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Washington

ALASKA  
DEC 14 1927  
FISHERIES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF FISHERIES

SUMMARY REPORT OF OPERATIONS OF THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES

WRANGELL DISTRICT

1927

FISHERIES PATROL

The "Auklet", under the command of Captain Charles E. Tibbits, was assigned to the Wrangell district for patrol service during the 1927 season. She arrived at Wrangell on June 6th and was still on active duty at the time this report was written--October 17th. During the period between June 6th and October 15th the vessel cruised five thousand two hundred and ninety-eight miles; patrolling during closed periods, inspecting traps and spawning areas, and carrying supplies to stream guards. In addition to routine work the "Auklet" was used in towing a scow loaded with 32,000 ft. of lumber from Wrangell to Yes Bay and in transporting property owned by the bureau at Wrangell to the Ketchikan warehouse. Regular patrol of the salmon traps was maintained during each weekly closed period, one hundred and sixty-six inspections being made during the two months the traps were in operation. Every trap in the district was inspected at least once during the season, and some of them were visited several times. Salmon streams were visited and inspected whenever possible, a total of one hundred and twelve visits being made during the season.

ANAN CREEK WEIR

The work of installing the rack at Anan Creek was begun sixteen days later than in 1926, partly to conserve funds and partly because previous experience has shown that few fish ascend the stream before the first of June. On May 16th work was begun, with Walter J. Larson in charge, assisted by J. A. Kelley and S. M. Wyatt. The two latter named men were dropped from the pay roll on May 30th, on which date installation was completed, Larson remaining on duty until the end of the season. Frank Laughlin and Gordon Mougey, who were detailed to assist in counting salmon through the weir, arrived at Wrangell on June 27th and were taken to Anan Creek the following day on the "Auklet". They remained on duty until July 29th when they left Alaska for their homes. As the run was very light throughout the season it was considered unnecessary to employ men to replace them. On account of reported heavy runs of salmon in the Southern district after the start of the closed season the rack was maintained until September 23rd--twenty-three days later than in 1926. J. A. Kelley and F. Cooper were detailed on September 23rd to assist Larson in removing the weir and the work was finished on the 28th, Larson remaining on duty through the 29th attending to securing the tripods against high water.

## STREAM GUARD SERVICE

Length of service for the stream guards in the Wrangell district for the 1927 season was somewhat shorter than in 1926. This was partly due to the fact that the two Anan Creek assistants left a month earlier than last year, and partly because the exceptionally light run of salmon made it possible to dispense with the services of some of the guards earlier than in a normal season. Good service was given by all of the guards. The following table shows the names of the guards, their stations, number of days on pay roll, rates of pay and total amounts paid.

Name	Station	Length Service	Rate	total
Walter J. Larson	Anan Creek	137 days	\$7.00 day	\$959.00
J. A. Kelley	Salmon Bay	92 "	7.00 "	644.00
S. M. Wyatt	Anita Bay	51 "	7.00 "	357.00
" " "	Anan Weir	15 "	6.00 "	90.00
Harry Hall	Stainey Creek	76 "	7.00 "	532.00
Matt Pellenin	Stikine River	37 "	7.00 "	259.00
Geo. Gard	Thoms Place & Red Bay	50 "	7.00 "	350.00
John Mantle	Barrie Creek	46 "	7.00 "	322.00
Geo. Fabricious	Kah Sheets Bay	49 "	7.00 "	343.00
Frank Reed	Lake Bay	51 "	7.00 "	357.00
Harry Swift	Sarkar Cove	57 "	6.00 "	342.00
Chas. Nelson	Stikine River	66 "	6.00 "	366.00
Clarence Langdon	Olive Cove	50 "	6.00 "	300.00
F. Cooper	Anan Creek	6 "	6.00 "	36.00
Gordon Mougey**	Anan Creek	42 "	6.00 "	252.00
Frank Laughlin**	Anan Creek	42 "	6.00 "	252.00
			Total	<u>5,761.00</u>

\*\*Number of days these men on pay roll after leaving Alaska not known.

## SALMON CANNERIES AND PACK

## WRANGELL DISTRICT

Ten salmon canneries operated in the Wrangell area during the 1927 season; one more than in 1926. The new plant, a small floating cannery known as the Diamond K Packing Company, was operated at Wrangell until the beginning of the closed season in the Southern and Prince of Wales districts when it was towed to Hoonah. None of the plants operating in this area succeeded in securing a normal pack. The following table shows the names of canneries in this section, pack by species and total production.

PLANT NAME	PINK	CHUM	RED	COHO	KING	TOTAL
Whitworth Fisheries Co. ✓	8393	1548	800	493	15	11,249
F. C. Barnes Packing Co. ✓	5754	1324	3660	634	83	11,455
Nakat Packing Corp. ✓	11826	1593	725	615	14	14,773
Burnett Inlet Packing Co. ✓	3100	1544	645	196		5,485
Karheen Packing Co. ✓	2430	1710	276	134		4,550
Alaska Packers Association ✓	4986	906	1225	255	127	7,499
Diamond K Packing Co.** ✓	2629	573	1319	256		4,777
Northwestern Fisheries Co. ✓	1960	2125	640	337		5,062
Petersburg Packing Co. ✓	20640	4162	5725	2597	14	33,138
Mountain Point Packing Co. ✓	1849	3050	460	3189	19	8,567
Totals	63,567	18,535	15,475	8,706	272	106,555

\*\*part of pack reduced from half-pound cans to one pound talls.

The total pack of all canneries in the Wrangell district for 1927 was less than one third as much as in 1926 even with the addition of the Diamond K plant.

HALIBUT PRODUCTION  
WRANGELL DISTRICT

Approximately one million five hundred thousand pounds of halibut came to the ports of Wrangell and Petersburg thus far in 1927. Of this total more than **three quarters** was sold in Petersburg. Prices during the year were about as follows: February 16-11, March 12-8, April 12-7, May 12-8, June 11-7, July 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -7, August 11-7, September 12-7. About one million pounds was classed as No. 1 and five hundred thousand pounds as chicken. During the greater part of the year bait was very scarce, especially south of Chatham Strait, and this naturally tended to cut down production as the boats frequently were forced to make long trips in search of herring. Some of the larger schooners took their catches to the Seattle market even when the difference in price was small because bait could be had in quantities sufficient for their needs in the vicinity of Vancouver Island.

There has been a great deal of discussion concerning the growing scarcity of herring in southeast Alaska, and many believe that unless drastic action is taken to curtail the activities of the reduction plants a very few years hence the halibut and king salmon fisheries will be gone. Probably there is good reason to fear that the herring will not be able to withstand such concentrated fishing as is now carried on, but on the other hand neither will the halibut fishery maintain itself indefinitely, no matter how great the abundance of herring may be, unless fewer immature or "chicken" halibut are taken. Great quantities of these small fish are brought in, as is amply shown by the records of the buyers. It is understood that some of the smaller boats outfit with gear especially designed to catch "chickens"--I cannot vouch for this however, as I have seen only standard skates aboard the boats in this section. These small fish bring only a little more than half the price paid for mature fish, consequently about twice as many of them must be taken to bring as much money as a load of No. 1 fish. If these small fish are taken from the hooks carefully they will usually live, so it would probably be practicable to provide some regulation governing this phase of the fishery--either to close entirely such grounds as are known to produce more small fish than large ones, or to provide a penalty for the taking of more than a stipulated amount of immature fish.

PRODUCTION OF KING, COHO AND RED SALMON

The total amount of king salmon sold in Wrangell and Petersburg in 1927 was roughly 687,000 pounds. Of this amount 132,000 pounds were white kings. 300,000 pounds were shipped fresh, 116,000 pounds were frozen and 271,000 pounds were mild-cured. Prices were, January 20-10, February 20-10, March 18-8, April 18-12-7, May 18-10-5, June, troll, 15-10-5, river, 11-3, July prices same as in June. August and September prices went to 28-10-6.

Approximately 300,000 pounds of coho salmon were handled by the fresh fish buyers; 240,000 pounds were shipped fresh and 60,000 pounds were frozen. An average price of six and one half cents a pound was paid the fishermen. 6,000 pounds of sockeyes were handled, all of which was shipped fresh; these fish brought an average price of nine cents a pound.

#### TROUT

E. N. Ohmer of the Alaskan Glacier Sea Food Company of Petersburg handled all of the trout shipped from this district; 13,770 pounds of Dolley Vardens, cutthroats and rainbows, paying the fishermen an average price of fifteen cents a pound. 3,750 pounds of steelheads were also bought at an average of 14 cents a pound.

#### HERRING

Herring production in the Wrangell district in 1927 was as usual very small. One bait boat, the "Diamond C", owned and operated by the C.M. Coulter estate of Wrangell, operated in Ernest Sound during the spring months. A pound was maintained for a short time in Santa Ana inlet out of which 300 barrels of herring were sold as fresh bait at a price of two dollars and fifty cents. 2,200 barrels were purchased by the cold storage plants at Ketchikan and Wrangell at one dollar and twenty cents per barrel.

#### OIL & MEAL

The Petersburg Reduction Works, located in Wrangell narrows and worked on the share plan by Paul Owens, produced 2,500 gallons of oil and 25 tons of meal, practically all of which came from salmon offal taken from the neighboring canneries. The oil is valued at fifty-two cents a gallon and the meal at about sixty-eight dollars a ton. Mr. Owens' share is twenty cents a gallon on the oil and two cents a pound on the meal.

## SHRIMP FISHERY

During the greater part of 1927 the Alaskan Glacier Sea Food Company of Petersburg and the Reliance Shrimp Company of Wrangell were the only plants packing shrimp meat. The Wrangell Shellfish Company operated for a few days after the season reopened May 1st but was forced to discontinue on account of a weak market for the product. From data available at this time it is estimated that the year's output of shrimp meat will be about 450,000 pounds--about 50,000 pounds less than in 1926. The wholesale price of the meat remains the same as last year--forty cents per pound. There have been no changes in process or methods of capture nor any additional investment in the industry. The Alaskan Glacier Sea Food Company, through its Seattle connections, has started a campaign to increase the market for the product by employing salesmen in some of the larger middle-western cities such as Cleveland, Minneapolis and St. Louis, but as yet this activity has not resulted in any marked increase in sales. The product is of the finest grade however, and it is believed that as it becomes known in the East it will be demanded in preference to the Gulf shrimp meat even at the higher price for which it must be sold.

## CRAB FISHERY

Ludeman & Isom Brothers of Petersburg produced practically all of the crab meat packed in the Wrangell district. The Reliance Shrimp Co. packed a small amount in conjunction with its regular business of packing shrimp meat; crabs taken in the shrimp trawl. So far this year 9,700 5lb. cans of crab meat have been packed and the operators estimate that approximately 4,000 more will be packed by the end of the year. A price of .70¢ per dozen has been paid this year for crabs and .4¢ per pound for picking. Eleven persons are employed in this fishery. There has been a slight change in process this year--after the meat is removed from the brine solution it is steamed instead of pressed, as was formerly done; otherwise the process is the same as was described in last year's report.

## OUTLINE OF THE SALMON RUN

The 1927 salmon run was probably the smallest ever seen in this section of southeast Alaska. This applies particularly to humpback and chum salmon, the two most important species, from the standpoint of the cannery owners, fish traps and purse seiners. The runs of sockeyes and cohos were but little smaller than in other recent years and king salmon were more numerous in many

localities than they had been in a long period; this applied particularly to the West Coast of Prince of Wales Island where it was not at all uncommon for a good troller with an able boat to make more than one hundred dollars a day during the Spring run. Full advantage of this large run was not taken by the white trollers, however, as a strike was called by the A. T. A. just at the peak of the run, demanding higher prices than those previously agreed upon. The native fishermen continued fishing and enjoyed unusual prosperity while the strike was on.

The runs of all species were unusually late all over the district; the canneries had packed practically nothing before the first of August, and it was not until the beginning of the closed season that the pink and chum runs reached the streams, and then only in small numbers. Escapements were very small in all streams in the district--this applies particularly to the pinks and chums. Anan Creek was probably ahead of any other stream and there the total number counted through the rack was only about 42,000. Sarkar Cove and Stainey Creek came next with about 40,000 each. ( See list of streams and estimated escapements.)

For a short period during the latter part of July and the first part of August the water was very low in nearly all of the island streams but it is thought that this condition will have little effect on subsequent runs for the reason that but few salmon were about the mouths of the streams at that time. The streams were all unusually high due to the heavy rains at the time when the pinks and chums finally arrived and they experienced no difficulty whatever in reaching the spawning grounds.

The runs of all species except kings started, reached the peak and ended approximately a month later than in 1926. The popular theory to account for this is that the early closing of the season during the past few years has tended to breed late fish; another theory is that adverse weather conditions kept the fish offshore longer than is normally the case. If either theory was applicable it would seem that the salmon should eventually have arrived in enormous numbers, if even a reasonable proportion of the great schools of fry migrating from the streams of this district had reached maturity. Such was not the case however, in spite of all reports to the contrary; the late fish--and they were all late fish--came only in small schools, entirely insufficient for adequate seeding of the spawning grounds, even in the few streams having comparatively large runs.

