

sinkers on the base line perform the office of keeping the net vertical in the water.

There are four runs of salmon up the river to the spawning ground which take place during the months of June, July, August and September respectively, the salmon sought after by the fishermen being known as the "bright" or "silver" salmon.

In the river itself fishermen are known as "stand" fishermen. This means that a man who has a grant of land in his name can obtain a license to fish a net from the shore of his property. These nets are tied by stakes which are driven into the bottom of the river and reach out as far as one-third of the channel. The nets are of the box type, from ten to twelve feet square, with wings leading from each side, the "box" or "pound" being made with a trap so that when the fish enter it is almost impossible to escape. The reason for the wings, of course, is that when a fish coming up the river strikes the net it follows it along looking for an opening to go through, finally coming to the trap which it enters for lack of any other aperture. In view of the fact that the trap is set inside the box-shaped net, it necessarily follows that it cannot get out when once it has entered the opening.

Nets of this particular variety are set in the evening and raised in the morning when the catch is taken. The boxes are made of small mesh net and naturally catch a number of undersized fish which, according to the regulations, must be given their freedom. Sets of the nature described are only legal in tidal waters which, in the case of the Miramichi, run from the Bay to about sixteen miles above Newcastle on the Northwest branch, the total distance from Miramichi Bay being approximately fifty or fifty-five miles.

Individuals engaged in illegal fishing use a straight net with cedar floats on the top line and lead sinkers on the base, the net being set in the channel where the fish are known to run. Heavy weights are attached at each end which are anchored; this form of net is not of the box type as previously illustrated but is simply an ordinary straight net. It is set under cover of darkness and is taken up before daylight. Nets set under such circumstances are difficult to locate when used by experts in poaching who make a study of illegal fishing, the nets being often set so that the top line with the floaters on it will be under water. Unless the warden is cognizant of the whereabouts of a net which has been set in the manner described, he could pass over it with a boat many times and remain unaware of its proximity.

The work of the Department of Fisheries is coming to be more and more appreciated by those whom it affects and responsible individuals interested in the fishing industry feel that if strict enforcement is maintained as in the past, their material benefits will be correspondingly increased; they are quite aware of the fact that the more fish that have an opportunity of spawning, the more will return to the river in subsequent years. As a matter of interest, it is said by old fishermen and observers, that salmon invariably make their way back to the river of their initial origin.

In the higher reaches of the Miramichi where the river is small and shallow, a number of different sets are used by poachers, one being known as "sweeping the pool". A set of this variety is employed when a pool is available where the fish stop for a period of rest on their journey against the