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Waterfront Whiffs

Salmon Canning Season Off to Good Start—Halibut Fishing Continues—Launching is Event of Week

Sockeye salmon fishing got off to a good start in the Skeena and Nass River districts during this opening week of the season with some seven hundred boats fishing on the Skeena River and the average per boat about twenty-one fish per day at the start. Conditions have been entirely favorable for the fishing and, with a price of at least eleven cents per pound in the round assured, there is the certainty of at least a fair financial return. For the canneries themselves the week has been a good one, according to reports received in Prince Rupert.

Although Area No. 2 has been closed, quite a number of the American fishing vessels and a few of the larger Canadians are continuing operating in that part of Area No. 3 which is now open to fishing. Of course, the closing down of Area No. 2 has seen the withdrawal from the fishing of the most of the smaller Prince Rupert boats. Later in the fall, when the fish are more prime, some of these boats may go out codding. Some of the halibutters will go salmon packing as usual while ther boats will now be tied up altogether as their crews take jobs ashore in view of the acute labor shortage.

Geoffrey Morgan of Kitwanga and Dick Lattie of Hazelton, two well known native fishermen, suffered burns and injuries when a gillnet fishing boat blew up at Carlisle Cannery on the Skeena River on Tuesday of this week while Morgan was starting up the engine prior to going out fishing. There was a heavy explosion which caused a loud report. Both men were immediately attended to by the cannery staff and rushed into Prince Rupert. The boat was to large extent destroyed.

An outstanding event of this week was the launching Tuesday afternoon of the 10,000-ton cargo ship Fort Rupert. A fine example of shipbuilding craftmanship, the ship near the peak of the rising tide at midafternoon had a launching , the smoothness and precision of which could not have been excelled upon. In keeping with the spirit of the occasion, the launching ceremonies were reduced to an extreme minimum. Only a handful of officials were on the launching platform. There was no fancy imported champagne but a bottle of Kelowna wine, tied up with red, white and blue ribbon, was broken against the bow by Mrs. Edward J. White whereupon the vessel started without delay its course down the greased ways into the water. The blessing and dedication was by Canon W. F. Rushbrook, pioneer coast missionary. To Mrs. White, who carried a beautiful shower bouquet, was presented a handsome silver tea service by young riveter's passer, Douglas Marshall, on behalf of the rivetting crew, while B. Allen, the manager, presented an attractive silver serving tray as a memento of the occasion from the management. It was quite a coincidence that the launching day was also the birthday of both Mrs. White and her husband.

Up to and including yesterday halibut landings at Prince Rupert for the 1942 season had reached a total of 8,346,019 pounds as compared with 8,528,500 pounds at a corresponding date last year. Canadian landings had reached a total of 3,360,219 pounds compared with 3,786,600 pounds at the same date last year while American landings stood at 4,985,800 pounds in comparison with 4,960,900 pounds. Landings for the past week totalled 866,000 pounds including 465,500 pounds from Canadian vessels and 400,500 pounds from American. The high price of the week for Canadian fish was 17c and 14c which the Parma was paid for 26,000 pounds and the low 15c and 14c which the Toodie, Selma H., Skeena M., Mother II, Annabelle, Advance II, Balsac I, Bum, Blue Boy, Clipper I and Domino II received for catches of 11,000, 3,500, 6,000, 4,000, 3,00, 3,500, 7,000, 3,500, 5,000, 12,000, and 6,000 pounds respectively. For American fish top bid of the week was 15.5c and 14c which the Teddy J. and Middleton received for catches of 20,000 and 23,000 pounds respectively. The low price was 15c and 14c which the Chum, Delight, Electra, Edgecumbe, Eureka, Pearl, Visitor, Viking, Garland, and Nordby received for catches of 12,500, 25,000, 40,000, 140,000, 14,000, 12,000, 7,500, 13,500, 13,000 and 25,000 pounds respectively.

G. A. McMillan has resumed duty as superintendent of Canadian National Coast Steamships which he relinquished about a year ago when he took over the management of Prince Rupert dry dock.

