



**MASSET VILLAGE**, one of the principal communities on the Queen Charlotte Islands, is located on the north coast of northern Graham Island, just inside Masset Harbor. Main occupation of the community is fishing. Across

Delkatlah Slough is the Indian village of Old Masset. Queen Charlotte Islands is the land of the Haidas, famed for their slate totem pole carvings of 100 years ago.

## MAY END SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT GAP

# Islands Crab Canner Experiments With Oysters for Added Markets

An experiment which has been developing for the past six years on the beaches of Masset, on the north end of the Queen Charlotte Islands, holds the promise that its success will fill a serious gap in seasonal employment in the islands' fishing industry.

It is too early yet to arrive at definite conclusions, says Sam Simpson, operator of Queen Charlotte Cannery, but he hopes that in another year he will be able to harvest the first commercial yield of oysters ever taken north of the Gulf of Georgia.

"If our experiments prove successful, we will be able to enter the competitive oyster market. We can grow them in the north and they appear to be even better quality than those grown in southern waters. But it takes between four and five years for the oysters to mature here compared to three years in the south," says Mr. Simpson.

### FIRST IN CRABS

Queen Charlotte Cannery was established nearly two generations ago by Mr. Simpson's father, the late Captain Eugene Simpson, who devised the first successful crab canning method on the Pacific Coast.

The Simpsons, originally from Seattle, set out for the "north" in 1914 aboard a 38-foot boat. Taking their time, they arrived in Prince Rupert two years later, where the elder Simpson went to work in a fish-packing plant.

"From fish packing, Dad went to fish-buying and shortly started his own packing plant, processing the big crabs of Hecate Straits.

"His were the first processed crabs to hit the market from the west coast and business was pretty good," recalls Sam today.

But the business went "flat broke" in 1930 and remained inoperative until three years later when Sam re-established it into its present-day capacity.

Sam, the father of a son and two daughters, is a stocky, outspoken individual in his late forties. He is especially outspoken about American boats fishing in the Hecate Straits, the stretch of water between B.C.'s mainland coast and the Queen Charlottes.

### BIG INVASION

"The big invasion into the straits by United States and Alaska crab and salmon fishermen is drastically reducing the fisheries population." He claims that Canada declared the straits as "territorial (home) waters" shortly after B.C. entered the Confederation of Canada, but "we just haven't had the sense to enforce it."

The Hecate Straits for years have been considered as offshore waters from a three-mile limit east of the Charlottes and west of the mainland, thus open to foreign vessels.

"And if that is the case, the Japanese and even the Russians are within their rights to fish there. That would be a fine pickle of affairs!" exclaimed Sam.

The Simpsons are not only packers, but fishermen themselves. Their 60-foot broad-beamed crabber Dungeness was built among more than 100 Americans and Canadians in the straits last year.

Skipped by Sam's son Gene, the Dungeness is the only boat on the B.C. coast built expressly for crab fishing.

Simpson says he got the idea of raising oysters as an experiment when trying to find some facet of the shell-fishing industry which could provide employment for Masset residents during the normally slack months of January to March, which is the season of the oyster harvest.

Most of the oyster seed he

has planted on the broad sand beaches of the north end of the Charlottes have come from Japan, but the latest planting has come from seeds developed in southern B.C. waters.

Area where the oysters are being raised is also the only bed in B.C. for razor-clams, tastiest of the species.

## Good Fishing To Be Found In Terrace Streams, Lakes

"This is wonderful fishing country."

So said Game Warden Jack Williams as he described the landing of a 27½-pound steelhead while fishing in Terrace's Copper River recently.

Although Cooper River has long been a favorite steelheading river for local anglers, Williams' prize catch was the top fish taken so far on sport gear.

Said Williams: "I love fishing and have had a fair share, but this big steelhead gave me my biggest thrill of all times."

"I had him on about 30 minutes before I realized how big he was. Then I saw him."

Before I landed him an hour after that, he had taken more than 80 yards of line out. It was a ticklish situation for several minutes."

The fish measured 41½ inches long and sported an 11-inch tail. Williams entered his catch in an international angling contest.

