

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PUBLIC DOCUMENTS OF MAINE :

1907

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

Departments and Institutions

FOR THE YEAR 1906.

VOLUME II.

AUGUSTA
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT
1907

REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS
OF
Inland Fisheries and Game
FOR THE
STATE OF MAINE.

FOR THE YEAR

1906

AUGUSTA
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT
1907

STATE OF MAINE.

To His Excellency, William T. Cobb, Governor of Maine:

The Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game have the honor to present to Your Excellency their report for the year ending December 31, A. D. 1906, as required by section 32 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes.

LEROY T. CARLETON, *Chairman*,
J. W. BRACKETT,
EDGAR E. RING.

Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game.

FISH HATCHERIES AND FEEDING STATIONS

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF HATCHERIES.

To the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game:

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor of submitting to you my third annual report of the operations of our different hatching and feeding stations throughout the State for the year 1906.

We have but three hatcheries out of the eight where it is possible to raise yearling fish. In my judgment it would be much better if we had more of them and fed more fish until they were eighteen months old before turning them into the public waters. This would necessitate the expenditure of more money than is expended under the present system. If we tax our hatcheries to the utmost we must still turn out quite a number of fry, for the reason that it is impossible to raise all the fry that we can hatch. For example, a hatching trough that will carry successfully 75,000 eggs to the hatching period, would not with safety carry 35,000 very young fry, and at twenty days old not over 15,000. At the time when they commence to feed, eight or ten thousand would be a great plenty; at three months old two or three thousand is an outside number for one trough.

W. E. BERRY,

Genl. Supt. of Hatcheries.

LAKE AUBURN HATCHERY.

JOHN F. STANLEY, SUPT.

No. of trout eggs taken Fall of 1905,	30,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	6,000
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No. of trout eggs hatched	24,000
Loss of fry after hatching	6,500
	<hr/>
No. of fish distributed during Oct. and Nov., as per list	17,500

The Lake Auburn Fish Association, according to the lease, was entitled to all the trout at this Hatchery.

I exchanged with the Association, giving it 6,000 brown trout for the 12,000 red-spots which were planted in the public waters of the State named below.

No. of brown trout eggs taken in 1905....	20,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatch- ing	3,000
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No. of brown trout eggs hatched.....	17,000
Loss of fry after hatching.....	2,500
	<hr/>
No. of fish distributed.....	14,500
Lake Auburn Fish Assn. had.....	6,000
	<hr/>
No. distributed in the public waters of the State as per list.....	8,500
No. of salmon eggs taken Fall of 1905....	320,000
No. of salmon eggs shipped from this Hatchery on Nov, 18, 1905, to Mon- mouth Hatchery.....	32,000
March 27, 1906, to Moosehead Hatchery... ..	50,000
March 30, 1906, to Belgrade Hatchery....	75,000
	<hr/>
	157,000
	<hr/>
No. of salmon eggs left at Hatchery.....	163,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatch- ing	20,000
	<hr/>
No. of salmon eggs hatched.....	143,000
Loss of fry after hatching.....	19,000
	<hr/>
	124,000

No. of salmon distributed from Lake Auburn Hatchery in 1906.....	64,000
No. of salmon belonging to Lake Auburn Fish Assn. and planted in Lake Auburn	60,000
	124,000

(Note)—Lake Auburn Fish Association was entitled to one-fourth of the 320,000 salmon eggs, according to the lease, which would be 80,000. After deducting loss they received 60,000 young salmon.

The product of this hatchery was planted in the following waters:

TROUT.

Indian Pond, Greenwood.....	1,500
Bryant's Pond, Woodstock.....	2,000
Horne Pond, Limington.....	2,000
South Pond, Warren.....	1,000
Pennesseewassee Lake, Norway.....	2,000
" B " Pond, Upton.....	1,500
Noname Pond, Sanford.....	500
Mousam and Square Lakes, Springvale.....	1,000
Little Wilson Pond, Turner.....	500
Lake Auburn Fish Association.....	5,500
	17,500

BROWN TROUT.

Pease Pond, Wilton.....	1,000
Damariscotta Lake, Damariscotta.....	1,000
Keoka Lake, Waterford.....	1,000
Allen's Pond, Stoneham.....	1,000
Songo Lake, Albany.....	1,000
Long Pond, Livermore.....	500
Loon Lake, Rangeley.....	2,500
Little Wilson Pond, Turner.....	500
	8,500

SALMON.

Water Works Pond, Brunswick.....	1,000
Indian Pond, Greenwood.....	3,000
Twitchell Pond, Greenwood.....	2,000
Bryant's Pond, Woodstock.....	2,000
Sabbath Day Lake, New Gloucester.....	5,000
Mount Blue Pond, Phillips.....	2,000
Pease Pond, Wilton.....	2,000
Hobbs Pond, Rockland.....	2,000
Chickawakee Lake, Rockland.....	2,000
Crawford's Pond, South Union.....	4,000
South Pond, Warren.....	2,000
Damariscotta Pond, Damariscotta.....	2,000
Crystal Lake, Gray.....	2,000
Shag Pond, Woodstock.....	4,000
Garland Pond, Byron.....	1,000
Bear Pond, Hartford.....	2,000
Howard Pond, Hanover.....	2,500
South Pond, Greenwood.....	2,000
North Pond, Greenwood.....	2,000
Keewaydin Lake, Stoneham.....	2,000
Crystal Lake, Livermore.....	2,000
Songo Pond, Albany.....	2,000
Round Pond, Livermore.....	2,000
Long Pond, Livermore.....	1,500
Noname Lake, Sanford.....	2,500
Mousam and Square Lakes, Springvale.....	2,000
Concord Pond, Woodstock.....	2,000
Tufts Pond, Kingfield.....	2,000
Little Wilson Pond, Turner.....	1,500
	<hr/>
	64,000
Lake Auburn Fish Association received from this hatchery	40,000
Number of salmon escaped from hatchery on account of high water, went into Lake Auburn..	20,000
	<hr/>
	124,000

BELGRADE HATCHERY.

