

APPENDICES.

1. FRASER RIVER HATCHERY, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C., 1st December, 1898.

TO PROF. E. E. PRINCE,
Dominion Commissioner of Fisheries,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of operations in connection with the Fraser River fish hatchery, for the year 1898.

During the months of March and April, I turned out from the hatchery, 5,850,000 Sockeye (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) fry. Of these, 4,000,000 were liberated in Harrison River, and the remainder, 1,850,000 in Pitt Lake. The young fish were strong and lively, and were in fine condition when liberated.

During the summer, extensive repairs were made on the hatchery premises at "Bon Accord," consisting of new sills, joists and floor, and the roof newly shingled, and a new outfit of tanks and hatching troughs, involving an expenditure of over \$1,000. The new tanks are so constructed that, if necessary, they can be taken apart at any time and rebuilt without damage to the material.

On the 27th September, I sent Wm. Roxburgh, foreman, and John Newman, to Morris Creek, Harrison, with the necessary material to build traps, and make the necessary preparations for securing ova wherewith to stock the hatchery. This proved to be a longer and more difficult undertaking than I had anticipated, as, owing to "jams" of timber and brush, the creek has been diverted from its former channel and has forced an additional outlet into the lake, making it more difficult to trap the parent salmon. After the preparations were completed, and the first shipment of ova, consisting of 750,000 sent to the hatchery, a sudden rise of water in the creek washed out the traps and allowed a large number of gravid salmon to escape. It was the 7th of November when I closed operations at Morris Creek; the salmon were scarcer during the month of October than for a number of years during the same season, 5,500,000 eggs were secured and deposited in the hatchery in good condition, 500,000 less than I wished to get. Most of the salmon handled were smaller than usual and yielded a less number of eggs. The unfavourable conditions which existed at the creek, together with the necessity of replacing a number of articles which I had removed to my office from the hatchery, for safe keeping, when the building was undergoing repairs, but which were lost in the fire of the 10th of September, has caused the expense of the service to be slightly greater than on some former years, in proportion to the number of eggs obtained. The boats and plant used during the season have been cared for and put in safe keeping.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

JOHN McNAB,
*Inspector of Fisheries, and officer in charge of
Fraser River Fish Hatchery*