# SPLASH—it's boating time in Rupert!

## Yacht club story one of success

The Prince Rupert Yacht Club has been in operation for almost as many years as our city has been incorporated.

Available records however, date back to the year 1922 when Dr. W. T. Kergin was commodore. Actually, the Yacht Club goes under the correct title of the Prince Rupert Rowing and Yacht Club, but it is commonly known to city residents as the Yacht Club.

Some residents, such as Gunnard Anderson, are long time members. Mr. Anderson admits to being a member "for at least 40 years."

**The Yacht Club has enjoyed a long and prosperous life, and is good for many years to come. Many famous boats have visited there and the guest book in the clubhouse contains the names of people famous throughout the world.**

The club has approximately 120 vessels call each year. Spring and summer are the busy seasons for both visitors and local sportsmen who moor their boats there. Courtesy docking and free tourist information are available to visitors.

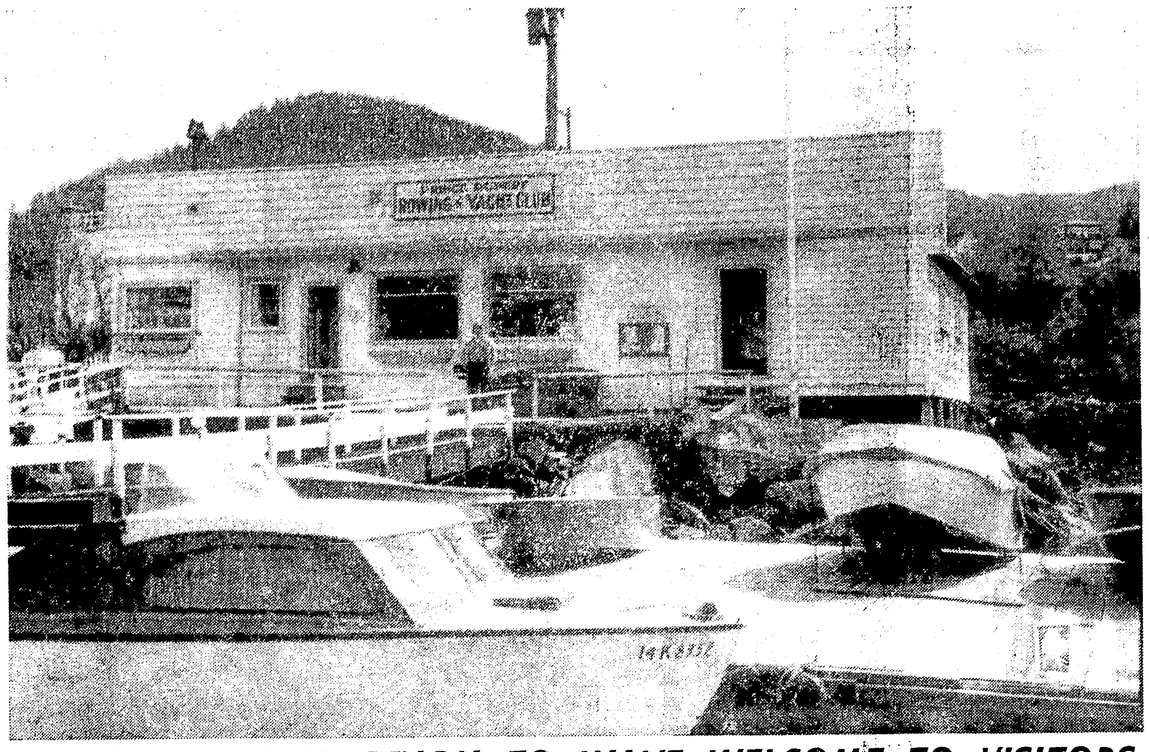
The club is busiest from Friday to Sunday night when most people like to get out and travel around.

At the present time there are 140 members in the club. Approximately 135 boats are regularly tied up at the club which is just about as many as can be handled. They represent an investment by their boating enthusiast owners of many thousands of dollars.

