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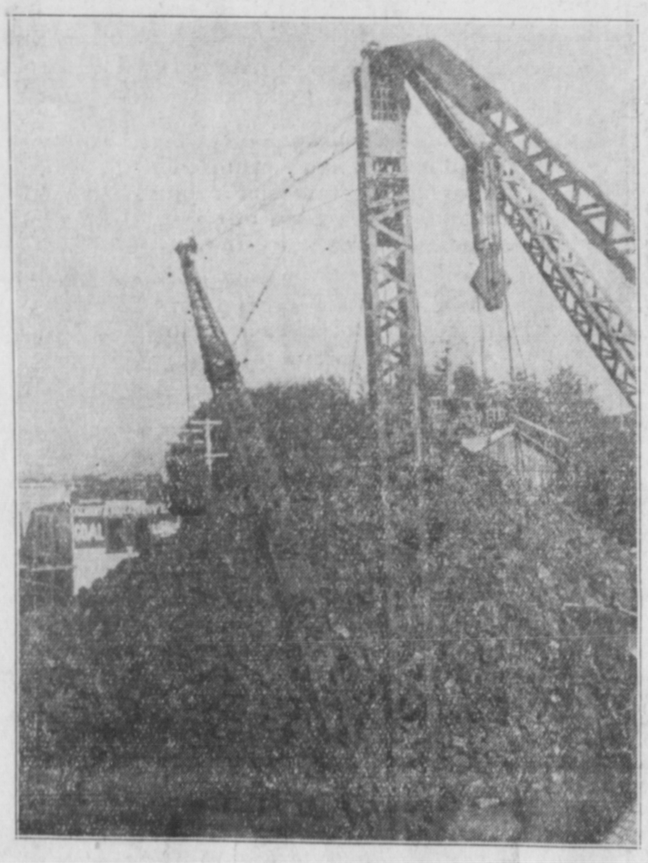

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Waterfront Whiffs

September Fine Month for Halibut Fishing; Some Profitable Trips; Landings Holding Up Well

This month now about closing has been one of the best Septembers from the weather standpoint in the history of the local halibut fishery and catches have been large and regular, while prives have remained at a good, steady level. As a result, practically every boat of the fleet has done well and added to already satisfactory earnings during the year. The 1929 season will go down as one of the most successful financially for the industry in recent years. This condition of affairs cannot but have a beneficial effect on the general business of the port during the coming winter, particularly so since the salmon fishermen have also had a fairly good year.

Where often fierce equinoxial storms sweep the banks at this time of year, incoming skippers from the halibut fishing grounds report that even in exposed waters it has been almost as calm as the harbor during the past ten days. There has also been little fog and conditions have been conducive to good fishing and quick trips.

The fine fall weather is helping out earnings a great deal and the most of the local fisher folk will be well fortified financially during the coming winter.

Capt. Paul Armour, Norman Watt, Dr. Lew Kergin, M. L. Stepp and Reid McLennan had a hunting expedition on the Red Boy at the end of last week to Porcher Island. Like they said they did at the opening of last season, these doughty nimrods broke no records this time for quantity of game captured. As a matter of fact, the whole quintette, and there may have been six of them at that, all picked on one poor lonesome deer—at least, that's all they brought home except for a few grouse which it is said weren't worth scrapping over.

Capt. Charlie Larkin, skipper of the Pacific Salvage Co.'s power tug Red Boy, has taken up residence in the cottage on the company's dock which Capt. Paul Armour, manager of the company, recently vacated.

Louis Smith, glue expert at the Prince Rupert Fisheries Experimental Station, returned at the first of this week after having spent a forthnight's holiday in the south following the recent annual conference at Departure Bay, Vancouver Island, of Pacific Coast workers of the Biological Board of Canada.

Made Big Profits

Landing a catch of 65,000 pounds on Tuesday which weighed out 43,000 pounds of mediums for which 15.8c per pound was paid, the American halibut schooner Clipper, Capt. John Smelan, stocked a total of some $9,000 and shared over $600 for each of the 10 men on board as a result of three weeks' fishing. It is the record catch in point of profits so far this season at Prince Rupert.

The best Canadian catch of the year is said to have been that of the Melville, Capt. John Ivarson, which landed 27,000 early in September and shared over $400 per man.

The Relief, Capt. Merrill Sollows, landed almost as profitable a catch as this during the summer. The Relief and Cape Swain, Capt. Red Pierce, are believed to be the high boats in earnings per man so far this year of the Canadian fleet out of the port of Prince Rupert.

Halibut Landings

Halibut landings at the port of Prince Rupert up to and including yesterday for the present season to date totalled 22,544,150 pounds—made up of 15,978,500 pounds American fish and 6,565,650 pounds Canadian—as against last year's total at a similar date of 21,434,500 pounds made up of 14,875,000 pounds American and 6,449,500 pounds Canadian. Both American and Canadian landings are thus substantially ahead of last year now.

Landings for the week September 21-27 inclusive were rather lighter than average, totalling 655,300 pounds comprising 525,300 pounds American fish and 130,000 pounds Canadian. American prices ranged during the week from a high of 17.1c and 9c received by the Sirius for 9,000 pounds, down to a low of 13c and 8c paid the Portlock for a catch of 43,000 pounds. The top Canadian price was 16.7c and 10c paid the Nuba for 1,200 pounds down to 13.5c and 9c which several boats received.

