

THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT

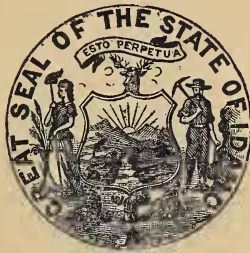
OF THE

FISH AND GAME WARDEN

OF THE

STATE OF IDAHO

1909-1910



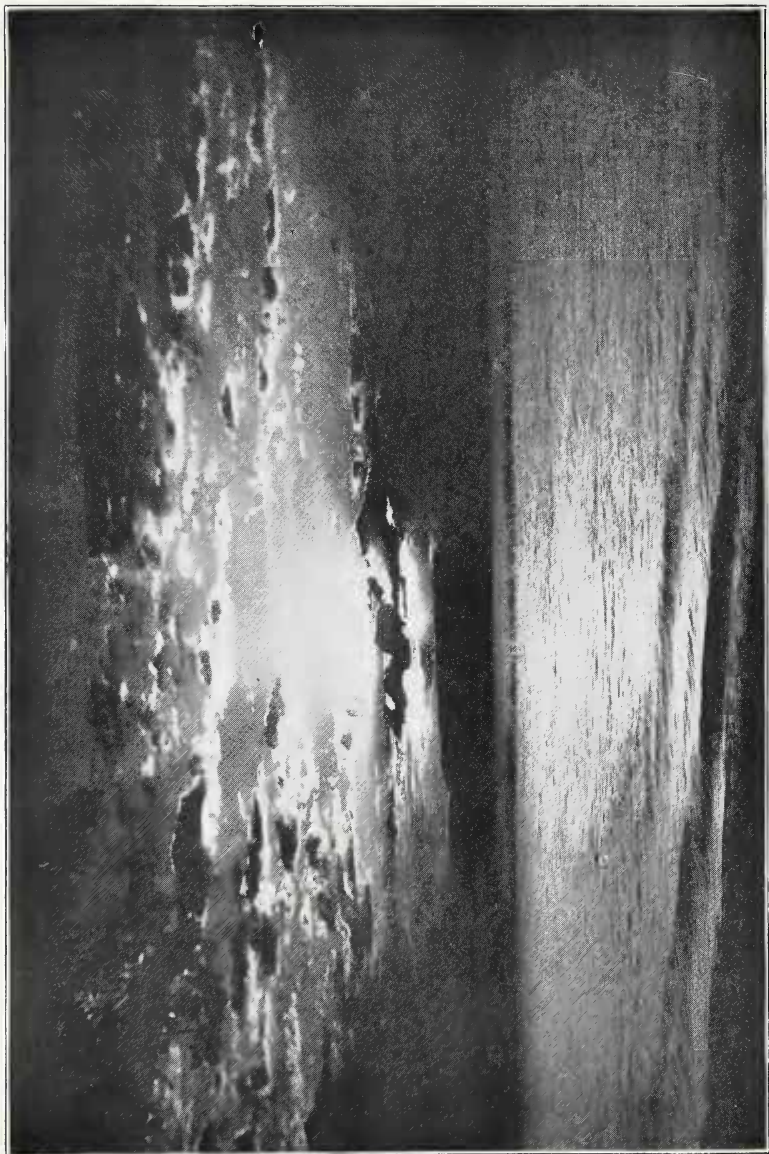
W. N. STEPHENS
STATE GAME WARDEN

*Officials and Employes of State Fish and Game
Department, 1909-1910*

Name.	County.
W. N. Stephens, State Game Warden.....	Fremont
Jas. L. Dunford, Chief Deputy.....	Bear Lake
R. C. West, Assistant Chief Deputy.....	Latah
D. P. Rich, Assistant Chief Deputy.....	Ada
Geo. H. Isaac, Sup't. Hay Spur Hatchery.....	Blaine
C. L. Stephens, Sup't. Warm River Hatchery.....	Fremont
B. M. Anderson, Ass't. Sup't. Warm River Hatchery	Fremont
Harry G. Dietrich, Chief Clerk.....	Ada
Ethel Moon, Stenographer.....	Ada

LOCAL DEPUTIES.

A. S. French.....	Ada
G. W. Riggs.....	Ada
George Harrison.....	Bannock
Fred J. Barnes.....	Bannock
F. A. Randall.....	Bingham
T. R. Jones.....	Bingham
John C. McNichols.....	Blaine
James A. Welch.....	Bonner
Ira White.....	Canyon
Athan Martindale.....	Canyon
Joseph Horton.....	Custer
A. L. Ellsworth.....	Fremont
Willard Homer.....	Fremont
W. N. Stephens, Jr.....	Fremont
J. D. Currington.....	Idaho
W. H. Pearson.....	Idaho
J. V. Brown.....	Kootenai
Vinton Parkins.....	Latah
Thomas M. Tabor.....	Nez Perce
Abe Whitehead.....	Oneida
D. W. Tovey.....	Oneida
M. A. Nelson.....	Washington



"SUNRISE ON BEAR LAKE"

THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

FISH AND GAME
WARDEN

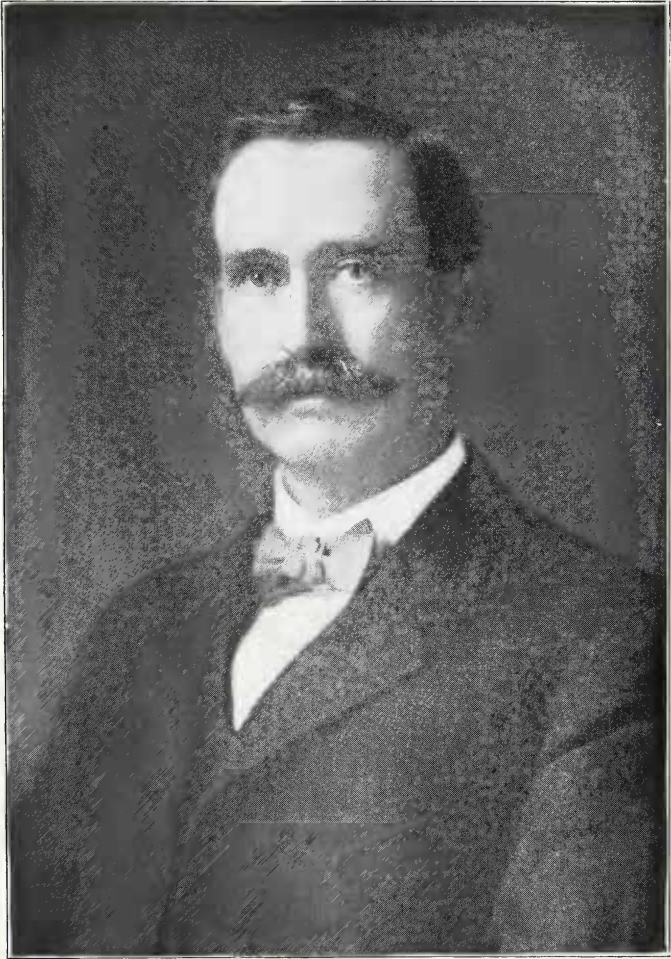
OF THE

STATE OF IDAHO

1909-1910



W. N. STEPHENS
STATE GAME WARDEN



W. N. STEPHENS
State Game Warden

63
Idaho
1910

Boise, Idaho, January 1, 1910.

To His Excellency, the Governor, Hon. J. H. Brady,
and the Members of the Eleventh Session, Idaho
Legislature, Boise, Idaho.

GENTLEMEN:

It is with great pleasure that I have the honor herewith to submit the biennial report of the State Fish and Game Department for the years 1909-1910, it being my third biennial report. Therein it is my endeavor to show the operations of the department, covering not only the detailed financial statements, but also the conditions of the game and fish within our borders, the work accomplished during the past two years, comparisons with former years, and to make such suggestions and recommendations as experience and observation would show to be necessary.

It has been my endeavor at all times to so conduct the affairs of the department as would meet with the entire approval of the people of the State, always looking forward to the enforcement of our laws and the protection and preservation of our game and fish for future generations, and trust that my efforts have been successful.

I desire to take advantage of this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the kind consideration, encouragement and assistance that have at all times been accorded me by the State officials, and to express to all of those who have been connected with the department my sincere thanks for the hearty co-operation they have always given me.

Respectfully submitted,

W. N. STEPHENS,
State Game Warden.



JAS. L. DUNFORD
Chief Deputy

Third Biennial Report
of the
Fish and Game Warden of State of Idaho
1909-1910

Never before has the condition of the department been as good as it is today, nor has such rapid progress been made as during the past two years; never before in the history of the department have the fish that lurk in our streams and lakes, tempting the angler's skill, been as plentiful; never before have the game animals, denizens of the wilds, rearing their young in the sublime environment of our rugged mountains and dense forests, shown such a decided increase, luring the interpid hunter to pursuit; nor have the timid game birds failed of successful propagation and increase. Today we find a greater disposition on the part of the courts and their officers to fearlessly subject violators of our laws passed for the preservation, propagation and protection of the fish and game, to fine or punishment. This, with the vigilance displayed by the department and the deputies stationed throughout the State, have made these things possible.

It is indeed gratifying to know that the inclination of our citizens and true sportsmen is to aid and assist us in this work, for who, be he rich or poor, does not look forward to a surcease from business cares, betake himself to the hills, commune with nature and, with rod or gun in hand, enter with zest the chase for a fair share of wild game and food, and, that being accomplished, return to their various pursuits rejuvenated in spirit; and who, in a few short years, would wish to see that he is to be denied these things which help to make life worth living, knowing that the wanton taking and killing would soon deprive this State,



R. C. WEST
Assistant Chief Deputy

now truly the "sportsmen's paradise," of its rightful heritage?

For the preservation of these rights is the State Fish and Game Department maintained. At first only preservation and protection were carried on, but during the past few years the duties of fostering and propagating fish and game have been added. Fish hatcheries have been constructed and maintained, one spawn-taking station established on the headwaters of the Snake River at Big Springs, in Fremont County, and not only here, but at other places, have spawn been taken and planted in streams less favored. Game birds have been imported from other States and liberated in various counties. In this the department has been rendered valuable co-operation by private citizens and gun clubs. In some instances birds have been taken by individuals, guarded and fed, and in due time liberated.

The Spring of 1910 being dry and warm, was so favorable for the hatching and maturing of young chicks that it materially assisted in the large increase of game birds. Grouse and sage chickens were so numerous in some places that sportsmen coming from the game fields have stated that, if one observed the law, the sport of hunting was minimized, because they could procure the limit allowed by law within an hour's shooting. On the other hand, the heavy snows of the Winter of 1909 and 1910 retarded the increase of quail in certain places, and in some instances nearly all died, being unable to stand the rigorous weather.

