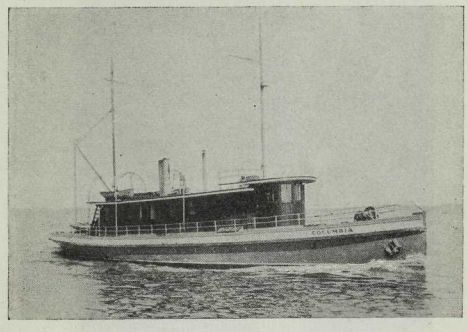
Columbia Coast Mission

(INCORPORATED)

"Heal the sick - - - and say unto them, The kingdom of heaven is come nigh unto you."

—St. Luke x. 9.



Mission ship "Columbia."

REV. JOHN ANTLE, Superintendent
T. F. BARTON, Sec.-Treas.
REV. C. W. HOUGHTON, Financial Agent
Offices: 603, Province Building
Tel. Sey. 6880
VANCOUVER, B.C.

The Columbia Coast Mission (Inc.)
History

IN June, 1904, Rev. John Antle, in a 16-ft. boat built by his own hands, made a voyage from Vancouver to Alert Bay and back, calling at the lumber camps and settlements, covering altogether, a distance of over 500 miles.

REV. JOHN ANTLE
Superintendent and Founder of the Columbia Coast Mission

At that time there were upwards of 3,000 men living along the coast, chiefly in the lumber camps,

cut off from the comforts of civilization, destitute of medical or surgical aid, and almost entirely lacking the privileges and influences of religion.

He conceived the idea that the only way to help these men was to equip a boat as a hospital and dispensary, with lending library and facilities for religious services, and to establish hospitals along the coast at suitable intervals.

Accordingly, the "Columbia I." was launched in April, 1905, and with Mr. Antle in charge and Dr.

Giant Cedar Tree.

W. A. B. Hutton as Surgeon, started on her Mission in May of the same year.

As the work grew, the first Columbia was found inadequate—fancy two severe typhoid cases for four stormy days in a one-cabin boat, which once happened—and therefore, in 1910, a larger boat with more room and greater speed, was built, and equip-

Wireless Telephone, M.S. "Columbia".

ped to meet the needs of her service. A deck hospital with cots, dispensary and X-ray machine; a chapel for church services, a moving picture outfit, a lending library, and, what makes her unique among boats of her kind, a **radio telephone,** by means of which the ship is in communication with the Government radio and land telephones at all times, and is always ready to respond to all calls from the sick and injured. Many a time she has

Stretcher work by the crew of the "Columbia".

pounded her way through storm and darkness in response to the urgent call for help, perhaps 150 miles away.

A regular route has been inaugurated forming the figure eight, with Alert Bay as a centre. About forty-five calls are made at settlements, lumber camps, canneries, mills, and Indian villages, covering about 650 miles every two weeks, and totalling about 17,000 land miles per year.

The annual Christmas Tree on board makes twenty settlements glad with the message of Christmas, and not only children are delighted but grown-ups also, by the moving pictures, presents, music and Santa Claus.

The ship has thus become a necessary institution

to an isolated people, bringing to them at regular intervals medical and spiritual aid, and a cheery touch from the outside to stay and encourage the hardy pioneers who, against untold difficulties, are pushing forward the borders of civilization. The ship, in short, is the dream-come-true of the superintendent, who at last can function as such and give his time to the maintenance and expansion of the Mission.

Rev. Alan D. Greene.

The "Rendezvous"—a compact and useful little ship in charge of the Reverend Capt. Alan D. Greene, who has been with the Mission—barring an interval in which he served as chaplain in the Great

M.S. "Rendezvous".

War—since 1911. With headquarters at Quatbrashi Cove, where there is a little Church, he roves over the southern portion of the Mission district, **holding services** at twenty-one places, scattered along the coast, and many miles apart, and **rendering services** wherever possible. Conscientiously and courageously he is pounding ahead, covering four thousand eight hundred miles in his year's work, and laying foundations, which only those who know the facts can appreciate.

ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, Rock Bay.

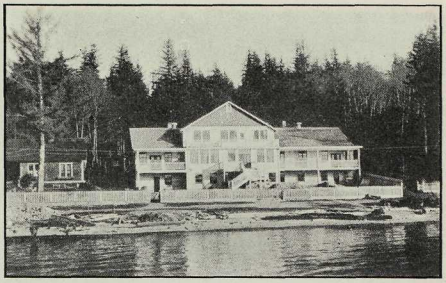
The first Hospital (Queen's) was built by the Hastings Mill Co., in 1905, and soon after enlarged.

St. Michael's Hospital, Rock Bay.

It was destroyed by fire in 1910. A larger and more hospital-like building was erected immediately by the Mission. It is well equipped with fine operating room, its own electric light, a first-class X-Ray machine, and everything necessary to take care of the sick and injured which come to its doors.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL, Alert Bay, B.C.

