

industry can at all times learn from what others have been taught and a comparison of notes whether in conversation, convention, or by reading is at all times beneficial. The Horticultural Act and the Board which was organized under its provisions have alike advantaged the trout business, and we may add that we are glad to notice that so keen a practical interest has been developed by His Excellency the Governor-General.

### FISHERIES MANAGEMENT.

In the Provincial Legislature there has during the week been an interesting and important discussion on the subject of the fishing industries of this Province, in the course of which the Department at Ottawa and Mr. Wilmot in particular came in for severe censure, Hon. Mr. Turner not hesitating to say that the Dominion Government had manifested great incompetency in dealing with the subject. Mr. Rithet's motion was:

"That this Government be requested to take immediate steps to arrange with the Dominion Government for the joint management of the fisheries of this Province upon the same terms as the Province of Ontario until the final settlement of the question as to the control of the fisheries now pending between that Province and the Dominion Government."

The motion was finally left over for further consideration with the view of incorporating suggestions made by several members on the subject. In regard to the debate, as far as it went, Mr. Rithet said that the Fraser River Commission, of which Mr. Wilmot had been a member, had been a very unsatisfactory one, and he had been surprised at the partiality shown by Mr. Wilmot. Mr. Rithet further declared that as long as Mr. Wilmot was in the Department there was no chance of there being proper regulations, and that at the inquiry only when the evidence adduced suited him would he allow it to be given. Capt. Irving charged that Mr. Wilmot's regulations had regulated three canneries out of existence, and said that if the people of Victoria wanted salmon at this time of the year they had to go eighteen miles across the straits, buy it in United States territory and pay duty on it.

Hon. Mr. Higgin's remarks on Mr. Wilmot are well worthy of being once more put on record, though to our mind they do not go sufficiently far: "He knew that Mr. Wilmot took the position that the habits of the salmon are here the same as in the East, but while Mr. Wilmot knows a lot about fish generally he did not know as much as might be known about the fish of this Province. When here a few years ago he took the whole facts in at a leap. He hesitated to reflect upon a brother commissioner

who had shown himself to be a gentleman in every sense, but he must say that there could not be a gentleman more prejudiced or more set in his way."

The Premier was of the opinion that the complaints which had been made against the management of the Dominion Government deserved attention, adding that the fisheries should be still further protected, being policed by both the Dominion and the Province to protect them against marauders.

We are glad to think that the whole question of the salmon industry appears likely to be looked into and we heartily approve of Mr. Rithet's idea that some entirely disinterested person ought to be appointed to visit the river each year, to follow the salmon up to their spawning beds, to study their habits and learn what becomes of them, and throw some light upon the new disputed point whether after reaching the spawning grounds they die there or return to the salt water. The tone of the discussion shows that our people wish to have no more to do with Mr. Wilmot, and we therefore hope that the next man to be sent here by the Fishery Department will be one who not only knows something about fish but is willing to concede that there are others not unlikely to be quite as well posted.

### EDITORIAL COMMENT.

Six of the Indians who took possession of the sealer Rand, have been convicted of the offence with which they were charged; but in view of the gravity of their offence they got off very lightly.

In spite of the removal of the duty the exports of lumber to the States from the Ottawa region up to 30th September were \$14,000 less than at same date last year. From New Brunswick the exports have increased, and vessels for lumber freights are more in demand.

PORT ARTHUR, the great Chinese stronghold, has fallen into the hands of the Japanese and now we may expect soon to see the end of the controversy either in an arrangement between the nations primarily concerned or the interference of the powers to prevent extreme demands on the part of the victorious Japanese, who cannot possibly be allowed to proceed beyond a certain limit.

THE Federation Salmon Cannery have, we notice, just purchased the well known Steveston salmon cannery, on Lulu Island, with a capacity of 25,000 cases. This, in addition to their Mill Bay cannery on the Naas River, ought to enable them to make a big output next season. It is understood that

instead of going in for the ordinary salmon canning the Federation company will devote most of their attention to getting out canned salmon in the shape of cutlets.

THE better feeling already noted continues, we are happy to say, to characterize the business situation generally. The improvement, it is true, has not been by leaps and bounds; but has been gradual, and has been of a general character. Almost everyone feels that his position is actually better, and in consequence has taken heart, which means a great deal more than the mere fact that there is an improvement which can be appreciated.

THE other day we referred to the liberal manner in which the Canadian loan that had been put upon the British market by the Dominion Minister of Finance had been subscribed. And now we have the new United States fifty million loan at three per cent. taken up a number of times over. This shows how vast an amount of money awaits investment at a very low rate of interest, provided the security be good.

IN healthy and elevated contrast to the narrow, grovelling ideas—if such they may be called—of some of the Pharisees who strive to lay upon the people burdens and observances which in their narrow views of the Supreme Being they strive to twist into Divine commands, we have the recent declaration of no less a personage than Dean Hole, of Rochester Cathedral: "I should like," he said, "to see a Sunday car service in your city, which would make God's gifts of sunlight and fresh air free to the poor as well as to the rich."

AN eastern contemporary says: "Sir A. P. Caron, Postmaster-General, goes to New York this week and will there meet Postmaster Patterson, of Toronto, and Messrs. McKenzie and Everett, of the Toronto street railway, with the object of making a thorough investigation of the electric postal car city service, which is now being operated in Brooklyn, N. Y." And so the minister, who is no electrician, and who has no practical knowledge of any of the details of his department, could go away to New York on an electric postal car jaunt, leaving the matter of the Victoria post officials unsettled when his mere order would have settled the whole difficulty. Presumably Sir Adolphe had no time to attend to such a trivial matter. We can imagine the Honorable Knight figuring officially in New York in all the gorgeousness of furs and cosmetics, with no thought or care for the men whom he has compelled to starve almost to death.