During my administration it has always been my aim to appoint the most efficient men possible, men who were conscientious and capable and who were not afraid to perform their duties as they found them. There are people who do not take the fish and game laws seriously, forgetting that protection is conservation, not only for themselves, but for



D. P. RICH
Assistant Chief Deputy

future generations, both for sport and food, and, when apprehended for their violation, consider the officer making the arrest an enemy, whereas he has only been doing his simple duty. But just so long as courteous treatment is meted out to them, there should be no cause for complaint, and when they are apprehended, become amenable to the laws and fall into the toils of the courts, they have no one to censure but themselves.

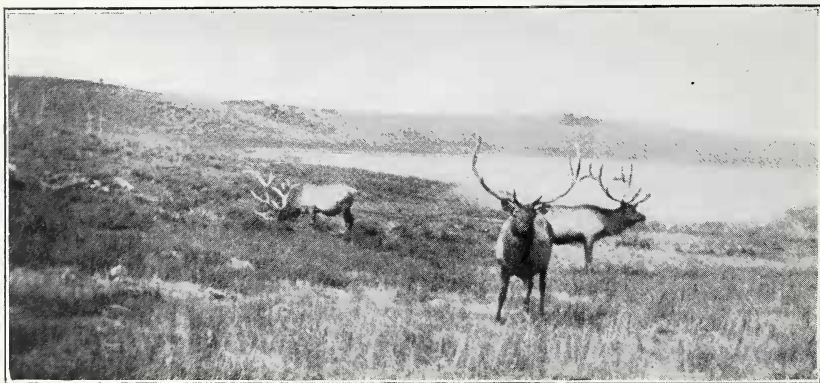
When the game laws were first enacted many individuals and a part of the press ridiculed them, but conditions have changed, and now the entire press is rendering this department valuable assistance. The others who ridiculed have changed their minds and are now offering co-operation. The rigid enforcement of our laws and the efficiency of the department and its work have caused this sentiment, for, be it known, that the increase of fish and game near the homes of these very critics has made them fervent endorsers of the laws, and today they are clamoring for changes that afford even better protection, there being not the slightest disposition whatever on their part to even evade or violate the existing ones.

There is a matter, however, that I particularly wish to call to the attention of the general public, and more especially to land holders within our State. Some seem to think that because fish and game are found on their own premises, they have full right and authority to hunt, kill and take them at any time of the year, whether in open or closed season, considering them their own private property. This position by them is not well taken, and, for the benefit of the classes holding these convictions, I wish to cite the following decisions of the courts of Missouri and Texas, and one from our own State, and I hope a reading of them will correct these erroneous ideas:

In *State vs. Heger*, 194 Missouri, Judge Burgess said:

“The authorities are uniform in holding that the absolute ownership of wild game is vested in the people of the State, and that such is not the subject of private ownership. As no person has in such game any property rights to be affected, it follows that the Legislature, as the representative of the people of the State, and clothed by them with authority to make laws, may grant to individuals the right to hunt and kill game at such times, and upon such terms, and under such restrictions as it may see proper, or prohibit it altogether, as the Legislature may deem best.”

Judge Ramsey of the Criminal Court of Appeals, Texas, says: “We think the reason for this view rests in the fact that fish and game, being by legislative enactment and declaration the common property of the whole people, and part of the food supply of the State, the Legislature has not only the right and authority to regulate the slaughter of such game, but to make such laws as may be necessary to accomplish this purpose, and as may and will defeat evasions and prevent violations of this law. In fact, this prin-



ELK IN SHOT GUN VALLEY

ciple in law is older than the Christian religion. It is as old as the common law in England, because Mr. Blackstone declared it to be inherent in the State without legislation.”

In *Sherwood vs. Stephens*, 13th Idaho, Judge Sullivan has held virtually the same as the two preceding decisions, and we think a careful reading of all three will convince

even the most skeptical that, even though they have title to the lands they occupy, the fish and game within their borders do not belong to them, but to the State. We are here giving excerpts from the last case:

“The doctrine is well established that, by reason of the State’s control over fish and game within its limits, it is



AN IDAHO TROUT STREAM
Fish Haven Creek, Bear Lake County

within the police power of the Legislature to enact such general laws as may be necessary for the protection and regulation of the public’s right in such fish and game, even to the extent of restricting the use of or right of property in the game after it is taken or killed. * * * From this common property the owner of the soil over which the nonboatable stream flows has the right to appropriate such as he may capture and retain, but his right of capture and appropriation is subject to regulation and control by the representatives of the people, so that they shall continue to be a common property.”

One source of complaint has been in sections of the State



RESULT OF A DAY'S SPORT IN NORTH IDAHO

where jackrabbits abound. They are not protected by our laws, and many people seem to think that they may hunt them without a license, contending that our laws do not provide that they shall procure a license to hunt them. If they confined their attention to merely the rabbits, no objection could be found, but, while apparently hunting rabbits, they often kill game birds whenever and wherever they may find them. Others refuse to procure a license and, when apprehended and no protected "game" is found in their possession, contend that they are "hunting frogs." These things, however, can easily be corrected by making it necessary to procure licenses for no matter what they may desire to pursue and kill, and by more definitely defining the word "game," thus destroying the fine distinctions they so repeatedly avail themselves of, the defense being that rabbits and frogs are not "game," as interpreted by our laws.

Another source of trouble to this department has been the fact that in certain parts of Northern Idaho deer were being hunted with the aid of dogs. Complaints have reached this office that a number of settlers maintain and keep hounds for that particular purpose, and these can be hired by anyone caring to make use of them. It is also known that these very dogs, when not employed directly in the chase by their owners or those who have hired them, leave their premises and start out on the hunt by themselves and, finding deer, attack and kill them. Torn carcasses have been found, but so far it has been impossible to apprehend the owners of the dogs. On several occasions the dogs have been found while on the chase and have been killed by our deputies, there being no other way to stop this illegal practice. I have endeavored to find and apprehend these violators by sending in deputies who were unknown to

them, but the obstacles encountered have prevented us from securing the evidence necessary to warrant arrest and trial, as it would be a useless expense to hail them into the courts without sufficient testimony to convict, and every failure to convict causes those living in these particular vicinities to fear the deputies and laws less and makes them more prone to evade them. Often do we find men who send in



YOUNG ANDREA ANDERSON
Assistant Superintendent at Warm River
"Do I Need a License?"

complaints of violations, but at the same time they ask that their names be kept secret, as they do not wish to appear against those concerning whom they have informed, leaving the department without sufficient evidence.

While, as stated before, there is a more wholesome respect for our laws, still violations are found. The laws most frequently violated are hunting or fishing without license, hunting game birds or large game out of season,

seining trout contrary to statute, and other fish in waters where it is not permitted; illegally using gill and other nets, and the various other offenses; and, while there are some arrests made, of which we are never advised because of failures to convict, the number of convictions of thoughtless culprits has brought revenue to the State, and the funds have aided this department materially in carrying on the work we are entrusted with. From reports received it would appear that the greatest number of arrests for violations have occurred in Bannock County, around Soda



DUCK SHOOTING NEAR TRINITY LAKE
Elmore County

Springs and the Coeur d'Alene country. There deer are very numerous, are hunted with dogs and are very frequently killed during the closed season. The country surrounding the lakes of Kootenai County, where such unexcelled fishing is to be found and where large game abounds in great numbers, brings to our files the information that eternal vigilance on the part of the deputies stationed there is necessary for the proper protection of Nature's bounty, and the deputies are to be congratulated in that they have

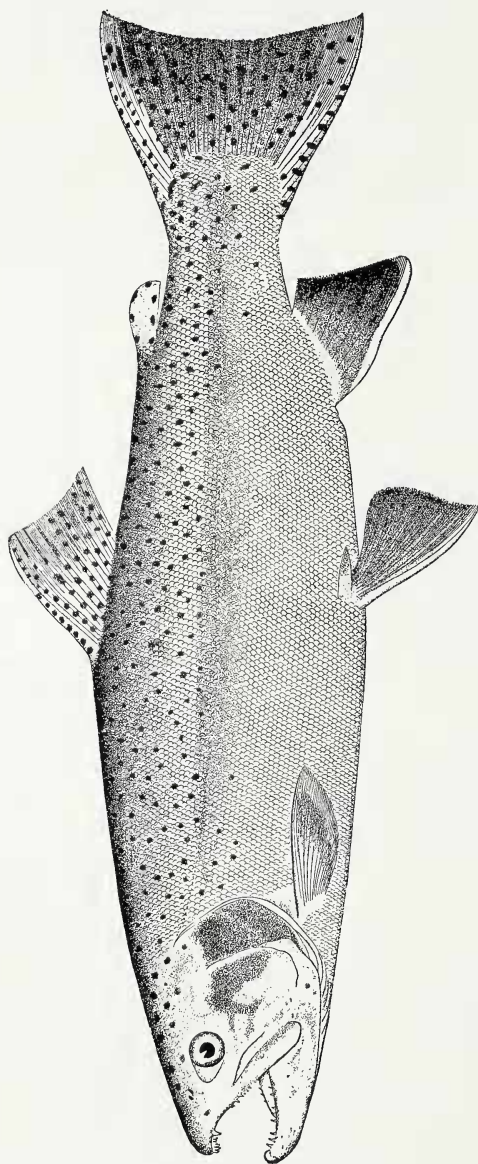
ever been on the alert, and their efficiency will be remembered in the years to come when, instead of an entire derth of fish and game, they will still be found in large numbers, and, unlike the buffalo that formerly roamed the plains in countless herds and the few now existing, considered curiosities. Unless rigid enforcement is exercised, as it now is, extinction would follow as surely as night follows day.

Licenses

What true sportsman, what lover of Nature, is averse to the payment of a small fee into the coffers of the State, knowing that that small payment will assure him one of his favorite pastimes? Year after year the Game and Fish departments of the several States of our Union have come more and more to realize that there must be as near a uniformity with the laws of other States as it is possible to make them, and the Legislatures are responding willingly to pertinent recommendations insofar as climatic, natural and other conditions will permit them. The National Game Wardens' conventions have been instrumental in bringing this about to a large degree, and to them is this department indebted for many excellent suggestions. Today we find that the laws of Idaho and Utah are very similar, and we trust that they may even become more so. Long ago the older States realized that it would be necessary to in some manner protect and propagate our fish and game, and the question naturally arose: "How will this expense be met, and who should bear it?" The solution was the license system, whereby everyone desiring to hunt or fish was obliged

to purchase the right to do so from the commonwealth for an amount fixed by the Legislature, the money to be used for the maintenance of the State Department to which was entrusted the duty of protecting and propagating the game and fish. Through such provisions, so wisely enacted in our own fair State, has this department been placed on a self-sustaining basis. No legislative appropriations are made; no property taxes are exacted, and only those who desire to avail themselves of the sport afforded are called upon to pay for the protection. Hatcheries for the propagation and distribution of fish have been constructed and maintained; waters of streams practically devoid of the angler's special delight, the gamey and delicious trout, have been restocked, and the number in others materially increased. Through the Fish and Game Department have their habits been studied, and the eying of eggs and hatching of fish in the hatcheries has now been practically reduced to a science. The spawning time of the various varieties has been definitely ascertained in the different altitudes and streams and advantage taken of that fact, and the information and statistics gathered afford an interesting study and offers a profitable enterprise to the State.

