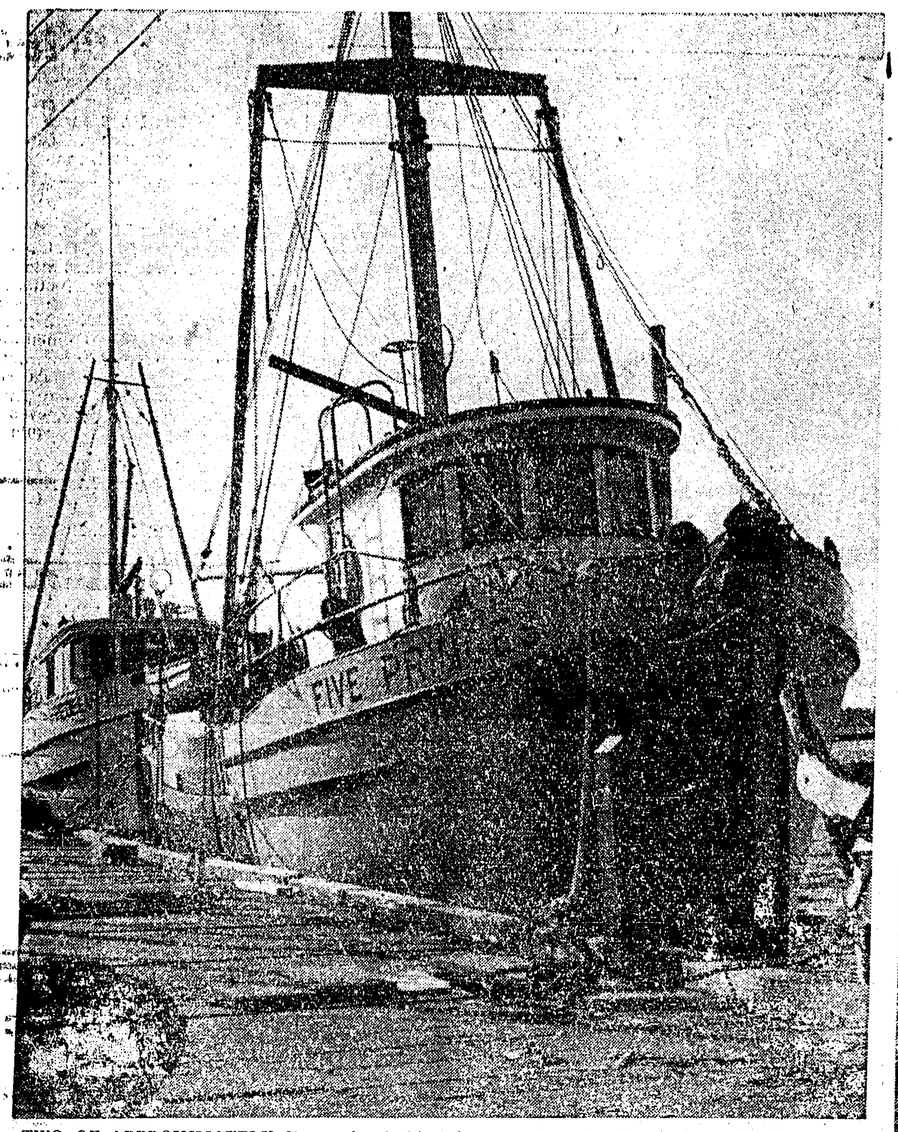
