

**44.—STATISTICS OF THE FISHERIES OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR THE YEAR 1887.**

**BY THOMAS MOWAT,**

*Inspector of Fisheries for British Columbia.*

*Detailed statement of the number of persons, the quantity of apparatus, and the amount of capital employed in the fisheries of the Province of British Columbia during the year 1887, together with the quantities and values of the various products.*

**PERSONS EMPLOYED.**

Sailors .....	229
Fishermen .....	3,095
Native hunters .....	295
Shoresmen .....	2,536
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>6,154</b>

**APPARATUS AND CAPITAL EMPLOYED.**

Apparatus specified.	Number.	Value.
<b>(a) Vessels and boats:</b>		
Steamers, schooners, and sloops .....	90	\$137,500
Fishing boats .....	991	41,915
Cedar canoes .....	181	6,240
Flat-boats and scows .....	96	14,725
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,358</b>	<b>200,380</b>
<b>(b) Gill-nets and seines:</b>		
Salmon gill-nets .....	1,379	127,450
Salmon seines .....	19	7,700
Herring seines .....	41	7,700
Other seines .....	53	10,225
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>162,075</b>
<b>(c) Shore property—estimated value:</b>		
Canneries .....	20	360,000
Oil factories .....	2	15,000
Salting stations .....		20,000
Freezing establishments .....	2	10,000
<b>Total .....</b>		<b>405,000</b>

**QUANTITIES AND VALUES OF PRODUCTS.**

Kinds specified.	Quantities.	Prices.	Values.
<b>(a) Fish:</b>			
Salmon, fresh .....	2,226,600	\$0.10	\$222,660.00
Salmon, smoked .....	31,050	.16	4,968.00
Salmon, salted .....	4,459	12.00	53,508.00
Salmon, canned (in one-pound cans) .....	9,795,984	.12	1,175,518.08
Sturgeon, fresh .....	249,000	.06	14,040.00
Halibut, fresh .....	386,000	.10	38,600.00
Herring, fresh .....	206,000	.03	6,180.00
Herring, smoked .....	14,500	.10	1,450.00
Trout, fresh .....	55,500	.10	5,550.00
Eulachon, fresh .....	25,500	.06	1,530.00
Eulachon, salted .....	115	12.00	1,380.00
Eulachon, smoked .....	350	2.00	700.00
Assorted fish .....	712,000	.05	35,600.00
Shellfish, sardines, and anchovies (estimated) .....			18,500.00
<b>Total .....</b>			<b>1,581,084.08</b>
<b>(b) Other products:</b>			
<b>Skins:</b>			
Fur seal .....	number	33,800	7.00
Hair seal .....	3,500	.75	2,625.00
Sea otter .....	75	60.00	4,500.00
<b>Oil:</b>			
Eulachon .....	gallons	340	1.00
Dogfish (refined) .....	67,500	.50	33,750.00
Mixed (refined) .....	40,000	.40	16,000.00
<b>Total .....</b>			<b>293,815.00</b>

*Detailed statement of the number of persons, the quantity of apparatus, and the amount of capital employed in the fisheries of the Province of British Columbia, etc.—Continued.*

QUANTITIES AND VALUES OF PRODUCTS—Continued.

Kinds specified.	Quantities.	Prices.	Values.
(c) Estimate of products consumed locally:			
Fish consumed in the province.....			\$100,000.00
Fish and oil consumed by Indians:			
Salmon.....			2,732,500.00
Halibut.....			190,000.00
Sturgeon and other fish.....			260,000.00
Fish oil.....			75,000.00
Total.....			3,357,500.00
Grand total, approximate yield.....			5,232,300.08

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., *March 12, 1888.*

45.—NOTES ON THE FISHERIES OF BUZZARD'S BAY AND VICINITY.

BY WILLARD NYE, JR.

The unusual amount of fresh water, caused by the heavy rains on the south coast of Massachusetts this spring, apparently attracted the alewives into the mouths of the rivers in great numbers. At the first dam on the Mattapoissett River 1,250 hauls were made, this being the best record for one season in twenty years. Traps along shore have also made large hauls.

The coldness of the water inshore, as well as the quantity of fresh water from the rivers, probably kept the scup away from the shore, as the traps, up to June 1, made light hauls. Scup appeared in such numbers, June 4, off Newport, R. I., and at the mouth of the Sakonnet River, as to bring down the price so that it hardly paid to ship them to New York. April 19, 395 pounds of tautog (averaging 3 pounds each in weight) were taken with a seine from a salt-water pond at the east end of Martha's Vineyard Island, where they probably had been all winter, as fishermen frequently caught them when spearing eels through the ice. At Menemsha Pond, at the west end of the island, tautog have been known to float ashore by the hundred during winters when anchor frost has occurred. More striped bass have been taken this spring than for several years. The best catch made by one trap was 70 in two mornings (about May 20), the weight of the fish ranging from 1½ pounds to 5 pounds. One salmon weighing 2 pounds was caught at Scouticut Neck.

Butterfish are very plentiful, a trap near Round Hill taking 15 barrels one night. Kingfish are more numerous than for several years; but none have been taken weighing over 3 pounds, the average weight being 1½ pounds. Thus far the indications are that there will be a considerable increase of migratory food-fish on our coast this season over the preceding three or four years.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS., *June 6, 1888.*