B. E. TARR, Supt.

Number of trout eggs taken fall of 1905.....	354,000
Shipped to Caribou hatchery.....	30,000
	<hr/>
	324,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching.....	39,600
	<hr/>
Number of trout eggs hatched.....	284,400
Loss of fry after hatching.....	10,900
	<hr/>
Number of fish distributed.....	273,500
<p>The temperature of the water was so high during the week of July 7th that these fish were all planted during that week in the Belgrade chain of lakes.</p>	
Received from Swanton, Vermont, pike perch eggs.	1,500,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching.....	500,000
	<hr/>
Number hatched	1,000,000
<p>These fish were planted immediately after hatching in Androscoggin lake.</p>	
Number of salmon eggs taken fall of 1905 *.....	125,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching.....	24,060
	<hr/>
Number of salmon eggs hatched.....	100,940
Loss of fry after hatching.....	5,940
	<hr/>
Number of salmon distributed from this hatchery..	95,000
As per list below.....	86,500
Number of salmon in hatchery.....	8,500
	<hr/>
	95,000

The salmon raised at this hatchery were planted in the following waters:

* These eggs were shipped to this hatchery from the Lake Auburn and Sebago Lake hatcheries.

Amphitheatre Lake, Charleston.....	3,000
North Pond, Smithfield.....	3,000
Pillsbury Pond, Newport.....	3,000
Big Indian Pond, St. Albans.....	2,000
Hancock Pond, North New Portland.....	3,000
Moose Pond, Hartland.....	10,000
Iron Bound Pond, Solon.....	5,000
Baker Pond, Bingham.....	4,500
Clear Pond, Bingham.....	3,000
Cold Stream Pond, Enfield.....	11,000
Lake in Waldoboro, Lincoln county.....	5,000
Young Pond, Somerset county.....	2,000
Lake in North Berwick, York county.....	2,000
Gardners Lake, East Machias.....	2,000
Lake in Danforth, Washington county.....	2,000
Belgrade Chain of Lakes, Kennebec county.....	26,000

 86,500

CARIBOU HATCHERY.

GRANT HINDS, SUPT.

Number of salmon eggs received from Sebago Hatchery, fall of 1905	75,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	2,206

 72 794

Loss of fry during summer,—after hatching	5,794
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 67,000

Number of salmon planted	30,000
Number on hand	37,000

 67,000

Number of trout eggs received from Belgrade Hatchery and Monmouth Hatchery	110,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	13,550

Number of trout eggs hatched	96,450
Loss of fry after hatching	26,450

 70,000

Number of trout planted from this hatchery	60,000
Number of trout on hand at this hatchery	10,000
	<hr/>
	70,000

I am convinced that the heavy loss of trout fry at this hatchery during the summer was due to foul water, caused by a starch factory located on the stream above the hatchery. After every rain there is a quantity of rotten potato pulp running in the stream and of course it gets into the troughs and a heavy loss is caused by it. The temperature of the water is all right for trout. The outdoor trough stands at this hatchery have got to be built over and should be built near the hatchery. A stable should be built another season ; a sleigh is also needed.

The product of this hatchery was planted in the following waters :

TROUT.

Squa Pan Lake, near Ashland	25,000
Portage Lake, near Ashland	20,000
Eagle Lake, between Ashland and Fort Kent	10,000
"B" Pond, near Houlton	5,000
	<hr/>
	60,000

SALMON.

Squa Pan Lake, near Ashland	5,000
Pleasant Pond, near Island Falls	5,000
Eagle Lake, between Ashland and Fort Kent	15,000
Umculcus Lake, near Oakfield	5,000
	<hr/>
	30,000

MONMOUTH HATCHERY.

W. A. WHITING, SUPT.

Number of salmon eggs received fall of 1905 from U. S. government, Green Lake	100,000
Number received from Lake Auburn Hatchery ...	32,000
	<hr/>
	132,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	8,500
	<hr/>
Number of salmon eggs hatched	123,500
Loss of fry after hatching	14,500
	<hr/>
Number of fish planted, as per list below	109,000
Number of trout eggs taken fall of 1905	34,000
Number of trout eggs received from U. S. govern- ment from Leadville, Colorado	250,000
	<hr/>
	284,000
Shipped to Caribou Hatchery	80,000
	<hr/>
	204,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	20,000
	<hr/>
Number of trout eggs hatched	184,000
Loss of fry after hatching	48,500
	<hr/>
	135,500
Number of fish planted, as per list below	125,500
Number of fish on hand	10,000
	<hr/>
Number of togue eggs received from U. S. govern- ment, Northville, Michigan	200,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	5,000
	<hr/>
Number of togue eggs hatched	195,000
Loss of fry after hatching	4,000
	<hr/>
Number of fish planted, as per list below	191,000

Owing to the crowded condition at this hatchery and the temperature of the water, we were obliged to turn out the above number of togue in July.

The product of this hatchery was distributed in the following waters:

SALMON.

