

THE DAILY NEWS
PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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REASSURING HIGHWAY NEWS

The statement of the minister of public works that the bridge across Galloway Rapids and part of the road would be built this year, although a repetition of what he told the mayor, is reassuring, because so often promises have been made and not kept that people usually suspect the utterances of a politician. It was a good thing to have that statement in the legislature in reply to queries by the local member. If in two or three years we are able to drive to Skeena City we shall not have much cause for complaint even though many people expected that they would reach Terrace by that time.

It seems that northern members had their innings when the minister had his estimates for northern ridings before the committee of the whole house. Pattullo, Wrinch and Kergin all had something to say and made strong pleas for their respective constituencies. The leader of the opposition was particularly insistent that money be spent in highway and other work in this neighborhood.

WATERFRONT WHIFFS

ring Fishing—Melville is Chartered
Halibut Bait Shortage in Alaska—No Let-up in Her-

There is a serious shortage of halibut bait at Alaska ports this year and it is expected, as a result, that Prince Rupert resources of herring will be taxed to the utmost before the 1930 season is ended by reason of many more American vessels than usual coming to the port for their bait requirements. Even this early in the season this is indicated. What herring there are in Alaska this year are so small that many of the boats have refused to take them, choosing instead to make the run to Prince Rupert for the bait of superior quality. Some see in the Alaska situation this year the results of over-fishing for herring in past years for the intensive fish reduction industry there and in these quarters it is prophesied that there may be no improvement for many years. Others take it, however, as being merely a peculiar year. Should it turn out to be an actual depletion of Alaskan herring, it would mean that in future years greater bait store would have to be put up at Prince Rupert to take care of the requirements of the American as well as the Canadian fleet.

Capt. Alfred Jacobsen has changed the name of his Prince Rupert halibut boat from M. M. Christopher to Clipper II, ostensibly to change the luck of the vessel. His hopes did not seem to have been materialized, however, when he was able to obtain only 8.5c and 5c this week for his initial catch of the present season which was light at that.

Herring Fishing Still

While the Canadian Fish & Cold Storage Co. has now put up its bait requirements for the season, good advantage is still being taken to harvest the continued herring run at Pearl Harbor near Port Simpson. The fish are still being taken for the Rupert Marine Products re-

duction plant while other seiners are making good in catching the fish to sell direct to the halibut fleet as bait. It is reported that negotiations are under way to export some of the bait to Ketchikan and other Alaska ports. Among the boats now fishing for herring are Capt. Elias Skog's Anna S., Capt. Ole Skog's Fredella, the Island Packing Co.'s Faith of Sechart, which came up from the West Coast of Vancouver Island for the purpose, and Gammon & Watt's Bertha G. and Zanardi.

Capt. John Ivarson's halibut boat Melville was chartered this week by the International Fisheries Commission and left at noon Wednesday to engage in halibut tagging on the "Whale Back," one of the banks on the West Coast of Queen Charlotte Islands. On her trip out, the vessel is expected to be away about two weeks. W. C. Harrington and J. L. Kask of the International Fisheries Commission staff have been placed on the Melville to take charge of the tagging operations.

Completing Building

The contractors, Mitchell & Currie, have been making visible progress lately with the raising of the superstructure of the new annex to the Prince Rupert Fisheries Experimental Station and it is expected that the end of March would see the job pretty well completed. Only the concrete basement, where experimental refrigeration work is to be carried on, is being finished off at this time. Later the two upper storeys, where commodious laboratory space will be provided, will be put in shape for scientific work. The building occupies an imposing place on a hill alongside the waterfront.

Capt. Merrill Sollows, who recently returned to town after an extended visit in Nova Scotia, has his halibut boat Relief almost in shape to start the season's operations and will be leaving within the next few days for the fishing grounds.

Installation of the new N. and S. engine in Capt. Clarence Campbell's Joe Baker is also nearing completion and this vessel, too, should be away within the next week or so.

Where is Don?

Don Finn, director of the Prince Rupert Fisheries Experimental Station, who, through a misunderstanding, was reported last week to be back from a trip to Vancouver, is, in fact, not back yet. Don's movements on this occasion are proving rather mysterious and his friends are wondering what is really up. He should be back within the next day or so as he is billed to warble at the St. Pat's concert on Monday night.

