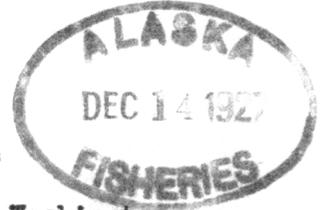


## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF FISHERIES

Subject: Fishery Activities, Southeast Alaska,  
Season of 1927.



Seattle, Washington,  
December 5, 1927.

The Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor of submitting herewith a report of Bureau fishery activities in Southeast Alaska District during the season of 1927. This report includes a general summary of activities relative to enforcement of fishery laws and regulations, salmon patrol, policing of areas closed to commercial fishing, tagging of salmon for scientific purposes, collection of statistics pertaining to salmon, halibut and other varieties including shell fish; together with other activities as designated by the Commissioner of Fisheries.

As in previous years, it was necessary for me to proceed with the fishing fleet in the early spring to Bristol Bay, where I remained throughout the commercial fishing season. Before my departure for Bristol Bay, the intended operations in Southeastern Alaska were outlined and a trip was made from Seattle, March 9, to various points in Southeast Alaska District for the purpose of instructing the wardens as to the work anticipated, so as to avoid any possible conflict or overlapping of activities and to make certain that the entire operations were being properly coordinated. I returned to Seattle March 25 and completed arrangements for intended operations in other districts in Alaska, after which date I proceeded on the steamer "North King" of the Alaska Portland Packers' fleet, from Portland to Bristol Bay. A special report of my observations in Bristol Bay has been mailed to Washington and a general report pertaining to the operations in that area has been submitted by Warden, A.J.Suomela.

On completion of the work in Bristol Bay, I proceeded to Juneau via Iliamna Lake and Seward, arriving at Juneau September 3, to assume direct supervision of the Bureau activities in that district for the remainder of the season.

During the writer's absence, Assistant Agent, M.J.O'Connor was in direct charge of operations, with headquarters at Juneau, Alaska, under the personal supervision of the Commissioner of Fisheries, who remained in the vicinity of Juneau the greater portion of the season.

## FUR SEAL PATROL

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The Bureau patrol boat "Brant" was detailed to seal patrol for the season and reported at Sitka April 13. Captain Earle L. Hunter assumed charge of patrol until the arrival of Assistant Agent, M.J.O'Connor, on May 13, after which date Mr.O'Connor supervised the patrol activities.

The first seal taken was on April 8 and the season ended May 16, with a total catch of 494 seals, i.e.

339 Males  
155 Females  
Unborn Pups - 49

Eight boats were engaged in sealing. Seals were more numerous this season than ever before, according to the native sealers. The reason for the small number of seals taken was due to the small price of Ten Dollars obtainable for the skins. (Please refer to Assistant Agent, M.J.O'Connor's annual report for a detailed summary of the fur seal activities).

## FISHERIES PATROL

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Six Bureau boats and five chartered launches, suitable for cruising these waters, were engaged in patrol and investigation throughout Southeast Alaska, as follows:

U.S.F.S. Brant Commissioner, Henry O'Malley, in Charge  
Circulating the entire district during the early season and Agent, Dennis Winn, in Charge, during the late season.

U.S.F.S. Widgeon Asst.Agent, M.J.O'Connor, in Charge  
Assigned to Juneau District and vicinity North during the entire season.

U.S.F.S. Anklet Warden, Frank W Hynes, in Charge.  
Assigned to the Wrangell District during the entire season.

U.S.F.S. Murre Warden, R.E.Hardcastle in Charge.  
Patrolled throughout the Ketchikan District the entire season.

U.S.F.S. Petrel Warden, Fred G. Morton in Charge.  
Assigned to the Ketchikan District during the late season only, to assist in patrolling the waters of that district.

U.S.F.S.Kittiwake Warden, A.J.Suomela, in Charge.  
Assigned to the West Coast of Prince of Wales District during the late season only.

FISHERIES PATROL  
(Continued)  
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Chartered Boats

VALKYRIE

John McLoughlin, in Charge.

Circulated entire district on patrol of herring fisheries, from July 1 to September 14.

+ 2 men  
(capt + cook)

GLORIA

J. P. Mix, in Charge.

Assigned to the Sitka District on salmon patrol, commencing July 6 and completing the work August 22.

+ 1 man

PHEASANT

A. A. Kiefer, in Charge.

Patrolled Central District and vicinity from July 5 to August 6.

+ 2 men

ANONA

George M. Stanley, in Charge.

Assigned to salmon patrol and collection of salmon statistics in Ketchikan District from July 1 to September 9.

2 men

YAKOBI

Warden, Fred G. Morton,

Circulated entire district in connection with salmon tagging operations, Commenced June 15 and completed the work August 12.

(Lawsan 5 2 men)  
(at)

3 crew

\*\*\*\*\*

Owing to necessary repairs and delay in the installation of the new engine, the departure of the "Petrel" from Seattle was delayed until September 11, at which time she proceeded to Ketchikan, arriving there September 20, when she was immediately detailed on stream survey under the direction of Warden Morton.

The "Kittiwake" after completing activities in the Cook Inlet District proceeded to the Southeastern District where she was detailed to assist in the stream survey along the West Coast of Prince of Wales Island. After completing this work, she proceeded to Seattle for needed overhauling and repairs. The "Murre" was also ordered to Seattle for repairs after the stream survey had been completed.