Sand Pond, Litchfield	2,500
Cobbosseecontee Lake, Winthrop	10,000
Webber Pond, Augusta	2,500
Chemo Pond, Orono	5,000
Eagle Lake, Bar Harbor	5,000
Hynes Pond, Brewer	5,000
Lakes on Megantic Preserve, Eustis	5,000
St. George Lake, Liberty	2,500
Swan Lake, Belfast	5,000
Wassokeag Lake, Dexter	5,000
Parks Pond, Livermore Falls	1,250
Basin Pond, Kent's Hill	2,000
Long Lake, North Bridgton	3,000
Woods Lake, Sandy Creek	2,000
Pleasant Lake, Caratunk	1,250
Pocasset Lake, Wayne	2,000
Annabessacook Lake, Winthrop	2,000
Oyster River Pond, Rockland	1,500
Lambert Lake, Lambert Lake	2,500
Narrows Pond, Winthrop	2,000
Picked Mt. Pond, Columbia Falls	500
Round Pond, Unionville	1,500
Cathance Lake, Ellis Siding	5,000
Molasses Pond, Franklin	3,000
Third Lake, Lee	2,000
Tunk Pond	10,000
Bog Lake, Machias	2,500
Allen's Lake, Ayer's Junction	2,500
Boyden's Lake, Perry	2,500
Meddybemps Pond, Milltown	2,500
Fitz Pond, East Holden	2,500
Maranacook Lake, Winthrop	5,000
Molunkus Lake, Kingman	2,500

 109,000

TROUT.

Alfords Lake, Rockland	12,000
Lake in town of Rockland	12,000
Coffin's Ice Pond, Brunswick	12,000
Flying Pond, Kennebec County	12,000
Bartlett Pond, Kennebec county	12,000
Silver Lake, Kennebec county	10,000
Shag Pond, Oxford county	10,000
Sand Pond, Litchfield	3,000
Cobbosseecontee Lake, Winthrop	10,000
Lakes on Megantic Preserve, Eustis	5,000
Eagle Lake, Bar Harbor	2,000
Long Pond, Bar Harbor	2,000
Goose River Pond, Belfast	2,000
Wassokeag Lake, Dexter	1,000
David's Pond, Readfield	1,250
Moxie Pond, Caratunk	2,500
Pleasant Lake, Caratunk	1,250
Carry Pond, Bingham	2,000
Picked Mt. Lake, Columbia Falls	500
Third Lake, Winn	1,000
Indian River Lake, Columbia Falls	1,000
Coffin's Pond, Brunswick	1,250
Garland Pond, Dexter	1,500
Pond in town of Washington	1,250
Maranacook Lake, Winthrop	5,000
Pond in town of Waldo	1,000
Three Cornered Pond, Augusta	1,000
	<hr/>
	125,500

TOGUE.

Green Lake, Penobscot county,	100,000
Cold Stream Pond, Enfield	35,000
Wilson Pond, Wilton	20,000
Wings Pond, Wayne	15,000
Cobbosseecontee Lake, Winthrop	21,000
	<hr/>

191,000

MOOSEHEAD HATCHERY.

A. W. Wilkins, Supt.

Number of trout eggs taken Fall of 1905	35,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	21,000
	<hr/>
Number of trout eggs hatched	14,000
Loss of fry after hatching	3,000
	<hr/>
Number of fish planted, as per list below	11,000
Number of trout eggs received from East Freetown, Mass. paid for by R. E. Holden, et als	200,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	97,000
	<hr/>
Number of trout eggs hatched	103,000
Loss of fry after hatching	2,000
Planted in Squaw Brook	45,000
	<hr/>
	56,000

R. E. Holden, Jackman, had this number.

(These eggs received from East Freetown, paid for by R. E. Holden, and others, by popular subscription, were placed in this hatchery and what trout were raised therefrom were placed in waters in the vicinity of Jackman and Holeb.)

Number of salmon eggs received from Auburn Hatchery	50,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	1,087
	<hr/>
Number of salmon eggs hatched	48,913
Loss of fry after hatching	1,013
	<hr/>
Number of fish raised	47,900
Number of fish planted, as per list below	33,900
	<hr/>
Number of fish on hand	14,000

We are feeding at this hatchery this winter 10,000 yearling trout.

Lots of eggs and fry have been lost at this hatchery by the valves clogging and stopping the flow of water entirely from some of the troughs. What eggs were not killed were affected so they hatched weak. The valves were put in when this hatchery was built and would work all right, when there is no rubbish running, as there is in the spring of the year, in this stream. We have put in a new set of valves entirely different from the old ones, and I shall look for no more trouble in this respect, as they will not clog. The out-door trough stands have got to be built over in the spring, and the heating apparatus should be changed over before another fall as it is a waste of fuel to use it as it is now.

TROUT.

The product of this hatchery was distributed in the following waters.

Roach Pond, Roach River	2,000
Heald Pond, Somerset county	2,000
Indian Pond, Somerset county	2,000
Moosehead Lake, Piscataquis county	5,000
	<hr/>
	11,000

SALMON.

Roach Pond, Roach River	3,000
Big Fish Pond, Jackman	2,000
Pond near Lowelltown	4,000
Deer or Bog Pond, Skinner	3,500
West Branch Ponds, Roach River	3,000
West Branch Penob. River, North East Carry	12,000
Moosehead Lake, Piscataquis county	6,400
	<hr/>
	33,900

RANGELEY LAKE HATCHERY.

ARTHUR BRIGGS, SUPT.

Number of trout eggs taken fall of 1905	200,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	8,907
<hr/>	
Number of trout eggs hatched	191,093
Loss of fry after hatching	14,911
<hr/>	
Number of fish raised	176,182
Number of fish planted, as per list below	169,000
<hr/>	
Number of fish on hand	7,182
<hr/>	
Number of salmon eggs taken fall of 1905	50,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	3,273
<hr/>	
Number of salmon eggs hatched	46,727
Loss of fry after hatching	727
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Number of fish raised	46,000
Number of fish distributed, as per list below	45,000
<hr/>	
Number of fish on hand	1,000

In order to get a more even temperature of water at this hatchery, there should be a sixteen inch pipe laid from the dam up into the lake to where the water is twenty or twenty-five feet deep. I have no doubt after this is done, it will be a first class feeding station for trout. I think that a sixteen inch pipe will furnish water enough for the one hundred and sixty troughs now in use, and also water enough for more pools. The distance is 2500 feet.

The product of this hatchery was distributed in the following waters :

TROUT.

