delicious. The streets are lined with cherry trees, and the visitors may pick and eat at will.

The City of Kaslo, with the unorganised communities in the vicinity has a population of approximately one thousand.

Now, Kaslo beside being a favorite summer re-

resort is also the home of many retired business men a farmers from other parts of Canada.

While mining is still the main industry, there are several logging camps operating successfully. The saw mill is closed at present, but the water of Kaslo Bay is utilized to form the booms of logs which are towed by small Tugs to the Kootenay Forest Products Mills at Nelson.

The ancient paddle steamer, the Moyie still serves Kaslo, transporting passengers and freight and hauling ore barges from the mines.

The last of the old Paddle Wheelers still serving Kaslo.

In Kaslo Bay there are many boat houses for the accommodation of boats owned by residents and visitors.

Cherry trees in blossom on Kaslo's lake-front boulevard.

In and around Kaslo there is considerable fruit farming.

At Mirror Lake there is the Mirror Lake Dairy owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. C. Yoxall, who have a very fine herd of Jersey cows.

On May 27th, 1955, during the spring run-off, Fletcher Creek was blocked by a log-jam which broke loose during the early hours of the morning

and oceans of water came rushing down the mountain side and flooded Mr. Yoxall's Dairy Farm. Mr Yoxall put in an emergency call to the Kaslo Telephone Operator who in Turn alerted Kaslo Civil Defense and neighbours of the farmer. Within fifteen minutes Two neighbours Turned up, and these Two, C. Amudson and B. Arthur, working with Mr. Yoxal did their best to keep water at bay Till other volunteers and members of the Public Works Department arrived. The farm buildings were saved, garden and much of his crop was destroyed and his lane out to the road was almost completely washed away.

The Booster Station: Kaslo is located in a bowl like valley on the west shore of Kootenay Lake, entirely surrounded by high mountains, as a result Radio reception was poor. Stations to the south could be received but there was practically no uninterrupted reception from Canadian Stations. Even Nelson and Trail, The nearest of our stations could not be brought in. Because of this situation the Board of Trade appealed to the Chairman of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and in the Fall of 1954 a Booster Station was installed at Kaslo.

Now Kaslo gets the C.B.C. National Net-Work Programme. Other communities in the valley, have benefited from this installation.

The City Council, whose present members are Mayor Roy Green, Aldermen H. Carlson, E. Augustine, R. Patterson and J. Hand, are trying hard to secure an Auxiliary power plant to enable them to make extensive repairs on the present hydro-electric plant.

Kaslo Recreational Association in conjunction with the City Council at present engaged in working on a programme for the Centenial Celebration of British Columbia. They also usually sponsor the Annual 24th of May Celebration and with the help of the City engage a Life guard and Swimming instructor for the Bathing-beach. The last two seasons this job was very efficiently done by Miss. Mary Ann Murphy a native Daughter of Kaslo.

Kaslo can boast of a very efficient Fire-brigade. Mr. Hendren the Fire Chief is justly proud of the modern Fire engine and equipment, and mainly by his own efforts is kept in excellent condition.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the City-Council and the Fire Department a scating rink was provided this winter on Front Street, floading the Bowling Green.

The Ladies Hospital Aid under the Leadership of Mrs. Guy Browel is doing on excellent job of helping the Victorian Hospital Board by providing linen, blankets and at times furnishing for the hospital.

Elected Officials, Mayors—1893-1953

1 R. F. Green, 1893-96-97.
2 George T. Kane, 1894.
3 John Keen, 1895.
4 Charles W. McAnn, 1898-1900-6-7.
5 Dr. Gilbert Hartin, 1899.
6 G. A. Carlson, 1901.
7 A. W. Goodenough, 1902.
8 F. E. Archer 1903-9-11-19-25-30-31-37-38-39-40-41-42.
9 W. E. Hodder, 1904-5.
10 S. H. Green, 1908.
11 J. W. Power, 1910.
12 A. T. Garland, 1912.
13 D. C. MacGregor, 1913-14-15.
14 James Anderson, 1916-17-18-21-22-23-29.
15 W. G. Robb, 1920.
16 David P. Kane, 1924.
17 William H. Burgess, 1926-27-28.
18 W. J. Murphy, 1932.
19 W. Vidler Papworth, 1933-34-35-36.
20 R. E. Green, 1942 (from May 29th), 1952-53.
21 Edward Latham, 1943-44.
22 Charles W. Webster, 1945.
23 George S. Baker, 1946-47-48-49-50-51.
24 William Drayton -1954-55.
* R.E. Green --1956-57.

