

RETURN

To an Order of the House for a Return of all applications for foreshore rights on the Pacific Coast of British Columbia during the past two years, giving the name of each applicant, the description of the foreshore applied for, and the purpose, if any, for which the applicant stated such rights were to be used.

Also, copies of all correspondence from the applicants, and from the Government, or any member thereof, to the applicants respecting the same, and a list of all applications granted, or promised to be granted, by the Government, and the terms of such grants.

W. C. WELLS,

Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

Lands and Works Department,

5th May, 1902.

Name of Applicant.	Description of Foreshore.	Purpose.
Wm. Munsie	Off Muir Creek	Salmon trap.
"	Off Section 7, Otter District	"
"	Off Sooke Harbour	"
"	Along by Muir Creek	Fishing.
J. H. Todd & Sons	Between Sherringham Point and Sooke Harbour	3 Salmon traps.
"	Spit at mouth of Sooke Harbour	
"	Sooke Harbour	
A. E. Todd	Tugwell Creek, Straits of Fuca	
J. R. Ross	Parsons' Spit, Sooke Harbour	
R. E. Gosse	Cole Creek, Straits of Fuca	
R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd. ...	Off Lot 7, Quashela Creek, Smith Inlet	
"	Lowe Inlet, Grenville Channel, Hartley Bay, Daniels Bay, Union Passage, Cridge Inlet, Mikado Bay, Mink Trap Bay, Curtis Inlet, End Hill Bay, Bore Bay, Gale Point and Deer Point	Seine fishing for Lowe Inlet Can- nery.
S. H. & R. Balcom	Off Sections 5 and 14, Saturna Island, Gulf of Georgia	Fish traps.
S. Balcom, W. Grant and M. J. McKenzie	Pedder Bay, Beecher Bay, Port San Juan, Numukanis Bay, Barkley Sound, Uchucklist Harbour and Tofino Inlet	
H. McKenzie & E. E. Leeson	Chatham Sound and Telegraph Passage, Skeena River	
Thos. Walker	Eastern end of Tombo Island	Fishing.
Geo. P. Kelly	Off Otter Point	"
John Taylor	West end of Smith Island, Coast	"
Chas. Hackett	South end of De Horsey Island, Coast	"
Jno. Kinsman	East shore of Banks Island	"
J. E. Kinsman	Chatham Sound, Haro Straits	"
J. G. Cox	Off Sherringham Point	"
H. A. Munn	Bentineck Island, Straits of Fuca	"
D. J. Munn	Discovery Island, Haro Straits	"
B. Stapledon	South end of Smith Island, Coast	"
W. B. Skillen	Chatham Sound	"
N. McLean	Trial Island, Straits of Fuca	"
Simon Leiser	Frazer Island, Beecher Bay	"
E. Gordon	Off his property, Otter District (Section 7)	"
Walter Walker	Pedder Bay	"
J. Kingham	Pedder Bay	"
W. A. Anderson	Bedwell Harbour, Pender Island	"
F. A. Gilmore	Miners' Bay, Mayne Island	
T. A. Woods and D. Alex- ander	Maple Bay, Comiakien	
John Piercy	West ends of Pendleton and Walbran Islands	"
S. A. Spencer	Ledge Point in Broughton Strait	

OTTER POINT,
April 30th, 1900.

W. S. Gore, Esq.:

DEAR SIR,—I wish to know if I can lease the foreshores on my property, if so, at what rate and for how long? I would buy them but you said they were not for sale, but if I can lease them that will do as well.

I remain, yours truly,
(Signed) E. GORDON.

VICTORIA, May 3rd, 1900.

SIR.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, asking if you can lease the foreshore on your property.

If you will be good enough to advise me, for the information of the Government, the extent of foreshore you desire to lease, with a sketch plan, and the purpose you intend to use it for, your application will receive consideration.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Minister of L. & W.

E. Gordon, Esq., Otter Point, B. C.

OTTER POINT,
May 10th, 1900.

