

quantities, unskilled labor is more readily obtainable, and the Alaska Cannery, moreover, not being hampered with stringent and undesirable regulations in the pursuit of the industry, are consequently able to market their pack at a very considerable lower cost than the British Columbia article.

In the last report of the Board it was pointed out that strong efforts had been made to induce the Minister of Marine and Fisheries Department at Ottawa to visit the Province, with a view to a thorough enquiry into the general working of the Salmon industry, and the Regulations in force, which have caused so much friction between the Cannerymen, Fishermen and the Department. The Minister, while favorable to the suggestion, did not find it convenient to carry it out, but instructed Mr. Wilmot, who is connected with the Fisheries Department, to visit the Province and give his views upon the question. These latter were obtained during a visit of two days on the Fraser River, and were duly communicated to the Minister in a report since published, and which, owing to the few hours in which the observations were made, was consequently full of inaccuracies, exaggerations and statements of a generally misleading character throughout, and was therefore of little practical value. The indulgence in gratuitous and insulting reference to our Cannery proprietors is a marked and regrettable feature of Mr. Wilmot's report.

Your Committee regret to report that no proper basis for the adjustment of the question has yet been determined upon by the Department, which has, since receiving Mr. Wilmot's report, only issued vacillating Regulations which further hamper the industry. From lengthened discussions and correspondence on the part of the Board and the Cannerymen's Association, it is apparent that any further attempt on the part of the Marine and Fisheries Department to deal with the question, without a proper realization of the Provincial requirements, will in the future, as in the past, result in failure. Your Committee is, therefore, fully in accord with the recommendations of the Cannerymen's Association, that the appointment of a Board of Commissioners within this Province, following the lines laid down by a joint committee from the Oregon and Washington, U. S.,