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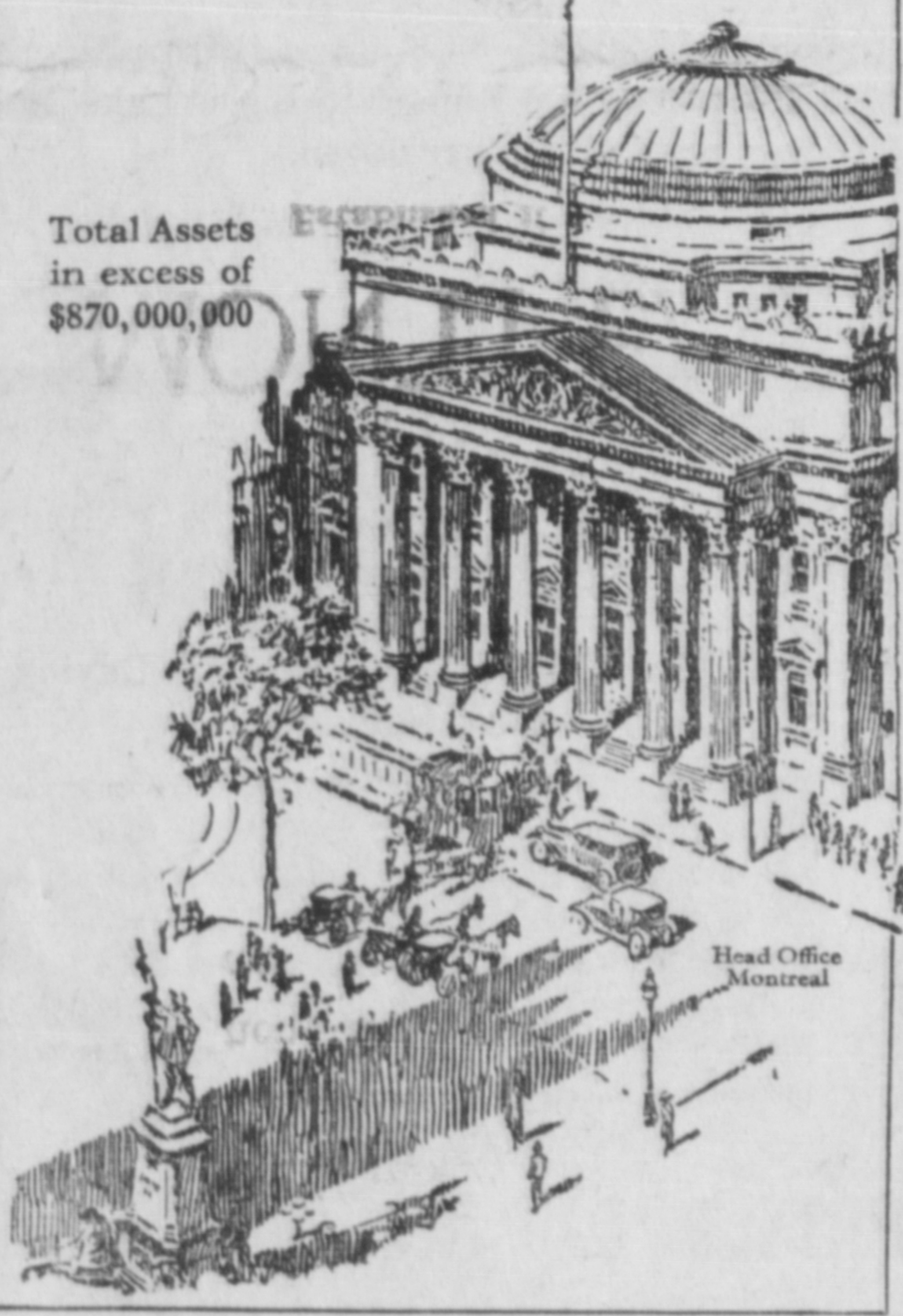
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WATERFRONT WHIFFS

Jap Fishermen on Halibut Banks—Several Yachts
In During Week—Fish Landings

News that Japanese fishermen have crossed the Pacific Ocean to fish on halibut banks off Alaska, as reported in these columns last week, has been an interesting topic for discussion here. So long as they do not take their vessels within the territorial waters of Canada or the United States, there is no reason why the Japanese should not continue these operations, it is stated. The following statement has been issued by John P. Babcock, chairman of the International Fisheries Commission, in connection with the matter:

"The despatches from Alaska are the first word we have heard that Japanese fishermen were fishing in the Alaska side of Bering sea. So long as they remain outside the three-mile limit they have a right to fish there. The nationals of any government have that right. We shall await further information with interest.