Jock Davidson, the present caretaker, keeps a constant eye on things and boat owners are well assured of security against theft.

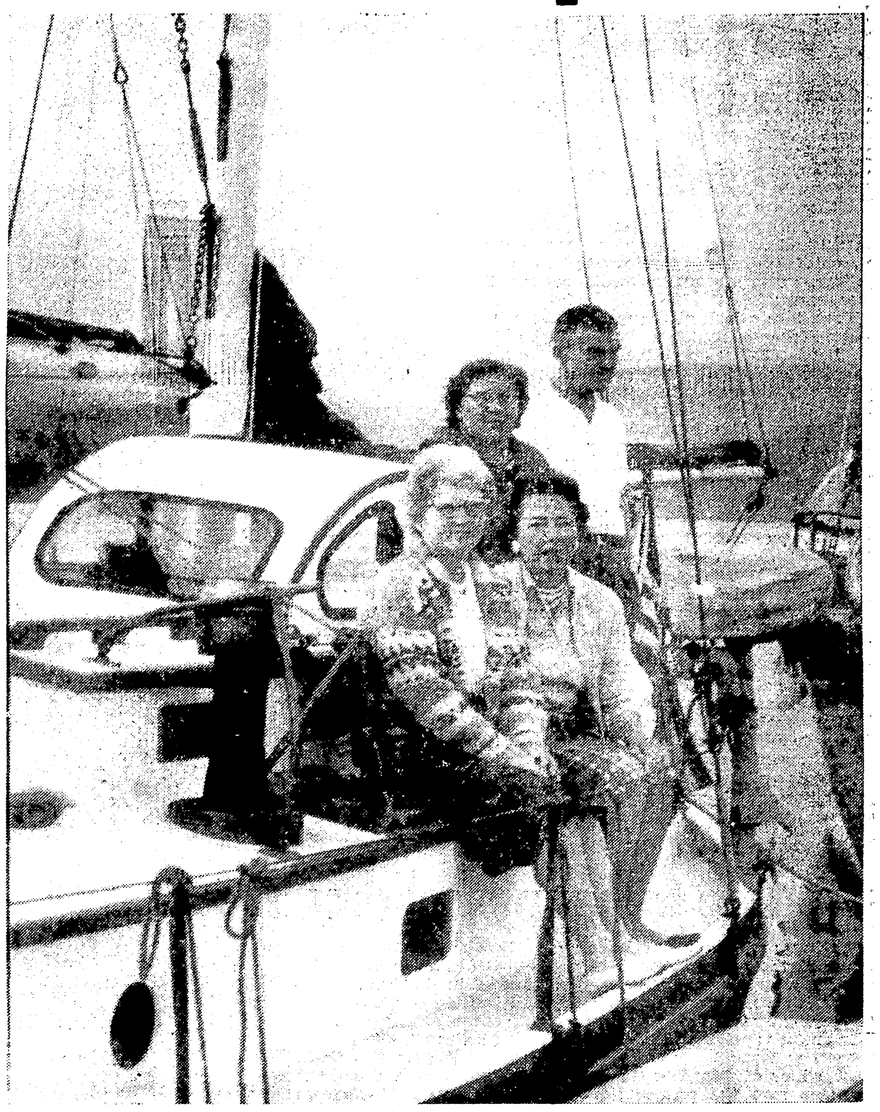
The present executive includes commodore Hugh Muir, vice-commodore Bill Elkins, secretary-treasurer George West, and directors Sid Elkins, Dr. Mitch Green, Andy McDonald and Bill Sutherland.

Membership in the club depends upon available space. Names are taken and voted upon in rotation as vacancies occur.




### YACHT CLUB EVER READY TO WAVE WELCOME TO VISITORS

Visitors to the Yacht Club are favorably impressed as they dock their boats and view the club building. Caretaker Jock Davidson is usually on hand to greet them and offer advice on fueling, shopping facilities and information on places to visit while in Prince Rupert. Complete tourist information is available at the club to all visitors.