The "Yakobi", which was used primarily in tagging salmon for scientific purposes, under the direction of Warden Morton, also assisted in patrol duty when not engaged in tagging.

**STREAM GUARDS**

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The general plan of assigning watchmen to closed areas, streams, etc. was carried on in accordance with previous practices and was effective and efficient to the extent of our financial possibilities, which determined the number of guards to be stationed. Seventy-eight stream guards who furnished their own boat, camp equipment and supplies, were assigned to the most important districts; thirty-seven of these guards furnished their own launches which were fitted with comfortable living quarters. These men were assigned to guard larger bodies of water and received a slight additional wage over the ordinary stream guard for use of their launch, the Bureau furnishing the necessary gasoline and oil for official travel.

Forty-one guards with ordinary camping equipment and row boat, many equipped with small outboard motor, were assigned to smaller areas and individual important salmon streams. With the exception of Yakutat, all guards were removed within the period from August 15 to August 30; nineteen were continued through the late run and their services terminated early in October, except in Ketchikan Creek where conditions necessitated a watchman until October 15. Four of these stream guards were assigned to duties of special warden and placed aboard the four chartered cruising launches.

Each Bureau boat and chartered cruising launch was assigned a designated cruising radius and it was the duty of each boat to keep circulating and visit the various guards within his particular cruising area as often as possible and give special attention to their wants and complaints of violations.

There follows a complete list of stream guards engaged as above, together with their respective locations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Hardy Trefzger	Stream Guard
F.C. Gregg	* { Dry Bay <u>Yakutat District</u>
Joe Snow	{ Yakutat Bay
	{ Yakutat Bay
	"       "
Ben Bullard	Taku River <u>Northern District</u>
George M. Simpkins	Auk Bay
Peder A. Anderson	* Hoktaheen and Lisianski Inlet
C. A. Bevans	Game Creek
Thomas Dodson	Excursion Inlet
Andrew Mitchell	Dundas Bay
John R. Brown	* Port Frederick, Excursion Inlet
Martin Madsen	* Chilkat
John Campbell	Chilkoot
James Russell	* Glacier Bay
W.R. Singleton	Idaho Inlet
Phillip Gallagher	* Surge and Takanis Bays

(List of Stream Guards and their respective locations, Continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
James Mahoney	Eva Lake Northern District
F.P.Cook	Sitkoh Bay
H.S.Sokoloff	Freshwater Bay
James Brightman	* Redoubt Bay
Julius Jaeger	* Basket Bay
Harry Peehan	* Kootznahoo Inlet
C. F. Anderson	* Slocum Arm
Herbert Lee	* Tenakee Inlet
John Blankenburg	* Kelp Bay
Andrew Dalgard	Chaik Bay
John Nelson	North Arm, Hood Bay.
Henry Lutro	* Pybus and Gambier Bays
Frank Bach	Limestone Inlet
Chas. Anderson	* Tebenkof Bay
William Scott	* Saginaw Bay
William N. Dean	Red Fish Bay
W. A. Hart	* Pillar Bay
Walter J. Larson	* Anan Creek Weir Central District
Gordon Mougey	" " "
Frank Laughlin	" " "
J.A.Kelley	* Salmon Bay
George Fabricious	* Kah Sheets Bay
George Card	* Thoms Place
Harry Swift	Sarkar Cove
S. M. Wyatt	* Anita Bay
Charles Nelson	Stikine River
Matt Pellenin	* Stikine River
John Mantle	* Barrie Creek
F.A.Cooper	West Coast, Prince of Wales.
Harry Hall	* Stainey Creek
Frank Reed	* Lake Bay
Clarence Langdon	Olive Cove
Samuel Ingram	* Moira Sound Southern District
H.J.Hansen	Moira Sound, No.Arm
A.F.Rowley	* Chomley Sound
H.M.Parker	Hollis & Harris Rivers
James Ross	Skowl Arm
Paul Jordan	Karta Bay
Chas. Rudin	* Thorne & Tolstoi Bays
Will Marsha	* Prince of Wales Island
Richard Nuckolls	* Naha Bay
James Virdin	Traitors Cove
John Richardson	Naha Bay
Thos. Ryan	Smeaton Bay
M.J.Lovold	Rudyerd Bay
Wm. J. Morgan	Sockeye Creek
Roy Buell	Very Inlet
C.H.Harrison	* Fillmore Inlet
C.C.Keesling	* George Inlet
F.A.Cloudy	* Nutkwa and Keete Bays

<u>Name</u>	<u>Locations</u>
F. Perry	Ketchikan Creek
Ira West	* Hetta and Eek Bays
C. J. Sewell	* Trocadera Bay
Gifford Close	* Prince of Wales, West Coast
J. Conkle	* " " " "
George Vig	" " " "
George M. Stanley	Special Warden, Aboard Chartered Boat ANONA
John McLoughlin	" " " " VALKYRIE
A.A.Kiefer	" " " " PHEASANT
J.P.Mix	" " " " GLORIA

Note: \* Indicates the watchmen who furnished their private launches, provided with suitable living quarters.