After the early closing of the season, and before the packers were sure that it would not be reopened, reports were being received almost every day of the large runs someone (usually unidentified) had seen ascending the streams. Nearly all of these reports were investigated and without exception proved to be pure fiction. Mr. John Grebstad, an employe of the Petersburg Packing Company, accompanied the "Auklet" on a cruise of two weeks duration when twenty-five of the principal streams of the district were examined. This was during the period when most of the reported heavy runs were in progress. He is a man with many years of practical experience in the salmon fishery and at the end of the cruise

he reported to his employers that in his opinion the escapement into all of the streams examined was less than twenty-five percent normal. Mr. W. D. Grant, a resident of Wrangell and a former member of the Alaska Legislature, was most active in his denunciations of the bureau's policy in closing the season prematurely and sent telegrams and letters to Delegate Sutherland to the effect that all of the late streams had an ample escapement. As he had no information whatever on the subject, except what he could learn from fishermen who naturally wanted the season reopened, the matter was called to Mr. O'Malley's attention and he immediately invited Mr. Grant to accompany the "Auklet" on an investigation of the streams. Although Mr. Grant was pressed to accept this offer on three occasions he persistently refused, knowing that conditions at the streams were not such as he claimed. He ended by stating that he believed the Commissioner had acted for the best and said he had wired Mr. Sutherland to that effect and had commended Mr. O'Malley very highly for his courage.

#### TRAPS

A total of 93 salmon traps operated in the Wrangell district during the 1927 season; 77 of these were floaters and 16 were pile traps. The great majority were located in Clarence Strait, along the west shore of Etolin island, the east coast of Prince of Wales island and on the Snow Pass side of Zarembo Island. In this part of the district there was a trap for nearly every statute mile of shore line as may be seen by referring to marked charts forwarded to the Seattle, Washington and Juneau offices at the close of the season.

Several new operators entered the fish trap business in 1927 owing to the increasing demand for pink and chum salmon and also because there was every reason to believe that the run would be large. Many of these people invested all the money they had or could borrow and almost without exception they failed to catch enough fish to pay expenses. It is thought that when all the yearly reports are in it will be found that the average catch per trap for the season will not greatly exceed six thousand fish. Even the very best traps in the district did not catch enough salmon to pay expenses and show the owners a reasonable profit. So far as is known the Nakat Packing Corporation trap in Emerald Bay, Ernest Sound, was high trap in this area with a total catch of about 60,000 fish. The Otto Bindpage trap at Southeast Cove came next with approximately 40,000. Many were exceedingly low but it is believed that the John Sandman floater in Quiet Harbor holds the record in this respect--70 fish for the season.

## PURSE SEINES

Approximately 75 purse seine boats fished in the Wrangell area during 1927. Most of these were concentrated in a small area along the west coast of Prince of Wales Island in the neighborhood of Stainey Creek, Tuxecan Pass and El Capitan Pass. They were largely operated by native crews from Klawack, Craig and Hydaberg. Very few succeeded in catching enough fish to pay for the food consumed and many are heavily in debt to the village and cannery stores. Owing to the scarcity of salmon during the forepart of the season few of these crews made any effort whatever to fish; they would cruise around from place to place, rarely wetting their nets, until the supply of gasoline began to get low when they would return to the canneries and fill their tanks. It was not until a week before the close of the season that the seiners began to catch a few fish. On August 15th a fleet of 19 boats were anchored about a mile away from Stainey Creek. The masters of most of them were interviewed and all reported that they had not made expenses. The native fishermen are very inefficient and lazy, rarely making more than a bare living even in good years. They have not learned how to catch fish in deep water, and have been unsuccessful ever since the stream guard service and additional patrol boats have made fishing the streams such a dangerous undertaking.

## GILL NETS

The number of gill net boats operating in this area in 1927 was about the same as in 1926--in the neighborhood of forty. About two thirds of these were from Wrangell and the rest from Petersburg. Most of the fishing was done about the mouth of the Stikine River, both in Fredrick Sound and Zimovia Strait. A few boats fished in Kah Sheets Bay, Thoms Place, outside the mouth of Anita Bay and in Deep Bay. These boats made very little money during the king and sockeye runs but did much better in late August and through the month of September while the coho run was on in the Stikine. About 125,000 cohos were taken and sold at an average price of fifty cents, going as high as seventy cents during the latter part of the run. These fishermen averaged a very much better income than either the trap operators or purse seiners; probably about fifteen hundred dollars apiece.

## TROLLERS

It is believed that the trolling fleet of Wrangell and Petersburg has increased to some extent during the past year; quite a number of people have been attracted by the reported large incomes made by trollers and have traded

property in other states for boats and gear. There are probably about one hundred and twenty trolling boats based in these towns, both power boats and skiffs. Trolling camps were established this year at Point Baker, Pele Anchorage, Chichagoff Pass, and in a number of other places a few trollers would be found camped.

Trolling is carried on throughout the entire year; in the fall and early Spring in Union Bay, Zimovia Strait, Stikine Strait and along the north side of Zarembo Island. In the Summer months at Warren Channel, along the north end of Prince of Wales Island, in Snow Pass, Clarence and Summer Straits; trollers may be seen almost anyplace and at any time prospecting for fish as the kings will be found where the feed is most plentiful.

There was an unparalleled run of king salmon in the West Coast region this year and had it not been for the inopportune calling of a strike by the A. T. A. the trollers would have had an unusually prosperous season; as it was they made more money than they had in years. According to reports it was not at all out of the ordinary during this run for a troller to make one hundred dollars in a day's fishing. Even during this run many trolling boats were tied up in Wrangell and Petersburg, their owners lacking ambition enough to go and see what they could do. This is the big reason why the average income of the trollers is so small; the majority of them are well satisfied if they can earn enough to buy coffee and flour--they can always get a deer. Living as they do two or three hundred dollars a year is ample for all their needs and I know for an absolute fact a lot of them live on much less. The men who fished in this immediate vicinity averaged a little larger income in 1927 than in 1926, probably about five hundred dollars per man. The men fishing at Cape Ommanay, Pillar Bay and along the west side of Baranof Island were reported to have had a good season but nothing definite is known as to the amount of their incomes.

STREAMS MARKED IN THE WRANGELL DISTRICT  
1927

Name of stream	Date marked	Name of stream	Date marked
Rocky Bay*	June 10	Frosty Bay	Sept. 8
Stainey Creek*	June 15	Sheheen Creek	Sept. 18
Hole in Wall	June 16	Pt. Baker Creek	Sept. 19
Barrie Creek*	June 18		
Salmon Bay*	June 10		
Vixen Inlet	July 19		
Krogh Lake	July 27		
W. Etolin Creek	July 27		
Coney Island Creek	Aug. 27		

\* Markers moved to accord with 1927 regulations.  
In addition to the above ten foot markers were erected in Bradfield Canal and Eastern Passage defining closed area about Anan Creek.

GENERAL-RECOMMENDATIONS, ETC.

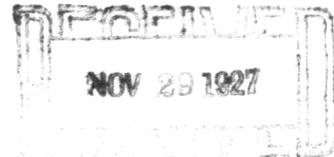
It is believed that in order to build up and perpetuate the runs of humpback and chum salmon in this section of Alaska more drastic regulations governing the operations of fish traps will have to be promulgated; it is therefor recommended that the minimum distance between salmon traps be extended to three statute miles and that traps shall be prohibited within one statute mile of the mouth of any salmon stream.

It is also recommended that commercial fishing for salmon, other than by trolling, shall be prohibited throughout southeast Alaska after October 1st of each year. The reason for this recommendation is that after that date most of the fish taken are not fitted for human consumption, but notwithstanding this fact certain small-scale packers, with no reputation to protect, will continue packing as long as fish of any description are brought in.

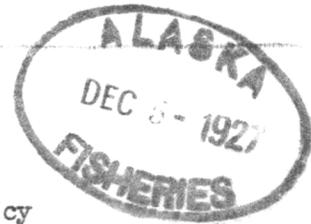
It is further recommended that all bays and inlets closed during the runs of sockeye, chum, humpback and coho salmon, shall be opened to trolling after October 15th of each year and until May 1st of the succeeding year. As the king salmon spawn in the streams entering salt water from the mainland, and are found in the bays and inlets of the islands only when following the herring, it is believed that trolling in these areas between the dates mentioned will not interfere in any way with the spawning activities of the king or any other species of salmon, and will be of great benefit to the owners of small trolling boats because in this way sheltered places may be found in which to work during periods of bad weather.

*H. W. Lyall*  
Warden

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF FISHERIES



ANNUAL REPORT OF M.J. O'CONNOR, ASSISTANT AGENT,  
SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA DISTRICT, FOR THE YEAR 1927.



The following is a brief resumé of the work done in the Icy Strait-Cross Sound and Central Districts, and that part of the Southern District Contiguous to Frederick Sound, South of 57 degrees North Latitude, West Coast of Baranof Island and Lower Chatham Strait, during the season of 1927.

The writer's duties at the beginning of the year consisted of working on statistics of fresh, frozen, mild cured, pickled and dried salmon, fresh and frozen halibut, cod, ling cod, stock fish, salt herring and herring products, shrimp meat, crab meat and trout, taken from shippers' export declarations filed in the Custom-House at Juneau, Alaska; also making daily trips along the water-front to keep in touch with salmon trolling, herring, trout and other fishery activities in the district.

Patrol

Proposals were sent out for bids on the charter of suitable patrol boats for the fishing season, and the following is a list of bids accepted:

"Valkyrie" - was chartered to begin patrol on July 1, (Special warden John McLoughlin in charge,) for the particular purpose of herring patrol due to the propoganda of different town councils and trollers who claimed that the herring boats were destroying more herring than were taken to the reduction plants by making hauls of a thousand or more barrels when they could carry only 400 to 500, thus destroying the remainder of the herring. The warden was instructed to keep in touch with the herring seiners at all times and see that there were no herring wasted.

"Gloria" - was chartered to begin patrol on July 5, (Special warden J.P. Mix in charge,) and inspect all traps and cannery establishments, including seine boats, gill nets, and all

Wm

"Gloria" continued

other fishery activities in that part of the Central District from Sitka, her headquarters, to Sitka Sound, Krestof Sound, Neva Strait, Salisbury Sound, through Peril Strait, down Chatham Strait along the east shore of Baranof Island to Red Bluff Bay, to Tyee, back along the West shore of Admiralty Island to Killisnoo, across Chatham Strait to Basket Bay, west along the Chichagof shore to Sitka Bay, thence to head of Hooniah Sound, thence to Sitka Sound and Redoubt Bay, thence to Sitka, inspecting mouths of creeks in all bays and inlets.

"Pheasant" - was chartered to begin patrol on July 5 (Special warden A.A. Kiefer in charge) and inspect all traps and cannery establishments, including seine boats, gill nets and all other fishery activities in the Central District and that part of the Southern District contiguous to Frederick Sound South of 57 degrees North Latitude and Lower Chatham Strait. This includes mouths of creeks in all bays and inlets from Petersburg along the mainland to Grave Point, thence to head of Seymour Canal, thence along the east and south shore of Admiralty Island to Tyee, thence to Red Bluff Bay, thence to Gut Bay on Southeast shore of Baranof Island, thence to Tebenkof Bay on Kuiu Island and mouths of creeks in all bays and inlets along Kuiu and Kupreanof Islands back to Petersburg.

"Anona" - was chartered to begin patrol on July 5 with headquarters at Ketchikan, under the immediate supervision of Warden Hardcastle. Special warden George M. Stanley was assigned to the "Anona."

"Yakobi" - was chartered for tagging of salmon to determine their migratory route to spawning beds, under direction of Warden F.G. Morton.

"Widgeon" - was used for placing stream watchmen in the early part of June and for patrol work and general supervision of the district from Petersburg to Cape Spencer. M.J. O'Connor, Assistant Agent, in charge.

Mr. Hugo W. Frederickson, a professional troller, was employed for taking and tagging troll salmon, (in Sitka Sound, Salisbury Sound, off the West shore of Kruzof Island and the West shore of Baranof Island) to determine their migratory route to the spawning beds. He used his own power boat which was well adapted for the work.

The writer was held in Juneau until May 11, 1927, and until the Alaska Legislature ended its session in the event that they needed any information the Bureau could give them.

## Seal Patrol

The writer left Juneau on May 11, 1927, on Coastwise Transportation Company Oil Screw Ship "Margnita" for seal patrol at Sitka. Upon arrival there on May 13 boarded the Bureau boat "Brant" and proceeded on seal patrol and authentication of seal skins taken. On the 16th cruised off Biorka Island about 14 or 15 miles off shore. There were not many seals seen there. There were five sealing boats out. The boats were from two to four miles further off shore, but we did not go near them as they claimed the "Brant" would wake the seals up and prevent the sealers from being able to take any. They all got good catches that day, however, the five boats taking 53 seals.

