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How They Sold 200,000 Pounds of Halibut at Regular Fish Auction

Rupert Fish Exchange

"Are you all satisfied?" inquired John Davis as he stood in the telephone booth with his hand on the receiver preparatory to hanging up, at the close of the fish auction. "If you are all satisfied, these are the final bids," and he read them off to the fish buyers at the little fish exchange, with T. H. Johnson, manager of the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Company listening in from his office at Seal Cove.

All the buyers intimated that they were satisfied, and as a result approximately 200,000 pounds of halibut changed hands at prices ranging from seven to nine cents a pound.

Someone who is not familiar with the method of auctioning the halibut at the Prince Rupert fish exchange will ask, why all the halibut was sold at once. The answer is that the method of selling halibut is peculiar, different to any other kind of sale in the world.

Picture to yourself the little fish exchange in the upper storey of the shed on the Provincial Government Dock, as I saw it recently. Along one side of the room was the blackboard, on which one of the buyers had written the names of the halibut boats with the approximate number of pounds of fish divided into medium, large and chickens, in addition there was opposite each the name of the place where the fish was caught and the age of fish since being caught.

Grouping the Catches.

When my friend and I arrived, the buyers were grouping the boats in such a way as to make car load lots. For instance the Eagle with 18,000 pounds and the Rainer with 5000 were grouped together as car load number one. Car two was the Livinstone with 18,000 and the Clara with 3,000. The Pioneer with 55,000 made two car loads and again the Inez H. 6000; Ruth, 8000 and the Atli, 7500 was another. Each car load was slightly over 2000 pounds. Any of the buyers made suggestions as to the grouping and there was very little controversy.

Practically all the Canadian fish was marked as coming from Hecate Straits. Of the Americans two were from Cape Ommaney, one from Forester Island and another from Yakutat with four from Hecate Straits. There were a few salmon offered and one little boat, the N. & S. with 6000 pounds was sold alone because she did not happen to fit in with the rest and she did not fetch a very high price.

Bidding Began.

Then the bidding began. Right from the first four cents was offered for the large fish and the chickens and it was sold at that price; the first class or medium sized halibut being the only ones for which there was competition.

The first bids for number one quality ran around six cents and gradually increased by tenths of a cent, each buyer recording each bid with the name of the bidder. Sometimes a bid was made on one lot and sometimes on another until the bidding stood at somewhere around seven cents.

At this stage of the game John Davis went into the telephone booth and held a consultation with his principal at the cold storage. He read over the names of the boats and the price offered for each so far and after a consultation lasting a quarter of an hour or more the bidding began again in a most spirited manner, and when at the close every buyer said he was satisfied, two car loads had run up to nine cents a pound and the others varied in price running down to seven cents for the big boat with two car loads from Alaska.

The Buyers.

There was no auctioneer, but each man wrote down every bid made and at the end each had a perfect record of the day's sale. In addition to the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Co. the buyers were the Royal Fish Company, represented by John Dybhavn; Booth Fisheries, W. J. Cash; Atlin Fisheries, James Lee; Pacific Fisheries, Chas. E. Starr and Sinclair Fisheries, James H. Sinclair.

During the course of the sale which lasted fully an hour and a half, there was much good natured badinage and many humorous stories told. A few of the skippers of the boats sat at one side of the room. They apparently trusted to the buyers to do the right thing.

When the sale was over nothing was said by the buyers or the sellers but all filed out to commence the work of unloading. The sellers seemed perfectly satisfied with the result. They had the right to withdraw even after the close of the sale, but if they did they would find it difficult to sell at any other point where representatives of the same buyers would be present. Occasionally when the price is low the fishermen decide to take their fish to Seattle, but usually they do not make enough extra to pay for the long boat trip.

The proceeds of the day's auction was slightly over \$12,000 and this was not a big fish day, for Prince Rupert.

MANY FISHING BOATS BUILT AT THIS PORT

The building of fishing and pleasure boats has long been one of the small industries of Prince Rupert. Several small builders have been doing this work for some years and have turned out fine craft. Among the Canadian registered boats many of the best were built at this port.

The same concerns do a good business repairing and overhauling fishing boats and pleasure craft, but most of the fishermen do their own overhauling during the winter and spring. The port is well suited to that as there are plenty of places where temporary grids can be made and the high tides give opportunity to keep the boats out of water for several weeks at a time.