Rangeley Lake, Rangeley	70,000
Mooselucmeguntic Lake Franklin county	70,000
Cupsuptic Lake, Rangeley	10,000
Quimby Pond, Rangeley	4,000

Long Pond, Greenvale Plantation	3,000
Sand River Pond, Greenvale Plantation	2,000
Swetts Pond, Strong	500
Tufts Pond, Franklin county	500
Dutton Pond, Franklin county	500
Grindstone Pond, Franklin county	500
Redington Pond, Redington	1,000
Dead River Pond, Franklin county	1,500
King and Bartlett Lake, Franklin county	1,000
Pond near Phillips	1,500
Pond in Stratton	1,500
Pond in Flagstaff	1,500
	<hr/>
	169,000

SALMON.

Rangeley Lake, Rangeley	8,000
Mooselucmeguntic Lake, Franklin county	8,000
Cupsuptic Lake, Rangeley	8,000
Swetts Pond, Strong	1,000
Varnum Pond, Franklin county	4,000
Four Ponds, Franklin county	2,000
Gull Pond, Rangeley	4,000
Pond at Upper Dam, Oxford county	3,000
Pond at Middle Dam, Oxford county	3,000
Loon Lake, Rangeley	4,000
	<hr/>
	45,000

SEBAGO LAKE HATCHERY.

C. L. FLOYD, SUPT.

Number of trout eggs taken fall of 1905	43,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching	9,000
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Number of trout eggs hatched	34,000
Loss of fry after hatching	6,500
	<hr/>
Number of fish distributed, as per list below	27,500

Number of salmon eggs taken fall of 1905	410,000	
Number of salmon eggs shipped to Caribou Hatchery	75,000	
Number of salmon eggs shipped to Belgrade Hatchery	25,000	100,000
		<hr/>
		310,000
Loss from unfertilized eggs and in hatching		47,000
		<hr/>
Number of salmon eggs hatched		263,000
Loss of fry after hatching		113,000
		<hr/>
Number of fish on hand		150,000

The product of this hatchery was distributed in the following waters:

TROUT.

Panther Pond, Raymond	9,000
Jordan River, Cumberland county	18,500
	<hr/>
	27,500

In the spring of 1906, we had in the hatchery 60,000 salmon that were two years old. These were fed during the summer with a loss of 1,300. The balance were planted in the following waters:

Panther Pond, Raymond	17,000
Crooked River, Cumberland county	3,000
Little Sebago Lake, Cumberland county	600
Sebago Lake, Cumberland county	38,100
	<hr/>
	58,700

In the spring of 1906 we also had 75,000 salmon one year old. These were fed through the summer with a loss of 7,000. Of the remainder,—68,000,—21,400 remain in the feeding station. The balance,—46,600 were planted in the following waters:

Kezar Pond, Lovell and Fryeburg	600
Panther Pond, Raymond	10,000
Sebago Lake, Cumberland county	36,000
	<hr/>
	46,600

The heavy loss of fish at this hatchery is due to the temperature of the water running so high in July and August. In order to avoid this a pipe should be laid from the dam, upstream into the lake to where the water is twenty-five or thirty feet deep. This would give cooler water and a more even temperature. The pipe should be large enough to supply the hatchery and trough stands, also the four pools now in use. I think it would take a twenty inch pipe to supply what water is wanted.

From the foregoing report of the general superintendent and superintendents of the fish hatcheries and feeding stations, it appears that there were placed in the various hatcheries during the spawning season of 1905—during October and November—the following fish eggs:

- 1,146,000 trout eggs,
 - 20,000 brown trout eggs,
 - 880,000 land-locked salmon eggs,
 - 200,000 togue eggs,
 - 1,500,000 wall-eyed pike (or pike perch.)
- A total of 3,746,000 eggs.

The total loss to the planting period was 584,891, or a percentage of practically twenty-four per cent, excluding that of the wall-eyed pike or pike perch.

The superintendent attributes the cause of the somewhat unusual loss to the unusual high temperature of the water in two hatcheries, and the accidental clogging of the water in two troughs in one hatchery. It was an unusually hot summer, and at times the temperature of the water rose accordingly—much higher than ever before. He calls attention to the necessity for laying pipes from the hatcheries at Sebago Lake and Rangeley, up into the lakes, of sufficient size so that a sufficient flow of water of low, even temperature may always be relied upon. We regard this as very necessary, for with exceptional hot days in summer, such as we had last season, the temperature of the water mounts quickly to the killing point for the young fish in the hatchery.

A comparatively small outlay would entirely remove this danger and ensure—barring an epidemic which is always liable to occur—the raising of practically 90 per cent. of all the fish hatched from the egg.

The wall-eyed pike, or pike perch, eggs were obtained of the United States Commission of Fisheries and placed in the Belgrade Hatchery. What hatched were planted in Androscoggin pond, the outlet of which is the Androscoggin river. The planting of pike perch is an experiment in Maine, as there was not any of this species of fish in any of the waters of the state. It is one of the most prolific of fresh water fishes and is highly esteemed both as a commercial and game fish. Of its food qualities, it is universally regarded as one of the best of table fishes—is highly regarded by sportsmen of the west and undoubtedly will find favor as a hook and line fish in this state. It takes high rank as a game fish. It is a spring-spawning fish, spawning usually in April. It is claimed one has been captured weighing fifty pounds. One weighing forty pounds was caught and its head preserved. They spawn in streams and in lakes,—their habits differing in different waters. The eggs hatch in from 12 to 15 days. This fish is a native of Lake Champlain and commands the highest prices in the market. Whether they will flourish in our waters remains to be seen. Whether we want them must be determined later. From all we can learn of the fish, it would seem to be highly desirable to stock such waters as the Kennebec and Androscoggin rivers below the impassable dams, and perhaps some lakes and ponds not connected with other waters, where trout and land-locked salmon will not flourish. We shall watch this planting at Wayne with much interest.

