

The Department enforces the laws governing the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay and inland waters; the conservation of wild life and game; and maintains a research laboratory at Solomons, Md.

The Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, located on Solomons Island, in the mid-region of the Chesapeake Bay Country, is making marked progress as an institution for wild life research and study of natural resources indigenous to the State. In progress at the Solomons Island institution are investigations into pertinent problems concerning crabs, oysters, fish and certain of their related forms and enemies. In the management of the laboratory, several colleges and independent institutions are cooperating, to wit: University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University, Western Maryland College, Washington College, Goucher College, and The Carnegie Institution of Washington.

The following courses were offered as class work to advanced undergraduates and to graduate students during the 1938 session: *Algae, Invertebrates, Economic Zoology, Diatoms, Protozoology, Experimental Zoology, Biological Problems* and *Biological Survey of Solomons Island Region*. Class work is limited to eight students in these various subjects relating to local problems, while an effort is made to keep the registration down to five members in each class. Students are accepted on the basis of interest and scholarship, special consideration being given to those from cooperating institutions and to Maryland high school teachers. Instructional work is planned to the end of affecting a greater interest in the facts and principles of conservation. All research problems are associated with the resources of the State. Original work rather than formal classes is encouraged.

Pollution studies, both field and laboratory, chemical and biological, are in progress in several parts of the State, while intensive work of this type is being done in the Patapsco region, where industrial and other wastes are intense.

Through cooperating institutions and independent research workers, who are supplied working space and equipment, the Laboratory is developing an extensive volume of fundamental knowledge about the biological conditions of the State. This work involves, in addition to stream and river, deep water investigations, trips on the open ocean from whence come many of the State's commercial fishes, and basic work on hydrography.

PROPAGATION OF GAME FISH.

Prior to 1926 the fresh water work was supported by State appropriations and only a limited amount of propagation could be accomplished. Since that time the Angler's License Fund was inaugurated which relieved the State from support in this direction, and the revenue from this source has made possible the following:

Enlarging and improving the Lewistown Hatchery at Frederick County, and leasing and operating in connection with the above named hatchery the White Rock and Richey Camp rearing stations.

The purchase and construction of a 50 acre large mouth bass and crappie station at Fairlee, Kent County, where since 1929, 700,000 bass and crappie have been distributed, mostly in the waters of the Eastern Shore.

The purchase of sixteen acres in connection with the Lewistown Hatchery for the purpose of the propagation of small mouth bass. Four and three quarters acres were completed and operated this season, with an output of 206,000 bass from two to three inches. Total output 242,000 bass and trout.