



SARITA FALLS, BARCLAY SOUND DISTRICT

tain Meares in 1788. It was then a much-frequented port of call for captains of vessels when engaging sealers from among the Indians. The Indians of the present day still pursue their ancestors' avocation. Here it may be mentioned that in nearly all the other reservations scattered along the coasts of Barclay Sound and on the lakes and rivers of the interior the Indians still find their chief employment in seal hunting and salmon and halibut fishing.

To the east of Effingham Inlet lies Anderson Lake, which at Uchucklesit Harbor mingles its waters with those of Alberni Canal. The Alberni district extends to within ten miles of the east coast. It has been graphically described in recent issues of this magazine, and it is not necessary here to more than briefly refer to that part proximate to Barclay Sound.

Rising in places to a height of 3,000 feet, the shores of Alberni Canal are canopied with Douglas fir, hemlock and cedar. Around Anderson Lake and that part of Alberni Canal district immediate to Barclay Sound there are immense forests of timber—spruce, cedar and hemlock. Much, if not the greater part, of this timber has

already been staked, and several lumber mills are already in operation.

As the land becomes cleared of timber and underbrush the rich quality of the soil known to prevail throughout Alberni and the other districts back of Barclay Sound will be found to amply repay cultivation for mixed farming and fruit. Great success has already attended the efforts of many new settlers during recent years in fruit-growing. The apples, pears, plums and cherries of the west of Vancouver Island are the finest grown in any part of the province.

Port Alberni is making a bid for some of the transportation business of the west coast and the Pacific. It is claimed that as vessels are often delayed by tide and fog between Cape Beale and Vancouver, eight or ten hours can be saved by adopting the Alberni route. Alberni is of great depth, has no tide races, and, being also comparatively free from fog visitations, there are credible reasons for the hopes entertained in this respect. At any rate, it seems certain that with the development of the lumber, mining, farming and fishing industries of Barclay district and the west coast of