

Government Hatchery. The latter have so prospered and grown in size and numbers, that they are cleaning out the brook trout, formerly so abundant in it. The Club who lease the lake are anxious to exterminate the hordes of huge lake trout which are the direct result of fry planted there from Grand Falls Hatchery, and the use of nets has been resorted to, enabling some fine specimens of these "fresh-water sharks" to be captured. Deplorable as are the results from the Club's point of view, no better testimony to the success of the government's hatchery work could be adduced.

To most people fish-culture is thought to consist in taking some ripe mature fish, just before spawning, squeezing eggs from them, fertilising them, and placing them in jars or on trays, in a current of water until the young fish hatch out. Fish-culture is, however, much more than that, it includes at least half-a-dozen different methods. Of course, one method, and that most familiar, consists in obtaining ripe living fish of both sexes, and after subjecting them to the same process of careful and gentle pressure, mingling the two products in a spawning vessel or dish, where the eggs are rapidly fecundated, and then transferring the vivified eggs to the trays or hatching jars. The parent fish, being handled with care are returned to the water, with rare exceptions, alive and unharmed, and in the case of salmon usually continue the ascent up-stream, which had been interrupted by the hatchery officials. In B. C., it is said, the spawned fish frequently descend, but this may depend upon the sex, for Frank Buckland noticed that male salmon invariably bolt up-stream if disturbed, whereas the "hens" or female salmon bolt down stream. The fish do not die, as the signs of ripeness are readily visible to the expert officer's eye, and ripe fish are spawned painlessly and with the utmost readiness and ease. It is a curious fact that eggs from dead fish may be successfully used if death is recent. Thus the distinguished Russian naturalist, Owsiannikoff, in a paper read in 1869, before the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg, stated that he had fertilised the eggs taken from dead fishes, and in most cases with success. Different species also may be crossed and hybrids readily produced but there are limits to the process due, no doubt, to certain microscopic peculiarities in the structure of the egg capsule.