

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PUBLIC DOCUMENTS OF MAINE

1909

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

For the Year 1908.

VOLUME II.

AUGUSTA
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT
1909

REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS
OF
INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME
FOR THE
STATE OF MAINE
FOR THE YEAR
1908

WATERVILLE
SENTINEL PUBLISHING COMPANY
1909

STATE OF MAINE.

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

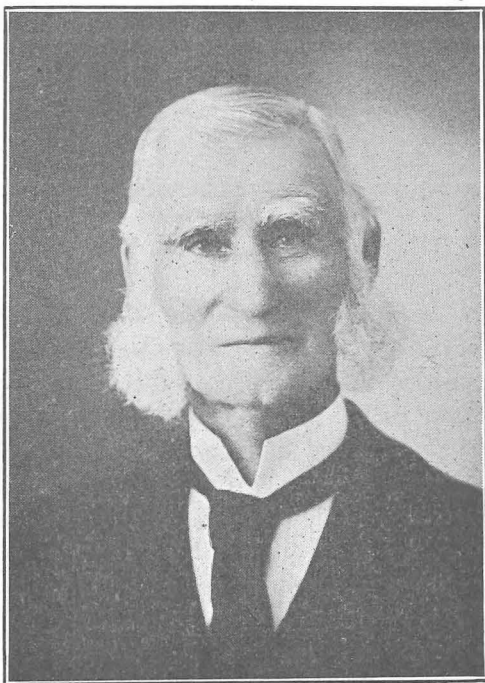
The Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game have the honor to present to Your Excellency their report for the year ending December 31, A. D., 1908, as required by section 32 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes.

L. T. CARLETON, *Chairman,*

J. W. BRACKETT,

E. E. RING,

Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game.

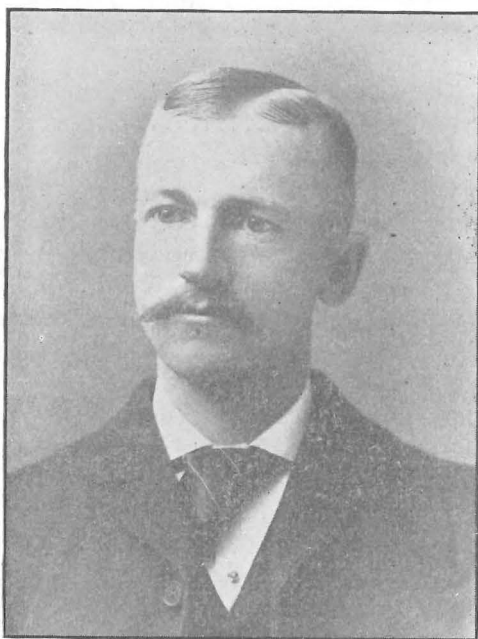


Hon. Henry O. Stanley of Dixfield, who, for more than a third of a century, was Fish and Game Commissioner.

FISH HATCHERIES AND FEEDING STATIONS.

Mr. Arthur Briggs, of Winthrop, was engaged in February, 1908, to devote his entire time to the work of looking after all the hatcheries and feeding stations in conjunction with the various superintendents.

Mr. Briggs had been for four years the successful superintendent of the Hatchery and Feeding Station at Oquossoc, (Rangeley Lake), and came to this important and responsible position thoroughly well equipped in the experience and knowledge of fish culture. He has been untiring in his zeal and efforts and has rendered acceptable and valuable services.



W. A. Whiting of Winthrop, Superintendent
of Monmouth Hatchery.

COBBOSSEECONTEE HATCHERY AND FEEDING
STATION, MONMOUTH, ME.

W. A. WHITING, Supt.

Mr. Whiting has been connected with this Hatchery for ten years, the most of the time as Superintendent. He is skilled in fish culture and is devoted to his work. To him is entrusted the larger part of the work of delivering the fish which are to be planted in remote sections of the State, requiring transportation long distances. He understands this part of the business perfectly, and has been uniformly successful, rarely losing any of the fish in transportation.

At this Hatchery during the winter of 1907-8—and last summer—there were kept 7000 trout, and these were planted in the fall of 1908, as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Lake Cobbosseecontee | 6,700 |
| Lake Maranocook | 300 |

From the Belgrade Hatchery 4,000 yearling land-locked salmon were received, and these were planted in Lake Cobbosseecontee.

| | |
|--|---------|
| From the Raymond Fish Hatchery the number of salmon eggs received was | 105,000 |
| The loss in hatching was | 4,000 |

Number hatched was101,000

The loss after hatching and before planting in the fall was 3,500.

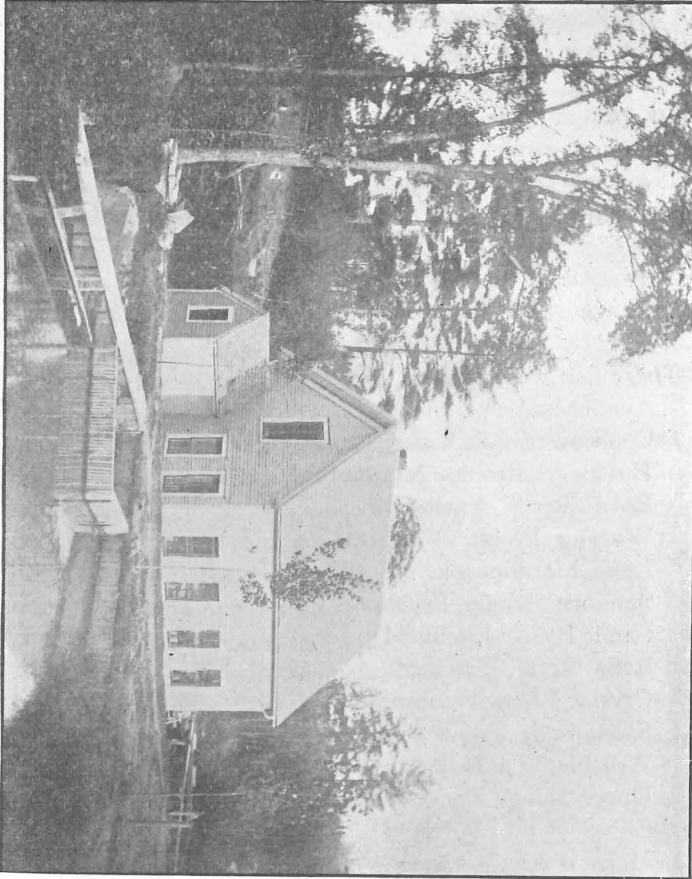
This is a most remarkable record, and it is doubtful if it was ever duplicated in any hatchery in Maine, at any time.

From 105,000 land-locked salmon eggs 97,500 fish were raised, and during October and November were planted in the public waters of the State, as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Hoyt Brook, Winthrop | 5,000 |
| Wheeler Brook, Winthrop | 5,000 |
| Wing's Pond, Wayne | 5,000 |
| China Lake, South China | 10,000 |
| Arnold Pond, Franklin County | 8,000 |
| Lake Sebasticook, Newport | 5,000 |
| Swan Lake, Belfast | 5,000 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Bungeanaut Pond, Lyman | 5,000 |
| Phillips Lake, East Holden | 5,000 |
| Three Cornered Pond, Augusta | 5,000 |
| Crystal Lake, Washington..... | 5,000 |
| Tunk Pond, Washington County..... | 10,000 |

Monmouth Fish Hatchery.



| | |
|--|-------|
| Gardner Lake, East Machias | 2,500 |
| Cathance Lake, Washington County | 5,000 |
| Long Pond, Bar Harbor | 5,000 |
| Mountain Pond, Dedham..... | 2,000 |
| Beech Hill Pond, Ellsworth | 4,000 |
| Webb's Pond, Ellsworth | 3,000 |
| Eagle Lake, Bar Harbor | 3,000 |

TROUT.

We received from the United States Commissioner of Fisheries 250,000
trout eggs for this Hatchery, from Carolina, Rhode
Island.

There were taken at this Hatchery 45,000

Total 295,000

Of this number 269,000 were hatched, showing a loss in hatching, of unfertilized eggs, &c., of 26,000.

There was a loss during the season after hatching and before planting of 21,200, or a total loss from the time of the taking of the eggs to the time of planting of 47,200.

A percentage of loss after hatching of .0784%.

This we regard as a splendid showing—one far above the average.

These fish were planted as follows:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Annabassacook Lake, Monmouth | 17,000 |
| Cobbosseecontee Lake, Monmouth | 35,000 |
| Hatchery Brook, Monmouth..... | 5,000 |
| Royal River, Yarmouth | 25,000 |
| Wheeler Brook, Winthrop | 5,000 |
| Lake Maranocook, Winthrop | 15,000 |
| Sanborn Brook, Fryeburg | 35,000 |
| Sand Pond, Litchfield | 10,000 |
| Estis River, Sanford | 5,000 |
| Crystal Lake, Washington | 5,000 |
| Sabbathday Pond, Poland | 5,000 |
| Worthley Lake, Poland | 3,000 |
| Upper Range Pond, Poland | 4,000 |
| Goose Pond, Portland | 1,500 |
| Horn Pond, Newcastle | 3,000 |
| Biscay Pond, Damariscotta | 2,000 |
| Chickawaukie Lake, Rockland | 1,000 |
| Canaan Lake, Camden | 3,000 |
| Pemaquid Pond, Damariscotta | 2,000 |
| Indian River Stream, Columbia Falls | 3,000 |
| Cathance Lake, Washington County | 5,000 |
| Gardner Lake, E. Machias | 2,500 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Howard Lake, Rumford Falls | 1,000 |
| Eagle Lake, Bar Harbor | 1,000 |
| Bog Lake, Machias | 3,000 |
| Fitz Pond, Holden | 1,000 |
| Cochnewagon Pond, Monmouth | 1,000 |
| Wassokeag Lake, Dexter | 1,500 |
| Flying Pond, Vienna | 1,000 |
| Bog Brook, Mechanic Falls | 7,000 |
| Colcord Pond, near Cornish | 5,000 |
| Garland Pond, Byron | 1,000 |
| Seleen's Pond, Belfast | 2,000 |
| Wells waters | 700 |
| Hinds pond, Brewer | 2,000 |
| Megantic Lakes | 3,000 |
| Redington Pond | 4,000 |
| Loon Lake | 3,000 |
| Stetson pond | 2,300 |
| Blakeslee lake | 3,000 |
| Deer pond | 3,000 |
| West Carry Pond | 3,000 |
| King and Bartlett lakes | 3,000 |
| T. Pond | 3,000 |
| Round Mt. Pond | 3,000 |
| Sandy River pond | 3,000 |
| Now in Hatchery | 2,300 |

These will be kept and fed in hatchery until the fall of 1909.

There were also raised in this hatchery 3,700 brown trout which were planted in Franklin County Waters.

An unusually large number of trout eggs have been taken at this Hatchery this fall—many more than ever before—which are in the hatching troughs, viz: 250,000. These, with the number, 120,000, purchased of W. H. Rowe, of Cumberland Centre, a private owner, make a total of 370,000 in process of hatching.

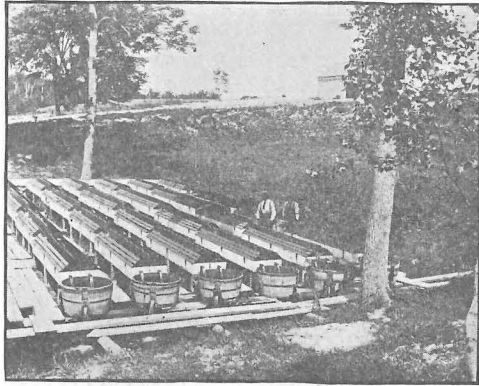
After these eggs are hatched, we can retain in the Hatchery to feed only 100,000. The balance will be sent to other hatcheries, or planted as soon as the sac stage is passed after hatching.

The capacity of this Hatchery is small, comparatively speaking, on account of the small flow of water. Yet it is wonder-

fully well adapted for raising fish. The brook on which it is located is largely fed by springs, and, notwithstanding the extreme drought which prevailed the past season, the flow of water was little affected.

There is, nearby, a very large spring, the water flow of which could be easily piped into this Hatchery at an expense of a few thousand dollars.

We have been unable to acquire this spring for the use of this hatchery. It would nearly double the capacity of the hatchery, and without adding to the expense of operating it—except the additional cost of feed for the fish.



Trough stand at Monmouth Hatchery.

We recommend that an act be passed authorizing the State to take, by eminent domain, waters necessary for the Hatching and Feeding Stations. The taking of this particular spring of water would in no way injure the owner, but, rather, would benefit him, as the spring would be thoroughly cleansed and enlarged, affording him as good an opportunity to water his stock as at present, and it would afford him a better opportunity to harvest his ice from it.

The importance of this hatchery can readily be seen when it is considered that from it—almost exclusively—has gone the fish which have been planted in Washington, Hancock, Penobscot, Kennebec, Waldo, Lincoln and Knox Counties, and many in Somerset, Franklin, Oxford, Cumberland and York Counties.

SEBAGO LAKE HATCHERY AND FEEDING
STATION, RAYMOND, ME.



