

C O P Y.

Vancouver, B. C.,

June 9th, 1910.

To,  
The Hon. L. P. Brodeur,  
Minister of Marine & Fisheries,  
O T T A W A.

S i r ; -

As you will see by the enclosed excerpt from the Vancouver Daily Province, it is reported that an arrangement has been entered into between the Dominion and B. C. Provincial Authorities, whereunder Messrs. John P. Babcock and John T. Williams are to fix "boat ratings" for the northern canneries; and we respectfully ask whether this report is correct, and the matter has been finally decided.

Whilst fully recognizing the ability and fairmindedness of both the parties referred to, we also appreciate the difficulties attendant upon fixing equitable ratings, and the liability to error on the part of the appointees, as so many technical points will have to be investigated and considered.

We are strongly of the opinion, and earnestly submit, that the right of appeal to a properly constituted Court should be ordained, as in the case of Assessments for taxation, etc., because no matter how impartial the gentlemen referred to may try to be, the fact cannot be overlooked that Mr. Babcock has already formulated and enforced for the Provincial Government, a rating which is not acceptable to the older concerns, who consider they have not been fairly rated; and if he is appointed to revise his own schedule, there should certainly be afforded opportunity for an appeal to an independent Court.

This question of boat rating has often been attempted by the canners themselves, but found to be extremely difficult of satisfactory solution.