Natives Dissatisfied

Dissatisfied over the failure to obtain better than a ten percent increase in salmon prices this year which it is contended is insufficient when compared with a twenty percent increase in the cost of living bonus and the big increase in wages of labor, fishermen members of the Upper Skeena branch of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia, at a meeting at Carlisle Cannery this week expressed their disagreement with the charging of a $2 fee upon members by the Native Brotherhood. The upper Skeena fishermen are not satisfied with the negotiations as carried on by the Native Brotherhood and complain at not having been consulted. The price for the year they fear may not be proportionate with the increased cost of living and fishing operations by the end of the season. They feel that they are doing their part in the war effort and should receive better consideration. The upper Skeena fishermen are also asking that the fishing boundary be set back to a point upriver near the high power transmission line crossing where it was formerly located. Owing to blackout regulations, the fishing boats, fishing out the present boundaries, are in danger of being run down by steamers and other larger ships.

The total catch of halibut for the month of June at Prince Rupert was 4,166,500 pounds with 2,387,000 pounds American and 7,779,500 pounds Canadian. In the corresponding month last year the total catch was 3,269,500 with the American 1,840,500 pounds and the Canadian 1,429,000 pounds.

Happy children of the Sunday School of St. Andrew's Anglican Cathedral, anticipating an enjoyable outing on the sandy shore of Digby Island, left this afternoon aboard Bert Sheppard's new fishing boat. In general charge of the outing is Frank Skinner, superintendent of the Sunday School. A full program has been arranged for the afternoon.

Honored At Ocean Falls

Farewell Party is Held for Rev. And Mrs. E. S. Fleming Prior To Departure

Rev. and Mrs. E. S. Fleming, who have left from Ocean Falls for Ladysmith to which point Mr. Fleming is transferred in the United Church Ministry, were honored by the members of the congregation with a fine party prior to their leaving Ocean Falls.

The farewell gathering took place in the church. There was a good program with sumptuous refreshments and speeches.

Rev. and Mrs. Fleming were presented with a beautiful coffee table and seven-year-old Billy Fleming received a youth hymn book. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming both replied suitably.

Rev. D. W. More, formerly of Kispiox, is to be Rev. Fleming's successor at Ocean Falls. As he is not to arrive until August first, the church will be supplied during the month of July by laymen.

STORY IS VIGOROUS

"Manpower," With Robinson, Dietrich and Raft, at Capitol

Edward G. Robinson, Marlene Dietrich and George Raft are the co-starring trio of "Manpower," coming to the Capitol Theatre next Monday and Tuesday.

The film is set against a background of the Pacific Coast's night life, where the hard-boiled linemen relax between the dangerous jobs of adjusting high tension power lines. In a close little fraternity, the men are bonded together by the hazards of their job.

Closest of these bonds is that between the two characters portrayed by Raft and Robinson. In a crashing electric storm, as they are dealing with hot wires, Raft is knocked unconscious, and Robinson attempting to save him, receives a permanent leg injury. Raft, in turn, drags him to safety. When he recovers, the two men are closer than ever.

Then Dietrich comes into their lives. She plays a night club hostess who is no better a girl than she should be. Her father is killed on the job. Robinson feels sorry for her and marries her. They set up housekeeping in a small apartment.

Raft, injured in an accident, comes to stay with them and recuperate. Although he is attracted by Dietrich, he refuses to meet her halfway when she plays up to him. She decides, since he will not have anything to do with her and she doesn't love Robinson, that she may as well go back to her old work. She goes to the club to ask the proprietor if she can have a job at his place in Chicago. While she is there, the place is raided and she goes to jail.

Raft hears about it and hurries down to the jail to get her out before Robinson finds out. Furious and disgusted with her, he slaps her down a flight of stairs, makes her promise to go back to her husband. But, determined to be honest, she tells Robinson she's going to leave him, that she loves Raft.

Murder in his heart, Robinson rushes out in a storm to find Raft. The ensuing clash has all the fury of a strong friendship turned to hate, and makes a thrilling finish to the powerful dramatic story.

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