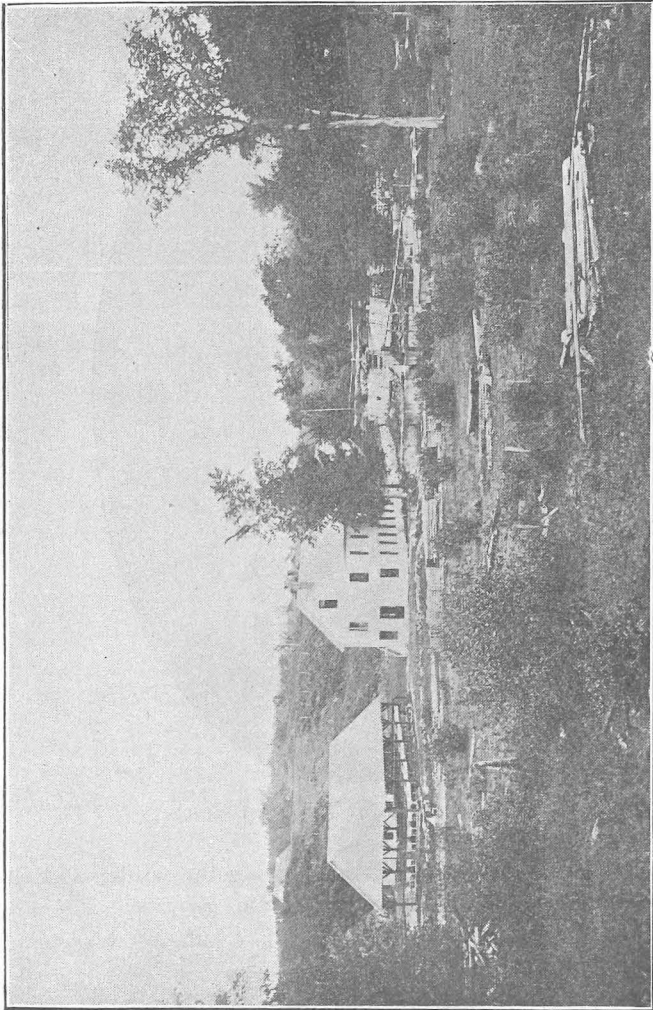
C. L. Floyd, Supt. of Raymond Hatchery.

There were kept at this Station during the winter and summer, of two year old land-locked salmon, 243,000. There was a loss during the summer of 7,000. The balance were planted in the fall, as follows:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Long Lake, in Bridgton, Harrison and Naples | 15,000 |
| Panther Pond, in Raymond | 5,000 |
| Ingalls Pond, Bridgton | 3,000 |
| The remainder | 213,000 |

were planted in Sebago Lake.

The good results of keeping fish until they are two years old before planting have been plainly seen in the marked increase of these fish in Sebago Lake. We are told by reliable persons



Sebago Lake Fish Hatchery and Feeding Station, Raymond, Me.

that not for a great many years have so many small salmon, weighing from 2 1-2 to 5 pounds, been taken as were caught this year. It has been years since so many were seen on the spawning beds as have shown up this fall.

We may as well say here, as anywhere, that the movement to keep the fish in the Hatchery until they are one and two years old, preferably two years old, is a wise one, and should be practiced in all the hatcheries, but it cannot be done without a considerable increase in the cost of maintenance of the feeding stations.

There were taken in the fall of 1907 340,000 land-locked salmon eggs. A portion of these were sent to other hatcheries, as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Monmouth Hatchery | 105,000 |
| Belgrade Hatchery | 25,000 |
| | 130,000 |

Leaving a balance of 210,000.

There was a loss on account of unfertilized eggs and in hatching of 30,000, and a loss during the season of 60,000, making a total loss from the eggs of 90,000. So there were raised at this Hatchery this season 120,000.

We took this fall (which are now in the Hatching troughs) 620,000 land-locked salmon eggs. There are in the feeding pools 100,000 one year old land-locked salmon. And of fingerlings, last spring's hatch, 120,000. The yearlings will be fed until another fall and then planted.

TROUT.

We took of trout eggs this fall 16,000, which are now in the hatching troughs.

This hatchery now has a capacity to feed during the season 300,000.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| In 1907 we took of trout eggs | 15,000 |
| The number hatched was | 12,000 |
| Loss during the season | 1,000 |

They were fed until June 1 and then planted in Jordan's river, a tributary to Sebago Lake.

According to the recollection of Hon. Henry O. Stanley, who was for more than a third of a century a member of this Commission, it was in 1873 that the Fish Commissioners began to take land-locked salmon eggs at Sebago Lake. The first effort in this direction resulted in their taking 306 salmon, mostly very large fish. The Hatchery was a crude affair and

located under an old mill at the outlet of Highland Lake, and the hatching troughs were "some old boxes." Mr. Isaac Harriman, who stripped the fish of their eggs that season, claimed that he took a million eggs, and Mr. Stanley naively remarks: "No one could dispute him for no one knew enough about it to know any better, but probably there was not near half that number."

Mr. Floyd, the present Superintendent, was connected with this primitive Hatchery, and has been connected with the efforts of the State to raise fish at Sebago Lake ever since. Aside from Mr. Stanley, he is undoubtedly the most skilled fish culturist who has been employed by the State in many years.

In 1886 Mr. Floyd erected a small hatchery building at Edes Falls, on a brook flowing through his land. Here the eggs were hatched and the young fry liberated soon after they were hatched—"when they were forty days old." In 1891, Mr. Floyd first began to feed the small salmon, "few of them through the summer," as he says, and he continued in this way until he moved to Raymond in 1903.

"The removal to Raymond" came about in this way: The artificial cultivation of fish to restock the depleted waters of the State was then firmly established, and appeared to be the settled policy of the State. This policy had the approval of men of all shades of opinion and of all political parties.

The summer tourist business was developing to a wonderful degree, and parties from all sections of the State were clamorous for fish from the hatcheries to plant in waters in their localities.

So insistent was this demand that it was seen that much larger facilities to hatch and raise fish must be provided, and so, during the session of the Legislature of 1903, the following resolve was introduced and unanimously passed the House and Senate, and was signed by the Governor and became a law—Chapter 27 of the Resolves of 1903: "Resolved, That the sum of six thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the purpose of establishing a fish hatchery and feeding station at Sebago Lake, to be expended by the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game, under the direction of the Governor and Council."

This resolve was presented by Senator Morrison of York

County, upon the petition of a large number of the leading citizens of Cumberland and York Counties.

After an exhaustive and thorough examination of all possible locations for this hatchery around Sebago Lake, and after calling to their aid Hon. E. E. Race, an expert fish culturist, the Superintendent of the U. S. Fish Culture Station at Green Lake, in Hancock County, it was unanimously decided to locate it on the outlet of Panther Pond, in Raymond, about half a mile from the lake, and in close proximity to Raymond Village.

The land and the dam across this stream was the property of Mr. Charles H. Gifford, who kindly gave the State a lease of the dam, and what land was required, free of rental so long as it should be occupied for a hatchery and feeding station for fish.

During the summer and fall of 1903, a modern fish hatchery was erected, the contractor being J. F. Harriman, of Raymond, he being the lowest bidder for the work, at a cost of \$2,100. This hatchery building is 25 feet by 42 feet, two stories high; the lower or ground floor is the hatchery proper, the second story being finished for a dwelling and occupied by the Superintendent and his family and assistants.

The dam had to be rebuilt, water pipe purchased and laid, hatching troughs, ice house and a small stable erected, and an outside, independent, trough stand built with a substantial roof over it, leaving the sides and ends open.

In the hatchery proper there are forty troughs. These troughs are ten feet long, thirteen inches wide and nine and one-half inches in height. This is the regulation size of the hatching troughs in all State Hatcheries.

The trough stand, so-called, really a feeding station to grow fish in—is fifty-five feet long and twenty-six and a half feet wide, and contains sixty troughs of the size of those in the hatchery building.

With a good head of water there runs into the hatchery building two hundred and twenty gallons of water per minute.

This hatchery at once went into commission and has been in operation ever since.

A strong feeling developed throughout the State that the best possible results were not being obtained by the practice in vogue of planting the fry as soon as the sac stage was passed,

or by planting fingerlings in the fall after they had been kept in the feeding troughs and fed through the summer.

It was believed that far better results might be obtained by keeping and feeding the young fish until they were one year old at least, and better still until they were two years old, especially if they were to be planted in waters containing pickerel, bass or white perch.

This belief culminated in the winter of 1905, in an appropriation made by the Legislature of \$2,500, to be expended at this hatchery for this purpose.

A building was erected 70 feet long and thirty feet wide. This building covers four ponds or pools 34 x 14 feet and four feet deep.

It was found by experience, however, that the supply of water was insufficient, and of too high temperature to successfully keep the fish in these pools, and the friends of the Sebago Lake fishing interests induced the Legislature of 1907 to appropriate \$10,000 to be expended in putting a 12-inch pipe from the hatchery to deep water in Panther Pond, 2,500 feet, to insure an abundance of water free from dirt or debris, and of an even temperature, low enough to insure the safety of the eggs, and the fish in the hatchery and pools at all times, the balance to be expended in erecting more pools in which to keep fish. The cost of this pipe was \$3,161.33, and it was purchased of F. A. Houdlette and Son, of Boston, Mass. The contract to lay this pipe was let to Geo. N. Fernald and Co., of New Gloucester. The cost of laying this pipe was \$3,238.42. Paid for freight, trucking, lowering of the pipe after laying, and other incidental expenses, \$1,881.14. Total \$8,280.89. The balance of the appropriation—\$1,719.11—is unexpended, save a bill of \$399.70 due R. B. Stratton for services rendered. The practical results from this somewhat large expenditure of money has not been all that was confidently expected, although sufficient time has not yet elapsed to definitely determine the ultimate result.

Some trouble was experienced, after the laying of the pipe, on account of navigation, and it became necessary to lower the pipe in the pond where it was laid over the bar into the pond.

Superintendent Floyd says "that he fears that in doing this

the joints in the pipe were loosened, as much dirt has since flowed into the hatchery."

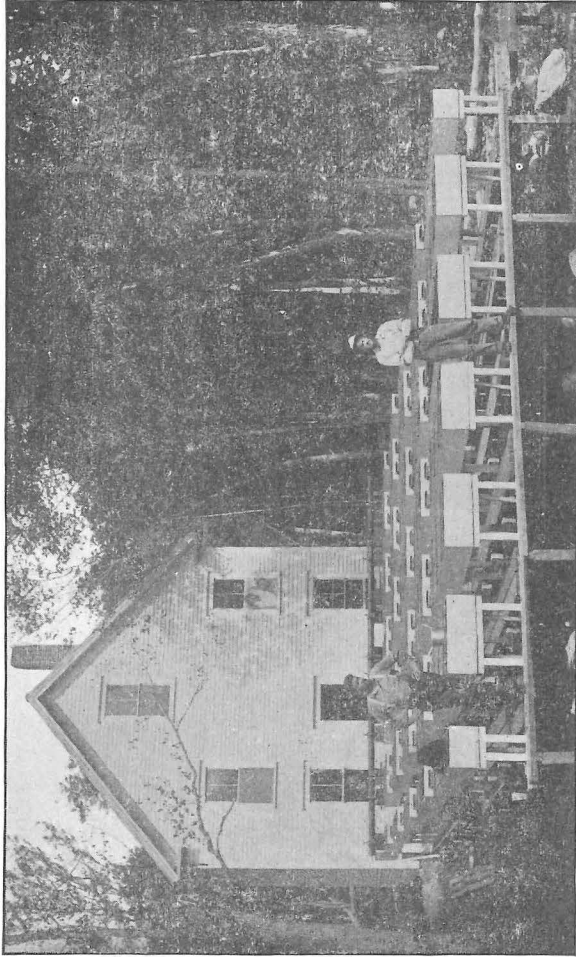
It is hoped that this difficulty can be readily remedied, and that, in the near future, this hatchery will prove in all respects an ideal one, wherein many hundreds of thousands of eggs can be hatched, and fish raised until they attain an age and size to insure their safety from destruction after planting, by pickerel, perch, black bass, and cusk, which abound in Sebago Lake and tributary waters.



Feeding Station at Sebago Lake Hatchery,
Raymond.

LAKE MOXIE FISH HATCHERY, MOSQUITO
NARROWS, LAKE MOXIE, SOMERSET COUNTY.

E. A. WHITE, Superintendent.



Lake Moxie Fish Hatchery.

The Legislature of 1907 made an appropriation of \$6,000 to erect and equip a Hatchery at this lake.

A Hatchery was built and equipped, during 1907 and 1908, with this appropriation, on Mosquito Brook, a tributary to Lake Moxie and in close proximity to the railroad station.

It has been demonstrated during the past year that the waters flowing from Mosquito Pond, and known as Mosquito Brook, are in every respect ideal for the growth of young trout. The trout which were hatched last spring remained in the troughs until August. At that time they had attained a remarkable growth, and appeared to be in every respect healthy, free from any disease. But, unfortunately, the brook became nearly dry, not sufficient water running in it to keep the young fish alive, and we were obliged to turn them out most unceremoniously. It was stated to us previous to locating the hatchery there, by those long familiar with these waters, that this brook was never known to run dry—that it always afforded a large volume of water at all seasons of the year—that a drought did not affect it. Another difficulty was experienced by the freezing of the water in several lengths of the pipe, and the bursting of the same during the winter of 1907-'08. The trouble was caused by a miscalculation of the civil engineer who laid the pipe. It was necessary to make considerable outlay to purchase and lay new pipe.

There is a great region containing numerous bodies of water—lakes, ponds, brooks, large and small, which this hatchery was designed to supply with fish. The summer tourists are going more and more into that country. The railroad travel into this region the last year has been greatly increased.

