

FISHERIES

1930-1933

PABC

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CAPT. M. WARNOCK  
PRESIDENT

W. ORAM  
SECRETARY

RECEIVED  
Fishing  
NOV 28 1932

# Vessel Owners' Association

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HEADQUARTERS:  
VANCOUVER, B. C.

1150 Haro St.

November 27th 1932

BRANCHES:

Hon. S. L. Howe,  
Minister of Fisheries,  
Victoria, B. C.

CAPT. E. TINGLEY  
COURTENAY

Dear Sir:-

The fishermen held their annual meeting with Mr. Found, the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Ottawa, on the 25th and I represented the above Association.

CAPT. E. WICKHAM  
BAMFIELD

Several vital matters came up only to be informed by the Deputy Minister that they came under Provincial jurisdiction. This affecting your Department I take the pleasure of taking these matters up with you.

CAPT. CARL ARNET  
PORT ALBERNI

1. Fishermen are dis-satisfied with the system of weighing pilchards and also the measurement per capacity of scow.

CAPT. M. WARNOCK  
PENDER HARBOUR

2. The very recent regulation covering the inspection of canned salmon has developed a new complication. Thousands of fish this year has been destroyed; that is, fishermen bringing fish into the cannery have had their catch culled on account of being a little discolored. This is a Provincial matter.

CAPT. N. WILSON  
BELLA BELLA

3. The herring salteries which operate on the East Coast are only supposed to have a certain proportion of Japanese, the balance being white help. Apparently these regulations are not lived up to. The fishermen maintain at every opportunity the whites are being replaced by Japanese.

CAPT. J. ORVICK  
BOX 33  
PRINCE RUPERT

I would like to impress upon you the above subjects would have caused a great deal of discussion but for the Deputy Minister placing the onus on your Department. You realize the fish being out of the water and landed at these plants bring the matter under your Department. Salmon that may not be just right for canning, although the flesh is firm, it is only the skin that is discolored and this fish should certainly not be thrown away. It can be dry salted or smoked and cured for the Indians. It appears to me that the Provincial Fisheries Department quite innocently does

CAPT. L. HUNT  
ALERT BAY

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DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
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CAPT. M. WARNOCK  
PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

# Fishing Vessel Owners' Association

HEADQUARTERS:  
VANCOUVER, B. C.

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Sheet #2.

BRANCHES:

CAPT. E. TINGLEY  
COURTENAY

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CAPT. E. WICKHAM  
BAMFIELD

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CAPT. CARL ARNET  
PORT ALBERNI

—

CAPT. M. WARNOCK  
PENDER HARBOUR

—

CAPT. N. WILSON  
BELLA BELLA

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CAPT. J. ORVICK  
BOX 33  
PRINCE RUPERT

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CAPT. L. HUNT  
ALERT BAY

does not realize the responsibility which they have in this great fishing industry, and I would strongly recommend that some one should be appointed to represent the Provincial Fisheries Department in the field. The Federal Government, as you know, has a large organization to supervise the fish prior to it being taken out of the water but what happens to it <sup>after</sup> appears to be sadly neglected. As a matter of fact to supervise, the pilchards, herring and salmon is the work of two or three men but I think the least the Department could do would be to make some kind of appointment whereby at these future annual meetings the buck cannot be passed from the Deputy Minister at Ottawa to the Minister of Fisheries at Victoria. The above matters are ~~xxx~~ causing grave concern amongst the fishermen, and I am taking this matter up with yourself knowing fully well that whatever can be done to rectify this condition will be done.

Assuring you of my co-operation at all times,

I am,

Yours very truly,

*W. Oram Sec*



November 29th, 1932.

Fishing Vessel Owners' Association,  
1150 Haro Street,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Gentlemen,-

Attention Mr. W. Oram, Secretary.

I am in receipt and have to thank you for your communication of the 27th instant. In reply I have to submit that the Department is desirous of doing everything it possibly can to further the interests of those engaged in the fishing industry. Its powers, however, in many respects are very limited.

Taking up the subject-matter of your letter I have to submit that:-

(1),- Regarding the dissatisfaction as to weights and measures of pilchard landings, I have to submit that this is a matter which must be settled by the fishermen and the buyers. The Province has no jurisdiction. This matter was considered some two years ago and the suggestion was made that the capacity of the scows be determined by the Board of Marine Underwriters -as the only body that dealt with such matters. It was thereupon taken up with that Board and copies of the correspondence are attached hereto.

You will note that they suggest a plan to determine the capacity of the scows, and submit an approximate estimate of the cost of the work. You will appreciate that this is a business matter for the interested parties and cannot be undertaken by the Province.

(2),- While the Province has the right to license the processing of fish after they are landed, it cannot compel any canner or buyer to accept fish which they find unfit for their purpose. Dealers alone can handle this matter. The inspection of their canned product, under the Canada Meat and Canned Foods Act, calls for the use of only prime

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fish --hence canners are compelled to exercise close supervision of the fish offered them. They can not afford to accept any but fish in prime condition. In consequence the fishermen must see to it that their catches consist of prime fish only, and they can not expect any buyer to accept other than prime fish.

(3),- There is no Provincial Act that prohibits the employment of Orientals in our canneries or fish processing plants.

I note your suggestion that the Department should have efficient inspectors in the field to deal with all the matters that come within its jurisdiction, and have to inform you that the Department does, so far as it has authority, exercise its jurisdiction and keeps itself as fully informed of conditions as is possible; but I repeat again that it does not come within our jurisdiction to compel canners or buyers to accept fish which do not meet their requirements, and that we are not in a position to accept the fish rejected by canners or buyers for salting or smoking.-- In other words, the Province is not engaged in processing fish. We may assume that if operators thought there was any money in salting or smoking the fish they reject for other processing, they would engage in that business. The Province cannot do so.

In conclusion let me assure <sup>you</sup> that it is my desire to further in every way possible the interests of those engaged in the fishing industry. Our fisheries are our greatest natural food asset and, as such, the Province is vitally concerned in their maintenance.

Yours sincerely,

Commissioner of Fisheries.

Encls.