



Doings of the Mosquito Fleet which is the chief source of Prince Rupert's prosperity

light arrivals and consequent high prices have been the order of the week in the fishing business. According to the Admiral of the fleet, however, all is well and his merry boys are not a bit downhearted.

Dirty weather has again been evident on the deep sea fishing grounds which has made fishing particularly arduous. To offset the whims of the weather, the prices have been high at the Fish Exchange which has recompensed the crews to a great extent.

While in the early part of the week the boats of the Mosquito fleet proper had limited their movements to purely local trips, the good weather, which broke through the darkened skies on Thursday, put new life into the crews and many of the little fellows have left port during the last two days.

The only untoward mishap to the fleet reported during the week was the loss, by the Cape Hatter, Capt. Dan Larsen, of her rudder. It was necessary for her skipper to improvise a jury rudder in order to enable her to make port.

Marked activity is noticeable in the shipyards along the waterfront this week. The N. M. McLean yards have three boats on the ways for overhaul while the Prince Rupert Boathouse has several big nautical contracts on hand including the refitting of the steam tug Hope, of Rivers Inlet with a 55 h.p. Atlas gas engine. The Ward ways are busy also while the Boga yards have two boats under construction.

No fur arrivals are reported during the week although with better weather available it is expected that a number of native trappers will arrive in port with fur cargoes in the near future.

Hanaco in Commission

The Hanaco is again to be put into commission. This time she will be engaged in the halibut chasing business with no less a personage than Captain Bill Parsons on the bridge. Cap has resigned his office as chief executive of the trawler Caruthers and will in future engage in the fishing business on his own behalf. We understand that the Hanaco has been purchased by Cap. Parsons and a partner. This well known boat is now on the McLean ways undergoing a hull and engine overhaul preparatory to hitting out for the high spots.

Poole is Promoted

Our old friend H. E. Poole, formerly mechanical superintendent with the Allin Fisheries, has been and gone and got promoted. Yes sir, in future his title will be Superintendent of

cold storage, fresh fish operations, and wireless operations with the Butehead cannery. It is said that he is so tickled with his new title that he has refused to take any remuneration for the rest of the cannery staff suffering his presence. With the appointment of the superintendent the whole plant is to be brought entirely up to date. In addition to the many labor saving devices a brand new wireless station is to be fixed up which will be capable of communicating to a distance of 100 miles in the daytime and 150 miles at night. This station will permit of free communication with the Admiralty offices and the secret service department of the Mosquito fleet. Mr. Poole is to take over his duties "foot sweet" or in English right away.

Ted Rorvik has succeeded H. E. Poole as superintendent at the local plant of the Allin Fisheries. Ted has had considerable experience in the fish business and was for some years with the Rorvik Fish Company which operated in Prince Rupert in the early days.

Albert-McCaffery Arrivals

The Union steamer Chilkoot will arrive in port on Wednesday next with 300 tons of coal and 20,000 feet of double dressed lumber while the C.N.R. steamer Prince John left Nanaimo on Thursday with 500 tons of coal for the Albert-McCaffery interests.

A Real Mix Up

Skippers Blondin and Jud Thurber figured in a regular nautical jack-pot during the week. The information was gleaned from a secret service source so that there is no shadow of a doubt as to its truth. It appears that the good ships Joe Baker and Mayflower, of which the above named gentlemen are the respective owners, chanced to be tied in close proximity to one another at the home base. To celebrate the stupendous catches of both boats the crews were given a day off and among the crews chanced to be one named Chris. This is the official flapjack juggler on the Joe Baker and it is around this personage that the blood curdling story is woven. The day went off very nicely but the night seemed to have a lot of kick in it. Behold then early in the morning our hero, Chris making for his snug berth at low tide. On reaching the scene of activities, that is the point at which he wished to connect with his berth, he found to his consternation that the Joe Baker was quite a little ways out from the wharf. Leaning over, Chris tried valiantly to drag the boat

neener the land in order that he could get a firm footing. The Joe Baker resented this intrusion and slid a little further out to sea. This put Chris in a very awkward predicament with the result that he was precipitated into the salt chuck. All had been peace and quietness aboard both the Joe Baker and Mayflower until this ghastly event happened. The yells of Chris for a lifebuoy awoke the whole works and the decks of both boats were soon crowded with pyjama clad figures. Pyjamas are part of the uniform on both these fish chasers. Jud started to dance with glee thinking that the yells in the water came from Blondin while the last mentioned was all hot up with excitement thinking the yells below denoted Jud's attempt to swim the harbor. When Chris was finally hauled aboard there was naturally much wailing and gnashing of teeth on the part of the respective shipowners.

The Admiral is trying to hunt down the source of this antagonism between the two gentlemen in question. From information already at hand it would appear that Jud borrowed a pound of flapjack flour from Blondin and forgot to pay it back while Blondin borrowed a joker out of Jud's pack of cards and lost it. It is the intention of the Admiral to arbitrate in an endeavor to restore peace again between these two well known members of the fleet.

Halibut on Ced Line

According to an eastern correspondent, second class halibut is selling in the State of Maine for 10 cents a pound. He states that a fisherman while fishing off Bailey Island, Maine, with a ced line caught a halibut weighing 164 pounds. When the fisherman got his catch to town a public holiday was declared, halibut evidently being a scarce commodity of food in those parts. The clamor for the purchase of the fish was so great that the services of the fire brigade were necessary to keep the crowd back. After a lot of exciting bidding the fish was knocked down to a financial magnate for \$65 which works out at about 10 cents a pound. If this sort of thing continues the natives of Bailey Island intend to erect a fish exchange and transfer the halibut catches by dirigible balloons.

