

alone the spawning ground above Hell's Gate was peopled with salmon in a large way. They were in those big years in the past as thick in those upper waters as in the others. In the off years there was not very much difference from one year to the other as to the number of fish going to the spawning grounds below Hell's Gate. About 1876 salmon fishing began commercially on the Fraser. There was none being done at that time on the United States side, and none for some years afterwards. Fishing was not carried on very largely on the Fraser then. Somewhere around 1890, I think, the fishing extended out from the mouth of the Fraser into the Gulf of Georgia here. (Indicating on map.) They came along first this portion of the river, and they got out then into the Gulf of Georgia. The next year, 1891, they began to take the fish coming in here, and about 1897 the American industry came into full swing. It should be stated, to make it quite clear, that the fish entering the Fraser—if not all, practically all—come in through Juan de Fuca Strait here, evidently coming in pretty well all over the strait, and when they pass the southern end of Vancouver Island they make their way across and come down this side. The waters of the Fraser river come down here; those of you who have been there no doubt have noticed that as soon as you get to this point you can see the muddy waters of the Fraser river. They come up here, and do not emerge from the United States waters again until just about the boundary line. The traps began to be fished in the United States about 1897 among these islands here, great numbers of them.

*By Mr. Grimmer:*

Q. What do you call traps? Are they what we call weirs?—A. Your weirs are babies. That method of fishing is by great big things that sometimes run up in cost of construction to twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars, I should say.

*By Mr. McQuarrie:*

Q. Piles are put in, are they not?—A. Piles driven down, out for a long distance.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. How long are they, do you know?—A. The leaders are restricted; 2,400 feet, I think, is the limitation amongst these islands.

*By Mr. McQuarrie:*

Q. They are very extensive, these traps, are they not, very numerous, and cover a lot of land—or perhaps I should say a lot of water?—A. They began about 1897, and from then you begin to see the effects on the off years. Then came the United States seines, the big purse seines, followed by traps. They had these two apparatuses following the fish in the United States waters before the fish emerged to the Fraser waters.

*By Mr. Elliott:*

Mr. Found, these traps were set in United States waters, on American territory? A.—Yes.

*By Mr. Grimmer:*

Q. That is out of the three-mile limit?—A. Yes, well out of the Strait of Fuca and the Gulf of Georgia, one side of which is Canada and the other side United States. They were on the United States side of the line. They were set mainly in Puget Sound.

Q. Is that territorial water?—A. It is territorial water, and these traps are set close in to the shore of the islands.

Mr. McQUARRIE: On the mainland too; take at Point Roberts, there are a great many traps at Point Roberts.

The CHAIRMAN: The leader goes right to the shore.

WITNESS: The leader is fastened to the piles. That was the main fishing ground of the trap. That is where the traps were doing their greatest amount of havoc.

[Mr. W. A. Found]