

## RINE AND FISHERIES.

hand and obtained without difficulty or loss of time. reach of areas in which important fisheries are carried on in actual operation should be easy of access from the practical knowledge of the fishermen may be or information conveyed from the scientific station grounds.

in the Atlantic seaboard which might be recommended the richness and varied character of the fauna in the Dominion cannot be lost sight of. To Passamaquoddy and Grand Manan and the Western Isles, scientific expeditions have been accustomed to resort season after season, and their contributions to our knowledge of the sea's fauna have been Canadian investigators in this area.

It presents, however, many advantages. The lobster fishery, and the difficult questions connected therewith, is carried on in large scale there, and with a marine station in close proximity to the spawning and breeding of that valuable crustacean could be carried on. The mackerel fishery, however, is carried on at a most extensive extent in the more northerly waters, and the cod fishery, carried on to a great extent off Prince Edward Island, affords material for investigations respecting the food, breeding, growth, and habits of members of the cod tribe, all of economic importance. The oyster beds extending over them, would be of great value; and the bays and inlets of the Quebec, and New Brunswick, and the shores of Nova Scotia abound with smaller fishes, such as the fry of various species occurring there require attention for the future development of the fishing industry. The fishery is so rich and varied than off the southern coast of Nova Scotia that it is to be ascertained. Certainly points might be named on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which offer facilities for research on retaining young and immature lobsters in ponds, and for repeating under strict scientific supervision with such apparent success in Norway by experiments in rearing cod and other marine fishes to which is now well known.

A station properly situated and properly equipped has a great work to do along which that work would, without question, and no sketch, however full and comprehensive, can give an idea of their nature and direction. They all end in supremely depending upon the welfare and prosperity of the great Dominion. We have been associated with fisheries in any way realize the importance of knowledge on the most vital and important points. It is a serious account of this lack of ascertained fact and opinion. Primarily, a marine station would be a station for research for the promotion and diffusion of knowledge. The first and most important work, such a station might be established for scientific study. This latter line of work would be of help in various ways of the universities, many professors would be expected to aid in the fishery investigation carried on, and it would be so fruitful for the biologist as the sea, and distant waters would no doubt desire, as volunteer workers, to be engaged in the fine opportunities for research as amply realized. In this way, directly and indirectly, fishery science in the Dominion receive that light and knowledge greatly needed. No doubt pure scientific research, with a practical end in view, must be carried on by private individuals. The work of marine stations, like those in Scotland, should be regarded to practical questions and utilitarian ends.

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