

Waterfront Whiffs

Sockeye Season Opening Next Week—Naas River and "23" Figure in Deal—Boats Chartered for Fish Packing

All the preliminaries to the opening of another salmon canning season at midnight next Tuesday when sockeye fishing becomes permissible are now practically complete at the many cannery plants in this extensive district. With optimism expressed as to the probability of a generally better run of fish than prevailed last year, it is expected that fishing during the forthcoming season will be as intensive as the considerably amended regulations will permit in both gill net and seining areas for all varieties of fish. While no record is anticipated, it is hoped, nevertheless, that the pack may compare favorably with those of former years and the prospect is for a season of much activity. As indicated in a previous survey of the situation, practically all the forty or more canneries in the district, including the fifteen on the Skeena River, will be in operation. Weekly close seasons will be the same as last year with the department having discretion to extend the forty-eight hour period at the end of each week when fishing must cease if it is deemed advisable to stop it. Patrol will be carried out, as also previously announced, by three airplanes, the first of which should be here within the next week or so, as well as by departmental and chartered powerboats. The only salmon fishing to date has been for springs and cohes by the trollers, there having been a better run this season than was experienced last year. The opening of the sockeye season will once again be the signal for salmon fishing and canning to commence in full swing in this district.

The halibut boat Toodle, Capt. Peter Weld, has been on dry dock this week undergoing repairs to its tailshaft which was bent when a log was struck in Hecate Straits while returning to port from the fishing grounds.

Power cruiser Ethelda, belonging to Wright & Hinton, was on the Ward Ways this week having a new 20-24 h.p. Ailsa Craig engine installed to replace the 34 h.p. Monarch with which the vessel was formerly equipped.

CHARTERED FOR PACKING

Gammon & Watt's seineboat Zanardi, already under charter to the Prince Rupert Salvage & Towing Co., has been rechartered to Bradbury & Yelf and the Canadian Fishing Co. for pichard packing on the west coast of Vancouver Island and left on Tuesday morning for Queen's Bay, where the newly installed reduction plant of Bradbury & Yelf is located. The vessel will be away from here from four to five months.

The seineboat Bertha G., also belonging to Gammon & Watt, has been chartered to the Canadian Fishing Co. and will leave shortly for Lockeport to engage in salmon packing to the cannery at that point.

Under charter for six weeks to a survey party of the Department of Indian Affairs, Prince Rupert Salvage & Towing Co.'s power tug Pachena is at present on the Queen Charlotte Islands and should return to port about the end of the month.

The Prince Rupert Salvage & Towing Co.'s small seine boat Meketchum has left for McBride Bay, on the west coast of Vancouver Island, to spend the season engaged in packing pichards.

The snappy looking little trolling boat Molly O. arrived on Thursday morning from Vancouver and is tied up at the floats of the Prince Rupert Salvage & Towing Co.

Capt. Dan Larson, well known local halibut fisherman, returned to the city recently after spending the winter in Norway and has taken command of the Massett Cannery fish packer Jedway which will be operated out of the company's cannery at Massett.

After having spent the winter tied up at the dry dock here, the Massett Cannery's service boat Delphinium left at 9 o'clock Thursday night for Massett where she will be operated during the coming fishing season out of the company's cannery. In charge of Skipper "Shorty" Hartian, the vessel took over a quantity of cannery supplies.

BRUCE I. WAS IN

With a load of salmon for delivery to the company here, the big fish packer Bruce I. Capt. Brandy Newell, arrived in port from Hippo Island on Thursday afternoon. The Bruce I., which is under packing charter to the Canadian Fishing Co. for operation between Hippo Island and canneries on the mainland, returned to the Islands the next day after discharging her cargo.

The old trestle structure used for years by the Imperial Oil Co. to carry its fuel mains across the railway tracks between the tanks on the Hays Cove hillside and the company's dock has now been demolished, the pipes being now carried underground. The last of the debris from the old landmark was being cleared up this week.

Lighthouse tender Birnie and snagboat Bobolink, the former being out on the pontoons, are now in dry dock where they will receive annual inspection.

tion at the hands of Albert Farrow, steamboat inspector, who arrived in the city on the Princess Alice this afternoon from the north after having spent the past month in the Yukon Territory on official duties.

Halibut boats Viking I., Toodle and D.S.T. are now on the pontoons at the dry dock for general overhaul. Earlier in the week the Fredella, having a new keel installed following a recent stranding on Zayas Island, halibut boats Margaret I. and Aiken, and fish packers Anna S. and Ogden were up.

The local halibut boat Margaret I., Capt. George Fritz, is about to leave for the west coast of Vancouver Island to be engaged in pichard packing charter for the summer.

The local seinboat Anna S., Capt. Eli Skog, will leave next week for points down the coast to engage in salmon packing for the summer.

