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 THE STAFF.

As remarked in a previous report, in many cases, fishery wardens, whose pay was but nominal, did not give the necessary attention to the protection of the fisheries in their respective divisions. A change in the system was suggested, by which instead of appointing permanent wardens at wholly inadequate salaries, temporary guardians should be employed at *per diem* allowances for the purpose of patrolling the districts during such periods of the year when their services were found to be necessary.

In one instance, where the experiment was tried, the improvement in the protection afforded was quite noticeable. This system has been gradually extended with very advantageous results.

During the year 1890, the counties of Pictou, in Nova Scotia, and Northumberland, in New Brunswick, were found with this organization; but during the current season, the plan has been considerably extended.

In the Province of Nova Scotia the following counties are now organized on this basis:—Pictou, Cape Breton, Colchester, Cumberland, Inverness, Richmond, Shelburne, Yarmouth and Victoria.

In the Province of New Brunswick:—Northumberland, Victoria and York.

In the Province of Prince Edward Island, the staff of permanent fishery wardens has been done away with and replaced by guardians who are only employed when the protection of the fish demands it. In the selection of these guardians it is intended that a large selection be made from such of the former staffs of fishery wardens whose services, location and fitness for duty entitled them to consideration.

To carry out the proposed arrangement the following circular was sent to fishery officers for the purpose of eliciting information regarding the number of guardians which it may be found necessary to employ at different times:—

INSTRUCTIONS to *Inspectors of Fisheries (and to Fishery Overseers in district where no Inspector) in connection with the employment of temporary Special Fishery Guardians.*

(Circular.)

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES,

OTTAWA, 1st December, 1891.

SIR,—In order to afford better supervision of the fisheries service, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries directs that you will, at the earliest possible moment, supply to the department information on the following points in connection with the employment of temporary local fishery guardians, within the limits of the district under your charge:

For this purpose forms are herewith, comprising the following heads:—

1. *Localities where needed.*—This will embrace names of rivers or streams, or sections or portions thereof, by metes and bounds; lakes or coast sections, &c., and the township and county where situated; as well as the relative importance of each locality;
2. Number of guardians required in each locality;
3. Length of time required in each case to be particularly specified;
4. *Nature of work.*—Particular care should be taken to state under this heading, whether constant patrol work is required during time guardian is engaged or occasional visits of inspection, &c., and the kinds of fish to be protected or the probable nature of offences to be prevented;
5. Rate of pay recommended in each case and whether per day, month or season.

In filling up the form of estimate, keep the information required under each heading in proper line with each recommendation, so as to permit of the amounts being totalled at the bottom of the pay column, and keeping such names as may afterwards be entered