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SEUFERT ARRAIGNS WARDEN VAN DUSEN

Canneryman Says That No Effort is Being Made to Enforce Law and That Ruin Will Follow—Charges Gillnetters on Bar with Greatest Destruction.

CAUSE OF SCARCITY OF SALMON EGGS JUST NOW

Declares Law Can Be Enforced Handily if Proper Means Are Taken to Do So—This He Claims Was Done Under Previous Administrations.

F. A. Seufert, one of the leading cannerymen of the Columbia river, who has been in the business for 25 years, and who drafted the first bill in 1892 to license canneries for a hatchery fund, bitterly arraigns Fish Warden Van Dusen and the Clatsop fishermen for the shortage of salmon eggs at the hatcheries this year. He declares the result is one season of the Clatsop and Van Dusen policy, and that if the same is to be continued, the result will be duplicated with a vengeance each succeeding season until within four years the business will practically be brought to an end.

Mr. Seufert says this talk of not being able to enforce the present law is all rot, and that there is no desire to enforce it. He says Mr. Van Dusen's policy, as set forth in his last annual report, is to throw the river wide open and give him funds to hatch young fish. He has carried this idea over the present year, when the startling fact has been forced upon him that without some protection for fish in the lower river, they will never reach the hatcheries.

In support of the statement that the gillnetters at the mouth of the river are depleting the river, he gives the evidence of the United States fish commissioner looking after the government hatcheries, who says that every salmon caught at the Little White Salmon hatchery this year had the marks of nets on it, showing that they had become entangled and were able to force themselves out of the web. Further, Mr. Seufert declares positively that 95 per cent of the fish caught in his traps have net marks on them.

Gill-Netters Drive Fish Away.

"As men who study the habits of fish in the Columbia know, the nets on the bar are doing the heavy work," says Mr. Seufert. "Their injury is not only the numbers of fish caught, but also the number that they drive away, and prevent from ever entering the Columbia. This condition is best illustrated the present year and in 1896, when there was a great strike. This year we have had what is termed a dry season, or one with few storms. When there are no storms at the mouth of the river, each ebb tide has from 800 to 1,000 miles of web sweeping across the bar to drive fish away. Salmon run in only at ebb tide, when fresh water is pouring out and they have a current to work against. They linger outside during flood tides in salt water, and then when the current turns, and fresh water comes pouring out, they start against this current and get into the river.

Drives Salmon Away.

"Just imagine the schools being met every tide of the season by 1,000 miles of web, which drags the bottom, each web of great length, sweeping over the bar. All the fish that strike the nets do not get caught, and the large number born back by this mass of netting may return for another effort the next tide and may not. Perhaps they try several

times. Is it not natural that they would become discouraged, and pass on up or down the coast? That is what is being accomplished every season that storms permit gillnetters to sweep the bar with every tide. If it is a stormy year and a week or so elapses before the gillnetters can get out, large numbers of salmon succeed in entering the river, and have a chance to get up stream.

This plain fact was further demonstrated in 1896. That year the fishermen went on a strike. The season then opened April 10, but owing to the strike the fishermen did not put a net in the river until the 10th day of June. This gave the salmon two months to enter the river and work their way up. The result was that the river teemed with fish. They were so thick that they could not be fished out, and in 1896, although the season really opened two months late, there was one of our very best seasons, both for the gillnetters and the trappers. The fish had been permitted to enter the river, and they swarmed. Gillnetters had their full opportunity, because salmon linger for some time where the water is just a little brackish. The same fact is witnessed any season when the bar is very stormy and gillnetters cannot sweep it daily.

Law Can Be Enforced.

"This talk about not being able to enforce the law is all rot," continued Mr. Seufert. "Van Dusen nor the Clatsop people want it enforced. They seem determined to destroy the industry, and this year of the open river policy, illustrates what they will do if permitted to have free hand. We of the upper river fished this year with the same disregard for the law that they manifested, just to show them what things would come to if this practice prevailed. I doubt if there will be 14,000,000 eggs secured in Oregon and Washington.

"The government fish commissioner told me yesterday that at the Little White Salmon hatchery the season was about over, and he did not have 3,000,000 yet, where he expected 3,900,000. On the Clackamas he will get very, very few, and he stated to me unhesitatingly that immediately below the hatchery there were nets stretched clear across the stream. The Clackamas is a closed stream. The United States commissioner said he would not be able to expend nearly all of the government appropriation this year for hatchery work, because he could not get the eggs.

"It is all because the fish warden of Oregon does not want to enforce the law. He does not try to clear the Clackamas of nets, he does not try to seize any of the fish caught illegally. He was put in office on the non-enforcement policy. Let me repeat a little fish history in this state.

History of Fish Propagation.

"In 1892 we saw the necessity of artificial propagation. I introduced a bill through Senator Stivers of Gilliam that year for licensing canneries and gear

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We are long on Woolen Goods, in fact we are heavily overstocked, and this warm weather refuses to let up. To reduce our stock we are cutting prices so low that all can buy fine pure wool goods at a small price.



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to create a hatchery fund. A similar measure was introduced in Washington the same season. Washington's law was enacted, and when she began hatching, there was \$75,000 in the fund. Oregon disallowed the necessary provision until 1895, when the law was enacted, and then she began getting the fund for this work.

"Holly McGuire was appointed by the governor as fish commissioner. He went before the legislature and asked that he be granted \$1,700 for enforcement of the law. He wanted \$500 to enforce the spring close season, which had been fixed from March 1 to April 15, and he wanted \$200 to enforce the fall season of one month, August 10 to September 10. In addition, he wanted \$1,000 office expenses. This was granted. He was also given one deputy, with a salary of \$1,000, and an expense allowance to this deputy of \$500. The next spring McGuire began to enforce the law, and he did enforce it. His expense allowance was sufficient for the work. The law provided that he has the power to confiscate any gear used illegally, or any fish caught out of season. He only had to pick up a few nets before the river was clear in the close season. All property confiscated was sold and the proceeds given to the hatchery fund.

Officers Have Full Power.

"Washington and Oregon have concurrent jurisdiction over the Columbia, which enables the Oregon officer to go to the Washington shore, arresting any

fisherman found fishing illegally. This gives plenary powers in the premises, and nothing can be done to help the legal situation. The Oregon warden can arrest any man fishing in the river, whether he be a Washington or an Oregon citizen, and he can seize his gear. What more could be asked? This is all the authority the officer needs, or could ask. McGuire demonstrated that it was sufficient. But McGuire lost his life that summer in the Umpqua, where he and Senator Reed were inspecting fisheries. Mr. Reed of Clatsop was appointed to take Mr. McGuire's place, and he continued his predecessor's policy, of closing the river, which he was amply able to do that fall.

"But at the next session of the legislature Senator Funt of Clatsop representing the Clatsop interests, appeared at Salem with an amendment to the old law, abolishing the office of fish commissioner, and creating a fish board, which was authorized to choose a fish warden. This bill carried, Reed was thrown out of office because he had been enforcing the law, and Van Dusen was put in to represent the Clatsop policy of letting them fish all the time. That is what Clatsop wants, and what he believes is best. We see the result. If it is to continue, we need make no further appropriations for hatcheries; in fact, need not continue in the business, for it cannot continue long."

"The talk of the fish commissioning to run late is also rot. They do not vary five days any year. I know this to be a fact. Dry seasons like the present, gillnetters are able to keep them out of the river much longer, which makes them late in getting inside, but the fish were trying to get up the river within five days of the period they usually make their appearance off the bar. That they came this year in usual force is apparent from the catches made by the gillnetters fishing on the Bar. The Co-operative company's men catch most of their fish on the Bar. You will notice that the catch of these men this year, when other fishermen were falling very low, was up to their best work. The Co-operative's pack is a fine one, this being the only cannery that did well. They got the fish on the Bar, before the schools were turned back, and the mass of web sweeping down with every tide left few for the up river cannery."

Mr. Seufert says that in 1888 Major Jones was sent to the Columbia to study the salmon industry for the United States fish commissioner. In his report he said that the gillnetter on the Bar was the greatest enemy to the industry.

No Orow for Him.

From the Chicago News. Office man—"Jan outside says he has a row to pick with you." Village Editor—"Tell him I'm out, but that any time he brings a turkey around to be picked he'll find me in."

OFFICIALS ARE ELECTED FOR CITY DISTRICTS

At the quarterly session of the Woman's Home Missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church, held yesterday, two organizations were affected to conform to the new districts. Officers were elected as follows:

East Portland—President, Mrs. J. P. Long, Salem; vice-president, Mrs. L. E. Rockwell, Portland; corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. P. Farmer, Sunnyside; recording secretary, Mrs. Webb, Silverton; treasurer, Mrs. E. V. Gottfried, Portland.

West Portland—President, Mrs. William Beharrel, Portland; vice-president, Mrs. W. B. Hollingshead, Portland; corresponding secretary, Mrs. F. J. Hard,

Portland; recording secretary, Mrs. Hatchwell, Newberg; treasurer, Mrs. L. Holman, Hillsboro.

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On account of the Morrison Street Bridge being closed to all east and west side traffic, while rebuilding, we are offering some extraordinary big inducements for you to come around about out of your way to trade here. Up-to-date Shoes and Slippers made to fit, hold their shape and wear satisfactory, selling at prices that will tempt the most economical to come to this store. Note the Inducement Prices.

Inducement Prices on Children's Shoes

Children's kid, kangaroo, calf and box calf; lace; medium and heavy leather soles, that wear satisfactory. They're \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$1.75 grades. Note the inducement prices—
 Sizes 5 to 8, Inducement Sale 90c
 Price \$1.00
 Sizes 8 1/2 to 11, Inducement Sale Price \$1.00
 Sizes 11 1/2 to 2, Inducement Sale Price \$1.25

Inducement Prices on Ladies' Shoes

Ladies' vici kid, and velour calf lace, medium weight, flexible leather soles, kid, patent and velour calf tips, good styles and reliable for wear, \$2.00 and \$2.50 grades, Inducement Sale Price \$1.55
 Womens' vici kid and box calf lace, light and medium weight soles, extra good fitters and excellent for wear, regular \$2.50 and \$3.00 grades, Inducement Sale Price \$1.95



Inducement Prices on Boys' Shoes

Boys' box calf lace, best oak tanned leather soles of medium heavy weight, that will stand the wet and hard wear, regular \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.00 grades, Sizes 9 to 13, Inducement Sale Price \$1.10
 Sizes 13 1/2 to 15, Inducement Sale Price \$1.45

Inducement Prices on Men's Shoes

Men's kid, box calf and storm calf, lace and congress styles; medium and heavy dependable leather soles; regular \$3.00 qualities; Inducement Sale Price \$2.25
 Men's vici kid, velour calf, box calf and patent colt lace, genuine "Goodyear Welt" soles, all late styles, regular \$3.50 and \$4.00 grades, Inducement Sale Price \$2.95

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