

erman of thirty years' experience. I would like to have the letter read to the conference.

Mr. Whitaker: No doubt the conference would be glad to hear it. The Secretary will please read it.

The Secretary read the letter of Mr. Levi Brown, of Sand Beach, as follows:

SAND BEACH, Mich, Dec. 19, 1892.

Mr. Green:

DEAR SIR—In reply to your letter will say I am glad to hear from you. I will give you my ideas of fishing and what ought to be done in the future to protect the hatcheries and fish. I have fished about thirty years now, and you know that I have always made a success of it. The hatcheries are a great help toward increasing the fish, but unless something is done to protect the small whitefish we have for a number of years planted—a number of millions each year—we shall fail. We find that these fish are caught when only from one to two pounds in weight, as you know, and they are only half grown. For one place they are destroyed in Saginaw Bay by the tons and in other places the same. We understand that the small mesh has been a failure in the way of protecting the small whitefish. I think the best way is to put a fine on the man who catches them, also on the consumer, or who ever has them on hand—anything under one and a half pounds.

You know these small fish when caught could be thrown back into the water and would live. Fish of that small size are of no use to anybody. There should be a fine of \$100 to \$500 for any man who is caught with them. Unless this is done the fish are not protected much.

I think the fish ought to have a rest the same as the game, to give them a chance to gather on their feeding grounds. Now there are fishing tugs that fish the year round unless it is a very hard winter. I am not talking altogether about others, as I fish with a tug and sail boats myself. I can make a success of it if I have five or six months out of the year, and others should be satisfied. I think in the spring, from April 1st to July 1st, and in the fall, from Sept. 14th to Dec. 1st, should be a close season. This gives us three months in the spring and three months in the fall to fish. That is six months to fish, and that ought to satisfy the fisherman. Some may think the Canada fishermen will have a better chance, but I think not, for as they hunt them up they would crowd on this side. The fish work the same as the game. Some fishermen may think this would be a damage to them, but the price of the fish would come up so I think it would be a benefit to all the fishermen. Mr. Green, I give you the best of my ideas, and perhaps you can better them in some places, but I hope this will give satisfaction to all. Don't forget to let me know how you prosper with this.

Yours respectfully,

LEVI BROWN.

Chairman: Gentlemen, we have prepared a program of the subjects which should be discussed by this conference, which is as follows:

THE NECESSITY FOR AN EFFICIENT ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS BY A PAID FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT.

I.

1. Should the Department be under the Fish Commission?
2. Number of Deputy Wardens.
3. Compensation of Chief Warden and Deputies.
4. Terms of office.

II.

1. Should there be a close season for whitefish?
2. If yes, what shall be the limit?
3. Shall a restriction be put upon the size of fish to be taken or hal in possession or on the size of mesh?
4. Penalties.

III.

- Close seasons for brook trout, grayling, California trout, brown trout, Loch Leven trout, Land Locked salmon and small mouthed bass.
1. What should be the uniform close season for brook trout, California trout, brown trout, Loch Leven trout and Land Locked salmon.
 2. Black bass.

IV.

GAME—Close seasons, etc.

Chairman Whitaker: In some respects, gentlemen, the first subject for our discussion and consideration in my opinion is one of the most important we have for consideration here. What we need to do is to agree upon a uniform fish and game warden law. And it should not be a fish and game warden law that simply provides places for men who do not perform the functions of their ~~duty~~ ^{position}. Unfortunately for the State of Michigan, and I know that is largely so in the State of Ohio (I think their law is very much the same as ours), our law calls for the appointment of a chief

office