But fishing is not the only recreation available to either residents or tourists.

Perhaps foremost in tourist attractions are the mineral hot springs at Lakelse Lake 16 miles from Terrace, the largest on the continent. Eight springs—the biggest more than 100 feet across—flow continuously at a temperature of 186 degrees.

Prominent medical men have recommended the springs for relief of rheumatism, lumbago,

arthritis and other ailments. Commercial development of the springs, however, has not yet been attempted.

Lakelse Lake itself and Kalum Lake to the north provide ideal boating, fishing, swimming and summer camping grounds, easily accessible to good roads.

### CIVIC CENTRE

Other opportunities for recreation are golfing, skiing, rifle-shooting, bowling. Community life revolves around the village's civic centre which sponsors such sports as basketball, boxing, roller skating, stage entertainment, badminton and dancing.

Besides, Terrace boasts 15 different service and fraternal organizations: Board of Trade, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Canadian Legion, Kinsmen, Kinettes, Masonic Lodge, Rotary Club, Odd Fellows, Rebekah, Orange Lodge, Canadian Legion Ladies' Auxiliary, Farmers' Institute, Parent-Teachers' Association and Hospital Auxiliary.

Churches include the Roman Catholic, Baptist, Anglican, United, Pentecostal, Lutheran, Christian Reformed, Seventh-Day Adventists and Gospel Chapel.

Transient accommodation is supplied by two hotels and five auto courts. Three areas within the village have been set aside as parks and two public parks are supervised by the B.C. Forest Service.

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## Railway Link With 'Peace'

The village of Stewart, British Columbia, is Canada's most northerly deep-water port on the Pacific, situated at the head of the 60-mile long Portland Canal, approximately 130 miles north of Prince Rupert and about 100 miles inland from the Pacific coastline.

Portland Canal, through the centre of which passes the Alaska-B.C. boundary, penetrates with a deep, navigable waterway the coastal mountain barrier.

North of Stewart extends the Bear River valley, varying in width from one-half to two miles over a length of 10 miles before it narrows into the Bear River Pass leading into northern interior B.C.

To date, Stewart has existed principally as a distributing and supply centre for the Portland Canal mining district and as such has had varying population and economy. All active mining declined of late, leaving only a few hundred persons scattered in the community until the recent discovery on Leduc glacier.

The Leduc discovery, 25 miles north of Stewart, promises to become a major mining venture.

Stewart Board of Trade is active in promoting a railroad from B.C.'s Peace River to its port as offering the shortest route to tidewater shipping on any route—350 miles.

Grizzly bears of the Rocky Mountain region may weigh as much as 900 pounds.



**FRANK CALDER**, 36-year-old member of the B.C. Legislature, is the first and only native Indian to have been elected to the provincial government. Serving his third consecutive term of office, Mr. Calder represents the constituency of Atlin, largest in area in the province. "Resources of northern B.C. would stagger the imagination," Calder recently told the House.

## 1,000,000 Pies Expert's Record

Mrs. Sally McCutcheon, 75, of Laraine, Ohio, must hold some sort of record.

She learned to bake apple pies in 1911 in Bluefield, W. Va., then successively worked in restaurants in Columbus, O.; Tiffin, O., and finally Hellman's in nearby Willard, O.

Saying that she has baked at least one pie per day, she figures she has a life-time total of around 1,000,000. At one time she was baking 201 pies a day.

## On Charlottes

Queen Charlotte Islands, stretching almost 200 miles long and 50 miles at the northern and widest portion, lie in a general northwest-southwest direction from 50 to 100 miles from British Columbia's mainland.

Composed of two principle islands — Moresby to the south and northern Graham — the Charlottes comprise the westernmost boundaries of B.C., and hold a major portion of the natural resources of fish and timber of B.C.

Home of the giant Sitka spruce stands, huge tracts of western hemlock and red cedar, the Charlottes are estimated as holding more than 12,000,000,000 board feet of merchantable timber. Heavy logging is the main industry on the islands.