V I O L A T I O N S  
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Throughout the season there were 24 violations in this district, to which 22 pleaded guilty and paid fines. The latter comprised 15 trolling boats, 5 seine boats and 2 traps. Upon payment of fines all boats, traps and gear were released by the Department of Justice. Launch "M and M" was seized for fishing in Hetta Inlet and is being held by the United States Marshall's Office, pending the Ketchikan term of court, which convenes in January. Launch "Svette Annie" has been ordered seized by the United States Attorney for maintaining a herring pound in a closed area and during a closed season, namely: Red Fish Bay.

Note: Details of the individual cases may be noted in Assistant Agent O'Connor's annual report.

T R A P S  
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The number of trap licenses issued throughout the season in Alaska totalled 834, compared with 669 last year, indicating an increase of 24 per cent. Traps operated totalled 790 the current year as compared with 639 traps in 1926, representing an increase of nearly 24 percent.

The increase of trap operation was principally in Southeast Alaska, where corresponding figures show 481 traps operated in 1926 against 599 traps during the current year, or an increase of 118 traps and an increase over 1925 of 193 traps, representing an increase over that year of 47½ percent. All of the traps installed were floaters. Many more traps for which licenses were secured would have been placed had the season shown more encouraging possibilities.

## REGULATIONS

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The season began with but a few minor changes in regulations from the preceding year. As the season advanced and when the Commissioner, who was directing activities in person, was convinced without doubt that a serious shortage was due throughout the Southern portion of the district, he felt the necessity, in the interests of conservation and future of the industry, to place further restrictions on certain closures and shorten the season.

August 13, acting on the Commissioner's recommendation, the Acting Secretary of Commerce promulgated a supplementary regulation amending regulation No.4, thereby prohibiting all commercial salmon fishing in the Southern District, except by trolling in the period from six o'clock postmeridian August 13 to six o'clock postmeridian September 14, and for the remainder of the calendar year after six o'clock postmeridian October 15, 1927.

Due to conditions on the West Coast of Prince of Wales District and the discouraging outlook, a supplementary regulation was promulgated by the Acting Secretary of Commerce prohibiting commercial fishing for salmon, except by trolling, in the period from six o'clock postmeridian August 8 to six o'clock postmeridian September 14 and for the remainder of the calendar year after six o'clock postmeridian October 15, 1927.

Conditions were carefully noted and a close check kept on all incoming possibilities and stream escapements. The discouraging outlook continued and no reasonable volume of fish was noted; therefore, on recommendation from the Commissioner, a supplementary regulation was promulgated by the Acting Secretary of Commerce August 27, closing the Prince of Wales Island District and the Southern District to all commercial salmon fishing except by trolling, after six o'clock postmeridian September 14 for the remainder of the calendar year.

As there was a very small escapement up to that time and the future possibilities appeared meager, it was felt that the only hope was to close for all commercial fishing, except trolling, and permit the entire late run to pass into the streams unmolested as all streams with very few exceptions were comparatively barren of spawning salmon. The wisdom of this plan was apparent later when the streams were examined. Good escapements into some areas were then noted and a fair escapement into others. The final check of spawning streams showed spotted escapements and many of the streams were sparsely seeded.

No change was felt necessary in the Icy Strait - Cross Sound and Central Districts and the stream examinations showed, as a whole, good escapements, especially in the Northern portion; although spotted in certain localities.

An additional supplementary regulation was promulgated by the Acting Secretary of Commerce October 6, amending herring fishery regulations No.2 to permit commercial fishing for herring with gill nets not less than  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches stretched measure between knots from October 6 through December 31, 1927, both dates inclusive, in waters otherwise open to fishing. The object of this regulation was to permit operators in Southeast Alaska to obtain herring by gill-netting for kippering purposes.

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The tagging of salmon was conducted as in former years. The object this year was to fill in information from districts not obtained in previous tagging, in order to cover the entire Southeastern area. The tagging plans, as outlined, could not be completed due to the scarcity of fish and the consequent short commercial season throughout the southern portion of the district. Tagging operations this season were conducted at the following localities.

5 Miles South of Parker Point,	in Chatham Straits
Hourigan Point	Frederick Sound
Carroll Island	" "
Marble Bluffs	Chatham Straits
5 Miles North of Parker Point	" "
Inian Island	Cross Sound
Pleasant Island	Icy Straits
Cape Bendel	Frederick Sound
Point Hobart	Stevens Passage
Point Colpoys	Summer Strait
Dall Head	Gravina Island
Nelson Cove	Gravina Island
<i>Cape Decision</i>	<i>Summer Strait</i>

The total number of salmon tagged was 4,668, consisting of

747	Red Salmon
2795	Pink Salmon
901	Chums
208	Cohoos
17	Kings

The total returns from the above to date are 1,424 tags, or about 30½ per cent. This total represents 19 tags of 1926 series, 3 tags of 1925 series and 1 British Columbia tag. A few more tags are expected to be added to the return total on account of late transmittals. Warden, F.G.Morton was in charge of this work.

#### TROLL TAGGING

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In addition to the salmon tagging which was accomplished from traps, a special boat with a professional troller aboard was detailed to tag salmon caught by trolling and during the season 480 salmon were tagged, comprising 382 Kings and 98 Cohoes.

The returns reported to date from troll tagging are 38 tags. Of these 22 tags were taken from fish entering the Columbia River and were invariably tagged at Biorka Island, West of Baranof Island.