In order to operate the hatchery safely and successfully, it is absolutely necessary to extend the pipe into Mosquito Pond, a distance of 3,300 feet. This will cost, as estimated by Mr. Briggs, the Superintendent of Hatcheries, as follows:

| | |
|---|---------|
| For the pipe | \$1,200 |
| For jute and lead for laying pipe | 176 |
| For digging ditch and laying pipe | 450 |
| For freight | 400 |
| For finishing hatchery to furnish rooms for the Superintendent | 740 |

This must be done, as it is not safe to undertake to raise fish at this hatchery under the present conditions.

We placed in this Hatchery last May 150,000 trout fry and 10,000 salmon fry from the Belgrade Hatchery. These fry were hatched from eggs taken at the Moxie Hatchery in the fall of 1907, but owing to the pipe freezing up we were obliged to send

the eggs, as soon thereafter as possible, to the Belgrade Hatchery, where they were kept and hatched, and the fry shipped to the Moxie Hatchery in May. Loss during the summer was 13,225.

Of salmon fry, 10,000 were sent from the Belgrade Hatchery in May. The loss during the summer was 1,000.

The trout were planted in the following waters:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Lake Moxie, The Forks T. | 106,775 |
| Baker Pond, Spaulding T. | 10,000 |
| Mosquito Pond, The Forks T. | 5,000 |
| Little Dimmick Pond, Spaulding T. | 5,000 |
| Big Dimmick Pond, Spaulding T. | 5,000 |
| Pleasant Pond, Caratunk | 2,500 |
| Knight's Pond, Squartown | 2,000 |
| Little Baker Pond, Squartown | 500 |

Total number of trout planted 136,775

The salmon were planted as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Baker Pond, Spaulding T. | 4,500 |
| Pierce Pond, Bow Town | 4,500 |

Total number of salmon planted 9,000

ENFIELD HATCHERY, PENOSCOT COUNTY.

CHAS. E. DARLING, Supe.

This Hatchery is situated on the outlet of Cold Stream Lake, and only a few rods from the lake of that name, in Enfield, Penobscot County.



Chas. E. Darling, Supt. of Enfield Hatchery.

It was built and operated very early in the history of fish culture in this State. Mr. A. J. Darling, of Enfield, appears to have been the first mover to have this Hatchery established, and was its superintendent until about one year ago, when old age and failing eyesight compelled him to resign this position, much to our regret.

In 1907 there were taken at this Hatchery of
 togue eggs216,000
 Of land-locked salmon eggs334,000
 The number of togue eggs retained at the hatch-
 ery was216,000
 The number hatched was196,000
 Showing a loss in hatching of 20,000
 The loss in feeding through the season was. . . 20,000
 These fish were planted in Cold Stream waters in Lowell and
 Lincoln.

Of the land-locked salmon there were334,000
 Of these were hatched317,638

Loss in hatching 16,362
 There was a loss through the season after
 hatching of 30,000

This was a total loss of 46,362
 The total number raised was287,638

These were all planted in Cold Stream Lake waters in Lowell
 and in Lincoln.

There have been taken this year of togue eggs . .310,000
 Land-locked salmon eggs205,000

Mr. A. J. Darling, of Enfield, a farmer, enthusiastic angler
 and hunter, who had, in his earlier life, done as much, or more,
 than anyone else to exterminate the moose and deer in the State
 and the fish in Cold Stream Lake, came to a realization of the
 folly of such a course, and acting with characteristic prompt-
 ness and energy set about to repair the injury inflicted, so far as
 he possibly could. This was in the early days—in the early
 seventies, as he remembers it.

Sea salmon were reported in the Penobscot river. He went
 down to the mouth of this river one season to help locate them
 and get eggs and salmon up the river. He got interested and
 talked so much about it, that his friends went to Enfield and
 heard his story about salmon being in the river again. He was
 informed that Cold Stream was a good place to hatch eggs, but
 there was no money. Mr. John Treat owned the land and told
 him to go ahead and build a hatchery any time he wanted to.
 He cut some small spruce and built a small hatching house.

Mr. Darling, in a recent letter, says: "Mine worked well enough. The men I interested let me have some river salmon first. Later we commenced on a few trout.

We found an old spawning bed of these trout, and it has been kept up on a small scale ever since. At first I did not use the hatchery much, on account of the scarcity of fish eggs." The "trout" referred to by Mr. Darling were togue or "Lake trout" as sometimes called.



A. J. Darling, First Supt. of Enfield
Fish Hatchery.

Mr. C. E. Darling, his son, is at present the efficient superintendent of this hatchery. The eggs of the land-locked salmon and lake trout (togue) are taken in this lake in large numbers, hatched in this hatchery and liberated soon after the sac stage is passed, as the water is too warm to feed them, and the capacity of the building is too small to admit of keeping them through the summer, provided the temperature of the water would permit.

Here is an ideal place for a modern fish hatchery and feeding station; by the erection of a dam at the outlet of the lake, and the extension of a pipe into the lake into 20 or 30 feet of water, no better place for a feeding station can be found in the State.

It is said that the friends of this lake, which, by the way, is one of the best in the whole state, will make an effort to have the next Legislature make an appropriation to accomplish these results.

A tribute is due Mr. A. J. Darling for his unselfish and untiring efforts to maintain this hatchery. For years and years he gathered the eggs and cared for them until hatched, and planted the fry in the lake, without any money compensation whatever.

It was through his efforts that the gift of the land was secured from Mr. John Treat, of Enfield, on which to erect the hatchery building.

Mr. Darling should have a warm place in the hearts of the people of the State of Maine for his unselfish efforts and sacrifices in the cause of artificial fish culture.



Enfield Fish Hatchery.

QUOSSOC FISH HATCHERY AND FEEDING STATION, AT THE OUTLET OF RANGELEY LAKE, FRANKLIN COUNTY.

CHARLES O. HAYFORD, Supt.

There were wintered in this hatchery last winter 9,000 land-locked salmon which were hatched the previous spring.

These were planted last fall, as follows:

| | |
|--|-------|
| Big Gull Pond | 800 |
| Mooselucmeguntic and Cupsuptic Lakes | 4,000 |
| Rangeley Lake | 2,000 |
| Spring Lake, Flagstaff | 500 |
| Little Gull Pond, Rangeley | 100 |
| Loon Lake, Rangeley | 250 |
| | 7,650 |

The balance were lost during the season.

The number of trout wintered was 10,547

These were planted last fall, as follows:

| | |
|--|-------|
| Mooselucmeguntic and Cupsuptic lakes | 4,000 |
| Richardson Lake | 1,600 |
| For Albion Savage, Coplin Pl. | 700 |
| Spring Lake | 400 |
| Rangeley Lake | 4,000 |
| | 8,700 |

On hand 200

The balance were lost during the season.

There were taken at this Hatchery in the fall of 1907, 180,000 land-locked salmon eggs.

The loss in hatching was 13,000

The loss during the season was 8,000

The total loss from the eggs was 21,000

They were planted as follows:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Mooselucmeguntic and Cupsuptic Lakes | 45,000 |
| Rangeley Lake | 25,000 |
| Richardson Lake | 10,000 |
| Lake in Carthage | 5,000 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Four Ponds, Rangeley Pl. | 5,000 |
| Wilton Pond, Wilton | 5,000 |
| Webb's Pond, Weld | 5,000 |
| Long Pond, Rangeley | 14,000 |
| Spencer Lake | 5,000 |
| S. G. Haley, Phillips | 5,000 |
| Fred Smith, Strong | 2,000 |
| Frank L. Dyer, Strong | 2,000 |
| Gull Pond, Rangeley | 4,000 |
| Loon Lake, Rangeley | 10,000 |

142,000

In hatchery—to be wintered

17,000

We purchased from a Massachusetts Hatchery

100,000

trout eggs and placed them in this hatchery.

There were taken at this Hatchery of trout eggs

100,000

200,000

Of this number the Superintendent thinks only 111,900 hatched.

This was a loss of

88,100

Loss during the summer

14,500

Total loss from the eggs

102,600

The Superintendent reports as follows regarding this loss: "Of the native eggs there was a loss of 30,000, nearly 33%, on account of the new concrete railroad bridge that was constructed across the stream that supplies the hatchery, in the fall of 1907, which kept the stream so roiled up from the wash from the concrete, as they filled in the abutments; there was about 50 yards of the concrete that was put in under water. Some of the Massachusetts eggs hatched on the way to the Hatchery; they arrived in poor condition, resulting in a loss of about 50,000 eggs. Much of the heavy loss was also in the spring when the contractor, Mr. Fernald, did his expert job of connecting the pipe with the Hatchery, which he laid up into the lake from the Hatchery."

There are now in this hatchery, according to the report of the Superintendent, of land-locked salmon, 17,000, and of trout 14,500, which will be wintered and planted next fall.

The capacity of this hatchery was not sufficient to feed all the trout through the season. A portion of them had to be planted when they had attained an age of three months.

The trout from this Hatchery were planted as follows:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Mooselucmeguntic and Cupsuptic Lakes | 55,000 |
| Rangeley Lakes, Rangeley | 20,000 |
| Weld Pond, Weld | 1,000 |
| Four Ponds, Rangeley Pl. | 5,000 |
| Albion Savage, Coplin | 300 |
| Spring Lake, Flagstaff | 600 |
| Wilson Lake, Wilton | 1,000 |

MOOSEHEAD LAKE HATCHERY, SQUAW BROOK, AN INLET OF MOOSEHEAD LAKE.

E. A. WILLIAMS, Supt.

John Valance was in charge of this Hatchery until the middle of September, when he left rather unceremoniously. He left no records of the hatch of fish, or of the losses.

Mr. E. A. Wallace was then placed in charge. He had been employed at the Belgrade Hatchery for a considerable time, and gave every promise of being fully competent for the work. Thus far we have not been disappointed in him.

We planted of last spring's hatch, from this hatchery, 60,000 land-locked salmon, as follows:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Whetstone Pond, Guilford | 4,000 |
| Crocker Pond, Guilford | 3,000 |
| Lily Bay, Moosehead Lake | 20,000 |
| Knight's Pond, Squaretown | 10,000 |
| Moosehead Lake, at Greenville | 3,000 |
| Squaw Brook, tributary to Moosehead Lake .. | 20,000 |

60,000

For the reasons stated above, we are unable to give the percentage of loss in hatching, or in feeding during the summer. The total loss, however, was 40%

We have no record of the trout hatched or distributed, except 700 were planted in Heald Pond.

There are now in the hatchery 20,000 landlocked salmon, and of trout 2,000. We have taken of trout eggs this fall 11,000.

This is not an ideal location for a hatchery, for several reasons.

It is located three miles from Greenville Junction. The road from this place to the Hatchery is an old private tote road, or lumber road, except the first mile which is the private road to the Sanatorium. We have to pay \$60 a year for the privilege of using this road to this Sanatorium, and to keep the balance passable considerable money has to be expended each year.

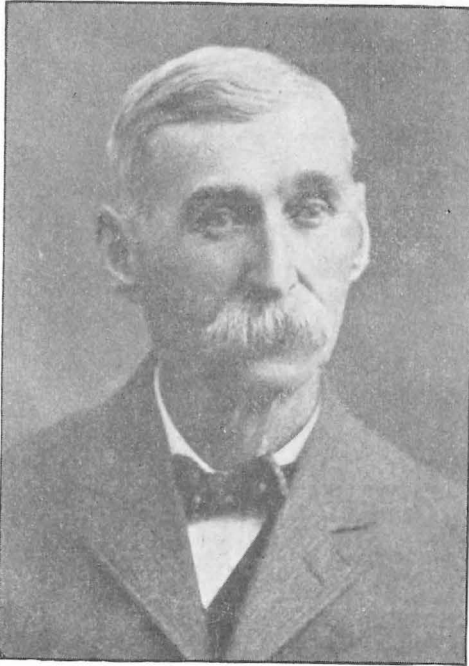
Squaw Brook, on which the hatchery is located, is a mountain stream, the outlet of a small pond on a high elevation of land on the side of Squaw Mountain. It is subject to sudden and extreme rises of water.

The water is very cold. The eggs are delayed in hatching in the spring at least a month later than in any other hatchery, and the growth of the fish during the season, in consequence of this and because of the low temperature of the water, is much less than in the other hatcheries.

The cost of the road, and the transportation of supplies is very considerable.

LAKE AUBURN HATCHERY, ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY.