'THE KASLO PIONEERS'

(Words and Music by E. J. Leveque, and Sung by him at the Board of Trade Jubilee Celebration at the Legion Hall, last Friday Evening

I had a dream, now that's a fact—like lots of folks have done.
I dreamed old dream man took me back to eighteen ninety-one.
It was as plain as it could be— a page from history torn;
A wondrous vision came to me—And I saw Kaslo being born.

I saw old John Casleau, he's the man who gave the town its name.
I saw John Keen, and Andy Jardine, I saw George and D. P. Kane.
They were standing down by Kaslo Creek, and gazing all around,
And they said, 'we can't wait here all week, we gotta build us a town.'
And so they toiled like bees, and they cut down trees, and they worked up an awful sweat,
And they built things here, and they built things there, And some of them are standing yet!

Then I saw the folks come pouring in from every land and clime.
There was plenty exitement everywhere, it was a hectic time.

I saw Sam Green and his brother, Bobselling groceries in their store.
I saw Henry Giegerich and Lardeau Jack, and I saw a whole lot more.
I bought a shirt in Garland's shop, and some milk from Jerry Bell.
I saw Reuter and Latham both shake hands, and buy King George Hotel.
I saw the old Comique where you went to seek any man you wanted found,
And the 1-room school where the golden rule was taught to every kid in town. I saw Rev. Martin build his church, lost my dough in Burk's bank;
I had a drink in the 29 saloons, and a couple from the water tank.

Oh, Kaslo it sure was a lively town,24 hours in the day, and they all went round and round.

I gossipped with old town's only cop, Marsh Adams was his name.
I dropped in at Fred Archer's tinsmith shop, and I read Lowry's Claim,
I met all the plain guys on the street, whose names I can't recall,
And plenty of ladies trim and neat, I swear I met them all
I saw the fire and I saw the flood and the whole town upside down,
I saw the ashes and I saw the mud, and tough luck spread all around.
I saw these folks all grit their teeth, stick out their chests and say,—
We ain't licked yet; we'll build again. This town is here to stay.

Charlie Webster, F. E. King, Buchanan and McKay; William English William Twiss, Strathearn and Stott and Gray; Martin, Byers, Whiteside too, Retallack, Stone and Orr, Allisson, Gerrard, Young, O'Brien, and lots more.

They all had a bright idea, so they formed a Board of Trade.
That happened 50 years ago, and history was made.
They worked hard for their brand new town, in every kind of way—
And that old Board is still alive, and going strong today.
And the town she boomed, and the town she zoomed,
And they had a lot of fun; And they didn't shirk if a job meant work,
But they showed it could be done.

I never will forget that dream, if I live a hundred years,
I say, "God bless 'em, every one," the Kaslo Pioneers.

CHURCHES, CLUBS and COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.
IN
KASLO.

CHURCHES.

St. Andrew's United Church - - Rev. H. Johnston.
St. Mark's Anglican " - - Rev. J. M. Spurrell - until he died - Feb 57
St. George's Catholic " - - Father Berigan.
The Pentecostal Assembly - - Rev. Mc. Nutt.

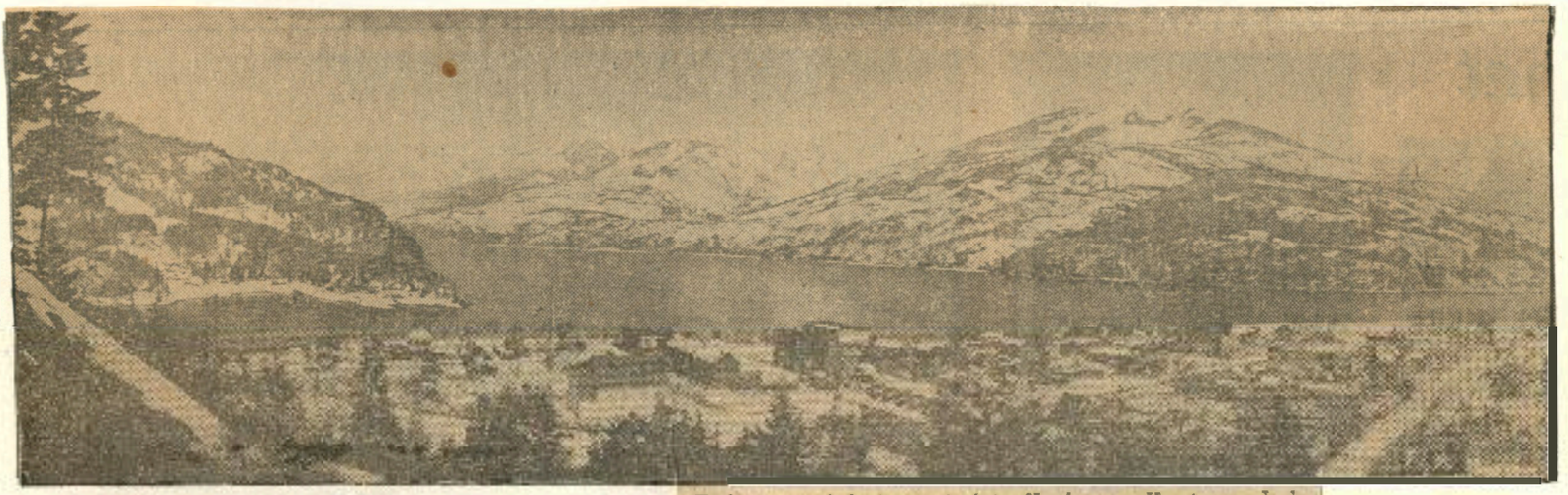
LODGES.

