

tion in this district. The B. C. Packers, the largest salmon packers in British Columbia, also intend fishing halibut in the near future and will build a big cold storage plant. In all, there will be eight or ten cold storage plants by the time the trans-continental is in operation.

Halibut are caught with lines having from 100 to 200 hooks. The lines are thrown out from dories and lie on the bottom. The fishermen get two and a half cents per pound for dressed fish and each boat will catch from 500 to 1,500 pounds a day.

THE SALMON INDUSTRY.

Salmon fishing and packing is the biggest industry in Prince Rupert today, but it is only one part of the great adjacent fisheries. There are now in operation 12 canneries on the Skeena River, four on the Naas River and eight among the islands. The river canneries are all located on tide waters. The Skeena is fifteen miles south of Prince Rupert and the Naas thirty miles north. The pack for 1912 on the Skeena was approximately 235,000 cases (48 lbs. to the case). The Naas River canneries put up 65,000 cases. Besides the canned fish about 2,000 barrels of spring salmon were mild-cured and several hundred thousand pounds were put in cold storage for the fresh fish market. About 3,000 persons are employed in the industry on the Skeena River, and 1,000 on the Naas. The canneries operate from four to eight months. The wages paid on the Skeena this year amounted to about half a million dollars and on the Naas \$130,000. Big profits are made by all the canneries. 1912 was an average season.

The first of a fleet of fifteen steamers for the Canadian Fish & Cold Storage Company, to be used in the fishing trade, will reach Prince Rupert before the close of the year.