Copy.

February 19th,1918

Gentlemen:-

You will no doubt have observed in the press that the Minister has decided that for the present year salmon gill-net licenses in district No.2 will be issued as attached and unattached on a similar basis to last year. As the continuance of last year's arrangement in its entirety would work some unfairness to those who have built new canneries during the last few years, and to which the boat rating did not apply, and the owners of which were informed that the boat rating, so far as the canneries are concenned, would not be continued after last year, it will be necessary to make some slight modifications in the arrangements for this year.

It is considered that this can be readily done in a way that will be reasonably satisfactory to all concerned, excepting at Bella Coola. The amount of fishing may not be increased anywhere in the north, and particularly in the Bella Coola District. In order to enable the Department to reach any decision with regard to the distribution of the attached licenses, it will be necessary for it to know what arrangements the existing canneries have made for the catches of the unattached fishermen for the coming year.

I shall, therefore, be obliged if you will inform me with as little delay as possible, what arrangements you have made for the catches of the independent fishermen in this district for the coming season. If you have not yet

made any arrangements in the matter, it will be well for you to do so immediately, as no decision can be reached with regard to the attached licenses until the Department is in possession of full information with reference to the disposal of the catches of the unattached fishermen.

It would seem well that representatives of your company and the B.C.Packers' Association should get together on this subject, in order that the matter may be disposed of in the most satisfactory way possible in the circumstances.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G.J.Desbarats

Deputy Minister of the
Naval Service.

Messrs

DRANEY FISHERIES LTD
VANCOUVER,B.C.