

### Amendments to Quebec Game Laws.

During the recent session of the Quebec Legislature several important amendments were passed. It was enacted that:

"No person shall, in one season's hunting, kill or take alive more than one moose, two deer and two caribou.

"Widgeon, teal or wild duck of any kind except shel-drake, loons and gulls are protected between the first of March and the fifteenth of September of any year, but buffle-heads (known as pied-ducks or divers) may be hunted, killed or taken during the whole year.

"No birch partridge may be sold, or exposed for sale, or held for the purpose of sale until October 1, 1903.

"No dog accustomed to hunt and pursue deer shall be allowed to run at large, hunt or course in any place inhabited by deer between the first of November and Oct. 20th of the following year. Any one may, without incurring any responsibility, kill any such dog found running at large, hunting or coursing in such localities between the above mentioned dates."

"An addition to article 1417 defines the rights conferred by a hunting lease granted by the Quebec Government, and another provides that persons trespassing and killing game illegally may have any game they may have taken or killed confiscated and become liable to a fine of not less than \$20 nor more than \$100, and in default of payment imprisonment of at least one month and of not more than six months.

A license may be granted by the Commissioner to any person, company or corporation keeping cold storage warehouses, or to any hotel or restaurant keeper or to any club, an annual license permitting of the keeping in such cold storage warehouses or in refrigerators during the close seasons, game to be used as food, and in addition, if it concerns a hotel, restaurant or club to serve for consumption therein, during the close season, all game of which the sale is not prohibited, provided that in all such cases the game has been lawfully taken or killed during the time when hunting is permitted.

All persons, companies, corporations or clubs so licensed are prohibited from receiving game when the fifteen days following the beginning of the close season has elapsed.

Warehouses or refrigerators are subject to inspection by the Commissioner or his deputies at reasonable hours, and the onus of proof of the lawful killing or storing of game rests with the licensee. Contravention of this provision may be punished by a fine of not less than \$20 nor more than \$100.

A clause added to article 1420 of the Revised Statutes enacts that the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, whenever he deems it expedient, prohibit for a term not exceeding three years the sale or possession for the purpose of sale of any game prohibited by the Act, or prolong for a similar time such sale or possession.

The foregoing enactments were assented to March 28th, 1901.

\*

### The Ontario Fishery Report.

The second annual report of the Department of Fisheries of the Province of Ontario, covering the year 1900, has appeared. Much useful information is being gathered by the department, of which Mr. Francis R. Latchford is commissioner, and in the course of time the statistics and observations so accumulated will add greatly to our knowledge of the important fisheries belonging to Ontario.

During the year covered by this report no fewer than 98,625,000 fry were deposited in provincial waters, but it is said that these gains are probably offset by a tremendous loss of

spawn of lake trout and whitefish which matures at a period not covered by the present close season. In Lake Superior the trout spawn from September 28th to October 10th, so that the spawn of all fish taken during that time is a total loss, and it would seem worth the while to imitate the example of the State of Wisconsin which obliges its fishermen during the spawning season to "take the eggs from the female trout while alive, and the milt from the male trout while alive, and after mixing them together in a pail or pan, immediately cast them into the water from whence such fish were taken." The expense of keeping a watcher on each tug for a fortnight or so would not be heavy, and the experiment is one worth trying.

Of the black bass the report has nothing but good to say. It is claimed that "everything therefore points to the black bass as being at present the ideal fish with which to stock our waters." The following should afford subject for discussion: "It is erroneously believed that the large-mouthed variety (species?) is less gamey than his small-mouthed cousin, but this, perhaps, is only experienced when the former is taken in ponds or sluggish waters, for a two-pound large-mouthed in our cold or running waters will prove inch for inch every bit as good a fighter as the small-mouthed, and is in every sense adapted for transportation in any part of the province."

No doubt this statement will not meet with universal support, but, nevertheless, there is really very little difference (in the cool waters of the Dominion) between the game qualities of the two species, at even weights. But all heavy bass are comparatively sluggish, and as the large-mouths grow to a greater size than the others they usually are somewhat inferior as game fish, though superior on the platter.

Ontario has not been successful in obtaining the ova of the land-locked salmon from Quebec, so it is proposed to introduce the steel-head salmon instead. It is to be hoped that the claims of the Rainbow trout will not be overlooked, as there is little doubt it would make a most valuable addition to Ontario's salmonide. The rainbow will thrive in water too warm for the fontinalis, and as it grows to a large size and yields superb sport no better species could be introduced.

The total value of the Ontario fisheries for 1900 was \$1,333,293, of which the salmonide amounted to rather more than half.

\*

### English Pheasants Succeed.

I am pleased to report to Rod and Gun that the English pheasants sent to me by Mr. Herbert Gardiner, of Rond Eau Provincial Park, were liberated on 5th April, on grounds near Leamington, adapted to their habits and requirements. They are doing nicely, and will eventually, without a doubt, stock a good portion of this neighborhood. They lay, on an average, from forty to sixty eggs during the nesting season, and are well suited for our climate.

Leamington, Ont.

\*

FOREST H. CONOVER.

Mr. John D. Pratt, Secretary of the Winnipeg Rowing Club, has received from Lord Strathcona a donation of \$100 as a contribution for the prize fund. Lord Strathcona was elected patron of the club at the annual meeting, an honor which has been annually conferred upon him since 1882, and in sending the cheque he makes a most gracious acknowledgement of the compliment, and closed with a hope for the club's continued and increasing success.

The Winnipeg Club have under discussion a proposition to send crews to the International regatta, which is to be held in Philadelphia during the coming summer.