While the sale of licenses to the residents of the State during the past few years has been large, it is, like our population, constantly increasing. Non-residents have also availed themselves of the excellent sport to be found within our borders. Every year sportsmen come to us from distant places for the purpose of pursuing large game for only a few days, and ready and willing are they to pay well for this exceptional privilege. Then, again, the people of our sister States—Utah and Washington—also take advantage of the excellent sport afforded within our boundaries. Many non-resident licenses are disposed of to them, and



MATURE RAINBOW TROUT

These trout frequently attain a length of 14 to 18 inches and a weight of from 4 to 6 pounds. The species is noted for its rapid growth.

nearly every day, especially on Sundays, the trains coming from Spokane, Wash., and Salt Lake City, Utah, are crowded with men, women and children, garbed in outing attire and provided with lunch baskets, rods and creels. From Salt Lake they go to Bear Lake and the streams of Fremont County, and from Spokane they come to the



SALMON TROUT, 20 POUNDS 2 OUNCES
Caught by J. C. Emerick

streams and lakes in Bonner and Kootenai counties to enjoy the sport of taking the finny tribe.

According to Government reports received at this office, Idaho has been brought to the front in a decided manner in the number of licenses issued by the State in proportion to her population. Only a few years ago we were second in the number issued per capita, and it would not be surprising to learn that she has now outstripped Montana, which at that time was in the lead. This showing is, indeed,

very gratifying, and the only interpretation to be placed on it is that the class of citizens we have is of the law-abiding kind.

In order to show what has been done, we herewith show



BEAR LAKE TROUT

a statement of the number of licenses issued during the past six years:

Year.	Non-resident Fishing	Resident.	Non-resident Bird.	Non-resident Large Game.
1905	1,063	15,010	88	24
1906	1,606	18,074	55	14
1907	2,223	27,440	99	21
1908	2,219	31,831	57	17
1909	2,346	38,483	156	24
1910	2,979	42,742	159	25
Totals	12,436	173,580	614	125

From the above table it can be seen that the increase in the sale of licenses during the past years has been remarkable. In the first year few were sold as compared with the year 1910. Several reasons are accountable for this. In 1905, when the first effective laws were passed, as stated before, they were lightly regarded and were not as rigidly enforced as at the present time. On the other hand, the increasing population has a tendency to increase the number sold. It will be observed that during the year 1908 there was a decrease in the sale of non-resident licenses, and we think the reason for this is that just at that time the price of these licenses was increased from \$1.00 to \$2.00 each. For this reason non-residents at that time endeavored in every possible way to evade the payment of the fee, but soon learned that it would be necessary for them to do so.

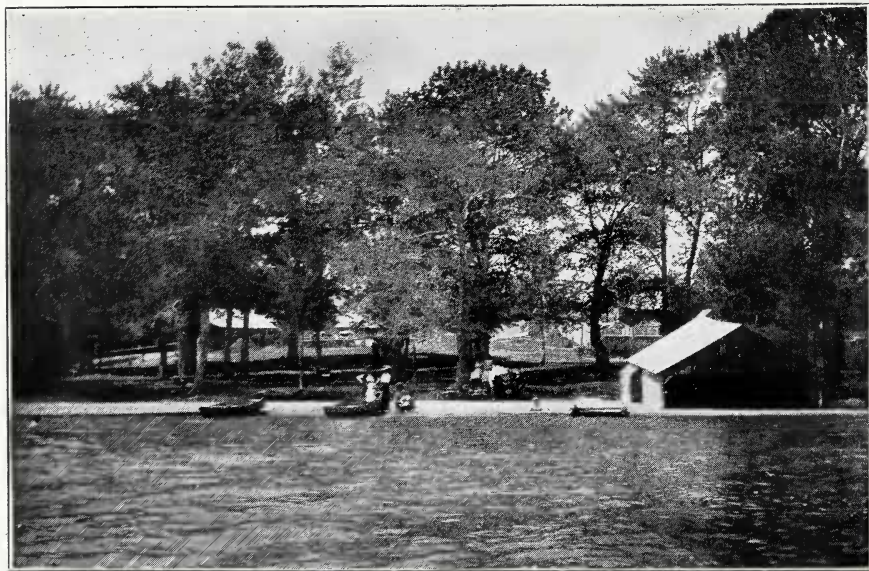
Our Resorts

Idaho, with her rugged mountains, her crystal-like streams and lakes, and her beautiful valleys, can truly be classified "Nature's playground," for nowhere will better sport be found. The disciples of Isaac Walton find our trout streams unexcelled. Good catches of our native trout, the

gorgeous rainbow, the fancy Eastern brook, and the famous mountain trout can always be procured. Every county within the State offers excellent streams, and in many of them are some of the most beautiful lakes, alive with the larger species. Our State is also to be congratulated for the large number of hunting lodges, private and public stopping places, where accommodations may at all times be procured at a trifling expense.

Bear Lake.

Bear Lake, in the county of the same name, is the Mecca toward which are constantly traveling in pilgrimages sports-



VACATION ON BEAR LAKE

men who desire to test their skill in landing the well-known Bear Lake trout, which average seven to fifteen pounds, and sometimes attain a weight of twenty-five pounds. Our sis-

ter State, Utah, has enacted a law similar to one on our Statute books, giving these fish a closed season during the spawning period. This has been of incalculable benefit to this beautiful lake, as millions of young fry have been seen that would not have been there had the season been open the year round, because people living around the lake were taking the fish from there by tons with seines and by gill nets stretched across the mouths of the streams flowing into the lake, preventing the fish from going up to their natural spawning grounds.

A fact not generally known is that within its waters are the Blue Nose trout, a distinct specie nowhere else to be found. Specimens have been sent by this department to the Government, and we were informed that it was unknown. Unlike other fish of the lakes of Idaho, it spawns at depths of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet, and only at these depths can it be caught with set lines. The flavor of this specie has been pronounced as unexcelled.

Along the shores of this lake have been established some of the finest summer homes to be found in the West, and it will always continue to be one of the favorite resorts of the Southeastern part of the State.

Henry's Lake.

Situated in the extreme northeastern part of Fremont County, it is said to be one of the most beautiful, as well as well-stocked, lakes in the State. Near the Yellowstone Park, an ideal resort for an outing, its scenic wonders invite the tourist who has already been through the Park. All around it are some of the finest trout streams in the State. Here are the headwaters of our largest stream, the Snake River, and the numerous small streams, like Warm River, Henrys Creek, Stevens Creek, Buffalo Creek, and

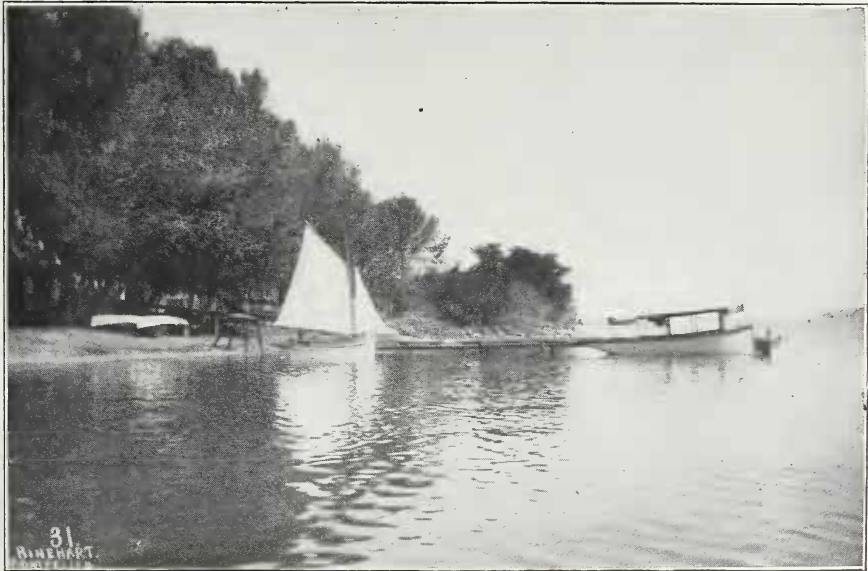


SUPERINTENDENT'S RESIDENCE AT WARM RIVER

others, and trout weighing as high as seven and eight pounds tax the angler's skill when using light-weight tackle. Along these streams are located about forty hunting lodges, summer homes and private stopping places, as well as cabins, at which sportsmen stop. Many of these retreats are sought throughout the season.

The Saw Tooth.

Through the Saw Tooth range of mountains, 'midst their jagged peaks, snow clad the greater part of the year, are



PLEASURE ON BEAR LAKE

found such lakes as Alturas, Pettit, Red Fish and Stanley, whose beauties have been seen by travelers from all over the world. Even though far back in the heights, away from the railroads and city life, these lakes claim the attention

of the more hardy sportsmen, but they know that their trips in quest of fish and game will be amply repaid.

Payette Lakes.

These lakes, nestling within the hills, will soon be reached by the Pacific & Idaho Northern railroad, and have become the summer homes of many people of our State who go



“BEAUTIES”

Proverb:

Behold the fisherman: He ariseth early in the morning,
and disturbeth the whole household.
Mighty are his preparations.
He goeth forth with great hope.
The day is far spent, he returneth;
His breath smelleth of strong drink, and
The truth is not in him.

there yearly to camp, hunt and fish. Large trout are found in its waters in great numbers, offering excellent sport.

The Northland.

In Northern Idaho are found Lakes Coeur d’Alene, Pend

d'Reille and Priest Lake, the largest, and such other lakes as Spirit Lake, Sucker Lake, Hayden Lake, and numerous others. The three largest have always been known as among the best lakes for fish in the State, and within a few short years Bear Lake trout of considerable size will be caught in several of them, as one hundred and thirty thousand fry were planted in them in June, 1908, by this department.