The boat building industry is one that is corollary to fishing and should be more important than it is at present.

Daily News Classified Ads.

2 CENTS PER WORD IN ADVANCE. No Advertisement Taken for Less than 50c

WANTED

WANTED—Young lady wishes position as stenographer or bookkeeper. Apply P.O. Box 435 or Phone Black 244. 213

WANTED—to rent furnished house or flat for month of October and November. Phone Red 277. 218

WANTED—Girl for general housework. Apply 420 5th Ave. West or phone Green 291. 215

WANTED—General Servant. Apply Mrs. Cade, 217 First Street. 11

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79 Acres, \$1500.

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FOR SALE—Lot 10, block 24, section 1, Second Avenue with two story business block well rented, \$6,000.00. Terms. M. M. Stephens. 214

BRING us your propeller questions. New and used propellers at low prices. Northern Exchange, 135 Second Avenue. Phone 640. 11

FOR SALE—Complete furnishings of seven room house. Apply F. E. Hunt, Atlin Avenue, Section 2. Phone Black 157. 213

FOR SALE—Corona typewriter in good condition, weighs only eight pounds and folds in case. Price \$45. Daily News.

FOR SALE slightly damaged roll of news print, little over 100 lbs. weight, cheap. Daily News Office.

LAND—Hazelton District. Large and small tracts. Enquire Wm. Grant Agency, Hazelton, B. C. 11

PIANO—Good condition \$200 cash, or terms. Gratton's Store. 218

DRESSMAKING and Ladies' Tailoring. Asia Trading Co. 11

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Singer sewing machines, by week or month. Just phone Walker's Music Store. 11

FURNISHED Bedroom to rent. Central. Green 471. 216

FURNISHED Rooms for rent, 722 Fulton Street. 218

FURNITURE REPAIRS

DON'T RUIN your Furniture for want of proper repair. Polishing, Crating and Shipping. H. H. Hemings (late Hudson's Bay Co.), 823 Third Avenue. Phone Black 615. 11

PAINTING

PAINTING, Graining and Kalsomining. Roofs tarred or stained. First class work. Ed. Hutton, Phone 524. 11

BOATS FOR HIRE

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INVESTMENTS

OLD MEXICO is today the Land of Opportunity; good and stable government; helpful and friendly co-operation; healthful and dry and warm climate, and sunshine all the time; we have open opportunities for single men and women; also families who are interested and can make a small cash investment. For information write British Continental Exploration Company, Limited, Yorkshire Building, Vancouver, B. C.

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BICYCLES

"PERFECT"—Agency for Bicycles, Repairs and parts. 417 Fifth Avenue East. Phones Blue 337, Green 407. 11

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RUPERT Motor Co., dealers—"Reo" Cars and Trucks. Automobile repairs. Tires, accessories and Ford parts always in stock. Commercial bodies built for all purposes. Let us give you a price on your car body. Taylor & Moorehouse, Corner Third and Ninth Avenue. 11

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MUSIC

"HOW we feel—what we know—This is the puzzle which Music essays to solve."—Browning. H. C. Bailey, Teacher, 527 8th Avenue West. Telephone Green 497.

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MIRRORS

MIRRORS made or resilvered. Bloomfield, 417 Fifth Avenue East. Phones Blue 337, Green 407. 11

LOST

LOST—Pocketbook containing bankbook, Army discharge and birth certificate. Finder kindly return to D. McRae, G. S. Newton, Digby, Reward.

RESTAURANTS

THE SWEATON TEAROOMS, 309 Second Avenue, for HOME-COOKED meals. Home-made bread, cakes and pastry. Melton Mowbray pork pies. Board by day or week. 11

CORSETS

CORSETS made to order. Mrs. Director. Phone Blue 283. 11

CANCELLATION OF RESERVE.

Notice is hereby given that the reserve against the acquisition of Coal under the "Coal and Petroleum Act" established by notice dated 11th of February, 1920, and published in the British Columbia Gazette on the 12th of February, 1920, is cancelled, except in so far as the same relates to the following areas:

1. All the lands lying within the boundaries of the reserve of the Skeena River above and including outflow creek, the East Fork of the Skeena River, the Little Skeena River and the Spatsizi River, above and including Klappan and Indian Creeks.