One reason there were so few sealers this year was that the price of \$10.00 per skin which was offered them was considered too low. Another reason there were so few sealers was that many of the Indians were preparing their trolling boats to go trolling, as they believed there was every indication of a good run of King salmon. The sealers claimed that they had seen more seals this season than any of them had ever seen before.

Examination was made of the contents of the stomachs of several seals and there were two or three in which red salmon were found. In the stomachs of the others the food had been digested to such an extent that it could not be recognized.

All skins were examined for brands or marks placed on them at the Pribilof Islands, but there were none found with a brand or mark of any description.

On the next page will be found the names of the Captains of the eight boats that were sealing, with the dates on which seals were taken, together with the number of seals, both male and female, and unborn pups taken from the females.

## SEALS TAKEN BY INDIANS OFF SITKA SOUND, 1927.

Date	Name of Hunter	No. Seals	Males	Females	Unborn Pups	Where Taken
April 8	David Howard	11	8	3	---	
" 9	" "	10	6	4	---	
April 27	Peter Simpson	2	2	0	---	
" 30	" "	18	15	3	---	All seals were taken outside the three mile limit.
May 3	" "	5	4	1	---	
" 5	" "	5	3	2	1	
" 6	" "	3	3	0	---	
" 7	" "	21	14	7	4	
" 14	" "	11	8	3	3	
" 17	" "	6	6	0	---	
" 18	" "	5	4	1	1	
" 21	" "	8	6	2	2	
" 24	" "	6	6	0	---	
" 25	" "	6	2	4	2	
" 26	" "	3	2	1	---	
April 30	Dick Harris	8	6	2	---	
May 1	" "	13	9	4	3	
" 3	" "	2	2	0	---	
" 14	" "	16	11	5	5	
" 23	" "	14	11	3	2	
" 25	" "	15	12	3	---	
" 26	" "	6	6	0	---	
" 31	" "	26	15	11	6	
June 3	" "	20	11	9	4	
May 3	Billy Williams	11	8	3	---	
" 6	" "	12	8	4	---	
" 7	" "	6	4	2	---	
" 8	" "	8	7	1	---	
" 23	" "	15	10	5	---	
May 6	George Davis	9	7	2	---	
" 7	" "	9	6	3	---	
" 8	" "	7	5	2	---	
" 14	" "	15	8	7	3	
" 16	" "	5	1	4	2	
" 20	" "	8	6	2	2	
" 21	" "	7	7	0	---	
" 25	" "	9	8	1	1	
" 27	" "	8	5	3	1	
May 6	Walter Gray	11	8	3	---	
" 7	" "	8	3	5	---	
" 8	" "	19	16	3	---	
May 7	John Young	15	8	7	3	
" 14	" "	11	2	9	4	
" 16	" "	5	1	4	---	
" 20	" "	7	7	0	---	
" 21	" "	6	5	1	---	
" 26	" "	7	5	2	---	
" 27	" "	12	10	2	---	
May 14	Howard Gray	15	9	6	---	
" 15	" "	6	2	4	---	
" 16	" "	3	1	2	---	
		494	339	155	49	

### Stream Watchmen

Owing to lack of funds only two stream watchmen were placed in Icy Strait-Cross Sound District on June 11; one at Hoktaheen and the other at Taku River. The run begins in both those places about June 3 and both are red salmon streams. Watchmen should be placed at those points not later than June 5, also at Surge Bay, Excursion Inlet, Freshwater Bay, Lake Eva, Red Fish Bay on the West coast of Baranof Island and Redoubt Bay.

The other 12 watchmen were placed all through the month of June up to the 28th. Only four were placed on July 1, eight on July 5, one on July 7 and one on July 15. In all, there were only 28 stream watchmen employed throughout the season to cover more than 400 creeks and about 2,500 miles of territory. There were not enough watchmen to station at closed areas, or in other words, if the watchmen were stationed at closed areas, then more important stream mouths would be neglected.

There were no watchmen stationed at the following closed areas; Takanis, (except the watchman at Surge Bay made occasional trips there) Red Bluff Bay, Gut Bay, Portage Bay, Gambier Bay, Warm Springs Bay, and Sanborn Canal.

There were only four stream watchmen on Admiralty Island, viz. Pybus Bay, Chaik Bay, North Arm of Hood Bay and Kootznahoo Inlet. (Attention is invited to charts 8300, 8250 and 8200) There were no watchmen at any bays, inlets or mouths of streams between Hanus Bay in Peril Strait, and Redoubt Bay in Sitka Sound, and between Redoubt Bay

Stream Watchmen (Continued)

and Red Fish Bay on the West Coast of Baranof, and between Red Fish Bay and Kelp Bay on the Northeast shore of Baranof. (Attention is invited to chart 8250) There was but one stream watchman on the West coast of Chichagof, <sup>Island,</sup> although there are 15 creeks there. (Attention is invited to chart 8250)

There were no watchmen on the Mainland between Limestone Inlet and Petersburg, although there are many bays and inlets there, with 12 creeks flowing into them. There were no watchmen North of Petersburg on Kupreanof Island. Kuiu Island had three watchmen, viz; at Saginaw Bay, Pillar Bay and Tebenkof Bay.

There could be no watchman placed at Lisianski Inlet and Stag Bay in Lisianski Strait until the 28th of July when stream watchman Peder Anderson at Hoktaheen was transferred there, as the run at Hoktaheen was over on that date. The distance of twenty-one and one-half miles is too great for one stream watchman to cover as there are eight creeks in the Inlet. From Miners Island, entrance to Lisianski Strait, to the head of Stag Bay, where there are two good creeks, the distance is about eight and one-half miles, thus making a total of thirty miles, to cover in Lisianski Inlet and Lisianski Strait. There should be two watchmen placed, one from the mouth of Lisianski Inlet to the head of Stag Bay, and the other from Miners Island to the head of Lisianski Inlet. (Attention is invited to chart 8304)

Following is a list of stream watchmen with the names of creeks, bays and closed areas at which they were stationed, dates of employment and dates of termination of employment.

STREAM WATCHMEN EMPLOYED IN ICY STRAIT-CROSS SOUND, CENTRAL,  
AND THAT PART OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT CONTIGUOUS TO FREDERICK  
SOUND South of 57 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE, DURING SEASON OF 1927.

Icy Strait,-Cross Sound District

<u>Name</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Date of Employment</u>		<u>Date of termination of employment</u>
X Peder A. Anderson	Hoktaheen	June 11	-	July 27
" " "	Lisianski Inlet	July 28	-	Aug. 19
Ben Bullard	Taku River	June 11	-	Aug. 16
" " "	" "	Sept. 6	-	Sept. 30
C.A. Bevans	Game Creek	June 18	-	Aug. 20
" " "	" "	Sept. 6	-	Oct. 6
Thos. Dodson	Excursion Inlet	June 21	-	Aug. 28
Andrew Mitchell	Dundas Bay	June 21	-	Aug. 20
" " "	Dundas Bay	Sept. 6	-	Oct. 6
X John R. Brown	Port Frederick	June 22	-	Aug. 20
" " "	Excursion Inlet	Sept. 6	-	Oct. 7
X Martin Madsen	Chilkat	June 25	-	Aug. 15
" " "	"	Sept. 6	-	Oct. 13
John Campbell	Chilkoot	June 25	-	Aug. 15
" " "	"	Sept. 6	-	Oct. 13
X James Russell	Glacier Bay	July 1	-	Aug. 30
W.R. Singleton	Idaho Inlet	July 5	-	Aug. 18

Central District

X Philip Gallagher	Surge & Takanis Bays	June 21	-	Aug. 18
James Mahony	Eva Lake	June 21	-	Aug. 18

X Indicates those with boats.

Central District (Cont'd.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Date of Employment</u>	<u>Date of termination of employment</u>
F.P. Cook	Sitkoh Bay	June 21	- Aug. 18
H.S. Sokoloff	Freshwater Bay	June 25	- Aug. 18
X James Brightman	Redoubt Bay	June 25	- Aug. 16
X Julius Jaeger	Basket Bay	June 28	- Aug. 20
X Harry Peehan	Kootznahoo Inlet	July 1	- Aug. 16
X C.F. Anderson	Slocum Arm	July 1	- Aug. 16
X Herbert Lee	Tenakee Inlet	July 5	- Aug. 15
X John Blankenburg	Kelp Bay	July 5	- Aug.
Andrew Dalgard	Chaik Bay	July 5	- Aug. 18
John Nelson	No. Arm Hood Bay	July 5	- Aug. 18
X Henry Lutro	Pybus & Gambier Bays	July 5	- Aug. 15
Frank Bach	Limestone Inlet	July 15	- Aug. 13

SOUTHERN District Contiguous to  
Frederick Sound South of 57 degrees  
North Latitude

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X-Chas. Anderson	Tebenkof Bay	July 1	- Aug. 24
X William Scott	Saginaw Bay	" 5	- Aug. 20
William N. Dean	Red Fish Bay	" 5	- Aug. 20
X W.A. Hart	Pillar Bay	" 7	- Aug. 21

## Canneries and Traps

There were twenty canneries operated in the district directly under the writer's supervision. Eighteen of those operated traps and two received their fish from seines and gill nets, namely the Haines Packing Company at Letnikof Cove received their fish from gill nets at the mouths of Chilkat and Chilkoot Inlets, and Douglas Island Packing Company received their fish from seines operated at different points in the district, and gill nets operated at the mouth of Taku River.

There were 158 traps operated in the district. Six of these were operated independently part of the time, three were later transferred, two to the Sunny Point Packing Company, and one to the Astoria and Puget Sound Canning Company.

The Superior Fisheries Company received fish from one independent operator namely trap No. 27-649 owned by James Kasko, Indian.

The Alaska Consolidated Canneries at Pybus Bay received fish from Davis and McAlister trap No. 27-681 and Hungerford Brothers trap No. 27-689, both traps operated independently.

On pages 10-11-12 is a list of canneries operated, trap licenses issued, traps operated, trap locations transferred and trap ownerships transferred.

There were 18 salteries and reduction plants also operated in the district, three of which were floating plants. Seventeen of the plants operated 65 herring seine boats and one reduction plant viz; S.S. "Paralta" operated by the Ocean Industries Company had no seine boats, depending for her herring on over-flow from other salteries and reduction plants and boats breaking down, unable to reach their home port.

On page 13-14 is a list of salteries and reduction plants, together with their locations.

CANNERIES OPERATED IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS IN 1927, TOGETHER WITH NUMBER OF TRAP LICENSES ISSUED, TRAPS OPERATED BY EACH CANNERY, WITH TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND LOCATION OF TRAPS.

Icy Strait-Cross Sound District.

<u>Name of Cannery</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Total Trap Licenses Issued</u>	<u>Traps operated N. Dist.</u>	<u>Traps operated Central Dist.</u>	<u>Trap Locations Transferred</u>	<u>Ownership of traps Transferred</u>
Deep Sea Salmon Company	Port Althorp	20	20	-----	-----	-----
Booth Fisheries Company	Dundas Bay	5	5	-----	27-112	-----
Pacific American Fisheries	Excursion Inlet	10	10	(3 of these traps were owned by Hoonah Packing Company)		-----
Astoria & Puget Sound Canning Company	Excursion Inlet	8	9	-----	27-023	27-001&002 from A.&B. Salmon Co. -002 did not operate
P.E. Harris & Company	Hawk Inlet	8	7	1	27-106	
Sunny Point Packing Company	Funter Bay	12	10	2	27-034	
Karl T. Kuhl, Independent		2	1 (-011)	1 (-010)	-010 & -011	2 to Sunny Pt. Packing Co.
Libby, McNeill & Libby	Taku Harbor	15	6 (233 did not operate)	7 (243 did not operate)		
Douglas Island Packing Company	Douglas	No traps operated				
Haines Packing Company	Letnikof Cove	"	"	"		
Diamond K. Packing Company	Hoonah	Operated only during fall season. No traps in Northern or Central District.				

Central District between 57 and 58 degrees North Latitude.

