

cluded from going farther, or are they a rear guard representing what remains of a retreating force whose maximum stage of activity has been passed, whose area of distribution has been diminishing, and the individuals of whose species are being gradually reduced in numbers. The questions involved are interesting. The suggestion is intelligible that each species has its place and purpose to fulfil in life, just as the lower animals and man have, and has its development and ultimate decline in strength and activity in each individual as well as in the numbers of its species, until, in long course of time, that place is either left void or is taken by some other form or variety more suited to the changes of circumstances which time is gradually but continuously bringing about. Many plants, at the present time, are thus at their maximum stages of activity in individual growth and reproduction, and have now their maximum breadth of distribution; some are merely in the early or initial stages of this activity and at the initial points of their ultimate area of range; whilst others must be on the decline when activity in reproducing the species is lessening, and the area of distribution is being circumscribed. When the stage of decline has been reached, climatal and other causes which would in the ordinary course limit the range, would have greater effects on the species than upon others which were in the progressive stage of activity or had reached the maximum.

#### LAKE SALMON.

One of the finest of our fresh water fishes—the lake salmon—occurs in the Lower Rideau Lake, and is the attraction every summer to many American as well as Canadian sportsmen. It is a deep water fish confined here to this lake more probably because it is the largest lake of the Rideau system and the only one which has a general depth exceeding 100 feet, than because its waters are clearer than those of others of the system. The lake salmon is caught by trolling with the live minnow at depths of 100 to 150 feet, and, like its nobler friend from