"We know very little of the abundance of fish in the Bering Sea, other than cod. Cod fishing has been conducted there for many years by American fishermen, mainly sent there by operators in California, who salt their catch. A few American halibut vessels have fished in Bering Sea within the last two years with more or less success, but the length of the voyage has been a drawback to the continuance of their operations so long

as profitable catches can be made in the Gulf of Alaska.

"The investigations of the halibut commission were for the first time extended into the Bering Sea this year. The 'Dorothy' has just returned from there. She went as far west as the Petrol Banks. Unfortunately her motor burned out when she reached there and she had to return. The success of her operations in Bering Sea were not as great as wished for, but nevertheless, a sufficient number of halibut were tagged to serve our purpose. We shall await their return from the tagging there before planning other trips. At best, owing to lack of funds, they can not be taken this year.

"The work conducted in Bering Sea by the staff of the 'Dorothy' indicated that there are halibut there in some quantity, at least, just inside the Bering Sea. But much more extensive trials must be made before any accurate idea of their abundance can be formed.

"During the early cruises of the 'Dorothy' this year many hauls with deep collecting nets were made in the Gulf of Alaska. Halibut larvae were not found to the southward but they were present in the centre of the gulf. Careful search of the materials made in the hauls and a study of the larvae will be necessary before the results can be shown. The work was part of our staff program to show the extent and direction of the drift of halibut eggs and larvae from the northern banks of the B. C. coast. So far as the data secured indicates, few larvae have reached the B. C. banks. We hope to settle that point in the next cruise."

The sockeye salmon run was maintained well both on the Skeena and Naas Rivers during the past week much to the satisfaction of both cannery and fishermen. The average per boat on the Skeena is officially reported to have been about 50 fish per day and on the Naas, about thirty-seven. A gradual improvement in the run at Smith's Inlet and elsewhere in the southern part of District No. 2 is reported.

At Rivers Inlet, according to reports, the catch has been averaging 100 fish per boat this week and at Rivers Inlet, 75. Weather conditions have been good recently and there are said now to be prospects for a reasonably large pack. Twelve hundred boats are fishing at Rivers Inlet and 440 are operating in Smith's Inlet. The price per fish is now 50c.

Tahltan Moves

The river boat Tahltan, fitted out here by the Taku Trading & Transportation Co. for operation up the Taku River to the new Tuleagueh mining fields, was moved down from the dry dock to the Pacific Salvage Co.'s floats at the first of the week. It is uncertain as yet when the Tahltan will be leaving for the north. Owing to the condition of the metal markets, mining activity on the Taku has not been as extensive so far this season as might have been anticipated in early spring. The Tahltan is ready to go just as soon as the order to that effect may be issued.

Hubert Ward, head of the Ward Electric & Marine Supply Co., left

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at the first of the week for a sojourn at Tiel, Queen Charlotte Islands, in the hope that the change may be instrumental in restoring him to normal state of health following a recent illness. Mr. Ward was accompanied to the Islands by his wife and little daughter.

It may be a week yet before Capt. Pete Thompson is able to get away to the fishing grounds with his new 54-foot halibut boat White Hope which was built at the local dry dock. There has been some difficulty with tank piping and the controls have not as yet been rigged. The 54 Gardner diesel engine which was installed in the vessel is functioning satisfactorily. Capt. Thompson has met with considerable delay all the way through in getting the new boat into operation but he has the satisfaction of knowing that he has a fine craft which is a credit to the local fishing fleet and will, no doubt, pay him well once he gets going.

With Capt. Dave Ritchie in command, the Canadian Fish & Cold Storage Co.'s steam trawler G. E. Foster got away Thursday night for the first of a number of flat fishing trips she will make this summer to Hecate Straits. Engineers for the Foster arrived on Wednesday from Vancouver. It is not known definitely as yet how many trips the Foster will make.

Capt. Charlie Edwards' W. T. and Capt. George Cook's Teeny Milly are among local halibut boats which have been undergoing mid-season painting during the past week.

Skipper C. O. Rowe left on Saturday evening last aboard the power cruiser Mipal, with party of friends, for a trip to Port Simpson. Remaining there overnight, they returned to port the next day.

A number of fine yachts from the south called at the floats of the Prince Rupert Rowing & Yacht Club during the past week in the course of coast cruises. The biggest yacht that has ever moored to the club floats was the 110-foot Coreseus of Vancouver which spent a couple of hours in port on Tuesday while bound for a trip north as far as Stewart. On board the Coreseus were the owner, F. D. Lundy, his wife and party including Mr. and Mrs. Wilander and Miss Nicholson. A converted sub-chaser, the Coreseus is a handsome vessel with racy lines and derives power from twin engines. She attracted quite a bit of attention during her brief stay.