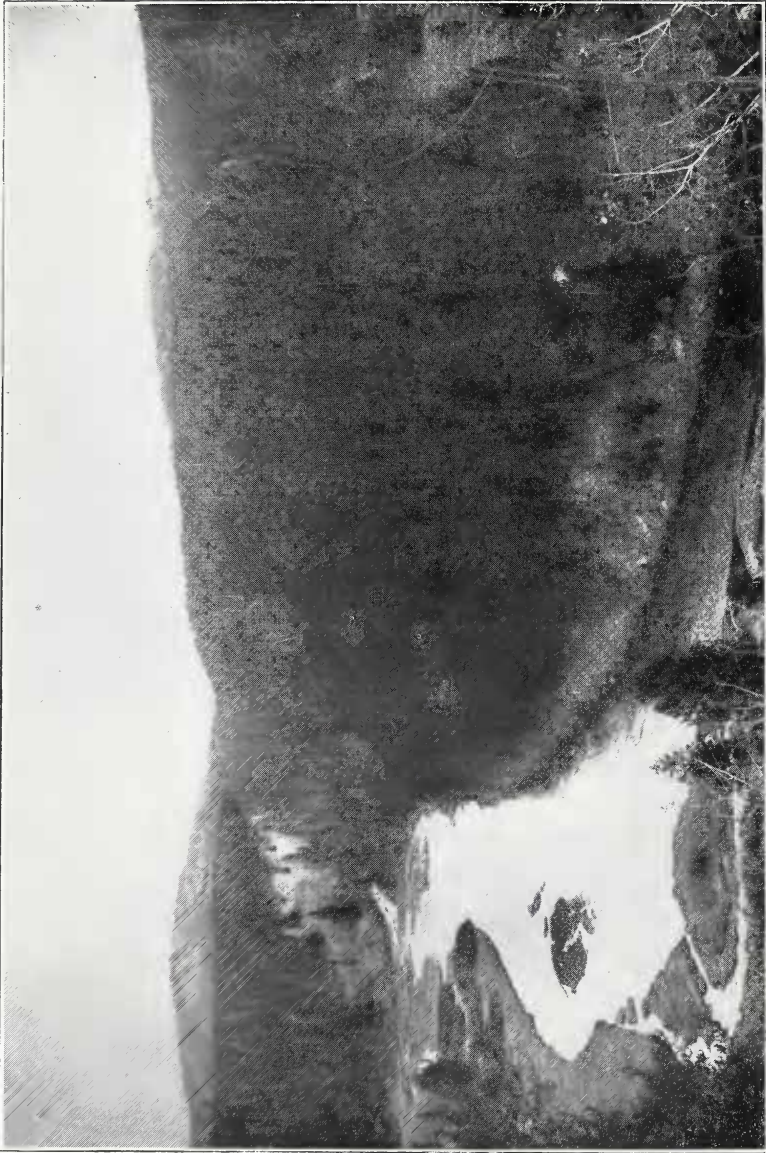
Only once has a complete success been made of taking spawn from Bear Lake trout. Gill nets were stretched across the mouths of the streams flowing into the lake, and the spawn taken from the fish were transplanted in the larger lakes of Northern Idaho, and we feel amply repaid for the experiment.

The Streams.

The principal fishing streams of the State are the various tributaries of the Snake, such as the Salmon, Clearwater, Payette and Boise, together with their tributaries, the Pend O'Reille and the Coeur d'Alene. In Fremont, Blaine, Idaho, Lemhi, Boise and Kootenai counties will be found some of the very best trout streams in the world. The other counties of the State also have most excellent streams, and all of these, through the policy pursued by this department, are stocked from our several hatcheries each year.

Our Appreciation

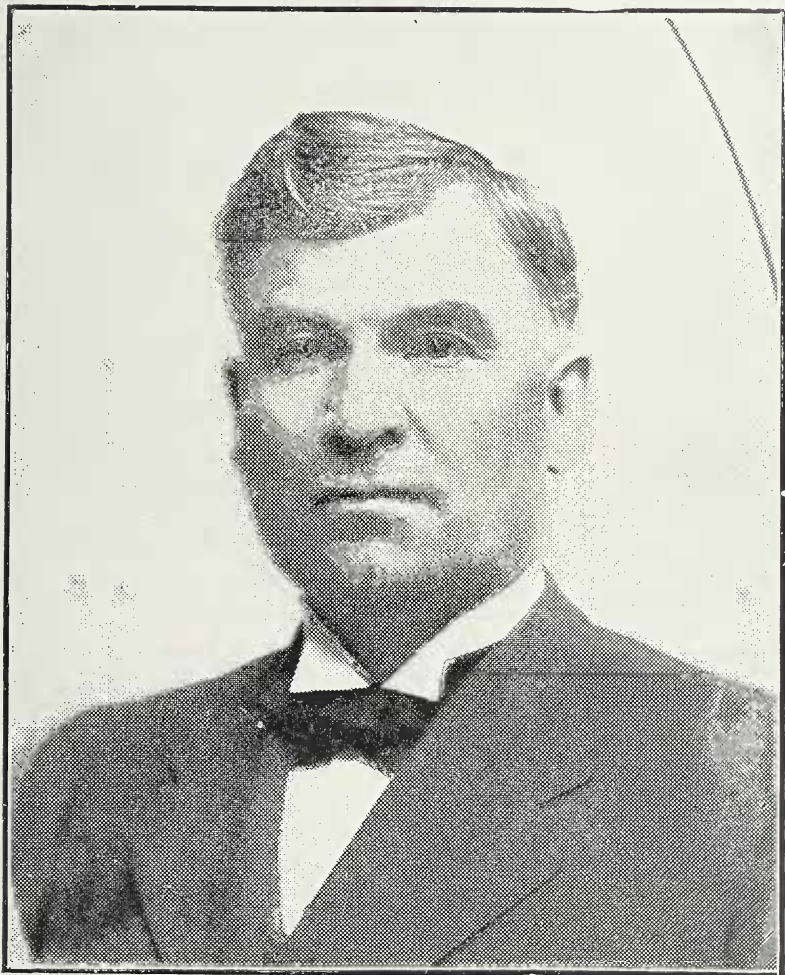
To no one are greater thanks due from this department than to Ex-Governor James H. Brady. Through his ever helpful advice and courtesy have we been rendered most val-



BIG SPRINGS

Where the Mighty Snake River rises ; 500 feet below the spring the stream is 115 feet wide and 5 feet deep.

uable assistance. Always has he been ready to assist us in every possible way, and we wish at this time to express to him our sincere thanks.



HON. JAMES H. BRADY
Ex-Governor of Idaho

We here desire to express our sincere appreciation for the courteous treatment accorded this department by the

Oregon Short Line, and especially are the thanks of the State due to Superintendent W. H. Bancroft, Superintendent Armstrong, and their assistants. Every assistance that they could render us has been cheerfully given. During the times when young fry had to be taken from the hatcheries to the places where they were to be transplanted, the railroad company has given to the State, without expense to us, the use of a baggage car, which, at the expense of the department was properly fitted up for transporting the fish,



12-A BUDA MOTOR CAR

and, because of the assistance rendered us through this medium, have we been so successful in bringing to the streams to be stocked the live young fry with only a slight loss in each instance, and that loss is but naturally incident to the work.

We also desire to express our thanks to Mr. J. C. White, of the Red Collar Line plying Lake Coeur d'Alene; D. C. Corbin of the Spokane & International; the Washington &

Idaho Northern, the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific, the O. R. & N. R. R., and the C., M. & P. S., for the assistance given us in helping to make the hatchery at Sandpoint a success. There no special car was required, but every other assistance rendered was very valuable to the department.

While the railroads have given us such excellent treatment, we still feel that this department should be provided with a properly equipped fish car, as the railroads were not always able at the precise time to furnish a baggage car. On numerous occasions, if we had had such a car much more effective work could have been done and a greater number of fry distributed in the waters of the State. Investigation regarding the original cost of such a car has disclosed the fact that one can be purchased at a cost of \$5,000.00, and its maintenance thereafter would be slight, and I would heartily recommend that one be purchased at the earliest possible moment, with the assurance that the expenditure will pay for itself many times over within a few years and act as a valuable acquisition to the effectiveness of the department and its work.

Our Hatcheries

Hay Spur.

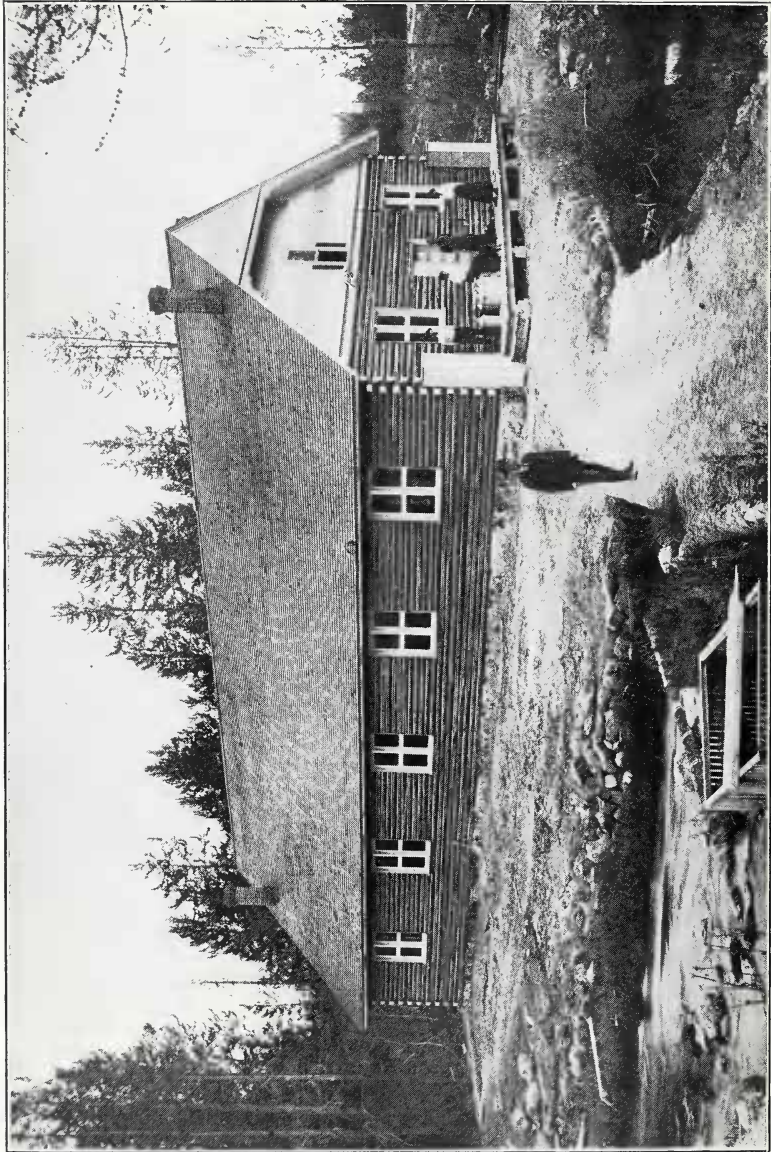
In 1907 a legislative enactment authorized the erection and construction of this, the first station in our State for the taking of spawn, eying, hatching and propagating fish. Here our first studies were conducted; here our future needs



HAY SPUR HATCHERY, BLAINE COUNTY

were ascertained; here our early failures meant future success. Situated on Silver Creek, in Blaine County, one of the best trout streams to be found anywhere, we here laid the foundation for the others now owned and controlled by the State. Here it was that we learned the imperativeness of constructing other stations in the higher altitudes, as the time of spawning varies according to climate, altitude and other conditions. The knowledge here gained by the department has assisted us to a great extent when the hatcheries at Warm River and Sandpoint were later authorized and constructed. Changes have from time to time been made, and this hatchery is now properly equipped for successful propagation, and is today one of the best equipped in the West. Since our last report the pipe line has been extended from the hatchery to the superintendent's residence. The interior of the hatchery has been rearranged, adding to the facilities, and will tend to better results in the future. The upstairs portion of the residence has been completed and a telephone line installed.