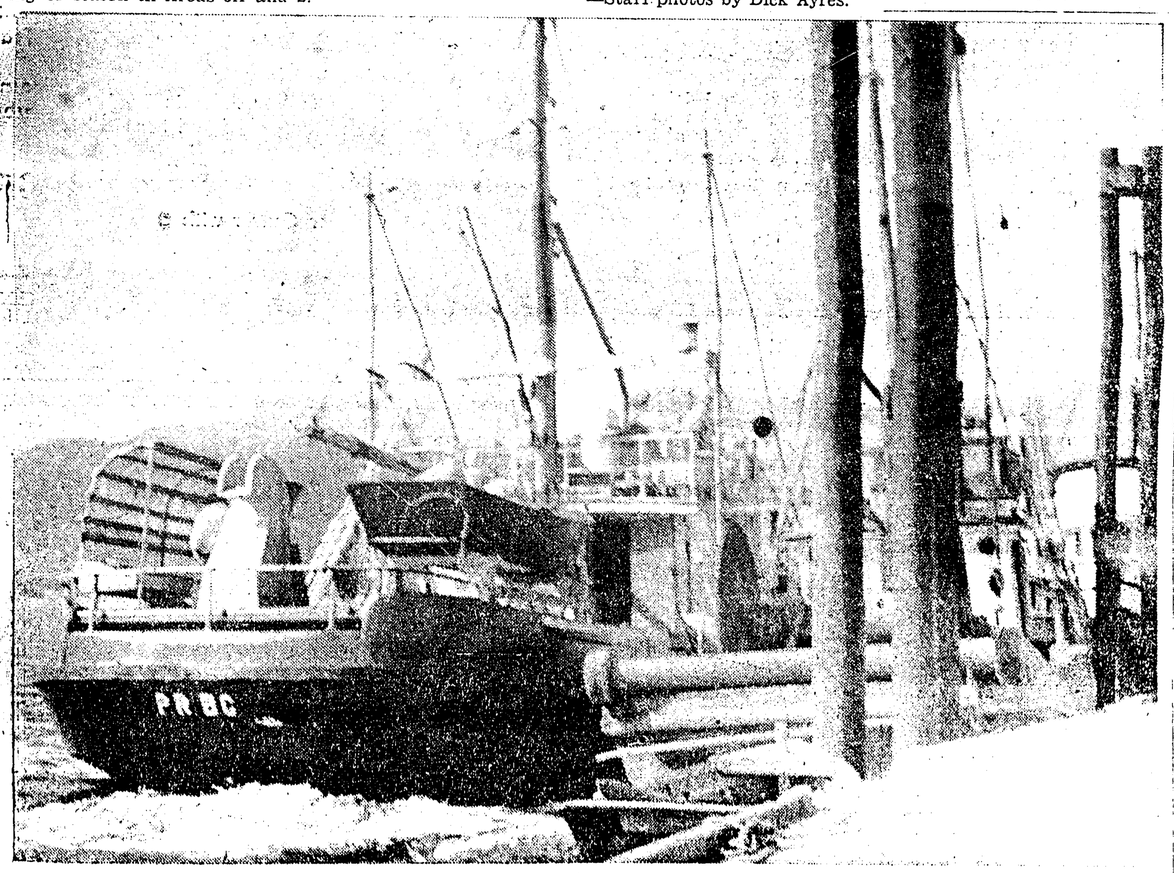