Mr. Hugo Frederickson, who performed the troll tagging operations, makes the following comments:

The number of boats fishing this season has perhaps been 10 per cent greater than last year. Many of the boats have carried two men and in another year or so perhaps most of the boats will be carrying two or more men each. With a steady increase of the trolling fleet, fishing is steadily becoming more difficult and in order to get the fish the fishermen have to work from day-break to dark. This method of fishing, is of course too much for one man and as the fish do not bite on any certain stage of the tide or at any given time of the day the only alternative, in order to be sure of a share of the fish, is to double up on the boats.

The amount of gear used by the boats is about the same as last year, but the fishermen have been fishing much deeper than in former years. With the exception of Biorka Island and St.Lazaria Island, the salmon seem to have been standing very much deeper than usual for the summer season.

The practice of fishing with herring for bait is now almost universal and may in another season or two become altogether so. This will require a considerable amount of herring as not more than 50% are of the right size for trolling bait. Given perhaps a thousand boats, all using five gallons per boat as a moderate estimate and perhaps a greater amount of herring wasted on account of size or condition, some idea may be had as to the requirements of a nine months trolling season. Of course, many of the boats fish all winter but taking time off for repairs and painting, etc. the average troller may be assumed to fish nine months during the year.

Amount of scrap fish, such as sea-bass, codfish, lingcod, red snapper and dogfish seems to be getting less numerous or troublesome each season, so bait fishing on that account is getting more practicable. This season the sharks have been very scarce and only the sea lions have materially troubled the fishermen.

Sunday closing period is obeyed almost to the letter, although some boats may lag a few minutes on Saturday evening or be a few minutes previous on Monday morning, but this will eventually be righted as the fishermen are becoming more accustomed to the enforcements of the regulations.

On the different trips I have made down to Cape Ommanay, I have always found a fair amount of herring but the seiners complained of their inability to hold the fish, as they claim at the commencement of pursing up the seine the herring nearly always sounded, thus making their escapement under the lead line before the seine could be effectively closed.

In the Sitka section, the herring spawned in very great numbers and comparatively early. In March all the bays were full of spawning herring. The bait fishermen impounded more herring than they could dispose of, letting some of them escape when they moved their gear to the Chatham Strait fishing grounds. While the bays had an unusual run of spring herring, they seemed to have disappeared in some way, as during the entire season not one school of full grown herring have been seen in Sitka Sound or vicinity. Only for a short period, the first part of August, were some small herring observed around Biorka Island.

The needle fish have been very plentiful all season. As early as the opening of the halibut season they had made their appearance in great numbers around Vitskari Rocks and Cape Edgecombe. This is perhaps the reason for the comparatively early and sustained run of King salmon in the whole Sitka section,

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with the exception of Crawfish Inlet which like last year had no run of fish whatever.

## ANAN CREEK WEIR

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The counting weir in Anan Creek was again established and operated during the current season. The species inhabiting this stream are primarily humpbacks of which ~~111,940~~ <sup>44,936</sup> were counted through during the season, which is 63 per cent less than last year when 121,780 humpbacks represented the seasons escapement. In addition there were 132 reds, 69 kings, 2002 cohoes, 280 chums and 685 steelhead trout counted through the weir during the same period.

The weir was established and began fishing May 30, and from that date to June 22, steelhead trout only passed into the stream. On June 22 the first pink salmon made their appearance or about ten days later than the previous year. Small negligible numbers entered, gradually increasing until July 7, on which date 988 pink salmon were counted through; then a short decline for a few days and again an increase to small numbers. The run continued small but steadily increased, reaching its peak July 29 when 1859 salmon passed the weir. This was the greatest number recorded escaping through any one day during the season. The run from that time showed a decline to September 24 when all fish ceased running and the weir was removed. The run in this stream the current year, while almost a failure, represented a greater escapement than that into other streams in the vicinity.

Walter J. Larson was in charge of the weir work and patrol at Anan Creek.

## STREAM MARKING

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A consistent plan of stream marking is being carried out each year and all Bureau boats are engaged in that work during the early spring. Most of the streams have been marked but many we find must be marked each year, as in various cases the markers are removed or destroyed for some unknown reason during the winter months.

## ALASKA FISHERY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

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As in former years, the Bureau continued to report by telegraph from Ketchikan to all important points in Southeastern and Central Alaska regarding the prices of fresh fish. This service was discontinued during the halibut close season as only small quantities of fresh fish are sold during that period.

The salmon run in Southeast Alaska from a commercial standpoint was a decided failure, especially in the Wrangell, Ketchikan and West Coast of Prince of Wales District, or South of Par. 57° N.L. The total salmon pack for the year represented

1,032,988 Cases	-	1927, against
2,802,414 Cases		1926,

or about 37 per cent of the 1926 pack.

The closing of the season to all commercial fishing by order dated August 27, on the west coast of Prince of Wales District and in the Southern District, to all commercial fishing except by trolling, for the remainder of the calendar year, was the salvation of the situation and permitted all possible escapement in accordance with the extent of the run.