BROWN TROUT.

We continue to raise a few brown trout, but are very careful where we plant them. They have not as yet developed in sufficient numbers where planted so as to enable us to give an opinion as to the desirability of propagating them. A few have been taken, however—some weighing fourteen pounds.

QUINNAT SALMON.

It appears to be established beyond controversy that these Pacific slope salmon have been successfully land-locked and thrive in Pierce pond, in Somerset county. As to their desirability, superiority or otherwise over the native land-locked salmon, we have as yet no data. These salmon in Pierce pond will be watched with great interest.

More fish were undoubtedly taken in the inland waters of our state this year than in any previous year in our history. One reason for this is that more people fished in our waters than any year previously. It is but a repetition to state that the state of Maine is regarded par excellence as the great and desirable fishing ground of New England. The large number of tourists who come among us annually, influenced thereto, primarily, by our superior fishing facilities, make for our prosperity in no inconsiderable degree. It would seem to be wise policy on the part of the state to care well for our fish hatcheries and feeding stations.

It will be seen that the product of these hatcheries was widely distributed. No less than one hundred and sixty different lakes and ponds were stocked this year. We always regret to be obliged to refuse any request from any of our citizens for fish to stock the lakes and ponds, but if the output was double or treble what it is now, our people would most gladly receive them and feel that the state was doing right in raising them.

Sometimes something is said about the amount the state is spending for fish. The appropriation for fish has never yet exceeded \$25,000 per annum. All else expended for both fish and game is received from license fees and fines. We believe our citizens are practically united in the belief that we should raise a large number of fish for re-stocking our waters and raise them as economically as possible.

There is a fast growing sentiment that far better results would be obtained by feeding the fish a year longer after hatching.

We believe this is correct. It will be noticed from Mr. Berry's report that there are now being wintered in our hatcheries 233,000 fish,—as many as our facilities will allow. We have no doubt this is the correct policy for the state to pursue, and if it is to be followed a larger appropriation must necessarily be made.

All fish culturists now, we believe, recommend this policy.

We have now in our hatcheries 2,425,000 eggs taken during the spawning season this year. We expect to augment this number by about one-half a million eggs from the United States and by purchase.

BIG GAME.

DEER.

There has been a marked decrease in the number of deer killed this year as compared with last year—estimated as fully one-third. Many theories are advanced as to the cause of it.

The only explanation that appeals to us as at all reliable is that there are less deer than last year. There have been as many or more—probably more—hunters than last year, but, except in a few localities, there has been a uniformity in the falling off of the number of deer killed. We have heretofore called attention to what we believed to be the truth—that our deer cannot long stand the enormous amount of killing that has been going on yearly for several years. Two years ago we called attention to this in the following language: "It is an undeniable fact that deer have been killed almost indiscriminately from June to January, and even during the winter months, by various classes, by sporting camp proprietors during the time these camps are open to guests, by some lumber operators, and most largely, perhaps, by so-called fishermen, canoeing parties and campers-out in the woods and around the lakes during the summer months and the month of September, who almost invariably are fully supplied with rifles of a heavy calibre. There is absolutely no excuse for this general practice of carrying rifles into the woods in close time—the purpose is only too plain. If deer are to be preserved in any considerable quantities this practice must be prohibited by law. The time has come when the people of Maine are face to face with this proposition, will they prevent the practical extinction of deer? If so, drastic measures must be instituted."

Two years' experience since the above was written and printed in our report but emphasizes the above.

The most reliable figures obtainable of the number of deer killed this year, figures obtained of transportation companies, guides, dealers in deer skins, care being exercised not to count duplicates, forces the conclusion that at least 18,000 deer have been killed during the year.

For instance, the 122 licensed dealers in deer skins report having purchased 7500 deer skins. Their reports represent 7500 deer killed. Add to this the number taken out of the state by the railroads, 4000, and you have a grand total of 11,500. Add to this the number probably killed of which we can have no record, and there cannot be much doubt that at least 18,000 were killed during the year.

It is not believed that the state can supply anywhere near this number of deer annually.

DAMAGE TO CROPS BY DEER.

We have paid \$1343.35 for damage to growing crops by deer.

But few appear to have taken advantage of the law permitting them to kill deer found doing actual, substantial damage to their growing crops, preferring, apparently, to receive a money compensation.

We have one claim of \$300 for damage done by deer not presented until the crops were harvested; another of \$90 and two or three others not as yet settled.

It has seemed sometimes that a disposition has been manifested on the part of some of these claimants to be unreasonable, demanding a larger compensation than they were entitled to. Our procedure in claims for damage to crops by deer is as follows: A person writes to the office that his crops are being damaged by deer. We at once send him the following blank: To the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game,

Augusta, Me.

Gentlemen:

My growing crops are being damaged by deer. The facts are as follows:

I have.....acres of land, situated in the town of
.....cultivated, as follows:

To potatoes.....

To corn.....

To grain.....
 Character of soil.....
 How near to forest land.....

The damage has been as follows:

(here state FULL particulars as to damage, especially as to DATES and the NUMBER of deer claimed to have been seen in fields, etc.)

and I estimate my damage at \$

Dated this.....day of.....190 .

Name.....

Address.....

and notify a warden, if there is one in the locality, to go at once and make a full investigation and report fully to the office. If there is no warden near enough, we get some competent disinterested person to investigate and report. It is usually necessary to make at least two visits; the farmer and the person sent to investigate agree upon the amount of damage in a great majority of cases. In the last analysis, however, we exercise our own judgment, from the facts reported, as to the amount to be allowed. It is noticeable that with the marked decrease of deer there has been a marked increase of claims for damage to growing crops by deer. These claims are confined largely to one county.

MOOSE.