J. F. STANLEY, Supt.



John F. Stanley, Supt. of Lake Auburn Fish Hatchery.

| | |
|--|---------|
| The number of land-locked salmon eggs taken in the fall of 1907 was | 308,000 |
| No. shipped to Parmachenee Club Hatchery.. | 25,000 |
| No. shipped to Moosehead Lake Hatchery | 76,000 |
| No. shipped to Belgrade Hatchery | 10,000 |
| <hr/> | |
| No. eggs retained at this hatchery | 197,000 |
| No. hatched | 188,000 |
| No lost in hatching, from unfertilized eggs, &c., and during summer 9,000 and 10,000 | 19,000 |
| Number, therefore raised was | 178,000 |

We planted these as follows:

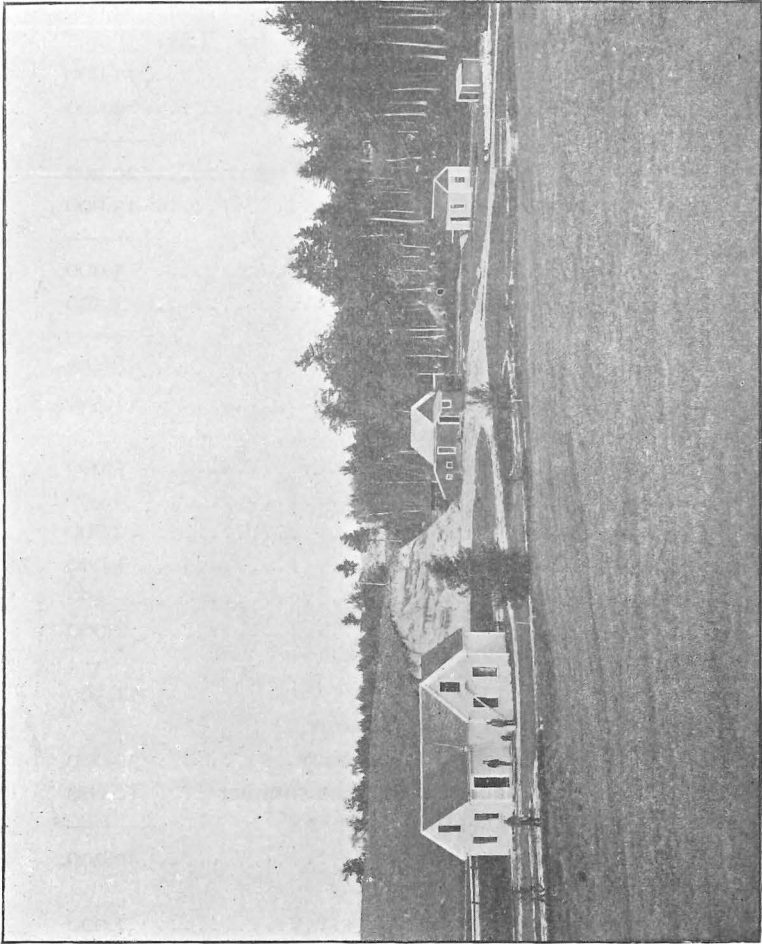
| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Marshall Pond, Hebron | 2,000 |
| Lower Range Pond, Poland | 4,000 |
| Middle Range Pond, Poland | 4,000 |
| Long Pond, Livermore | 2,000 |
| Round Pond, Livermore | 2,000 |
| Tripp Pond, Poland | 5,000 |
| Mirror Lake, Livermore | 2,000 |
| South Pond, Greenwood | 1,000 |
| North Pond, Greenwood | 2,000 |
| Hicks Pond, Woodstock | 1,000 |
| Overset Pond, Greenwood | 2,000 |
| Little Concord Pond, Sumner | 1,000 |
| Mirror Lake, Rockland | 3,000 |
| Pease Pond, Wilton | 2,000 |
| Bear Pond, Hartford | 4,000 |
| Kennebunk Lake, Kennebunk | 3,000 |
| Crawford Pond, Union | 4,000 |
| Campbell's Pond, Boothbay | 3,000 |
| South Lake, Warren | 3,000 |
| Keewaydin Lake, Stoneham | 2,000 |
| Alford's Lake, Rockland | 5,000 |
| Tufts Pond, Kingfield | 5,000 |
| Abbott Pond, Sumner | 2,000 |
| Sabbathday Lake, New Gloucester | 5,000 |
| Lermond's Pond, Rockland | 1,000 |
| Bryant's Pond, Woodstock | 2,000 |
| Bonneg Beg Pond, No. Berwick | 2,000 |
| Shag Pond, Sumner | 2,000 |
| Worthley Pond, Peru | 1,000 |
| Square Lake, Springvale | 2,000 |
| Embden Lake, North Anson | 1,000 |
| Baker Pond, Solon | 1,000 |
| Songo Pond, Albany | 1,000 |
| Anasagunticook, Canton | 1,000 |
| St. George Lake, Liberty | 2,000 |
| Austin Lake, Bingham | 1,000 |
| Manly Brook, Levant | 1,000 |
| Howard Pond, Hanover | 2,000 |
| Hadlock Pond, N. E. Harbor | 2,000 |

| | |
|--|--------|
| Pitcher's Pond, Belfast | 2,000 |
| Mountain Pond, Boothbay | 1,000 |
| Indian Pond, St. Albans | 2,000 |
| Pinkham Pond, Lincoln County | 1,000 |
| Mirror Lake, Rockland | 3,000 |
| Lake in Freeport | 3,000 |
| Clearwater Pond, Industry | 2,000 |
| Lake Auburn Fish Association, for Lake Auburn | 71,000 |
| Lake in So. Waterboro | 2,000 |
| <hr/> | |
| We also took in the fall of 1907 of trout | 20,000 |
| Number hatched | 15,000 |
| <hr/> | |
| Loss in hatching from unfertile eggs, &c. | 5,000 |
| Loss during the season | 3,500 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total loss from the eggs | 8,500 |
| Leaving of trout to be planted | 11,500 |
| We planted these as follows: | |
| Pennewassee Lake, Norway | 5,000 |
| Lake in Warren | 2,000 |
| B. Pond, Upton | 2,000 |
| Worthley Pond, Peru | 1,000 |
| Austin Lake, Bingham | 500 |
| Manley Brook, Levant | 1,000 |
| <hr/> | |
| | 11,500 |

BROWN TROUT.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Number of eggs taken fall of 1907 | 32,000 |
| Loss in hatching and through the summer | 12,000 |
| <hr/> | |
| Leaving a balance of | 20,000 |
| These were planted as follows:— | |
| Marshall Pond, Hebron | 1,000 |
| Lufkin Pond, Phillips | 5,000 |
| Shag Pond, Sumner | 1,000 |
| Songo Pond, Albany | 1,000 |
| Anasagunticook Lake, Canton | 1,000 |
| Sandy River Pond, Sandy River Plantation ... | 2,000 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Loon Lake, Rangeley | 4,000 |
| Brook in Damariscotta | 1,000 |
| Lufkin Pond, Phillips | 4,000 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 20,000 |



Lake Auburn Fish Hatchery.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Number of land-locked salmon eggs taken in fall of 1908 and now in the hatching troughs. | 300,000 |
| Number of trout eggs do. | 40,000 |
| Number of brown trout eggs do. | 30,000 |

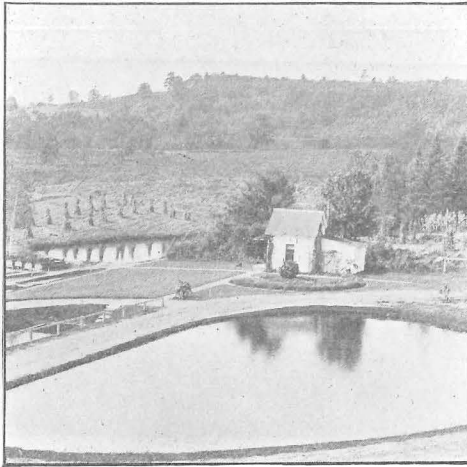
OTHER DETAILS.

There are in the artificial ponds connected with the hatchery six land-locked salmon weighing from 5 to 12 lbs. each.

Six brown trout weighing from 6 to 8 lbs. each.

Two hundred square-tailed brook trout weighing from 1-4 to 3 pounds each.

The Superintendent reports that "there is pressing need for a new hatchery building, a new feeding trough stand, and that the trough stand outside the hatchery building should be provided with a covering to protect the fish from the hot sun. Fish like



Fish Pool Lake Auburn Hatchery.

shade. Common covers to the troughs do not protect them sufficiently."

Mr. Stanley is an experienced and successful fish culturist, and adds the following suggestions to his report:

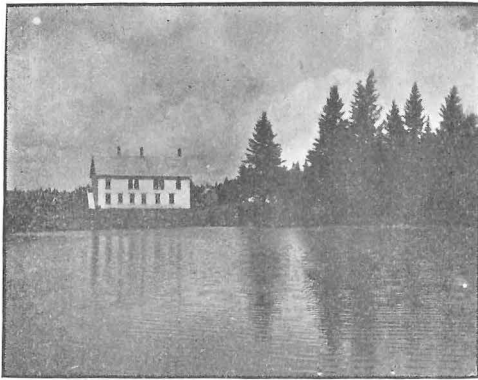
"Be careful in netting and stripping the fish for spawning purposes. Handle them carefully; at this time they are more sensitive to injury. Use care in fertilizing the spawn. Be sure the milt is distributed and thoroughly mixed with the spawn.

"One cannot be too careful in handling the eggs the first 30 days. Keep them under water and from the sunlight when picking them over.

"After the fish are hatched and commence to feed, keep the troughs clean. Put gravel into them often, also salt them once a week during hot weather. Use from 4 to 6 quarts of salt to the trough. You have to use your judgment according to the condition of the fish; feed twice a day. There is more danger in over-feeding, as a general rule, than in not feeding enough."

CARIBOU HATCHERY, CARIBOU, AROOSTOOK COUNTY.

LEROY E. ALLEY, Supt.



Caribou Fish Hatchery.

We wintered at this hatchery last winter 9,975 land-locked salmon. The loss during the summer was 2,475.

The balance remaining were planted as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Square Lake | 3,500 |
| Portage Lake | 4,000 |

We received from the U. S. Government from Grand Lake stream, 50,000 land-locked salmon eggs which were placed in this hatchery.

We took 154,000 land-locked salmon eggs at Cross Lake which we placed in the hatching troughs, making a total of 204,000. Of these 180,000 hatched, and there was a loss during the summer of 7,000, so that we had this fall for distribution 173,000.

These were planted as follows:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Madawaska Lake, New Sweden | 10,000 |
| Squa Pan Lake, near Presque Isle | 10,000 |
| Echo Lake, Presque Isle | 5,000 |
| Cross Lake | 10,000 |
| Portage, Little Machias and Big Fish Lakes... | 25,000 |
| Togue Pond, Norcross | 3,000 |
| Mattawamkeag Lake, Island Falls | 20,000 |
| Cross Lake | 10,000 |
| Salmon Lake | 5,000 |
| Squa Pan Lake, Presque Isle | 10,000 |
| Portage Lake, Portage | 10,000 |
| Madawaska Lake, New Sweden | 5,000 |
| Long Pond, Winterville | 20,000 |
| Eagle Lake, Eagle Lake | 15,000 |
| Left on hand | 15,000 |

TROUT.

We purchased and placed in this hatchery ... 50,000
eyed trout eggs.

Of these there were hatched 38,000

Showing a loss in hatching of 12,000

The loss during the season was 8,000

Showing a total loss from eggs to planting of 20,000

We planted these fish as follows:

Madawaska Lake

Squa Pan Lake

We have taken this fall 120,000 land-locked salmon eggs which are now in the hatching troughs. It is impossible to raise trout at this hatchery successfully.

It is located on Beaver Brook, the waters of which are abundant, and, when undefiled, clear, pure, and of the right temperature. Such was the condition when this hatchery was erected. It so happened that the very year it was built a starch factory was erected a few miles above it on this brook. The pulp from this factory goes into the brook in large quantities and is carried down stream, and, in rotten condition, enters the hatching and feeding troughs. It is exceedingly detrimental and the great loss above indicated is due almost entirely to this cause. It is

useless to try to raise many trout here, under the existing conditions. Strange as it may appear, the land-locked salmon are not very injuriously affected by the conditions prevailing there.

We called the attention of the last Legislature to this condition of things, by causing an act to be introduced in the Legislature prohibiting the dumping of potato pomace and other refuse from this starch factory into the stream.

A hearing on this bill was held before the Committee of the Legislature on Inland Fisheries and Game. Practically the whole delegation from Aroostook County appeared before the Committee, backed by very large petitions protesting against the passage of the bill. The result was that the Committee reported to the Legislature against the passage of the bill. Their report was accepted, and the bill was killed. It is not our function to comment upon this action, but to call attention to the fact that we cannot successfully raise trout at this hatchery under present conditions.

BELGRADE HATCHERY, KENNEBEC COUNTY.

GRANT HINDS, Supt.

There were wintered at this hatchery last winter
fingerling land-locked salmon 3,800

These were planted in the fall of 1908, as follows:

| | |
|--|-------|
| Hancock Pond, North New Portland | 500 |
| Great Pond, Belgrade | 1,000 |
| Snow Pond, Belgrade | 250 |
| Lake Maranacook, Winthrop | 250 |
| Chicawaukee Lake, Rockland | 1,000 |
| Loss through the season | 800 |

There were also wintered at this hatchery 900 trout fingerlings.

These were planted in the fall of 1908, as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Great Pond, Belgrade | 550 |
| Salmon Lake, Belgrade | 200 |
| Loss during the season | 150 |

We purchased and placed in this hatchery 160,000
eyed trout eggs.

There were taken in Belgrade waters 190,000
trout eggs.

350,000

There does not appear to have been any record kept of the number of eggs lost during the hatching period.

During the summer we lost 35,000.

The trout were planted as follows in the early summer:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| In Great Pond, Belgrade | 200,000 |
| Salmon Lake, Belgrade | 58,000 |
| Bunganeaut Pond, Lyman | 1,500 |

| | |
|--|---------|
| Total number planted | 259,500 |
| In hatchery | 6,500 |
| This shows a loss in hatching of | 49,000 |

We have taken this fall 65,000 trout eggs in Belgrade Waters which are now in the hatching troughs.

