

THE KITAMAATS GO SOUTH.

The Str. Edith left Kitamaat the 19th. June, with a heavy tow of 39 large boats, containing nearly the entire Kitamaat tribe, her destination being River's Inlet Head, where the people of the past four years have obtained employment during the canning season. On the 20th. at early morning a heavy squall was encountered, the canoes were forced to leave the tow and seek shelter around Separation Point. The fury of the storm threw the water upwards in sheets, and in taking shore much food was lost and several canoes were badly damaged. They camped until the following morning, when the Edith towed them into Bella Bella. The weather cleared and the 2nd. we reached Bella Bella, where the Bella Bella and Kitamaat bands rendered very excellent music. The following day we made the Head of the Inlet in safety.

RIVERS' INLET NOTES.

During our stay at River's Inlet the weather was unfavorable for the fishing season, being cold, wet and dull. The 1st. of July was celebrated by a feast on a very extensive scale, given at the Bella Bellas to the Kitamaats, in the house of Chief Poutlass, about 500 Indians of the several tribes being present. The bands of the Kitamaat and Bella Bella tribes contributed selections of music throughout the feast. Dr. Spencer opened the Hospital at Amnuk this season with three patients and remained until Dr. Large arrived to take charge. The Doctor and his assistants had a very busy season. A large number of patients were treated in the various canneries in the Inlet, not only Indians but also Chinese, Japs, and Whites. Dr. Large made many improvements in the building and hopes to have it completed next season.

Services were held at various canneries whenever opportunity afforded.

Capt. Walbran of the steamer D. G. S. Quadra made an official visit to the Inlet on July 6th.

The Victoria cannery wharf has been extended and is now supposed to have a frontage of about 700 feet.

Mr. Wadham in a most praiseworthy manner has constructed and furnished at his own expense a beautiful church, seating capacity 300.

The season, so far as the Kitamaats were concerned, was a comparative failure; several of them hardly catching sufficient salmon to pay for their supplies at the cannery stores.

It is remarked that Mr. Wadham's cannery is a model. The equipment is of most approved character; the conveniences afforded for the children of the employees are deservedly creditable.

The employees of the River's Inlet Canneries were composed of members of Port Rupert, Alert Bay, Oweekino, Mamamillaquilla, Bella Bella, Kimsquit, Bella Coota, Tsimpshuan, Musset, and Kitamaat Indian tribes, together with a few white men and hundreds of Japanese and Chinese.

The enjoyment of our work at Rivers Inlet was much detracted from, owing to the illness of Mrs. Raley who had to spend several weeks at the hospital. By the end of the season we are thankful to say we were able to bring her to Kitamaat by steamer "Queen City" where she continued to improve rapidly.

The remnants of past tribal greatness are still to be seen at Rivers Inlet:—In the house of Chief Poutlass is an elaborately carved throne of an Indian Chief, and in the house of Chief Jouskin is an immense wooden food dish in the shape of a trough 18ft. long and about 2ft. wide, this dish is used only on special occasions such as tribal feasts.