

materials for study would be at hand and obtained without difficulty or loss of time. Again, it should be within easy reach of areas in which important fisheries are carried on, that is to say, the fisheries in actual operation should be easy of access from such a station, in order that all the practical knowledge of the fishermen may be made available and suggestions or information conveyed from the scientific station to those engaged on the fishing grounds.

There are many points upon the Atlantic seaboard which might be recommended for such a marine station. The richness and varied character of the fauna in the more southerly shores of the Dominion cannot be lost sight of. To Passamaquoddy Bay and the prolific waters around Grand Manan and the Western Isles, scientific workers from the United States have been accustomed to resort season after season, and very valuable and substantial contributions to our knowledge of the sea's resources have been made by Canadian investigators in this area.

A location further north presents, however, many advantages. The lobster fishery, with the various perplexing and difficult questions connected therewith, is carried on upon the greatest scale there, and with a marine station in close proximity, the life-history, habits, migrations and breeding of that valuable crustacean could be thoroughly investigated. The mackerel fishery, however, is carried on at a most important period of the year in the more northerly waters, and the cod fishery, though not pursued to its fullest extent off Prince Edward Island, affords material for interesting and valuable investigations respecting the food, breeding, growth, and movements of the various members of the cod tribe, all of economic importance. Areas, with the most famous and prolific oyster beds extending over them, would be readily accessible from such a station; and the bays and inlets of the Quebec, and New Brunswick shores and north shore of Nova Scotia abound with smaller fishes, such as the smelt, capelin, etc., while the fry of various species occurring there require study in order to throw light upon the future development of the fishing industry. The fauna and flora may be less rich and varied than off the southern coast of New Brunswick; but that remains to be ascertained. Certainly points might be named in the northern area, bordering on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which offer facilities most favourable for experiments on retaining young and immature lobsters in ponds until their defenceless stages are passed, and for repeating under strict scientific supervision, the work carried on with such apparent success in Norway by Captain Dannevig, whose achievements in rearing cod and other marine fishes to an advanced and robust stage are well known.

A marine station favourably situated and properly equipped has a great work before it in Canada. The lines along which that work would, without question, progress are infinitely varied, and no sketch, however full and comprehensive, can aim to do more than indicate their nature and direction. They all end in supremely practical results, and bear directly upon the welfare and prosperity of the great fishing industries. All who have been associated with fisheries in any way realize keenly the lack of accurate knowledge on the most vital and important points. Legislation has often been hazardous on account of this lack of ascertained fact and the existence of contradictory opinions. Primarily, a marine station would be a centre for investigation and research for the promotion and diffusion of knowledge. Without interfering with this first and most important work, such a station might be also a school for teaching and for scientific study. This latter line of work would enlist for it the sympathy and help in various ways of the universities, many professors and students from which might be expected to aid in the fishery investigation carried on. There is no field so fascinating and fruitful for the biologist as the sea, and distinguished zoologists and students would no doubt desire, as volunteer workers, to help in the investigations, viewing the fine opportunities for research as amply repaying them for their labour. In this way, directly and indirectly, fishery science would gain and the fisheries of the Dominion receive that light and knowledge which in various directions is greatly needed. No doubt pure scientific research, that is research with no direct practical end in view, must be carried on by private rather than public support, and the work of marine stations, like those in Scotland and elsewhere, must have sole regard to practical questions and utilitarian ends.

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