The steamer Oaxaca, well known here in her former capacity as the palatial private yacht of Capt. G. A. Hancock of Los Angeles, was recently sold by Capt. J. W. Hobbs of Vancouver to the American-Mexican Fish Products Corporation which is tooperate a tuna, abalone, turtle and mackeral cannery and reduction plant at Magdalena Bay, Lower California, under a concession from the Mexican government. The vessel has already gone south from British Columbia to take up work for the company, being now busy in transporting equipment and supplies to the site of the company's operations. Later she will engage both in passenger trade and freight carrying for the company. The craft, which is 254 feet long, was built in England during the war as a "Q" boat, and later acquired by Capt. Hancock who abandoned her last year after she had wrecked in Wrangell Narrows while on a cruise.

Augusta in Trouble

The halibut boat Augusta, Capt. Martin Enge, well known as a frequent caller at this port, sustained considerable hull damage recently in a collision with the gasboat Pheasant of Juneau in Wrangell Narrows. The Augusta had 14 planks stove in and was making water badly before she reached the marine ways at Petersburg for repairs. She is again hitting the high spots now.

Capt. Jim Byrne, formerly of Prince Rupert and now in the service of the Island Packing Co. on the west coast of Vancouver Island, was presented with a handsome watch recently by H. G. Brown, president of the Victoria Cold Storage and Terminal Warehouse Co., when the Island company, through Capt. Byrne, delivered the first consignment of fish to the new plant.

According to word received from the south, the Crown may appeal to higher courts the decision of Mr. Justice Archer Martin in Admiralty Court releasing five American trollers which were arrested in Canadian waters last spring and brought in here by the fishery patrol steamer Malaspina.

Island Fishing Closing

Fishing in the South Queen Charlotte Island area will close on Thursday of next week, and the South Bay and Lagoon Bay canneries will discontinue packing after a season which, to say the least, has not been highly successful.

Fishing on the north end of the islands will continue for another two weeks. In that area the Old Massett and New Massett canneries are open for packing. The chums are starting to show up there, first catches having been reported this week.

Week-End SPECIALS

For Friday, Saturday and Monday

ROWNTREE'S COCOA—1s. Per tin	50c
ROWNTREE'S COCOA—½s. Per tin	27c
HEINZ KETCHUP—Large bottle	28c
JELLY POWDERS—Per pkg.	6c
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PINEAPPLE—2s. 3 tins	35c
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McINTOSH RED APPLES—3 lbs.	25c

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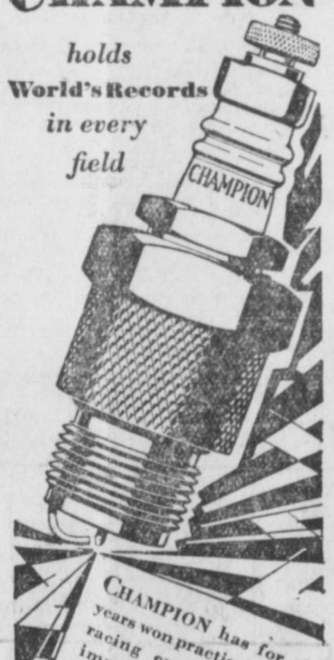

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A CANADIAN-MADE PRODUCT

Hazelton Gets a Superior School

HAZELTON, Sept. 28:—Hazelton school took on a higher status when, forced by progress in advanced divisions, it became necessary to change the school from a rural basis to the position of a superior school, with another teacher added to the staff. At present the former post-office quarters are being utilized for the higher grades, with pupils in charge of Miss Ralph. Miss Sutherland continues in charge of the public school divisions.

Next Monday a meeting of ratepayers of Hazelton school district will be held to vote the extra funds required to conduct the new classes.

The superior school opened with an attendance of eight pupils, although several others are registered to attend. In the public school grades at Hazelton some 30 pupils are on the roll.

Early Hardships Methodist Parson

TORONTO, Sept. 27.—"I have just taken the groom of 50 years ago for a drive, and I drove the car myself," said the bride of 50 years ago, Mrs. S. D. Chown. She and Rev. S. D. Chown, prominent in the former Methodist Church and a foremost figure in the church union movement, have just celebrated their golden wedding.

Mrs. Chown contrasted her ride in the motor car with the horse and buggyy which was the mode of conveyance during the early years of her married life. According to her, she and Dr. Chown started their matrimonial journey upon an annual budget of $100. The next year it was increased to $113. With this scanty stipend Dr. and Mrs. Chown paid rent, purchased furniture, and kept a horse.

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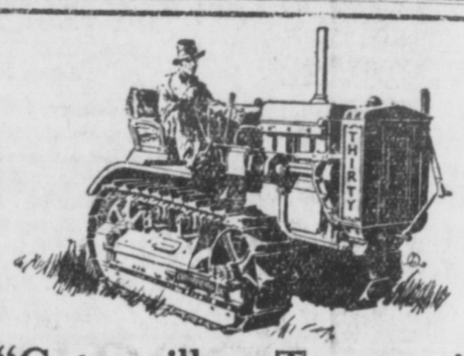
ALSO, "OSWALD"

Admission, 15c & 50c; Sat. Matinee, 2:30, Admission, 10c & 35c.

HOLT BEST



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