

BIG FLEET STARTS FOR NORTH SOON

Old American Windjammers Begin Loading for Bristol Bay.

SHIP BERLIN WILL LEAVE FROM HERE

Fishermen and Cannery Workers Will Go North on Sailing Vessel—Livestock to Form Part of Cargo on Deck—Return in Fall.

In a few weeks a big fleet of wooden windjammers, remnants of what was once the pride of the American merchant marine, will bowl along before the breezes of the north Pacific, bound for Bristol bay, with men and equipment for the season's salmon catch.

Three will start from the Columbia river, a much larger number will spread canvas out of the Golden Gate, while a couple are to sail out of Puget sound. They are expected to reach their destination pretty well together, allowance being made for contrary winds and bad weather. Ordinarily the run from Columbia bay to Bristol bay is about five weeks. A small flotilla of tugs will steer north shortly after the disappearance of the windjammers. They will act as tenders for the big craft as well as the fishboats.

Toward fall the lucky of the fleet will return with the season's output, while the ill-fated ones, if any, will be at the bottom of the sea or bleaching their bones on the bleak cliffs of the Alaskan coast.

Getting Ready to Sail. The vessels booked to go north from Columbia river are the Berlin, Henry Villard and St. Nicholas. The Berlin will equip here, while the Henry Villard and St. Nicholas will equip at the city by the sea. The Berlin began receiving cargo yesterday afternoon when she took 150 tons of coal at the bunkers. Today she will shift to Alaska dock, where the rest of the cargo and the cannery crew will go on board.

The Berlin will go north in command of Captain Frye, who took her to Bristol bay last season. She will be escorted by the tug North King, which will leave Astoria in command of Captain Nelson after the Berlin has stowed well out to sea. The tug will tow the Berlin into anchorage at her destination, haul fishboats to and from the canneries and act as a general tender to the Portland coast.

As customary, the Berlin will take along a milk cow, several head of sheep and a few chickens. She will also carry milk and cream for the whites and the latter to furnish fresh meat for the Chinese, who insist upon a supply of almost fresh meat.

WRECK BREAKS UP. No Hope of Saving Hull of Schooner Mildred. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Aberdeen, Wash., March 25.—Captain Johannsen and the crew of the wrecked schooner Mildred have been in town from Westport to receive their wages and be discharged. The mate stayed with the vessel, which the captain and men were here. The captain has returned to Westport, where he will superintend the sale of the wreck. It was a little storm, but not enough to make things unpleasant.

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Expect Big Cleanup. In the davits and upon the poop deck will be hung a dozen or more Columbia river fishboats, serving the purpose of lifeboats on the way north to Alaska. The fishboats are fishermen upon reaching the fishing grounds. They signed on last week and assisted in bringing the vessel from her winter quarters at Goble. The tarp expect to make a nice cleanup during the season and at the same time have an invigorating outing.

Berths for the Chinese cannery men are located under the forecastle head, where the fishermen will have quarters in the half deck amidships. The whites will outnumber the orientals, but the strictest of discipline will be maintained to prevent enactment of blood-shedding tragedies that might occur as a sequence to the natural race hatred that will exist among the motley crew. The Chinese will have their own cooks, as will the whites, while the ship will have a separate galley for the officers and sailors.

Captain Frye stated this morning that the Berlin will probably be ready for departure about the 10th of April. The Henry Villard will leave down for Astoria today or tomorrow to equip similarly for the Alaska Fishermen's Packing company of Astoria. She goes north in command of Captain Davidson. The St. Nicholas is at Astoria and will also go north under charter to the Alaska Fishermen's Packing company.

PLEASANT AFFAIR.

Miss Catherine Covach Prepares Fine Program for Sailors.

The concert given Monday night at the institute of the Seaside Friends' society, Third and Flanders street, was a great success. An exceptionally good program was rendered under the management of Miss Catherine Covach. About 800 people were present, among them many sailors.

The Nevin and Meistersinger quartets were much appreciated by the sailors and to show that those who sail the seas also know something about the vocal art several favors were given in songs of the sea. Steward Hale of the ship Calluna sang several comic songs. The concert hall was decorated with flags from the British ship Arctic Stream.

The stage was decorated by a number of oil paintings, loaned for the occasion by W. Pearce, chief officer of the British ship Calluna.

IN FROM YAQUINA. Gasoline Schooner Condor Rides Out Fearful Gale.

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