W. S. Gore, Esq.:

DEAR SIR,—Replying to your letter received last mail, the portion I wish to lease is in front of my house about a mile in extent and the purpose is for fishing. I have asked Mr. Harris to draw a plan of the bay and forward it to you at once.

Hoping you will see your way to grant me the lease asked for.

I remain, yours truly,
(Signed) E. GORDON.

VICTORIA, July 12th, 1900.

DEAR SIR,—The Government desires me to inform you that they have had your application for a lease of foreshore in front of your property under consideration, but are unable at present to give a decision bearing upon applications of this nature. I may say for your information that no other applications of this kind have been granted heretofore.

Yours truly,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

Ed. Gordon, Esq., Otter Point, B. C.

OTTER POINT, July 28th, 1901.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works:

DEAR SIR,—I beg to apply to you for a lease of the foreshore fronting my property on the Straits of Fuca, from Otter Point to Tugwell Creek, for fishing purposes.

I remain, yours truly,
(Signed) EDWARD GORDON.

VICTORIA, August 29th, 1901.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, applying for a lease of the foreshore fronting your property on the Straits of Fuca, from Otter Point to Tugwell Creek.

In reply I have much pleasure in advising you that your application has been favourably considered, and that upon your publishing a notice and fulfilling the other requirements of section 41 of the Land Act (a copy of which I have mailed to your address), a lease will be granted to you provided no valid and substantial reasons to the contrary are brought forward in the meantime.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

E. Gordon, Esq., Otter Point, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C., October 9th, 1901.

*To the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works,
Government Offices, James Bay:*

DEAR SIR,—We notice by advertisement in the daily papers that an application has been made by Edward Gordon for a lease of about two miles of the foreshore, in the neighbourhood of Otter Point.

No person or company can use such a length of beach as two miles. The applicant's intention, no doubt, is to use part of it, and monopolise the balance as against other people who may wish to acquire fishing rights or privileges in this vicinity.

We therefore beg to protest against Mr. Gordon's application being granted.

We are, yours very truly,
(Signed) J. H. TODD & SONS.

VICTORIA, October 10th, 1901.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., protesting against the application of Mr. Edward Gordon for a lease of about two miles of the foreshore in the neighbourhood of Otter Point.

In reply I beg to say that your protest will be borne in mind.

I have &c.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*Messrs. J. H. Todd & Sons,
72 Wharf street, Victoria, B. C.*

VICTORIA, October 10th, 1901.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose herewith for your information a copy of a letter received from Messrs. J. H. Todd & Sons, of this city, protesting against your application for a lease of about two miles of the foreshore in the neighbourhood of Otter Point.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

E. Gordon, Esq., Otter Point, B. C.

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA,
17th October, 1901.

*To the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works,
Victoria B. C.:*

SIR,—Referring to the notice of E. Gordon, dated 18th ulto., of his intention to apply for a lease of the foreshore between Otter Point and Tugwell Creek, Straits of Juan de Fuca, we beg to protest very strongly against this lease being granted for the following reasons, viz. :—

For the past two years the Dominion Government have granted us the right to use a drags seine for salmon on the said foreshore, of which we have taken advantage, and it would manifestly be unfair to us that now the adjoining landowner should be placed in a position to dictate on what terms, if at all, we should be allowed to continue to use the foreshore for dragging our seine on. We may say we fish the whole of this foreshore, viz., wherever the fish may happen to strike in.

If the lease granted did not debar the use to the public of the foreshore for fishing purposes our own particular objection would be met.

We would respectfully submit that the right to the foreshores is reserved to the Crown just for such reasons as the one we have given, and that the development of an important industry would be seriously prejudiced and the rights of the public sacrificed if by leasing of the foreshores the adjoining landowners were placed in a position to largely control the fishing.

There are, of course, many other points, such as the curtailment of revenue from the issue of fishing licences, questions of wreckage, salvage, etc., that will meet with your consideration.

