

The WITNESS: In the Vancouver Agency.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: Did you put in an application for every Indian?

Mr. PAULL: Every male Indian over the age of twenty-one. Even after the Indian agent had made application for the Indians of Bute, because they did not have a permit they were prosecuted, after application had been made by the Indian agent.

The WITNESS: I wish we had a map here, and then you could see our point. These streams flowing into these inlets are short streams, but it means in the aggregate a good many salmon. They are nearly all fall salmon. The Indians of British Columbia, to the extent of over 30 per cent, are dependent on fisheries for a livelihood. Now then, is it good business to allow a practically unrestricted amount of fishing in these small streams?

*By Hon. Mr. Murphy:*

Q. You mean fishing for a livelihood, not for food?—A. For such earnings as they make.

Q. That is, it is the fishing industry they are engaged in?—A. Quite so, very largely.

*By Mr. McPherson:*

Q. The Indian has to be kept alive to earn that money, and if he requires fish for food why should he not get a permit?—A. It is not difficult at all for the Indian to get food fish. It is not a long distance on any of these rivers to come down to the tidal water and get fish. These salmon play around the mouths of the streams and wait there until nature bids them go up to spawn. What the Indian wants to do is to wait until they go up to spawn and take them there when they are on the spawning bed.

*By Mr. Paull:*

Q. Will you name the species of salmon that the Indian takes for his food?—A. It depends entirely on the portion of the country in which he is. If he is in the portion of the country where he can get sockeye salmon, which are the most valuable, he will take them in preference to any other, and he is quite right in doing so. When conditions are different, he takes other salmon. In that area he has got to take what comes through, mostly chumps.

*By Mr. McPherson:*

Q. The quantity of fish that an Indian family of four would require must be limited?—A. Mr. Chairman, the amount of destruction of salmon that has taken place in British Columbia in earlier days by the Indian's methods of fishing is something deplorable. The cutting up of barricades right across the streams and leaving them there was one of the things which we had a lot of work to do in stopping. When they catch their fish they just leave the barricades there.

*By Mr. Kelly:*

Q. I would like to ask if Mr. Found is aware of this fact; that according to the report of Mr. Babcock, who was the fisheries expert in British Columbia, less than one per cent of all the fish caught were caught by the Indians for food purposes?—A. Oh, yes, quite so.

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. The way it appeals to me is this, the Indians ought to have the inherent right to catch fish for food. Then comes the question of how we can harmonize