Masons: A & F.M & R.A.M. —— Roy Fahrni.
I.O.O.F —— Ernest Augustin.
Rebekahs - - - - - Mrs. T. Horner.

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.

Farmer Institute —— Pr. Mr. Paterson - H. Carlson.
Kaslo Recreation Association - - Pr Mr. Hendren - Mrs. Saalfeld
Scout and Cubs —— L. Constable J.D. Flamank
Canadian Girls in Training - - - L. Mrs. Johnston, Miss Clark, Miss Shimizu.
Badminton Club —— Pr. Mr. J. Moris.
Drama Club - - - - - - - - - - Pr. Mrs. K. Yoxall.
Women's Institute - - - - - - - Pr. Mrs. Carlson. B. Allen sec. Mrs. Speirs.
Kaslo Historical Society - - - - - Pr Mr. C. Yoxall
Hospital Auxiliary - - - - - - Pr. Mrs G. Browell
Canadian Legion and Auxiliary - - Pr. Mr. Cl. Carpenter
Rod and Gun Club - - - - - - - - Pr. Mr. B. Palmer
Square Dance Club - - - - - - - Pr. Mr. N. Johnston.
Parents and Teachers Association - Pr. Rev. H. Johnston.
Board of Trade —— Pr. J. Moris.
Fire Brigade —— Firecheif Mr. W. Hendren.
Civil Defence —— Mr. W. Hendren.

Kaslo and District in Pictures.



Fishing and fruit capital is Kaslo, on Kootenay Lake.

Kaslo School District Grows; Building Need

KASLO, B. C.—An increase of 200 in school population marked Kaslo School District activity in 1951.

A gain of 25 was recorded here and at Riondel number of pupils rose from 17 to 40. Other schools are at Ainsworth, Retallack, Lardo, Howser, Meadow Creek and Johnson's Landing.

School grounds at Howser and Meadow Creek were surveyed to enable obtaining of crown grants and titles, applications for which had been in for years At Riondel, the old school was moved by the community from its old location to a point beside the new school there. Paint was supplied by the School Board. The move gave Riondel two school rooms and advanced its standing to a superior school.

The Board hopes to be able to carry out new construction this year with work here and at Riondel and replacing of old schools at Ainsworth and Retallack.

