

From the Vancouver Oral History Project Interview Transcript No. 50

Interview with Mr. Hercules Lamoureux

This excerpt has been edited for clarity

Cheryl Pierson: You said that in the early days that there was quite a community spirit in Maillardville. Can you think of any other incidences outside of the church holidays and ceremonies that you all got together and celebrated things or had a good time?

Mr. Hercules Lamoureux: Well, the people used to be closer together ... they used to have an annual picnic ... first of July and this was quite an event. A few of the families would get together and the men would buy a keg of beer, and then they used to have community races. They have sack races and egg races and different types ... all types ... ladies races and children's races of different ages and they used to give a few prizes out in those days and pretty near everybody of the town used to show up. And after a different type of club started and the town got bigger and people got away from that. They'd still have baseball and sports activities now which is gone individually more than in those days because in those days we used to have community dances and card parties ... social parties. The social parties operated by the church group and the card parties the same way. This is the way they would raise their money for their churches by having the community parties and dinners once in a while. Was done by the Ladies Auxiliary and groups like that.