

## Ontario Fishery Commission.

*Frederick Corey*, fisherman, Burlington Beach (page 320) says:—The best time to catch black bass is the spawning time. They make their spawning beds 20th May, spawn about 1st June. They watch their young until they leave the bed.

*John Davis*, Hamilton, fish-dealer (page 316) says:—Black bass is a good fish and should be preserved.

### TORONTO.

*Michael Doyle*, fish-dealer, Toronto (page 287) says:—Bass in value come next to salmon-trout and whitefish, if we could get them, they are the dearest.

*Dawson W. Port*, fish-dealer, Toronto (page 292) says:—Bass are pretty good in September and October, best after that. They are not good in spawning time. No fish are good at spawning time. Black bass are good fish and should be preserved. Our customers will take them when in good condition.

*Horatio John Bray*, fish-dealer, Toronto (page 297).—Black bass are in best condition just as the ice leaves and they catch them with hook and line. They are more valuable than whitefish. They are not fit for food in July and August; they catch them in June. They should not be handled then. Could handle half a ton a day when they are in good condition, but do not get 25 pounds.

### (R.)—THE CISCOE.

*Daniel McGwyn*, Burlington Beach, says:—Ciscoes spawn from 25th December till the middle of January. They have fallen off considerably during the past four or five years by being overfished—too many nets. They are better cured than herrings, being a fatter fish. They are caught from 1st November until 1st May. They spawn in deep water on weedy bottoms, about six miles out, and are caught in deep water. They do not come near the shores. Two men can handle 2,000 yards of gill-net; 21-foot boat; that would be too much in a boat; some use a good deal more; sets one gang of nets and lifts one; some keep three gangs, 6,000 yards in the water, but 2,000 yards is enough for two men to handle; meshes  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch bar; net out two or three nights before being taken up; had them out twelve nights, and the fish still good; they live quite a while if not strangled; sometimes lose nets, fish and all, in some severe storms; have had a clean sweep of everything; do not fish for ciscoes in May, June, July and August; they are too oily, and we would have to go too far out to catch them; we would have to take ice, and that would not pay; December is the best month; has quit ciscoeing; they are going the same road as the whitefish and salmon-trout; they spawn all the year round, but chiefly in January.

*William Depew*, Burlington Beach (page 308):—Uses a  $2\frac{3}{8}$ -inch extension mesh for ciscoes; ciscoes are in the best condition all the winter; they begin to get soft in May; they are caught in deep water, six to fifteen miles from the shore; one fall they came within 200 yards of the shore; they keep out beyond the whitefish; the biggest part of the ciscoes spawn in February; see spawn in them in November and December; the eggs are pretty plentiful in the boats the latter part of January and February; they are a good deal better fish than the herring, when they are cured; the ciscoe is best cured; the ciscoe is a soft fish, and does not eat well; fresh salting and smoking makes them harder; ciscoe and herring are the same size; both about the same value; herring are more numerous and can be sold fresh; ciscoes are being caught out, and are not so numerous as they were formerly; they are overfished; the size of the net,  $2\frac{3}{8}$ -inch extension, is all right; it is overfishing that does it; they are caught most numerously in January and February; they begin to spawn in January, but mostly in February; thinks fishing in the spawning season has helped to reduce them.