

TIRED, WEAK, NERVOUS WOMAN BENEFITED

Praises Lydia E. Pinkham's
Vegetable Compound

Asbestos Mines, Quebec.—"After the birth of my second child, I was always feeling tired, nervous and weak and had headaches, backaches and terrible pains every month. I suffered two years before I tried Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I got four bottles at first and it did me a world of good. I would not be without it in the house now, and have another six bottles in. I recommend it to every woman I know."—MRS. T. BARNETT, Box 114, Asbestos Mines, Quebec.

A FREE MAN

(From The Atlantic Monthly)
Pressed sorely on all sides, but loath to yield,
Sometimes when it has seemed that I must die
I see your banner, sharp against the sky,
And catch the glitter of your battered shield
Then, spite of weariness, my arm is steeled
To lift my own discouraged banner high
And gather laughter for a battle cry
To fling against the fiercely crowding field.

I know what friendless struggles you incur.
Faring so carelessly in ways apart,
Still smiling to yourself unconquered still,
Wielding the lightning blade Excalibur,
Your fair white plume unstained, O Gallant Heart
Armored in triple mail from every ill.

—ROSALIE HICKLER

ROYAL COMMISSION SAYS THAT THE SALMON FISHERY OF N. B. PRESENTS MANY PROBLEMS

The following extract is taken from the report of the Royal Commission deals with salmon fisheries of New Brunswick:

The salmon fishery of New Brunswick presents problem which are not found elsewhere, at least not to the same extent. To make these problems intelligible it is necessary to refer briefly to the habits of the Atlantic salmon. From the early summer months onwards the salmon ascend the rivers to spawn, the time of migration depending much on the character of the streams. The young salmon is said to remain in fresh water until it is one or two years old; in its second or third year it goes out to the sea, where it reaches its growth; it then returns to its natal stream to spawn. The best authorities believe that when the salmon leaves a river it does not journey far, but dwells in the sea near its natal waters. In the small streams of New Brunswick a large part of the salmon run is in the late summer. The Departmental view, supported by Dr. A. G. Hunsman, Director of the Atlantic Biological and Experimental Stations, is that many of the smaller streams have not now during the early summer months, the volume of water or the low temperatures that prevailed before the clearing of the forest lands through which these streams flow, and that the fish, therefore, remain outside until the conditions for ascending the streams are more favorable.

Methods of Fishing

Salmon fishing in river estuaries is chiefly carried on by means of stake-nets, and in the bays and along the coast by anchored nets. In Miramichi Bay, in recent years the drift net has been extensively used. By this method a boat having a long net, or several nets joined together extended like a vast curtain, drifts with the tide, the length of the nets used being on the

average 750 fathoms. The number of boats engaged in this particular form of fishing has grown from 4 in 1907 to 61 in 1927, while for the same period the total fathoms of net used has risen from 2,400 to about 40,000. Drift net fishing in the Miramichi Bay is prohibited within a line drawn from the lighthouse at Escuminac Point to the eastern side of Tabusintac Gully. In the seasons of 1925 and 1926 it was found that salmon were not as plentiful as formerly in the upper waters of the Miramichi river. With the hope of promoting a more pronounced movement of salmon into the headwaters of this river and generally for their conservation and propagation, the regulations were amended in November 1924 so as to end net fishing for salmon in the river on August 15th instead of the 31st, and drift-net fishing in the Miramichi Bay on July 31st instead of August 31st.

Apart from the net-drifters, there are three classes interested in the salmon fisheries of the Miramichi River and Bay. These are, first, the set-net fishermen who operate from the mouth of the river to the head of tidal waters; in 1927 they numbered two hundred and eighty-six; second, the set-net fishermen who operate above tidal waters; these numbered last year, twenty; and, third, the anglers, who are licensed by the Government of New Brunswick and the riparian owners with fishing rights leased from the Provincial Government. These three classes of fishermen contend that during the past few years the spring run of salmon has become almost negligible because of the net-drifting conducted on the Miramichi Bay and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. They declare that there is a menacing volume of drift-net fishing in the season when salmon are running in the river between the last week of May and the tenth of June, and they