More than 8,000,000 pounds of commercial fish — mostly salmon — are taken annually in Queen Charlotte waters, notably from the northern shoals which provide excellent trolling for spring and coho salmon during certain seasons of the year.

The Islands were first settled at the turn of the century by farming homesteaders who found the moderate climate and good soil a good combination. Remoteness from markets, however, proved an insurmountable barrier and agriculture today is limited.

Climate, under the influence of the Japanese currents, records a mean high of 57 and a mean low of 37 with a year round frost-free period in the extreme south, to temperatures of 57 and 33, and a 169-day, 48-year average, frost-free period on the extreme north end.

## OXYGEN THERAPY MAY BE INSTALLED FOR LOGGERS

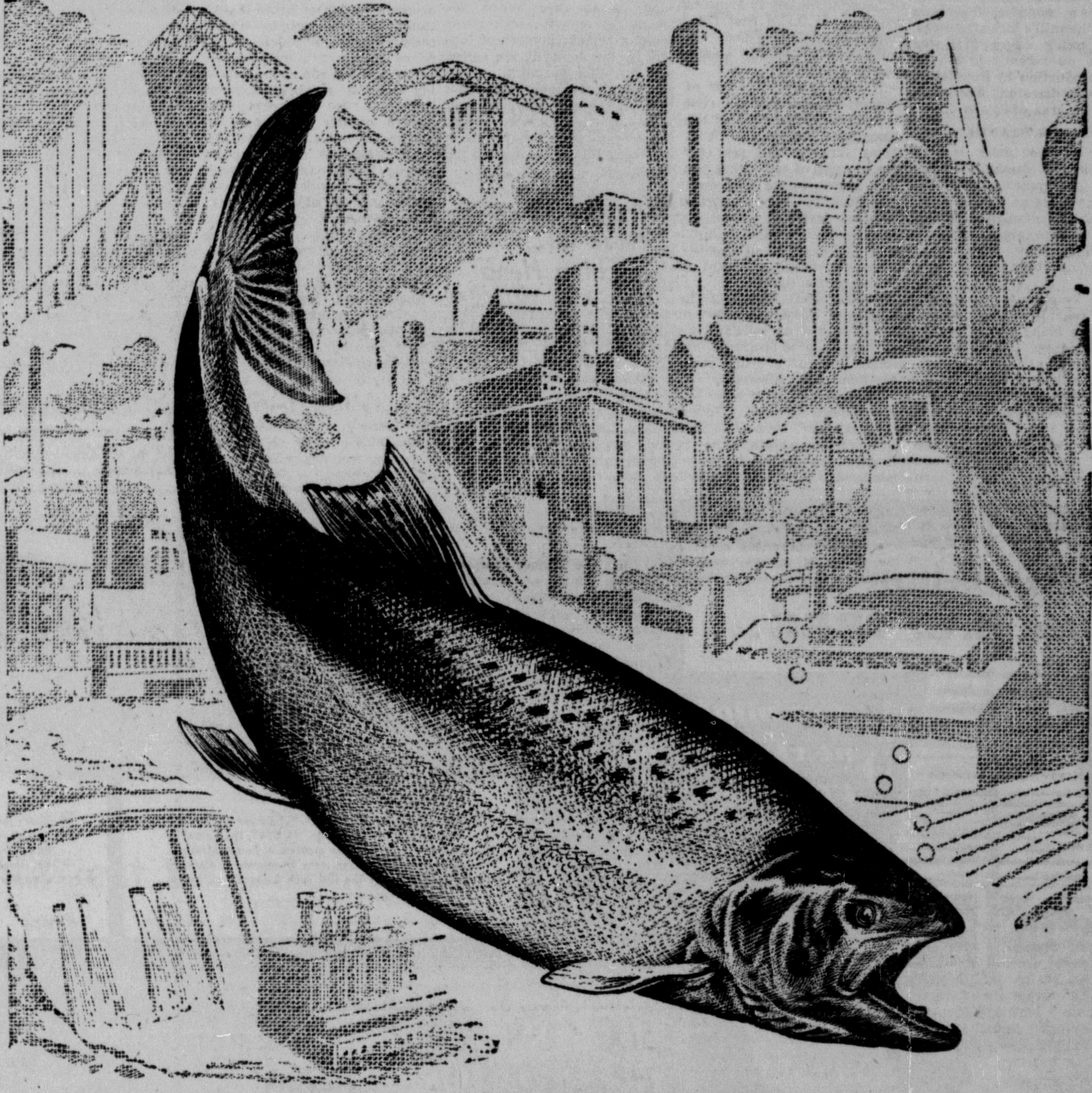
VICTORIA (CP) — Installation of oxygen therapy in large logging camps and plants may be ordered by the workmen's compensation board.

