

There is a great deal of complaint on the part of fishermen on the headwaters of our rivers that they are unable to catch many of these fish, which too frequently never reach their natural spawning grounds at the headwaters of streams, and therefore never reproduce, because of the great multiplicity of pounds, fikes and other apparatus set near the mouths of the rivers. This must in time result in the practical extermination of these varieties of fish.

The commissioners in view of this evil recommend that the setting of pounds and fikes be regulated so that the fish may at least be able to reach their spawning ground in numbers sufficient to insure the future supply of fish and the profitable continuation of the fish business.

STATE GAME WARDEN.

The game laws of the State are being enforced. The number of laws enacted for protection of fish and game, and the multitude of local laws, which vary in each county, confuse the public and often cause trouble to those who have every desire to obey the law. An effort should be made as far as circumstances will permit to make the game laws more uniform throughout the State.

My attention was called by representatives of the Game and Fish Protective Association last summer to the wholesale, wanton and wasteful destruction of fish too small for market in the upper waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

The State Game Warden and his deputies are unable to stop such violations or apprehend the offenders, situated as they are on the water

The Board of Public Works considered the policy of detailing a portion of the State Fishery Force to patrol that part of the bay and stop the notorious violations of the law; but all the boats which could be placed in commission were too busily engaged in preventing violations of the oyster law to permit the services of even a single boat to be diverted from the work for which the oyster navy was primarily organized and is maintained. It is for your Honorable