ask that drift-net fishing be not permitted to such an extent as to deprive the angler and the set-net fishermen of a reasonable catch. They also stated that the regulations governing the size of the mesh are not sufficiently enforced nor are the limits prescribed for their operation strictly adhered to. It is also explained that the official statistics do not accurately disclose the actual yearly catch of the drifters. A representative of certain riparian owners and anglers, stated to us, that the total catch of salmon in the Miramichi district was officially reported as 676,800 lbs. in 1926, while for the same year and district the Canadian National Railways, alone carried 1,330,544 lbs. by freight and express, and that to this should be added local and inland sales which would bring the total catch well up to 1,500,000 lbs. It was suggested that this quantity was largely taken by drifters and that the quantity taken by set-net fishermen, riparian owners, and anglers was negligible. It is by such statistics that many salmon fishermen supported their case for the limitation of net drifting, which they contend if not carefully restricted will ultimately destroy the Miramichi salmon fisheries.

Recommendations Made

Various recommendations were made to us by the protesting classes. Among these were: (a) the entire prohibition of the drift net; (b) the reduction of set-net licenses in order to allow a fair proportion of salmon to move up the river; (c) the prohibition of drift-nets for one year in order to observe the results of the cessation of that form of fishing; (d) the prohibition of drift-nets until the first day of July, thus permitting more salmon to move up the river in the spring; (e) the permitting of net drifting only in alternate weeks; and (f) the reduction of the number of fishing days per week.

Those engaged in the net-drifting fishery say that it is not always profitable; that they have on the average only four nights a week of fishing because of stormy weather which frequently prevents their operations; that net-drifting has not diminished the up-river catches, but that the decline in the catch in the river proper is caused by the fact that the set-net fishermen are allowed to have too many nets and too many fishing days per week.

Not Reliable

From evidence in our possession we do not feel that we can rely upon the official statistics of the quantity of salmon caught by the drifters and others. At least they are so doubtful that we are not warranted in reaching conclusions based upon them. The statistics given us, based upon railway shipping records, may be equally unreliable, for it must be remembered that the Canadian National Railways distinguishes its freight and express shipments of fish only as fresh and frozen fish and makes no distinction in the various kinds of fish transported.

While the statistics of the catches of salmon cannot be considered as wholly correct, there is no reason for believing that the method of collecting them has altered, and the figures should therefore show with comparative accuracy the increase and decline in the fishery. From 1922 to 1926 the number of drift-nets and set-nets in the Miramichi region was practically constant. Within this period a total catch almost doubled from 1922 to 1924, but by 1926 it dropped to somewhat less than that of 1922. The rise and the fall equally affected these two classes of fishing, which practically divided the catch between them. They must, on that basis, be considered as equally responsible for taking fish that might have gone up the river to the anglers, but there is a probability that the fish caught by the set-nets and therefore already in the lower reaches of the river, were on their way upstream and belonged to the so-called "spring-run."

The reason for the pronounced rise and equally rapid fall during the period under consideration is far from clear. It was not, however, confined to the Miramichi region. It did not occur in the Saint John region of Southern New Brunswick, but a smaller variation is shown in the catches along the northern coast of the province, in Kent, Gloucester and Restigouche counties. The latter two counties, which are north of the Miramichi, show an equal or even more rapid rise, but a much smaller decline.

Net Drifters

The regulations now require that

drift-nets must not be used from sunset on Sunday morning until six o'clock on Monday morning. But as drifting operations are carried on only at night the net drifters are thus allowed but five nights of fishing each week, and the movements of salmon are therefore, impeded by net drifting from Saturday morning to Monday after sunset. In addition to this regulation, storm weather prevents the net-drifters from fishing one night a week on the average, so that his actual fishing time averages four nights a week from sunset to sunrise, or approximately 35 to 40 hours out of 168 hours a week. It would seem to us that in the total closed period the salmon has ample freedom to enter the river, for the migration cannot always coincide precisely with the periods of net-drifting. We cannot, therefore, recommend any change in the time permitted for such a mode of fishing. We believe, however, that there has not yet been a sufficiently careful and proper study made of all the facts pertaining to the question in controversy and we recommend that further investigations be made by the department. Meanwhile, we recommend as remedial measures, that no further extension of the present total length of nets used be permitted, and if additional licenses are issued the length of nets used by each fisherman must be shortened accordingly; that the mesh of set-nets in the river be fixed at six inches for the season of 1929 and thereafter; that no further set-net licenses be granted in the Miramichi river, and, if possible, that they be reduced; and that there be a more vigilant and vigorous enforcement of the regulations in the tidal and non-tidal parts of the river.