In checking up the stream escapements in cooperation with responsible representatives from the canneries the various investigators were in accord as to the advisability of this closure and all agreed that if commercial fishing for the late run were sanctioned that the escapement would have been practically nil and therefore no future for the corresponding cycle. Even with the closures, the escapements were considered inadequate with few exceptions. It also showed a spotted escapement, that is, some streams showed good seeding while others in the vicinity were poorly seeded. On the whole we feel that the escapement was extremely satisfactory and encouraging considering the extent of the run.

In Icy-Straits - Cross Sound District, the run of salmon was light but steady until July 25, after which it began gaining in volume reaching its peak about August 3 or about two weeks later than the previous year. The final escapement was good.

The Central District had a poor escapement during the fishing season after which certain streams contained fair to good numbers. This was especially true on the west coast of Chichagof Island and streams in the vicinity of Salisbury Sound, Sitka and Peril Straits.

In Wrangell and vicinity the 1927 salmon run as a whole is reported as the smallest on record; however, red and coho salmon were nearly on par with other years and king salmon were more numerous than for several years past.

During the peak of the king run the white trollers called a strike demanding higher prices than previously agreed upon and discontinued fishing for about three weeks. The native trollers continued fishing through this period and enjoyed unusual prosperity. The strike resulted in considerable loss to both fishermen and packers. A compromise was finally effected resulting in a lower limit in weight for mild cured sizes from 16 pound to 15 pound. The prices on the ground were not materially changed. This same condition also prevailed in parts of the southern district and on the west coast of Prince of Wales Island.

(Continued)

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In the southern and west coast of Prince of Wales Districts, the commercial catch of pinks and chums was an absolute failure. The reds however appeared normal.

The runs of all species, except kings, were from three weeks to a month late in appearing. In spite of all reports to the contrary, there was no extreme or good inrush of fish in these areas. The salmon came in small or medium schools and with few exceptions the streams contained insufficient numbers for proper seeding.

Closing the season five days early in August and prohibiting the re-opening of the fall season, has without doubt been the saving factor of the whole escapement situation. If late fishing had been permitted the late run of pinks and chums would have been seriously depleted and streams robbed by the seiners.

In summarizing the salmon run throughout Southeast Alaska, would state that there has been a normal run of reds and cohoes; an exceptionally good run of kings, and aside from Yakutat and Icy Straits-Cross Sound Districts, there has been an alarming shortage of pinks and a general shortage of chums.

#### HALIBUT FISHERY

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The halibut industry was handicapped early in the season by heavy storms, which resulted in considerable damage to the halibut fleet. Considerable loss of time was experienced during the latter part of September and early in October, due to the shortage of both frozen and fresh bait which naturally reduced production. Some of the larger boats brought their catches to Seattle even when the difference in price was smaller, due to the fact that bait could be secured in quantities sufficient for their needs in the vicinity of Vancouver Island. One disturbing feature of the halibut fishery is the heavy increase in the catch of chicken halibut. Great quantities are brought in and with the price about half that of No.1 fish, consequent double production of chicken halibut is necessary for the same amount of financial returns in comparison with No.1 Halibut.

Approximately 1,500,000 pounds of halibut came to the ports of Petersburg and Wrangell, of which more than three-fourths were sold at Petersburg, with prices as follows:

February	16¢	to	11¢
March	12¢	to	8¢
April	12¢	to	7¢
May	12¢	to	8¢
June	11¢	to	7¢
July	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢	to	7¢
August	11¢	to	7¢
September	12¢	to	7¢

About 1,000,000 pounds were classed as No.1 and 500,000 pounds as 'chickens'.

(Continued)

Deliveries at Sitka, up to October 25, totaled 1,533,394 pounds of halibut, graded as follows:

360,541 pounds	Fish weighing	10 to 20 pounds
333,337 "	" "	20 to 40 "
276,333 "	" "	40 to 60 "
109,889 "	" "	60 to 80 "
381,537 " Chickens	" "	5 to 10 "
41,023 " Whales	" "	80 lbs and up
<u>30,734</u> " #2 Halibut (Grays and Scarred)		10 lb. and up
1,533,394		

Prices ranged as follows:

February 21	to	March 21	-	12¢	to	7¢
March 21	to	April 9	-	12¢		6¢
April 9	to	July 14	-	11¢		6¢
July 14	to	August 9	-	12¢		6¢
August 9	to	September 7	-	11¢		6¢
September 7	to	October 25	-	10¢		6¢

Ketchikan shows the following deliveries and prices through the season including September deliveries:

	<u>MEDIUMS</u>			<u>CHICKENS and LARGE</u>		
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Average Price</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Average Price</u>
February	55,421	\$9,736.56	.1756	19,192	\$1,924.73	.1004
March	604,889	77,935.33	.1288	189,878	13,786.79	.0726
April	446,244	56,873.48	.1274	186,810	14,083.90	.0754
May	1,191,791	154,631.68	.1297	598,342	43,793.47	.0732
June	839,794	102,927.70	.1226	640,170	45,717.82	.0714
July	600,575	69,259.92	.1153	423,180	27,408.58	.0647
August	537,819	59,236.88	.1102	416,389	25,003.90	.06
September	<u>262,561</u>	<u>31,540.64</u>	<u>.12</u>	<u>208,426</u>	<u>12,918.52</u>	<u>.062</u>
	4,539,094	562,142.19	.1238	2,682,387	184,637.71	.0688

Grand Total ... 7,221,481 pounds - \$746,779.90

The highest price paid for halibut in this port was on February 23 when 21½¢ was paid for mediums and 13¢ for chickens and large. The prices gradually reduced as larger quantities were landed.

