kettles with a steam jacket, by which the vessel is heated without the steam going through the cooking matter itself. Of course in the cooking, the heat to which the mass is subjected, soon develops water and oil, and as a consequence lessens the mass considerably. As the cooking proceeds the solids break up into exceedingly minute particles, and no matter how careful the manufacturers are with their straining system, they find it impossible to prevent some of these particles passing into the oil, thereby discoloring it, and making it of less commercial value, than would be the case, were it free from this solid matter. Again, these particles mix with the oil, settle to the bottom, giving a sediment, which is detrimental to the appearance, and, therefore, price of the finished commodity.

After going through the plant there I proceeded to Toronto, where I learned that Mr. John Leckie, (the owner of the Howe Sound Fish, Oil, Glue & Fertilizing Plant) was contemplating the putting in of a system invented by the Edson Reduction Machinery Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, and that he had an option on same for their British Columbia rights.

In investigating the fresh fish business, I found it necessary to go to Cleveland, and learned that the house I went there to see, (The Buckeye Fish Co.) was owned by Mr. Edson and his associates, who were the owners of the reduction system that Mr. Leckie had been figuring on. In conversation with them I found out that Mr. Leckie's option had expired about 10 days previous and had not yet been renewed, but he expected to take same up, the cause of the delay being the negotiations which were then under way, between Mr. Leckie and the Russian Cement Co., by which Leckie's plant in British

Columbia was to be turned over to them, and they were to secure the rights for British Columbia of the Cleveland machinery.

The Russian Cement people were at the same time figuring with the Cleveland parties, for the exclusive control of their patent for the American side of the Pacific Coast, and also for the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico sections. If they secured these, they would practically control, the oil, glue and fertilizing business, as far as fish was concerned for the United States, while their arrangement with Leckie, would give them British Columbia as well.

While at Cleveland, I met the representative of the Russian Cement Co., who was there at that time, negotiating for these rights. I also met the representative of the American Fisheries Co. who was there at the time, investigating the cost of manufacture of oil and fertilizing material from Menhaden by the Edson process, as compared with the process he was using at the time. The result of the test I have since received, and it shows that according to the process at present used by the American Fisheries Co., the value of one ton of Menhaden was $8.42; the value of one ton treated by the Edson process was $I3.8I; leaving a difference in favor of the new method of $5.39 per ton, which is nearly 70% increase over what they are obtaining to-day.

This American Fisheries Co. is about the largest fishing concern in the United States. They started some I5 years ago with practically nothing, and are to-day I believe capitalized at $5,000,000, and I believe are paying very handsome dividends.

I took up the question with the Edson Reduction Mach-

on the basis of the above as to what our probable requirements would be, I have asked them to give us the price of a 5 unit plant; also to let us know what the cost of machinery would be, the cost of British Columbia rights on a straight purchase basis, and what the same rights would cost, provided we paid them the royalty of $1.50 per ton the first year, with the privilege of purchasing the exclusive rights at the end of that time for some specified sum.

I have also asked them to send copy of the Canadian patent, which I hope to receive shortly, to gether with the information asked for above, when we can go further into the case.

Yours truly,

H.D.

Henry Doyle