

# Conservation

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## Development of Canadian Fisheries

### Education for Both Producer and Consumer—Modern Meth- ods of Transportation and Storage Required

Education was the keynote of the recent conference on fisheries held by the Fisheries Committee of the Commission of Conservation at Ottawa. Dr. J. W. Robertson urged the necessity of supplying maritime districts with schools to train boys and young men for the fisherman's vocation, while Mr. D. J. Byrne, President of the Canadian Fisheries Association, emphasized that, to increase the consumption of fish in Canada, consumers must be educated to realize the value of fish as food, not simply as an occasional change in diet, but as a nutritious staple that should appear on the table at least twice a week.

There was a general conviction that Canada's harvest from the sea is neither properly garnered nor adequately utilized, merely through ignorance of the proper methods and a lack of appreciation of the value of fish.

Dr. Robertson pointed out that Great Britain, France, Holland and Germany have schools where fishermen are taught not only the arts of navigation but the best methods of curing and preparing fish for the market. He advocated the establishment of such schools in Canada because the right sort of education is the practical training which prepares young people for their life work.

Mr. Byrne referred to the great need for better methods of shipping fish by express, as well as of storing it after it reaches the retailer. The express companies furnish no special facilities for perishable products. Retailers ought to have a portion of their stores devoted to fish, where the products of the sea should be displayed in refrigerators with glass covers. It is necessary to keep the fish in good condition right from the time it leaves the sea till it reaches the consumer. He pointed to the example of the Old Country, where special fish

trains are run, which have precedence over all other trains, even the mails. The Canadian fisherman's proper market is the home market, but until, by judicious encouragement, the public can be stimulated to demand more fish, this valuable commodity will not receive its merited attention.

The policy of the Fisheries Department in paying one-third the charges on shipments of less than one car-load was a step in the right direction, though a natural com-

with the annual meeting of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, Wednesday, January 19th, forestry problems will receive special attention on the first day of the meeting.

The Canadian Society of Forest Engineers, the membership of which is made up of men engaged in professional forestry work throughout Canada, will hold its annual meeting Tuesday evening, January 18th. Thursday, January 20th, is the date set for the

## Shells from Our Inland Waters

### One of Canada's Little Known Resources Being Utilized in the Manufacture of Buttons

Canada has natural resources of which little is known. One of these, which is of but recent development, is the clam-shell fishery. In many of the inland streams, large quantities of shells may be found. From the Grand river, in south-western Ontario, alone no less than 165 tons of the clam or washboard shell have been taken. Other species found in the Grand river are the mucket shell and sand shell.

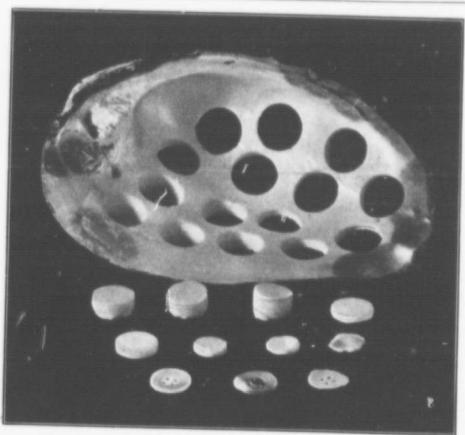
A use has been found for these shells in the manufacture of fresh water pearl buttons. For this purpose, from two to three hundred tons are used annually, a considerable portion of which comes from the United States. These shells have a market value of from \$14 to \$25 per ton. The fishing for the shells is done under license from the Ontario Fisheries and Game Department, under a royalty of one dollar per ton.

As shown in our illustration, the button discs are cut from all parts of the shell, some of the discs being 11/16 of an inch in thickness. They are afterwards split to the required thickness for buttons.

After the discs are cut from the shell, there is still a use found for what might be considered a factory waste. The perforated shell is ground up and sold for chicken grit, for which it is admirably adapted.

There is no doubt that, were it generally known that the shells have a market value, a much larger supply could be secured from the inland streams in other parts of the country.

British Columbia paper and pulp mills will shortly introduce safety first schedules and devices. A committee has recently been investigating conditions in the Wisconsin mills with that object in view.



Clam No. 114

Clam Shell, after cutting; also some of the discs removed, showing thickness

plement of this is to secure a lower rate on car-rot shipments.

## Annual Meetings

### Forestry Associations Will Meet in Ottawa on Synchronizing Dates

This winter a special attempt will be made to stimulate public interest in matters pertaining to forestry and lumbering by holding various annual meetings at Ottawa during consecutive days. The annual meeting of the Commission of Conservation, at which all aspects of the situation affecting the natural resources of Canada will be considered, will convene on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 18th and 19th. To avoid conflicting

annual meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association, whose publicity campaign has done so much to forward the interests of forestry in all parts of the Dominion. Separate programmes will be prepared for each meeting, having particular reference to the problems confronting the respective organizations. A special effort will be made to work along the lines of co-operation, since the fundamental interests of forestry and lumbering are identical.

It is expected that, as a result of holding these meetings conjointly, a much better attendance will be secured and greater interest manifested than would be possible under the previous plan of holding the various meetings at different times.