

12670 Ventura Blvd.,
North Hollywood, Cal.
18th October 1952.

Dr. W. M. Read,
University of Washington Press,
Thompson Hall,
Seattle 5, Wash.

Dear Doctor Read:-

Just this last week I returned from the northern visit, during which I had the pleasure of meeting you, and found awaiting me a letter from Mrs Woodward accompanied by my manuscripts. As it was through your kindness I submitted these to that lady I thought you should be apprised of the results.

Mrs Woodward also enclosed a reader's report on the RISE AND DECLINE OF THE PACIFIC SALMON FISHERIES and a copy of this also goes to you with this letter. The objections he enumerates are perfectly valid from the standpoint of the class known as "general readers" and this, as I pointed out in my correspondence with Mrs Woodward, led me to anticipate commercial publishing houses would not care to undertake production. I thought, however, that a university press, to whom profit should be a secondary consideration, might regard it as being within its province as it was the students of fishery matters - not the "general readers" I had aimed to interest and advise. As this critic observed, it was in fact intended "to be used as source material for highly specialized documentation."

Before leaving Seattle I had a pleasant conversation with Dr. Van Cleve of the Fisheries Department and was amused over one of his remarks. He informed me he had been one of the readers who advised rejection of my manuscript but that the cause of their adverse opinion was not, (as stated in their report to you), my lack of qualification as a salmon biologist but because my conclusions did not coincide with theirs !! As my later correspondence with you disclosed other fully qualified and eminent fish biologists subsequently corroborated the most essential of my remarks so I do not feel too badly over the reasons given by critics whose opinions were adverse.

In the preface of his GREAT LONE LAND Sir Wm. Francis Butler said his publishers wrote him that "their readers thought highly of my descriptions of real occurrences, but less of my theories."

"Almost every page of this book has been written amid the ever present pressure of those feelings which spring from a sense of unrequited labour, of toil and service theoretically and officially recognized, but practically and professionally denied."

It is something over eighty years since Sir William made these observations. How slowly the intellectual world moves on. !

With kindest regards,

Yours faithfully