

PACKERS SANGUINE

Fishing Gazette Says Sockeye Run Is Steadily Cumulative.

ANOTHER SPURT IS EXPECTED

American Pack of Sockeyes This Season Will Be Considerably in Excess of Half a Million Cases—Difficulty in Securing Help.

Since we last went to press the run of sockeye salmon on the Puget sound and in the Fraser river, B. C., has been steadily cumulative, and it is only within the confines of the past week that the presence of humpbacks along with the spawning fish portends the beginning of the end. A late advice states that these fish now constitute fully 50 per cent. of the catch in the straits and the run has visibly slackened. However it is confidently expected that there will be another spurt of fish before the season closes for the salmon now running are by no means ripe and a large school of fish has been reported off the headlands of Vancouver, B. C. The Gazette is informed by controlling interests in Alaskan salmon that the American pack of sockeyes this season will be considerably in excess of half a million cases, contingent solely on the ability of the packers to procure labor and cans, without regard to a further spurt of fish. The total pack of British Columbia was estimated on the 9th inst., at 620,000 cases, with the Fraser river canners accounting for 400,000 cases of this output and still averaging 50,000 cases daily. In some quarters it is thought that the 1905 pack of sockeyes on the coast will exceed a million cases if favorable conditions prevail until the end of the season.

Canneries have had considerable difficulty in securing help as between 10,000 and 12,000 men, women and children are employed in various departments of the fisheries, but there has been little or no waste of good fish, little but refuse going to fertilizer and by-product plants, says the San Francisco Trade Journal. Large quantities of surplus from canneries are being salted in Bellingham and Anacortes for shipment east, and carload lots specially prepared going to Germany. Humpbacks, second grade fish, have started to run. Several of the canneries will put up pack of this variety after close of sockeye season.

As a direct result of the big run of sockeye salmon the American Can company at Bellingham, Wash., although turning out 2,000,000 tins a day, was unable to keep pace with the demand of Sound canneries. Large shipments were received from other plants of the company.

The opening market on sockeye salmon has not yet been disclosed by controlling interests. There is a strong disposition on the part of American handlers to concede at around \$1.25 for tals f. o. b. coast, although we learn definitely that strong hands are in absolute control and accord has been arrived at with Alaskan interests. It would not surprise us if opening price was 10 cents in advance of the figure quoted. The Columbia river output will be less than normal and is undoubtedly oversold by a quarter of a million cases at least, but, on the other hand, the Alaskan pack has to be reckoned with and there is going to be a big pack of reds this season. We anticipate, however, that the predominating burden of carrying the sockeye pack will be on the shoulders of British Columbia canners, and at the bargain prices now offering in red Alaska, there should be no difficulty experienced in finding a market for both fancy and standard offerings of all grades of salmon. A goodly proportion of the American sockeye pack should be diverted to former trade in competition with chinooks, which would enable free clearance of Alaskan salmon in the export and domestic trade at standard prices. What salmon really needs is the leaven of a strong advertising campaign to promote domestic consumption of the product.

Latest Liverpool cable reports prices very firm for spot one-pound and half-pound flats, what little stocks there are in these sizes being in very small compass. The good demand reported last week for best quality tals continues. Prices are also firm for new season's salmon, for both overland and steamer arrivals.

Southern demand for low-grade salmon is now at its height, and will undoubtedly clean up every case available before the new pack can reach the Eastern market. In expectation of a short pack holders have advanced spot prices to 90 cents.—Fishing Gazette.

THE MAN....

WITH THE NEW IDEAS
AND THE NEW SUITS

QUALITY---\$10.00 to \$35.00---QUALITY

HERMAN WISE, Astoria's Reliable Clothier.

PERIL FROM TOREDOES.

Oyster Beds of Willapa Bay Are Threatened With Destruction.

Ilwaco, Wash., Aug. 20.—The oyster beds in Willapa harbor and Shoalwater bay are threatened with destruction at the hands of the toredo. Discoveries made in the last few days have convinced oystermen that these pests exist in alarming quantities, and that they are fast making inroads, not only on the matured product, but on the young growth as well. The native and Eastern product are subject alike to the attack of this subtle foe.

Where the toredo came from, or how the seed first found its way into the waters of the bay, are points on which the oystermen differ. That they should now be so numerous as to practically swamp the waters of the bay, whereas a few months ago there were hardly any in evidence, is also a fact that

causes them to ponder. Many attribute the present invasion of the beds to the absence of fresh water in the bay, caused in turn by the lack of freshet in the streams that fed it, but the majority believe that the threatened disaster is the result of toredo seed, shipped in with Eastern oyster seed.

Bishop Doane, an expert in Western oyster culture, arrived at the bay yesterday and will endeavor to ascertain the exact extent of the injury thus far inflicted upon the beds. He is a heavy stockholder in the Morgan Oyster company, which has the largest holdings on Shoalwater bay. He is of the opinion that a large percentage of the present crop has already been ruined by the pest, and that much of the seed has also been destroyed. The majority of the growers, he believes, do not appreciate the havoc already wrought.

Mr. Doane has had an experience

with the toredo on the company's California beds, and does not relish a repetition. There, he says, it became necessary to hire Japanese to gather the toredo spat, the same as oyster seed is gathered, in order to effectually check the ravages of the pest, and once that they were under control, the great vigilance has since been necessary in order to keep them in subjection. He will spend several days in going over the local situation, and then decide what action is necessary to avert the disaster.

Those who have seen the toredo in operation assert that there is cause for the greatest apprehension, once the pests invade an oyster bed. Multiplying rapidly, the number of oysters which the toredo will destroy, they declare, is little short of marvelous. Asterning on the oyster's shell, the toredo bores a hole through the oyster's side, inflicting a mortal wound to which the victim soon succumbs.

GRAND JURY DISCHARGED.

Scathingly Arranges City Administration of San Francisco.

San Francisco, Aug. 20.—The grand jury, which has been in session in this city for some time, filed a final report today and was discharged. The report, which contains about 35,000 words, is a scathing arraignment of the present municipal administration.

PAVILLION GIVES WAY.

Crowd of Boys Climb on Roof Causing Structure to Collapse.

Marblehead, Mass., Aug. 20.—A dozen persons were injured tonight in a collapse of the pavilion at Crocker Park, where a large crowd was watching the fireworks celebration of the arrival of the New York Yacht club fleet. One hundred or more small boys had climbed on the roof the building, while 200 per-

sons, mostly women and children, were seated below. The weight of the boys caused the roof to collapse.

Fiendish Suffering.

if often caused by sores, ulcers and cancers, that eat away your skin. Wm. Bedell, of Flat Rock, Mich., says: "I have used Bucklen's Arnica Salve, for ulcers, sores and cancers. It is the best healing dressing I ever found." Soothes and heals cuts burns and scalds. 25 c at Charles Rogers' drug store.

When you feel a sense of weight and oppression after meals, it means indigestion. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea positively cures indigestion, constipation and stomach troubles. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets at Frank Hart's drug store.