MEMORANDUM October 31st, 1921.

Mr. J. P. Babcock, Assistant Fishery Commissioner of British Columbia, states that there is no doubt fishing on Rivers Inlet, Skeena River and other waters in Northern British Columbia is following the same course as the Fraser. Taking four year periods since 1903 and allowing for increases in boats, he shows by figures that less fish are being caught each period. Favorable reports as to spawning are only one of the many circumstances on which prospects of future fishing can be based and nothing is known of the many other just as important features, such as increase of natural enemies of fish, etc.

He does not agree with Mr. R. E. Clanton, Director of Fish Culture for the State of Oregon, in that the Fraser can be brought back by propogation and fish rearing ponds and insists that discontinuance of all fishing for a number of years is more necessary. Clanton claims that with a proper amount of propogation considerable fishing can still be carried on. Babcock admits there is a possibility of good runs in Northern districts from time to time but states that every four years will show a decrease in fish caught while extensive fishing is carried on and recommends that now that no restrictions are placed on the number of fishermen the only thing is to enforce a longer closed period each week. He thinks that for three days each week no fishing should be permitted during next season.

Mr. J. A. Motherwell of the Dominion Government Fisheries, who is really the man in control, is not by any means as experienced as Babcock or Clanton and his ideas are about half-

way between the other two. He would like to carry on more propogation work and will also probably endeavor to place further restrictions in the periods of fishing.