### FAMILY FUN AFLOAT

What could be more enjoyable on a fine day than a cruise? This photo of cruise visitors to Prince Rupert illustrates the joys of an increasingly - popular outdoor recreation. Not only is boating gaining a higher spot on the list of pursuits of Prince Rupert people, a larger number of cruisers from other cities on the Continent are calling each year.

**HAD LONG RUN**

London's Royal Theatre in Drury Lane has been playing since 1663, in the reign of Charles II.

**HAS MANY TONGUES**

The external services of the British Broadcasting Corporation present programs in 40 languages besides English.

**HOME STILL STANDS**

The 12th-century home of the ancestors of George Washington still stands five miles west of Sunderland, northern England.

## Sales spurt ahead to show Rupert's a boat-loving town

Hometowners who decide to get a boat in Prince Rupert can roughly be divided into two classes — the "do-it-yourself" man, and the person who spurns the manual effort and buys his boat ready-made.

Either, though, is a hard-headed type who shops around for the best product to meet his particular requirements.

This doesn't preclude the fact that some boating enthusiasts do go to boat builders. Wahl's Boatyard, for instance, is ever eager for orders for private pleasure craft large or small, and is in fact building a 48-footer this summer for a Prince Rupert purchaser.

**"We're very interested in meeting the needs of pleasure boaters," the management says. They'll build anything from a modest wooden boat to elaborate metal craft or even a sailboat.**

Way and by far the majority of prospective boat owners, however, do their buying from Prince Rupert stores, agents for a number of top brand name craft, from big mail order firms, and from national manufacturers with outlets here. They like to compare makes, and do a lot of sizing up of the motors most suitable for the boats of their choice.

Of one thing there is no doubt at all. That's the fact that the number of boat owners in Prince Rupert is on the upswing.

"More and more people are buying boats every year," says the manager of the Co-Op Centre boat sales department.

The favored lengths are anywhere from 14 feet upwards, he says, with a strong emphasis on the 18, 20 and 21-footers. Combination inboard-outboard models are also popular.

The manager of one Canada-wide firm (Simpsons-Sears) confirms the trend. The increase in boat owning, he says, is general throughout British Columbia, and has been particularly noticeable in the last few years.

**The reasons, in Prince Rupert's case, are obvious—proximity to interior lakes, and the harbor and sea within stone's throw. The ocean-going boater can be as ambitious as he likes—he can either head for the open sea, or putter about closer to home at places like the salt lakes across the harbor from the city, or wind in and out up Tuck Inlet, or visit the multitude of offshore islands.**

Fibreglass and aluminum models in 12 and 14-foot lengths are particularly popular with Rupert buyers, and can be bought for as little as $199, which represents relatively cheap enjoyment of the water for those who can make the utmost use of their craft. The average 12-foot aluminum boat comfortably takes up to a seven and a half horsepower motor engine.

**WEIGHT FACTOR**

One major retailer says that in the last three years, sales of wooden hull boats have fallen off markedly. Weight compared with the lighter aluminum and fibreglass boats, and necessity of upkeep are principal factors in this, he claims.

A few years ago buyers were dubious of the aluminum boats. They wanted ample proof of durability and stability—and the intervening years have given them the assurance they wanted.

**While Prince Rupert boaters have the dual opportunity of ocean and interior lake going, many find they must select the boat for one direction only—the 14 foot over for the sea, and the 12-foot or under car-topper for inland jaunts. One firm says they sell a lot of dinghys, the seven and eight and a half foot type. The 14-foot runabout is a highly popular model with all, however.**

And, of course, the 16 foot and over cruisers maintain a steady popularity with the person who has a summer home, who goes in for sport fishing in a big way, and generally likes to spend a good deal of his spare time on the water.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