The Superintendent reports that he "does not consider the water at this hatchery suitable for raising trout, as the temperature runs so high through the middle of July and August.

"I would suggest, in order to get the best results that nothing but land-locked salmon be raised at this hatchery. We can raise about 100,000 trout up to about the middle of June when the water becomes so warm that they must be planted."

The pipe extends from the hatchery up into deep water in the lake, and except in exceptionally dry, hot seasons, we see no reason why trout cannot be successfully raised at this hatchery.

This was Mr. Hinds' first season there, and the exceptionally long drought and hot weather injuriously affected the trout so that they had to be planted the latter part of June.

We confidently expect better results in the future.

It will be recalled that this hatchery was moved there from Winthrop, when the City of Augusta, through Legislative action, took the water of Carleton Pond, on the tributary of which the hatchery was located, thereby necessitating its removal.

It will be seen from the above reports of the Hatcheries and Feeding Stations, made up from the reports of the various superintendents, that we have now, in round numbers, 1,430,000 land-locked salmon eggs and 482,000 trout eggs in the hatcheries. Of togue eggs 310,000, of brown trout, 30,000.

We have also contracted for 620,000 eyed trout eggs, which will be delivered early in February.

We have, also, a promise from the U. S. Fish Commissioner of 300,000 eyed trout eggs from Colorado.

This will make a grand total of 2,832,000 eggs of land-locked salmon and trout in the hatching troughs—a larger number than we ever had before in any year by many thousands.

We have planted the following fish this year:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Land-locked salmon | 1,201,200 |
| Trout | 786,500 |
| Togue | 176,000 |
| Brown trout | 25,000 |
| Total | 2,188,700 |

We have, also, of live fish 265,700 which will be wintered.

We have had, all things considered, a very successful year in our hatcheries and feeding stations.

The cost of operating these hatcheries the coming year, as shown in our estimate filed with the Auditor, as required by law, necessary repairs, clerical help and necessary expenses connected with the work, will be \$37,750.00.

The cost of distributing the fish, which is very considerable since the railroads withdrew free transportation to the superintendents, or persons obliged to accompany them to take care of them during transportation, taking fish eggs, the cost of hearings on closing streams and regulating fishing in various waters, engineer's fees for drawing plans for fishways, the cost of hearings on petitions for fishways, the cost of printing this report, the cost of printing notices, postage, stationery, and other necessary expenses, including clerical services, will leave practically nothing of the \$25,000 per year, the regular appropriation for about 15 years, for warden service to protect fish from the depredations of the proacher, to protect them from those who will net them, spear them, steal them from the weirs where they have been gathered in order to take their eggs, take them from the spawning beds—in fact, take them in any and every way known to the wily arts of the poacher.

There are loud, long and insistent demands from the people for warden service to protect fish, and much fault found that they cannot have it.

It is for the Legislature to determine whether the fish shall be protected otherwise than what protection the law gives. We cannot have warden service to protect fish unless the appropriation for fish is materially increased from former years.

Time, in fish and game matters, as in all other matters, works many changes in conditions, and in the opinions and wants of the people.

The strong tendency now is for more trout to plant to restock the waters of the State, and a much less demand for land-locked salmon than formerly. Twenty years ago or so the rage was for the land-locked salmon. The artificial cultivation of the trout was neglected. The land-locked salmon can be raised much easier—the loss in raising is much less than trout—consequently a better showing can be made in land-locked salmon culture than in trout culture.

Our people appear to have largely gotten over their desire for land-locked salmon—they now prefer trout, as the requests we have for fish for planting conclusively show.

There are some notable exceptions to the above, however. For instance, at Sebago Lake the wish seems to be for the salmon almost entirely, while at Belgrade Lakes the chief desire seems to be for black bass.

It costs more to raise trout than it does land-locked salmon. The loss in raising them from the egg to the planting period is much greater, and they are a much finer and better fish in the estimation of the many than any fish that swims in our waters.

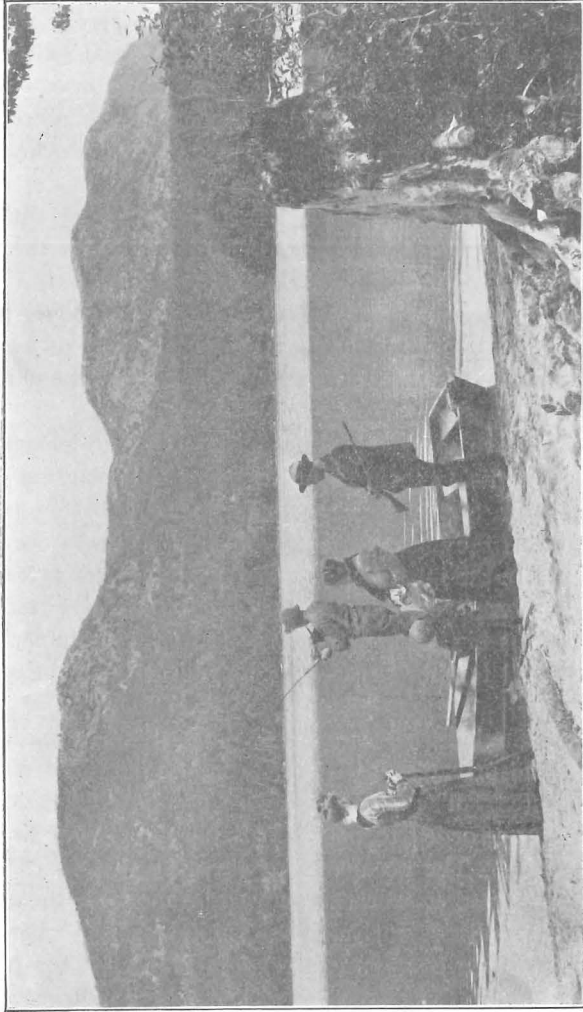
The fish in the inland waters of the State, from a commercial standpoint, are worth to the people of the State many times more than its big game. The large tourist, or summer business in the inland territory is largely dependent upon the supply of fish.

Around the lakes and ponds are thousands of summer hotels, cottages and private summer residence—millions of dollars are thus invested. The primary object of such a location is the opportunity afforded to partake of the pleasure of fishing and catching fish. The occupants of these dwellings spend weeks and months in them each season, and expend in the aggregate millions of dollars yearly, giving employment to many of our people, affording our farmers a ready market at top prices for all they raise on their farms—of vegetables, poultry, eggs, milk, butter, cheese, &c.

It would seem to be the part of wisdom for our people to cater to this business—to try and keep it and increase its volume.

In no way can this be done so effectually, so surely, as to keep

up a good supply of fish in our waters, and this latter can only be done through the operation of the fish hatcheries and feeding stations.



SHIAG POND. Typical scene.

For every dollar appropriated by the Legislature to carry on the work of raising fish, hundreds of dollars are expended by the tourists above spoken of—among our people.

Our success in attracting the fishermen, the summer visitor, the tourist, is the marvel of the country, and of other countries, and many are the inquiries received at our office as to how this is accomplished, and great efforts are made by other states, and the country adjacent to ours, to obtain a share in our truly wonderful prosperity in this direction.

WORK OF THE OFFICE.

The work of the office has developed greatly. Where but few letters were received weekly but a few years ago, sometimes now more than 100 are received daily. The mail at the office is very large, and requires much time and care to properly attend to it.

Many suggestions are made from time to time in relation to the needs of the Department, and the best way to secure the needful funds in order to carry on the work as it should be carried on.

It is not unusual to have it recommended in letters, from residents and non-residents, that a small license fee to fish should be imposed in order to get the necessary funds. Yet, while some states have adopted this policy, and it is claimed successfully, we do not believe that this State should resort to this method to raise money to propagate and protect the fish, at present at least.

Fishing is universal—that is, it is to be had everywhere in the State—in every county and in nearly every city, town, plantation and unorganized township.

We have, it is said, upwards of 1,500 lakes and ponds and over 5,000 sizeable rivers, brooks and streams, in which there is fishing.

So universal is fishing, so evenly distributed is it throughout the length and breadth of the entire State, it would seem to appear as though the State could well afford to raise by taxation the necessary amount of money from year to year to operate its fish hatcheries and protect its fish from illegal slaughter.

We have, upon petition, attended 23 hearings this year to regulate fishing in various waters.

After petition and hearing we have adopted the following rules and regulations by virtue of the provisions of sections 36 and 37 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes, viz:

Unlawful for one year from August 1, 1908, to still or plug fish for trout or smelts in that portion of Great and Long ponds—Belgrade waters—embraced between a straight line drawn from the extreme northerly end of Hoyt's Island, due west, to the main land, and a line drawn from the extreme southerly point of said Island, due west, to the main land.

Unlawful to catch trout less than eight inches in length in north branch of Dead River, from its junction with the southwest branch to Chain of Ponds, or in Alder Stream, in Jim Pond township, or in Tim brook, below Shepp's camp, or for one person to kill in one day more than ten trout taken from any of the above named waters, for three years from July 20, 1908.

The tributaries to Hancock Pond, in Embden, closed to all fishing for four years from June 24, 1908.

The tributaries to Flagstaff Pond, sometimes called Pickerel Pond in Somerset County, closed to all fishing for 4 years from June 24, 1908.

The tributaries to Upper and Lower Wilson Ponds, Piscataquis County, closed to all fishing for a period of 4 years from June 24, 1908.

Iron Bound and Baker Pond, and their tributaries, in the town of Solon, closed to all fishing for a period of 4 years from June 24, 1908.

Penobscot Stream, in Dexter Village, from the railroad bridge to the mill, including the two artificial ponds formed by the dam, closed to all fishing for 4 years from June 24, 1908.

Fall Brook, and tributaries above the old Leander Cooley Mill Dam, which is just below the mouth of Johnson Stream, Somerset County, closed to all fishing for 4 years from June 24, 1908.

Close time on white perch, in Lake Sebasticook, Newport, made same as the general law of the State—from April 1 to July 1. These regulations in force for 1908 only.

Keene Brook and Porter Brook, tributaries to Lake Chickawaukee, Rockport, closed to all fishing for 4 years from May 10, 1908.

Tributaries to Moxie, Mosquito, the Dimmick Ponds, Mountain and Baker Ponds closed to all fishing for 4 years from June 1, '08. During the same period no person or party can take or have in possession more than 10 pounds of fish in all in any one

day taken or caught from said Dimmick or Baker Ponds. The above named ponds closed to all fishing from Sept. 15th to the time the ice goes out the following spring of each year for 4 years from Sept. 15, 1908.

Donham brook, a tributary to Marshall pond, in Oxford and Hebron, down as far as the stone abutments, where the bridge used to be; also Mud brook and tributaries, closed to all fishing for 1 year from May 10, 1908.

All fishing, except for suckers in the usual way, prohibited in all tributaries, direct and indirect, of Hancock and Sand Ponds, in Sebago and Denmark, for 4 years from April 24, 1908.

Little Saco river and branches, in Fryeburg and Brownfield, closed to all fishing except from May 1 to Aug. 1 of each year, for a period of 4 years from April 24, 1908.

Fishing prohibited in White Brook, also all of its tributaries above the land of M. M. Burnham, in Cumberland; fishing also prohibited in head waters of Mill Brook, north of the Blanchard road, so-called, said waters being in Cumberland and No. Yarmouth, for 4 years from April 24, 1908.

In Alder brook, in Corinna, the close time is as follows: From the Southard Dam, so-called, up as far as the dead water extends, the close time shall be from July 8 of each year to May 1st of the following year; on the remainder of the brook close season from July 8 to May 15 of the following year; during open season on this brook no one shall catch or kill more than 15 fish in one day, and no fish taken in these waters shall be sold or offered for sale. The regulations to be in force for one year from May, 1908.

Close time on Blunt's pond, in Lamoine, from Oct. 1 to May 1 of the following year; Sunday a close time for fishing in this pond; no person can take more than 12 fish from this pond in one day; these regulations to be in force for 4 years from Jan. 25, 1908.

Ice fishing prohibited in Crotched Pond or Echo Lake, in Readfield, Mt. Vernon and Fayette, for 4 years from Jan. 25, 1908; tributaries closed for same period, except in the stream from the Tannery Dam at Mt. Vernon to said lake.

Lake Annabessacook, in Winthrop and Monmouth, closed to all ice fishing for 4 years from Jan. 25, 1908.

Whetstone pond, in Kingsbury, Abbott and Blanchard, Piscataquis County, closed to ice fishing for 4 years from Jan. 15, 1908.

No action taken on 3 petitions.

FISHWAYS.

The Statute provides (sec. 41, ch. 32, R. S.,) that "the owner or occupant of every dam or artificial obstruction in any river or stream frequented by salmon, shad, alewives, or land-locked salmon, shall provide the same with a durable and efficient fishway, of such form and capacity, and in such location as may, after notice in writing to one or more of said owners or occupants and a hearing thereon, be determined by the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game, and after written notice to the owner or occupant"

Under the provisions of this Statute we have, after hearing the parties, directed fishways in the following dams:

The fishway in the dam across the Penobscot river at Treat's Falls, so called, has been rebuilt after plans made by P. C. Coombs, Civil Engineer. We believe it is now a model fishway in all respects.

Fishways ordered in the two dams at Vanceboro, Me.