At this hatchery it is gratifying to know that we have had excellent success. Conditions here are entirely different from those at the other two places, and we were obliged to overcome many difficulties. Here the temperature of the water is 53 degrees, being higher than at Warm River and Sandpoint, and other conditions are not as propitious as they might be. Here the delicate spawn and fry require greater care, being susceptible to disease, and constant attention is necessary in transporting them from this station. But, to offset these difficulties, the fish here grow faster. At this station it takes twenty-eight days to "eye" the eggs of Eastern brook trout and forty-eight days to hatch them. With native trout it takes twenty days to "eye" and twenty-eight days to hatch them. The variation from these



WARM RIVER HATCHERY, FREMONT COUNTY
40x80 feet, built of logs.

figures is very slight, and is due to the varying of conditions. High water during the Spring of 1910 also caused considerable trouble, many spawners getting out of the traps. Here the native trout do not "run," as they do in the upper Snake River country, and greater difficulties are encountered in seining for spawners, as many of the beds are filled with water cress and moss, ideal hiding places. Several years ago the fry of Eastern brook trout were planted in the streams around this hatchery, and this was the first year in which spawn has been taken from them, and it is anticipated that from now many can be taken from them each year, and that in three or four years a great many more can be taken from those recently planted.

Warm River.

In the latter part of August, 1908, this hatchery was begun, and has now been fully equipped and completed, and, because of its location, has become the most important of the three. The fact that it is located eighteen miles from the spawn-taking station, where the most ideal spawning beds are to be found, has added to its importance. No better conditions for the taking of spawn from the numerous streams in this vicinity, all well stocked, can be found, and "eying" and hatching have here been almost a complete success. This hatchery was constructed after our earlier experiences at Hay Spur, by which we profited. It is located at a much higher altitude, the temperature of the water being 42 degrees, which varies almost imperceptibly, and near here are taken the speckled beauties of Eastern waters, the delight of the Eastern angler, the brook trout; but here they attain, it would seem, even greater size than in their native waters. This is also the natural home of our famous native trout. Owing to the temperature of the water at

this station, a longer period of time is required to "eye" and hatch the eggs. With the Eastern brook trout it takes fifty days to "eye" the eggs and ninety days to hatch them. With the native trout it requires twenty-seven days for "eying" and forty-eight days for hatching. At this hatchery, situated as it is, near the headwaters of the Snake River, where the water is never roilly, success is sure to follow. Together with the excellent railroad facilities, we now also use electric motor cars, so that, during the spring and fall months, while the railroad does not run its trains, better opportunities are afforded to get the spawn and fry to the points on the railroad, from which they can be transported to their ultimate destinations. In the Winter months, when the snows make travel by rail impossible, we use snowshoes, sleighs and dogs. Telephone connections have been established, and we will soon have a line running from the hatchery to the spawn-taking station, eighteen miles distant, so that, when the delicate spawn are taken from the spawning beds in Henry's Fork and the North Fork, where the largest number from any one place in the West are gotten, the handling and transferral to the hatchery will be greatly augmented by quick communication, preventing heavy losses.

The Warm River hatchery is located on the game preserve of 1,280 acres, and the title to this can be perfected at almost any time now, as the Department of the Interior has recommended its segregation. This tract should, during the coming year, be entirely fenced, thereby converting it into the game preserve intended by the specifications of the grant from the Government. The expense of buying and shipping Eastern brook trout eggs from Pennsylvania is large, and, after thorough investigation and consideration, it has been concluded that it would pay to convert this

part of the Warm River into spawning beds for this specie. The river flows by the door of the hatchery and, by constructing a small cement dam a short distance below the hatchery and placing screens some distance above, the fish could be there retained. Sand could be placed in the bottom



STRING OF EASTERN BROOK TROUT
Planted in Warm River in 1908.—Now 9 inches long.

of the stream and, when ready to spawn, the fish will naturally endeavor to go as far up the stream as possible and, when obstructed by the screen, will make use of the spawning beds already provided for them. There are now a great many Eastern brook trout in Warm River several inches



SANDPOINT HATCHERY, BONNER COUNTY

long, and within two years the spawn that can be taken from them will mean much to the success of this hatchery.

There is at the present time material on hand for the construction of a residence for the assistant superintendent, and this should be completed at an early date.

Of the Fall 1909 "take" of spawn, 350,330 "eyed" eggs of Eastern brook trout were sent to the Hay Spur hatchery.

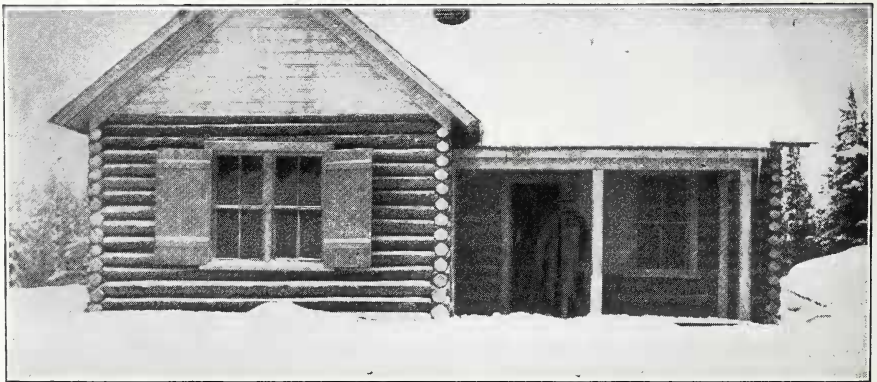
Sandpoint.

The Sandpoint hatchery is located in the city of the same name, in Bonner County, on one of the largest lakes in the State, Lake Pend d'Oreille. In the Fall of 1908 it was decided to establish a hatchery in the north for the work to be carried on there. Since that time the construction has been completed, and today it is in full running order. It is provided with a gasoline launch, to be used in distributing fry, making the expense of hiring launches a thing of the past. A splendid dock has been constructed at considerable expense, but for successful work this was necessary. A large barge has also been provided for taking the fish from the hatchery to the railway station for transportation. About seven hundred feet of pipe line have been laid to the hatchery, with a good carrying capacity. A barn and an ice-house have been constructed, and the four upstairs rooms furnished and completed. The hatchery is thoroughly equipped and, with but slight improvements, will have a capacity for the proper handling of three million fish annually. The temperature of the water here being 43 degrees, the conditions are so favorable that eyeing and hatching will be successfully accomplished. The fish are distributed in the northern waters, and the work done here will long be remembered by the sportsmen in that section of the State. To a certain extent, its possibilities can

be realized from the fact that so many people come from the State of Washington to avail themselves of the sport offered, and the revenue produced through them is no small item, and one that should not be overlooked. While this place is now thoroughly equipped for fish culture, a superintendent's residence should be constructed at the earliest possible moment.

Spawn-Taking Station.

There has, since our last report, been established a per-



SPAWN TAKING STATION

At headwaters of Snake River, snow 2½ feet deep when picture was taken in November.

manent spawn-taking station at Big Springs, in Fremont County, eighteen miles from the Warm River station, affording us better accommodations during the time the fish are "running" to the spawning beds, which are so numerous in this stream and in Stevens and Meadows Creeks, some four miles distant. None of these streams ever become muddy, making them the best spawning places for the native trout that here abound. No Eastern brook trout are found or taken from these streams. This station has been thoroughly equipped with modern conveniences and was

completed at an approximate cost of \$1,200.00. From here the spawn is taken to the hatchery for "eyeing" and hatching, and we feel confident that hereafter this station will be the source of supply of trout eggs for all Idaho. During the year 1910 about 3,000,000 eggs were taken from the streams here and transferred to Warm River hatchery, and it is anticipated that, with the present facilities, this number can be greatly increased during the year 1911. Just as soon as telephone connections are established with the



DOG TEAM AT WARM RIVER

hatchery, this station will not be troubled with large losses of fish, it being necessary to get into quick communication with the hatchery to hasten the transferral.

Results at Hatcheries.

To show the number of fish planted and the counties to which they were distributed during the biennial period, I take pleasure in appending a tabular report, and its comparison with the work of the previous two years will show that the output has just about been trebled. While it is here impossible to allot space for the enumeration of the

different streams and lakes in which fry were planted, we are only showing the counties.

Fish Fry Planted 1909.

County.	Eastern Brook.	Native.	Hatchery.
Bonner .....	.....	30,000	Sandpoint
“ .....	.....	17,000	“
“ .....	.....	24,000	“
“ .....	.....	30,000	“
Idaho .....	.....	50,000	“
Kootenai .....	.....	35,000	“
“ .....	.....	50,000	“
Latah .....	.....	50,000	“
Shoshone .....	.....	50,000	“
“ .....	.....	50,000	“
Bear Lake.....	99,000	....	Warm River
Bannock	20,000	....	“
Blaine	40,000	....	“
Elmore	40,000	....	“
Bingham	18,500	....	“
“ .....	.....	94,500	“
Fremont	20,000	....	“
“ .....	.....	75,000	“
“	96,630	....	“
“	100,000	....	“
“	100,000	....	“
Bear Lake.....	40,000	....	“
Oneida	15,000	....	“
“	55,000	....	“
“	10,000	....	“
“ .....	.....	90,000	“
Twin Falls and Cassia .....	.....	160,000	“
“	16,000	....	“
Ada	30,000	....	“
Washington	20,000	....	“
“ .....	.....	60,000	“
Ada .....	.....	60,000	Hay Spur
Bannock	25,000	....	“

Bannock	35,000	....	Hay Spur
“	40,000	....	“
Blaine .....	.....	10,000	“
“	300	....	“
“ .....	.....	20,000	“
“ .....	.....	8,500	“
“ .....	.....	38,400	“
“ .....	.....	12,000	“
“ .....	.....	6,000	“
“ .....	.....	16,000	“
“ .....	.....	152,000	“
Bear Lake .....	.....	60,600	“
Bingham	35,000	....	“
“	40,000	....	“
Twin Falls	35,000	....	“
Lincoln Co.	20,000	12,000	“
Nez Perce	100,000	....	“
Oneida	100,000	....	“
Washington	40,000	....	“
“	40,000	....	“
Totals	1,230,430	1,261,000	

Fish Fry Planted 1910.

