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W. J. ELLIOTT

W. J. Elliott's experience in machine shop work began early in life. When I was 11 years old I earned 50c a week helping in a machine shop during vacations," he said. "But maybe I didn't deserve more than that, because when the afternoons got hot, it wasn't hard to slip down to the beach and go in swimming with the other fellows," he added with a smile.

Elliott was born in New Brunswick, in eastern Canada and came to Washington as a child in 1884. He has lived in the state since then, mostly in the western part.

From 1901 until 1907 he was employed in a machine shop and after that spent nine years in the boat business. During this time he owned several boats and spent two seasons in Alaskan waters. He was foreman of a fish packing plant in Anacortes in 1919 and 1920 and moved to Oak Harbor with his family in February of 1921.

Here he established the first machine shop on Whidby Island, known as the Elliott Machine Works. Elliott is a mechanic as well as a machinist and has outfitted several small boats since he came to Oak Harbor.

"I get a great deal of enjoyment out of building and running small boats and guess that's my hobby," he concluded.

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