

DEAR SIR,—

Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand, 6th May, 1908.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram, in which you mention that you are sending a spawned quinnat salmon for my examination. I have received the fish, and am pleased to confirm your determination.

The specimen is a male quinnat or chinook salmon, technically known as *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, Walbaum. It presents all the features of the species, with one exception—namely, the number of gill-rakers, which I find to be 12–14. This species is described as having the number of gill-rakers 9–14; it may therefore be well to ascertain the number in other locally-bred examples. The diagnostic characters of the specimen are as follows: Dorsal rays, 12; Anal rays, 16; branchiostegals, 14 to 16; number of scales in longitudinal series, 140.

Six species of the genus *Oncorhynchus* are known, of which the quinnat is the most prized, and is, indeed, said to be the most valuable of all the salmons.

As all the quinnats (where they are native) die after spawning, it is safe to conclude that the specimen under consideration is a New-Zealand-bred example.

I am, etc.,

EDGAR R. WAITE.

L. F. Ayson, Esq., Chief Inspector of Fisheries, Wellington.

RETURN showing the TOTAL ORDINARY EXPENDITURE of the MARINE DEPARTMENT during the FINANCIAL YEAR ended the 31st March, 1908.

Nature of Expenditure.	Details.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries of Head Office Staff	..	2,103 5 1	2,103 5 1
Harbours:—			
Manukau,—			
Salaries	494 0 0		
House-rent	18 0 0		
Stores and contingencies	101 12 0		
Russell,—		613 12 0	
Assistance to Harbourmaster	22 17 4		
Beacons and buoys	9 5 0		
Hokianga,—		32 2 4	
Salaries	352 0 0		
Clearing willows, Taheke River	130 0 0		
Stores and contingencies	30 11 2		
Kaipara,—		512 11 2	
Salaries	628 0 0		
Beacon, Helensville Creek	153 8 7		
Removal of sunken logs	428 0 4		
House allowance	19 10 0		
Clearing willows, Wairoa South River	15 0 0		
Stores and contingencies	182 14 11		
Tauranga,—		1,426 13 10	
Salary	16 13 4		
Stores and contingencies	10 14 6		
Tongaporutu,—		27 7 10	
Salary	10 0 0		
Contingencies	1 0 4		
Foxton,—		11 0 4	
Salary	210 0 0		
Improvement of channel	158 17 9		
Removal of snags	22 0 0		
Stores and contingencies	94 18 8		
Mokau,—		485 16 5	
Salary	40 0 0		
Snagging the river	58 16 0		
Wairau,—		98 16 0	
Salary	155 0 0		
Snagging the river	42 18 6		
Stores and contingencies	71 13 0		
Picton,—		269 11 6	
Boat-hire	..	0 7 6	
Carried forward	..	..	2,103 5 1