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THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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H. F. PULLEN, Managing Editor.

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DAILY EDITION Monday, Dec. 29, 1924.

Queen Charlotte Islands Have All The Indications of Being Rich as Oil And Coal Fields

By C. Harrison)

E. C. Campbell-Johnston, M.E., in his report for the "Vancouver World," 1912, stated that "Scientists today regard coal and petroleum as having a common genesis, namely, such as vegetable growth, club mosses, seaweeds, and even animal life, as protoplasm, fish and such like. Under one condition, namely, fresh water lagoons with perhaps tropical climate, coal will ensue out of rank vegetation of forests and undergrowth, whereas under the waters of salt-water lagoons, where the heavy alkali ingredients have impeded the generation of evaporation of hydrocarbon gasses, then instead of coal, oil wells and pools result. Another frequent attribute of oil fields is their storage in and under stratified rocks as sandstones of tertiary period mostly eocene when marine and plant life were superabundant. On Graham Island there exist many factors to cause the practical geologist to emphatically advise capital to instigate a systematic organized search for oil. Tar rocks and sands as bitumen stuff occur in the north-western parts of Graham Island (especially is this the case on the west coast) and ozokerite is floated in by storms from the sea, broken off presumably by its restless force from the sunken depths, where sections of the down-throw of the rock formation occur. All these enumerated phenomena auspiciously point to the present of the subterranean oil fields somewhere in these parts. This is likewise corroborated by the discovery of oil to the north in Alaska at Katella, the highest boundary geologically of this special basin."

Promising Formations

While I do not pretend to be a professional geologist, yet I have a practical knowledge of the principal formations of Graham Island, and they are igneous, cretaceous and tertiary. When you are half-way across Hecate Straits from Prince Rupert, you leave all the high mountains behind, and as you land on the wharf at Massett, not a mountain or hill can be seen. The north-western portion of Graham Island is a low lying level country of triangular shape from Rose Spit to the Nedu River, Massett Inlet, thence to North of Langara Island, and back again in a straight line to Rose Spit, or point of commencement. In this district, on the west coast of the Island the oil territory (so definitely defined by Dr. Ells, the Dominion government geologist, is located. The sedimentary rocks are carboniferous sandstone and grit, limestones and shales both of the cretaceous period and tertiary ages, and the associated fossils are of a cretaceous age. Copper pyrites and peroxide of iron are also found in small quantities in various localities within the district referred to. Blue clay suitable for the manufacture of bricks, tiles and coarse pottery is diffused over a portion of the Island often near the surface. No mineral deposits of practical value in my opinion will ever be found on Graham Island with the exception of anthracite, bituminous and lignite coals, and oil if it can be so classified. None has yet been discovered and from the general formation embraced in this isle no mineral I think will ever be found in paying quantities with the exception of coal and oil. I know that occasionally miners have been well paid for their labour in washing the placer deposits of magnetic iron sand on the beaches for gold, but I presume this flaky gold was brought and left where it is now found by the last glacial overflow.

In reference to the oil territory, the late Sir George Dawson, the Dominion government geologist, who spent the seasons of 1877 and 1878 on these islands, describes distinctly in his map parts of the district where I was the first to discover this tarry substance as cretaceous. I called this tar or bitumen, liquid bituminous matter as more appropriate to what it really appears on the surface. Dr. Ells in his map and report 1905 also describes this district as cretaceous. The highest hill in the oil territory is not more than six hundred feet high, and all the hills seem to have been rounded off by the wash of the ocean when the water subsided, and this fact would probably make the age of this land as old as any on the American continent. Why should not oil be found when we have all the surface indications?

On West Coast

The nearest approach to the prospective oil basin of Alaska is Dr. Ells' defined oil territory on the west coast of Graham Island which we desire the capitalists to test. From Lopaz Bay to Tian Point, also including part of Langara Island, I consider as the oil district of Graham Island. To institute a systematic search for the best places to drill, it is essential to map out the dips, trends and the outcropping surface rocks, and by so doing escape the existence of any intrusive igneous rocks such as are to be seen at Kickathli Inlet southward, where the uptilted character of these burnted and brown sedimentaries distinctly show that if any oil had at any time existed would have been entirely burnt out. Dr. Edwin Hodges, an oil expert, says: "Look for indications. They might take the form of percolations on the surface. That was a very splendid indication and many oil fields have been found on that evidence.

Mr. Miller, provincial geologist for the Ontario government says: "Geologists hold that the materials for petroleum and gas making originate in the heated interior of the earth, and that they find their way gradually on toward the surface through cracks and fissures referred to as surface percolations."

Good Signs

We have these signs in our oil district in the shape of tar or liquid bituminous matter, a quantity of which when I made the discovery I sent to the Provincial Mineral Museum at Victoria. We have also shales that, when reduced to powder, give a distinct petroleum odour. The whole district, in my opinion, is composed of sedimentary and stratified rocks containing suitable structural consideration to permit concentration of animal and vegetable fats which sank to the ocean bottom thousands of years ago in microscopic particles and were covered in the deep sea mud, and either solidified as shales or became through a distilling process our present day petroleum.

In the oil territory the erosure and denudation of the upper cretaceous covering shales in my opinion has been responsible for the escape of the volatile contents in places through the sands and basaltic deposits, hence the degradation of the oil contents to the tar or at best a heavy viscious oily substance that can be found in several places where I obtained blue grey shale, reddish sandstone, shaling limestone, brown limestone, blue green clay shales, flaggy sandstone, tar in place in the basalt rock formation and tar collected from a seepage.