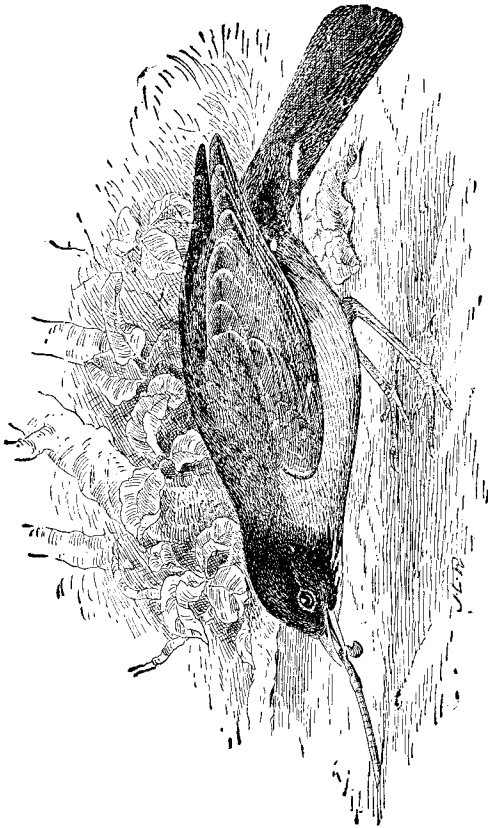
Fishway ordered in the dam across outlet of Musquash lake, Topsfield (Waite).

Hearing held on petition for fishway at outlet of Lake Sebasticook. No decision yet rendered on this petition.

Hearings ordered on petition for fishways in Long Pond and Wood Stream dams, Somerset County. No one appeared at hearings, although due notice was given. No action, therefore, taken.

SONG AND INSECTIVOROUS BIRDS.

The importance of song and insectivorous birds to the people, and especially to the agricultural interests of the State, can hardly be overstated. It is said that many species are rapidly becoming extinct, and all show a great diminution from their former members.



Robin.

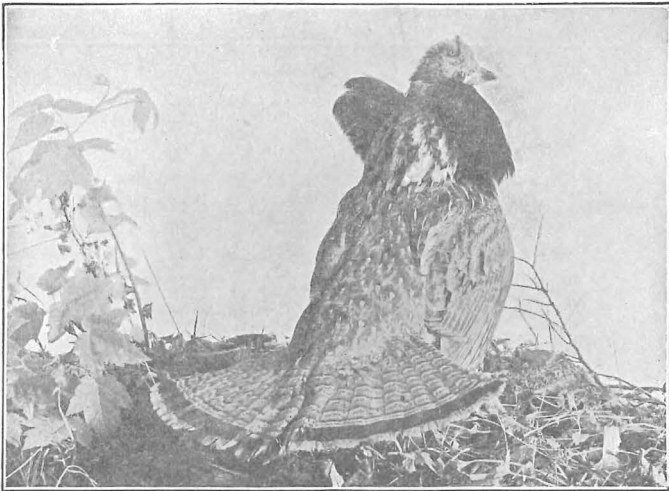
The robin, which our laws protect at all times during its stay within our borders, is slaughtered by the millions during the winter months, where it makes its home in some of the Southern States, for the markets.

It is contended by many that the Congress of the United States should by law protect interstate (flight) birds. Indeed, a bill has been introduced in Congress, at the present session,

for the protection of wild geese. It is claimed that Congress has jurisdiction in this matter, on the ground that they are interstate birds. Until such time as Congress shall take action in the matter, we can do but little to prevent their destruction. We should, however, endeavor to have our strict and wholesome laws for their protection, when with us, rigidly enforced.

GAME BIRDS.

PARTRIDGE, (RUFFED GROUSE) WOODCOCK AND DUCKS.



Partridge.

Bird shooting continues to be indulged in by many of our citizens, and by not a few non-residents.

Partridges seem to be holding their own, though there is no way to determine whether they increase or decrease.

Some years it is thought that they are growing less, and much anxiety is expressed on that account, and then perhaps the very next year they seem quite abundant. Climatic conditions affecting the hatching of the young birds, destructive storms which kill off many, will affect from year to year the annual supply.

In some sections of the State, notably in the northerly section, the partridge has been reported to have been much in excess in numbers of any year recently. This may be the case all over the State, but we have not had sufficient information from the central and southern portion of the State to enable us to say how the conditions have been there.

The partridge is the finest game bird extant in North America. It has many enemies to contend with, such as the squirrel, the skunk, the fox, wildcats &c., and every means practicable should be taken to protect and perpetuate it.

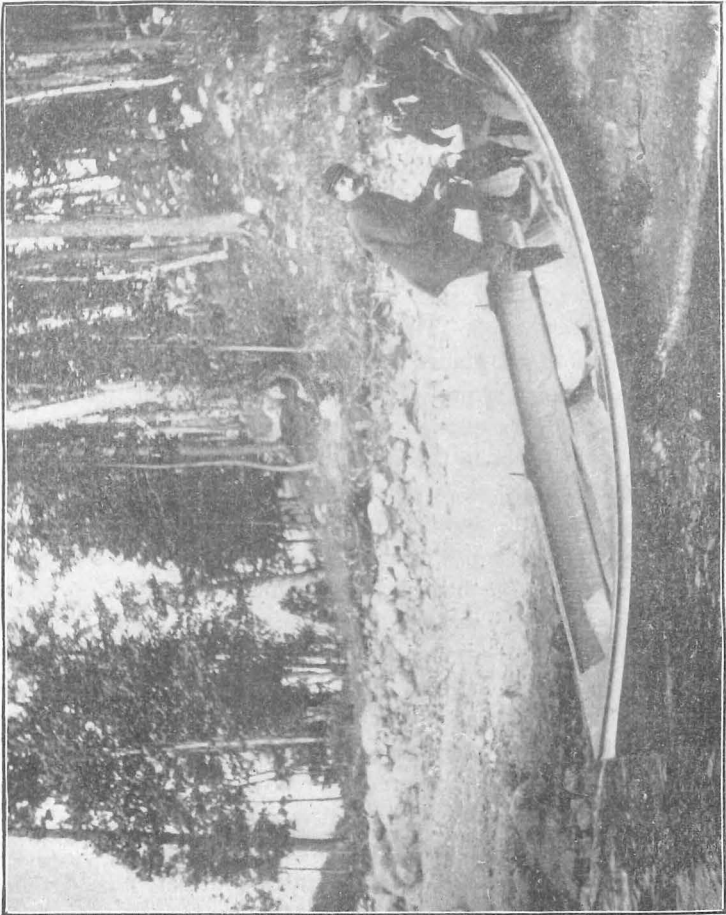
We have had it suggested to us that there should be a close time on them for a few years in the central and southern parts of the State.

Certainly it is a very desirable game bird, much sought after, and it would be no less than a calamity to allow them to become extinct, or practically so. While they are a "wild bird," they are semi-domesticated. This worthy member of a noble family loves the woodland glades and rocky hillsides near the farms, or openings and along the water courses, but let him be disturbed, his fears excited, like an arrow from a bow he will wing his way direct to the friendly shelter of the forests. We have not, this year, as in former years, received any complaint of damage done to apple trees by the partridge from anyone. The attempt made a few years ago to discredit the partridge on this account seems to have been abandoned.

Much is said and written about the alleged causes that have contributed to the lessening of their numbers. It is undoubtedly true that as it was in the vegetable world, so it has been with animal life, and particularly with those birds which nest on the ground. The mother bird may conceal her nest so carefully that neither skunk nor fox nor predatory boys can find it. She cannot conceal it from the rapidly rising water of a June flood which will drown her nestlings or so chill her eggs that they will fail to hatch. A long heavy rain at just about hatching time may almost wipe out the young birds of a season among certain varieties.

A report from Maine went the rounds of the newspapers, stating that the partridges were particularly plentiful this year. This the report went on to say, "was because the hedgehog bounty of some years ago had made a scarcity on hedgehogs.

Therefore, as the hedgehog no longer ate the partridge eggs, partridges were increasing in numbers. The State of Maine porcupine, commonly called hedgehog, though purists decry the custom, will eat the handle off your canoe paddle and the floor off your camp. He may eat partridge eggs when in his short-



sighted, clumsy wanderings he happens to find them, but it is doubted if he does enough of this to make him responsible for a shortage in the partridge crop.

The partridges were plentiful this year because there was never a cloud in the sky, nor a drenching rain, from the time

the eggs were laid until the young birds were fully fledged. And, in consequence, the young of ground-nesting birds have had more than their usual opportunity to grow up. This is true of partridges, and the application is apt, for the partridge is not a migrating bird, nor even a wanderer. He clings to the particular section of woodland where he was brought up with a faithfulness which is apt to prevent his reaching a green old age. You may drive him from his covert with all the racket you are able to make,—he may leave with vigor and directness that would seem to prove that he had through tickets for Seattle, yet if you sit quietly by in a position which commands a good view of the approaches, you will, before long, see the flip of a brown wing that is bearing him back again.

He has gone no farther than the dense shelter of a neighboring pine grove, whence he watches out until he thinks it safe to come home.



DUCKS.

So far as relates to ducks, there has been much discussion as to whether they are on the increase or the reverse. The wood ducks, in the lower counties of the State, are not nearly so many as in the years gone by, but no special complaint is made from sections lying further north.

It was urged two years ago that a close time be put upon the wood ducks for a term of years. This desire comes, no doubt, from the fact that they do not appear as plentiful in some sections as they did in former years. Whether they are decreasing to a larger extent than the black ducks, the two kinds especially sought for, is questioned by some of our best hunters, who claim that the reason of their disappearance in some sections is because the forests about the rivers and resorts frequented by them have been cut off—the oak trees destroyed, preventing the growth of their favorite food—the acorn, being the main reasons why they have seemed to grow less in numbers.

In one locality a leading sportsman informs us that the wood ducks were more plentiful this year than for several years before. It was a great acorn year in that locality. This hunter believes that a "close time" on these birds would never bring them back to places where they formerly were, unless former conditions were restored. The claims of different sportsmen as to the reasons why and why not a close time should be put upon them are so widely different that we are uncertain as to the need of legislation upon it.

Every year there is much controversy regarding the laws regulating the hunting and killing of ducks. It is evident that some argue for laws affecting their own personal convenience, some for their own special locality, and others for the general good. The laws we now have are apparently freaky in some cases and affect the enforcement of the general laws.

The general law places the close time on all ducks from January first to September first. Then a special law provides that the golden eye, or whistler, may be hunted and killed in Hancock county from September first to February first; then in Lincoln county, the open season on all ducks is from September first to February first. It will be seen by this legislation that it is useless to try to protect in Hancock county any of the duck species during the month of January, and why should Lincoln county be allowed the month of January to shoot ducks while no other county in the State is allowed that privilege, except Hancock county, and that county only allows the right to kill one particular kind of duck.

Again, the use of boats or launches of any kind propelled by steam, naphtha, gasolene or electricity, or any other mode than

the ordinary sail boat or row boat, in chasing, hunting or gunning any sea birds, duck or waterfowl, is forbidden on any of the waters of Frenchman's Bay, Lower Kezar Pond, in a part of Upper Kezar Pond, in Oxford County, or in the Kennebec River below the Gardiner bridge, or in Eastern River, or in Merrymeeting Bay.

If these special laws are necessary for the places named, why should they not be equally so for the whole State. The granting of special privileges is not good legislation. The kind of ducks which are hunted, or claimed to be sought for on the coast after December 15th, are, as a rule, ducks not regarded as good food ducks, but are hunted for the sport of killing—unsportsmanlike pastime. Would it not be much better to have the laws uniform and general, so that everyone shall have the same rights and make it possible for the Commissioners to better enforce the laws.

September, October and November and to December 15th—three and one-half months—would seem to give sportsmen and hunters a reasonable time to hunt the favorite ducks of Maine.

So far as forbidding the use of launches &c., on the waters mentioned, it has proved to be wise and beneficial legislation and should be made general. To hunt with such means is now regarded unsportsmanlike, and does not give the ducks a fair show, for this chasing of or sneaking upon them keeps them on the move, making them wild and preventing them from getting their food; in other words "breaks them up" and drives them from water to water and finally out of the State.

The duck species are a very intelligent class of birds, and soon learn that to take care of themselves they must seek safer quarters.

It would seem that to let all ducks supremely alone during $8\frac{1}{2}$ months in the year—from December 15th to September 1st—and let them become contented, and then hunt them in a fair and sportsmanlike manner, would conduce to their staying in the State in greater numbers, breeding here, and at the same time give the gunners much better sport during the $3\frac{1}{2}$ months of open time.

WOODCOCK.

Of this exceedingly valuable game bird we can say but little. It does not winter with us, seeking a warmer climate in the fall. There are those among our people who are very enthusiastic over the woodcock and with good reason. It is but little we can do to protect it. It is unlawful to shoot them from December first to the fifteenth of the following September, giving our people an opportunity to hunt and shoot them from September fifteenth to December first. Before this latter date they have all disappeared southward and do not return until the following spring.

It is said that in recent years their numbers in Maine have been gradually but surely growing less.

Reports, however, this year, from various localities would seem to indicate that there has been a considerable increase over recent years in their numbers.

LOONS.

Much dissatisfaction is expressed with the law creating an absolute close time on loons. It is claimed they are very destructive to fish and serve no useful purpose. The "laugh of the loon" is delightful to many, and it has many friends.

SUNDAY HUNTING.

The Legislature should not, in our judgment, hesitate longer to deal with the Sunday hunting question.

