

WATERFRONT WHIFFS

Sockeye Run is Falling Off—Trollers Still Doing Fairly Well—Halibut Landings

With the run falling off noticeably since July 11 when fishing operations were instituted following the three weeks' strike at the first of the season, the salmon fishing and canning interests of the Skeena River have come to realize that a lot of valuable time and good fishing for the choice sockeye variety were lost during the period of the strike. While it was not a big cycle year for sockeye in any case, it is now quite evident that at least a fair pack was lost with its proceeds both to fishermen and canners for it is on this variety that the best profits of the season are usually realized all around. Since fishing was started on the Skeena River following the cessation of the strike, the run has been very spasmic with the odd good day here and there followed by two or three days of southeast winds and bad weather when the fish would be swimming low. Much the same condition has prevailed on the Naas River since the end of the fishermen's strike there on July 5.

The sockeye pack on the Skeena River up to July 22 this season was 22,942 cases as compared with 64,992 cases in the corresponding period last year and 13,130 cases in the cycle year of 1928. On the Naas River the sockeye pack up to the same date this year was 6,189 cases as compared with last year's 4,905 cases at a similar date and 2,743 cases in the cycle year of 1928. It should be remembered that there have been three canneries in operation on the Naas River this year whereas last year only one was packing.

Pinks are a little late in showing up this year on both the Skeena and Naas Rivers although small numbers are now putting in an appearance. This is the cycle year for a big run of pinks and, within a week or so, it is expected it should commence. All Skeena River canneries are expected to pack a certain proportion of gillnet and seine caught pinks this season.

Latest reports to be received at Prince Rupert from the Queen Charlotte Islands are to the effect that the pinks have not yet arrived there. Although a big run is expected, the Langara Fishing & Packing Co.'s (Nootka Packing) plant at New Massett is the only Queen Charlotte Island cannery which will be in operation this year.

A good run of sockeye in the Rivers Inlet and Smith's Inlet areas is about over.

All canneries in the district contiguous to Prince Rupert which started the season are still in operation now. In view of the shortage of sockeye this year, there may be considerable demand by the can-

ners for coho during the run in August.

With a view to permitting as large a catch of fish following the loss in production earlier in the season, the fisheries department has reduced the weekly close season on salmon fishing on the Skeena and Naas Rivers from forty-eight to twenty-four hours. The weekly close season is now from 6 p.m. Saturday until 6 p.m. Sunday instead of from 6 p.m. Friday to 6 p.m. Sunday. There will also not be the usual week or ten days close season between the sockeye and coho runs this year.

The department has been able to relax the usual regulations in regard to close season periods particularly in view of the fact that there has been an apparently good escapement of sockeye to the spawning grounds this season due to the suspension of operations during the early run.

Two airplanes of the Canadian Airways are in the service of the fisheries department for patrol purposes this season with base at Swanson Bay. Pilot Forrester is in charge.

Following are salmon pack figures for the Naas and Skeena Rivers for the 1932 season up to July 22, figures for the corresponding

Salmon Disporting In River



A finny funster is the salmon, and this one cut quite a figure as he cavorted in the Skeena River. Piscatorial pictures like this are rare—when the fish is not on a hook.

period last year being given for comparison:

Skeena River		Naas River	
	1932	1931	
Sockeye	22,942	64,992	6,189
Springs	21,181	8,193	3,480
Cohos	4,042	1,888	1,786
Pinks	658	829	2,237
Chums	1,027	261	1,783
Steelheads	31	4	67
Totals	49,881	81,167	15,475

Following are the pack figures for 1928, the last cycle year, on the Skeena and Naas Rivers:

Skeena—sockeye, 13,130; springs, 4,813; cohos, 4,019; pinks, 3,794; chums, 402; steelheads, 32; total, 26,100.
Naas—sockeye, 2,743; springs, 1,535; cohos, 167; pinks, 10,454; chums, 763; total, 15,662.

A large angling party consisting of Doug Frizzell, W. Hutson, F. Elison, Leon Blain, Lee Dell, Charlie Balagno, Angel Astori, Tony Busanich, Pete Gamula and Sid Hunter had unusually good success at Captain's Cove last week-end despite rain and high water. A fine string of trout was brought home by members of the party which made the trip on the Laura F. I. leaving early Saturday evening and returning late Sunday night.

Halibut Landings
Halibut landings at the port of Prince Rupert for the 1932 season up to and including July 29 totalled 8,119,650 pounds as compared with 9,550,240 pounds for the 1931 season

up to a corresponding date. So far this season Canadian vessels have landed a total of 2,683,250 pounds in comparison with 3,942,600 pounds last year while Americans this year have brought in 5,436,400 pounds as compared with last year's 5,607,640 pounds at a similar date. Thus it is seen that the season's decrease is largely due to lessened Canadian landings while the aggregate of American catches is almost as high as last year.

During the week of July 23-29 landings amounted to 333,000 pounds of which Canadian boats were responsible for 110,000 pounds and American 223,000 pounds. Prices for the week were still on the low side with a high price of 5.1c and 2.5c for Canadian fish and 6.5c and 3c the high bid for American fish. The low price of the week for both Canadian and American fish was 4c and 2c.

Despite the falling off in the salmon run as far as the gillnetters and seiners in the rivers are concerned, fishing is reported to be holding up well on the trolling grounds with increasing numbers of cohos making their appearance in addition to springs.

Reports were received in port during the week that the well known American halibut boat Eastern Point had broken up and was a total loss in northern waters. The Eastern Point, which has made regular landings of halibut here for many years, was owned and skippered by Steve Sheehan and made Prince Rupert her home port.

The Hinton & Wright power cruiser Ethelda returned to port last Saturday from a week's trip to Roderick Island near Milbank Sound where Hubert Ward, one of those who made the trip, has min-

ing property. Others making the were Lyman Hinton, Roger Wright and Charlie Evitt.

After a 10-day cruise as far north as Juneau with Capt. and Mrs. W. P. Armour, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Parker and Mr. and Mrs. F. A. MacCallum, all of Prince Rupert, on board, the Vancouver power yacht Helena B. returned to port this morning. Those on board the vessel reported having a delightful trip, the voyage being favored with fine, sunny weather almost all the way. Calls were made at such well known points as Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg and Juneau and a number of other places along the Alaskan coast were explored. Taku Glacier was one point of much interest which was visited, members of the party going ashore to walk into the "dead" glacier. The "live" glacier was very active with falling ice and near approach could not be made to it. Capt. Armour and Mr. Parker went up the Taku River to Tulsequah. The party spent a day and a-half at Baranof Island Hot Springs where, as well as elsewhere during the cruise, splendid trout fishing was enjoyed.

C. N. R. Trains

For the East—
Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays 12:30 noon
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 3 p.m.

From the East—
Sundays, Thursdays and Fridays 11 p.m.
Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays 1:30 p.m.

C.P.R. steamer Princess Alice, Capt. William Palmer, is due in port at 4 o'clock this afternoon from Skagway and other Alaska points and will sail at 5:30 p.m. for Vancouver.

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Cartoon—"SCHOOL DAYS" METRO NEWS
WHAT A SHOW! WHAT A SHOW!
MONDAY and TUESDAY—"MICHAEL AND MARY"

R. Boyd Young of Port Simpson, who has been on a business trip to Vancouver, arrived in the city on the Prince Robert this morning from the south and will proceed to Simpson on the Catala tomorrow evening.

Another meeting of the central committee of the unemployed was held last night in the Longshoremen's Union Hall when business pertaining to the organization was under discussion. No announcement as to what transpired at the meeting was made this morning.

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