

days after the close of the season; their premises are open for inspection at any time, and in case of doubt whether the laws have been observed the burden of proof rests upon the warehouse keeper.

Fifth.—Authority is given the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to prohibit at any time the sale of any protected game for a period of not exceeding three years. Under this Act the sale of grouse has been prohibited until October 1st, 1902.

Sixth.—The export of trout has been forbidden, from Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, except not over 25 pounds when shipped by a party who has killed the game for sport and when accompanied by the proper certificates.

Seventh.—Fishing with nets in the eastern portion of Lake St. Francis and in Lake St. Louis, including the waters of Chateaugay and Caughnawaga, has been prohibited until July 1st, 1902.

The last two important changes are due to the Dominion authorities, and not to the Provincial."

He also argued at some length in favor of a non-resident license to be imposed upon all sportsmen who shoot or fish away from the State or Province in which they reside.

"Vermont," said Mr. Titcomb, "has nothing new to report in the way of legislation, for there has been no session of the Legislature since the last meeting of the Association. There has been a delegation, however, of our people to Quebec, on the subject of the netting in Lake Champlain. We met the enemy, and we are their's."

New Brunswick was heard from. The Surveyor-General, Hon. Mr. Dunn, made a very encouraging report. "His Province," he said, "had enacted a law against spring shooting, except that for geese upon the North shore, where they were very plentiful, and where the natives were allowed to kill them for their own use. The spring killing of other game was prohibited, especially that of black duck, which was rapidly becoming quite scarce. The sale of partridges is forbidden, and the bag of game for each hunter is now limited to one moose, one caribou and two deer. Several hunters have stopped trapping and are now helping us, and as a result, the present increase in game is satisfactory."

Mr. Richards, of Boston, reported that for the last two years the sale of woodcock and of partridges had been prohibited in Massachusetts.

Quite a discussion arose over the question, suggested by the President, as to the evil of planting black bass in trout waters, Mr. Titcomb speaking of the harm that was being done in Vermont by the substitution of bass and other coarse fish into the natural trout waters of the State. Some years ago, he said, all the ponds of the State were trout waters. It was about fifteen or eighteen years ago that the black bass had swept over the land, and now almost all the ponds contained bass and the trout had largely disappeared, being almost exterminated, while it was impossible to get rid of the coarser fish. The bass ate up the bullheads and everything else, and then the food supply became exhausted, so that now the bass do not, as a rule, exceed a pound in weight. Their trout waters had been almost ruined. Other States had had the same experience. The Maine Commissioner had expressed his satisfaction that the subject was to be brought up. A New Hampshire Commissioner reported that the bass were chasing *aureolus* and land-locked salmon out of Lake Sunapee, though it was thought for awhile that the fish would retain its own side of the lake. But the bass were winning in those waters, and it was certainly not the survival of the fittest. He urged that bass should be

placed with other coarse fish in waters that were unsuited for trout.

Mr. Bastedo said that in Ontario they had transplanted ten thousand bass last year, and that in only one instance had the fish been planted in trout waters. Even in that case the waters had become exhausted of their trout. Some of the exhausted waters of Muskoka were now swarming with bass up to five pounds in weight, and it was found that there was quite a demand among tourists for bass fishing.

Mr. Ussher favored the planting of bass in suitable waters, where they would be no menace to the existence of trout or other game fish. The bass afforded sport to the angler when trout were not rising to his flies.

Mr. Irving spoke from his own experience of the result of the withdrawal of the bounty on wolves in the Province of Quebec. A few years ago these pests had almost entirely disappeared from the Province of Quebec, but after the withdrawal of the bounty there had been an immediate increase, and now their howlings could be heard nightly in the neighborhood of the preserve in which he was interested. Last year they had destroyed seventy sheep and two young moose in that neighborhood, besides a number of young cattle. These statements were confirmed by Dr. Finnie, of Montreal, who said that the howls of the wolves were heard as soon as the sun went down, and that they were not only destroying game in the Province of Quebec, but were a serious menace to farmers as well.

Mr. Tinsley declared that the bounties worked well in Ontario, where two years ago they were increased from ten to fifteen dollars. The result was that the wolves had been almost exterminated in the territory covered by the law, while deer were on the increase and rapidly extending northwards. The Association reaffirmed its resolution of last year urging the offering of bounties for wolves in the Province of Quebec.

An interesting discussion arose upon the subject of forest protection against fire, Mr. Ussher pointing out that laxity in this matter by one province or state, at a point at all near its border, was a menace to the safety of the timber lands of adjoining states or provinces. The fearful effects of forest fires upon the fish and game reserves of a country were referred to by Mr. Titcomb, while Mr. Smith remarked that such fires commonly originated from the carelessness of settlers in clearing their lands.

During the proceedings of the second day, two very interesting papers were read and discussed, one on the pike-perch, by Mr. C. H. Wilson, and the other on the so-called "red trout" of Canada, which is presumably the *Salvelinus marstonii* (Garman). Members of the Association, and others who may join it, will receive the volume of Transactions of the Association, in which both of these valuable papers are to be printed. Mr. Titcomb's paper was illustrated by colored plates of the fish in question, made for the new report of the New York State Forest, Fish and Game Commission.

Mr. Wilson's paper on the pike-perch dealt with its habits, its importance as food, with the difficulties attending its artificial propagation, and the measure of success attained in it. He spoke in particular of the practice of catching the fish in Lake Champlain during the season of reproduction.

This paper caused a spirited discussion, Mr. N. W. Fisk being the first speaker. He said that the majority of sportsmen in Vermont were in favor of having netting stopped in Missisquoi Bay. He remarked that if Quebec would cease to issue licenses that Vermont would be obliged to stop.