County.	Eastern Brook.	Native.	Hatchery.
Bannock	30,000	....	Hay Spur
Blaine	20,000	....	“
“	20,000	....	“
“	80,000	....	“
“ .....	.....	3,500	“
“ .....	.....	50,000	“
“ .....	.....	72,000	“
Bingham	60,000	....	“
“	30,000	....	“
“	30,000	....	“
Elmore .....	.....	81,000	“
Fremont .....	.....	27,000	“
Lincoln .....	.....	25,000	“

Oneida	25,000	Hay Spur
"	103,000	"
Lincoln	20,000	"
Twin Falls and Cassia	105,000	"
Washington	95,000	"
Lincoln	56,500	"
Ada	100,000	Warm River
Washington	110,000	"
Ada	110,000	"
Bannock	100,000	"
"	150,000	"
Fremont	10,000	"
Bear Lake	200,000	"
"	100,000	"
Bingham	200,000	"
Fremont	164,000	"
"	38,000	"
"	100,000	"
"	214,000	"
Oneida	112,000	"
"	6,000	122,000
"		80,000
Twin Falls	202,000	"
Lemhi	200,000	"
Fremont	4,000	"
Bonner	20,000	Sandpoint
"	40,000	"
"	10,000	"
"	20,000	"
"	50,000	"
"	50,000	"
"	38,000	"
"	12,000	"
"	16,000	"
Idaho	32,000	"
Kootenai	50,000	"
"	50,000	"
"	50,000	"

Kootenai	40,000	....	Sandpoint
“	24,000	....	“
Bonner	16,000	....	“
Latah	40,000	....	“
“	20,000	....	“
Nez Perce	20,000	....	“
Latah . . . . .	.....	15,000	“
Nez Perce . . . . .	.....	35,000	“
“ . . . . .	.....	50,000	“
“	40,000	....	“
Shoshone . . . . .	.....	40,000	“
“	40,000	....	“
“	28,000	....	“
Total	<u>1,260,000</u>	<u>2,840,500</u>	
Total Eastern Brook, 1909			1,230,430
“ Natives, 1909			1,261,000
“ Eastern Brook, 1910			1,260,000
“ Natives, 1910			2,840,500
Grand total			6,591,930

From All Hatcheries in 1907-1908.

Ada County	}	220,000
Boise County		
Bingham County		100,000
Bannock County		140,000
Bear Lake County		60,000
Blaine County		300,000
Bonner County		100,000
Canyon County		75,000
Cassia County		75,000
Fremont County		150,000
Idaho County		100,000
Kootenai County		100,000
Latah County		100,000
Lincoln County		200,000
Nez Perce County		100,000
Oneida County		75,000

Shoshone County	100,000	
Twin Falls County	75,000	
Washington County	100,000	
		<hr/>
Total		2,170,000
Total in 1909.....	2,491,430	
Total in 1910.....	4,100,500	
		<hr/>
		6,591,930
Less total in 1907-1908.....		2,170,000
		<hr/>
Increase during past two years....		4,421,930

This makes a grand total of trout fry planted in the streams and lakes of the State during the past four years of 8,761,930.

Black Bass.

One thing I wish to speak of at this time is the black bass



SPAWN-TAKING EXPEDITION AT WARM RIVER IN NOVEMBER

of our State. This excellent game fish is somewhat neglected. It is found in the lakes of North Idaho and also in some of the streams of Washington, Ada and Canyon counties. There are many places that are their natural and ideal habitat, and it has been suggested that they be there planted,

or, at least, in such streams as do not contain trout. The rapid progress being made by the various irrigation projects in the construction of reservoirs offers an opportunity for planting them in their waters. We feel that this will add materially to their usefulness and afford many fishermen who have neither the time or the inclination to travel far for trout an equal opportunity with those residing near trout streams.

Fish Screens.

During the past two years many devices for preventing fish from entering irrigating ditches have been submitted to us and tried. Experiments with them have not been successful, however, and we are still hoping that some new device may be presented that would answer the purpose and comply with the existing Statute requiring mill men, manufacturers and operators of power plants, etc., to maintain some adequate screen.

Large Game

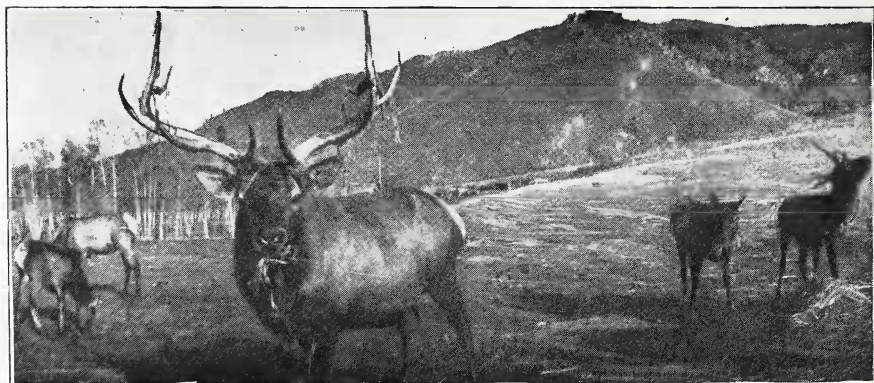
Moose.

These noble animals, the largest of the game animals in Idaho, have, during the recent years, under the protection afforded them by our beneficent laws, shown such a marked increase in the various remote portions of the State, that many of them have been seen by hunters out in pursuit of other game. Many are the requests that have come to this department favoring and recommending an open season for bull moose. In view of the fact that the protection has prevented their extinction within our borders, and that their

numbers have now so increased, I would heartily recommend that there be enacted by the coming Legislature a short open season on bull moose, and that no more than one be killed by any one person in a year. It might be well to grant an open season for 1911 and 1912, but that the open season be the same as that for elk, because, if it were not the same, hunters might be tempted to violate the law while out in search of elk. Another thing that suggests the open season is that, even now, many hunters while pursuing elk find moose, and, feeling that the increase has been so rapid, it warrants them in making a kill, and they do so.

Elk.

Unlike the countless herds of this specie of the antlered tribe seen in days gone by, they are yet to be found in large



ELK CAUGHT AT SHORT RANGE

numbers in various parts of the State. The Upper Snake River country, in Fremont County, still calls hunters not only from Idaho, but from many of the Eastern States, for who would not prize the mounted head, the trophy of his chase, to decorate his den, rehearsing time and again to his

friends the story, of which he is a part, of how he eventually brought his quarry to bay and made a successful "kill." In Bingham, Custer, Lemhi and Idaho counties are they also frequently found, as well as through the entire Saw Tooth range.

Much has recently been said concerning the present open season, and there are hunters who complain that, because of the short season, which closes on December first, they are unable to procure the one allowed by law. While it is known that, as the depth of the snows in the higher altitudes increase, the elk are forced to the lower hills and valleys for food, but, when down there, the chase becomes so much easier that the number killed during such an open season would mean almost as sure extinction of them as though there were no protection whatever given them by the law. In our judgment the season could be extended, not to January first, as some would have it, but to December fifteenth, which, we think, would be equitable to all parts of the State. To extend it longer than that would mean the slaughter of them in some localities, and this should not be permitted.

In this connection, we would also suggest that the open season for moose, elk and deer should be uniform, coming at the same time. This, to some extent, would prevent hunters from going out at first to ostensibly hunt deer and kill both deer and elk while elk were protected, and the same reasoning will apply if the open season varies.

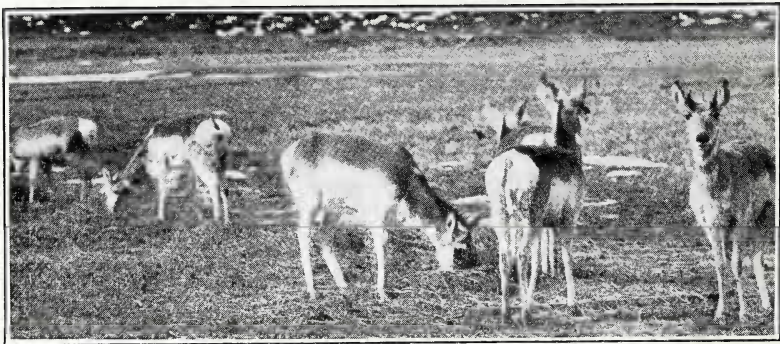
Deer.

In those portions of the northern counties where the forest fires raged during the summer of 1910 possibly less deer fell before the hunter's gun than ever before. Many of them there were unable to escape the dread scourge, but those that did were driven into the sections untouched by the

fires, and many came to the counties farther south. Reports received at this office indicate that in the counties outside of the fire zone deer were more numerous than they have been in years past. They are, however, found in nearly every county of the State, and are, without question, increasing quite rapidly, the law permitting only two to be killed by any one person during the open season, giving them ample protection.

Antelope.

This nimble, interesting and attractive animal is found more particularly in the Lost River country, in Blaine



ANTELOPE

County, in Fremont and Cassia counties, and through the Saw Tooth range. They are also found in other portions of the State, but not in such numbers as there. The conversion of the plains into farms and homes by our rapidly increasing population has a tendency to drive them away, as they are more naturally at home on the plains than in the higher hills. Wherever they are found, the information received by this Department shows a substantial increase, and we feel that rigid enforcement of the limitations placed upon them, this increase will continue.

Mountain Sheep and Goats.

Both of these specie that are only to be found among the highest crags of our most rugged territory have also shown a decided increase. The very fact that they prefer the highest and most inaccessible places alone affords them considerable protection, but our laws aid them to a very large extent. It is only by the hardest kind of pursuit that they can be obtained.

Beaver.

