

well. You can imagine the excitement it caused in a country where there were no game fish when the first man brought in a fine trout.

In Alberta, in the foothill streams between Calgary and Macleod, they had nothing but cutthroat trout, a few bull trout, and Rocky Mountain whitefish. The cutthroat trout will stay in the cold water. We thought we would try the rainbow trout, which survive in much warmer water, and last year trout were caught out on the prairies where trout had never been seen before. So we have added some hundreds of miles to the fishing streams of the country.

Mr. Found mentioned the alkaline lakes. The Quill Lakes are producing a good crop of suckers and whitefish, and a few lake herring. A few years ago they shipped a large quantity of suckers from the Quill Lakes.

The CHAIRMAN: Are the whitefish similar to our whitefish?

Mr. RODD: They came from Lake Winnipeg. There is a fairly fresh water stream flowing into the easterly end of Quill Lake, the salinity increases from that point on to Big Quill Lake, and the whitefish have been taken in Big Quill Lake in quite salty water. The water in a good many of the lakes on the Prairies is of pretty poor quality.

The CHAIRMAN: Would the flavour of the fish be the same?

Mr. RODD: The Quill Lake whitefish are excellent, and the suckers also.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: More like salt water fish?

Mr. RODD: They are very firm, and high-class whitefish.

We have stocked a number of lakes that produced nothing at all with the yellow perch, and they have taken very well in the Prairies.

The CHAIRMAN: That is a good useful fish.

Mr. RODD: It is a good fish.

The CHAIRMAN: There is no sport in it, but it is a good fish.

Mr. RODD: In 1931 I was taken to three lakes in this neighbourhood. There was nothing in them. They were stocked that year, and last year three-pound speckled trout were taken, and in one case a five-pound speckled trout. That is one thing we didn't expect to find around there. The lakes are at a high elevation, and the fish from the lower reaches could not come up the outlet streams.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Have you endeavoured to take the Atlantic salmon to the Pacific Coast?

Mr. RODD: We spent a lot of time on that. I have the details here. The first introduction of Atlantic salmon in British Columbia was in 1905. The numbers were small, and they were spread around a number of streams. From 1922 to 1924 we concentrated all our distribution in the river Cowichan, the distribution amounting to about 450,000 eggs and fry annually. In 1925 to 1928 we continued and increased the allowance up to about 900,000 eggs and fry annually in one watershed. Atlantic salmon were caught in all stages, from the fingerlings of a few months old to fresh-run salmon coming in from the sea, and from Kelt that had spawned and were returning to sea. But the numbers were very small and we could not consider the introduction to be a success. So the department discontinued it. In 1932-33 the Provincial Game Branch felt it would be worth while renewing the effort with eggs from the earliest rivers in Scotland, and at their request and at their expense we secured 100,000 eggs for them. We hatched and reared them until they were a year old, and some 30,000 yearling Atlantic salmon from Scotland were liberated in the Cowichan river this year. They were counted before they were liberated. This is being repeated in 1933-34.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Would the fact that our water is more salty than the Atlantic have any bearing on the success of that experiment?

Mr. RODD: I do not know. They are being successfully introduced in New Zealand and Australia.