

unproductive areas produce a crop as valuable as the crops produced by the best land on their farms, perhaps more valuable: that crop would be fish. If, in such low-lying wet lands, dykes and ponds were cut, some of the ponds serving as fish hatcheries, others as insect hatcheries, fish could be farmed as easily as poultry. With such fish ponds the farmer could supply the market, supply his family or afford fishing enthusiasts all the sport their hearts might desire, and, by these means, reap a valuable harvest from land which could not be utilized in any other way. Fish could be raised in localities where they were naturally scarce. That, also, is conservation,—the making of waste areas productive.

Before the ideas which I have but briefly outlined can be carried out, there is required a large amount of work of an investigatory nature, and it is in this regard that the Commission should help to mould public opinion. Having studied this question of aquatic insects and their distribution some years ago in various fresh waters in England, I can say that no one realizes more fully than I, the extent and complexity of the problems which I have raised; but that is no excuse for doing nothing. Is it not a matter of surprise that our 220,000 square miles of fresh water in Canada should be served by a single fresh-water laboratory, that on the Georgian bay? If our fresh-water fisheries are to be conserved and if we are to make our fresh waters more productive, it will be necessary to have more fresh-water biological laboratories or stations established where those problems relating to the bionomics of our fresh-water fishes may be studied. At the recent annual meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario held at Ottawa I moved the following resolution which was unanimously adopted by the Society:

"THAT in view of the decrease in the supply of the fresh-water fisheries of Canada, the attention of the Commission of Conservation be called to the important fact, which is being overlooked in the endeavours to replenish depleted waters by re-stocking and to stock new waters, that, as the chief food of many of our important fresh-water fishes consists of larva and adult insects, a study should be made of the available or possible food supplies in the way of insect life before attempts are made at replenishing or stocking waters; otherwise by stocking waters in which the food supply is not suitable or cannot be made suitable, large sums of money and considerable time and energy will be uselessly expended owing to fish being planted where the food is either insufficient or of the wrong character, as the conservation of our fresh-water fishes cannot be carried out with the greatest success until