

Let's Go Fishing: An industrial film showing commercial salmon fishing and canning in BC from 1948.  
Video AAAA1216 courtesy of the Royal BC Museum and Archives.

This black and white video shows three workers standing among numerous fish in the hold of a boat. The workers are using peughs to pitch the salmon onto a steep conveyor that takes the fish out of the hold.

Narrator: "British Columbia's salmon canneries are as modern as tomorrow. As soon as the vessel arrives at a cannery, its cargo is unloaded – mostly by machinery. The fish are handled on conveyors, similar to an escalator, which reach right into the hold of the vessel. Talk about your modern methods. A ledge for each fish; just as you have your own step in a department store escalator. "

The elevator moves the fish one or two at a time.

Narrator: "From the time the salmon arrive at a cannery, until they are packed in shiny cans, the emphasis is on speed – for time is the enemy of quality."