2. All that portion of Vancouver Island lying easterly of the following described boundaries:

Commencing at a point on the West Coast of the Island at the mouth of Nuis Creek, thence following the western boundary of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Belt to the southeasterly corner of the Strathcona Park Reserve, thence west following the south boundary of the said reserve to its southwest corner; thence north following the west boundary of the said reserve to its northwest corner, thence west along the south boundary of Sayward and Rupert Districts to the westerly boundary of the watershed of Nimpkish River, thence north westerly along the westerly boundary of the watershed of said Nimpkish River, Nimpkish Lake and Keown River to the south boundary of Township 3, Rupert District, thence west along the south boundaries of Townships 3, 4 and 5 to Marble Bay, thence northwesterly along the centre line of Marble Bay and the West Arm of Quatsino Sound, thence north along the east boundary of said Township 37 to the northeast corner thereof, thence west along the north boundaries of Townships 37, 41 and 44 to the Pacific Ocean, and including all the foreshore and lands covered by water adjacent to the East Coast of Vancouver Island together with all islands lying between the Mainland of the Province south of the 51st parallel of north latitude and Vancouver Island and all the lands within the boundaries of the Districts of Otter, Goldstream, Metehosin, Esquimalt, Victoria, Lake and North and South Saanich, Sooke and Highland.

The cancellation of this reserve shall not take effect and staking for coal shall not be taken until notice of such cancellation is published for sixty (60) days in the British Columbia Gazette and in a newspaper published or circulating in the Province of B. C.

This notice shall in no wise affect the reserve against the acquisition of Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas in the Peace River District, established by notice in the British Columbia Gazette on the 27th of March, 1919, which reserve is still in force and effect.

G. R. NADEN,
Deputy Minister of Lands,
Department of Lands,
Victoria, B. C.,
July 28th, 1921.

LAND ACT.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO PURCHASE LAND.

In the Range V, Coast Land District, Recording District of Prince Rupert, and situate on Lakelse Lake.

Take notice that Frederick Davison Mulholland, of Prince Rupert, occupation for ester, intends to apply for permission to purchase public lands or lands of the Crown, having regard to the provisions of the Land Registration Districts of the Province of B. C.

This notice shall in no wise affect the reserve against the acquisition of Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas in the Peace River District, established by notice in the British Columbia Gazette on the 27th of March, 1919, which reserve is still in force and effect.

F. D. MULHOLLAND,
July 7th, 1921.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT.

IN THE ESTATE OF TUCKS INLET BY-PRODUCTS LIMITED, BANKRUPT.

Notice is hereby given that TUCKS INLET BY-PRODUCTS LIMITED OF PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., was adjudged bankrupt and a Receiver Order made in favor of the undersigned on the 17th day of August, 1921.

Notice is further given that the first meeting of Creditors in the above Estate will be held in the office of Messrs. Bond & Spaul, Chartered Accountants, Federal Building, Prince Rupert, B. C., on the 21st day of September, 1921, at 2:30 p.m.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with me prior thereto.

And further take notice that if you have any claim against the debtor for which you are entitled to vote, you must file with me within thirty days from the date of this notice, for from and after the expiration of the time fixed by Subsection 8 of Section 37 of the said Act, I shall distribute the proceeds of the debtor's estate among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which I have then notice.

DATED at Prince Rupert, B. C., this Seventh day of September, 1921.

GEORGE ROE,
Authorized Trustee,
Federal Building, Prince Rupert, B. C.

LAND ACT.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO LEASE LAND.

In Range 5, Coast Land District, Recording District of Prince Rupert, and situate on Dennis Arm.

Take notice that I, Claud C. Ketchum, of Prince Rupert, B. C., occupation master mariner, intend to apply for permission to lease the following described lands you are commencing at a point situated about 2000 feet from head of Dennis Arm Inlet, thence 20 chains north, thence 20 chains west, thence 20 chains south, thence 20 chains east, and containing 40 acres, more or less. C. C. KETCHUM,
July 25th, 1921.

Lumber & Shingles

A new shipment of Fir Dimension and Shingles has just arrived, bought at the market's Lowest Prices. Ask for quotations.

E. H. Shockley

Planing Mills.
Prince Rupert, B. C.

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