We have constant complaints from many sections of the State of the violation of the "Sunday law," so-called, which does not come within the scope of our duties to enforce.

Sunday is a close time on game, made so by statute. It is not a close time on crows, hawks, owls and other unprotected birds or unprotected animals. All the law there is to prevent the killing of such as these on Sunday is the old "Sunday law" so-called, which applies to fishing as well, and is constantly, openly and notoriously violated, and, as we say above, it is not within the scope of our duties to enforce.

If a person is found shooting at any protected animal or bird on Sunday, or any of these are found in his possession, on Sunday, he can be prosecuted, otherwise one may shoot all he likes and no one interferes.

Sunday should be made a close time on all animals and birds; it should be unlawful to have firearms in possession on that day outside one's dwelling, or else repeal the law making that day close time on protected game, and leave the game matter as the Legislature has left the matter of fishing on Sunday.

This subject was brought to the attention of the Legislature at its last session, by an order directing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the matter. A hearing was held upon the matter, and the Committee reported that "Legislation was inexpedient."

It should be no more a crime to hunt deer on Sunday than to hunt bears on that day, yet by the law one may hunt bears on that day, and if prosecuted and convicted, the extreme penalty is \$10.00, while if one hunts deer on Sunday the penalty is \$40.00 and costs.

FOREST FIRES.

The almost unparalleled drought which prevailed during the summer and fall months, the many forest fires which occurred, called attention sharply to the necessity for the most careful measures possible to prevent forest fires.

Mr. Commissioner Ring, who is also at the head of the Forestry Department of the State, in his annual report, strongly recommends that the Governor be given power by the Legislature to issue his proclamation forbidding hunters going into the woods in an extremely dry time.

We would call attention, therefore, to Forest Commissioner Ring's report upon this point, and take occasion to fully indorse the same.

KEEPING GUNS OUT OF THE WOODS IN CLOSE TIME.

The Forest Commissioner also recommends that a law be enacted regulating the taking of firearms into the woods in close season. This, also, has our unqualified indorsement. This Department has always sought to do all in its power to protect the forests from fire. The game wardens have been active and vigilant in this direction. They understand that their first duty is to extinguish or aid in extinguishing any forest fire in their territory. We have always sought to keep in close touch with the forestry interests—the two interests are identical. No forests, no game, is a truism. We have heretofore worked in harmony and expect to do so in the future.

The recommendation above referred to, relative to regulating taking firearms into the woods in close season, contemplates some changes in the open season on big game and birds—that there shall be a uniform time of open season.

This is desirable from the standpoint of the Forest Commissioner and of those the most deeply interested in the preservation not only of the forests but of those as well who are the most deeply interested in the protection of our big game and birds. These important matters will no doubt receive the most careful consideration of the Legislature.



Warden Chas. Adams captures three violators.

BEARS.

The black bear is much sought after by hunters, as a valuable trophy of the hunt, on account of its valuable fur and for food.

The State pays a bounty of five dollars on each of these killed in Franklin and Oxford Counties. This bounty has been called for in 35 cases this year from these two counties.

We have records of 70 bears killed in the other counties of the State. It seems to be the consensus of opinion of those best informed that the black bears of Maine are growing less in number.

THE ILLEGAL SLAUGHTER OF GAME.

We have reports on file in the office of the killing of 123 moose illegally, most of which were cows and calves, and 182 deer illegally.

The vast majority of these killings occurred in close season, when if guns were kept out of the woods it would not have occurred.

We have instituted during the year 120 prosecutions for violation of the fish and game laws, in a large majority of which the defendants have been convicted, and we have collected in fines \$5,239.56, a somewhat remarkable showing.

The violation of our fish and game laws is mostly by our own citizens. Much repugnance to these laws is shown in some sections, and the wardens get no assistance in their efforts to find out the parties who have wantonly slaughtered a cow or calf moose, deer or birds.

SEIZURE OF GUNS.

Under the law directing the seizure of guns from unnaturalized foreign-born residents found in their possession in the woods without their having a license, we have seized 33 this year, which will be sold at public auction as provided by law, and the funds used for the protection of birds and game.

Our regular force of wardens employed the greater part of the time numbers for the year, by counties, as follows:

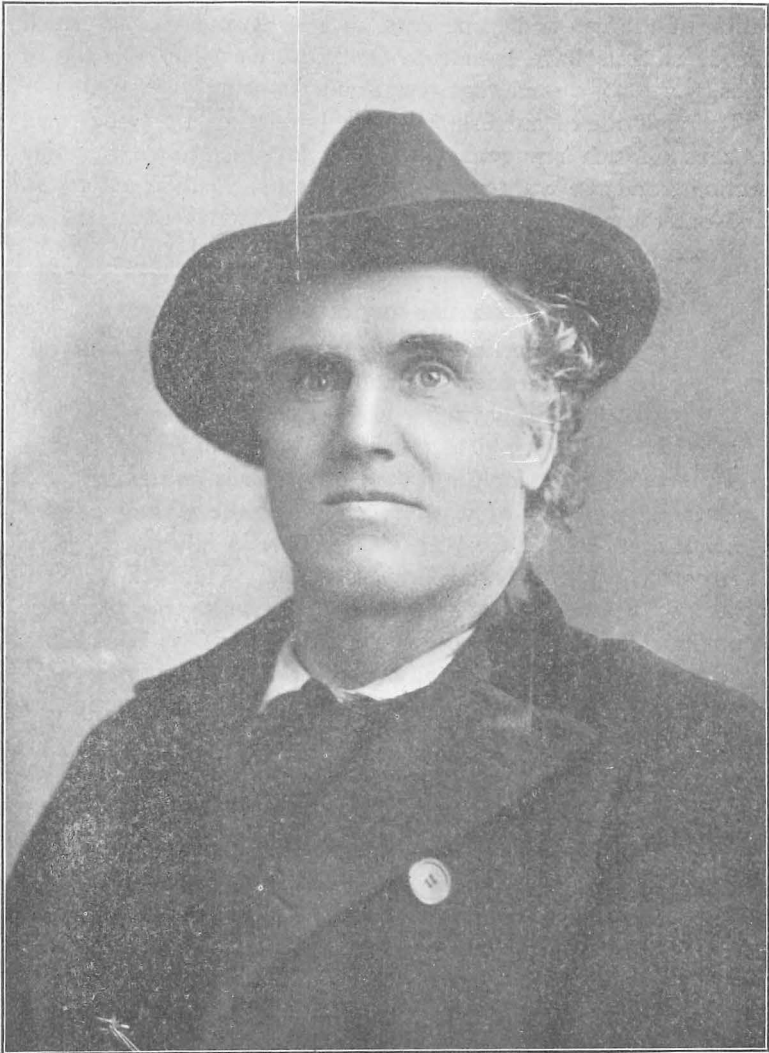
Aroostook, 3; Cumberland, 3; Franklin, 3; Hancock, 1; Kennebec, 1; Knox, Lincoln and Waldo, 1 regular for the three counties; Oxford, 2; Penobscot, 4; Piscataquis, 3; Sagadahoc, 1; Somerset, 4; Washington, 2. On Canadian Boundary, 6.

Besides these there are 124 local wardens, by counties, as follows:

Androscoggin, 3; Aroostook, 10; Cumberland, 4; Franklin, 22; Hancock, 5; Kennebec, 9; Knox, 2; Lincoln, 4; Oxford, 9; Penobscot, 33; Piscataquis, 2; Sagadahoc, 2; Somerset, 8; Waldo, 1; Washington, 3; York, 8.

The local or deputy wardens do no work for pay except as directed from the office, or when an infraction of the laws comes to their attention in their immediate locality. This is made necessary in order to keep track at all times of the expenditure of the funds at our disposal for warden service.

The commissions of most of these local wardens expire with the calendar year.



Warden W. T. Pollard of Foxcroft, General Supt. of Wardens.

It should be understood that the wardens on duty are not confined to duty in the county in which they reside—some of them are on duty in several counties—as, for instance, the warden in charge of Waldo, Knox and Lincoln counties.

The average of the compensation of the wardens on regular duty is \$2 per day and expenses, which, among them all, average daily, for board, railroad transportation, team hire and incidentals, \$1.50.

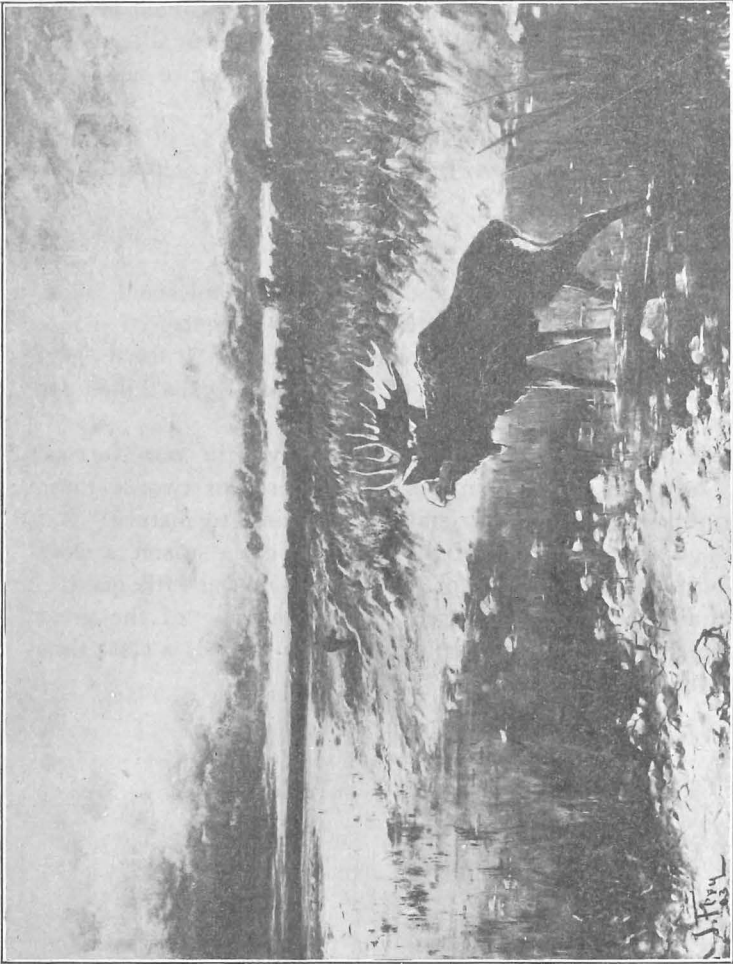
We have maintained on the Canadian Border, in the deep woods, four wardens all of the time and six a great part of the time.

MOOSE.

The reports from guides, transportation companies and others who have knowledge show a decrease in the number of moose killed this year from former years; in fact, there has been a steady decrease in the number of bull moose legally killed for several years.

There are many cows and small bulls yet in our forests. Many advocate a close time on bull moose for two or three years, in order to give the small moose time to mature. But unless guns are kept out of the woods in close season, a close time on moose for a series of years would do but little good.

We are the more convinced of this, in view of the great slaughter of cow and calf moose on which there is a close time all of the time.



Moose.

DEER.

The winter of 1907 and 1908 was exceptionally favorable to the large herds of deer still to be found in our northern forests. None died on account of the cold, or starved on account of fail-



ure to secure food. It was a most remarkable winter for the safe wintering of game and game birds.

The deer in the spring were apparently in as good condition as in the fall. The spring months were warm and dry, exceed-

ingly favorable for the safety of the lambs. The result has been that undoubtedly there was raised a larger herd of young deer, lambs, than for many years. This is, to some extent, at least, proven from the exceptionally large number of fawn deer killed during the hunting season. So noticeable was this that a stronger protest than has appeared heretofore is made against the law that permits the killing of fawns during the hunting season.

It is, indeed, a sickening sight to see a dead fawn, that will not exceed 35 pounds in weight, at the transportation office, labelled with the tag from a non-resident hunter's license that the State has sold, for shipment to Boston, New York, Philadelphia and even to Chicago. At one station, at one time during the early part of October, seven fawn deer, none of which would weigh over 35 pounds, were thus labelled.

It is for the Legislature to consider whether this sort of slaughter should be permitted to continue longer under the sanction of the law. There appears to be a growing public sentiment that this sort of thing should be prohibited by law. Deer are what may be termed semi-domesticated wild animals. They hang around, to a considerable extent, civilization; they invade gardens, orchards, mowing fields, grain fields and potato fields, doing to these more or less damage. The law enacted by the Legislature of 1905, giving to the farmer the lawful right to shoot a deer when found doing actual, substantial damage to his growing, cultivated crops, appears to have been taken advantage of to a considerable extent.

We have received reports of the killing of forty deer for this cause this year. One man, A. M. Currier of Seven Islands, on the St. John River, reports killing fourteen deer for this cause. Undoubtedly others have been killed of which we have no reports.

The other provision of this law, allowing compensation to farmers for the damage the deer do, is, we think, quite generally taken advantage of. We have received 78 different complaints this year on this account. The aggregate of the damage asked for or demanded amounts to fifteen hundred thirty-one dollars and fifty cents, with five other claims in which no specific amount of damage was named.

Our practice has been in these cases, as follows: When a complaint is received at the office, to send to the complainant the following blank:

“To the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game, Augusta, Maine.

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.)

I harvested bushels of oats, on the ground where the deer damaged my oats.

I harvested bushels of potatoes on the ground where the deer damaged my potatoes.

And I estimate my damage at \$.”