On Monday the Chalice of San Diego arrived and remained overnight, setting out the next day in continuation of a cruise to Wrangell. The Chalice is 45 feet long and derives power from a 45-h.p. diesel engine. On board were Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Boyton and C. Enholm. Sunday saw a visit from the Dell of Seattle which won first prize in the initial Olympia to Juneau yacht race a couple of years ago but which did not participate in the Seattle-Prince Rupert sprint this year. The vessel remained in port overnight while returning south after a cruise to Juneau. On board this 38-foot boat were V. E. Stredlaker, C. W. Stredlaker and Bill Hawkin, the last mentioned of Nainalmo.

About the smallest visitor of the year was the M3614 from Seattle which was in port over Sunday night en route from her home port of Seattle for a trip to Juneau. On board were C. H. Mahnken, R. Upton and T. O. Jensen. The M3614 is only 23 feet long.

Another yacht that is due before long is the Blue Goose from Frisco on her way to Alaska.

Anglers Busy
Claude Kirkendall, Charlie Starr and Doc Alexander comprised the first angling party of the season from Prince Rupert to Lake Khtada. They left last Friday evening and returned to town bright and early Monday morning. Their prowess with the rod netted them some fifty pounds of fine trout such

as only Lake Khtada can produce. Now that the ice has been broken, no doubt there will be more expeditions in the near future to this popular angling resort which never seems to get fished out.

Vaquero on Ways

Alex Macdonald's power cruiser Vaquero was on the Yacht Club ways from Wednesday afternoon to Thursday for seasonal copper painting of her hull.

Having struck a rock near Lowe Inlet early Sunday morning, toppling over on her side and filling with water, the Seattle halibut schooner Estep, Capt. H. A. Hansen, was salvaged by the Pacific Salvage Co.'s power tug Red Boy and brought to the Prince Rupert dry dock where she was given temporary repairs before proceeding on Thursday night to Seattle for permanent reconditioning. The Estep was but slightly holed and took water imperceptibly. Much of the damage that was done was due to the submersion of the vessel.

D. B. Finn, director of the Prince Rupert Fisheries Experimental Station, is expected to return to Prince Rupert early next week, possibly tomorrow, after having spent three or four weeks in Vancouver giving lectures at the University of British Columbia to hatchery custodians and other officials of the fisheries department.

During the week of July 12-18 inclusive, Canadian halibut landings, totalling 293,500 pounds, were quite heavy while American landings were light at 366,000 pounds the landings for the week of both classes totalling 659,500 pounds. The grand total for the entire season up to July 18 was 12,177,900 pounds consisting of 3,769,700 pounds Canadian and 8,408,200 pounds, American.

Prices on some occasions during the week went to quite satisfactory levels as far as the fishermen were concerned. The top bid of the week for Canadian fish was 13c and 6c which the Imperieuse received for 6,500 pounds and the low 10c and 6c which a number of boats received. The high American price was 14.6c and 6c paid the Hazel H. for 14,000 pounds and the low 10.5c and 6c which several boats received.

BOB PAYNE WAS LUCKY

Only Member of Plane Party Unscratched—Others Recovering

R. R. Payne, production manager of the Canadian Fishing Co., was the luckiest member of the plane party in the crash at Butedale Wednesday for he escaped altogether unhurt. W. J. Rich, director, is suffering from cuts which were dressed here and is recovering from the shock although he feels somewhat stiff. Pilot Jones-Evans is having an x-ray examination in hospital here. He also suffered cuts. Mr. Hager, Mr. Payne and Mr. Rich left Friday to inspect company canneries on the Skeena River. Plans for the trip, which was originally designed to take the party to Alaska, are now unsettled as a result of the crash.

Roger Hager, son of Al Hager, left on the Cardena last evening on his return to Butedale. He came north with his father after the accident. During their stay here Mr. Hager sr. and Mr. Hager jr. were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Lee, Eleventh Avenue. Mr. Lee is local manager of the company.

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STATION IS COMPLETED

Direction Finding Facilities Installed at Langara and Triple Island to Be Next

Installation at Langara Island of the first of a number of direction finding stations that are being provided in waters contiguous to this port by the Dominion government has been completed and the light-house tender Newington went out yesterday to bring in the construction crew.

The next direction finding station is to be put in at Triple Island and a start will be made on it immediately. It will be necessary to erect a suitable building there.

Daily News "Want Ads" bring quick results.

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