

12670 Ventura Blvd.,
North Hollywood, Cal.
5th February 1957.

Dr. Peter Larkin,
Institute of Fisheries,
University of British Columbia,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Dr. Larkin:-

The Vancouver Province of the 25th ulto., contained a synopsis of your report on the Fraser River-va., power development, and in its issue of the 29th appeared the condensation of a speech on the same problem by Dr. Harry Warren. Earlier in the year Dr. Strum, and even President MacKenzie also expressed their views.

From the published opinions of all four U.B.C. doctors it appears somewhat evident that they all lean more toward power development than to salmon preservation.

None of these authorities claimed any success had been achieved in the past eighty years of effort to produce a workable and successful by-pass for fish, either adult or fingerling, over dams in any part of the world. Yet all seem to advocate the building of dams, whether or not the fish will be destroyed, on the vague and forlorn wish that by the time the rivers would be obstructed by dams the 80 year search will be crowned with success.

Against this wild hope all seem prepared to gamble on the certainty of salmon extinguishment and in favour of the immediate development of hydro-electric power. They admit the power is not necessary at the present time; that it will take a decade at least before the full supply might be called for; and they ignore the very evident probability that within that time period atomic power will have diminished the demand for hydro-electric power.

We have seen that such has been the history of past ages; that progressively one form of power has been succeeded by a more effective force; and that in each instance the greater effectiveness of the succeeding power has warranted its higher constructional cost. Why then rush in now on experiments that spell destruction for all time to a valuable source of food when the source of gained power may be made obsolete by future development in the same field ?

That all scientific experts have constantly ignored isthat if these dams are built, and/or these water diversions from one stream to another occur, the permanent water level in each case will be raised. This can only mean that the existing spawning beds of all species of salmon in these areas will not only be affected: they will be entirely destroyed.

One point Dr. Warren brought up in his speech was that due to the depth of water behind a 750 foot dam the problem of fish destruction by the turbines would not arise owing to the depth location of the turbines. He might have added that in any event there would be no fish affected because with no spawning areas remaining for salmon reproduction there would be no fry emigration to by-pass the dams. The adults having no suitable waters in which to spawn no fry will be produced and our great salmon industry will have been completely exterminated.

Yours faithfully

HD/P.

{Signed} Henry Doyle