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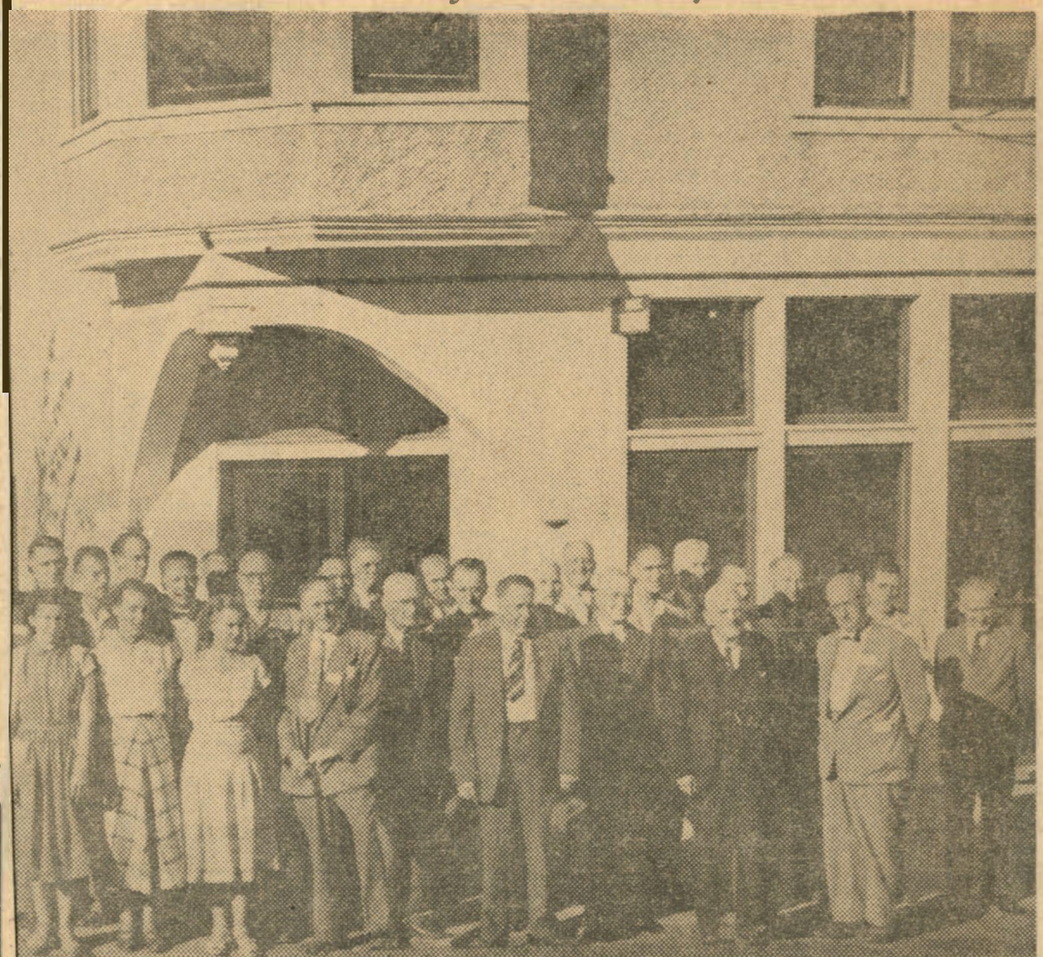
TAXI

Bureau Makes Friendly Invasion of Kaslo 1952



th Kaslo
portation

Bureau of Vancouver Board of Trade, which made a flying trip through the Kootenay-Boundary. In background is pioneer King George Hotel. —Orrell photo.

Last year Kaslo became debt-free, and joining the Board of Trade burning of the bond ceremony above are Aldermen F. McGibbon, H. Carlson and W. V. Drayton; Mayor G. S. Baker, F. E. Archer, James Speirs and A. L. McPhee, all in front row. In background are H. W. McLeod, E. J. Leveque, W. H. Tonkin, G. D. Bowker, Fumi Matsuzaki, Inez Lind, Lorraine Tarr and Agnes Webber, queens; R. E. Green, R. Hewat, A. L. Gosling and George Armstrong, Board president, at extreme left.

Historic Year . . .

Kaslo Becomes Debt Free; Population Up

KASLO, B. C.—History was made by the City of Kaslo in 1951, for at the start of the year the city's bonded indebtedness was paid off and Kaslo lifted out of debt for the first time since the 90s. The City was incorporated in 1893.

Population of Kaslo now is 791, according to the 1951 census, a climb from 468 in 1941.

The City continued to make improvement in its power lines and is gradually putting in 220-volt services. Kaslo has its own plant and distributing system, the plant being situated on Kaslo Creek. Water sources are Kemp Creek in Summer and Kaslo Creek in Winter.

A bulldozer with shovel attachment was purchased for the Public Works Department to be added to the tractor and bulldozer blade bought in February.

A cement sidewalk was laid on B Avenue between Second and Third Streets and curbing and drainage constructed on Front Street and on blocks on Fourth and Fifth Streets by Provincial Public Works.

NEW BUILDING

Permits were issued for construction of two stores to E. H. Morphet and W. Hendren, although building was not started. Cost of the former was estimated at $700 and the latter at $3000.

Other construction included $3000 for a small home for K. Laybourne at the corner of Washington Street and A Avenue and a $1000 addition to the home on Washington Street of Vernon Murphy.

Kaslo will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 1953 and this year two oldtimers, S. J. Reuter and Mrs. M. White will celebrate their arrival in the district 60 years ago.

Kaslo's Cherry Production Up

KASLO, B.C.—Good increase in cherry production in this famed cherry capital of West Kootenay was experienced last year, Kaslo Cooperative Union reports. There were 61 growers.

