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OUR FISH AND GAME RESOURCES

Able Discussed by Fishery
Commissioner D. G.
Smith, of Chatham,

BEFORE THE FISH AND GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

Moose and Caribou on the
Increase in New
Brunswick.

TROUT FISHING THE GREAT AT- TRACTION FOR TOURISTS.

At the annual meeting of the North American Fish and Game Protective Association at Portland, Me., last week, Fishery Commissioner D. G. Smith, of Chatham, reported for New Brunswick in the absence of Surveyor General Dunn. His address was a very practical one, and contained much valuable information in regard to the game resources of New Brunswick.

In the first place, said Mr. Smith, I desire to note the fact that while we are all Canadians on our side of the line—and proud of our country and its institutions—it sounds somewhat strangely to us to hear our friends on this side, in referring to our fish and game laws speak of them as "the Canadian law," for in discussions at meetings of this Association I have frequently heard provisions of the game law of some particular province quoted or referred to by United States members as "the Canadian law," conveying the idea that such provision applied to the whole of Canada, whereas each province might have entirely different provisions in its enactments in reference to that particular subject. The game laws are provincial ones altogether. The Canadian parliament has nothing to do with their enactment or enforcement. The Fisheries Act, so called, is a Dominion statute applicable to all the province. It relates entirely, however, to the general protection of the fisheries. The provincial legislatures also have their fisheries acts, because the proprietorship of the fisheries is vested in the several provinces in which they are located.

Respecting big game in New Brunswick, I am glad to be able to report that it is increasing; not only so, but it is becoming a more valuable asset of the Province each succeeding year. The record discloses a constant increase in the number of both resident and non-resident sportsmen hunting big game in the province. To illustrate the magnetic effect of our attractions in that way, I may refer to the figures for the last two years, which show that the number of big game licenses issued in the season of 1902 was 1513 to residents and 272 to non-residents, while in 1903 it was 1858 to residents and 338 to non-residents, being increases of 345 and 66 in the two classes respectively.

Until the season of 1893—last year—guides and camp help were not required to take out license. Last year the law was changed and there were 106 guides and 102 camp help's licenses issued.

The game revenue in 1902 was \$10,855.95; last year it was \$16,929.48, or an increase of \$6,073.53—more than 50 per cent.—and the prospect is that a similar ratio of increase will mark next year's operations.

I think it is my duty to correct a misapprehension in regard to New Brunswick as a caribou country. While the caribou is not so evenly distributed over the wild lands of the province as is the moose, yet we have some of the finest and largest caribou areas in Canada. Sportsmen of the United States who have hunted caribou in New Brunswick do not need to be told of this, for they know it, but many who have not so hunted, do. I am led to make these observations because I read, not long since, a paragraph in sev-

eral Canadian papers stating that "the Chairman of the State of Maine Fish and Game Commission, referring to the fact that there are comparatively few caribou in that State, asserts that similar conditions exist in New Brunswick."

Since coming to this meeting I find that even some of those officially connected with fish and game administration in this State are under the impression that the word, "non-resident," employed in the New Brunswick game law, means residents of the United States and other foreign countries only and not British subjects. This is a misapprehension. "Non-resident" in our game law means every person whose domicile is not within the province of New Brunswick.

Several material changes were made at the last session of the legislature in the New Brunswick game law.

I am glad to say that although nearly all of the rivers and lakes of New Brunswick still teem with sea and other trout, affording fully satisfactory sport to the angler, a diminution of trout has become noticeable in some waters, especially those within easy reach of the cities and larger towns. We have, for years, been impressed with the importance of checking the partial depletion that has been going on, caused by over fishing, for, unfortunately, no limit is placed upon the number of trout that an angler may kill in New Brunswick, and fishing is absolutely free on nine tenths of our trout streams and lakes.