VESSELS

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Three Bureau boats operated in Southeast Alaska exclusively and three others part time during the current calendar year, as follows:

<u>Name of Boat</u>	<u>Months Operated</u>	<u>Hours Cruising</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
Widgeon	5	1,026.11	9,328
Murre	6	628.50	5,021
Auklet	5	690.55	5,298
Brant	8	1,525.	14,950
Petrel	2	198.	1,323.5
		<u>4,078.16</u>	<u>35,920.5</u>

The "Brant" cruised the greater portion of the season between Seattle and Central Alaska, commencing March 9 and after September 1 it was used exclusively in Southeast Alaska on an investigation of streams.

The "Petrel" arrived in the Southeast District September 20 and its services were utilized there the remainder of the year. Its late arrival was due to delay in installing the new engine.

The "Kittiwake" was held in Southeast Alaska en route to Seattle to assist in stream survey along the West Coast of Prince of Wales Island from September 6 to October 26. (Report of these operations have been previously noted herein.)

SALMON INDUSTRY

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CANNERIES

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There were 60 canneries operating in Southeast Alaska during the past season. Five of these canneries operated during the late fall season between the dates of September 5 and October 15, namely:

Libby, McNeill and Libby,	Taku Harbor
Douglas Island Packing Co.	Douglas
Haines Packing Co.	Litnikof Cove
Diamond K Packing Company	Hoonah
Sebastian-Stuart Fish Company	Tyee

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\*\*\*\*\*  
**CANNERIES**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
(Continued)

The following list comprises canneries operating in this area through the current calendar year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Alaska Consolidated Canneries	✓ Pybus Bay ✓ Chomly ✓ Boca de Quadra ✓ Rose Inlet ✓ Yes Bay ✓ Tenakee
Alaska Packers Association	✓ Loring ✓ Wrangell <i>oper. by Alas. Sanitary Htg. Co.</i>
Annette Island Packing Company	✓ Metlakatla
Astoria & Puget Sound Canning Co.	✓ Excursion Inlet
F. C. Barnes Co.	✓ Lake Bay
Bayview Packing Co.	Bayview
Beagle Packing Company	✓ Ketchikan
Burnett Inlet Packing Co.	✓ Burnett Inlet
Deep Sea Salmon Company	✓ Port Althorp
Diamond K Packing Co. (Floater)	✓ Wrangell ✓ Hoonah
Chas. W. Demmert Packing Company	✓ Bayview
Douglas Island Packing Company	✓ Douglas
Fidalgo Island Packing Company	✓ Ketchikan ✓ Bay of Pillars
George Inlet Packing Company (Operated by Libby McNeill & Libby)	George Inlet
P. E. Harris & Company	✓ Hawk Inlet
Haines Packing Company	✓ Haines
Hetta Packing Company	Coppermount
Hood Bay Canning Co. (Formerly Hidden Inlet Packing Co.)	✓ Hood Bay

(Continued)

Independent Salmon Canneries, Inc.	✓ Ketchikan
Karheen Packing Company	✓ Karheen
Libby McNeill & Libby	✓ Taku Harbor ✓ Yakutat
Mountain Point Packing Company	✓ Wrangell Narrows
George T Myers & Company	✓ Chatham
Nakat Packing Corporation	✓ Heceta Island (Warmchuck Bay) ✓ Hidden Inlet ✓ Union Bay ✓ Waterfall ✓ Warmchuck
New England Fish Company	✓ Ketchikan ✓ Noyes Island
Far North Fisheries Co. (Floater purchased from Stuart Corporation)	✓ Hydaberg
North Pacific Trading & Packing Company	✓ Klawack
Northwestern Fisheries Company	✓ Dundas Bay ✓ Shakan ✓ Kasaan ✓ Boca de Quadra ✓ Hunter Bay
Pacific American Fisheries	✓ Excursion Inlet
Peril Straits Packing Company (New concern)	✓ Todd
Petersburg Packing Company	✓ Petersburg
Whitworth Fisheries Inc. (Formerly Point Warde Fisheries Co.)	✓ Point Warde
Pure Food Fish Company (Operated by Nakat Packing Company)	✓ Ketchikan
Pyramid Packing Company	✓ Sitka
Red Salmon Packers Association (Floater)	✓ Dry Bay ✓ Situk River
Sunny Point Packing Company	✓ Ketchikan ✓ Kake ✓ Funter Bay

Sea-Coast Packing Company	✓ Craig
Sebastian Stuart Company	Tyee
J.L.Smiley & Company	✓ Ketchikan
Starr Collinson Packing Company	✓ Moira Sound
Straits Packing Company	✓ Skowl Arm
The Stuart Corporation	✓ Ketchikan
Superior Fisheries Company	✓ Tenakee
Tongass Packing Company (Not operated) In litigation.	✓ Nakat Inlet
Warde Cove Packing Company	Warde Cove.

#### CANNERY CHANGES

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The following changes in canneries occurred during the year:

Diamond K Packing Co., a new organization, operated with a floating cannery outfit at Wrangell for the early run of fish and transported their cannery to Hoonah for fall fishing operations.