<u>Name of Cannery</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Total Trap Licenses Issued</u>	<u>Traps operated N. Dist.</u>	<u>Traps operated Central Dist.</u>	<u>Trap Locations Transferred</u>	<u>Ownership of Traps Transferred</u>
Alaska Consolidated Canneries	Tenakee	10	4	5	27-409	27-473 to Alaska Consol. Chomly Cannery
Superior Fisheries Company	Tenakee	5	----	6 (5 traps owned by Superior Fisheries Co. James Kaska (Indian) Independent trap 27-649 operated by Superior Fisheries Co.)		
Geo. T. Myers & Company	Chatham	7	----	6 (27-076 not operated)		-----
Peril Straits Packing Company August Buschmann	Todd	5 1 (27-304 transferred to Peril Straits Packing Co.)	----	4 1	(27-521 & 522. Did not operate in former locations)	27-523 to Hood Bay Canning Co.
Pyramid Packing Company	Sitka	8	----	8	27-040 & 041. Not operated in former locations.	
Hood Bay Canning Company	Hood Bay	2	----	2		27-523 transferred from Peril Straits Packing Company
Hidden Inlet Canning Company		5		5		(2 operated by Hood Bay Canning Co. 1 transferred to Hood Bay 1 " to Booth Fisheries, Southern Dist.)
Sebastian-Stuart Fish Company	Tyee	10		6		(3 in Southern Dist.) (1 not operated)
Alaska Consolidated Canneries	Pybus Bay	8		6		(2 in Southern Dist.) (Also received fish from 2 independent traps, 27-681 and 27-689)

Southern District, South of 57 Degrees North  
Latitude Contiguous to Frederick Sound

<u>Name of Cannery</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Total Trap Licenses Issued</u>	<u>Traps operated Central Dist.</u>	<u>Traps operated Southern Dist.</u>	<u>Trap Locations Transferred</u>	<u>Ownership of Traps Transferred</u>
Sunny Point Packing Company	Kake	11	10	---	27-520 to Sunny Point Cannery at Ketchikan	
Petersburg Packing Company	Petersburg	14	6	8		
Fidalgo Island Packing Co.	Pillar Bay	5		1 (4 traps not operated)		
Hoonah Packing Company		4		4 (operated by Fidalgo Island Packing Co.)		
Alaska Herring and Sardine Company.		2		2 ( " " " " " " )		

Fidalgo Island Packing Company received licenses and permits for five traps, but installed only one trap and operated four traps of the Hoonah Packing Company and two traps for the Alaska Herring and Sardine Company. All traps were in the Southern District South of 57 degrees North Latitude.

REPORT OF COMPANIES OPERATING SALTERIES AND REDUCTION PLANTS DURING THE SEASON OF 1927.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Company</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Barrels Taken</u>	<u>Oil (Gals.)</u>	<u>Meal Tons</u>	<u>Salted <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> bbls.</u>	<u>Kippered 12&amp;14# bxs.</u>	<u>Frozen (lbs.) bait (bbls.)</u>
Sept. 1	✓ Killisnoo Fisheries Inc.	Killisnoo	17,706	65,000	259	2,544 ✓		144 bbls. bait.
" 1	Ocean Products Company	Hood Bay	4,349	21,000	71	333		
Aug. 10	U.S. Alaska Packing Company	Port Herbert	30,871	157,409	496	3,031 ✓		
Aug. 10	U.S. Alaska Packing Company	Warm Springs Bay	13,151	69,357	231	645		
Sept. 1	Baranof Packing Company	Red Bluff Bay	29,180	151,300	464	1,850 ✓	482-12# boxes 587-14# "	
" 1	✓ Atlas Packing Corporation	Deep Cove, Patterson Bay	13,578	74,000	289	90		
" 10	Arentsen & Company	Big Port Walter	35,130	160,736	467	3,847	116 bbls. Hard salt cure)	
" 10	Chatham Strait Fish Company	New Port Walter	27-580	135,250	442	3,516		
" 10	Alaska Herring & Sardine Co.	Little Port Walter	30,639	100,000	475	2,000		
" 10	Buchan & Heinen Packing Co.	Port Armstrong	25,376	133,350	464	1,675 ✓	1,092 14# boxes)	2,260 (lbs. frozen)
" 1	* S.S. Lake Mifalores	Port Armstrong	14,456	52,290	223	177		
Aug. 31	* Puget Sound Reduction Co. (Barge Fort Union)	Port Armstrong	18,940	68,900	360			
Sept. 1	* Ocean Industries Co. (S.S. "Paralta")	Port Armstrong	950	3,500	17			
Sept. 10	Northwestern Herring Co.	Port Conclusion	28,110	138,000	474	2,392		
" 1	Fidalgo Island Packing Col	Pillar Bay	33,273	166,000	505	2,410		

\* Indicates Vessels.

Ocean Industries had no seine boats; received herring from boats unable to reach their home port, owing to weather conditions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Company</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Barrels Taken</u>	<u>Oil (Gals.)</u>	<u>Meal Tons</u>	<u>Salted <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> bbls.</u>	<u>Kippered 12&amp;14# bxs.</u>	<u>Frozen (lbs.) <del>or</del> bait (bbls.)</u>
Sept. 10	Alaska Consolidated Canneries	Saginaw Bay	13,041	64,869	228	673		
" 1	Stoffold & Grondahl Packing Co.	Washington Bay	16,943	79,181	286	1,665		100 bbls. bait.

All salted herring is figured in seasticks.

Canneries operated during fall season of 1927.

There were five canneries operated during the fall season from September 5 to October 12 in the Icy Strait-Cross Sound and Central Districts, receiving their fish from gill nets and trollers.

The Haines Packing Company received their fish from gill nets operated in the Chilkat and Chilkoot Inlets.

The Douglas Island Packing Company received their fish from gill nets operated at the mouth of Taku Inlet. They also received troll fish.

Libby, McNeill and Libby received their fish from gill nets operated at the mouth of Taku Inlet and the mouth of Whiting River in Snettisham Inlet North of 58 degrees North Latitude.

The Sebastian Stuart Fish Company received troll fish entirely.

The Diamond K. Packing Company received their fish from gill nets operated at Dundas Bay, Excursion Inlet and Berners Bay. They also received troll fish.

Following is a list of canneries operated during the fall, together with their locations.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>Icy Strait-Cross Sound District</u>	
Libby, McNeill and Libby	Taku Harbor
Douglas Island Packing Company	Douglas
Haines Packing Company	Letnikof Cove
Diamond <sup>K</sup> Packing Company	Hoonah
<u>Central District</u>	
Sebastian-Stuart Fish Company	Tyee

Mild Cure Operators

Following is a list of mild cure operators during the season of 1927 in the Icy Strait-Cross Sound, Central and that part of the Southern District joining the Central District South of 57 degrees North Latitude.

Icy Strait-Cross Sound District.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sam Morris	Juneau
E.M. Basse	"
Malford Soley	Hoonah
Fred Schrey	"
G.H. Tozier	"
H.R. Thompson	"

Central District

Malford Soley	Sitka
Fred Schrey	Sitka
G.H. Tozier	Sitka
" " "	Kalinin Bay

Southern District joining Central District  
South of 57 degrees North Latitude.

C.R. Bell	Keku Strait near Kake
Karl Hansen	Port Alexander
Einstoss	" "
G.H. Tozier	Crawfish Inlet

Herring Pounds

There were eight herring pounds operated during the season from February 15 to October 16, at different points in the district, to furnish bait to halibut vessels and trollers. Herring bait, both fresh and frozen, was also furnished by companies at the places recorded in the list below, which gives the names and locations of those operating pounds and names and locations of those furnishing bait other than from pounds.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Co. or Individual</u>	<u>Location of Pound</u>
Feb. 15 - June 1	Martin Holtz	Tee Harbor, Stephens Passage
Feb. 15 - June 1	J. Davis <i>operated for James Howard, an Indian (see O'Connor's rept. 2/1 - 2/15/28)</i>	Pearl Harbor " "
March 20 - June 5	Baranof Bait Company	Alutkina Bay, Sitka Sound
June 18 - July 19	" " "	Red Fish Bay, West Coast of Baranof Island.
During latter part of July and first part of August.		Surprise Harbor, South shore of Admiralty Island.
Latter part of July and first part of August.		Security Bay, North shore of Kuiu Island.
Sept. 1- Oct. 16	Killisnoo Fisheries Inc.	Favorite Bay, Kootznahoo Inlet.
" 1 " 16	" " "	Stillwater Anchorage, " "

Latter part of July. There was a herring pound in Port Alexander for furnishing halibut bait.

October 20-26. Juneau Cold Storage Company received 200 barrels of herring and sold them for bait, both fresh and frozen.

Killisnoo Fisheries Inc. and Storfold and Grondahl Packing Company furnished halibut bait during the season.

Booth Fisheries Company furnished frozen bait throughout the season.

## Salmon Run and Escapement

The run of salmon in the Icy Strait-Cross Sound District during the fishing season was light but steady until about July 25. It increased from that time on, gaining until it reached the maximum about August 3.

In the Central District there was also a very light run throughout the entire season.

In the Icy Strait-Cross Sound District, the run was light and only a few salmon entered certain creeks. No salmon entered a large number of the creeks until after the close of the season at which time there was a good escapement.

In the Central District there was very little escapement during the fishing season and scarcely any salmon entered the creeks until after the close of the season, after which time certain creeks had a fair escapement, especially those on the West Coast of Chichagof Island and bays and creeks between Salisbury Sound and Sitka. The gear took nearly all of the salmon that came in during the fishing season in a few creeks in Peril Strait and two on the East coast of Baranof Island, thereby leaving no salmon for escapement.

The escapement in that part of the Southern District contiguous to Frederick Sound and South of 57 degrees North Latitude was very light, namely, Hamilton Bay, Port Camden, Saginaw Bay, Security Bay, North and South Arms of Pillar Bay, Tebenkof Bay and Port Malmesbury.

Following is a brief summary of escapement.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF ESCAPEMENT IN CERTAIN STREAMS IN THE NORTHERN AND CENTRAL DISTRICTS, AND THAT PART OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT CONTIGUOUS TO THE CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTH OF 57 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Streams</u>	<u>Estimate of Escapement</u>	
July 26	Hoktaheen (run is over July 26)	Escapement cannot be estimated, Reds probably about	5,000
Aug. 5	Soapstone	Pinks and Chums about	10,000
Aug. 5	Stag Bay	Humpbacks and Chums about	30,000
Aug. 9	Lisianski Inlet, (Stream) opposite Miner's Island)	Pinks and Chums about	10,000
Aug. 9	Stream 8 miles further up the Inlet	Humpbacks and Chums about	8,000
Aug. 9	Stream within 3 miles of Head of Inlet.	Humpbacks and Chums about	9,000
Aug. 9	Stream at head of Inlet.	Humpbacks and Chums about	12,000
Aug. 11	<u>Port Frederick</u> Neka Bay	Pinks Chums	15,000 14,000
Aug. 12	Salmon Creek, Silver Bay	Chums about	400
Aug. 13	Kelp Bay, Glacier Creek	Chums about Pinks about	3,300 2,400
Aug. 13	Kelp Bay, South Arm.	Cohoos about	1,000
Aug. 14	Tenakee Inlet, creek 1 mile East of Tenakee Village	Pinks about Chums about	7,000 6,000
Aug. 14	Chaik Bay	Chums about	4,000
Aug. 14	There was no escapement up to August 14 in: Eva Lake, Whitewater Bay, Hood Bay (north and south Arm)		
Aug. 15	Redoubt Bay	Reds about	20,000
Aug. 17	Freshwater Bay	Reds about Cohoos about Chums about	16,000 2,500 800

<u>Date</u>	<u>Stream</u>	<u>Estimate of Escapement</u>	
Aug. 17	Tebenkof Bay, North arm.	Reds about	15,000
		Chums about	15,000
Aug. 18	Surge Bay	Reds and Pinks between	
		25,000 and	30,000
	<u>Port Frederick</u>		
Aug. 18	Humpback Creek	Pinks	10,000
		Chums	7,000
Aug. 20	Game Creek	Chums about	3,300
		Humpbacks about	6,000
Aug. 30	Bartlett Cove, Glacier Bay (escapement to August 30)	Reds about	2,500
Sept. 24	Doty Cove, $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles W.N.W. of Grant Island	Pinks about	8
Sept. 25	Windfall Harbor, Seymour Canal	Pinks about	1,900
		Chums about	3,600
		(of this amount about 1500 pinks have spawned)	
Sept. 25	Mole Harbor, Seymour Canal	Pinks about	16,000
		(About 4,000 of which have spawned)	
Sept. 25	Pleasant Bay, Seymour Canal	Pinks about	4,100
		(About 100 of which have spawned)	
Sept. 26	Gambier Bay, West Creek at head of Bay.	Pinks about	800
		Chums about	500
Sept. 26	Gambier Bay, N.W. creek at head of Bay.	Pinks about	50
		Chums about	150
Sept. 26	Smug Cove, in small slough	Pinks about	100
Sept. 27	Pybus Bay, Cannery Arm	Pinks about	2,000
		Chums about	2,000
Sept. 27	Pybus Bay, Donkey Creek	Pinks about	5,000
		Chums about	2,000