Large Body of Coal

Mr. C. de B. Green in his report to the ministry of lands 1914 stated that "There are indications that the Yakoun Valley coal basin extends westerly and there is every indication that a large body of coal is in sight. The coal is a high grade bituminous coal and cokes well, and it is reported that a seam of coal has been discovered near Camp Wilson this past summer fourteen feet in thickness.

Oil can be seen by breaking up the shale on the south shore of Parry Passage. For many years past the oil shales of the west coast have attracted attention, but not capital. Outcrops of asphaltum at Lawn Hill, Ramsey and Tar Islands on the east coast make it seem possible that oil may underlie the flat agricultural land east of Massett Inlet and Hecate Straits."

It is impossible to dwell at length on the resources of these islands in these short articles, but with the wealth that has been lying dormant for centuries, such as coal, timber, copper, the fisheries, fruit, farming and stock raising, which are only awaiting the capitalists and the right class of settlers, I am sure that these islands will eventually become the banner asset of the province of British Columbia.

(Editor's Note. — This is the third of a series of articles on the Queen Charlotte Islands by Mr. Harrison. The next will appear in an early issue.)

The Man in the Moon SAYS:—

GOLDEN stockings are said to be fashionable. Once more we shall worship the golden calf.

ALTHOUGH it is alleged by science that our intelligence is keener in the winter there are some people who seem to be foggy at times.

HE who hesitates is hossed is an adage applicable to married life.

THE soldier in the army who refused to drink must have belonged to the Refusiliers.

A DOCTOR would make a poor writer judging from the look of his prescriptions.

SOMEONE in London has found some bad champagne. That's the first time we've heard of bad drink although some is reputed to be worse than others.

EXPERT male dancers on the continent hire themselves out to accompany ladies to dances. That sounds like the story of the Scotsman who always met his girl inside the show.

WE read of a new book on furniture. The proper place for it.

WE read of a man who preferred asking his wife riddles to kissing her. Probably the aftermath of his first kiss changed his attitude.

A SELF-MADE man has recently written a book on "How I saved my first ten thousand." What we really want is a man to write a book on how he saved his first ten spot.

A WOMAN has lived in the same house for twenty years. She probably phoned for a plumber and is waiting to show where the leak is when he arrives.

A COMPLEXION powder business often changes hands at its face value.

BECAUSE a man covers himself from head to foot with chalk it does not necessarily follow that he can play billiards.

Subscribe for the Daily News

PRINCE RUPERT TIDES

Monday, December 29

High	3:58 a.m.	20.7	ft.
	15:41 p.m.	21.6	"
Low	9:51 a.m.	6.4	"
	22:19 p.m.	1.9	"

Tuesday, December 30.

High	4:49 .m.	20.2	ft.
	16:33 p.m.	20.1	"
Low	10:42 a.m.	7.0	"
	23:08 p.m.	3.5	"

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CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PRINCE RUPERT.

TAKE NOTICE THAT:

1—The Council of the Corporation of the City of Prince Rupert intends to construct a pavement fifteen feet wide, consisting in part of a mattress of timber and in part of a foundation of rock where a mattress is impracticable, over such form of construction there will be placed a paving giving a depth at the crown of ten inches composed of broken stone and sand, on that portion of Conrad street and Eleventh Avenue commencing from the end of the present graded portion of Hays Cove Avenue which is approximately forty feet north of the south boundary of Eighth Avenue, thence from said point south along Conrad street as shown on the plans and profiles deposited in the Office of the City Engineer to the intersection of Conrad Street and Eleventh Avenue, thence east along Eleventh Avenue as shown on the plans and profiles deposited in the office of the City Engineer to a point forty-eight feet east of the west boundary of Frederick Street, as a local improvement, and intends to specially assess the cost upon the land abutting directly on the work except such portion of the cost as is incurred at street intersections and at school property.

2—The estimated cost of the work is $14,660.00, of which $8,796.00 is to be paid by the Corporation, and the estimated annual special rate per foot frontage is $.278187. The special assessment is to be paid in 10 annual instalments.

3—Persons desiring to petition against undertaking the work must do so on or before the 30th day of January, 1925.

E. F. JONES,
City Clerk.

Dated this 24th day of December, 1924.

LAND ACT

Notice of Intention to Apply to Lease Land

In Prince Rupert Land District, Recording District of Prince Rupert, and situate at Barnard Cove, Princess Royal Island, B.C.

Take Notice that Somerville Cannery Company Limited, of Vancouver, B.C., intends to apply for permission to lease the following described lands: Commencing at the head of Barnard Cove, Princess Royal Island; thence east five (5) chains; thence north forty (40) chains; thence west ten (10) chains, more or less, to low water mark; thence south along low water mark to point of commencement, and containing fifteen (15) acres, more or less.

SOMERVILLE CANNERY COMPANY LIMITED
Name of Applicant.
W. J. Jefferson, Agent.

Dated December 17th, 1924.

MINERAL ACT.
HAWK MINERAL CLAIM

Situate in the Skeena Mining Division of the Range 5, Coast District. Where located, South of Falls Creek, Kitsumkalum Lake, and adjoining the Whistler on the East end of it. Lawful holders W. Treston and D. Wilson; No. of Holders' Free Miners' Certificate, Treston 67016C, Wilson 67004C.

Take Notice that we, W. Treston, F.M.C. No. 67016C, and David Wilson, F.M.C. No. 67004C, intend at the end of sixty days from the date hereof to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of improvements for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim and furthermore take notice that Action under Sec. 85 of the Mineral Act must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 30th day of Nov., 1924.

W. F. TRESTON, and
DAVID WILSON, Owners.
E. T. Kenny, Agent

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