

time he supplies a cannery. The shipping of live lobsters should only be carried on by licensed vendors. Vessels carrying live lobsters should not be cleared at Customs, unless provided with a certificate from a fishery officer, stating by whom the lobsters are exported, &c.

Messrs. Burnham & Morrill, of Portland, Maine, who are engaged in lobster packing in Nova Scotia, favour the adoption of the regulations, excepting the last paragraph. Most of their traps being made, they think it would be a hardship to enforce that regulation before 1893, as some of these may have slats less than $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches apart. They are opposed to any extension of fishing time. A strict enforcement of the close season would ensure the preservation of this shell fishery. They have noticed a steady increase in the size, as well as in the numbers, of the lobsters, wherever the close time was enforced.

Messrs. E. G. & C. Stayner, of Halifax, consider the proposed regulation a wise measure, likely to work well and to the advantage of the fishery. They favour a space of $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches between the slats. Fishermen may object to the fee on each trap. Fishermen packing their own catch produce an inferior grade, and thereby injure the trade and the market.

Mr. J. N. Gardner, of Yarmouth, states that in the western part of Nova Scotia fishermen own the fishing apparatus, and it would be a hardship to impose a fee on them and not upon the packers or buyers. In clause *b*, par. 5, he recommends inserting "preserved unless with special license," instead of "without lawful excuse," as the latter gives too much scope. The other clauses he approves for the present, but thinks in the near future it will be found necessary to raise the minimum size to $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This, in his opinion, would be the best means of preserving the lobster industry. It was noticed that 8,000 out of 10,000 lobsters impounded were covered with spawn, which was not shed until September and October. This is later than usual. The catch was larger last year than ever before in Yarmouth and Shelburne.

Mr. Henry T. D'Entremont, of Lower East Pubnico, reports the proposed regulations as acceptable to their fishermen, with the exception of the time allowed for fishing. He recommends the privilege of fall fishing, as they mostly ship alive to American markets, and suggests that fishing be allowed from 1st March to 15th May, and then from August until October. The lobsters are then in their best condition and command the highest prices. Lobsters get soft-shelled in May and June; and during August, September and October they are nearly all hard-shelled.

Mr. H. B. Cann, of Yarmouth, is opposed to the license system, and foresees nothing in it but discontent and annoyance to the fishermen and trouble for the officers. The four first sections he disapproves, while he favours the adoption of the remainder. Has been in the lobster business, both packing and shipping alive, for the last ten years. Has no serious objections to the law as it now stands, except that fishery officers are clothed with too arbitrary powers in imposing penalties for the possession of undersized fish.

Messrs. Hogg, Craig & Co., of Pictou, approve of the first section of proposed regulations. Section 2 would be troublesome to packers as well as to the fishermen. In several cases fishermen supply their own boats, etc., and frequently reach the factory only a day or two before business begins. It would be difficult to include these in the applications for license. Section 2 (*b*) is considered unnecessary and difficult to keep, as