

THE GEESE AND THE GOLDEN EGGS

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running the operators asked the Government to rescind the Order in Council to save them the loss of gear investment—which investment they had incurred after they had information of the establishment of a closed season. And the Government, deeming the operators' loss a greater consideration than the loss of the fishery, complied with their request.

In American waters a like condition also prevails. Mr. Frank N. Clark, writing in 1883, said: "It is a well-known fact that forty or fifty years ago shad were so abundant upon our Atlantic coast that they were caught by the million in many bays and mouths of rivers." In 1836 in the Susquehanna River alone over 15,000,000 shad were taken in that one season alone. Over fifty years ago the east, out of its abundance, sent shad eggs to California and Oregon to introduce this species into Pacific coast waters. Today California ships carload after carload to eastern centres to supply the demand which eastern shad are no longer plentiful enough to take care of. Florida packers no longer obtain their former quantities as their shad goes to the larger centres to fill the demand which local fisheries once supplied. Connecticut shad is not now a market factor, and the run in Hudson River is but a shadow of its former greatness.

The salmon of the Atlantic is going by the board. Where once it was a drug on the market today it is one of the leading luxuries. Once abundant in the rivers and streams of Maine and Connecticut, and also found in Hudson River, it has been unknown in the Hudson since the 18th century and scarce in the other localities for nearly as long. David Starr Jordan, writing of the Atlantic salmon says: "Many Connecticut people remember hearing their grandfathers say that when they went to the river to buy shad the fishermen used to stipulate that they should buy a specific number of salmon, also. But at the beginning of this century they began rapidly to diminish. Mitchell stated, in 1814, that in former days the supply to the New York market usually came from Connecticut, but of late years from the Kennebec, covered with ice. Reverend David Dudley Field, writing in 1819, states that salmon had scarcely been seen in the Connecticut for 15 or 20 years. The circumstances of their extermination in the Connecticut are well known, and the same story, with names and dates changed, serves equally well for other rivers."

And so could we continue on with the history of other fishes, the whitefish of the Great Lakes, the shrimp fisheries of California; the brook trout in streams, all over the continent. Extermination has already occurred in many sections; the march toward extermination is clearly discernible in many more; and it is progressing just as surely, although not yet as fully recognized, in almost every other fishery which the hand of man has undertaken. The Atlantic halibut catch has dwindled from 16 million pounds a year to 2 or 3 million pounds. Pacific halibut still maintains an average of 66 2-3 per cent of its banner years, but the average weight of the individual fish caught was 33 pounds sixteen years ago, 24 pounds seven years ago and today will not be much over 15 pounds. With the fully grown, matured fish thus already exterminated can the industry long survive the drain to which it is today subjected? It does not take a prophet to foretell the end.

And the salmon of the Pacific are answering the same last call. The comparative youthfulness of this fishery, and the enormous total of the annual catch blind us to the destruction which year by year takes place. In Canadian waters the Fraser River fishery is our most convincing example, but ample corroborative evidence is obtained in all other waters. So alarming has been the decrease in runs to Alaskan streams that the American Government has already closed many areas to all fishing, and many others are so restricted that the open fishing period has been decreased to 25 or 50 per cent of what formerly was allowed. On the Columbia and Sacramento Rivers artificial propaga-

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South Vancouver

A Tax Sale will be held in the Municipality of South Vancouver on Friday, September 10th, 1920.

All taxes are charged up to the end of 1920 and \$5.00 added for the cost of obtaining title. There will be no further expense to purchasers of lots in connection with securing an indefeasible title, which will be issued at the end of one year from time of purchase if the property is not redeemed. Should the property be redeemed 8 per cent interest will be allowed for the use of the purchase money.

South Vancouver is one of the most populous and best situated municipalities in British Columbia. It is making marvellous progress as a residential, business and industrial district. The strides made by the municipality can be best illustrated by the following comparative figures:

	1911	1920
Population	16,032	30,600
Street railway mileage	11.96	18.29
Telephones in 1912	553	2,497
Value of school buildings	\$486,000	\$1,500,000
No. dwelling houses in district	3,013	7,096
No. other buildings, stores, etc.	600	1,224
No. arc lights	0	560
No. live water services	*	7,631
Water main mileage	*	208.02
No. hydrants	*	730
No. high school teachers	0	13
No. public school teachers	*	162
No. fire alarm boxes	0	75

*—No record.

No. building permits issued for the past year 598, showing a net gain of 243 over the year 1918.

No. dwelling houses erected during the past year.....	150
No. alterations in dwelling houses	272
New garages erected	94
New stores erected	6
Box factories erected	3
Miscellaneous buildings erected	73

	1912	1920
Land values	\$33,259,265	\$15,599,063
Improvements	5,736,020	8,629,183

It will thus be seen that while land values have been reduced almost 60 per cent, that new buildings have gone up so as to increase the values of buildings to over 50 per cent in 8 years.

The last report of the Medical Health Officer shows that there is no typhoid fever, diphtheria or other serious disease existing within the municipality.

The lots that will be offered at this Tax Sale are scattered over the entire municipality, some of them being among the very best residential sites obtainable. The lowest northern slope on which they lie is 90 feet above high water mark, the highest altitude in the district being 390 feet.

This sale of lands affords a splendid opportunity for those who intend erecting their own homes to purchase a good site for the trifling amount of the taxes. As the lots are spread over the entire municipality those desiring to purchase may find exactly what they want in their preferred locality.