

18/29348.

May 12, 1933.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Departmental letter No.74-150-2, dated May 5th, instant, covering copy of a letter dated April 25th, ultimo, received at the Department from the Deputy Minister of Fisheries.

In reply I beg to say I am pleased to note that Mr. Found appears generally satisfied with the representations made in my lengthy report dated March 2nd, last. It would, of course, be a wonderful thing if Mr. Found were agreeable to the report in its entirety, the fishery interests of the Indians being somewhat apart from, although involved in, those of the fishery industry.

The conclusions reached by Mr. Found appear to be in harmony with my report, except that he thinks the local officers of this Department in British Columbia may not have realized the extent of what was contemplated by the Fisheries Department. I may say, however, that the officers referred to are fairly well aware of the situation, and my report of March 2nd embraces the views of years of Departmental experience. The general acceptance of the report by Mr. Found is sufficient recognition of our interest in the fisheries.

Mr. Found's suggestion that for the time being, at least, furtherance of the plan (for supplying of dried fish as a substitute for sockeye), might be restricted to supplying Indians at headwaters of the Fraser River where the situation, from the standpoint of scarcity of sockeye salmon reaching the spawning grounds, is most acute, meets with approval and was advocated in my report wherein it was pointed out at the top of page 6 that the sockeye fishing in the Williams Lake Agency should be regarded seriously.

It is recognized that the conservation of sockeye is regarded as one of the principal interests of the Fisheries Department in British Columbia, and I think all our officers are quite sympathetic towards conservation where such is not attended by overzealousness to deprive the Indians of their reasonable moral and legal rights;

Mr. Found's remark in the third paragraph of page 2 of the letter, wherein he thinks Inspector Pragnell and I have the impression that whites as well as Indians have the privilege of taking salmon for food, etc., Our view is that whites as well as Indians take the privilege of having salmon whether legally or not, and we felt that any restrictions imposed on Indians should also be made applicable to all.

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**REPEAT
REPETITION**