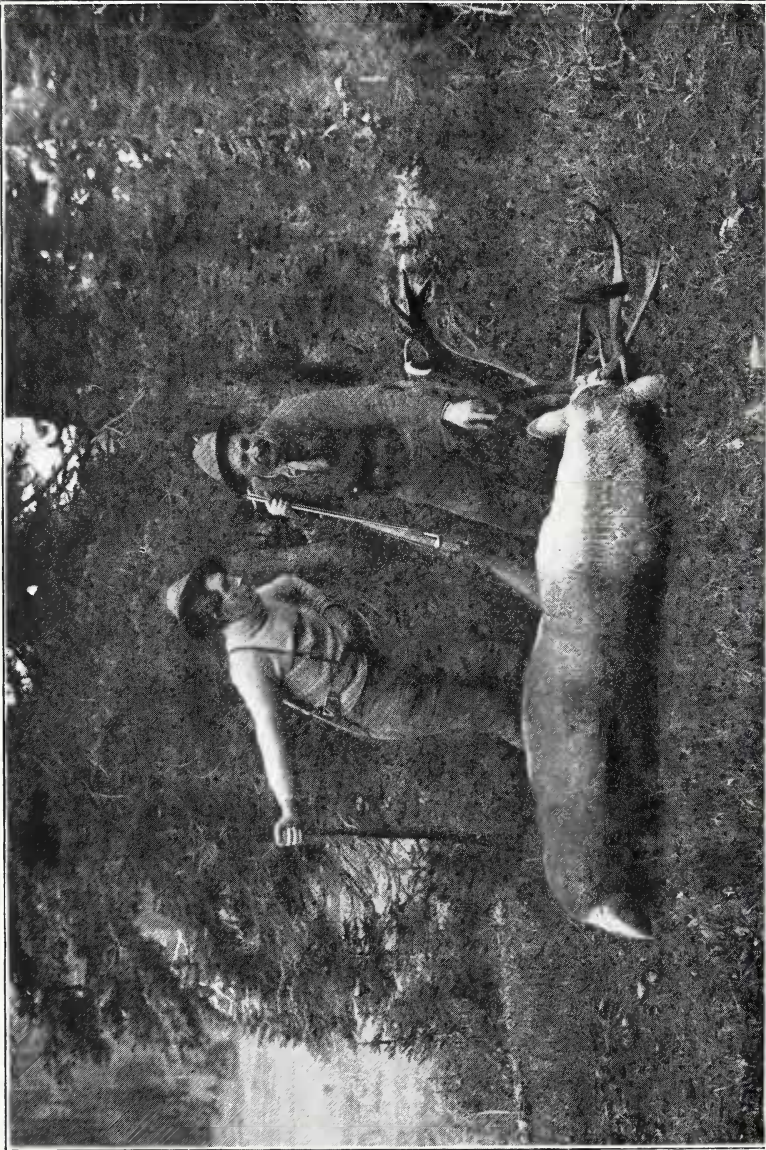
Beaver have been increasing very rapidly within our borders, whole colonies being at work in many places. At the last session of the Legislature a Statute was enacted under which, if, after an investigation by this Department, it was found that they were damaging valuable properties along our streams, a permit could be issued to the owners of those properties to kill a certain number of them and turn their pelts over to the State. Complaints have come to this office that in some places they were cutting down fence posts and trees, building dams and flooding valuable low-lying ground; but it would seem that in many instances, when complaints were made and the complainants advised that the pelts must be turned over to the State, nothing further was done. Possibly the fact that the pelts could not be retained made the damage seem less real and extensive than at the time the complaints were made.

Caribou.

Only along the Canadian border line, in Bonner County, can caribou be found. Even there they are very scarce and seldom seen. So far as can be learned, their protection has prevented their entire extermination.

Bear.

Throughout the Bitter Root Mountains and the Saw



CARIBOU
"The end of the chase."

Tooth Range, nearly every specie of bear abound, and in nearly every county of the State can they be found. Especially are they very numerous in the Bitter Root Mountains of the North. There we find the silver tip as well as the



BEAR, BITTER ROOT MOUNTAINS

cinnamon and brown bear. In the hills along the Clearwater many grizzly are seen. Many are the reports received of the great numbers of all kinds found within the State.

Predatory Animals.

Owing to the fact that this department is now not concerned with the extermination of coyotes, bob cats, cougar and wolves, it has been almost impossible to ascertain whether or not they are showing any decided decrease. Still, reports are received that would indicate that the animals that are not only a menace to sheep and stock, but to our protected game and birds, as well, are at least holding their own. Were it not for the fact that sheep and stock men are co-operating with the State in their extermination, they would undoubtedly show a decided increase.

Upland Game Birds

Possibly one of the most vexatious questions to be dealt with by this Department is in relation to our grouse, sage hens, partridges and pheasants, as distinguished from prairie chickens and pinnated grouse. Under the existing laws, prairie chickens, pinnated grouse, English, Chinese and Mongolian pheasants are protected. Many hunters seem unable to tell the difference between the protected ones and the unprotected ones, and it might possibly be well to have them definitely defined in our laws. It has also been claimed by many sportsmen that the bird intended to be protected, the pinnated grouse, has been improperly named, and is in reality not the pinnated, but the "pin-tailed" grouse, which it is called in many localities.

Reports from various parts of the State show that all of the upland birds have been increasing very rapidly, especially during the year 1910, hunters reporting that they have been found in large numbers wherever they have hunted. Dry and sunny Spring weather has aided them materially in hatching their chicks and bringing them to maturity.

However, complaints have been received that the existing law in regard to the open season is not fair to all parts of the State, owing to the differences in altitude. In the higher altitudes the birds mature later than they do in the lower, so that, when those lower down have reached maturity and the season is open, those higher up can scarcely fly, and often not at all; but, so far as enacting a law to correct this feature is concerned, it would be a difficult matter to say just what adjustment could be made, or how different territories could be defined, because, even though

some apportionment were made, it would bring hunters into sections that were open to hunting, while the territory in which they lived was closed.

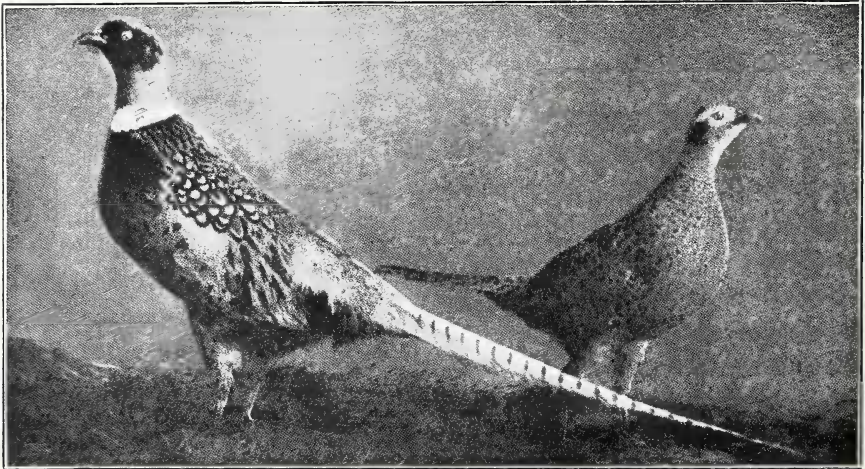
Quail, both the "Bob White" and the blue valley California quail, have increased in an encouraging way during the past two years. Both species have been transplanted under the direction of this Department from sections where they were very plentiful to sections of the State less favored by these gamey "little fellows." Some parts of the State report them in good-sized coveys, and many of them. In other places the severe Winter of 1909-1910 retarded any material increase. The transplanting of these birds has repeatedly brought commendation to the Department, and it is hoped the work may be carried forward on a more extensive plan.

From Lincoln and Cassia counties the blue valley California and from Latah and Nez Perce counties the "Bob White" have been transplanted in Fremont, Bingham, Elmore, Bannock, Oneida counties, and in all of these counties have they shown a decided increase.

Chinese Pheasants

During the past two years it has been the policy of this department to distribute these birds to settlers and gun clubs, who in every instance have taken a great interest in them, protecting them and seeing to it that they were properly fed, and it is also gratifying to know that even persons who had not been entrusted with the care of these beautiful game birds were equally keen in their protection and assist-

ing the department whenever it lay in their power to do so. Occasionally complaints have come to us that these birds were being killed by hunters, and nearly always have they come from the latter class of citizens mentioned. Even birds have been turned over to some of the prominent men of this



CHINESE PHEASANTS

State, such an interest has been taken in them. Whenever they have been thus protected they have increased very rapidly and it will be only a few years when we hope that they will be so plentiful that there may be an open season on them for sportsmen. In some instances it is known that a single pair hatched two coveys in one year, with about fourteen birds in each covey.

On March 30th, 1909, contract was entered into by this department to have one thousand birds delivered to us in September. In pursuance of that contract they were shipped from Corvallis, Oregon, on September fifteenth in a baggage car provided for that purpose by the Oregon Short

Line. A portion of these birds were distributed and liberated during that Fall in the counties of the State having the lower altitudes, and the rest were kept and maintained until the Spring of 1910 and then delivered in the higher altitudes. These latter ones were held over until Spring rather than to liberate them and permit them to be subjected to exposure of the cold winter, and we know that if they had been liberated when first received many of them would have died.

In the following statement we show how many birds have been turned over to the various people, to what counties they were taken and liberated, which we know will be of interest:

County.	Applicant.	Number.
Fremont.....	W. N. Stephens.....	15
Ada.....		40
Bannock.....	O. L. Cleveland.....	20
Bannock.....	Geo. Harrison.....	20
Blaine.....	Leo Cramer.....	40
Bear Lake.....	Jas. L. Dunford.....	40
Bonner.....	Mr. Button.....	15
Bonner.....	T. J. Hollinger.....	15
Canyon.....	Gun Club.....	40
Elmore.....	L. McLaughlin.....	40
Idaho.....	J. A. Wilkinson.....	30
Kootenai.....	J. V. Brown.....	32
Latah.....	C. B. Green.....	32
Lincoln.....	W. Van Iorns.....	20
Nez Perce.....	R. L. Pennell.....	30
Oneida.....	Whitehead & Tovey.....	40
Boise.....	George Prout.....	40
Shoshone.....	Abe Wyman.....	30
Bingham.....	F. A. Randall.....	16
Bingham.....	T. R. Jones.....	14
Cassia.....	A. Lounsbury.....	14
Fremont.....	R. S. Hunt.....	14

Fremont.....	Albert Beazer.....	16
Fremont.....	S. V. Raymond.....	8
Twin Falls.....	Gun Club	30
Lincoln.....	F. R. Gooding.....	11
Extra Cocks.....		20
Liberated and stolen.....		226
Twin Falls.....	Geo. Fraser.....	15
Lincoln.....	W. Van Iorns.....	15
Bannock.....	J. H. Brady.....	15
Bingham.....	T. R. Jones.....	8
Bingham.....	F. R. Prandal.....	7
Oneida.....	Abe Whitehead	15
Latah.....	R. C. West.....	15
Nez Perce.....	R. C. West.....	15
Idaho.....	R. C. West.....	15
Ada.....	Win Tatro.....	20
Canyon.....	Gun Club	15
Washington.....	Gun Club	15
R. C. West (various).....		12
Total distributed		1090

Aquatic Fowl

Ducks, geese and swan are found in large numbers in the State, but this State can hardly be called the breeding place for them, even though there are places in which they breed. Large numbers of them, however, are found along the Snake River and its tributaries, but perhaps the greatest numbers are found in and around Bear Lake, Market Lake and Henry's Lake, and they have been very numerous in Fremont County.