Sold in Vancouver

The halibut schooner E. Lipsett, Capt. Peterson, recently sold his catch of 3,000 pounds of halibut to the Canadian Fish Company, Vancouver. Cap had taken a trip in his trusty barque to Vancouver and did a little fishing enroute to while away the time. This is a case of mixing pleasure and business to the right time.

Pedersen's Tough Time

The halibut schooner Tordenskjold, Capt. Paul Pedersen, which arrived in port on Tuesday last with a light catch of 35,000 pounds, reports having encountered a terribly rough sea while on the high spots. The waves rose mountains high and it was only by the superhuman efforts of the crew that tragedy

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was averted. Although the catch was light for the capacity of the boat the price of 19.5c was prevailing at the Fish Exchange on arrival so that the arduous trip proved quite remunerative after all.

Booth Boosters Celebrate

Wednesday being a quiet day with the Booth outfit the occasion was taken mean advantage of by Pete Solem who gave an at home to his comrades in distress and members of the fleet and their friends. All this happened after the noon hour. The reception hall was prettily decorated with halibut gear and frozen herring bait. G. A. Kirkendall poured coffee all over the table cloth while Bill Knight cut the ices with a butcher knife. Pete received the guests at the door and any loose change that chanced to drop from their pockets. A musical program was then indicated upon the assembly. Among the vocalists was Miss Cateall, sister-in-law to the Admiral, who sang the soul inspiring ditty entitled "When Beer is Given Away" with much feeling. Steve gave an exhibition of a dog begging for doughnuts as that was the only way in which he could get anything to eat. Sam Spanner, mechanical superintendent to the fleet, recited the disgraceful poem "Never Eat on an Empty Tummy." The afternoon closed with the gathering shooting craps. It was a darned good gathering plus the gang that put up the doings.

Boathouse Busy

The Prince Rupert Boathouse is a veritable hive of industry and if the present pace continues the services of a traffic cop will have to be sought. The steam tug Hope is undergoing a transformation from steam to gasoline power. The old steam machinery is now being torn out and in its place will be installed a 55 h.p. Atlas engine capable of giving her a speed of between 8 and 9 knots an hour. The days of the old steamer with its attendant coal shovelling have passed away. The Hope is one of the last steam boats on the coast using the antiquated power.

The power boat Pachena, Capt. Gammon, took a scow of machinery from the Prince Rupert boat-house on Wednesday last to George town. The machinery will be used in connection with the remodelling of the Georgetown mill. On the return the Pachena brought down a scow load of fish box lumber and v-joint for the fish houses.

The Provincial and Pachena, on Tuesday last, towed the Muse pile driver over to Oslund. The pile driver is to be used in connection with the building of the new landing wharf at that point by the provincial government.

Launch No. 25 has been sold by the Prince Rupert Boathouse to Mr. Mackenzie of the Marine Station, Digby, and will be used by him for purely pleasure purposes.

The Pachena left for Buckley Bay on Thursday with a cargo of Benzol and general freight.

Harry Gilbert, the well known skipper of Lancel 23, returned from a prolonged visit to Victoria on the steamer Prince George on Wednesday last. Harry is now turning his mechanical gifts to

good account in extracting the machinery from the Hope.

Dolphin Repairing

The halibut boat Dolphin, Capt. Pete Byrne, is undergoing engine repairs at Cow Bay. The clutch has been giving a deal of trouble lately and among other things a new clutch is being installed. Upon completion of the necessary repair work Cap. will hit out for the high spots.

The Karen, Capt. Billy Thané, is on the Ward ways undergoing hull repairs and a general overhaul.

Spring Salmon

The Alma B., Capt. H. Brewin, arrived in port from the halibut banks and reports having caught a spring salmon on the halibut line. This would go to show that the spring salmon are anxious to be caught and augers well for the coming season's run.

Fish Business

During the week 223,500 pounds of fish has been sold through the Fish Exchange. The highest price paid was 19.5c and 11c, and the lowest 16.8c and 9c.

The arrivals were: Sampson, White Lily, Bingo, Murineag, Mayflower, Koyasu, Agnes B., T.762, Revella, Dolphin, Minnie V., St. Eli, Tordenskjold, Roald Amundsen, Gladstone, Constitution, Cape Spencer, Cape Spear, Corona, Margallice, Hazel, June, Ingrid H., Ringleader, Thelma No. 1, Westford, and Valid.

The tug Marmion, of Anyox, arrived in port on Thursday with

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G. L. Rorie Joins Nauticals

The latest appointment to the pleasure fleet of the port is G. L. Rorie, son of Geo. Rorie, with the miniature cruiser Nada J. This nifty looking little craft was brought up from Vancouver on the Union steamer Chilkoot last week and is now snugly berthed at the Prince Rupert Yacht Club wharf. The Nada J. is 23 ft. x 3 ft. beam and is fitted with a 3 1/2 h.p. Easthope engine. There is a cabin with capacity for two or three persons and splendidly fitted out. It is just the type of boat for local waters and will be the ideal craft for picnic and hunting parties.

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