What we have said as to the decrease in deer is also true of the moose, and of the necessity of preventing their slaughter in close season. We have a record of 40 moose illegally slaughtered. Among the most flagrant cases were the following: That of a cow big with twin calves, killed in March by Philip Emerson, of Patten, who was convicted; another cow and two calves were killed on the Mattawamkeag river in June—nothing taken away from them; one calf was found with its under jaw shot off and the other calf was found buried. This killing, no doubt, was done by a non-resident who was allowed to take fire-arms into the woods in close season. But few, if any, of these moose would have been killed if this practice was prohibited by law.

CARIBOU.

There are no indications of any caribou in the state.

LICENSES.

Guides.

We have registered 2083 guides this year. They have, according to their reports, been employed about 90,000 days, which, at \$4.00 per day, would be an income of \$360,000 for the past season.

SHOOTING ACCIDENTS.

There have been three fatal accidents the past season where the victim has been mistaken for a deer and one where the party was mistaken for a bear, and one case of being mistaken for a deer which has not proved fatal as yet.

As reported, these cases are as follows:

On October 21st Benjamin McDole, of Island Falls, 35 years of age, was mistaken for a deer and accidentally killed by William Fowler, aged 18. Fowler was arrested, as required by the statute; he waived examination and was held for the April term of the supreme court for that county.

Milton Strout, of West Harrington, 30 years of age, was mistaken for a deer and shot, on October 22nd, by Arthur Coffin of the same place. Mr. Strout specially requested before his death that Mr. Coffin should not be prosecuted—for he, Strout—was to blame for being in the position in which he was when shot.

Wm. Lahey, of Millinocket, was accidentally shot, on Dec. 13th, by Charles Pillsbury, of Hartland, being mistaken for a deer. Mr. Pillsbury went to the coroner and announced his readiness to place himself in custody. Later he was held on the charge of manslaughter, giving bonds for his appearance at the February term of court for that county.

Edgar Bailey, of Mattawamkeag, was accidentally shot by Guy Lordly of the same place, on October 6th, being mistaken for a bear. Lordly was arrested and arraigned before Trial Justice Seekins, of Mattawamkeag, and furnished bonds for his appearance at the next term of the supreme court of that county.

There were reported various other accidents to parties hunting, caused by the accidental discharge of firearms, &c., none of which, however, were caused by mistaking a human being for an animal.

WARDEN SERVICE.

The warden service on the Canadian border has been the same as one and two years ago, and generally throughout the state.

We are convinced that we have a reliable, resolute, efficient warden force, expert woodsmen of great endurance, but the territory to be guarded is so extensive that our whole state militia could not effectually patrol or guard it.

RUFFED GROUSE (Partridge), WOODCOCK, DUCK
AND OTHER GAME BIRDS.

There seems to be no appreciable diminution in the number of these birds.

Woodcock are increasing as well as the insectivorous song birds.

We have a large number—many thousands—of non-resident foreigners in our state who will kill any kind of a wild animal or bird at any time. Identification is usually impossible—they have no names—are known by number merely. Firearms should not be allowed in their possession; they are a great menace to bird life and to wild life of all kinds.

OFFICE WORK.

In addition to the licenses issued to non-resident hunters and to guides, the following have been licensed; 122 dealers in the skins of deer and other wild animals; 17 taxidermists; 200 hunters and trappers of fur bearing animals upon the wild lands of the state; 137 camp proprietors; 76 marketmen's licenses to buy and sell deer meat to their local customers; 1 commission to take birds, their nests and eggs for scientific purposes.

We have attended 21 hearings on petitions of citizens for rules and regulations restricting fishing in various lakes, ponds and streams.

We have attended nine hearings on petitions for fishways.

We have received for the current year for non-resident hunting licenses \$31,509.37. This amount, together with the amount received from various local licenses, fines, &c., \$10,113.41, makes a total of \$41,622.78, which has been deposited in the state treasury and is available for game and bird protection next year, as under the law it must be used for that purpose only, and for clerk hire and the expenses of the commissioners.

The amount we have expended this year for this purpose was collected from these various sources last year.

The non-resident license law has proven a decided success in every sense of the word; it has given the means to very greatly increase the warden service, and as many obviously hunt our moose and deer as the supply will warrant.

EXPENDITURES.

We submit herewith an itemized list of expenditures as required by law:

L. T. Carleton, Chairman, traveling expenses.....	\$241 40
J. W. Brackett, traveling expenses.....	256 11
Edgar E. Ring, traveling expenses.....	100 95
W. E. Berry, Genl. Supt. of Hatcheries, salary and traveling expenses	1,423 02
P. C. Coombs, Civil Engineer, surveys and plans of fishways	568 47
Damage to crops by deer.....	1,343 35
M. H. Hodgdon, clerical help and various office expenses...	721 30
C. L. Floyd, Supt. of Sebago Lake Hatchery, salary and bills paid	1,893 43
J. F. Stanley, Supt. Lake Auburn Hatchery, salary and bills paid	1,916 14
W. A. Whiting, Supt. Monmouth Hatchery, salary and bills paid	2,100 62
A. M. Tarr, Supt. No. Belgrade Hatchery, salary and bills paid	2,106 12
F. E. Hitchings, Supt. Moosehead Lake Hatchery, salary and bills paid	347 81
A. W. Wilkins, do.	2,034 96
Grant Hinds, Supt. Caribou Hatchery, salary and bills paid..	1,889 80
A. J. Darling, Supt. Enfield Hatchery, salary and bills paid..	117 04
Arthur Briggs, Supt. Rangeley Lake Hatchery, salary and bills paid	2,120 10
Augusta Water District, paid for pipe for Belgrade Hatchery	218 75
B. B. Jones, building weir and taking fish eggs.....	302 85
Chas. E. Darling, work at Enfield Hatchery.....	116 00
L. C. Stearns, rent of house, Caribou Hatchery.....	51 64
A. F. Harriman, building at Caribou Hatchery.....	77 59
Wm. T. Haines, lumber, wardens' cottage.....	93 65
Fred V. Carroll, plumbing, Oquossoc Hatchery.....	89 81
Isaac Loon, work at Belgrade Hatchery.....	86 33
Moosehead Lake Sanatorium, for use of road to hatchery..	60 00
Linen Thread Co., for seine.....	10 83