I am satisfied that the majority of the members of this Association—many of whom are fish culturists—are not in sympathy with the view expressed by some who are salmon anglers or salmon culturists only, who say that trout should be exterminated, because, to some extent and on some parts of the rivers, they follow the parent salmon on the bare at spawning time and destroy a percentage of the ova as they are deposited. It is granted that they do this, but nearly everything in Nature is preyed upon or annoyed by something else in Nature and we cannot get away from that inexorable law. Let me say that I am opposed to Lake trout being put in salmon waters for they are not properly game fishes, but bottom feeders. Understand, therefore, that when I refer to trout in this connection I mean what we all think of in New Brunswick—the game trout, or Salmo trutta—the sea trout. Salmon and trout then, have been, for all known time, co-existent in New Brunswick rivers, and there is every legitimate reason for that condition so continuing.

The salmon-angler—especially during those occasional periods of his existence when every nerve is tense with the expectation of giving that undecipherable and instinctive turn of the wrist by which the barb of his hook is fleshed when he realizes that "he's got him!"—is disgusted with and hates the trout, however big it may be, that, at that supreme moment, interferes with his fly. Who of us is there that has not had such experiences and, for the time, wished there never was a trout? And yet, again, who is there of us, also, who has not whipped some stream in the vain hope of a rise and would give much could he but impale and land even a half pound trout?

Of all the game fishes of America that which affords the most sport to the greatest number of people is the trout. We have given a good deal of attention in New Brunswick to our salmon angling interests. In the Miramichi—the main Southwest, Renos and Dangarvon—the Northwest, with its affluents, such as the Little Southwest and the Sevogle; the Nepesquit, the Jacques, and the Restigouche, the Upsalquitch, Paspapedia and Kedgwick—all these at the North—and the St. John, with its salmon-nursery—the Tobique—as well as the St. Croix, in which latter salmon are again being taken—we have salmon waters which are

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And utter weariness are due to the blood being weakened through faulty action of the kidneys and liver. It's a surplus of energy, lots of red vitalizing blood you need and it can be acquired quickly by using Ferrozone, the greatest strengthening tonic made. "No tonic equals Ferrozone," writes H. E. Jennings of Westport. "Last spring I was tired and depressed, had backache and lacked strength. Ferrozone soon brought me to good health and made me well." Price 50c. at druggists.

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eagerly sought after, and those of them which are leased by the government command good prices from lessees who, for the most part, are of the very wealthy classes.

But the salmon anglers are only the few, comparatively; and while the province has a small income from them directly, it is our free trout streams which are a source of enjoyment to all classes and indirectly of great revenue to the people who cater to tourist and other summer travel.

I think you will agree with me that good trout waters, which are easy of access from the centres of travel, are of much greater importance, from the tourist standpoint, than the salmon streams. The reason for this is because fully ninety per cent. of our angling visitors have neither the time nor the means to give to salmon fishing, which, as all who have engaged in it know, is an expensive pastime. On the other hand, trout-angling is within the means of almost anyone who may desire to engage in it, and time for its indulgence may be reckoned in days, while weeks are required for successful salmon-angling. Clergymen, teachers, storekeepers, mechanics, clerks, and others of moderate means, leave their homes for summer vacations of a week or a fortnight. There are few of them who do not want to have some trout fishing if they can get it, and, whether it be on your side of the line or on ours, it is true wisdom on the part of all of us, whether we are fish and game officials, managers of transportation lines or hotels, or have to do with other related interests, to set our faces resolutely against those who would discount the importance of the trout. Where we have one summer visitor looking for salmon fishing, we have fifty in pursuit of the trout. Each individual of the two classes contribute about the same amount per head to the transportation lines, the hotels, stables, etc., as he travels. It is our duty, therefore, and in the interest of the country to protect and propagate our trout, because they furnish angling sport for the masses; and it is the angling tourist we deem the most desirable, for a man cannot be an undesirable citizen, or tourist if he be an angler.

