

British Columbia Salmon Pack Season 1919

Pack of 1,393,156 Cases Third Largest Pack in Province, Being Exceeded Only by Those of 1918 and 1917—Notable Increase of Sockeye Pack in Northern District.

The British Columbia Salmon Cannery Association, through its accomplished secretary, W. D. Burdis, has furnished the British Columbia Financial Times with a tabulation of the salmon pack of the Province for 1919. As usual, it gives a detailed statement of the pack by species for each district in a clear and comprehensive manner.

The pack for the year totals 1,393,156 cases. It is less by 223,001 cases than the record pack of the Province in 1918, and 164,329 cases less than the pack of 1917, which was the second largest pack ever made in British Columbia, and showing that the pack of 1919 was the third largest made in the Province.

The decrease for the year consists of 181,106 cases of pinks, 125,580 cases of chums, 15,398 cohoes and 14,447 cases of white spring salmon. The gains by species over the pack of 1918 are 92,986 cases of sockeye, 7,644 cases of red spring and 12,900 cases of bluebacks and steelhead, the latter as usual being included in with the salmon.

record pack of that species made in 1918 and 1917, it was much above the average for all other years than the two named.

The season at Rivers Inlet was far from satisfactory. The total pack for 1919 is but 80,367 cases, as against 103,155 cases in 1918, and the record pack of that section of 137,697 cases made in 1912. The pack of sockeye for 1919 totalled 56,258 cases, a slight gain over that of 1918. The record pack of sockeye on Rivers Inlet was made in 1912, with a total of 112,884 cases.

The pack on the Naas was most unsatisfactory. It reached only 97,512 cases as against 143,908 cases in 1918, 119,495 cases in 1917 and 126,686 in 1916. The pack of sockeye in 1919 shows a slight gain over the pack of 1918, and the pack of chums shows a decided decrease.

The pack on the Fraser was again very unsatisfactory. It totalled but 158,718 cases. The Fraser that formerly was the greatest salmon producing waters of the Province, and each fourth year the greatest sockeye producing river of the world, in 1919 produced 50% less than the Skeena. The season of 1919 confirms the statement of authorities that "the Fraser is fished out."

The following is a copy of the statement issued by the British Columbia Salmon Cannery Association:

BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON PACK, 1919.

| | Sock-eyes. | Red Springs. | Pink Springs. | White Springs. | Blue-backs. | Steel-heads. | Cohoos. | Pinks. | Chums. | Total. |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Fraser River | 29,628 | 14,519 | 704 | 3,502 | 15,613 | 328 | 39,253 | 39,363 | 15,718 | 158,718 |
| Skeena River | 184,945 | 19,661 | 3,624 | 3,656 | ..... | 2,672 | 36,559 | 117,303 | 31,457 | 398,877 |
| Rivers Inlet | 56,258 | 967 | 234 | 241 | ..... | 2 | 9,038 | 6,538 | 7,089 | 80,367 |
| Naas River | 28,259 | 2,408 | 585 | 581 | ..... | 789 | 10,000 | 29,949 | 24,041 | 97,512 |
| Vancouver Island | 15,678 | 28,476 | 1,076 | 6,461 | 8,645 | ..... | 44,884 | 43,186 | 128,013 | 276,519 |
| Outlying | 54,677 | 7,148 | 2,854 | 4,764 | 65 | 702 | 34,936 | 110,300 | 165,717 | 318,163 |
| | 369,445 | 73,179 | 9,077 | 18,295 | 24,323 | 4,493 | 175,670 | 346,639 | 372,035 | 1,393,156 |
| 1918 Pack (Cases) | 276,459 | 65,535 | 41,819 | ..... | 15,916 | ..... | 191,068 | 527,745 | 497,615 | 1,616,157 |

1919 Less Than 1918 (Cases) 223,001

| | 1919 | 1918 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | More | Less |
| Sockeyes | 92,986 | ..... |
| Red Springs | 7,644 | ..... |
| Blue Backs and Steelheads | 12,900 | ..... |
| Pink Springs and White Springs ..... | ..... | 14,447 |
| Cohoos ..... | ..... | 15,398 |
| Pinks ..... | ..... | 181,106 |
| Chums ..... | ..... | 125,580 |
| | 113,530 | ..... |
| Difference Less | 223,001 | ..... |
| | 336,531 | 336,531 |

TIMBER ROYALTIES TO ADVANCE ON JANUARY 1.

Government royalties on cut timber and logs in the Province of British Columbia will be increased to the extent of thirty-seven cents per thousand feet at the beginning of the new year. This increase is based on the average wholesale selling price of lumber throughout the province during the last five years, and will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Timber Royalty Act.

In 1913 the question of adjustment of royalties on cut timber and logs was the subject of careful deliberation on the part of the Forest Branch of the Lands Department, and the lumbermen, timber license holders and timber interests of the province. During the 1914 session of the Provincial Legislature the Timber Royalty Act, based on these deliberations, was passed. Before the Act came into force the royalties had been changeable from time to time. The purpose of the Act was to give some security of tenure to timber holders and lumbermen so that they would know ahead what timber licenses would be, while at the same time the government would retain the increment of value which might accrue with the change of conditions. The great difficulty, of course, was the question of what might arise in the future. It was established by the Act, to provide for this condition, that the increase in royalties in the future would be based on the average wholesale selling price of lumber throughout the province. This average price, it was provided, would be used as a barometer to indicate what the

By districts the pack of the northern sections shows a gain over 1918 in sockeye on the Skeena and Naas Rivers. The season on the Skeena was remarkably successful. It produced a pack of 184,945 sockeye, 36,559 cohoes and 117,303 pinks, and a total for the year of 398,877 cases more than the previous high record on the Skeena, made in 1918. The pack of sockeye of 184,945 cases has only once been exceeded. In 1910 there was a sockeye pack of 187,246 cases. The sockeye pack of 1919 exceeded the sockeye pack of 1918 by 61,623 cases. The pack of sockeye on the Skeena this year is fifty per cent. of the total pack of that species made in the Province in 1919, notwithstanding that the pack of the season for the Province shows a gain over 1918 of 92,968 cases. While packs of pinks on the Skeena for 1919 shows a marked decrease when compared with the