

THE GRAPEVINE

Queen Charlotte City, B. C. Volume V

February 25, 1950

DRILLERS LEAVE

Back to Alberta the Roughnecks (the Royalite oil company's oil drillers) have gone. Do we miss them? Don't answer that, girls. Do they miss us? They say so. One family is left, the Harts, and charming indeed they are. We certainly hope they will be back, the drillers, led by that genius among men, Bob Stanhope--this time to strike oil! Good drilling, then, to Perky, Don W., Slim, Cowboy, Rocky, Lloyd, Jim, Bell, Burtness, Roy, Don B. Brown, the Stewart Brothers, Neville, Ken, Kadlec, Sandeman and all the others.

LOGGING NEWS

The Justkatla Camp is gradually building its staff of loggers up to a figure of 200.

Little is going on at Morgan's, although they report the ice is now clear at the head of Gumshewa Inlet.

Aero Camp has not yet swung into operation.

Some of the old Beatty Anchorage gang, Berger Hanson and others, have the contract for beach combing logs in Gumshewa.

Sandspit started operations Monday, and are now dumping logs. Their crew this year will be about the same size as last year's.

Here on the home front, Viv Williams' Miller Creek Camp will soon be in operation. At present the crew there are on repair work and falling a few float logs for the Canadian Fishing Company. Viv reports his quota of logs is slightly lower because of the poor grade of timber in his area.

Here is in part a section of a letter on file here which we received from some gentleman in Nigeria. You will gather that he wishes to establish some sort of trade with us Islanders. Think it over, and contact us if you wish to trade.

"Sir:

"We shall be tremendously pleased if we can see our names and addresses in your journal, read by both sexes in your country, and after we receive letters from them, we shall prove to them we are purely Africans.

"We would like to exchange African goods, such as Cocomats, African bags, Crocodile skins, Ebony carved works, etc., for Canadian goods such as silver dollars, souvenirs, and all things manufactured in your country.

"Thanks in advance, I remain,

S. Ola Alafia,
18 Andrew Street,
Lagos, Nigeria,
B.W.A.

Billy Taiwo,
Secretary Ricca Area Club
23 Ricca Street,
Lagos, Nigeria.

LOCAL CHATTER

Alan Hale and Ted Moore were recently in Charlotte on business.

Mr. Hedquist has returned from a trip to Vancouver where he underwent certain medical treatment.

Recently a young intern, Dr. Singer, visited the community. He comes from Kerrisdale, Vancouver, was educated at John Oliver High, University of B. C. and McGill University. We are hoping he will

return in July and remain as our doctor.

Percy Fairbairn reports that Mr. Joliffe is successfully recovering from a third painful operation, and may be out of hospital in another two weeks.

Andy Skipper is now in Vancouver attending a Department of Fisheries course. Incidentally, he is also waiting for his bride-to-be, Lydia Bauch.

The Lovelorn hotel staff is sad indeed. Little Butch longs for her lover boy. Long live the oilmen.

Demy Stevens, Cliff Jones and Stan Atkins are now working at Sandspit.

It is reported that Mrs. Hill is now convalescing in California with relatives.

Duffy's boat, which sank twice in one month, is now in operation again. We are pleased to be able to report this news.

Village seal hunters recently bagged 21 seals somewhere on the east coast of Moresby.

It appears we have clam diggers who will shortly be selling their wares from door to door.

Georgia Neubauer tells us she will shortly be leaving for Aero Timber Camp.

Our good friend Charlie Miller will be holding a birthday party in Maggie's Cafe Monday evening, the 27th of February. There will be lots of turkey in any way, shape or form, states Charles.

We haven't seen much of Little Joe Fenton, Deadtree wireless operator, these days. Could that dance he failed to make have been too much for him?

Gus Johnson is proud of his tom cat. It appears the darn thing is having kittens.

Art's pet deer has taken to roaming. Recently it was seen on the hotel veranda, and in front of Davies' store.