We have, etc.,
(Signed)

BRITISH COLUMBIA CANNING Co., LT'D.
Findlay, Durham & Brodie, *Agents*,
per B. C. Mess.

VICTORIA, October 18th, 1901.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. protesting against the granting of a lease of foreshore at Otter Point to Ed. Gordon.

Your protest has been noted and will receive all proper consideration.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*Messrs. Findlay, Durham & Brodie,
Victoria, B. C.*

OTTER POINT, October 18th, 1901.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works:

SIR,—Having complied with the necessary forms by having put in posts, and also by publishing in the British Columbia Gazette and Colonist for 30 days, a notice that I intended to apply to you for a lease of the foreshore fronting my property at Otter Point, I now apply to you for a lease of the foreshore from a post marked "E. G., N. E.," at Otter Point, to a post marked "S. W.," at Tugwell Creek, covering about two miles. Messrs. Todd & Co. having lodged an objection to my application, on the grounds that I am wanting too much, I beg to state that for fishing two miles is not too much, as owing to the tides the nets have to have a certain amount of drift; then again they own no land near the district, nor have they a licence to fish off here, so I cannot see what cause they have. I have owned the property on which the foreshore is for the last 13 years, and have paid taxes for that time on the property.

I remain, yours truly,
(Signed) E. GORDON.

[TELEGRAM.]

VANCOUVER, B. C., October 18th, 1901.

Hon. D. M. Eberts, Victoria:

Edward Gordon applying for two miles foreshore at Otter Point. Please withhold grant until canners' deputation sees you Monday.

(Signed) W. D. BURDIS,
Secretary Fraser River Cannery Association.

 OTTER POINT, B. C., 28th January, 1902.
To the Hon. Chief Commissioner L. & W.:

DEAR SIR,—Referring to my letter of October 18th, 1901, I beg hereby to make further application for foreshore and territorial water rights for fishing purposes, in addition to that applied for in said letter.

Yours truly,
(Signed) EDWARD GORDON,
per K. G.

 VICTORIA, Jan. 30th, 1902.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th inst., referring to your letter of the 18th October last, wherein you make application for a lease of certain foreshore lands, and intimating your desire to supplement that application so as to embrace territorial water rights for fishing purposes.

Your application, together with that of many other applicants for similar privileges at different places, is now before the Government for consideration, the result of which you will be duly informed as soon as possible.

Yours truly,
(Signed) W. C. WELLS,
Chief Commissioner of L. & W.

*Ed. Gordon, Esq.,
c/o Dr. J. Helmcken, Cor. Fort & Langley Streets,
Victoria, B. C.*

 VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA,
February 4th, 1902.

SIR,—We notice by a late issue of the Gazette that certain parties have applied to the Provincial Government for foreshore rights on the south-west coast of Vancouver Island, Tumbo Island and at other points in British Columbia.

As foreshore rights where fishing traps can be established will become valuable through the granting of licences for this mode of fishing by the Dominion Government, and will be necessary for the successful operation of seines and traps by canners or fishermen who may secure locations, we, being largely interested in the salmon fishing industry, would respectfully ask you to kindly refrain from granting foreshore rights to any applicants until the question of trap fishing has been settled.

We are, etc.,
(Signed) R. P. RITHET & Co., LTD.
J. H. Lawson for *Vice-President.*

*The Hon. W. C. Wells,
Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works,
Victoria.*

VICTORIA, Feb. 5th, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., referring to applications by certain parties to the Provincial Government for foreshore rights on the south-west coast of Vancouver Island, Tumbo Island and at other points in British Columbia, and asking that, as foreshore rights where fishing traps can be established will become valuable through the granting of licences for this mode of fishing by the Dominion Government, and will be necessary for the successful operation of seines and traps by cannery and fishermen who may secure locations, no such rights be granted to any applicants until the question of trap fishing has been settled.