<u>Date</u>	<u>Streams</u>	<u>Estimate of Escapement</u>	
Sept. 27	Pybus Bay, head of N.W. Arm	Pinks about	4
		N.E. " Pinks about	100
Sept. 27	Pybus Bay, head of North Arm	Pinks about	1,000
Sept. 28	Little Pybus Bay	Pinks about	4,500
		Chums about	500
Sept. 28	Eliza Harbor	Pinks about	3,500
Sept. 29	Eliza Harbor, Creek on West side	Pinks about	3,000
		Chums about	700
Sept. 29	Head of Chapin Bay	Pinks about	50
Sept. 29	East Herring Bay	Pinks about	100
Sept. 29	West Herring Bay	Pinks about	50
		Chums about	1,000
Sept. 29	Tyee	Pinks about	3,500
Sept. 30	Hamilton Bay	Pinks about	500
		Chums about	5,000
Sept. 30	Saginaw Bay, S.E. creek	Pinks about	3,000
Oct. 1	Port Malmesbury	Chums about (about 100 Chums were killed by bears)	300
Oct. 1	Little Port Walter	Pinks about	70,000
Oct. 2	Red Bluff Bay	Pinks about	31,000
		(of which about 8,000 had spawned)	
Oct. 2	Sitkoh Bay	Pinks about	5,000
		(of which about 2,000 had spawned)	
Oct. 2	<u>Excursion Inlet</u> Red Salmon Stream	Reds	2,500
		Pinks	20,000
		Chums	1,000
		Cohoes	2,000
Oct. 3	Hanus Bay	Pinks about	800
Oct. 3	Saook Bay	Pinks about	13,000
		(of which about 3,000 had spawned)	
		Cohoes about	8,000

<u>Date</u>	<u>Streams</u>	<u>Estimated Escapement</u>	
Oct. 4	<u>Excursion Inlet</u>		
	Stream at Head of Inlet	Chums	25,000
		Cohoes	1,000
Oct. 4	Eagle Creek, Kruzof Island	Pinks about	2,400
		(About 1,200	
		of which had	
		spawned )	
		Chums about	1,000
Oct. 4	Kalinin Bay	Pinks about	14,000
		(About 5,000	
		of which had spawned,	
		and 20 with eyes	
		picked out, alive,	
		and not yet spawned.)	
Oct. 12	Freshwater Bay, creek on East side.	Chums about	1,000
Oct. 12	Freshwater Bay, creek on West side.	Chums about	19,000
		(4,000 of which	
		were fresh.)	
Oct. 12	Crab Bay, Tenakee Inlet	Chums about	1,000
Oct. 13	Seal Bay, Tenakee Inlet	Chums about	3,000
		(About 2,000	
		of which were fresh)	

## VIOLATIONS.

There were 15 trolling boats found trolling during weekly closed periods and 6 seine boats found fishing in closed areas. Two traps were seized during the season for fishing in violation of Section 5 of the Act of Congress, of June 6, 1906, as amended.

In all there were 24 violations - 22 of them entered a plea of guilty and were fined. Boats, traps, and gear were released on payment of fines. The gas screw "M. and M." found fishing at Hetta Inlet has been turned over to the Marshal who is holding her until the case comes up at the Ketchikan term of court in January. The gas screw "Svette Annie" of the Baranof Bait Company was found maintaining a herring pound in Red Fish Bay (closed area) southeast coast of Baranof Island. The boat has not yet been seized but the U. S. Attorney has ordered her seized as soon as she arrives in Juneau. The case will then come before the Court.

The number of violations committed during the season was a very small percentage of the number of boats, traps and trollers operating during the season. The cannery men as a whole are assisting the Bureau in every way they can to conform to the laws and regulations. A large majority of the trollers are likewise assisting and doing all in their power to prevent trollers from going out on Sunday as they do not think it fair when the larger majority of them stay in, a few will take a chance and go out. The trollers themselves are the first to make complaints of any violations. The same is true of all other fishery activities. The following is a full list of all violations committed during the season in Southeastern Alaska.

REPORT OF VIOLATIONS OF FISHERY LAWS AND REGULATIONS  
DURING THE SEASON OF 1927.

\*\*\*\*\*

1. Hans Peterson and Ole Peterson were charged with violating Section 5 of the Act of June 6, 1924, during the weekly closed period, from 6:00 P.M. Saturday June 18 to 6:00 A.M. Monday June 20. Hans Peterson and Ole Peterson were trolling between 6:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. on Sunday June 19, 1927. They received \$400 for the salmon caught on Sunday, June 19. U.S. District Attorney, Justin W. Harding, filed information in Commissioner's Court on June 27, 1927; the defendants entered plea of guilty and were fined \$350 and costs of \$6.35.
2. At 9:00 A.M. on Sunday July 10, 1927, Warden R.E. Hardcastle seized driven trap No. 6, License 27-060 situated on small island off the west coast of Duke Island, for fishing during the weekly closed period from 6:00 P.M. July 9 to 6:00 A.M. July 11. Heart walls were closed and tunnel to pot open. At time of violation, trap was under the supervision of Kit Kettles and Gus Carlson.  
On July 13 Kit Kettles, (Watchman) plead guilty and assumed all responsibility for violating Section 5 of the Act of June 6, before U.S. Commissioner and was fined \$600 - no costs. On advice of the U.S. Attorney the trap was ordered released and turned back to owner.
3. The following fishermen were found trolling before 6:00 A.M. Monday July 25, 1927, which was during the weekly close period:  
Adlar Larson                      Edward Iverson  
L. Preuss                              A.A. Papke  
John Johnson                         J. Wickersham  
Olaf Erickson                         (Chas. Reynolds) on one boat  
A. Carlson                             (R.H. MacDuffee)  
Edward Holmquist                     Ole Strand  
All evidence was turned over to the U.S. Commissioner, aboard the U.S.F.S. Widgeon and each defendant was fined \$60 and costs of \$4.80.
4. John Tetter entered a plea of guilty to violation of Section 5, committed Sunday June 19, 1927. John Tetter received \$585.00 for King salmon taken on the above date and the Court assessed a fine of \$110 and costs of \$5.80 July 25.
5. At 1:10 P.M. on August 4, 1927, Special Warden John McLoughlin aboard chartered boat "Valkyrie" found seine boat "Vivian June of Wrangell" with seine pursed and ready to brail about 1200 feet inside line of closed area in Red Bluff Bay, East coast of Baranof Island. United States Attorney, Justin W. Harding, directed Warden McLoughlin to seize boat "Vivian June", taking same to Juneau August 9. W.H. Lewis, Indian of Wrangell plead guilty to violation of Section 1, Act of June 6, 1924. The court assessed a fine of \$400 and costs of \$7.60.

Report of Violations of Fishery Laws and Regulations  
During the Season of 1927. (Continued)

6. At 7:50 A.M. Sunday July 24, 1927, the North Pacific Trading & Packing Co. Floating trap No. 6 License No. 27-351, located on the Northwest shore of Heceta Island 3/4 of a mile East of Port Alice, Sea Otter Sound, was found fishing with heart walls closed and tunnel to pot open during the weekly close period, violating Section 5 of the Act of June 6, 1924. On July 30, 1927, W.T. Hale, member and Superintendent of the North Pacific Trading and Packing Company plead guilty by his attorney to illegal fishing and was fined \$1,000.00 and costs of \$8.00.
7. Gas Boat "Stranger" was seen fishing inside markers, in closed area - Sockeye Creek, Boca de Quadra, by Superintendent and two of the Northwestern Fisheries Co. employees on July 4, 1927. The crew of the Gas Boat "Stranger" namely:  
Allan Miller, Master  
Fred Miller Part Owner  
Warren Hougen Deckhand  
plead guilty on August 10, 1927, to violation of Section 5 and the Master, Allan Miller, and Owner, Fred Miller, were assessed \$150 each and the Deckhand \$100.
8. Gas Boat "Islander" operated by Grover Cleary, was found trolling by Special Warden, John McLoughlin, in lower section of Chatham Straits, near Woden Island before 6:00 A.M. Monday August 22, 1927, which was during the weekly close period. On August 30 Grover Cleary appeared before the U.S. Commissioner at Juneau, plead guilty to violation of Section 5 and was fined \$100 and costs of \$3.85.
9. On August 30, 1927, Warden Fred G. Morton found the following fishermen fishing in closed area and during the closed season; namely Gut Bay, Baranof Is.  
Gas Boat Era 202-T, Ole Benjamin, owner and operator,  
with salmon aboard on ice and about 60 fathoms of gill net.  
Gas Boat Mabel C, Jack Matsen, Owner and operator  
with salmon on board on ice and about 150 fathoms of gill net.  
They were not fishing when Warden Morton, aboard the U.S.F.S. Widgeon, arrived, but admitted having been fishing before his arrival. Mr. Morton ordered the Masters of the two boats to report to the U.S. Commissioner at Petersburg. On September 2 both men plead guilty to illegal fishing and were fined \$5.00 and costs of \$2.50.
10. At 10:30 A.M. on August 18, 1927, Stream Watchman F.A. Cloudy found Gas Boat "M and M" 848 T in the act of taking fish inside prohibited area at the mouth of Hetta Creek. The boat was ordered to Ketchikan and upon her arrival there was seized and is now in charge of the U.S. Marshal. The case will come before the District Court in Ketchikan at the January term.
11. The case of the P.E. Harris Floating trap No. 1 T.L. 26-138, and the Alaska Consolidated Canneries Floating trap No. 4 T.L. 26-364 which have been before the Court since July 13, 1926, were argued again on July 30 for the former and August 1 for the latter. The Court has both cases under advisement on this date- November 12, 1927.

RECOMMENDATIONS, SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA DIVISION.

The writer recommends that the distance by most direct water measurement from any part of one trap to any part of another trap shall not be less than three statute miles. That the distance by most direct water measurement from any part of a closed area to any part of a trap shall not be less than one statute mile.

Icy Strait-Cross Sound District.

That traps be prohibited in North Inian Pass, South Inian Pass, Cross Sound and contiguous waters West of  $136^{\circ} 21' 30''$ . (Attention is invited to Chart 8304) Traps to be prohibited in Lisianski Inlet and Lisianski Strait and contiguous waters.

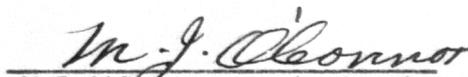
Central District

That traps be prohibited between Point Urey, East point of entrance to Lisianski Strait and head of Slocum Arm, West coast of Chichagof Island. (Attention is invited to Chart 8250) Traps to be also prohibited in Peril Strait, Hooniah Sound and contiguous waters between  $134^{\circ} 58'$  West longitude to a line from Range Point on Baranof Island to a Point bearing N.W.  $\frac{1}{2}$ W. on Chichagof Island at Eastern entrance to Bradshaw Cove. (Attention is invited to Charts 8250, 8282 and 8283)

Southern District.

That all commercial fishing for salmon be prohibited in Little Port Walter, Southeast shore of Baranof Island inside a line from the light on the South side at the entrance to East side of flat grassy rock on North side of entrance. (Attention is invited to Chart 8263)

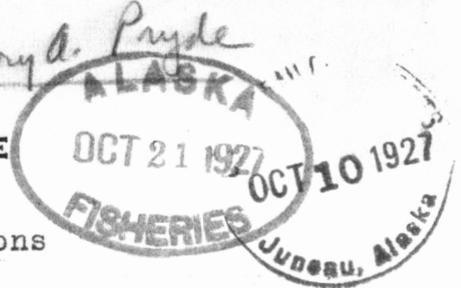
Respectfully submitted,

  
M.J. O'Connor, Asst. Agent.

*Seasonal report of Harry D. Pryde*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF FISHERIES

Report of Seasons operations  
Yakutat District,



The writer arrived at Yakutat May 1, on S.S. Admiral "Faragut", on May 6, Stream Guard "Trefzger" was established at Dry Bay, commercial Fishing was prohibited in Dry Bay prior to June 1, no violations were reported.

*W. H. H. H.*  
June 7, Stream Guard "Snow" was stationed on Setuck River above markers at Head of Setuck Inlet, first evidence of Red Salmon on Setuck, June 4, commercial fishing begun June 14,

June 27, Stream Guard "Gregg" was established at the mouth of Setuck Inlet, near the Breakers, where intensive fishing is carried on during low water, and during weekly closed periods would make trips over Ahrnklin Inlet.

On July 16 fishing Gear was taken up in Dry Bay, on account of Flood water from Alseck River, and Stream Guard "Trefzger" was transferred from Dry Bay to Yakutat Bay and vicinity on patrol with power Skiff.

Runs of Salmon

Dry Bay, King Salmon began to appear on May 12, and a good escapment was noted during the period preceding the opening of the commercial fishing Season June 1, from June 1 to 3 good catches of King Salmon was reported, when fishing was resumed June 6, after the weekly closed period, light catches were made on account of water having raised about 2 feet, but a fair run of Kings continued until July 1, Red Salmon were in evidence on June 1, catches were light first Two weeks as no Red Salmon Gear was in the water, on June 20 a heavy run struck in and continued until July 16, when fishing was stopped on account of high water, on August 25, fishing was resumed in Dry Bay for Med Reds, on September 1, a good run struck in and continued good until all Gear was taken out of Dry Bay September 23, it is said by the Old Residents of this district, that the run of King Salmon was earlier than usual this Season.

Italio River, Fishing activities this Season was carried on by Native Crew with drag Seine, Red Salmon began to appear about July 1, on August 16 the Red Salmon run fell off to almost nothing, they had caught up to that time 10512 Reds, Pinks began to run July 10, and 14161 were taken up to August 16, when the Crew returned to Yakutat for 10 days rest, on August survey was made of Italio River by the writer, and found evidence of a good escapement, fishing was resumed during September for Med Reds, during that time 49729 were taken.

