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

General Situation

Fish sea prices good and heavy weather encountered on the northern fishing banks sum up the situation as affecting the halibut fishing during the past week. While weather conditions at the beginning of the week were not of the best on the high spots, incoming skippers on Thursday reported that old King Sol was on the job when they left on the homeward bound trip and conditions augured well for some remunerative halibut hauling. Fishing conditions in Hecate Straits has considerably improved and good fishing weather has prevailed.

Salmon Trolling

A good report of the spring salmon run in the vicinity of the Dundas Island was brought to port by skipper Bert Wearmouth of the fish packer Narbethong. With the advent of warm weather conditions the salmon are now showing up in large numbers and there is a good sized flotilla of the local trolling fleet on the job gathering in the season's deep sea harvest. This week will see the last of the trollers outboard, the fleet being pretty well divided between the Hippo Island and Dundas Island grounds.

Pilfering Camps

The season of petty pilfering of summer camps is with us again and already several reports are to hand of camp owners suffering the annoyance of these thefts. Citizens go to the trouble, to say nothing of the expense, of fixing up a summer camp, where the summer season may be enjoyed far from the madding crowd, and no sooner is everything fixed up comfortably than some criminally inclined person, or persons, enter and lift anything that is movable. Any person who will stoop to do such petty thieving is a criminal at heart, and the only thing to be said in his favor is the successful manner in which he evidently covers his tracks. This sort of thing is getting too frequent and the owners of several camps intend to do a little tracking on their own account in an effort to make an example of the offenders.

Some Race

On Friday last Bob Blance and Jack Nicholls were out on the packer "W. R. Lord" taking a whirl out of the new 45 h.p. Fairbanks-Morse G.O. engine which has recently been installed. The W.R.L. can certainly ramble and it took the tugboat M.T.3, flagship of the Bushby towing fleet, all her time to hold Jack's boat down in a little impromptu race, but Jack "hoodooed" the W.R.L. when he offered to give the M.T.3 a tow.

George Bushby, the boss of the Bushby towing fleet, is willing to bet Jack Nicholl a sack of fertilizer against a box of kippers that the M.T.3 can wipe out the W.R. Lord any time she wants to. The W. R. Lord has since left port for Hippo Island trolling grounds on the season's fish packing for the Canadian Fish & Cold Storage Co.

The deep sea launch Pride of the West, Capt. Burrett, owned by the woollen mills of that name, arrived from Vancouver this week on a periodical business trip.

The power boat Pachena, flagship of the P.R. Boat House fleet, has been gaily decked out recently with several coats of nifty looking paint. The decoration scheme has been carried out in black, white and brown and the boat presents a very smart appearance. The Pachena, with Capt. Swanson at the gadgits, is busily occupied on gravel hunting.

Naval Detachment Out

Last Sunday all ratings of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve detachment were out on the harbor in the naval whaler, a 27 foot boat, under the supervision of Lieut. R. P. Ponder and Chief Petty Officer Kench, receiving instruction in the handling of a boat under oars. The weather was ideal and the boys had the time of their lives.

Higher Skirts

Jim Bacon, president of the Bacon Fisheries, returned home on Wednesday, after having been on a two weeks' business trip in Edmonton, Calgary and southern cities. Jim says that he has yet to see a city he likes better than that situated on the little old Island of Kaien. While there were plenty of people rushing about in the larger centres the retailers were not doing much business and all he spoke with registered a kick. The thing that rather upset Jim's equilibrium was the shortness of the skirts in the prairie cities, and he remarked that if the cost of living goes up with the skirts he doesn't know what will become of the little fellows with large families.

The lighthouse tender Birnie, Capt. Petersen, returned from a trip of inspection, which took her as far as Anyox on Wednesday.

"Doc" Clapperton was discharged from hospital on Monday after having undergone successful face repairs. But for slight after effects of the anaesthetic Doc is feeling fine and it is anticipated he will be again

waving the flag on the side line early in the coming week.

The Good ship "Pie"

It is one thing to be the proud owner of a pleasure launch but it's entirely another thing to be able to find one's way back to port in a thick blanket of fog. This all leads up to the terrible experience of skipper George Richmond, and family plus a party of friends, aboard the recently acquired launch "Pie" on Sunday last. With flags flying and the exhaust exhausting, the "Pie" left port at 8 a.m. in a cloud of dust. The box of works was rarin' to go and the throttle was securely tied wide open to give the maximum of speed. The journey across the harbor was a work of art and not once was it necessary to refer to the compass or chart. The day was pleasantly spent in discussing nautical topics and the beauty of the spread "a la Richmond" was deserving of painting in oils. However, all good times come to an end and the Richmond day was no exception to the rule. As the party left on the homeward voyage the fog came down as thick as tar and then the trouble began. The compass refused to compass while the engine went on a sympathetic strike and the day of sunshine was quickly turned to a night of gloom. At one time George thought he was off the coast of China judging from the language picked up on deck. It was learned that the foreign dialect originated from the engine room where the volunteer engineer was trying to get the gadgits to function. The party eventually returned to port in the early hours of the morning voyaging to take another trip on Sunday if the sun holds out.

Teaches Painting

If you want to learn how to paint a boat without getting any paint on the boat just look at Professor Geoff Lambly painting the power boat Myfanwy at the P.R. Boat House dock. On Thursday morning the professor was all dolled up like Aunt Jemima at a picnic sporting a real painter's cap, brush and paint bucket. With bent back and heaving chest Geoff would gaily thrust the brush into the mess of paint but before the brush could hit the woodwork on the boat the paint was coyly creeping down the creases of his pants. However, that is no good reason why Geoff cannot teach painting, in fact he does so, and if you want to become a painting nuisance you can do so for a small sum to be agreed upon by yourself and the professor. The reason Geoff is called the professor is because he professes to paint boats but doesn't.

New Troller

Charlie Miller is building a new 35 foot trolling boat on the Cow Bay creek ways. When completed, she will be powered with a 10 h.p. Vulcan engine. The engine, which has been purchased from John Bergman, rendered yeoman service in the old Nadu. The power plant has recently been completely overhauled at the Akerberg-Thomson shops.

According to a letter recently received by Dave Thomson from Ernie Shockley the latter is opening up a retail and wholesale lumber yard at Kerrisdale, Vancouver, opposite the municipal hall, and has engaged the services of an expert lumber salesman. The office building is now being erected and the stock of lumber will arrive shortly. Ernie is tickled with the southern metropolis and is doing well.

Jim to Quit

There is a persistent rumor current on the waterfront that Captain "Handsome" Jim Morrison, who has operated the famous Canadian schooner Caygeon out of this port for several years past, will shortly quit the halibut fishing and go to "work." This will be real news not only for his colleagues but for the many thousands of lady tourists who make the northern water trip from the southern states to get a glimpse of Jim and more especially to get a snapshot of his handsome presence.

owned by the B.C. Packers, Lowe Inlet, was in port this week for winch repairs at the Akerberg-Thomson shops.

The big seiner, President H. Dr. West, owner and skipper of the launch Wyllo, is supplanting his present two cycle engine with the Universal engine re-

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