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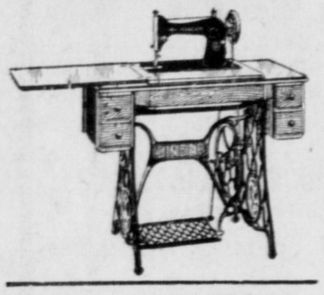

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# WATERFRONT WHIFFS

### Good Salmon Pack Already Assured—Canning Alaska Fish in Skeena—Ocean Drift on Islands

"We have already made such a good pack to date this season of the sockeye variety that, no matter what happens now, it is bound to be a more successful year any way you look at it," declared a well known Skeena River cannery operator in Prince Rupert this week in commenting upon 1934 canning operations. Although, except for the first week or so following the opening of sockeye fishing operations on June 20, weather was anything but auspicious, good catches are still being made by the gill-netters generally as July progresses and, from all hands, come reports of vastly improved results in the industry. The benefit that this improved state of affairs will be to business generally in the district may become more evident a little later in the year. At present, the fishermen are all busy and, consequently, general business is a little quiet. Troll fishermen are also reported to be meeting with better success although the improvement may not be quite so considerable as in the gill-netting.

Owing to the extremely bad weather, sockeye fishing throughout Prince Rupert district was poor during the past week in comparison with what it had been earlier in the season. Fishermen were unable to operate outside and the average per boat for the whole district is placed at about twenty fish. Spring salmon are running strong in the Skeena River now but there are no signs of pinks to any extent as yet although there are a few seines out in the Naas River area. The pack, of course, is still far ahead of last year. Owing to the large number of fishermen operating in the Rivers Inlet area, the weekly close season there has been extended to 72 hours by the fisheries department. In Smith's Inlet, the weekly close season has been reduced again to 48 hours after having been extended to 72. In the rest of the district, the weekly close season is still 48 hours.

Having on board a good sized list of passengers including 29 round-trippers, Union steamer Cardena, Capt. Ernest Georgeson, arrived in port at 11:30 last night from the south and sailed an hour later on her return to Vancouver and way-points.

The power yacht Infanta, having on board Mr. and Mrs. John Barrymore and family, after having spent the day in port, sailed last evening in continuation of its southward voyage following a cruise in Alaskan waters.

During the past week it has been reported that the temperature of the water in Prince Rupert harbor has been anywhere from two to four degrees lower than it ordinarily reads at this time of year. The observation to this effect has been made by local waterfront people who have occasion to record the temperature of harbor water.

Owing to the Pacific Coast longshoremen's strike having made it impossible through curtailment of salmon canning operations due to lack of supplies and on account of uncertainty of shipping services, a good deal of salmon from southeastern Alaska has been finding its way into canneries on the Skeena River and elsewhere in Prince Rupert district of late. A. R. Breuger, well known fish dealer of Wrangell, Alaska, was a visitor in Prince Rupert this week on business in connection with the shipment of Alaskan salmon to the Skeena River canneries.

A bamboo drift on the beaches of Queen Charlotte Islands of the British Columbia coast, something not noted for years, has brought forth fresh discussion concerning ocean currents and their effects on the weather. The drift presumably comes from the Orient. In years past bamboo and even palm logs have been found on the Queen Charlotte beaches. A current close to shore, flowing from south to north, then east to west, meets the Japan current ordinarily near Kodiak Islands, Alaska. Those currents vary from month to month. Sometimes the Japan current presses as far south as the Queen Charlottes and sometimes the north-to-south current leaves the vicinity of the islands. It is noted that the bamboo drift coincides with an unusually mild year.

**Halibut Landings**

Halibut landings at this port for the 1934 season up to yesterday had reached a total of 8,446,065 pounds as compared with 8,065,500 pounds at a similar date last year. The Canadian total for this season to date is 3,952,565 pounds in comparison with 3,687,500 pounds last year while this season's American total so far is 4,493,500 pounds as against 4,388,000 pounds last year. For the week ending yesterday landings totalled 345,000 pounds of which 243,000 pounds was from Canadian and 102,000 pounds from American boats. Prices during the week remained steady with 6.1c and 5c the top bid for Canadian fish and 5c the low while the highest price for American fish was 8.1c and 6.2c and the low 6.9c and 4c.

A yachting visitor of more than usual note who is a visitor in port today is Freeman F. Gosden of Chicago, "Amos" member of the famous radio entertainment team of "Amos 'n Andy," who with Mrs. Gosden and Mr. and Mrs. William M. Dewey jr., arrived by train from the east this afternoon and is boarding the Seattle charter yacht Caroline, Capt. K. C. (Casey) Moran, for a cruise of Alaskan waters. Soon after Mr. Gosden goes aboard, the Caroline will leave for the north. She came here from Seattle to pick the party up.

Making a special tourist sailing to Alaska with an overflow of passengers from other regularly scheduled boats, C. P. R. steamer Princess Alice, Capt. James Flood, arrived in port at 9 o'clock this morning from Vancouver and sailed a couple of hours later for Skagway and other northern points whence she will return here next Thursday afternoon southbound. On board the Alice were 174 passengers, 151 of whom were round trip tourists.

The Armour Salvage Co.'s local power tugs Salvage Princess, Capt. Joe Desmulles, and Pachena, Capt. Jack Walls, have been chartered by the Nootka Packing Co. for packing service out of New Massett cannery. The Salvage Princess is leaving today for the Queen Charlotte Islands and it is expected the Pachena will get away tomorrow.

Southbound after a regularly scheduled voyage to Skagway and other northern points, C. P. R. steamer Princess Louise, Capt. Thomas Cliff, is due in port at 4 o'clock this afternoon and will sail at 5:30 p.m. for Vancouver.

# PICTURE IS OUTSTANDING

### Gable and Colbert Score Hit In "It Happened One Night"

"It Happened One Night," the week-end attraction at the Capitol Theatre, co-starring Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert, is said to be one of the ten best pictures of the year.

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