Setuck River, On the opening of commercial fishing in Setuck Inlet there was a steady but light run of Red fish up to June 17, closed period, when fishing was resumed June 20, a good run set in and continued up to July 15, during that time there was a good escapement not only during weekly closed periods, but on every High Tide,

*Noted J. H. W.*

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### BUREAU OF FISHERIES

Setuck River, on July 18, when fishing was resumed after the 60 Hour closed period, the run had fallen off alarmingly, and continued so until July 25, July 26 a heavy run set in and continued up to August 12, from August 12 to 25, fishing was confined to the efforts of Six white Men, during this period there was a very large escapement, when fishing was resumed August 25, the catch ~~of~~ was light, owing to the change of Gear for Med Reds. Pinks, a light run set in July 5, and continued so up to August 4, on August 5 a heavy run struck in and good catches were made during the following week up to August 12, catch of fish on "Setuck" Aug 12, Reds 1165, Pinks 12933, Med Red 153, when fishing was resumed August 25, the catch for that day was Red 483 Pink 2652, Med Red 2348, The Med Red Salmon began to appear August 3, the run was light until August 26, when a heavy run set in and continued up to September 20, when the run fell off to almost nothing by Sept 30 King Salmon were in evidence when commercial fishing was begun June 14 catches of about 50 fish per day was made up to July 15, August 1 there was no more evidence of King Salmon in the River, the escapement on Setuck this Season was very large.

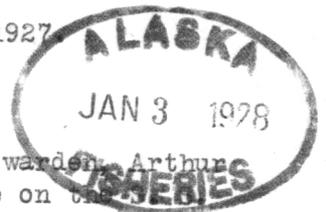
Ahrnklin River, this River is connected with Setuck at High Tide by Sloughs, and the runs of fish occur at the same time as on Setuck, there was a good escapement this Season.

Lost River, Fishing activities begun on June 17, Native Crew with Drag Seine, this Stream is also connected with Setuck at High Tide a light run of Red and Pink Salmon, but a very heavy run of Med Red, with good escapement.

During the Red Salmon Season in Setuck, Gas Boat "Clara" of Yakutat, with Native Crew, fished outside Setuck Bar with drift Gill Nets.

Yakutat Bay and vicinity, during the month of July, there was a light run of Red Salmon in Monti Bay, very light run of Pinks in Yakutat Bay this Season, good escapement in Hump-Back Creek of Pinks, August 20 to September 15 there was a heavy run of Med Red Salmon in Monti Bay and vicinity, with good escapement in Ankau.

*Harry A. Ryde*  
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Warden



The Chignik party, consisting of Charles Petry, warden, Arthur McEwin, cook, and Ernest Petry, stream guard, left Seattle on the "Yukon" April 2, 1927, for Chignik, Alaska, to enforce the fisheries laws, install a weir and count the salmon ascending the Chignik River. We arrived at Chignik April 13, where we stopped at the Northwestern Fisheries Company's cannery.

Floyd Suydam was engaged as Engineer for the season and the Bureau's launch "Ibis" was put in order and hauled into the water while we were waiting for our provisions and lumber for the construction of the weir to be unloaded from the Columbia River Packers Association's S. S. "Memnon".

Our provisions and lumber were loaded on a trap scow of the Columbia River Packers Association on April 28 and the next day the gas boat "Sutwik" of the Northwestern Fisheries Company towed the scow to within two miles of our camp when it was forced to turn back on account of low water. The scow was then taken in tow by the "Ibis" but when we were within one mile of our camp we were compelled to turn back as the river was entirely blocked with ice at that place. The scow was then towed back to the cannery of the Alaska Packers Association where we waited until the ice went out. On May 1, the ice went out and we moved to our camp.

Our camp was established May 2, the provisions and lumber unloaded and a suitable place selected for the weir site, which was five rods below where the weir had been the previous season. At this location the water is from two to four and one-half feet deep, and the river 460 feet wide.

Construction of the weir was commenced May 3 and by May 17 the work had progressed to such an extent that the river was closed so fish could not pass, and on May 20 the weir was entirely completed. Owing to the fact that there was very little snow in the mountains this spring, the river remained very low, which facilitated the work of installing the weir.

The weir was built on the same plan as in previous years, using as much of the old material as possible. The pickets were driven into the bed of the river as far as they would go and were spaced one and one-half inches apart, each picket having a cleat six inches long and one and one-half inches thick nailed near the bottom, which prevented them from spreading. The pickets were nailed to the three stringers which ran entirely across the river. Four counting gates were built out and up-right on the weir, allowing the counters to stand directly over the openings. These openings were 22 inches wide. A gate six feet two inches wide was built for the purpose of permitting small boats to pass. Fifty three of these boats passed this season.

Immediately after the river was closed large schools of Dolly Varden trout were seen above the weir. These trout apparently were coming down from the lakes and were not feeding at that time, as some of them were caught and opened and their stomachs were found to be entirely empty.

Mr. W. B. Wootton, one of the superintendents of the Columbia River Packers Association's cannery at this place loaned us a seine. This seine was 60 feet long and 12 feet deep, and was made of webbing with 3 inch meshes. These meshes were too large and many of the trout went through. 6,515 trout were caught with this seine, although many more would have been caught had the seine been of the proper size mesh.

Would recommend a seine 100 feet long and 12 feet deep, of two inch mesh, and a trout gill net 100 feet long and six feet deep be purchased and shipped to Chignik with our provisions in the spring. With these nets we would be able to catch many trout whenever the river is low enough to permit their use. This spring especially we could have made good use of these nets, as the river was low and many more trout were seen above the weir than in any previous season since the counting experiment has been in progress.

Owing to the stormy weather in the spring, the canneries were very late in getting their traps driven. None of the traps were completed when the commercial fishing season opened on June 15. The Waterfall trap, license No. 27-357, situated in Chignik Bay, and operated by the Columbia River Packers Association, was the first trap fishing this season. This trap started fishing on June 17, but was not complete as only part of the lead was in place at that time. Main Island trap, license No. 27-444, situated on the northwest shore of Chignik Island and operated by the Alaska Packers Association, started fishing on June 22. Rocky Point trap, license No. 27-359, situated in Aniakchak Bay, and operated by the Columbia River Packers Association, started fishing on June 27. Kujulik Bay trap, license No. 27-354, situated in Kujulik Bay and operated by the Alaska Packers Association, started fishing on June 28. Lake Bay trap, license No. 27-356, situated in Chignik Bay and operated by the Columbia River Packers Association, started fishing on June 30. Sands trap, license No. 27-445, situated in Chignik Bay, near the entrance to Chignik Lagoon, started fishing on July 4. Hook Bay trap, license No. 27-352, situated in Hook Bay and operated by the Columbia River Packers Association, started fishing July 7. Beach trap, license No. 27-355, situated in Aniakchak Bay, started fishing on July 11. North Fork trap, license No. 27-446, situated in Kujulik Bay and operated by the Alaska Packers Association, also started fishing on July 11. Humes Point trap, license No. 27-512, situated in Chignik Lagoon and operated by the Alaska Packers Association, started fishing on July 12.

The first red salmon were counted through the weir on June 6 and the run continued until October 13, the total escapement of red salmon being 1,256,007. The commercial count of red salmon caught, which were migratory to Chignik River, was reported as 434,391. Additional to this there were 21,872 red salmon caught in the two traps in Aniakchak Bay, which were migratory to Aniakchak River.

The first king salmon were counted through the weir on June 22, and were through running on August 25. The total count of king salmon at the weir was 1,823 and the commercial count was 987.

The first humpback salmon were seen at the weir on July 16 and were through running on September 12. The humpback salmon were not counted through the weir, as there were always some of them going back and forth ahead of the weir and many would drop back down through the weir again, which would have caused some to have been counted several times. The escapement of humpback salmon was good, considering that it was an off year for this species. The commercial count of humpbacks caught at Chignik was 186,710 and the commercial count of dog salmon was 171,529.

The first silver salmon were counted through the weir on August 9 and were through running on October 13. The total number of silver salmon counted at the weir was 145,390.

The Alaska Packers Association brought a scow load of salmon from Alitak on July 31 and canned them at their cannery at Chignik. This load consisted of the following:

29,158 Humpback salmon, from which they packed 1,941 cases					
838 Red	"	"	"	"	65 "
103 Dog	"	"	"	"	10 "

The Alaska Packers Association brought another load from Alitak on August 5, which consisted of the following:

31,276 Humpback salmon from which they packed 1,950 cases					
665 Red	"	"	"	"	53 "
87 Dog	"	"	"	"	8 "

These fish were in good shape when packed.

The traps in Chignik district were visited during the weekly closed seasons, with the exception of the Columbia River Packers' two traps at Aniakchak Bay, the Northwestern Fisheries' Hook Bay trap and the Alaska Packers' two traps at Kujulik Bay. These traps were too far outside to permit visiting with a launch as small as the "Ibis". No violations of the fisheries laws were observed at any time during the entire season.

On August 9 a trip was made to Aniakchak Bay, on the cannery tender "Unga" of the Columbia River Packers Association when going there to get the fish from the traps. A stream marker was placed 500 yards east of the mouth of Aniakchak River. Because of a long narrow sand spit extending between the river and bay, over which the water breaks when the weather is stormy, it was necessary to place the marker on the west side of the river 900 yards from the mouth of this stream.

A trip was made to Hook Bay on September 8, on the cannery tender "Semidi" of the Columbia River Packers Association when going there to get fish from the trap. There are three small streams and one fairly large creek emptying into this bay. A stream marker was placed 500 yards from the mouth of the stream farthest south and one was also placed 500 yards from the stream farthest north. These streams are all within 500 yards of each other, therefore but two markers were required to mark all four of the streams at this place.

Owing to the fact that the canneries were late in getting their traps in, and there was a heavy run of red salmon early, it was not necessary to order the traps officially closed at any time during the commercial fishing season to secure the minimum escapement of 1,000,000 red salmon.

The migration of small salmon going down the river appeared to be very light this season. No large schools were to be seen at any time. The best migration was observed during the latter part of June, although some migrants were seen during the entire season. It appears that some of these migrating salmon stay in the river and feed for a long time before going to salt water.

Some talk was heard of putting one more trap in Hook Bay next season. This would cause this place to be over-fished and I would recommend that no additional trap be allowed in Hook Bay over the one which was operated there last season.

Lars Hanson, a resident of Chignik, put up 19,000 pounds of pickled Norwegian cured herring. These herring were caught with a beach seine at Lake Bay where his salting station is located. Not many herring were seen in the Chignik district this season.

The fish were through running on October 13 and we, therefore, started taking out the weir on October 14. The weather was very stormy at that time, which made the work of taking out the weir very slow, however this was finished on October 22. The nails were all pulled out of the lumber and the material was all piled up on the bulwark at our camp and lashed with rope, so there is no danger of the water washing it away. The weather was too stormy to move from camp on October 23, but on the 24th we loaded some of the tools and all of the provisions, we had left, on the launch "Ibis" and moved to the Northwestern Fisheries Company's cannery. Some of the heaviest tools were stored and locked in a room at our camp. The launch "Ibis" was hauled up on the ways at the cannery of the Northwestern Fisheries Company and the engine was well greased. The tools which we brought with us were stored in one of the cannery lockers and everything was left in good shape.

On November 16, we left Chignik on the Bureau's motor ship "Eider", arriving at Seward, Alaska, on November 18, where we awaited passage to Seattle, Washington. We left Seward on the S. S. "Alaska" and arrived at Seattle November 26.

A number of photographs taken during the season and a tabulated statement of the count are enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

*Charles Petry*  
Warden, Alaska Service.

