

SALMON AS LAST YEAR

Opening Prices Made on Sockeye Salmon.

HALF POUNDS ONLY CHANGE

As Chinooks Are Quoted Lower, an Increased Demand for Columbia River Fish Is Expected—Local Produce Market.

Opening prices on Puget Sound sockeye salmon have been announced. On one-pound tins and fish they are the same as those made last year. It was understood that the Pacific Packing & Navigation Company would pack no half-pounds this year, but, nevertheless, it has named a price which is 5 cents lower than the initial figure on that size in 1903. The new prices are \$1.50 for tins, \$1.40 for fish and 90 cents for half-pounds.

Up to the present time there have been no signs of an improvement in the run of fish in the Straits and as the prospects are for a pack even shorter than that of last year, which was the smallest on record, orders are being taken for delivery in the sequence in which they are received and no guarantee of delivery at a later date is given. The Pacific Packing Company states that they do not expect to have any Coho salmon to offer this year unless conditions materially improve in the immediate future.

As the prices on 1904 sockeye are 5c higher than those on Columbia River chinooks, one of their effects, particularly as the prospects for the Puget Sound pack are so dubious, is expected to be an increased demand for the Columbia River fish, and indications of this are said to be already apparent.

Exports to Japan.

United States rapidly gaining on Great Britain.

A French political economist, considering the trade of Japan with the great nations of the world, gives the following figures for the exports from the countries mentioned to Japan during 1902:

	United States	Great Britain
British India	\$25,400,000	\$25,400,000
Great Britain	\$24,300,000	\$24,300,000
United States	\$23,000,000	\$23,000,000
China	\$22,000,000	\$22,000,000
Germany	\$21,000,000	\$21,000,000
France	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000
In 1903 the four principal exporters to Japan stood thus:		
British India	\$25,400,000	
Great Britain	\$24,300,000	
United States	\$23,000,000	
China	\$22,000,000	
Germany	\$21,000,000	
France	\$20,000,000	

The writer concludes that it might as well be admitted that the United States will soon be ranked by its geographical position, exceed all other nations as an exporter to Japan. The United States has almost a monopoly of Japan's petroleum and cotton imports, and being a feeble competitor for the latter article, the United States, he holds, ought to be able to sell every article of manufacture cheaper than any other country, and to the superiority of our workmen and the use of the best machinery in making our goods.

China's Foreign Trade.

According to Chinese customs returns the Empire's trade in 1903, imports and exports, amounted to \$248,252,484. Each year since 1894, except 1900, shows a steady gain. In those years there was a considerable fall-off in the imports and exports, but the latter partly made up for the difference. There is every reason to hope and look for better times in 1904, and the country is settling down to a healthy normal development of its vast resources.

The imports of 1903-04 total \$248,252,484, were 4 per cent above that of 1902. A small increase is evident in the opium and cotton-goods imports. Shirts and sheetings show a falling off from 1902-03, but in 1903 to 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 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