A. L. Staples, labor at Enfield Hatchery.....	36 75
G. B. Dolley, labor at Enfield Hatchery.....	33 25
W. W. Gray, labor at Enfield Hatchery.....	24 63
Geo. W. Merrill, filing case and index cards.....	32 70
F. S. Willard, fish net	41 10
J. H. Merrill, work on screen.....	55 40
Burnes P. Hodgman, attorney fee.....	4 00
John A. Stanley, publishing notice.....	1 00
Advertiser Pub. Co., publishing notices.....	3 50
E. C. Bowler, publishing notices.....	12 00
J. P. Bass Pub. Co., publishing notices.....	6 25
Boston Evening Transcript	9 00
Portland Pub. Co., publishing notices.....	7 00
J. W. Brackett Co., publishing notices.....	15 00
Bangor Pub. Co., publishing notices.....	20 00
Burleigh and Flynt, publishing notices.....	22 05
Evening Express, publishing notices	1 50
C. H. Prescott, publishing notices.....	3 25
Courier-Gazette, publishing notices	3 50
Somerset Reporter, publishing notices.....	5 00
Eastern Argus Pub. Co., publishing notices.....	2 50
Loring, Short and Harmon, ledgers, etc.....	19 75
W. I. White Bldg. Co., pipe for hatchery.....	39 00
Western Union Telegraph Co.....	40 65
N. E. Tel. and Tel. Co.....	93 67
North Eastern Tel. Co.....	5 00
Maine Tel. and Tel. Co.....	23 73
Burleigh and Flynt, copies of fish and game laws.....	20 13
Chas. W. Curtis, clerical services.....	200 00
L. F. Giles, attorney fees.....	30 00
Chas. G. Briggs, attorney fees.....	5 00
Harry M. Briggs, attorney fees.....	27 50
W. E. Parsons, attorney fees.....	15 00
W. R. Jordan, attorney fees.....	10 00
John F. Lynch, attorney fees.....	50 25
John R. Dunton, attorney fees.....	6 22
Forrest Goodwin, attorney fees.....	10 00
E. D. Kimball, boarding horse and team hire.....	150 00
Chas. Meservey, care of moose.....	10 00
A. N. Hooper, return of fine.....	50 00
M. C. R. R., mileages for wardens, 1907.....	80 00
Washington County R. R., mileages for wardens, 1907.....	22 50
O. W. Cole, posting fish notices.....	11 10
W. J. Crawford, posting fish notices.....	1 75
W. E. Haskell, posting fish notices.....	3 00
Elliott Hussey, amount overpaid on marketman's license....	2 00
Albert Lachance, fish fine paid back.....	16 00
Homer R. Dill, Taxidermist, mounting specimens in office..	17 50

J. H. Stewart and Co., maps.....	4 00
S. L. Crosby Co., mounting specimens.....	62 00
O. Crosby Bean, General Agent for licenses, for two years..	100 00
American Express Co., express on seized game.....	33 31
French and Holway, cartridges for wardens.....	9 62
Penobscot County, board of prisoners, and costs.....	407 94
W. D. Hinds, mounting specimens.....	2 25
Mrs. J. H. Cram, one live deer.....	15 00
Trout eggs	180 75
Arthur Crafts, lumber	200 00
A. L. Minot, boat for warden, Merrymeeting bay.....	190 00
T. B. Davis Arms Co., pistols and cartridges for wardens..	199 79
Edward Adams, three live deer.....	20 00
Preble and Robinson, supplies to furnish Moxie camp.....	11 60
A. F. Donigan, do.....	7 00
F. A. Ahlborn, fee for license paid back.....	15 00
A. H. Funk, revolver and cartridges for wardens.....	27 50
E. T. Bailey and Co., lumber for Moxie wardens' camp....	69 47
Johnson Bros., gasoline	9 50
F. S. Hunnewell, wardens' provisions, etc.....	36 60
W. H. H. Bryant, fee for license returned, not used.....	10 00
Leroy T. Weymouth, services on moose case.....	11 60
C. R. Ripley, repairing canoe.....	7 00
T. Perley Flynt, posting fish notices.....	3 00
W. B. Small, posting fish notices.....	3 00
H. D. Cooper, posting fish notices.....	3 00
W. J. Daggett, Agt., freight bill, Belgrade Hatchery.....	12 66
Lunt, Moss and Co., electrical supplies.....	15 00
Gerrish Canoe Co., for canoe.....	40 00
E. W. White and Co., canoe.....	39 50
E. T. Bailey and Co., lumber.....	250 11
Neal, Oakes and Quimby, use of hall.....	2 00
R. J. Lang, supplies for Enheld Hatchery.....	7 86
A. N. W. Smith, supplies for wardens' camp, Moxie.....	16 79
Engraving Co.	23 67
Wallace Fernald, care of deer.....	4 00
Darne, Stoddard and Co., revolvers for wardens.....	42 00
Ira B. Gardner and Sons, supplies, border wardens.....	337 30
Mrs. S. D. Brown, refund for deer seized.....	20 00
J. E. Warren, services of civil engineer at Sebago Hatchery, Treasurer of Piscataquis County, board of prisoners, and costs	151 44
Theirault and Theirault, attorney fees.....	54 75
Quincy, Cooper and Rowe, camp stove, etc., for border war- dens	20 80
J. J. Lander, supplies for wardens' camp, Moxie.....	16 67
Brackett and Andrews, lumber.....	25 18
Proctor Bowie Co., brick for chimney.....	14 95

