

that I need not emphasize that point. There are five varieties of salmon that frequent the Pacific coast, all of which enter into the fisheries, the sockeye being the most important one—in which traps were out on the United States side we were getting from 28 to 30 per cent of the catch of sockeyes that was made. So that from 68 to 70 per cent of the run was taken on the United States side.

*By Mr. Hanson:*

Q. Since the American traps have been taken away, what is the percentage?

—A. I shall come to that in a minute. I can answer that now. The first year traps were out 53·6 per cent were taken on our side, which indicates an immediate change.

Q. After they took their traps up?—A. After they took their traps up.

Q. And we put ours in?—A. No.

Hon. Mr. MICHAUD: We have had traps there since 1904.

Mr. NEILL: We kept ours in.

The WITNESS: We kept ours in the water. With our traps there and our Canadian fishermen, our catch went up from 28 to 30 per cent to 53·46 per cent.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. I think it should be said so as to keep the record straight that there were years before the traps were taken up by the Americans when our take of sockeye was great.—A. Yes.

Q. I think it should be said in fairness to the committee, in order that there will not be a false impression created that though the Americans were getting every year 60 to 70 per cent of the sockeye, there were years when on the Canadian side we were getting a greater number of sockeye than the Americans, even before the traps were taken up on the American side.—A. I will give you this so the situation will be appreciated. In 1915 the United States got over 41·4 per cent; in 1916 they got 34·2 per cent. In all the years from 1916 to 1935 it ran from 54 per cent to 73 per cent. So that broadly speaking—

*By Mr. Ryan:*

Q. You are speaking of the trap fishing now?—A. No; I am speaking of the catch of sockeye on the two sides. Prior to the traps going out on the American side, as a general rule we were getting a great deal smaller proportion of the run. When the traps went out the picture changed. There is no question about that. The picture changed in these two years from 28 to 30 per cent to 53·6 per cent in 1935. In 1936 we got slightly over 80 per cent.

*By Hon. Mr. Tolmie:*

Q. Was not the large 1936 run due to the fact that the salmon changed its course to get to the reaches of the Fraser river?—A. I was coming to that. It is so hard to take one year in the history of anything like a fishery.

Hon. Mr. MICHAUD: Mr. Deputy, while we are here, and in order to get that point, I should like to ask if you have any idea of the number of traps that were operated in these American waters as compared with the number of traps operated on the Canadian side?

The WITNESS: Yes; the number of traps, I think, runs up to several hundred, 270 odd strikes my mind.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. 219, is it not?—A. Well, in any event—

Q. I quoted the figures in the house the other day.—A. In any event, the number was very large.