Restigouche Fisheries

The salmon fisheries of the Restigouche River and Bay de Chaleur appears to be well maintained. The headwaters of the Restigouche are held by riparian owners, and the fishing rights are leased from the government of New Brunswick, which last year received \$75,500 therefor, this sum to be paid annually for five years. For the ten years previous to 1927 the annual amount paid was \$16,000.

It is a stipulation of the leases that the lessees shall provide guardians or officers to protect the headwaters from illegal fishing, and to enforce all the regulations. The Riparian Association, comprised of such lessees, spend annually for the protection of the salmon in the Restigouche and its tributaries over \$30,000. Fishermen and others interested in this district testified to the beneficial results of the efforts of the Riparian Association in carrying out their agreement to protect the salmon fishery. Such testimony was of interest because it indicated that the enforcement of the regulations designed to conserve the salmon is productive of visible results, and that there is approval rather than criticism and suspicion of private lessees.

Numerous strong representations were made to us by residents along the Restigouche River and on the south side of the Bay de Chaleur respecting the practical value of the fishery regulation section 17 (8), which requires the raising or manipulation of salmon nets so as to admit of the free passage of salmon from a certain hour on Saturday to a certain hour on Monday morning. Compliance with this regulation was said to entail unnecessary hardships and difficulties, and it was stated that it was not productive of any valuable results. Below Dalhousie, where the bay is more than 25 miles wide, it is clear that the regulation is not well observed, and it is doubtless true that at times it is difficult, or almost impossible to comply with it because of stormy weather; on the north side of Bay de Chaleur the regulation seems to be fairly well observed.

A Conference Suggested

We are told, on the other hand, that in making its way up the river, the salmon follows the shore line, and it is to ensure an unimpeded approach for a limited period that nets are required to be raised weekly. The governments of the provinces of Quebec, and New Brunswick have protested against any change in this regulation. We cannot recommend its repeal so far as it relates to the district under discussion. But we suggest that fishery officers exercise a wise discretion in enforcing the regulation when its observance is rendered difficult by weather conditions. We think, however, that the question of net raising should soon be definitely settled, so that requests for the repeal of this reg-

ulation will not continue to be made year after year. We recommend that the department call a conference of Quebec and New Brunswick, and of the fishermen, together with its own departmental officers, for a frank and exhaustive discussion of the subject. We have dealt with this point at some length, because of the extensive coastline to which this regulation is applicable, the number of persons affected by it, and the extent of this fishery in Bay de Chaleur.

A similar regulation requiring the raising of nets on Saturday evening is in force in Nova Scotia, and we were asked on behalf of the salmon net fishermen that it be repealed. We were also asked to recommend that a regulation be enacted requiring salmon nets to be set at a greater distance from the mouth of the Margaree River than at present. The evidence on each of these points is not conclusive, and we think further investigation should be made by the officers of the department. If they find evidence that nets are set so close to the mouth of this river as to prevent a reasonable up-stream movement of salmon, new limits should be fixed. The setting of nets in the mouth of any river should not be permitted and the department should courageously support its officers in the enforcement of the regulations bearing on this offence.

Representations were made to us requesting that in places the salmon fishing season be changed; that a period of fishing be extended or shortened; that only certain kinds of nets be used; that nets be set further apart; that certain existing regulations be relaxed, and new restrictions enacted; that the number of guardians be increased; that salmon net licenses be limited to one per person; and that the mesh of salmon nets vary in size in different localities. It is not possible for us to give decisions on all these matters. They are questions which can be more intelligently and effectively disposed of by the department after careful and complete scientific investigation.

CANDY HAS BEEN DISPLACED BY CIGARETTES

Tacoma, Wash., May 9—Women, cigarettes and fewer candy boxes, is the summary of business made here by a Pacific Coast manufacturer. According to him, youth has lost its traditional sweet tooth, to the loss of candy makers and candy box designers. Cigarettes and candy do not go well together, he says, especially to feminine taste. The use of bars, small wrapped novelties and gum has hurt the box trade.

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