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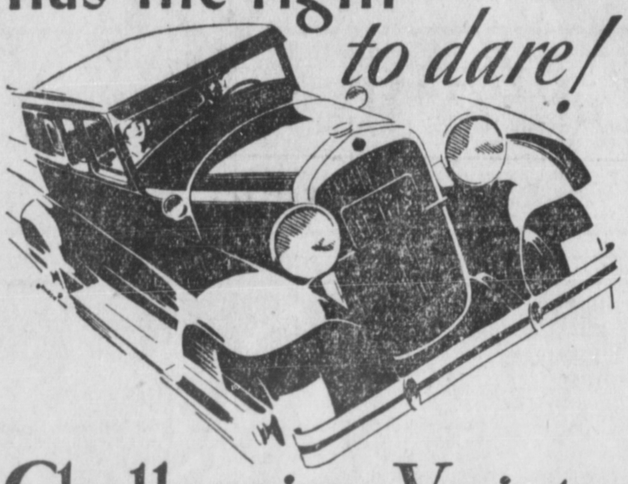

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But that wasn't all. If Jack had died he would have had to be buried at somebody else's expense. Why? Because he and his wife were both living for today and spen every penny that he earned.

His illness taught him a lesson. He now owns $20,000 of Confederation Life Insurance. It only costs him $12.50 a week—but it insures a life competence to Mary.

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Waterfront Whiffs

Fishing and Its Effect on Fall Fair; Romance of the Pipe Fish; Fish Houses Busy; Talk of the Convention

The fact that salmon fishing has been good this year speaks well for the prospects for the annual fair, which is being held this year at the end of August instead of in September. Everybody has been making money, natives as well as white fishermen, and if the native bands come this year there shou'd be a great many people in the city. With a pretty good list of attractions and a good exhibition, backed with the co-operation of everybody, the results should be excellent.

The prices of halibut have been much more stable this year, which is a good thing for the industry. As long as the fishermen get around twelve cents they can make money, but when it gets much below that figure there is not much left after paying expenses.

H. T. Cross has purchased one of the seized fishing boats at Digby Island and is fitting it up for a yacht. After the little launch he has been using for the past number of years, H. T. will hardly know how to navigate a real ship.

While the weather has been bad both for fishermen and for pleasure seekers, there has been little letup in the use of the boats. At the weekend a good many parties were out.

Joe Greer and the boys faced the elements early in the week and made a trip up the Ecstall as far as Falls River and then returning nagivated the Khyex for a number of miles. He got enough fish for the frying pan and had a whale of a time. He says the scenery of the upper Khyex is indescribable.

Norman Freeman of the International Fisheries Commission received a specimen of pipe fish this week from Robb Wilson, who was camping on the other side of the harbor. The fish is small and insignificant, but extremely interesting. The particular specimen was about six inches long and not as thick as a lead pencil, almost snake-like in appearance. It gets its name from its long tube-like snout at the extreme end of which are the tiny toothless jaws. Mr. Freeman points out that what is chiefly remarkable about this tiny fish is that the male has a little pouch in which the female places the eggs and which remain there until they are hatched. Then the pouch breaks and the young pipe fish are liberated. The specimen was greenish in color, but it was also pointed out that it changes color to suit its surroundings. As it was on Mr. Freeman's desk someone made an invidious remark in regard to the color. The fish lives among the seaweeds, has a small fin on its back and at the tip of the tail. There are some 150 species and the family name is Syngnathidae.

A new departure is being made by the Bacon Fisheries this year. Jim has been thinking some and the result of the effort is that he has evolved the idea of putting up pink salmon in fillets about a pound each in fifteen-pound cartons, nicely wrapped and all ready for the frying pan or oven. The fish looks most tempting and it is to be hoped the venture proves successful. The product will go as far east as Winnipeg.

Bill Shrubsall is also a busy man. He is taking the spring salmon from the Dundas and Squaderee trollers and is mild curing it in big tierces for the New York market. Formerly this class of fish was sent to Germany, but the war changed all that. New markets had to be developed and now the fish is consumed in the American metropolis.

