

The average temperature of Hudson's Bay water for five months from May to October compared with Behring Sea shows only a difference of a little more than one degree mean and 16 degrees highest in favor of Hudson's Bay, so that the temperature of the sea is in every way favorable for the fur-seals to bring up their young. When the cold weather sets in they have free access to the coasts of Florida and Bahama Islands, there the temperature of the sea is much the same as on the Californian coast where the Behring sea fur-seal has been seen in winter but only in small numbers.

The Hon'ble David Mills at the last session at Ottawa brought the same proposal before the Federal House, entirely unknown to me.

In answer, Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper said "There was no analogy between the fur-seal and the hair-seal, and their habits were widely different. The fur-seal consumed an enormous quantity of fish, and even if the Government succeeded in establishing rookeries on the Atlantic Coast they might be very destructive to the fisheries."

Now, I consider Sir Charles' answer very erroneous for it is well known how very numerous both fur and hair seals are on the Pacific Coast and the fisheries there have not been injured.

To prove my statement Dr William H. Dall, in his most valuable and interesting book "Alaska and its Resources" states Page 180. In July the Salmon begin to ascend the Yukon River. After August they are bruised and in bad condition, being cast in layers a foot deep on the banks of the small rivers. I have seen hundreds or thousands of dead Salmon cast up in this way.

Page 251. The vicinity of Nasse River by striking a lath, armed with three pointed nails, upon the surface of the water as if raking, an Indian will fill his canoe with herring in 20 minutes.

Page 253. At the Rapids of Deep Lake with Lake Bay, are the salmon fisheries. These fish are given to all who needed food, and the surplus over this consumption amounted to six hundred barrels.

Page 259. Coal Harbor on the North abounds with Cod.

Page 481. The abundance of fish on the shores of Alaska has been a matter of wonder since the voyages of the earliest navigators. Billings, Cook, Belcher and Sir George Simpson have all born credible witness to the myriads of cod, salmon, habibut and herring which are found on the North West Coast.

The tomicods are plentiful and are caught with are ivory hook without bait or barb. Boat loads are obtained, as they bite at the white ivory hook as fast as they can be pulled up.

Page 485. The Ulikon (a small silvery fish about 14 inches long resembling smelt) are caught in a sort of basket make of wicker work.

The Rivers are in the season literally alive with them, and appears as if boiling. Wild animals draw them from the stream with their paws sufficient for all their needs. Dried they serve as torches.