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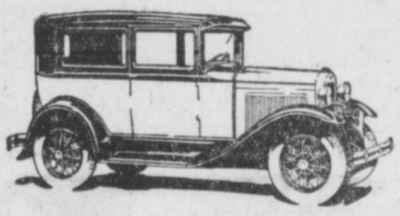

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WATERFRONT WHIFFS

Halibut Landings Are So Far Very Light — Vera Beatrice Forced Back to Port — New Kergin Boat Nearly Ready

Although the most of Prince Rupert's Canadian fleet has been out for a week or more, the week passed without seeing the season's halibut landings commence in any appreciable quantity. However, it is expected that another few days will see large numbers of the local boats back with their first catches of the season. The American fleet is still tied up over the dispute between boat owners and fishermen in the matter of what should constitute the "boat's share" and only a few American boats are on the banks, practically all of these few being manned by owners. Meantime, the United Pacific Fisheries, having made an arrangement to pay the boats 10c and 7c down for their fares, the balance, if any, to be distributed after the fish has been sold on the market, is still the only concern that, to date, had received any halibut from the regular fleet at Prince Rupert. While the scarcity of landings is being felt at all ports on the coast, the condition will at least, it is hoped, allow for the disposal of some of the frozen stocks and bring about more stabilized prices later in the season. On the whole the past week brought forth little new in the situation generally.

After leaving port last Saturday for her first trip of the season to the banks, the local halibut boat Vera Beatrice, Capt. Jud Thurber, got "heated up" and it was deemed advisable to return to port from Captain's Cove for adjustments to the oil system. The vessel got away again on Thursday afternoon.

The stage will soon be set for the launching at the local dry dock of the fine new 33-foot power cruiser Aledor which has been built at the order of Dr. L. W. Kergin, well known local physician. The vessel is being equipped with a Red Wing engine and, as stated before, is going to be a real acquisition to the local pleasure fleet and a craft of which its owner may well feel proud.

A recent progress report issued by the Biological Board of Canada contains an article by Robert H. Bedford of the Prince Rupert Fisheries Experimental Station in which the use of salt for control of the discoloration of halibut is further discussed. There is also an article by Louis F. Smith on "Large Scale Production of Fish Glue."

The Petersburg halibut boat Lancing, well known in Prince Rupert, is ready for another season's operations after having had a 44 h.p. Washington diesel engine installed during the past winter at Seattle in place of her former gas engine, at the same time having a new keel, new engine bed and new planing put in. The vessel also shipped a new gurdy and winch.

Committees have been appointed by both halibutters and trollers at Ketchikan to support the movement for the improvement of Keku Strait to accomodate all classes of small craft including cannery tenders, purse seiners, trolling boats and halibut vessels. It is being urged that the channel be deepened to a minimum depth of twelve feet over a width of at least seventy feet.

The new halibut boat Lane, built at Seattle this winter for Capt. Rasmus Kvinge, reached Seattle recently from her initial trip with 4,000 pounds of mixed cod. She struck a strong market and sold her fare for 8⅞c to the Whiz Fish Company, which was near the top of the winter market. Capt. Kvinge took his boat with her 30 h.p. Atlas diesel engine cod fishing in advance of the halibut season to break the boat in before the season opened. She is a seine-type 46-footer.

Only 44,000 pounds of halibut was landed here during the past week, all of it being from Canadian boats. The landings per boat were as follows: Helge H., 7,000 pounds; Ingrid H., 7,000; Pair of Jacks, 7,000; Toodie, 3,000; Unome, 7,000; Viking I., 5,000; Volunteer, 3,000.

Billy Richards and Gerard Fasolo have gone into business in the Cow Bay machine shop. They have been employed in a similar line here for years and are well known and popular. Their many friends will wish them luck in their undertaking.

In the current issue of the British Columbia Fisherman appear brief articles on angling possibilities on the Tachi River, which flows into Stuart Lake, north of Vanderhoof, and Ednaco River, 45 miles inland from Bella Coola.

THE FISH CURE

"The one thing that could properly be called a national dish today was fish and chips.

"The substitution of the less stimulating but highly nutritious fish for the beefsteaks and roast beef of Old England is a most important thing for the preservation of our health."

Significant pronouncements made at a recent luncheon at Olympia to medical officers of health:

What is Britain's foremost need?
Fish 'n' chips!
What supports the bulldog breed?
Fish 'n' chips!
What keeps Britain's foes away?
What preserves us from decay?
Raise your voice and shout 'Hooray!
Fish 'n' chips!'