During the Fall of 1910 it was found that in Utah thou-

sands of ducks were dying and were affected by some disease. Thinking possibly the same condition might exist in the Southeastern part of this State, an investigation was



W. S. McCREA FEEDING DOMESTICATED WILD GEESE.

at once started by this department and absolutely no diseased ducks were to be found.

Recommendations

Heyburn Park.

At the Tenth Session of the Legislature of the State of Idaho there was passed a bill appropriating \$15,000 from the Fish and Game Fund, or so much thereof as might be

necessary, for the purchase of approximately 7000 acres south of the St. Joe River in Kootenai County to be used as a public park, and to be known as Heyburn Park. This tract has been set aside by the United States Government, and is a part of the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation. So far it has been impossible to comply with this act for the reason that the funds derived from various sources for the maintenance of the Fish and Game Department and the improvement of the properties under its control have only been adequate for these purposes. As this would make one of the finest of natural parks, it is earnestly desired that its purchase be effected by the State, and as it can be purchased at approximately \$1.75 per acre, this should be taken advantage of. Therefore, as it would undoubtedly be some years before the necessary funds could be taken from the Fish and Game Department, and possibly not at all, I would heartily recommend that the Eleventh Session of the Legislature make an appropriation from the General Fund of the State of \$15,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to purchase this valuable tract of land.

White Fish.

It is known that white fish run in schools and lay on the spawning beds of the trout. Spawn is eaten by them in large quantities and in order to prevent this we feel that a section should be added to our statutes, authorizing the State Fish and Game Warden to issue permits to seine, under restrictions, for this excellent food fish. This will give the spawn of the trout protection from the depredations of this fish during the running and spawning season.

It has been found necessary on our best spawning beds in the headwaters of the Snake River for this Department to seine the streams and rid the trout of its natural enemy.

This fish also has the tendency to drive the trout from their own native spawning beds.

Shipping Permits.

Section 9 of the present law intended to provide that sportsmen should be permitted to ship the fish and game legally procured by them but unintentionally the word "fish" was omitted. This should be corrected so as to include it.

Elk, Deer and Moose.

Owing to the remarkable increase of elk, deer and moose, I would heartily recommend that there be an open season for the *next two years* on *bull* moose, not more than one to be taken by any one person during any year, and that the season be made the same as that for elk and deer, and that it be open from September first to December 15th on all three of these animals, as well as mountain goat and mountain sheep.

As our laws do not definitely state whether deer may be kept by private parties on private grounds or parks, some definite provision regarding this question should be made.

Prairie Chicken or Pinnated Grouse.

If this bird is to be protected by law it should be more specifically defined, as there has been no end of trouble to the Department in trying to protect the bird commonly known as the prairie chicken and intended to be protected by the legislators at our last session. The bird intended to be protected is called and pronounced by some to be the pin-tailed grouse. The western prairie chicken is far different from the prairie chicken of the Middle States.

As the bird that is commonly called in this State the "mountain quail" is scarce and not specifically protected, I

would suggest that it be given a close season the same as Chinese pheasants.

Chinese Pheasants.

In order to give the Chinese pheasants distributed in various parts of the State better protection, I would suggest that the penalty for killing or disturbing them be made heavier than it now is, and that a minimum of \$50.00 be assessed against violators upon conviction. This, I think, will have the tendency to cause hunters to adhere more strictly to law.



THE REAL THING.

Licenses.

While our law provides that sportsmen shall procure fishing and hunting licenses and as many of them take advantage of the technicality that our law does not define "game," we feel that this can be overcome by causing them to procure "rod and gun" licenses.

Trout.

Under the present law permitting trout to be caught the year round, there is an undersirable feature. I would therefore recommend that there be a close season on native trout during the running and spawning season, which is April and May, or at least that the State Game Warden be authorized to declare a close season on the streams where this department procures large quantities of spawn.

Financial

The receipts of this department during the past two years show a very material increase, and in the following statistics we show the amounts derived from each source, and also show the amounts expended and for what purpose. In order to demonstrate the growth of the Department in importance, as well as in a financial way, we are also giving the receipts for 1905-1906 and 1907-1908. We also show the balance on hand at the close of business on December 31st, 1910, all of which demonstrate that this Department is now on a self-sustaining basis.

RECEIPTS.

1909.

2,346	Class 10 (non-resident fishing).....	\$ 3,430.40
38,483	“ 10-A (resident).....	30,790.70
156	“ 10-B (non-resident bird).....	702.80
24	“ 10-C (non-resident big game).....	540.00
188	Shipping permits	47.00
6	Taxidermy licenses	150.00
8	Shipping permits private ponds.....	80.00
74	Fines	1,048.00
	Miscellaneous	54.70
	Total	\$36,843.60

1910.

3,090	Class 10 (non-resident fishing).....	\$ 4,756.00
44,606	“ 10-A (resident licenses).....	35,688.80
178	“ 10-B (non-resident hunting).....	810.00
27	“ 10-C (non-resident big game).....	607.50
588	Shipping permits	147.00
7	Private pond permits.....	70.00
11	Taxidermy licenses	275.00
102	Fines	2,230.95
	Confiscations sold	247.90
	Miscellaneous	452.50
	Total	\$45,285.65
	Grand Total	\$82,129.25

DISBURSEMENTS.

Under this subdivision we show the disbursements for the past two years and the purposes for which they were expended, vouchers for the following being on file in the State Auditor's office.

1909.

Salary of State Game Warden.....	\$1,799.98
Traveling expenses Game Warden.....	677.15
Salary of Chief Deputy.....	1,200.00
Traveling expenses of Chief Deputy.....	387.20
Salaries of Asst. Chief Deputies (2).....	1,699.92
Traveling expenses of Asst. Chief Deputy.....	1,641.05
Salary of Chief Clerk.....	1,066.68
Other Clerk hire and office expense, including postage, printing licenses and filing devices...	3,258.17
Employment of local Deputies.....	4,974.00
Expenses of local Deputies.....	553.09
Salaries of Hatchery Superintendents (3).....	2,788.00
Salaries of Assistant Superintendents.....	937.50
Warm River Hatchery—Construction, maintenance, equipment and improvement.....	6,628.09
Hay Spur Hatchery—Purchase price of site....	1,620.00
Hay Spur Hatchery—Maintenance and improvement	893.81
Sandpoint Hatchery—Construction, equipment, maintenance and improvement.....	4,865.34
Cost and distribution pheasants and quail.....	1,972.45
Expense taking spawn and planting fry.....	2,596.47
Purchase of Eastern brook trout eggs.....	600.75
Total	\$40,159.65

1910.

Salary of State Game Warden.....	\$2,166.63
Traveling expenses of State Game Warden....	804.40
Salary of Chief Deputy.....	1,000.00
Traveling expenses of Chief Deputy.....	515.89
Salaries of Asst. Chief Deputies (2).....	3,316.67
Traveling expenses of Asst. Chief Deputies....	1,690.65
Salary of Chief Clerk.....	1,300.00
Salary of Stenographer and other clerical assistance	844.35

1910—(Continued.)

Office expenses, including printing of licenses, postage, etc.	2,604.25
Employment of local Deputies.....	10,494.00
Expenses of local Deputies.....	993.46
Salary of Hatchery Superintendents (3).....	3,550.00
Salaries of Asst. Superintendents.....	1,751.66
Warm River Hatchery—Maintenance, equipment and improvements	4,040.35
Hay Spur Hatchery—Maintenance, improvement and equipment	1,326.29
Sandpoint Hatchery—Maintenance, improvement and equipment	1,505.50
Spawn-taking Station—construction and equip- ment	1,491.32
Telephone Line—Warm River Hatchery.....	249.96
Cost and distribution of pheasants and quail....	212.10
Expense taking spawn and planting fry.....	1,922.08
Purchase of Eastern brook trout eggs.....	597.35
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Total	\$42,376.91
Total Expenditure 1909 and 1910.....	\$82,536.56

Recapitulation.

January 1, 1909, balance in fund.....	\$ 4,276.38
Receipts January 1, 1909, to January 1, 1911....	82,129.25
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Total	\$86,405.63
Disbursements during years 1909 and 1910.....	82,536.56
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January 1, 1911, balance in fund.....	\$3,869.07

Summary of Receipts for Six Years.
1905-1906.

2,669 Class 10 (non-resident fishing).....	\$ 2,402.10
33,084 " 10-A (resident).....	29,775.60
143 " 10-B (non-resident bird).....	700.70
38 " 10-C (non-resident big game).....	946.20
1 box confiscated fish sold.....	4.00
3 hides confiscated and sold.....	2.50
46 fines collected, aggregating.....	575.00
87 copies of Game Laws sold.....	8.70
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Total	\$34,414.80

1907-1908.

5,142	Class 10 (non-resident fishing)	\$ 4,160.00
59,271	“ 10-A (resident)	47,769.10
156	“ 10-B (non-resident bird)	720.80
38	“ 10-C (non-resident big game)	874.20
194	Fines collected	2,378.90
11	Shipping permits issued	110.00
5	Class 10-A (resident) receipts issued	4.00
545	Predatory animal pelts sold	406.05
	Sales confiscated fish, game, etc.	165.30
	Overbalances 1905-1906	2.28
	Total	<u>\$56,590.63</u>

1909-1910.

Receipts from all sources, as previously shown	\$ 82,129.25
Total Receipts for Six Years	<u>\$173,134.68</u>

By comparing the figures shown for the years 1905-1906-1907-1908-1909-1910, we readily see that there has been a constant, gradual increase in the receipts of this office, and demonstrate that it has now become one of the most important of the State's departments. It is with a sense of gratification and pleasure that I submit them to you. At the time of my appointment to this office there was no property belonging to the State under the custody of this Department, while at the present time it is in control of properties, the conservative valuation of which is: 1381 acres of land at hatcheries, \$7,220.00; hatchery buildings, machinery, other equipment, live stock and office furnishings, \$28,583.12, a full and complete inventory of which is on file in the State Examiner's office.

In conclusion, I wish to state that in the foregoing pages I have endeavored to place everything before you as clearly as possible, and I trust that my efforts have not been in vain.

Respectfully submitted,

W. N. STEPHENS,
State Game Warden.