

Newspapers and Magazines 1900s

MR PM Gazette 1 November
1940

WOMAN PROSPECTOR SEEKS LOST MINE IN PITT LAKE
AREA | FAMED LEGEND AND STORY STILL SOURCE OF IN-
TEREST AMONG SOURDOUGHS

One of the few women prospectors in Canada, Mrs. Al Jenkins, of Pitt Lake, still hale and hearty in her sixties, visited New Westminster in her gas boat "Harp of Ireland," for supplies, recently, and revealed that she is now hunting for the fabled "lost mine" of the Pitt Lake area.

Fourteen years of gold-panning and prospecting in the interior of B.C. has hardened Mrs. Jenkins into a seasoned veteran. With a rifle, a 50-pound pack and her dog she will trek along anywhere in the mountains.

"I've been looking around Pitt Lake for the past two years but there is very little free "colour" in the district. There are some lodes, but they are mighty hard to reach. I've heard about the lost mine and when I get time for a trek I'll have a hunt for it."

Mrs. Jenkins originally hailed from Scandinavia, but she has travelled all over the world for the past 40 years. She and her husband recently acquired an old fishing boat and converted it into a comfortable floating home at the head of Pitt Lake, near the busy logging settlement of Alvin.

Mr. Jenkins is a boom watchman part of the time, while Mrs. Jenkins likes nothing better than hunting big game.

She has prospected in the Cariboo, the North Thompson, and around the Shuswap. Almost any time she can make good pay panning placer gold around Hope and Yale with a long tom [sluice box for placer mining]. She has averaged \$8 a day at good spots on the Fraser River bars.

"Some people think the gold rush cleaned out the Fraser River diggings but they forget that new gold sand is washed down every year."

Mrs. Jenkins is as much at home on the water as in the hills. She handles the gasboat alone and even makes engine repairs when needful.

**Woman prospector seeks
lost mine in Pitt Lake
area**