

days when the traps were used for fishing. Now almost all the salmon used by the Indians were taken with a gaff, the Indian fisherman standing in an anchored canoe where he could see the salmon passing underneath; he would put the gaff under the fish and give a quick jerk. The fish used by the Indians for their winter food were nearly altogether dog salmon taken after the fat had gone off them as they were then better for drying. The Indians had formerly trapped their fish. Trapping was the easiest method of taking the salmon. The dog salmon until about three years ago were not regarded as a commercial fish, but since then a large number were salted, packed in large cases and shipped to the Japanese market. In his opinion the fish supply would not be diminished if traps were used by the Indians provided that these traps were employed exclusively in taking the dog salmon; but with regard to fishing with traps, if this were allowed there should be a regulation providing that such traps should be used only for say five days in each week and taken out of the streams after the Indians had got a sufficient supply of fish. Without such a condition, the Indians, if left to themselves, would leave their traps in the water and make it impossible for the fish to ascend to the spawning grounds. And if no opportunity existed for the fish reaching the spawning ground the fish supply would very soon be depleted. During the past centuries during which traps were used by the Indians there had always apparently been an abundant fish supply. The Indians would use no more fish if trapped than if taken under present conditions and trapping would be much easier for the Indians, the sole objection to the traps being in the careless habit of the Indians leaving the traps in the streams after using them. The fur industry in the Kwakwaka'wakw Agency had decreased about 60 % during the past eight years, this decrease being in the quantity of the fur pack; better prices were obtained now for furs than were ruling eight years ago.

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