I have, etc.,
 (Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd.,
 Victoria, B. C.*

VICTORIA, Feb. 5th, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., making application for the first option and privilege of erecting fish traps at certain points on Vancouver Island mentioned in said letter.

In reply, I beg to say that your application will receive due consideration.

I have, etc.,
 (Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*Messrs. Sprott Balcom, Wm. Grant and
 W. J. McKenzie, Victoria, B. C.*

VANCOUVER, B. C., February 7th, 1902.

*To the Hon. W. C. Wells,
 Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works,
 Victoria :*

DEAR SIR,—We, the Executive Committee of the Fraser River Cannery Association, beg to bring to your attention certain notices in the issue of the B. C. Gazette of January 30th, regarding applications for foreshore rights on the west coast of Vancouver Island and other locations.

In connection with this it appears obvious that these foreshore rights are being asked for in connection with trap fishing, in view of the expected issue of trap licences by the Dominion Government.

We are of opinion that this matter is of vast importance to the Province of British Columbia, and that no individual applications should be considered until such time as the whole question has received the careful consideration of the Government, and a definite policy has been adopted, such as will give equal rights to all interested in the fishing industry.

We are further of opinion that should trap and seine fishing be allowed it will entirely alter the conditions of the salmon industry, and we therefore respectfully urge that this question shall receive the Government's most careful consideration before any further steps are taken.

We shall be glad to meet you at any time should you consider it desirable to hear our views on the question.

We have, etc.,
 (Signed) ALEX. EWEN, *Chairman.*
 " D. BELL-IRVING.
 " J. E. MACRAE.
 " WM. MCPHERSON.
 " GEO. ALEXANDER.

VICTORIA, Feb. 15th, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., calling attention to certain notices in the issue of the B. C. Gazette of January 30th regarding applications for foreshore rights on the west coast of Vancouver Island and other localities, and asking that no individual applications be considered until such time as the whole question of the use of fish traps has been dealt with.

In reply, I am to inform you that your request has been noted and will be duly considered when any such applications are before the Government.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*The Executive Committee
The Fraser River Cannery Association,
P. O. Box 8, Vancouver, B. C.*

VANCOUVER, B. C., February 8th, 1902.

*To the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works,
Victoria, B. C.:*

SIR,—We notice that application has been made, dated January 27th, 1902, as published in the British Columbia Gazette of the 30th ulto., by Charles Hackett for a lease of the foreshore at southern end of De Horsey Island, mouth of Skeena River; also by J. Taylor for lease of westerly end of Smith Island, mouth of Skeena River.

We believe these privileges have been applied for for the purpose of using traps, and we beg herewith to enter our most emphatic protest against any exclusive privileges being granted to individuals before the whole question of use of traps has been dealt with. We strongly urge that the whole matter should be dealt with in such a manner that those who have their capital at stake in the business, and who, though knowing the value of the traps, have been barred from using them up to the present, should be given full protection should existing fishery regulations be altered.

We have, etc.,
(Signed) THE ANGLO-BRITISH COLUMBIA PACKING CO., LTD.
H. Bell-Irving & Co., Ltd., *Agents.*

VICTORIA, February 10th, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th inst. protesting against any exclusive privileges being granted to individuals over foreshore lands before the whole question of the use of fish-traps has been dealt with, and referring more particularly to notices published in the British Columbia Gazette by Charles Hackett and J. Taylor.

In reply, I beg to inform you that your protest has been noted and will be duly considered when any such applications are before the Government.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*Messrs. H. Bell-Irving & Co., Ltd.,
Agents Anglo-B. C. Packing Co., Vancouver, B. C.*

LULU ISLAND, B. C., 10th February, 1902.

Hon. W. C. Wells,

Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, Victoria, B. C.:

DEAR SIR,—I see by notices published in the B. C. Gazette that a number of applications are going to be made to you for leases of foreshore on different parts of the coast of the Province. These, no doubt, are being made with a view to obtaining locations for fish-traps, and I trust you will consider carefully the whole matter in all its bearings before any leases of this kind are granted. Hasty or ill-considered action on the part of the Provincial Government now in this direction may work great injury and injustice to existing investors, and may create unnecessary friction between the Provincial and Dominion Governments.