A total of 2277 crates and lugs were shipped to Nelson for distribution by Associated Growers of B.C., a good increase over the 1950 figure. Independent growers and G. A. West, well known grower of Shutty Bench, produced as much again.

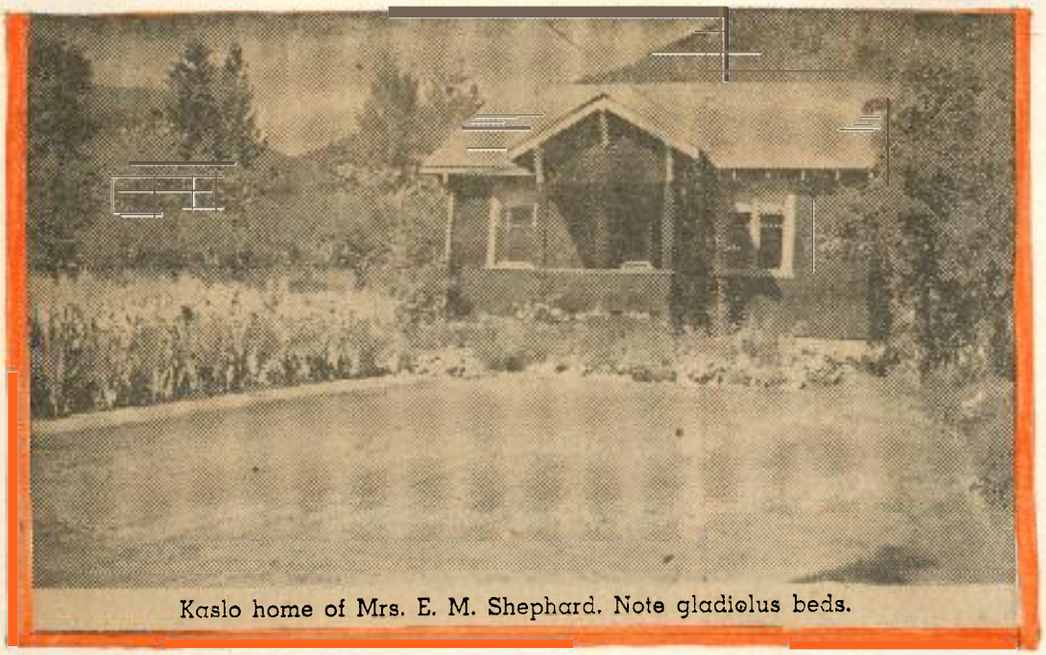
Pears were also up a little at 493 boxes, plums were about unchanged at 153 boxes and apples dropped well over 1000 boxes to 201.

Kaslo Cooperative Union President is E. A. Wardle, Vice-President is E. J. Leveque and Secretary-Treasruer is John L. Shephard.

Kootenaian 1952

Editorial

Mr. Tom Taylor showed us some Lambert cherries last week, that put to shame what now pass as No. 1's. He has a three-hole gauge, representing minimum sizes for Nos. 1, 2 and 3 cherries, which he got from the Okanagan. Tom's No. 3's will not go through the No. 1 gauge. The Kaslo cherry crop has been fine (no rain), but requires several pickings, some quite late.



Kaslo home of Mrs. E. M. Shephard. Note gladiolus beds.

In the plot in front of the home of Mrs. Shephard, at the top of the Kaslo Hill there can always been seen in the autumn a beautiful display of many coloured Gladioli

Kaslo Group Has Plan for 'Moyie'

MARCH 1957

KASLO — Kaslo Historical Society held their annual meeting Thursday with 25 members present. C. R. Fahrni, president, gave a brief outline of the history of the society.

The main purpose of the meeting was to elect officers and to carry on the work of the Centennial Committee. They are to assist in the project of the committee in converting the S.S. Moyie into a floating museum at Kaslo if the Kaslo Centennial Committee are successful in getting the stern-wheeler turned over to them. It was also decided to change the name to Kootenay Lake Historical Society.

The executive are to act as a membership committee to start a campaign immediately.

President of the society is Clive Yoxall, vice - president is Mr. Fahrni, and Don W. Kay recording secretary. Executive is to be composed of the present projects committee and Jack Morris, Neil Johnson and Hill Hendren. Honorary president will be H. W. Herridge.

An unusual ore transportation method is used, by the Mining Company on Kootenay Lake, where concentrates are loaded by clam shell crane from a dock into gondola cars resting on a railroad barge. The Moyie stands by to haul the barge across Kootenay Lake to the rail head at Procter. There, a locomotive takes over, hauling the loaded cars to the giant metallurgical plants at Trail.