Until within the last five years, game fish culture in New Brunswick had been confined exclusively to salmon. In that province, as in others in Canada, there is mixed management—Federal and Provincial—of the fisheries. The Federal government has, for many years, maintained three well equipped salmon hatcheries in the province and for two years, generously gave the Crown Land Department the use of a part of one of them for hatching trout. The success which attended this small beginning on the part of the province, which went towards partially restocking Loch Lomond lake near St. John as well as some other waters, led the government to authorize last summer, the construction of a trout hatchery with a capacity of one million eggs. Although the undertaking is comparatively in the experimental stage and we were not able—owing to the work being begun late in the season—to fill the hatching troughs to their full capacity, yet we have every reason to believe that it will be entirely successful, and become an important auxiliary in maintaining New Brunswick's angling attractions.

In referring to this subject, of trout, I am glad to say, as one of the movers in the matter, that it was on the recommendation of the North American Fish

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and Game Protective Association that the government of the Dominion of Canada prohibited the export of trout for commercial purposes and placed the limit at 25 lbs. as the quantity which any visiting angler is permitted to take out of our country.

I might further refer to a number of subjects of interest in the domain of fish and game, in New Brunswick, but am aware that our time is limited and many things of both local and general interest within the scope of our organization's objects are to be discussed. I therefore submit what I have said, as New Brunswick's report, and to show that that province is keeping pace in matters of fish and game, as it is in all others, with the development of the times in North America, which commands, in an ever increasing degree, the interested attention, respect admiration of other countries.

Mr. Smith's address was very heartily applauded.

The mother who would be horrified at the thought of letting her daughter wander away to a strange country without guide or counsel yet permits her to enter that unknown land of womanhood without counsel or caution. Then, in utter ignorance, the maiden must meet physical problems whose solution will affect her whole future life. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has been well named a "God-send to women." It corrects irregularities and imparts such vigorous vitality to the delicate womanly organs, as fits them for their important functions. Many a nervous, hysterical, peevish young woman after the use of "Favorite Prescription" has established the sound health of the organs peculiarly feminine.

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Birdton.

Jan. 28.—The weather of late has been very cold and stormy.

Messrs. Harry Bud and James Woodworth have returned home from the To bique lumber woods.

Thomas Bonnar is visiting his aunt, Mrs. Woodworth Griffiths.

Mrs. J. L. Bird is spending a few days with her daughter, Mrs. F. Richards.

Miss Annie Bird has returned home from visiting her friend, Miss J. Forman. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bird were made happy by the arrival of a baby girl at their home on the 21st.

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TERROR AT MOROCCO.

Angry Natives Exhume Bodies of Christians.

Tangiers, Morocco, Jan. 30.—Morocco City has been the scene of serious disturbances in consequence of the Government attempt to force the circulation of new and unpopular copper coins, on which is placed an artificial value, and which is refused to receive in payment of taxes. Business was paralyzed, provisions became scarce and starvation was threatened. A mob attacked the Christian cemetery, burning down the gates, desecrated the graves, exhumed the bodies, cut off their heads and paraded the town with the heads stuck on poles.

The rioters proceeded to the Jewish quarter with the object of destroying it, but they found the gates closed and guarded. The rabble subsequently looted the jeweller shops, robbing and wounding many Jews. The Governor attempted to quell the disturbance, but he was stoned, pursued and obliged to seek refuge in the palace. The authorities finally induced the rabble to disperse on the promise of the temporary withdrawal of the obnoxious coinage.

The Influence of the Youth's Companion.

The gospel of good cheer brightens every page of The Youth's Companion. Although the paper is nearly 77 years of age, it does not look back on the past as a better period than the present.

The Companion believes that the time most full of promise is the time we are living in, and every weekly issue reflects this spirit of looking forward and not back.

The New subscriber who sends \$1.75 now for a year's subscription to The Companion receives free The Companion Calendar for 1904, lithographed in twelve colors and gold.

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