Shef Thomson, caretaker of the Prince Rupert Yacht & Rowing Club, is comfortably ensconced again in his old quarters following their renovation after the recent fire. It was rather odd, to say the least of it, to see Shef engaged one afternoon this week in the gentle art of fitting and hanging window curtains. Somehow or other, while knowing that he could turn his capable hand to almost anything, we thought that was just a little out of his line. However, he proved to be quite as expert as the most fastidious of housewives, depending, of course, what one's idea of art in window curtains may be. We certainly think that Shef should have an "At Home" or some such soiree for his many friends, not overlooking the ladies, either, when all this fussing is over. He promises to get down to the more arduous, if not more serious, task of boat painting by next week for the spring painting and cleaning campaign must start by then—fires or no fires.

Back In Service

Having been brought back to port on Wednesday after having spent (Continued on page five.)

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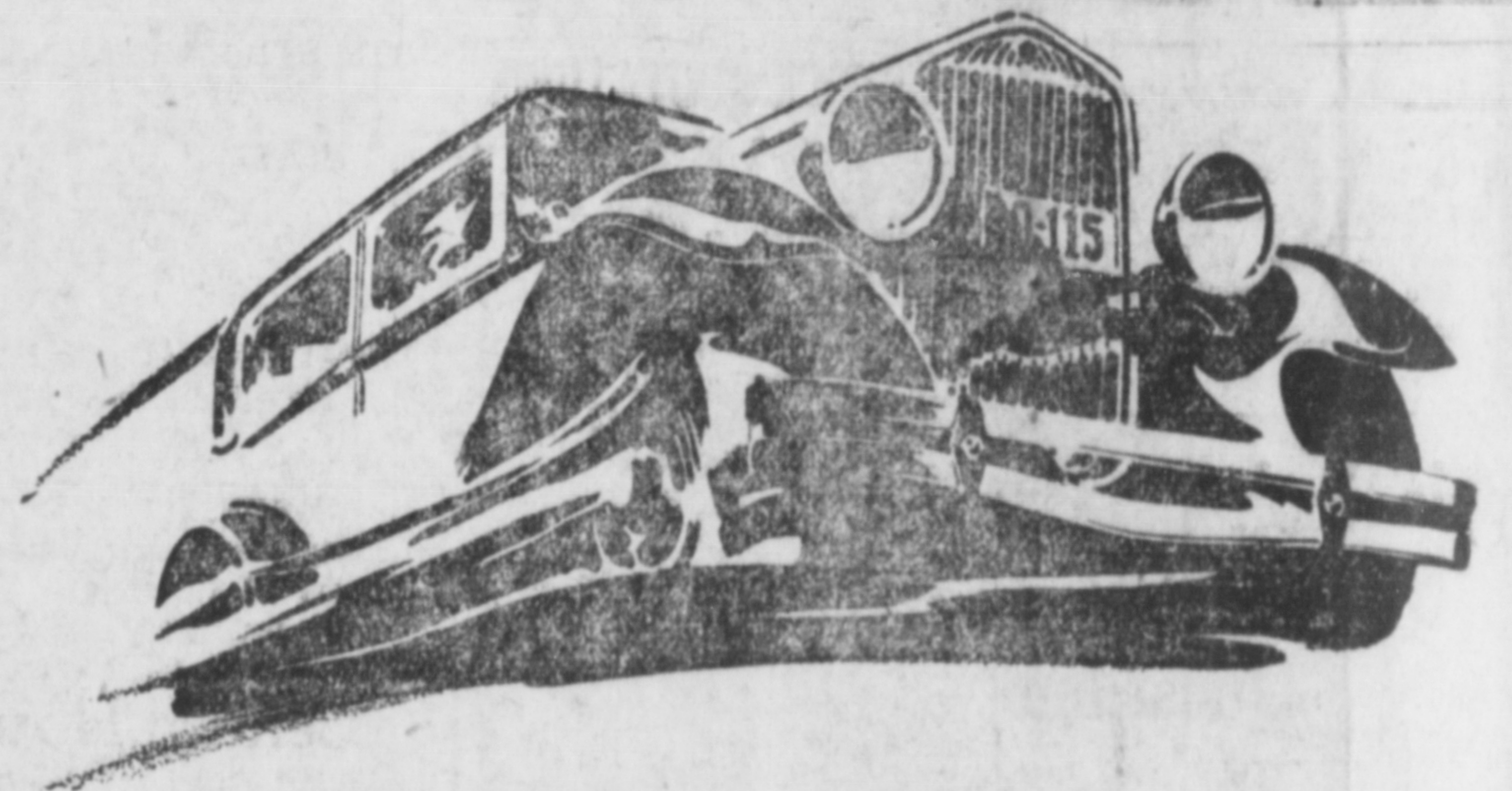
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