

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: That is what the report says.

Mr. FOUND: And let us not forget this one thing: that in 1926 and 1930, and possibly in 1934 again, we will have quite a big run of what, unfortunately for us, is a second quality of Fraser river sockeye—something that never entered the picture in the big days. They are known in the industry as late run fish. When they enter a river they have become so soft that they make a second quality of product.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Where do those fish go? Harrison Lake?

Mr. FOUND: A number go to Harrison Lake, a number go below the Gate, and a number have gone above that.

In 1927 the pack of fish after the 17th of September—a date at which those who are familiar with the fishery in the olden days know the fishing was over—was 21,630 cases, or 38 per cent. In 1930, after the 13th of September there were 21,252 cases, or 22·8 per cent put up. In 1931, after the 19th of September there were 13,268 cases or 35·7 per cent put up. It would be vastly better for us if those were early fish.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: What is the reason that you cultivate the use of the late fish for breeding purposes, and that in Alaska they reverse that and use the early fish? When the sockeye commence to run in Alaska they provide escapement at the beginning of the run, until such time as they are satisfied that enough fish have escaped. In British Columbia we take the opposite course. Is there any scientific reason for that?

Mr. FOUND: You are speak of a few areas in Alaska, not for hatcheries, but where they have counting fences and allow escapement to the natural spawning areas. In British Columbia we are taking the fish as near to the hatcheries as we can; retaining them when they come up, and holding them there.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: But you are getting later every year. When I knew that fishery first the fish came in about the third week in June.

Mr. FOUND: You are speaking of the Fraser river?

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: Yes.

Mr. FOUND: Unfortunately, that is the trend.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: And continued until well on in August.

Mr. FOUND: Quite so. That is the trend.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: Now the first fish appear in the Fraser river towards the middle of July.

Mr. FOUND: Quite so.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: Is the system adopted responsible for that in any way?

Mr. FOUND: Not our system. It is the catch in the United States, no doubt, taking all the early fish. We are taking the fish and retaining them in our pounds as soon as they get there. We do not let any escape.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: But your general close season for the purpose of escapement is at the end of the season, isn't it?

Mr. FOUND: Our close seasons are of two kinds, one weekly and the other annually. The weekly one is regarded by all fishery administrative authorities as a most desirable one, because it allows a proportion of each week's run to get by. The one at the end of the season is not such an important matter.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: You remember when Mr. Wilmott was at the head of your culture operations.

Mr. FOUND: That is long before my day.

Hon. Mr. TAYLOR: He was quite insistent on that, although he didn't get his way.