

The Department will be aware that there are in British Columbia seventeen Indian Agencies. These should be segregated into three classes.

1. The first class are those coastal Agencies where salmon are taken commercially as well as for home consumption, under the Fisheries regulations, viz:-

West Coast,
Queen Charlotte,
Cowichan,
Kwawkwalth,
New Westminster
and
Vancouver Agencies.

2. The Second class are those Agencies in which the Indians fish partly on the coast and partly in the Interior, such as:-

The Skeena River,
Babine,
Bella Coola,
and
Stikine Agencies.

3. The third class are those Agencies of Interior British Columbia where the Indians live partly by agriculture and partly on fish of various kinds including the sockeye variety. It is the Indians of this class to whom the Indians of the first two classes would be in a position to supply fish under any scheme of distribution other than that at present in vogue. The Agencies thus affected are:-

Kootenay,
Nicola,
Okanagan,
Williams Lake,
Kamloops,
Stuart Lake
and
Lytton.

In the case of class two (2) Agencies the Indians are fish producers both commercially as well as for home consumption. The difference between this class and class one (1), however, is in the fact that while a large number of Indians of these Agencies go to the coast in summer to fish sockeye salmon for the canneries, a large number of sockeye salmon is taken by these Indians who live by fishing and hunting in the Interior parts. Particularly is this so in the Babine Agency where the taking of sockeye in their ascent from the coast is quite extensive and might possibly be controlled by regulating the days when fish should be caught so as to be in concert with similar regulations applying on the coast whereby the passage of sockeye to their spawning beds might be controlled by the prevention of over extensive fishing during the salmon canning seasons.

A few.....

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