This Hospital was built in 1909, and rebuilt after the fire of 1924, and is situated in a centre which was once an Indian village, but now a large centre for Whites and Indians. The fishing and lumbering industries contribute their quota of accidents and sickness, and the Indians of the largest agency in



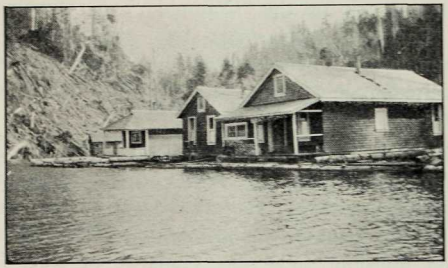
St. George's Hospital, Alert Bay.

B.C. look to it—to quote their big chief—as "the house of salvation and the house of hope." Being comparatively new, it is up-to-date in its equipment and design. It has its own electric light plant, and a first-class X-Ray machine which was purchased with money presented by the Indians for that purpose.

COLUMBIA HOSPITAL.

now floats peacefully in Greenway Sound. The equipment was originally in the little Hospital of the same name at Van Anda, first opened in 1907; but bad times came to Van Anda; the Marble Bay mines, the main support of the Hospital, and the owners of the building, shut down for good, and it was thought advisable to remove the equipment to a position where it could be useful. A group of lumbermen in the cedar district around Mackenzie

Sound, offered assistance to construct a small Hospital in a central position in that district. It was first built on the shore at Carriden Bay, then put on



Columbia Floating Hospital.

floats and moved to O'Brian Bay. Afterwards it was towed by the Columbia to Greenway Sound, where it remains at present, waiting for the revival of the cedar lumbering..

IMPORTANT TESTIMONY.

A Nurse who served at Rock Bay Hospital for two and a quarter years, stated that during that time 45 accident cases had been treated in that institution which could not possibly have lived to reach Vancouver. This means that 45 lives were actually saved in that short time, when the institution was not more than one-fourth its present size. The other hospitals are doing the same work and the "Columbia" has more than once been on the spot

to succour the sick and injured, which otherwise must have died.

One who came from Eastern Canada and made the round trip on the "Columbia," on returning to the East, publicly made this statement, "The Columbia Coast Mission enterprise is the most wonderful example of practical Christianity I have ever seen."

The Rev. Canon Tucker, well known in Vancouver, for many years the Secretary of the Canadian Missionary Society, and now Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ontario, said, "The Columbia Coast Mission, under the guidance of Rev. John Antle, has become one of the most original contributors to the work of modern Missions."

MANAGEMENT.

The Mission is incorporated under the Benevolent Societies Act of B.C., and is governed by a Board of twenty members, ten from Victoria and ten from Vancouver.

HOSPITAL WORK.

Hospital Cases (2 Hospitals)	554
Out Patients	1,922
Mission Ship Columbia (9 months)	576
Total Cases	3,052

FINANCE.

Some idea of the financial situation may be obtained from the following statement for 1927:

Receipts.

Hospital Work—		
Earnings, Government Grants, Subscriptions, etc.	$40,371.69	
Church Work—		
Collections, Boat Earnings, Subscriptions, etc.	11,403.64	
Total Receipts		$51,775.33

Expenditures.

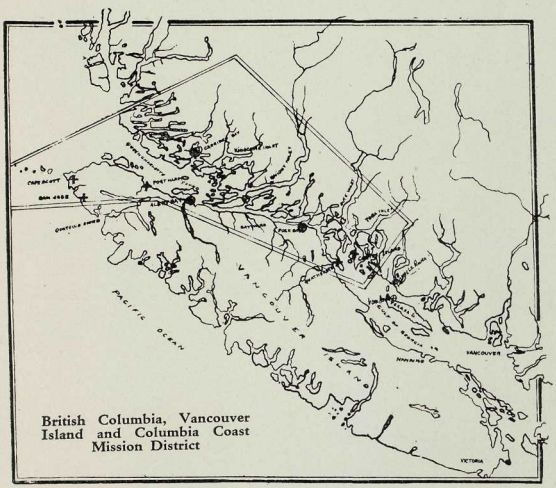
Hospital work	$40,212.85	
Church work	11,140.20	
Total Expenditures		$51,353.05
Balance to credit		$422.28
Assets		$88,154.64
Liabilities		12,180.56

In addition to Government grants, earnings of the Hospitals, and grants from Societies, it will be necessary to raise $12,000.00 annually to enable the Mission to run efficiently. A special effort is now being made to raise the sum of $20,000.00 in order (1) to liquidate the liability of $12,180.00 incurred by the building of the new Hospital at Alert Bay and the new engine installed in the "Columbia"; (2) to supply new equipment and certain repairs and additions made necessary by the demand for the treatment and care of diseases and accidents which heretofore could not be treated.

If you are making your will, a bequest to this work will be a constant source of gratification to you as the years go on.

If you can afford a subscription now, you will be repaid by the knowledge that you are helping an isolated people to obtain a few of the privileges which you enjoy abundantly.

"The only things you will grip in your fist when you go over the border are the things you have given away."



British Columbia, Vancouver Island and Columbia Coast Mission District

Map showing the District of the Columbia Coast Mission