A training school has been successful during the last few months, a board member said.

**QUEEN CHARLOTTE Crabmeat**

From Masset, Q.C. Is., packed by Queen Charlotte Cannery, Ltd., producers of fine quality crabmeat for over thirty years.

We started packing crabmeat before there was a "Northland Empire." We just called it "Queer Country."



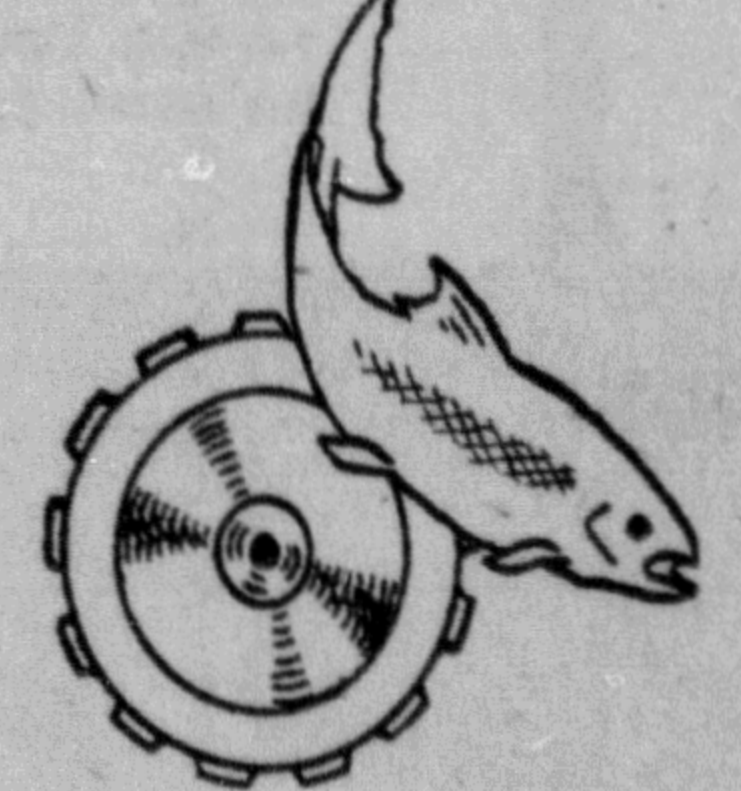
# Partners in Prosperity..

FOR nearly 100 years, Pacific salmon have been a major factor in the economy of British Columbia. Today they are the backbone of a great industry... one which over the years has brought hundreds of millions of dollars into the province.

Today, too, in British Columbia, great plans are afoot for extensive industrialization and development. These plans will mean much new wealth and new employment, will bring this great province closer to a full realization of its splendid destiny in our national life.

Yet without foresight and goodwill in industrial planning the priceless heritage of the salmon fisheries will be destroyed. Wise planning can aid in conserving the salmon, and is no hindrance to industrial development. Freedom to expand one is completely compatible with freedom to conserve the other. They are partners in prosperity.

The Department of Fisheries of the Government of Canada, at sea and on land in British Columbia, is playing its full part, with the co-operation of industry and those engaged in fishing, to conserve and protect the priceless heritage of the Pacific Salmon, that this great natural resource may be preserved as a full partner in the growth of British Columbia.



For interesting information about the fishing industry write to the Department of Fisheries, Ottawa, for a free copy of the booklet "Canada's Pacific Salmon."