George Inlet Packing Company's plant at George Inlet was leased and operated by Libby, McNeill & Libby.

Hood Bay Canning Company, a new organization, purchased and operated the cannery of the Hidden Inlet Canning Co. at Hood Bay.

Independent Salmon Canneries, Inc., a new organization, operated a shore station on the dock of the Ketchikan Iron Works at Ketchikan.

Far North Fisheries Company, a new organization, purchased the floating cannery of the Stuart Corporation and operated at Hydaberg.

Peril Straits Packing Company, a new organization, took over the plant formerly occupied by the Douglas Fish Co. at Todd as a herring plant and operated it as a salmon cannery the current year.

CANNERY CHANGES

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(Continued)

Whitworth Fisheries Co. a new organization took over and operated the cannery of the Point Warde Fisheries Company at Point Warde.

The Pure Food Fish Company's plant at Ketchikan was leased and operated by the Nakat Packing Corporation.

Tongass Packing Company's plant at Nakat Inlet was not operated and is now in the hands of the Court.

FRESH and MILD CURED SALMON

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Fresh and mild cured operations for the current year were very successful due to the success of the troll fishermen, on whom this fishery depends. Due to the scarcity of fish, other than kings and cohoes, the trollers were paid higher prices for their catches than ever before for the latter species mentioned and report as a whole a most successful season.

The prices ranging in Wrangell and Ketchikan, which represent prevailing prices over the district, are as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Wrangell</u>	<u>Ketchikan</u>	
January	20 - 10		
February	20 - 10		
March	18 - 8		
April	18 - 12 - 7		
May	18 - 10 - 5		
June	15 - 10 - 5	River fish 11 - 3	16 - 8 - 4 Cohoes 40¢
July	" "		15 - 8 - 4 " 60¢
August	28 - 10 - 6	Cohoos delivered 70¢	25 - 8 - 5 " 60¢
September	" "		" "
October			25 - 10 - 7 " 60¢

Prices paid, delivered at Ketchikan, will average 3¢ higher on large red kings, 2¢ higher on small reds, 1¢ higher on whites and 10¢ each on cohoes.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Address</u>
✓ E. M. Basse	Juneau Wrangell	Juneau
✓ Booth Fisheries Company	Sitka	Seattle
✓ Atlantic and Pacific Packing Co.	Ketchikan	Seattle
C. P. Bell	Wrangell	Wrangell
✓ Jack Bailey	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
✓ L. C. Berg	Ketchikan Petersburg	Ketchikan
✓ Juneau Cold Storage Company	Juneau	Juneau
✓ Karl Hansen	Baker Island Port Alexander	Seattle
Marlyn Fish Company	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Sam Morris	Juneau	Juneau
✓ Ness Fish Company	Petersburg	Petersburg
✓ New England Fish Company	Petersburg Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Edwin Ripley & Son	Ketchikan	Seattle
Petersburg Co-operative Cold Storage	Petersburg	Petersburg
Ripley Fish Company	Ketchikan	Seattle
San Juan Fishing & Packing Company	"	"
✓ Malford Soley	Hoonah Sitka	Sitka
✓ H.R. Thompson	Ketchikan Hoonah	Ketchikan
C.H.Tozier	Hoonah	Sitka
✓ Wrangell Ice & Cold Storage Co.	Wrangell	Wrangell
✓ Washington Fish & Oyster Co. (L.C.Berg)	Wrangell	Seattle
Ketchikan Cold Storage Company	Ketchikan	Ketchikan

LIST of MILD CURE OPERATORS  
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<u>Name</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Address</u>
✓ Atlantic & Pacific Packing Co. Ltd.	Ketchikan	Seattle
Einstoss Company, S.	Port Alexander	Seattle
✓ Karl Hansen	Baker Island Pt. Alexander	Seattle
H.F.W. Kurth	Waterfall	Seattle
C.H. Tozier	Crawfish Inlet Sitkoh Bay Sitka Hoonah	Seattle
C. C. Mundy	Wrangell	Wrangell
✓ Malford Soley	Sitka Hoonah	Sitka
Marlyn Fish Company	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
New England Fish Company	Noyes Island Petersburg Ketchikan	Ketchikan
C. P. Bell	Kake	Wrangell
✓ H. R. Thompson	Ketchikan Hoonah Wrangell	Ketchikan
✓ Union Trading & Packing Company	Baranof Island	Ketchikan
✓ Fred Schrey	Sitka Hoonah	Seattle

SHELL FISH  
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Shell fish activities, comprising shrimp, crab and clams, were confined to Wrangell, Petersburg and vicinity. The weak market for shrimp products forced a curtailment of operations. The Alaska Glacier Sea Food Co. and The Reliance Shrimp Company produced practically the entire output. The Wrangell Shellfish Company were forced to discontinue operations a few days after opening due to market conditions. About 450,000 pounds will be the extent of the output this year or about 50,000 pounds less than in 1926. The price remained the same as last year - 40¢ per pound.

\*\*\*\*\* SHELL FISH \*\*\*\*\*  
 (Continued)

Ludeman and Isom Brothers of Petersburg produced all of the crab meat packed in the district and it is estimated that about 14,000 pounds will represent the season's pack. The meat is packed and shipped in five pound cans. The price paid for crabs was 70¢ per dozen and 4¢ per pound for picking.