Salmon counted through Chignik Weir season 1927

		<u>Red</u>	<u>King</u>	<u>Silver</u>
June	6	89		
"	7	104		
"	8	30		
"	9	65		
"	10	109		
"	11	102		
"	12	2835		
"	13	17649		
"	14	20849		
"	15	22968		
"	16	35745		
"	17	10123		
"	18	6548		
"	19	24036		
"	20	44015		
"	21	63250		
"	22	54459	1	
"	23	52070	1	
"	24	81144	2	
"	25	61225	2	
"	26	89569	3	
"	27	101824	3	
"	28	96547	8	
"	29	83507	17	
"	30	43340	29	
July	1	29933	8	
"	2	22462	4	
"	3	19601	7	
"	4	22811	15	
"	5	12091	11	
"	6	7693	13	
"	7	10322	22	
"	8	8072	17	
"	9	6069	16	
"	10	4710	15	
"	11	6788	53	
"	12	7573	36	
"	13	5187	62	
"	14	6373	66	
"	15	3753	52	
"	16	2034	20	
"	17	5473	40	
"	18	8785	146	
"	19	4718	61	
"	20	1629	32	
"	21	2533	22	
"	22	12656	101	
"	23	3372	65	
"	24	6672	182	
"	25	2305	60	
"	26	3797	60	
"	27	6037	54	
"	28	4361	33	
"	29	4869	40	
"	30	2316	28	
"	31	5936	50	



		<u>Red</u>	<u>King</u>	<u>Silver</u>
August	1	4238	32	
"	2	2819	30	
"	3	3606	39	
"	4	1886	20	
"	5	1623	14	
"	6	1953	12	
"	7	1542	10	
"	8	1912	29	
"	9	2141	28	58
"	10	1343	16	75
"	11	1951	37	92
"	12	783	11	36
"	13	756	15	32
"	14	1138	13	408
"	15	988	4	235
"	16	1468	8	239
"	17	2201	21	963
"	18	1759	7	882
"	19	2126	5	470
"	20	1076	4	210
"	21	1781	6	775
"	22	1084	1	669
"	23	1585	2	1044
"	24	1461	0	708
"	25	1675	2	830
"	26	1406		955
"	27	1029		1102
"	28	1324		1192
"	29	1509		1953
"	30	1670		1563
"	31	1783		2598
Sept.	1	1494		3557
"	2	1474		14647
"	3	1047		7966
"	4	1501		12699
"	5	1208		6839
"	6	1048		2749
"	7	827		4288
"	8	749		2562
"	9	524		1792
"	10	510		3958
"	11	895		2681
"	12	879		4748
"	13	1056		2544
"	14	1299		2687
"	15	1338		2142
"	16	1255		2437
"	17	1931		7110
"	18	1172		2910
"	19	1058		2502
"	20	1455		3330
"	21	1052		2592
"	22	1199		5100
"	23	1267		7334
"	24	1240		3951
"	25	856		2394
"	26	738		1106

		<u>Red</u>	<u>King.</u>	<u>Silver</u>
Sept.	27	571		1068
"	28	581		1162
"	29	908		1353
"	30	967		1255
Oct.	1	1002		1025
"	2	953		976
"	3	801		897
"	4	676		603
"	5	630		565
"	6	374		426
"	7	766		715
"	8	656		553
"	9	428		368
"	10	351		308
"	11	348		304
"	12	118		68
"	13	56		30
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		1,256,007	1,823	145,390

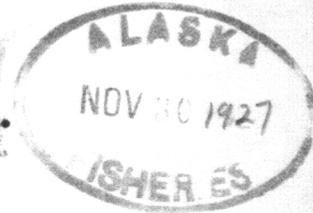
Respectfully,

*Charles Petry*  
Warden, Alaska Service.

*Annual Report -*  
*Arnie J. Suomela*  
1927

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF FISHERIES

Seattle, Washington.



Subject: Resume of Operations, Bristol Bay

Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Washington, D. C.

As has been the custom of previous years, supplies and men were transported to Bristol Bay on the packers vessels, with one exception of transporting twelve temporary employees and the writer on the S.S.VICTORIA under charter of the Nakat Packing Corporation on May 10. On April 23rd three employees took departure from Blaine, Washington on the Star of Lapland, Alaska Packers Association. Three employees were transported from San Francisco May 5th on the S.S.MT.BAKER of the Naknek Packing Company. Agent Dennis Winn and two others departed from Portland, Oregon on the S.S.NORTH KING of the Alaska Portland Packers Association on May 5th. Also on the same date three men were taken north on the S.S.MEMNON of the Columbia River Packers Association from Astoria, Oregon, as well as two men on the S.S.GEN'L. GORGAS owned by Libby McNeill & Libby sailing from Seattle. A total of twenty five special employees were thusly transferred by the above mentioned companies to Bristol Bay along with two regular employees.

When the commercial season terminated transportation was furnished for return passage for two men on the S.S. NORTH KING and nine men on the S.S.VICTORIA, one on the S.S.HYADES, two on the S.S.MT.BAKER, while eleven others departed via Iliamna Lake, Kanatak, Dillingham, and thence on the regular passenger vessels for the states.

PRE-SEASONAL OPERATIONS

After completion of work in a general overhauling of all the boats and equipment at the Bureau's Marine Ways, two patrol launches were dispatched to Ugashik in connection with installing the salmon counting weir at a point below the first Ugashik Lake and in the same location as last season. The crew comprised of nine men with Henry McFadden in charge of the installation. A crew was also dispatched to the Kvichak River with G. Severson in charge to install a salmon counting weir which was a new undertaking this year.

All work was organized and supervised by Agent Dennis Winn who remained in the district the entire summer.

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## BUREAU OF FISHERIES

(2) Bristol Bay

### ORGANIZATION OF PATROL

The Bureau's patrol fleet for the season of the following:

U.S.F.S. "SCOTER" ----- The writer in charge under the direction of the Agent. The SCOTER was used thruout the season performing patrol duty in outside waters, keeping in touch with the smaller patrol boats, as well as performing other work pertaining to the Bureau's activities.

Nushagak Area ----- Patrol Launch Number 3, with Eric D. Fenno in charge and Walter J. Kelly assistant. Patrol launch No. 3 was taken to Nushagak early in June for patrol duty during the king salmon season prior to June 24th after which in performance of patrol for the red salmon season.

Igushik ----- Hector MacAlister in charge. During the king salmon season No. 5 was used on patrol of the Igushik River, having been taken to Nushagak early in June, and remaining at Igushik the entire commercial red salmon season.

Kvichak ----- Gus Severson, in charge, with Arthur Mesford assistant. While Number 7<sup>8</sup> was used in connection with the Kvichak weir, the boat was also used to assist with the patrol during the closed periods.

Kvichak ----- Patrol Launch Number 1. George Stevenson in charge, with Walter Russell as assistant. This boat was used entirely for patrol purposes on the Kvichak River.

Naknek ----- Patrol Launch Number 2. Alf Christensen in charge, with Louis Strong as assistant. Number 2 was used in patrol of the Naknek River and lower Kvichak Bay.

Egegik ----- Clarence Olsen, In charge. Patrol on the river was maintained by means of a dory.

Ugashik ----- Launch Number 6. C. M. Hatton in charge, with R. Blyberg assistant.

Launch Number 8. H. McFadden in charge, with W. Haynes assistant.

Number 8 was used for work at the salmon counting weir as well as assisting Number 6 on the lower river during the Sunday closed periods in maintaingng the patrol.

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BUREAU OF FISHERIES

(3) Bristol Bay

COLLECTION OF SCALES

Scales were collected by Bureau employees during the commercial season. A total of 5619 samples were obtained and by districts as follows: Naknek 1134 - Ugashik 900 Kvichak 1185 - Nushagak 1200 - Egegik 1200.

OPERATORS

Twenty seven salmon canneries were operated this season and four salteries. There follows herewith the names of operators in Bristol Bay:

**NUSHAGAK:**

- Alaska Salmon Company ✓
- Alaska Portland Packers ✓
- Alaska Packers Association
  - a. Diamond PHJ ✓
  - b. Diamong NC ✓
- Libby McNeill & Libby
  - a. Nushagak ✓
  - b. Ekuk ✓
- Northwestern Fisheries Company ✓
- Columbia River Packers Association ✓

**Kvichak:**

- Libby McNeill & Libby
  - a. Lockhonak ✓
  - b. Koggiung ✓
  - c. Libbyville ✓
- Alaska Packers Association
  - a. Diamond J ✓
  - b. Diamond X ✓
- Nakat Packing Corporation ✓
- Bristol Bay Packing Corporation ✓

*(2 canneries, of 5 lines each but both connected + no increase over last season [see Mr. Winn. 1/27/28])*

**NAKNEK:**

- Alaska Portland Packers Association ✓
- Red Salmon Canning Company ✓
- Naknek Pkg. Company ✓
- Northwestern Fisheries Company ✓
- Alaska Packers Association
  - a. Diamond NN ✓
  - b. Diamond O ✓
  - c. Diamond M ✓

**Egegik:**

- Alaska Packers Association ✓
- Libby McNeill & Libby ✓

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BUREAU OF FISHERIES

(4) Bristol Bay

UGASHIK:

Red Salmon Canning Company  
International Pkg. Company (floater SANTA FLAVIA)  
Alaska Packers Association

Four salteries were operated, one on the Igushik River and three in the Kvichak section:

Igushik: Libby McNeill & Libby.  
Kvichak: Alaska Salmon Company  
    a. Graveyard Creek Saltery  
    b. Bering Sea Packing Company  
    Independent Saltery

The last mentioned saltery was operated by local residents having two independently owned boats delivering their catches here. Their output was sold to the Alaska Packers Association at Koggiung. (Kvichak)

ADDITIONAL GEAR

Prior to the opening of the season it was learned that the Northwestern Fisheries Company at Naknek was to fish forty boats during the season which was eight boats in excess of their quota, which was in violation of the packers agreement, after a meeting held last fall in San Francisco. The Commissioner was duly notified, and regulation promulgated June 23rd amending Bristol Bay Salmon regulation Number 11 making a weekly closed period of seventy two hours extending from six o'clock antemeridian of Saturday of each week to six o'clock antemeridian of the following Tuesday also supplementary regulation fixing the closed period of forty eight hours from six o'clock antemeridian of Monday following in the portion of Kvichak Bay between present line extending from Graveyard Point to opposite shore and new line from Etolin Point to Cape Chichagof.

On June 29th a meeting of all salmon packers in the Kvichak -Naknek area, with the exception of the Northwestern Fisheries, was held at Koggiung. It was decided to remove eight boats from the area, the number which was being fished in excess by the Northwestern Fisheries. The following agreement on the elimination of boats was carried out during the season: Alaska Packers Association, Koggiung, 2 boats- LibbyMcNeill & Libby, Koggiung, 2 boats which included 1/2 boat for the Nakat Pkg. Corporation, and Libbyville 1 boat- Alaska Portland Packers Association 1 boat- Red Salmon Canning Company 1 boat- Bristol Bay Packing Company 1 boat- Alaska Packers, Naknek, 1 boat.

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### Additional Gear

A total of nine boats were withdrawn by the other cannery and which were not fished during the season. The basis on which the withdrawal was carried out was on the lines operated by each cannery.

After the withdrawal of the boats the supplementary regulations of June 23rd regarding the extension of the weekly closed period were cancelled.

### RESIDENT FISHERMEN

The number of independent fishing boats are shown as fishing in the following districts:- Nushagak 14 -- Naknek 6 -- Egegik 9 -- Ugashik 13 -- Kvichak 21, which makes a total of 63, and comprising this total there are twenty eight boats owned by white residents of Bristol Bay and thirty five owned by natives.

In the Nushagak district three boats were fished by local white residents and considered in the quota boats of the packers. Thirty three boats were furnished natives and which are not considered as quota boats.

On the Kvichak twelve boats were fished as quota boats by white residents, and two boats were furnished natives.

At Egegik three boats were fished by local whites as quota boats and no boats were furnished natives.

Eight boats were furnished natives at Ugashik and no boats operated by local whites as quota boats.

At Naknek there were no boats furnished to natives of local whites.

( Note: See memorandum on Bristol Bay Gill Net Boats )

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BUREAU OF FISHERIES

COMMERCIAL SET NETS

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF NETS</u>
Nushagak	53
Igushik	4
Egegik	6
Ugashik	1
Kvichak	3
Total.....	<u>67</u>

(biggest increase at Ekeuk)  
per Mr. Winow

In comparing the number of commercial set nets for the seasons of 1926 and 1927, we find that in 1927 there was an increase of 47 nets over that of 1926.

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

BUREAU OF FISHERIES

**SALMON PACK BRISTOL BAY  
1927**

NAKNEK

Alaska Packers Association:	Kings	Dogs	Reds	Total
a. Diamond NN				
b. Diamond O	162	1191	137,315	138,668
c. Diamond M				
 Naknek Packing Company	46	143	36,002	36,191
Red Salmon Canning Company	55	241	37,206	37,502
Northwestern Fisheries	90	686	46,492	47,268
Alaska Portland Packers	-	-	<u>43,476</u>	<u>43,476</u>
	<u>353</u>	<u>2261</u>	<u>300,491</u>	<u>303,105</u>

KVICHAK

Alaska Packers Association:				
A. Diamond J	342	594	57,579	58,515
b. Diamond X	389	236	58,411	59,036
Nakat Packing Corporation	300	400	46,088	46,788
Libby McNeill & Libby:				
a. Libbyville	81	642	39,783	40,506
b. Koggiung	107	609	63,659	64,375
c. Lockhonak	167	643	28,879	29,689
Bristol Bay Pkg. Company	-	<u>538</u>	<u>81,316</u>	<u>81,854</u>
	<u>1386</u>	<u>3662</u>	<u>375,715</u>	<u>380,763</u>

EGEGIK

Alaska Packers Association:				
a. Diamond E	-	-	41,266	41,266
Libby McNeill & Libby	2	171	42,162	42,335
	<u>2</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>83,428</u>	<u>83,601</u>

UGASHIK

Red Salmon Canning Company	55	357	7,192	7,604
Alaska Packers Association	30	343	7,187	7,560
International Pkg. Company	<u>14</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>18,682</u>	<u>18,896</u>
	<u>99</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>33,061</u>	<u>34,060</u>

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## BUREAU OF FISHERIES

## Salmon Pack

NUSHAGAK

Alaska Packers Association:	Kings	Dogs	Cohoos	Reds	Total
a. Clark Point	221	677	-	6827	7725
b. Scandinavian	1726	2248	-	7329	11336
Alaska Salmon Company	1070	1750	-	7036	9856
Alaska Portland Packers	2746	2745	-	11000	16491
Northwestern Fisheries	2890	2232	-	7242	12364
Columbia River Packers	2101	1584	9	5817	9511
Libby McNeill & Libby					
a. Nushagak	1986	1892	8	7792	11678
b. Ekuk	<u>2510</u>	<u>2597</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>10526</u>	<u>15649</u>
	15250	15275	33	63569	94577

S U M M A R Y

	<u>REDS</u>	<u>DOGS</u>	<u>KINGS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Nushagak	63,569	15,725	15,283	94,577
Ugashik	33,061	900	99	34,060
Egegik	83,428	171	2	83,601
Naknek	300,491	2,261	353	303,105
Kvichak	<u>375,715</u>	<u>3,662</u>	<u>1,386</u>	<u>380,663</u>
<u>Grand Total</u>	856,264	22,719	17,123	896,106

Note: 33 cases of Cohoes added to Kings in Nushagak Area.