Elsie Campbell's twin sister, Lou, is now in town visiting her mother, Mrs. Bruce.

Denny Smith, in his boat "Porcher G", has taken a mining prospector to somewhere in the vicinity of Tian Head on the West Coast.

The bean supper, put on by the "Trail Rangers" was a success. The \$30 proceeds will be used for equipping a woodworking shop for the boys.

Recently on looking into a dictionary, we came across a strange word, "Toothache tree". Seems to us that would be a dentist's paradise, huh?

On Friday the 17th, a great farewell party for the "Roughnecks" took place at the Haida Hotel. Mr. Art Barber was master of ceremonies, Mrs. Eli Bernard and Eleanor Bernard prepared the midnight lunch. Music, singing and dancing companionably mingled the guests. Although all were happy, some at time were momentarily sad, for they knew tomorrow was the parting of the ways.

Mrs. DeBucy reports that her flowering romance is off, if the night life continues to be as strenuous as it has been in the past.

Still the snow is with us, although little by little it's vanishing. Some of us are indeed blessed for our frozen water lines

have thawed. This year more than ever we will look forward to spring, the time of year when hearts beat stronger and faith in the future burns brightly:

It is reported that Frank Jones will power his Anthony J. with a Caterpillar engine.

SHOPPING NEWS

Specials Featured by W.J. Davies

For the week February 27th to March 4th:

Borden's Evaporated Milk - Talls, 15¢ per tin
Catelli Spaghetti, 16 oz. - 2 for 33¢
Arrow Soda Biscuits, family size - 29¢
Small Rinso - 16¢
All B & H House paint, 10% off from February 27th
to March 4th.

MORE CHATTER

On February 21st, the Bridge Club played at Mr. Bert Roberts' home. Constable Jack Fletcher was high for the men, and Mrs. Second high for the ladies.

On February 14th, the Valentine Dance, under the able direction of Pop Peters, was a success, both financially and pleurably. The music was good, and the floor crowded. Noted at the dance were Greta Slagboom of the "Dunes", Dr. and Mrs. Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman of Port Clements and Mr. and Mrs. Francis Richardson from Tlell.

Recently, Skidegate Mission lost a beloved member, Mr. Frank Tupip. Sixteen Masset friends as well as many Charlotte people were at the funeral to pay homage. A funeral feast lasting 5 hours was held in the evening of January 21st. Speeches were given, and in addition, dinners were held at Mr. Moody's and Mr. George Young's homes. Surviving the deceased are his wife, his sons Joe and Francis and Edmund, and daughters May, Violet and Muriel.

The Credit Union had a very successful meeting on February 13th. After 10 years of continuous guiding and willing service, Mr. Bert Roberts retired as president. Under his hand, the Union has prospered and has now over 100 members. Many loans have been made, making the organization of untold service to the Community. The newly elected president, Mr. Viv Williams, we understand, is a go-getter, so it looks like the Credit Union will continue to grow.

For some time hampered by snow and icy weather, Mr. Fred LaSette is now making progress on his new building situated west of Mr. B eaven.

Mr. Vernon Jones is contemplating putting up a herring pound at second beach. If so, this will be a good service to halibut fishermen.

It is rumoured that the Pacific Biological Station will erect a salmon counting fence likely on the West Coast, sometime this summer.

We wonder who the girl was who took a lesson from literature and stoutly cried, "Unhand me!"

We heard that a sad-eyed boy recently fell in the snow, and on arising, left a telltale remembrance, a big woolly toque.

Mrs. Helliwell and Mrs. Sybil DeBucy were mystified. They cleaned their cooler out, scoured the shelves, worked as only they could work, and still a rather unpleasant odour emanated. Finally in disgust they went, leaving the door ajar. Shortly after Mrs. Helliwell heard a noise. Rushing to the door, she saw a piece of Gorgonzola cheese leaving.

Billy Burke, the old Irishman, is recovering from some painful burns he received when he upset a kettle of boiling water on himself. He contentedly lives now, after leaving Pacific, in his Miller Creek home.