I hope, therefore, no such leases will be granted until some definite understanding is reached between the two Governments as to their respective rights, and that if salmon traps are to be established they will act in conjunction and in such a manner that no monopoly will be created.

If anything is done by you in the way of granting leases of foreshore it will be looked upon with the greatest suspicion and will subject the Government to the severest condemnation.

Yours most respectfully,

(Signed) THOMAS KIDD.

VICTORIA, March 12th, 1902.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. touching proposed applications for leases of foreshore on different parts of the coast of the Province; the subject of which will have my attention.

I have, etc.,

(Signed)

W. C. WELLS,

Chief Commissioner of L. & W.

Thomas Kidd, Esq., M.P.P.,

Legislative Assembly, Victoria, B. C.

VICTORIA, February 13th, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst. making application for a grant of the foreshore rights opposite your property—124 acres of Lot 7, Quashela Creek, Smith's Inlet.

When the Government have arrived at a decision as to what course will be pursued in connection with applications similar to your own, I will have pleasure in communicating with you again.

I have, etc.,

(Signed)

W. S. GORE,

Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd.,

Victoria, B. C.

VICTORIA, February 19th, 1902.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., addressed in error to the Honourable the Attorney-General and referred to this Department, making application for the foreshore rights for fishing purposes on the west end of Walbran and Pendleton Islands, as marked in red on the sketch map accompanying your letter, and containing three hundred and twenty acres, more or less.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

W. S. GORE,

Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

John Piercy, Esq., Victoria, B. C.

VICTORIA, February 21st, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst., making application to lease the foreshore rights of the land bordering on a number of fishing locations on the northern coast of the Province, used in connection with your Lowe Inlet Cannery.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd., Victoria.

VICTORIA, February 24th, 1902.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst., making application for a lease of the foreshore of Tugwell Creek, near Sherringham Point, for fishing purposes.

In reply I beg to say that when it has been decided what action is to be taken by the Government in respect to applications of this nature, due notice will be given to all applicants.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

John G. Cox, Esq., Victoria, B. C.

A similar reply was also sent to:—

J. E. Kinsman, Esq., Victoria, 24th February, 1902.
Geo. P. Kelly, Esq., Victoria, 24th February, 1902.
W. A. Anderson, Esq., Vancouver, 22nd February, 1902.
B. Stapledon, Esq., Victoria, 28th February, 1902.
Chas. Hackett, Esq., " " "
Thos. W. Walker, Esq., " " "
John Taylor, Esq., " " "
Thos. A. Wood, Esq., Duncans, " "

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA,
26th February, 1902

*To the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works,
Victoria, B. C.:*

SIR,—We notice several advertisements of intention to apply for foreshore rights, evidently with the object of controlling the fishing at such points.

We beg to protest against the issue of such licences for the above reason and as a restriction of the public rights, and we would refer you to our previous letter, viz., dated 17th October last, on the subject.

We have, etc.,
(Signed) BRITISH COLUMBIA CANNING CO., LTD.,
Findlay, Durham & Brodie, Agents.
per B. C. Mess.

VICTORIA, February 27th, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, referring to advertisements of intention to apply for foreshore rights, and protesting against the issue of such licences.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) W. S. GORE,

Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*British Columbia Canning Co., Ltd.,
Messrs. Findlay, Durham & Brodie, Agents,
Victoria, B. C.*

VICTORIA, March 6th, 1902.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated in error March 7th, 1902, applying for a lease of certain foreshore and territorial rights at Muir Creek.

In reply, I beg to say that all foreshore and tidal lands which are the property of the Province are under reservation and cannot be dealt with at present.

When it has been decided what action is to be taken by the Government in respect to applications of this nature, due notice will be given to all applicants.

