

Interviewed: February 3, 1976

FISHERMAN: Mr. Sam Larden,
374 Garry Street,
Steveston, B. C.

- Started gillnetting in 1930 on the Skeena River in the summer.
- Fished on the Fraser in the fall.
- In 1934 he started fishing entirely on the Fraser.
- He was fishing with linen nets during the war.
- "The grade of linen got very poor" so consequently Mr. Larden began trolling.
- On his mother's side, Mr. Larden is part Hawaiian and part Indian on his father's side English.
- His father was a "river driver" in Ontario. (a man who drives logs down the river).
- His paternal grandfather belonged to the Royal Engineers.
- Mr. Larden's father did make an attempt at fishing but he did not stay with it long.
- Mr. Larden says there was many more houses in Steveston then. Garry Street on which he lives at one time did not go right through to Railway Avenue.
- There was just the one hotel in Steveston (The Steveston Hotel) but it did not have a beer parlor.
- 10 HP engines in a gillnetter was a big motor in 1930, today they have as much as 200 HP.
- The design of the boats has changed since 1930.
- The style of gillnetters in 1930 was called a "Japanese Gillnetter", Mr. Larden says the boats may have gotten this name because the Japanese may have brought that style of boat over with them or possibly because they were built by Japanese boat builders.
- He says that when the captain of a boat is younger than his deckhands things don't work out too well. In effect the younger one is giving orders to the elder.
- He used to use an oar to sound the bottom.
- He has gone out for dog fish but "it was more of a fill in job".
- During the war, Mr. Larden like other fishermen was tied to his operation "The idea was to produce".

The tape at this point in the interview becomes inaudible.