VETERAN OF 30 YEARS fishing in Prince Rupert and northern British Columbia waters is Otto Arnason, shown painting up numbers on his troller. Mr. Arnason, who has been fishing here since 1928 will be going out after spring salmon in about two weeks. Trim vessel is berthed at new government floats.

TWO OF APPROXIMATELY 35 regular halibut boats fishing for Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-Operative association are Five Princes, owned and skippered by Jack Prince Jr., and Fredelia III, owned and captained by Arne Husoy. Both boats left today to be ready for opening of season in Areas 3A and 2. —Staff photos by Dick Ayres.

STOCKING UP ON supplies before leaving for fishing grounds are two Nelson Bros. Fisheries halibut boats at Port Edward yesterday. Laverne Marie, at right, skippered by Chester Benson and vessel to starboard of it were getting ready to start fishing season which opens in Area 3A and Area 2 at 6 a.m. Sunday.



BIG NELSON BROS. FISHERIES halibut boat Haida Warrior, skippered by Gerry Dudoward, shudders as it goes into reverse to back away from Port Edward docks after taking on provisions to begin halibut season. Boat was preparing to go to oil dock before leaving for fishing grounds today.

New Zealander uses old way to nab whales

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (Reauters) — Walter Cook prefers to hunt whales with a hand harpoon and a light boat. This rugged man from Tonga is probably one of the last whalers in the world to stick to the methods of Moby Dick's day.

On a recent visit to New Zealand, Cook attributed his success in this hazardous occupation to "the razor edge of the harpoon blade, experience, and the crew's stamina."

Every day from July to October, for 42 years, he has taken his two 30-foot whalers 20 miles from the shores of Tonga to battle with the biggest and most powerful creature in the sea—the Humpback Whale.

Last season he captured 20; the season before 16.

Cook was 14 years of age when he and his elder brother "borrowed" their father's boat, took it to sea and returned with a whale. The next day, his career began as a professional harpoonist.

Today, he owns the only whaling business of its kind on Tonga. "We kill the whale only for meat," he says. "It brings about a shilling a pound."

First quarter catch of fish drops sharply

OTTAWA (CP) — Canada's catch of sea fish and shellfish in the first quarter of 1958 dropped off sharply from the corresponding period last year due to acute decline in herring landings on the west coast.

Total Canadian landings of sea fish and shellfish decreased 38 per cent to 183,192,000 pounds from 293,023,000 a year ago and value fell 15 per cent to $6,905,000 from $8,155,000.

Yield on the Atlantic coast rose 17.5 per cent in the quarter to 119,596,000 pounds from 101,725,000 last year and landed value increased 17 per cent to $5,333,000 from $4,556,000.

However, landings on the west coast dropped to 63,596,000 pounds from 191,298,000 last year. The landed value decreased to $1,572,000 from $3,599,000.

The west coast herring industry has been conducted on a limited basis since October because fishermen's unions and fishing companies haven't been able to agree on prices.

Landings of west coast herring in the quarter were down to 52,279,000 pounds valued at $863,000 from 180,054,000 pounds worth $2,071,000 in 1957. The catch of gray cod and all shellfish except clams was up over a year ago.

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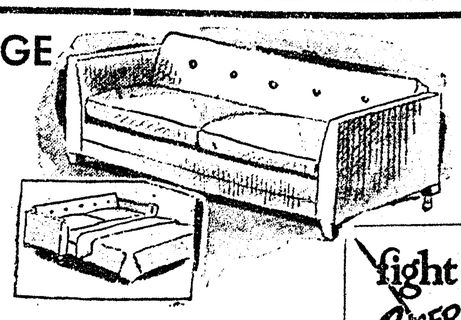

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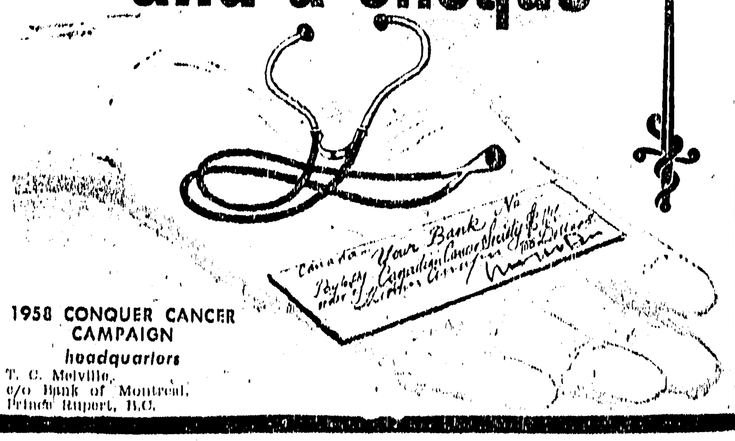

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Will any persons able to assist as Canvassers on Monday night, May 5th, please contact Dean A. E. Hendy — phone 4766