

Q. You are referring to the total pack?—A. That was 123,614 on the Canadian side and 411,538 on the United States side.

Q. Now, I think I have made reasonably clear the conditions which caused it to cease to exist. Let me now come to the point that is of important interest, as I understand it, to the Committee.

*By Mr. McRae:*

Q. Before you go into that, would it not be all right to enlarge again on the method of fishing on both sides of the line? I think that would be interesting to the Committee.—A. On the United States side, in the State of Washington, owing to the fact that conditions there are not suitable for extensive drift gill net fishing, fishing developed there by the building of large trap nets.

Q. Is it true that gill nets would not catch fish down there, or that they did not consider it a good commercial way of doing it?—A. It is not a good commercial way of doing it, and the conditions there are not as favourable as those which we have.

*By Mr. Brady:*

Q. It is owing to the number of islands?—A. Owing to various things. One is that successful drift net fishing needs turbulent waters, and the waters of the Fraser River and its tributaries are very muddy and dirty, so that the gill nets are not readily visible to the fish, and fishing is much more successful with gill nets in an area of that kind.

*By Mr. McRae:*

Q. There are some gill nets used?—A. Yes, but in a comparatively small way.

Q. Three hundred and some?—A. I have not the number with me, but I can get it. It is comparatively small, and in certain areas around the mouth of Skagit River. The fishing there developed in the first instance with traps. That is, first a long leader is built out from the shore and attached to piles. The fish coming up would come against that leader and be led out by it into a trap at the end where they would be caught.

Q. That trap is about 2,900 feet long—a little over half a mile?—A. It depends entirely where it is built. If it is built where that water is so deep that it can be only a short leader, it is a short leader, but if it is built where they can use a long leader, it is a long leader. The distance between the traps is regulated and the extreme length is regulated.

Q. The average is about 2,500 feet?—A. I would not like to say that without refreshing my memory; that may be true.

Q. The web that is used on those traps— —A. It is usually galvanized wire on the leads.

Q. With a small mesh?—A. Yes.

Q. About two inches?—A. Yes.

Q. Which lets no commercial fish escape?—A. It would not let any through.

Q. There are two hundred licenses out for traps in Washington?—A. I have not the number with me at the moment. That may be. These traps, of course, are very easily regulated. Do not let us get into any misconception regarding them. The trap is an instrument more easily regulated than any other machine which we have in fishing, because if you want to put it out of commission all you have to do it to open up the trap end, so the fish hit the lead, and go right through so it is not a hard instrument to regulate and control.

Q. That is true of all fishing implements?—A. No, that is not the case with the gill nets or the purse seines. Of course if it is not seen, you can get away with it.