

natural supply can best be maintained by early compliance with suitable protective measures, we found it generally admitted that the efforts made by the Canadian Government to increase the stock of sockeye salmon on the Fraser River by fish-cultural methods has been beneficial, the annual run of the fish being made more constant and the off seasons being improved. In view of the growing demand for the shipment of quinnat salmon in a fresh condition, which may sooner or later come to exceed the supply, we venture to suggest the possibly greater advantages to be gained by the artificial hatching of that species.

13. We are convinced that the remedial measures which have heretofore been adopted, although not enforced, for disposing of the fish offal from the canneries on the Fraser River are inadequate to accomplish the results intended and are also to a large extent impracticable. The practice of throwing this waste material into the river is to be deprecated on general principles, but except in respect to a few localities, no specific evidence has been presented to indicate that it may be detrimental either to the health of the community or to the welfare of the salmon, and there is no proof that the latter have suffered from this cause. It seems to us that as much, if not greater, harm would result from dumping the offal in the open waters off the entrance to the river as from its disposition in the customary manner in the vicinity of the canneries, providing the necessary precautions are taken. So far as we have been able to ascertain, when thrown into the current of the river in a fresh condition it is practically always dissipated, and produces a nuisance only when placed in quiet, shallow water or in eddies which tend to retain it along the shores or to carry it into the adjacent sloughs. Factories established for converting it into oil and fertilizer have failed of success, nor is there any apparent prospect of its extensive utilization in the immediate future. While suggesting renewed inquiries for reaching a more satisfactory solution of this question, we are constrained to recommend that, for the present, the current practice be allowed to continue, under such restrictions as may be called for to prevent the accumulation of the offal in any situations where its effect can be shown to be prejudicial. The fishery officer of the district should be empowered to designate all places where the throwing in of this waste should not be permitted.

No complaints respecting the offal in the vicinity of the canneries in the state of Washington have been received from any source, nor do any regulations regarding the manner of its disposition in that region seem to be called for at present.

14. Waste from saw-mills and other substances deleterious to the salmon should not be allowed to pass into any streams which they frequent.

WM. WAKEHAM,

Representative on behalf of
Great Britain.

RICHARD RATHBUN,

Representative on behalf of the
United States.

City of Washington, December 31, 1896.

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