

Hon. Mr. McRAE: The Shuswap Lake salmon were probably the best on the Fraser River. They reached the far upper waters. Are there enough of them to set a bed, or are they all gone?

Mr. FOUND: There are very few left in the Shuswap Lake area. They have been coming back in increasing numbers to the Chilcotin area. We have even had them up to Stewart Lake in considerable quantities.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: That is, the upper river fish?

Mr. FOUND: Yes. That is away up above Shuswap. Shuswap is on the Thompson River. Stewart Lake is away up.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Don't you think the strongest fish went up to Shuswap Lake, or do they go to the upper Fraser?

Mr. FOUND: There is a theory that has behind it a strong force of argument at least, that it is only the fish that were produced high up the rivers that have the swimming power to get back that far up.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Quite so.

Mr. FOUND: So whether the Shuswap Lake fish would be better than or as good as the Stewart Lake fish I think would be a matter of very great doubt. I should say that any of these fish that get up to the upper waters are all highly superior fish.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: When we lost the run we lost practically all of the fish that went to the Shuswap Lake country. They were super fish, so to speak. It is not practicable to restock because the present fish have never been raised to that requirement which will carry them back to their spawning grounds in Shuswap Lake. What is your idea about that, Mr. Found?

Mr. FOUND: The proposal to overcome a condition of that kind, if it is really so, is what is called the stepping up process, and it would necessarily take a considerably longer time.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: What would you consider a fair allocation to the Fraser River of the whole expenditure made by the Government for salmon fisheries on the Coast?

Mr. FOUND: I should not like to give an opinion offhand.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Of course, it is an arbitrary division of the provincial expenditure. A third would not be enough, would it?

Mr. FOUND: I would think it would be more than enough at the present time. You see, the Fraser River is controlled fairly well by the officers of the smaller boats. Nevertheless we have to have the bigger boats down there too part of the time when there is fishing on to see there is no fishing north of the boundary line. We use our boats to such an extent up and down the coast that it is apt to be misleading to make a statement.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: It would be only a general statement.

Mr. FOUND: I would have to have time to prepare it, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Offhand, I would say a third of our cost might be charged up to the Fraser River.

Mr. FOUND: That would be too much, Mr. Chairman, when you consider the number of boats we have employed in the northern area in the fishing season to prevent seining.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Would 25 per cent be enough?

Mr. FOUND: That would be nearer it.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: In the Fraser River the Americans catch about two-thirds, we catch about one-third. They are making no expenditure whatever in connection with that effort. In considering our case I presume we ought to prorate the overhead of our fishery officers on the Coast as well as incidental