I have the honour, etc.,

(Signed) W. S. GORE,

Deputy Commissioner of Lands and Works.

*Wm. Munsie, Esq.,
Victoria, B. C.*

A similar reply was also sent to S. Leiser, Esq., Victoria, 6th March, 1902; Messrs. S. H. & R. Balcom, Victoria, 18th March, 1902.

VICTORIA, 10th March, 1902.

The Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

RE SECTION 90, RENFREW DISTRICT AND FORESHORE THEREOF.

SIR,—We are instructed by Mr. Hugh Campbell, the owner of Section 90, Renfrew District, to enter a protest on his behalf against the granting of the foreshore rights of his land to Mr. Wm. Munsie.

Mr. Munsie applied for the foreshore rights by letter dated the 6th day of February last, and his letter is numbered in your office 984/02.

This foreshore is of great value to the owner of the section, as, amongst other advantages, he is able to obtain a very large quantity of seaweed, a most desirable manure for use on his farm.

We might be allowed to suggest that it might be considered by the Government whether the holders of the adjoining land should not have the first right to purchase the foreshore, which to them is in many instances of very great importance.

Your obedient servants,

(Signed) POOLEY, LUXTON & POOLEY.

VICTORIA, March 11th, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, making protest on behalf of your client, Mr. Hugh Campbell, the owner of Section 90, Renfrew District, against the granting of foreshore rights of his land to Mr. William Munsie, under his application of the 6th inst.

Your protest has been noted.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. S. GORE,

Deputy Commissioner of L. & W.

*Messrs. Pooley, Luxton & Pooley,
Barristers, etc., Victoria, B. C.*

VICTORIA, B. C., 15th April, 1902.

SIR,—Referring to our letter of 4th February last, asking you to refrain from granting foreshore rights until the question of trap fishing be settled, we notice from an advertisement in the daily papers that the reserve placed on foreshore and tidal land in 1890 has been cancelled, and that it is proposed to grant leases of these lands in the manner provided by the "Land Act."

We desire again to point out to you the great importance to the salmon industry that no foreshore rights should be granted by your Department to any person until a fair and comprehensive scheme has been devised for the carrying on of the salmon canning industry, and for the protection of canners and fishermen who have established and conducted the business at a great outlay of capital.

It is generally conceded by all conversant with the canning industry that in order to continue this business successfully under the changed conditions of the past few years, it is necessary that the modes of catching fish practised by the Puget Sound canners be adopted on our side, particularly in the use of traps and seines, on the south-west coast of Vancouver Island, as well as elsewhere. As the locations suitable are very limited, it is desirable that the Government should not hastily part with the control of the foreshore, which will be necessary for the operation of traps and seine nets.

While it is believed that a limited number of good locations are available, nothing has yet been done to prove their value, and before it can be definitely ascertained that fishing on the coast with traps can be successfully carried on, a large outlay of capital will be necessary. This can hardly be undertaken by individual canners, and an effort has recently been made to amalgamate the various fishing concerns of the Province, merging the whole into a large company, with sufficient capital to carry on the industry to the best advantage, and also to thoroughly prospect the coast for suitable fishing locations. The scheme is so far advanced that parties representing the eastern capital subscribed are now in the Province looking over the situation, but being met with the difficulty as to foreshore privileges, have intimated to us that if the Government adhere to their policy in regard to leases they must advise their friends to withdraw from the proposed company.

Should this amalgamation scheme not be carried to completion and additional capital obtained, we believe the fishing industry will be seriously affected financially and otherwise, and we would, therefore, respectfully ask you to reconsider your decision to grant leases of foreshore and tidal lands until the entire question of trap and seine fishing has been definitely settled.

We have, etc.,
(Signed)

R. P. RITHET & Co., LT'D.
J. H. Lawson for *Vice-President*.

The Hon. W. C. Wells,
Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, Victoria.

VICTORIA, B. C. :

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1902.