Skipper M. M. Stephens has been spending most of this week on an electioneering tour to the smaller points along the coast in this riding with James H. Thompson, Conservative candidate in the forthcoming provincial contest. It was the first time that the popular Jim had been subjected to such an ordeal but he looks to be standing the strain all right. A week with M. M. should make him hardboiled enough for the toughest of elections.

BUYS FORD ENGINE

Parker's Garage announces the sale this week of a Ford Marine engine to D. Musgrave who will install the motor in a gill netter. The engine was shipped to Inverness on Thursday.

The Inverness cannery packer Alberta G. has been in port this week for the purpose of having cylinder patching and valve work carried out at the hands of the Star Welding Works.

George Frizzell has had his power cruiser Laura F. on the grid of the Prince Rupert Salvage & Towing Co. this week for the purpose of straightening out the vessel's tailshaft and propeller. George hit some kind of an obstruction while on a recent trip up the Estclair River, the result being that the boat shook so badly that, when George was pouring his daily ration of grape juice, the glass was vibrated clean away and, since George never drinks out of a bottle, the blinkin' flask is in the boat yet.

The forestry boat Alpine Fir is at McLean Ways at Seal Cove for hull work. Meantime, engine repairs are being carried out by the Star Welding.

Alex Macdonald, general factotum of the Prince Rupert Rowing & Yacht Club, has had his cruiser Vacquero out on the grid this week for installation of a new propeller of a smaller size and less pitch which it is expected will give the boat the necessary pep to carry off the racing honors at the forthcoming club regatta.

The fish packer Alfred D. of Oceanic Cannery has been in port this week for general overhaul, including engine work. The vessel went up on the Ward Ways.

ON WARD WAYS

Boats recently going on the Ward Ways for minor hull work have included the seineboats Moresby II, Oshio II, and M. Lewis (Kitkatla) and the trolling boats Nancy Lee and Gladys.

Capt. Khort and Skipper Bill Schellin, both well known local trollers, have left recently for the North Island fishing grounds where they expect to spend most of the summer. Their advent should lend culture to the Queen Charlotte Island summer fishing colony.

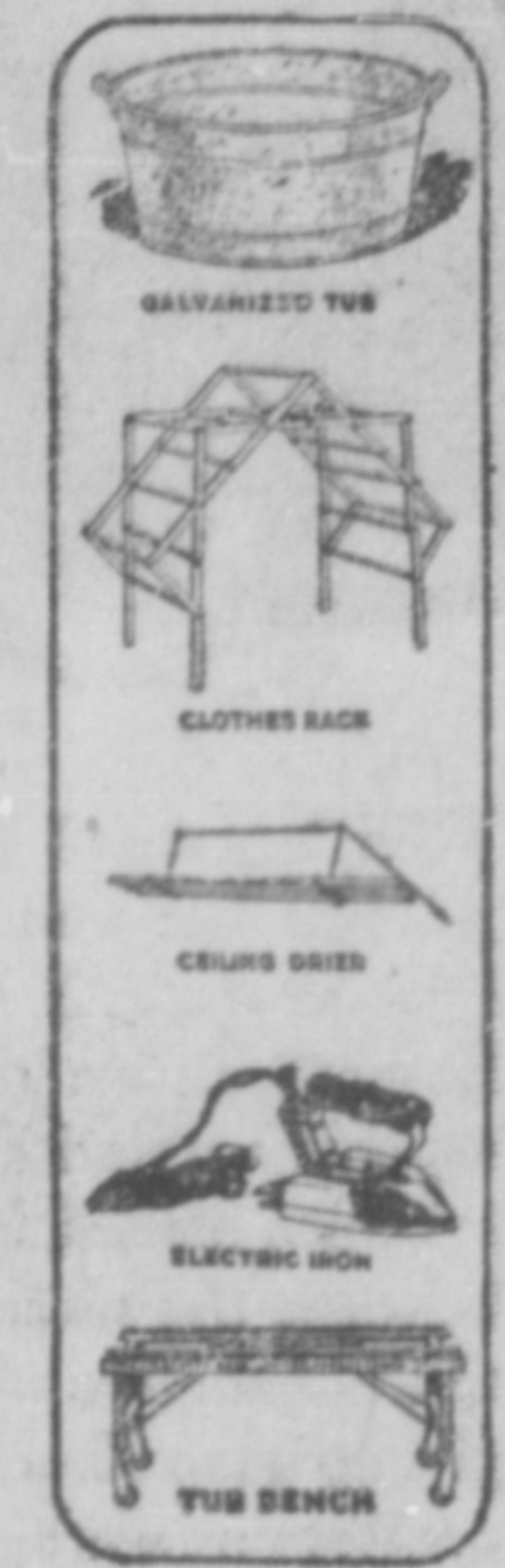
The local halibut boat Kalen, Capt. Tom Hansen, her trip partly completed and with a catch of 1,500 pounds which was disposed of to the Atlin Fisheries at private sale, was forced to return to port on Thursday with R. Johnson, one of the members of the crew, who fell victim to a strange malady which caused serious swelling of the head. The man was placed in the Prince Rupert General Hospital for treatment soon after arrival.

