

2nd May 1921.

R. E. Clanton, Esq.,

Bonnieville, Ore.

Dear Mr Clanton:-

I have to acknowledge receipt of your favours of the 19th and 29th ulto., and to thank you for the very great pains taken to supply me with the information asked for. I also await with interest the Rogue river reports which you promised to send.

When you come over here en route up the Fraser be prepared for a lot of questions for there are many points on which I hope to obtain information from you. Meantime I will not bother you further.

I quite agree with you that it will be a fatal mistake to imagine because the Bonnieville plan of operation appears so simple that it really is so. I too have noticed the disposition of certain parties to think they can do what you have done, without any further knowledge than was secured after a few hours visit to your hatchery. I have warned the Washington interests, as well as local operators, that it is useless to spend money in rearing pond culture except such expenditure is made by one trained in the proper method and recommended by the Oregon Fish Commission as being competent. I think they all see the force of this argument and are prepared to insist on this point.

I believe that your success with sockeye that have been retained over their second winter, will prove just as pronounced

with chinooks if you hold them for a similar period. Most fishermen and canners think that because there is no lake water between their spawning grounds and the seas, chinook salmon pass almost directly from fresh to salt water. Your own experiments show that it is late in the fall before many of them pass out, but I believe that it will yet be demonstrated that fully 50% remain in fresh water over their second winter, and that the bulk of the mature fish are the progeny of the two-year- in-river variety. The Atlantic salmon (*S. salar*) spawn under similar conditions to the chinook salmon, and it has long been known that while many go down to the sea in their parr stage, at least half remain in the river a year longer and migrate as two year old smelts. I feel convinced that if you were to hold young chinooks over their second winter you would get twice or three times the return you have been getting from releasing them when four or five months old.

Mr. O'Malley will be ready to accompany you up the Fraser any time you mutually can arrange to get off and meantime I have written Mr. E. B. Deming, Bellingham, to have the Washington Fish Board (representing the Puget Sound interests) communicate direct with you regarding the trip. They are to advise me when they do so, in order that I can line up the Fraser river interests. I hope therefore to have the pleasure of seeing you and Mr. O'Malley in this city about the 26th of the month.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely