

Yield and value of the fisheries of British Columbia during 1885.

Kind.	Quantity.	Value.
Salmon, salted.....barrels..	3,468	\$31,212
Salmon, fresh.....number..	204,700	40,940
Salmon, canned, cases 4 dozen 1-pound tins each.....cases..	108,517	542,585
Salmon, smoked.....pounds..	370,000	37,000
Sturgeon, fresh.....do.....	354,500	17,725
Whiting, tomcod, &c.....do.....	241,100	12,058
Halibut.....do.....	159,000	9,540
Herring and smelts, fresh.....do.....	36,600	1,830
Herring, smoked.....do.....		7,000
Fish, assorted.....pounds..	59,400	3,564
Trout.....do.....	83,000	5,810
Eulachons, fresh.....do.....	31,950	1,881
Eulachons, salted.....do.....	22,500	1,800
Eulachons, smoked.....do.....	18,000	1,300
Furs, seal-skins.....do.....		150,019
Eulachon oil.....gallons..	450	450
Black shark and dogfish oil, refined.....do.....	40,000	20,000
Dogfish oil.....do.....	22,200	5,550
Salmon oil.....do.....	80	24
Clams and other shell-fish.....do.....		2,500
Fish sold in markets.....do.....		120,000
Crabs and prawns.....do.....		2,000
Salmon and other fish, estimated consumption by Chinese and other laborers on the Canadian Pacific and Island Railway, not specially recorded.....do.....		62,000
Oysters, native.....barrels..	250	1,250
Totaldo.....		1,078,038
Estimated consumption by Indian population, as revised:		
Salmon.....\$2,732,500		
Halibut.....100,000		
Sturgeon and other fish.....260,000		
Fish oils.....75,000		
		3,257,500
Grand total of approximate yielddo.....		4,335,538

Comparative value of yield in 1884 and 1885, exclusive of Indian consumption :		
Total, 1884.....		\$1,358,267 10
Total, 1885.....		1,078,038 00
Decrease in 1885.....		280,229 10

39.—SALMON IN THE CLACKAMAS RIVER.

By L. T. BARIN.

[From a letter to J. W. Cook.]

There is no question that the genuine Chinook (or quinnat) salmon (*Oncorhynchus chouicha*) go up the Clackamas River. Some persons, who are opposed to a hatchery being established on this stream, say that such salmon do not go up that river. But the fact is that there is not a single species of the salmon and trout that come up the Columbia from the ocean which does not find its way in large numbers up the Clackamas.

The run of the Chinook salmon commences in March or April, sometimes even in February, and they begin spawning in September.

The silver salmon commence their run with the first rains in the fall, say the middle of September, and begin spawning about the middle of January.

The steel-head salmon, or more properly the large salmon trout, commences its run from the first to the middle of October, and begins spawning about the 1st of May.

The run of the dog salmon commences in November, and they begin to spawn soon after coming.

The salmon above named, including the blueback, are all the species of salmon that come from the ocean up the Columbia and then into the Clackamas. I am thus careful to enumerate all the species to show you that we have them all, and cannot be mistaken. It certainly would be strange if the people who have lived here for years, many of them since 1845 and 1850, should be mistaken as to the species of the salmon, in view of the fact that many of the men who live on the Clackamas go down to the Columbia during the canning season to work at the canneries, and see and handle the salmon caught in the Columbia; and I have heard such men declare that they have caught as fine and as large Chinook salmon in the Clackamas as ever they had seen caught in the Columbia.

Of course the salmon are not so plentiful now as they were, for some years ago the river was literally alive with Chinook salmon; yet, while they are not very abundant now, if a rack should be put across the river early in the season, say in February, there would be no doubt that more than enough salmon could be procured for hatching purposes. Such a rack must be put in early in the season, for I have seen a considerable number of salmon caught in the Clackamas before the fishing commenced on the Columbia.

I have been on all the rivers and tributaries of the Columbia from above the Cascades to Priest's Rapids, to which the Chinook salmon go; in fact, was along these tributaries considerably during three years of Indian campaigning; and I do not hesitate to say that the Clackamas River, with its clear, cold water, its rapids, and its long, shallow gravel-beds, is the most natural and favorite region for salmon spawning.

I am certain that a permanent dam could be built on Clear Creek (a tributary of the Clackamas, about 15 or 20 miles from its mouth), near enough to make it convenient for water for hatching purposes. There are three dams across Clear Creek now; one was put there in 1852, at Harding's Mill, 3 miles above the hatchery; one at Viola, built in 1848 or 1850; and one at Springwater, built in 1865. They have all stood floods, time, and wear, and another could readily be built which would furnish suitable water for a hatching house.

OREGON CITY, OREG., *December 26, 1885.*