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### DESCRIPTION OF UGASHIK WEIR

The weir is situated approximately one mile from the lower Ugashik Lake at a point below the lower finger of the Ugashik River.

Commencing from the west shore of the river the weir is constructed as follows: about forty feet from the bank a small tripod numbered one is placed in the river with one leg pointing upstream. In addition there are seven large tripods which are placed in the channel and spaced eighteen feet apart and placed the same as tripod number one, and in alignment from the west shore of the river to the east shore. Small platforms are built on the tripods in order that they can be weighted down with rocks and boxes of gravel.

Next follows twelve medium tripods all placed in the same way as the first eight and also spaced eighteen feet apart.

Following are six small tripods each with the same spacing as the others but with two of the legs pointing downstream.

From these small tripods to the east shore, posts are driven twelve feet apart and braced by driving pickets on the downstream side of each post and nailing to the posts.

Stringers are then placed along the top of these posts and also on the six small tripods with wire webbing fastened to and weighted to the bottom by employment of rocks for this purpose.

Beginning at tripod No. 20 and extending from there back to tripod No. 1 stringers are placed about two feet above the bottom of the river bed and then again one foot above high water mark. Between tripods No. 8 and 2 extra stringers were placed about midway to take up the strain that is against the weir due to the current.

Using lumber cut 1 1/2" x 2" and 12' long for pickets, sharpened on one end so as to insure driving into the bottom of the river. These pickets were nailed into 3 foot sections, each picket spaced 1 1/2 inches apart.

Commencing at No. 20 tripod and proceeding toward No. 1 tripod these sections were put in place and the pointed ends shoved down into the river bed with the upper half of the section resting on the stringers, and nailed in place.

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#### Counting weir.

Picket sections were placed from tripod No. 20 to No. 17 where No. 6 counting gate was placed. The counting gates tunnels are constructed of a 2" x 4" framework with wire webbing for siding. The gate is constructed of 1 1/2" x 2" lumber spaced 1 1/2" apart and so put together that it can be lifted and lowered during counting operations. These gates are built on the upstream side of the weir.

Then picket sections are placed from gate No. 6 to gate No. 5 between tripods No. 12 and 13. More picket sections are placed to gate No. 4 between tripods No. 10 and 11, also to gate No. 3 between tripods 7 and 8. Four sections were laid between gate 3 and tripod 7 these being 3 feet wide and 14 feet long, the reason for the long pickets being that in order to reach the bottom in the channel these lengths were required.

Between gates 2 and 3 pickets 14 feet long were driven into the bottom of the river and nailed to the stringers. Eighty feet of two inch wire webbing was placed in this gap, also with two picket sections next to the gates.

From gate No. 1 to the end of the tripods 3 foot sections are placed. From No. 1 tripod a wire web lead covers this section to the west bank. The purpose of this wing is to allow passage for small boats to and from the lake.

A plank walk was constructed on the weir to facilitate the operation of the counting gates.

#### KVICHAK WEIR

On July 7th heavy beaver workings commenced coming down river from Kaskanak Flats, which accumulated against the weir. It was impossible to keep the weir free of this refuse, consequently an enormous weight was added to the webbing and piling. This also tended to raise the river or water on the upstream side and after a very short period the river was considerable higher on this side than the downstream side making an added pressure against the weir. Grass and driftwood continued piling up against the weir and on the 8th of July the piling commenced giving away. An attempt was made to drive brase piling in order to hold the weir but to no avail; piling continued coming out and it was impossible to brace them so as to insure their holding.

BRISTOL BAY GILL NET BOATS

Season 1927

K	QUOTA BOATS	INDEPENDENT BOATS		WHITE RESIDENTS IN QUOTA BOATS	BOATS FURNISHED NATIVES
		WHITE	NATIVE	BOATS	
Alaska River Packers	24	-	-	-	6
Alaska Eastern Fisheries	24	-	-	-	9
McNeill & Libby					
Nushagak	24	1	-	-	-
Elruk	24	-	-	-	-
(Saltery use)	8	-	-	-	-
Portland Packers	36	3	3	-	4
Packers Association					
Clark Point	36	1	1	2	-
Scandinavian	36	1	-	1	4
(Saltery use)	5	-	-	-	-
Salmon Company	24	3	1	-	10
Fished Nakat Salt. B'ts.	5	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

McNeill & Libby	101	3	-	1	-
Packers Association	98	-	-	-	2
Bay Pkg. Company	79	-	-	-	-
Salmon Company					
Veveyard Creek Saltery	5	-	6	5	-
King Sea Pkg. Co.	4	-	5	4	-
King Corporation	24	3	2	2	-
Westward Pkg. Co.	7	-	-	-	-
Westward Saltery	-	2	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>

NOTE: Alaska Packers fished 20 boats of the Carlisle Pkg. Co.  
Includes 9 saltery boats in total

BRISTOL BAY GILL NET BOATS

Season 1 9 2 7

	Q. UOTA BOATS	INDEPENDENT BOATS		WHITE RESIDENTS IN QUOTA BOATS	BOATS FURNISHED NATIVES
		WHITE	NATIVE	BOATS	
Portland Pkr's.	31	-	-	-	-
Packers Association	131	-	-	-	-
Western Fisheries	40	-	-	-	-
Pkg. Company	32	3	-	-	-
Almon Canning Co.	31	3	-	-	-
<u>Q T A L</u>	<u>265</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

NOTE: Figures on Quota Boats include 12 Carlisle Boats fished by the Alaska Packers.  
Northwestern Fisheries fished 8 boats in excess of their allotment.

A total of 9 boats were called in by other cannerys.

MIX

Packers Association	24	2	1	-	-
McNeill & Libby	24	-	6	3	-
<u>Q T A L</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>

Packers Association	16	1	5	-	-
National Pkg. Co.	12	-	-	-	8
Almon Canning Co.	16	2	5	-	-
<u>T A L</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8</u>
GRAND TOTAL . . . .	912	28	35	18	43

921  
less 9  
912

NOTE: A total of 63 Independent gill net boats in Bristol Bay

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### S A L M O N R U N S

#### Kvichak-Naknek

Very light catches were made at the opening of the season June 24th continuing poor until July 6th when a slight increase in the fish run occurred. Middle Bluffs was the center of all early fishing, the location of Middle Bluffs is between Naknek and Egegik Rivers, operations being carried on during one tide only. Very few fish escaped the nets at Middle Bluffs, therefor very little fishing was conducted in the Upper Kvichak Bay until later in the season. A light escapement occurred in the Naknek River on the evening tides of July 6th and 7th. On July 8th fishing appeared spotted, with some boats making good catches while other practically nothing. Some good catches were made in the vicinity of Libbyville and a few boats made fair catches in the upper bay. The first fish to appear in any great numbers passed by the weir at Kaskanak Flats on July 9th and only lasting one day. A fair run materialized on July 12th and the run was practically over by the 16th. On the 18th and 19th catches were very light and the season was closed at 6:00 p.m. July 19th. On the 20th fish again showed in lower Kvichak Bay, and fish were observed passing up the Naknek River on the night tides of the 21st and 22nd. The ascending fish dropped to small numbers until the 25th when a fair run ascended the river, and from this date on only small numbers.

#### Egegik

The salmon appeared in the Egegik River in June and was fairly light until June 25 when a fair run started (but this however lasted only a few days. The run diminished until July 4th and 5th, the numbers entering the river almost negligible, but on July 6th the heavy run commenced continueing so until the season closed on the 16th and until the 20th. This was the latest the fish run continued since the season 1917.

The salmon run in the Egegik River was very good this season and was almost a repitition of the 1926 season.

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### Salmon Runs

#### NUSHAGAK

When the season opened on June 24th there were practically no red salmon in the river, this condition remaining so for a week with only about 3200 cases being packed up to July 2. The following week there was a slight increase with indication of a run on July 7th but this did not materialize. Only a very few boats took good catches and the majority practically nothing which shows that fishing was very spotted.

The red salmon continued to increase the following week and the peak of the run was attained on the 13th and 14th of July. The schools of fish coming in were small and scattered.

The run diminished until the 23rd and 24th when the last of the stragglers came in the river. From July 27th there were very few red salmon caught in the set nets, altho a few were taken now and then until about the 20th of August.

The King salmon run was strong thruout the entire season and until about the middle of August.

#### UGASHIK

At the opening of the season very few fish were taken in either set or drift gill nets. On July 2 red salmon appeared in the river. The fishermen had taken some salmon when the season opened but these fish were taken from outside waters. From July 2 the count of salmon thru the Ugashik weir was very irregular. On July 11th a slight increase in the number of fish was noted in the lower river and on the 12th the salmon showed at the weir. The run continued irregular but increased up to July 24th when the peak of the run was reached. From July 24th to August 25th there was a gradual decrease in the number of fish passing up the river.

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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### E S C A P E M E N T

#### Wood River Lakes

The following is a summarization of Eric D. Fenno's report of observations on the spawning grounds of the Wood River Lake System:

Upon the arrival of Mr. Fenno at Igulawok River, which is the second lake river, on July 28th it was observed that there were very few fish in the bay and at the outlet of the river which indicated that a very small run of salmon had materialized.

During the years when a fair run of fish ascend the Igulawok River it will be found that salmon in good numbers are spawning in the lake and around the mouth of the river. This season it was noted that very few salmon were spawning here, which is an indication of the scarcity of fish. Up to August 16th thirty eight thousand six hundred and seventy three salmon were counted on their ascension up the Igulawok River.

Natives were compelled to carry on intensified fishing in that additional gear was employed to catch fish for the winter supply of dog feed. In the native village on the southern shore of the lake, located about four miles from the outlet, the highest catch for a net during a day was forty four, with very few salmon taken up to the 29th of August.

Two white settlers were also engaged in curing fish for winter supply of dog feed meeting with the same poor success as the natives.

Mr. Fenno estimated the escapement at less than 20 percent of a normal year, taking into consideration the numbers of salmon counted on their ascent of Igulawok River, the number of fish taken by both white residents and natives, and observations of the spawning grounds.

#### Kvichak Lake System

The following is a short summary from Mr. Winn's report on "Inspection of Salmon Spawning grounds thru the Iliamna-Lake Clarke District, season 1927":-

On a visit to Kokhonak River the natives reported the first salmon to make their appearance in the lake was on the 15th of July but only few in numbers, and that no catches could be made due to the fact that the fish remained offshore some distance.

It was observed that the salmon were more uniformly apportioned

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Escapement, Kvichak

over the spawning area this year, especially was this true of the smaller streams of the north shore of Iliamna Lake including Iliamna River. Altho the fish do not appear in the early spawning areas in such numbers as in previous years, yet the smaller streams on the northern shore of the lake and westward show more salmon this year than last season.

The natives were having little difficulty in putting up their winter supply of salmon.

It was estimated that the total escapement this year was 75 percent of that of the escapement of last season.

Becharof Lake

Upon the examination of the Becharof Lake System by Clarence Olson, he reports that in comparing the seasons of 1926 and 1927, it was found after observation that in 1926 red salmon were in good numbers at the mouths of the many streams, while this season on an examination of these same streams it was noted that this condition did not exist, in that salmon were not found in such great numbers.

It was estimated that this seasons escapement was 20 percent less than that of 1926.

Ugashik Lakes

In the check of the escapement into the Ugashik Lakes this season, the count of reds was 443,262 in comparison to 786,775 for the season of 1926, which is 44 percent less than the escapement last year.

Naknek Lakes

While no observations were made of the Naknek Lakes yet is is evident that a fair escapement passed into the lakes, basing this on the salmon that ascended Naknek River during and after the commercial season.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnie J. Suomela  
Warden. *D.H.*