W. M. Lord, fine remitted.....	51 00
H. C. Beadlestone, fine remitted.....	40 00
W. A. Henderson, for seized deer.....	15 00
M. L. Ashley, amount paid for license refunded—not used..	15 00
E. C. Farrington, mounted specimen for office.....	25 00
J. H. Cunningham, Jr., amount paid for license refunded— not used	15 00
W. L. Underwood, do.....	10 00
Willie Pooler, labor	20 00
C. W. Grover, labor	38 75
F. B. Fairbanks, paint for wardens' camp.....	8 50
W. Thoms, team hire	5 00
B. B. Brown	10 00
Postal Tel. Co.	3 35
D. D. Decormier, use of steamer.....	12 00
W. G. Rowe, use of steamer.....	6 00
D. M. Marshal and Co., lumber and supplies.....	108 62
A. B. Fernald, team hire.....	7 00
Underwood T. W. Co.....	144 50
F. J. Durgin, warden service.....	1,200 05
J. R. Pollard, warden service.....	26 48
D. B. Swett, warden service.....	240 00
Geo. U. Dyer, warden service.....	705 76
Frank O. Elsemore, warden service.....	5 70
L. R. Oliver, warden service.....	150 00
M. C. Morrill, warden service.....	347 15
F. W. Austin, warden service.....	1,165 50
F. W. Thompson, warden service.....	771 85
Herbert E. Pierce, warden service.....	1,152 54
D. W. Stanley, warden service.....	1,003 21
A. M. Warren, warden service.....	197 00
Geo. M. Esty, warden service.....	674 40
Geo. E. Cushman, warden service.....	746 67
F. M. Perkins, warden service.....	970 05
W. H. Hart, warden service.....	657 85
E. S. Hodgkins, warden service.....	770 25
Geo. G. Clouse, warden service.....	3 00
Walter H. Durgin, warden service.....	286 75
E. R. Twombly, warden service.....	68 00
Fred H. Clark, warden service.....	1,110 96
Ira W. Robbins, warden service.....	42 40
Litchfield Fish and Game Association, warden service.....	50 00
Frank Russell, warden service.....	105 50
Peter Shaw, warden service.....	526 00
Xavier Cyr, warden service.....	89 00
A. M. Tarr, warden service.....	284 45
J. F. Wiley, warden service.....	50 00

Elmer E. Estabrook, warden service.....	952 00
C. H. Southard, warden service.....	799 40
Geo. H. Woodbury, warden service.....	421 30
Geo. W. Ross, warden service.....	698 64
W. T. Pollard, warden service.....	1,199 70
Chas. S. Adams, warden service.....	1,206 95
D. L. Cummings, warden service.....	1,075 06
Fred A. Willis, warden service.....	636 43
Walter I. Neal, warden service.....	1,575 16
B. J. Woodward and assistant, warden service.....	1,563 88
H. T. Silsby, warden service.....	570 75
E. M. Blanding, warden service.....	191 22
Lovell Fish and Game Association, warden service.....	60 00
Alfred Clark, warden service.....	327 31
Major Lowe, warden service.....	178 95
Colin McRitchie, warden service.....	638 05
J. D. Ring, warden service.....	65 02
Chas. O. McPheters, warden service.....	231 81
Saml. Havey, warden service.....	72 80
Pearl Hackett, warden service.....	704 24
Offin Hackett, warden service.....	556 64
T. A. Seamans, warden service.....	359 93
S. M. Hodgkins, warden service.....	34 75
Lowell E. Ward, warden service.....	463 78
P. R. Hussey, warden service.....	415 50
John D. Finnegan, warden service.....	94 90
Jos. Cloutier, warden service.....	202 10
H. O. Templeton, warden service.....	194 43
O. L. Littlehale, warden service.....	86 00
W. W. Sewall, warden service.....	70 00
R. T. York, warden service.....	37 00
C. M. Record, warden service.....	40 25
Chas. Brown, warden service.....	96 00
John Gilmore, warden service.....	23 44
Henry A. Thayer, warden service.....	7 00
Geo. Ripley, warden service.....	30 00
David R. Howe, warden service.....	10 00
F. E. Jorgensen, warden service.....	1,145 77
Milton Penley, warden service.....	50 00
David F. Brown, warden service.....	1,029 30
C. E. Wilson, warden service.....	324 88
E. H. Lowell, warden service.....	357 96
J. E. Bowden, warden service.....	98 05
H. E. Redmond, warden service.....	1,307 10
Wm. M. Adams, warden service.....	270 40
Irving Hamilton, warden service.....	824 75
Benj. Straight, warden service.....	773 52
Jos. Michaud, warden service.....	488 95

W. H. Porter, warden service.....	102 00
C. A. Hale, warden service.....	200 00
F. B. Pierce, warden service.....	130 00
John P. Parks, warden service.....	430 85
W. R. Peters, warden service.....	38 00
W. W. Ketchum, warden service.....	75 55
Augustus Wyman, warden service.....	68 75
J. H. Ruth, warden service.....	83 30
Geo. A. Leighton, warden service.....	180 95
P. M. Kane, warden service.....	73 50
Jos. Albert, warden service.....	25 00
Saml. Hamilton, warden service.....	5 00
Oliver C. Adams, warden service.....	90 00
G. F. Lane, warden service.....	33 75
Wm. M. Viles, warden service.....	130 00
Geo. W. Calkins, warden service.....	20 00
J. C. Mead, warden service.....	35 00
A. M. Jones, warden service.....	294 60
W. R. Butler, warden service.....	2 75
B. J. Grant, warden service.....	11 12
Stand for machine in office.....	15 00
Burroughs Adding Machine Co.....	34 93
Digest of Game Laws.....	7 60
J. H. Davis, one deer.....	10 00
J. H. Pinkham, transportation.....	25 00
D. A. Maxwell, warden service.....	50 00