

when the eggs are ripe, (2) examination of the sea-water to learn if oyster-larvæ are present and in what stage, (3) examination of natural or improvised objects in the water to discover if young spat are already formed. The first is not immediately determinative because of the long period of development separating spawning and spatting. The last is not very practicable because of the difficulty of finding and recognizing the youngest spat before the period is gone by for putting out cultch. The second is the only practicable and conclusive method and its efficiency is proportionate to the number, care and accuracy of the observations. Its success will increase with experience.

This method makes use of the colossal number of larvæ lavishly provided by nature to offset the exigencies and accidents of life and insure a reasonable chance of keeping up the stock. I believe that all the larvæ an army of men could raise up and turn into the sea would not materially alter the number of successful individuals in the set of spat. But on the other hand a few culturists could enormously increase the chances for a successful catch by spreading an abundance of suitably prepared cultch at the proper time and place.

In the paper of 1909 I have described the method of obtaining plankton, the appearances and measurements of the oyster-larvæ to be recognized, the time of the year to begin making observations. In the paper on "Bivalve Larvæ" I distinguish in sizes, shapes, colors, the commonly occurring associates of the oyster-larvæ which might be taken for the latter. In the present paper, after long reflection, I suggest a practical application of the knowledge acquired.

I should not omit to mention that the paper of 1910 connects the larva, through the youngest microscopic spat, with the macroscopic spat of fishermen and finally with the adult. Similarly in 1909 I performed extensive artificial-fertilization experiments, while at Shediac, Caraquette and Malpeque, in order to connect the small-