What should feed the bold and brave?
Fish 'n' chips!
From the cradle to the grave
Fish 'n' chips!
What's the manna that supplies
Beauty with her lustrous eyes?
What's the fare that thinkers prize?
Fish 'n' chips!

Who said oysters? Better far
Fish 'n' chips!
Try, instead of caviare,
Fish 'n' chips!
All the things that doctors praise,
Vitamins and violet rays,
Centre in that noble phrase
Fish 'n' chips!

Lo! What odor haunts the air?
Fish 'n' chips!
That aroma ripe and rare;
Fish 'n' chips!
Let me go and dine in state,
From a bag or off a plate,
Where the wiser sort await
Fish 'n' chips!

—Lucio, in "The Manchester Guardian."

A Canadian edition of the British Columbia Pilot, Vol. 11, containing a description of the northern portion of the coast of British Columbia from Cape Caution to Portland Inlet, and including Queen Charlotte Islands, has just been published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service. This Pilot embodies all Notices to Mariners referring to the district up to and including No. 39 of 1930.

When fish leap out of the water into the arms of fishermen, that is news. Five farmers living near Mud Lake, New York, are telling the story, and, says the Ogdensburg Journal, it's not a "tall story," either for the paper says it investigated. Mud Lake is shallow. So, when a hard freeze came along, practically all of the water turned to ice. A farmer walking across the ice saw a fish frozen in. He saw others swimming frantically about below. With axe and saw he dug a hole in the ice a foot square to let air down to what little water remained. He got action immediately. Bullheads popped up through the opening so fast he could not put them back in. Farmers from all around heard about the good fishing. They came with shovels and bags, and five secured 700 pounds each. Many of the fish were sold for 25 cents a pound in Ogdensburg markets. And still the fish continued to pop out of the hole in the ice. Game protectors heard about it. They investigated. Some farmers were arrested and fined. But there were plenty of fish for Lent throughout the area.

The halibut schooner Cape Beale, owned by Capt. Edgar Arnet left Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island a few days ago for the fishing grounds off the Alaska coast. She will make Prince Rupert her headquarters for the season. On the way up from Vancouver to Tofino, the crew shot a cougar which was swimming from one island to another off the entrance to Barkley Sound. The $40 bounty was a little windfall for the crew. It was Capt. Arnet's father, Jacob Arnet of Tofino, who had an exciting experience with a cougar only a few months ago, when it attacked him while in a small open gasboat. This time the cougar took to another member of the Arnet family, but a boat that this time was much too uneven a match for it, the Cape Beale being an 85-foot schooner. The members of the cougar family on the west coast apparently have an old grudge against the Arnet family. The seineboat Aliema also sailed for Prince Rupert, where she will operate for the next few months purse-seining herring to supply fresh bait to the halibut fleet sailing out of Prince Rupert. The herring are caught and kept alive in large wire-netting ponds, being sold to the halibut fishermen in ton lots. There is always a good demand for live herring bait in preference to the frozen bait generally used. Karl Arnet and Hubert Eik, the two owners of the Aliema, in the respective capacities of captain and engineer, took the vessel north, accompanied by three other fishermen comprising the crew.

On account of slackness of fishing operations on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, the United Church mission boat, Edward White, is being transferred from Cape Mudge district to Bella Bella where Dr. Darby will take charge of its work. This will release the Thomas Crosby, Capt. (Rev.) R. C. Scott, for other duties this summer.

While running north last week from Vancouver to the halibut banks off the Queen Charlotte Islands, the Vancouver halibut boat Nordland, well known here, was rammed and sung in Malaspino Strait by an unknown vessel. The captain and owner, Capt. S. Nordhus, and his crew of two, J. Johnston and G. Petersen, escaped miraculously with their lives, taking to their skiff as the Nordland started to go down, sinking finally in 80 fathoms of water. The men rowed two miles to shore and proceeded to Pender Harbor. The boat and everything on board was lost.

Herbert Hampton returned to the city this week from a trip to Vancouver.

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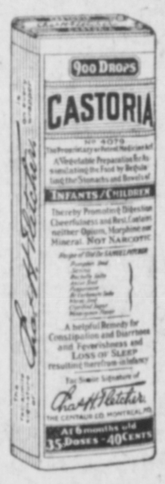

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from Page 37, Five Roses Cook Book

4 cups Five Roses flour (sifted)
2 teaspoons cream of tartar
1 teaspoon soda
2 dessert-spoons white sugar
1 (small) teaspoon salt
1 cup sweet milk
1 cup sweet cream

Sift the cream of tartar and soda with the flour. Mix all with spoon, roll out and bake well in hot oven. A handful of currants is sometimes added. If no cream is at hand, substitute 1 tablespoon lard or butter.

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