Sale is reported this week of the well known speed cruiser Naas River by Henry Darby, to the Prince Rupert Salvage & Towing Co. Some forty-two feet long and powered with a 200 h.p. engine, the Naas River was built two or three years ago here by Darby for the purpose of engaging in freight and passenger carrying on the Naas River. The vessel had not been long in that service when she was rather badly damaged when she became out of control and was dashed against the rocky side of Gwinnaha canyon. The vessel was brought back here for repairs and last year was under charter as a harbor

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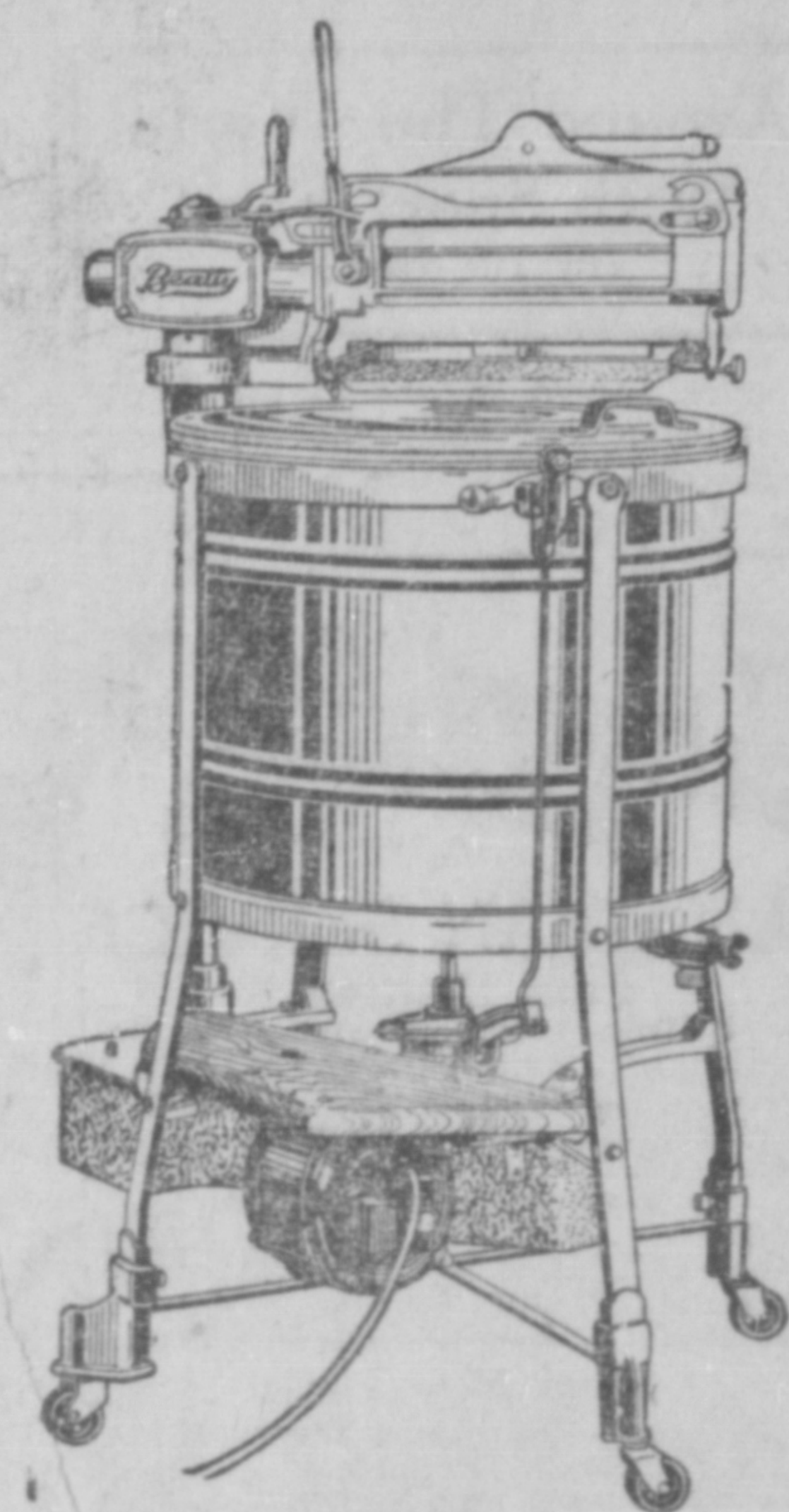
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