List of Shell Fish Operators

Alaska Sea Food Company	Petersburg	Shrimp
Ludeman & Isom Brothers	"	Crabs
Reliance Shrimp Company	Wrangell	Shrimps and Crabs
Wrangell Shell Fish Company	"	Shrimp
Mountain Point Packing Co.	Wrangell Narrows	Clams

HERRING and BY-PRODUCTS

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Propaganda, originating principally in Petersburg and Ketchikan, relative to the elimination of herring reduction plants is being industriously circulated throughout Southeast Alaska. The argument is used that this process is destroying the available supply of herring and consequently depleting the natural food for king salmon on which the troll fishermen and fresh and mild cure plants depend.

The comparative conditions between the last two years does not bear out this argument as in 1926 when troll fishing was a failure there was an abundance of herring and during the current year when herring were scarce the troll fishermen experienced one of their best seasons.

List of Operating Plants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Plants</u>	<u>Address</u>
Arnstén & Company	Port Walter	Seattle
Marine Products Corporation	Ketchikan	"
Alaska Consolidated Canneries	Saginaw Bay	"
Alaska Herring and Sardine Co.	Port Walter	"
Atlas Packing Corporation (New plant)	Deep Cove Patterson Bay	"
Bucken & Heinen Packing Co.	Port Armstrong	"

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List of Operating Plants (Cont'd)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Address</u>
✓ Baranof Packing Company	Red Bluff Bay	Seattle
✓ Booth Fisheries Co.	Sitka	"
✓ Chatham Straits Fish Company	New Port Walter	"
✓ Fidalgo Island Packing Co. (New Plant)	Pillar Bay	"
Gunderson & Company	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Killisnoo Fisheries Inc.	Killisnoo	San Francisco
Marine Packing & Reduction Co.	Washington Bay	Los Angeles (Salmon)
National Fish Company	Killisnoo Hood Bay	Seattle
✓ Ness Fish Company	Petersburg	Petersburg
✓ Northwestern Herring Co.	Pt. Conclusion	Everett
Ocean Industries Co. (S.S. Paralta)	Pt. Armstrong	Seattle (New vessel)
✓ Petersburg By-Products Company	Scow Bay	Petersburg
✓ Phillips E.I.	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Puget Sound Reduction Company	Pt. Armstrong	Seattle (Barge Ft. Union)
S. S. Lake Miraflores (New vessel)	" "	Seattle
S. N. Songthagen	Douglas	Douglas
✓ Wrangell Ice & Cold Storage Co.	Wrangell	Wrangell
Storfold & Grondahl Packing Co.	Washington Bay	Seattle
U. S. Alaska Packing Co.	Pt. Herbert Warm Spring Bay	Seattle

The Ketchikan Fish Company operated for filleting and smoked fish products.

HATCHERIES

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The hatchery of the Northwestern Fisheries Company at Quadra was inspected and eggs checked October 25. At that time there were 17,930,000 red salmon eggs in course of incubation. The station force continued taking eggs in good numbers and from the number of fish on hand there will be no difficulty in filling their hatchery to capacity which is approximately 20,000,000 eggs. The hatchery and stock were in excellent condition.

The Bureau hatchery at Yes Bay was visited on October 24. The station and grounds had an exceptionally tidy appearance and stock on hand, amount 20,000,000 red salmon eggs, were in first class condition.

The Loring hatchery, formerly operated by the Alaska Packers Association, was discontinued this year.

Although the Territorial Fish Commission was abolished by the Legislature last spring, certain interests around Ketchikan contributed funds for the salary of a caretaker and to secure food for and rear a certain portion of reds and kings to fingerling stage for marking and liberating purposes. 50,000 King and 33,720 Humpback salmon fingerlings have been marked and liberated. The mark consisted of the removal of the adipose and dorsal fins.

There are now on hand about 400,000 red salmon fingerlings, a portion of which will be marked and all liberated later.

Following is a report of the Territorial operations for the current year:

<u>Species</u>	<u>No. Collected</u>	<u>No. Planted</u>	<u>Where Collected</u>	<u>Where Planted</u>
Pinks	1,660,000	574,000 950,000		Hatchery Creek Salt Water Feeding Ponds.
		33,720	Fingerlings marked	Hatchery Creek
		1,557,720	Total	
Chums	451,000	225,000		Hatchery Creek
Kings	2,000,000	1,819,000 50,000		Hatchery Creek
		1,869,000	Fingerlings Marked Total	
Reds	1,320,000 300,000 <u>1,717,760</u> 3,337,760	2,625,000	Quadra Wards Cove Yes Bay	Hatchery Creek " "
		400,000	On hand.	
	7,448,760	Grand total - handled for season.		

*see also  
rept. obtained  
through office  
of Gov. of Alaska  
filed under  
"Territorial Hatcheries"*

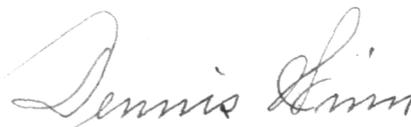
HATCHERIES

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(Continued)

The Territorial hatchery at Seward was totally destroyed by fire March 9, 1927, together with all stock on hand, representing 3,164,000 red salmon eggs partly hatched.

Respectfully submitted,



Agent.

DW/D