25th August 1921.

R. E. Clanton, Esq.,

Bonnieville, Ore.

Dear Mr. Clanton;-

Since I last wrote you there has been considerable interest taken in the Fraser sockeye question, and one or two articles appeared in the papers. Amongst the latter was one by Mr. Babcock and I enclose an abstract of his remarks. The gist of his argument is that the only way the Fraser runs can be restored is by closing the river to all fishing and let nature alone be depended on to produce the results hoped for.

Evidently taking their cue from Mr. Babcock, many of the others have expressed this same opinion. As one canner said in an interview in which he was asked what he thought would be the result of your investigation, he replied;- "Nothing, unless he can tell us where to get the eggs to produce the fry in sufficient numbers to provide for a big run."

References such as the above as to egg supply, and remarks as to an absolute shut down of fishing operations, will unquestionably weaken our hand if they are allowed to pass unchallenged. If you refuted them it would carry more weight than if I did, and therefore if possible, I hope your report will make reference to this phase of the matter. In speaking of getting eggs from Alaska if necessary, please dwell on the fact that if the resultant fish for a generation or two may be inferior to the native Fraser specimen it is still far better to introduce the inferior breed and let it gradually improve than to let the river so entirely without seeding.

In like manner if your report demonstrated the folly of depending on natural propagation to restore the supply, and if in addition you could emphasize the fact that it would cut out fishing the sockeyes that breed in the Birkenhead section, where overfishing has not reduced the supply, I think it would put a stop to this line of talk. Certainly any proposal to close down all fishing operations would alienate the assistance and sympathy of all fishermen and those packers who have no investment outside of the Fraser- Puget Sound area, and in the plans we have in mind we want the active assistance of not only these classes but everyone else that is at all influential.

Yours sincerely

HD/P.