

SOME TIMBER WEALTH OF BARCLAY SOUND DISTRICT

The latter, famous as the instigator or cause of the historic Nootka affair two years later, made a partial survey of the sound, naming Port Effingham and the eastern headland Cape Beale.

Such are the essential, if meagre, historical details of the white man's first acquaintance with Barclay Sound, the district of which is likely to see great developments in the near future.

Clustered in the centre of the Sound and lapped by the vivifying waters of the Pacific are numerous islands, the chief of which are Village Island, Turret Island, Nettle Island and Turtle Island. In the latter island the notorious M. de Rougemont, of turtle-riding fame, would no doubt have found a happy hunting-ground. From Cape Beale along Hecate Passage are a number of islands and islets. Of these the largest are Deer Island and Copper Island, and in the latter copper in paying quantities has been found. In fact, copper outcroppings in the form of vellow pyrites have been discovered in several of the other islands and in the interior of Barclay Sound district. A number of highly promising claims have been made in this district, and development only awaits capital and the completion of the proposed Barclay Sound railway from Bamfield to Victoria.

Barclay Sound district proper lies to the west of the inlet, the extreme point of which is Cape Beale. There is a cable station at Bamfield, which is slated for the terminus of the Canadian Northern Railway's extension along the west coast. The district is as yet sparsely populated. As, however, its rich potentialities in timber, minerals and agriculture become better known and improved transportation facilities are introduced, a large influx of settlers cannot long be delayed.

In this district is Lake Nitinat, a beautiful sheet of water abounding in the finest and gamest trout to be found anywhere on the island. Another smaller but picturesque lake is Sarita, situated about four or five miles to the east of Numakamis Bay, near the mouth of the Alberni Canal. From the lake flows Sarita River into this eastern recess of Barclay Sound. This lovely stream is embanked with shelling rocks, environed in many parts with focusts of fir, cedar and hemlock. The whole of this district, indeed, possesses untold wealth in timber of the finest grain to be found in an island notable for its magnificent times.