At the same time we notify a warden to go at once and make a full investigation and report. It very frequently happens that an amicable agreement can be arrived at, at once; frequently, however, the damage is of a continuing nature, more or less until the harvesting time; in such case we must wait and settle for the damage later.

NUMBER OF DEER.

As to the quantity of deer—their numbers as compared with recent years—opinions differ greatly, even among some having apparently equal opportunities and information upon which to base an opinion, as, for instance, the guides who guide hunting parties.

Certain it is that many more of our own people go a-hunting from year to year. It is estimated that from one-third to one-half more of the people of the State hunted big game last season than ever before in a single year. The dull times—work-

men out of employment—accounts for much of this. Whatever opinion one may have as to the real facts as to the increase or decrease in our herds of deer, all are agreed that the greatest care should be exercised by all, and by the law-making power, to protect them, to prevent their practical extinction or greatly lessen their number.

While the big game of the State is not nearly so valuable an asset to the State, from a commercial standpoint, as its inland fish, it is sufficiently valuable to conserve to the greatest possible extent, as one of our valuable natural resources.



Finds a little fawn.

The State of Maine will ever have within its borders a wide domain of many thousands of acres of wild land, unsuited for agriculture, which will never be occupied for farming purposes, only the trees, if spared by fires, will be there for all time—the natural home of the moose and deer—a valuable, palatable, nutritious food, a drawing card for the sportsman and tourist, affording a large revenue in the employment of guides and in many other ways.

Whether our own people should be required to contribute something towards their perpetuation and protection, either by a direct tax upon all the property of the State by way of an

appropriation by the Legislature, or only by those who take part in the chase—those “who a-hunting go”—for moose and deer, in the payment of a small license fee of \$1.00 or \$2.00, as is the case in 19 of the States of the American Union, there is no substantial agreement upon.

ACCIDENTS WITH GUNS.

TWO—POSSIBLY THREE—KILLED, MISTAKEN FOR A DEER. NO REGISTERED GUIDE WAS CONNECTED WITH EITHER CASE WHERE A PERSON WAS MISTAKEN FOR A DEER.

Feb. 2nd, Dexter Decker, while fox hunting, tripped and fell, discharging both barrels of his gun, which took effect in his foot.

Feb. 20th, Linwood Coose of Washington stood a loaded gun in the shed. A jar caused it to fall down and it was discharged, mangling his left hand, whereby he lost three fingers.

March 6th, Thomas Dolan, age 32, examining a revolver, discharged it, killing himself instantly.

March 23rd, Warren Osborn, age 50, of Gardiner, while duck hunting, accidentally discharged his gun, killing himself instantly.

March 29th, Mark Cool, age 33, of Corinth, while cleaning his gun accidentally discharged it, killing himself instantly.

June 10th, Llewellyn Adams, age 17, of Falmouth, in lifting his rifle from the front steps of his house, discharged it, killing himself instantly.

Sept. 22nd, Alton Randall, age 11, of Hallowell, was seriously wounded by a charge of bird shot while in the woods hunting. Who fired the shot is not known.

Sept. 25th, Ralph Downs, age 21, of Sanford, was fatally shot by a companion named Chambers, while returning from a hunting trip and practicing shooting at a target. Chambers was bound over to await the action of the Grand Jury.

Sept. 28th, Andrew Musher, age 19, of Danforth, in pulling his gun out of a boat, muzzle first, discharged it, killing himself almost instantly.

Oct. 3rd, Roy Jarvis, age 22, of Middleton, Mass., in removing his rifle from a wagon, at Charlotte, Me., muzzle first, discharged it, inflicting a wound from which he died in a few hours.

Oct. 4th, Irving Pushard, age 21, of Dresden, while duck hunting was accidentally shot and killed by his brother.

Oct. 8th, at Skinner, an unknown man was fatally shot by C. S. Skinner while hunting in the woods near Skinner, Me., Mr. Skinner mistaking him for a deer.

Oct. 9th, Pearl Benner, age 17, of Augusta, while hunting shot himself through the left leg with a 32 caliber revolver, inflicting a painful wound.

Oct. 12th, Milford Fox, age 18, of Chapman Pl., died from the effects of a revolver shot fired by his brother, who did not know the revolver was loaded.

Oct. 15th, Herbert W. Cummings, of Bethel, who was on a hunting trip, was found dead in the woods. He had been shot through the body and is supposed to have been mistaken for a deer by someone, who, after shooting him, disappeared, and no trace was found of him.

Oct. 17th, John Kimball of Ellsworth, age 33, was drowned when out duck hunting, by the canoe being capsized from the recoil of his gun.

Oct. 19th, John Brown of Millinocket was accidentally shot in the shoulder by an Italian who was walking behind him.

Oct. 28th, Addison Knowlton of Swanville, age 25, was shot and killed by the accidental discharge of a rifle in the hands of his cousin, while the two were rabbit hunting.

Nov. 2nd, Wm. Delaney of N. B., while hunting near Shirley Bog, went over a cliff and received injuries from which he died.

Nov. 8th, Finimeau Balluc of Waterville, age 21, while rabbit hunting, in some way his gun was accidentally discharged, shattering his foot, making a partial amputation necessary.

Nov. 9th, Philip Bryan of Pattagumpus, while hunting with a friend, the friend stumbled and fell, discharging his rifle, the bullet taking effect in Bryan's leg above the knee, making a severe wound.

Nov. 17th, Frank Hilton of Bingham was hunting with his son, 12 years old. The boy's gun was accidentally discharged, hitting Mr. Hilton in the thigh, inflicting a serious flesh wound.

Nov. 20th, Wallace Carter, age 21, of Ashland, became lost in the woods while hunting and died from fright and exposure.

Nov. 22nd, James Beaupre of Bangor, age 15, was wounded

in the right breast by the accidental discharge of a 22 calibre rifle in the hands of a young companion while hunting.

Nov. 23rd, Clarence Hayford, age 53, of Wayne, was instantly killed by the accidental discharge of a shot gun, which he was carrying on the way to the woods where he was chopping wood.

Nov. 22nd, Two men, Warren Nelson and Jos. Dulec, became lost in the woods around Attean pond, while hunting for Earnest Nelson, supposed to be lost. They were in the woods two days and two nights without food. The body of young Earnest Nelson for whom they searched was found about 10 miles from camp shortly after they left.

Dec. 6th, Solomon Knox of Oakland, age 19, was seriously shot by the accidental discharge of a shot gun in the hands of another person in a house where they were examining the gun.

Dec. 6th, Morris W. Littlefield, age 21, of Grand Falls Pl., was shot and instantly killed, Sunday, Dec. 6th, by Lloyd R. Shorey of Burlington, who mistook him for a deer.

Dec. 13th, John Davis, age 14, of Blake Lane, Rockland, was instantly killed by the accidental discharge of his gun while hunting, evidently having stumbled over a fallen tree.

Dec. 15th, John Ward of Caribou was wounded by W. Leavitt of Woodland, mistaking him for a deer.

The above are all the accidents reported to us, or all we have seen in the press.

It is known that two lost their lives by being mistaken for a deer, and possibly a third, but of the latter there is no proof other than that the man was found dead with a bullet hole through his breast.

LICENSES ISSUED.

We have issued licenses during the year as follows:

| | |
|--|-------|
| To resident guides | 2,096 |
| To non-resident guides | 23 |
| To sporting camp proprietors | 130 |
| To taxidermist | 15 |
| To hunters and trappers of fur bearing animals | 200 |
| To dealers in skins of wild animals, State licenses | 20 |
| To dealers in skins of wild animals, County licenses .. | 64 |
| To non-resident hunters at \$5 | 460 |
| To non-resident hunters at \$10 | 130 |
| To non-resident hunters at \$15 | 1,883 |

This is sixty less than last year at \$15, and 72 more at \$5.

To unnaturalized foreign born persons hunting licenses 17

There are five agents to whom we have sent 21 \$15 licenses that we have been unable to get a settlement with. When they are finally induced to settle, it may change the figures on the \$15 licenses somewhat.

EXPENDITURES.

Inasmuch as the full itemized report of the expenditures appears in the Auditor's report, all that appears to be necessary here is the following:

FISH HATCHERIES AND FEEDING STATIONS.

| | | |
|--|----------|----|
| Expended for fish hatcheries and feeding station .. | \$19,778 | 12 |
| L. T. Carleton, Chairman, travelling expenses | 357 | 79 |
| J. W. Brackett, travelling expenses | 580 | 19 |
| Edgard E. Ring, travelling expenses | 172 | 97 |
| Warden service | 42,132 | 61 |
| Clerical services | 1,320 | 14 |
| Damage to crops by deer | 827 | 88 |
| Licenses refunded | 89 | 50 |
| Postage | 200 | 04 |
| Legal services | 216 | 06 |
| Miscellaneous—for posting notices, fishway expenses, office supplies, &c. | 690 | 56 |
| Total | \$67,365 | 86 |

We had, according to our last report, to expend \$67,933.32, which leaves an apparently unexpended balance of \$567.46, which we understand has been charged up by the Auditor for the printing account of the office, the bills for which have not passed through this office.

Of the amount expended this year, as above shown, only \$25,000.00 of it was raised by appropriation by the State, the balance, \$42,365.86 was received from fines and license fees collected.

We have received the following reports:

Hunters and trappers, 121; 18 report they have not trapped any; 103 report as follows: Caught—hedgehogs, 1; weasels, 535; wild-cats, 30; raccoons, 38; otter, 33; bears, 70; foxes, 347; muskrats, 666; sable, 294; fisher, black cat or marten, 405; skunks, 29; mink, 569.

Twenty-five marketmen have reported.

They report that they have bought to sell at retail to their local customers 257 deer.

REPORTS OF LICENSED DEALERS IN SKINS.

Reports received from 64 as follows:

Average price paid for deer skins 62½ cents.

Two reported they purchased no deer skins.

One, T. Burgoin, reports 500 skins of various fur bearing animals, other than deer, but does not specify.

The 62 who reported report having purchased the following skins: Deer, 8,735; otter, 112; black cat, marten or fisher, 433; sable, 129; fox, 1,840, ermine, 309; wildcat, 311; skunk, 1,865; raccoon, 66; mink, 646; muskrat, 2,854; bear, 2.

COMMISSIONS TO TAKE BIRDS THEIR NESTS AND EGGS.

Eight have reported. Four have reported taking no birds, their nests and eggs. Four report as having taken by virtue of their license; 1 Chestnut-sided Warbler, 1 Am. Redstart Warbler, 2 Blue Yellow-backed Warblers, 2 Wilson's Black-capped Warblers, 2 Black and Yellow Warblers, 1 nest and eggs Black-throated Green Warbler, 1 nest and eggs Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, 4 eggs of Wilson's Tern, 2 eggs of Leach's Petrel, 2 Bay-breasted Warblers, 1 Scarlet Tanager, 2 Am. Three-toed Woodpeckers, 2 Arctic three-toed Woodpeckers, 3 nests and eggs pileated Woodpeckers, 1 set nest and eggs Brown Creeper, 2 sets nests and eggs Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, 1 set nest and eggs Magnolia Warbler, 1 set nest and eggs Night-hawk, 1 set nest and eggs golden-crowned Kinglet, 1 set nest and eggs Nuthatch, 1 Savanna Sparrow, 1 Petrel, 1 Myrtle Warbler, 2 Juncos, 1 Small Woodpecker, 1 White-winged Crossbill, 1 Rusty Blackbird, 1 Chickadee, 1 Nuthatch, eggs of Osprey, Black Guillemot (eggs), Eggs Leach's Petrel, eggs of Sandpiper, Eggs of common Tern, Eggs of Herring Gull, Eggs of ground bird not yet identified.

One party holding license kept one Blue Heron alive, watching habits and photographing frequently; also young Tern and a Petrel.

One hundred camp proprietors report entertaining: Resident guests, 4,363; resident hunters, 786; non-resident guests, 6,795; non-resident hunters, 866. Number deer consumed at the camps, 351; Number deer bought for consumption at their camps, 97.

TAXIDERMISTS.

Reports have been received from 44 taxidermists. They report having mounted the following specimens: Birds, 368; fish, 281; deer, 29; deer heads, 2,118; moose, 5; moose heads, 275; fox, 36; bears, 88; wildcats, 15; striped squirrel, 3; grey squirrel, 1; rabbit, 4; raccoon, 5; fisher, 10; otter, 9; deer feet, 86; muskrats, 11; mink, 1; weasel, 1; flying squirrel, 1; turtle, 1.

1720 guides have reported this year. 272 report they did not guide any. Those who did guide report as follows:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Total number of days guided | 68,677 |
| Residents guided | 3,866 |
| Resident hunters | 1,368 |
| Non-residents guided | 8,887 |
| Non-resident hunters | 1,775 |
| Total number of persons guided | 12,753 |
| Number of persons reporting moose as less than last year | 236 |
| Number of persons reporting moose as more than last year | 453 |
| Number of persons reporting moose as same as last year | 432 |
| Number of persons reporting deer as less than last year | 235 |
| Number of persons reporting deer as more than last year | 699 |
| Number of persons reporting deer same as last year .. | 396 |
| Number of moose killed by parties guided | 113 |
| Number of deer killed by parties guided | 3,510 |
| Number of bears killed by parties guided | 25 |
| Number of moose killed when with other guide..... | 38 |
| Number of deer killed when with other guide | 441 |
| Number of moose killed by parties employing no guide | 237 |
| Number of deer killed by parties employing no guide.. | 2,706 |