The fisheries convention which takes place here is arousing a lot of interest on the waterfront. It is a convention of the people who handle fish and not of the fishermen who are today much too busy on the fishing grounds to come in to the city and talk. The presence of fifty or more people interested in the fisheries business means quite a lot. They are the men that make possible the halibut and salmon fisheries of the district. T. H. Johnson and his committee are making great preparations for the event and doubtless the visitors will get such a reception as will make them remember Prince Rupert.

Some people have an idea that the people at the fisheries experimental station do not work. Perhaps they do not, but if not, why are they up all night? On more than one occasion lately the lights have been burning all night and inquiry elicits the fact that H. C. Brocklesby and his helpers are conducting experiments with pilchard oils that cannot be interrupted, not even by the call of the Brocklesby twins. It was 5 o'clock one morning when the tired scientists made their way home.

Sometimes Sheff Thompson, head of the Yacht Club staff, becomes reminiscent and when in that mood can spin a yarn as well as anybody. Sheff was one of the crew of the Brigantine Blakeley which in 1900 visited Cocos Island in search of buried treasure. Captain Keaton of St. John's, Newfoundland, brought home part of that treasure and when he died he left full particulars how to find the rest of it. Charts and letters were in the hands of Captain Hackett of Victoria and the party on arrival on the island found the location as described but after six weeks of digging discovered no treasure. Sheff says he thinks the gold is still there, Peruvian money and crown jewels. He is willing to go again if they use a hydraulic system in the search, but the weather is too hot there for much digging. It was a Captain Thompson who got away with the treasure on an English sailing ship and buried it so that the Peruvians should not get it. That was at the time of the war between Chili and Peru. Agnes Deans Cameron, the well known Victoria school teacher of those days, was one of the directors of the company that financed the expedition which was away six months on the fruitless search.

Claude Kirkendahl and Chris Elkins and their wives and families were visitors at Oceanic during the week-end.

Launch Bilmor brought in a scow load of gravel for Albert & McCaffery during the week from Porcher Island.

Harry Menzies, chief adviser for F. E. Hunt, Ltd., wants to get out of the chicken business. The long spell of rain is making his Rhode Island Reds web-footed and he does not want anybody to think he is a duck farmer. At any rate, Harry has no use fo chickens now. He would sell out the business as a going concern.

Hubert Ward of electrical fame is rusticating at Tlell, leaving the business to run itself for a week or two while he enjoys himself. He went across with the Parkers and liked Mrs. Rajout's hospitality so well he and Mrs. Ward and the little girl had to stay another week.

Capt. Swanson has been out this week showing Mr. McFayden of Victoria his fox farm projects. They made a visit to Zayas, Rachael and Kinahan islands. It is possible Mr. McFayden may become allied with the fox industry in this part of the world.

Claude Kirkendahl's Polyanna has been up on the grid for minor repairs during the week.

Dr. Large of Port Simpson was a visitor to the Yacht Club during the week.

When Doc Clapperton has nothing to do on the Government dock he sits with his feet on the desk and thinks about footoall or music. Those are two subjects with which the dean of the waterfront squad is thoroughly familiar.

When Doc gets lonely
Working and only
Able to sit and dream,
He hits with his feet
On the desk so neat,
With no need to get up steam.

Then Doc shut an eye,
Without seeming to try,
And he dreams of the days of yore;
When on football field
To none he would yield
And he thinks of the fun in store.

THE OTHER SORT

Mrs. Sooby had been to one of the talkie picture shows.

"'Ow did you like 'em, dear?" asked a lady friend.

"If I mus' tell you the truth, love," confided the other, "I'd rather 'ave gone to one of them unspeakable ones!" — Bellville Ontario.

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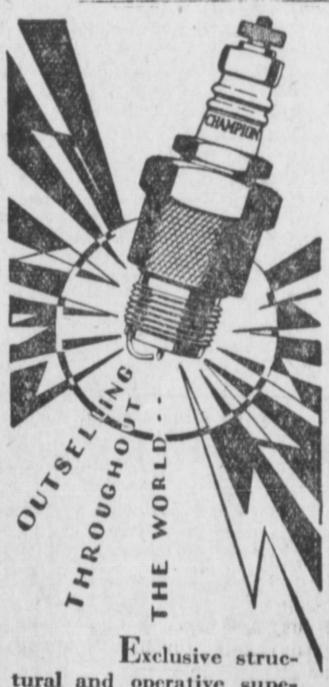

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