A.

LAKE HURON

Investigations by

WILLIAM WAKEHAM AND RICHARD RATHBUN

JOINT FISHERIES COMMISSION

1894.

Arranged by Subjects.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

LIST OF WITNESSES---LAKE HURON.

(The name of the interviewer and date of interview is given in parenthesis in each case).

Casper Alpern, Alpena, Mich.----Mr. Alpern is at the head of the Alpena Fish Company and is an opponent of all fish laws except such as suit his convenience. He is one of the most active members of the Michigan Fisheries Association, which was organized chiefly with the object of defeating all State legislation that did not meet with their approval.

I have heard from others certain things about Mr. Alpern which indicate that his judgment is not of the best and that in a business way he has not been successful. Under those circumstances, can his views regarding the condition and the needs of the fisheries be considered reliable! He has made a great deal of money fishing, but seems to be a theorist in the matter of improving methods, perfecting his tugs, etc., which has made him very extravagant with out an equivalent return. He is said to spend two dollars where he makes one. His business

is now mortgaged for $30,000 to one of the banks in Alpena, and my informant was under the impression that he was working on a salary of $1200 a year. While he pushes the business for all it is worth, he is not apparently very favorably regarded in Alpena. He seems to rank high among the big fishermen of the State, however, and many are likely to support him in his views whether they believe in them or not. They are all fighting together against the State Fish Commission (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 24, 1894).

H. A. Benson, Bay City, Mich.---Has one of the large fishing establishments in West Bay City. He is interested in the Saginaw Bay fisheries (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 29, 1894).

Robert Beutel, Bay City, Mich.---Has a fishing establishment on the bank of the river in West Bay City. Is interested in the fishing mainly in Saginaw Bay (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 28, 1894).

Samuel Butterfield, Detour, Mich.---Has been in this region since 1857. Has been fishing from Detour about 15 years. Before that he lived on Drummond Island and fished in this neighborhood and around the island. Has been buying fish now about 5 years. Is also actively engaged in fishing; both pounds and gill nets, Is at present a fish warden of the State of Michigan for this region (Wakeham, August 18, 1894).

S. H. Case, Alpena, Mich.---Now employed by the wood pulp mill at Alpena. Was connected with the early pound net fishing of this region, but gave up fishing altogether about 8 years ago. Has been in this region about 30 years. He helped put in the first pound net, he states, that was ever put in on Lake Erie, midway between Huron and Vermillion, at a place called Ruggles Cove (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 25, 1894).

Capt. James Cleary, Alpena, Mich.---Master of the fishing tug Maxwell A., belonging to the Alpena Fish Company, one of the largest fishing tugs on the Great Lakes. Has been a fisherman about 23 or 24 years and fished below here before

he came to Alpena. He is regarded as a good fisherman, and as being reliable in his statements (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 26, 1894).

C. Corlett, Cheboygan, Mich.---Has been on the fishing grounds since he was 30 years old. Fishes pound nets exclusively (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 22, 1894).

Dan Corlett, Cheboygan, Mich.---Brother of C. Corlett. Gill netter exclusively (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 23, 1894).

Capt. Frank Cosley, Southampton, Ontario.--Has always lived here and has been fishing continuously during the past 20 years (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 6, 1894).

Capt. John Cragie, Goderich, Ontario.---- Has been fishing 23 years (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 5, 1894).

Capt. John Dobson, Southampton, Ontario.--- Has been fishing from this place all his life, during 35 years, and all of this time for himself. There were a number of fishermen here before him, but the business was not carried on very extensively then (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 7, 1894).

Louis Dubey, Bay Port, Mich.---Has been fishing in Saginaw Bay since 1874. Is now fishing at Heisterman Island where he has been fishing the past 9 years. Before that he fished around Point Lookout and the Charity Islands. Has fished all around the bay (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 30, 1894).

Capt. James Eingster, Goderich, Ontario.---Has been fishing about 17 years (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 5, 1894).

William Gill, Cheboygan, Mich.---Has been here 18 years. Used to engage in fishing, but now buys and sells fish locally (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 22, 1894).

James Gillingham, Bay Port, Mich.---Has been fishing about 12 years (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 30, 1894).

John Gillingham, Bay Port, Mich.---Fishes principally around Stony Island, being associated with his brother, James Gillingham (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 30, 1894).

Robert Gillingham, Bay Port, Mich.---24 years old. Has been fishing 10 years (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 30, 1894).

C. S. Hampton, Petoskey, Mich.---Chief State Fish and Game Warden (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 21, 1894).

David Lincoln, Alpena, Mich.---Has either been fishing or interested in fishing during the past 27 years. Runs a tug now, but has no pound nets; fishing entirely with gill nets. Mr. Lincoln has a fish market in the city (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 25, 1894).

Capt. Donald McCauley, Southampton, Ontario,---Fisherman. There were very few houses here when I came here in 1855. There were a few fishing then and others working at other occupations. Has been fishing most of the time since.he came here (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 7, 1894).

Capt. George S. McCauley, Southampton, Ont. Has been fishing here off and on for 20 years. Was fishing in Georgian Bay between times, some seasons being up there and some seasons here. Has fished as far south as Kincardine. Uses a tug and fishes nothing but gill nets (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 7, 1894).

Capt. A. McClean, Goderich, Ontario.---Has been fishing about 17 years (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 5, 1894).

George Penniman, Bay City, Mich.---Has been here 21 years. Has a large fishing establishment on the river front in the lower part of Bay City. Handles large quantities of fish. Is one of the partners in the firm of Trumpour & Co of Mackinaw City (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 28, 1894).

William E. Robinson, Mackinaw City, Mich.--A member of the firm of D. A. Trumpour & Co., who are the only dealers in fish and outfitters of fishermen at this place. They buy all the fish sent to market from this region, and also buy fish from some distances away. They have a branch at Bay City called Penniman & Co. Mr. Robinson is not over 35 years of age, and was in the employ of the railroad company at this place for a number of years. Has been a member of this fishing firm for only a few years, but his experience in connection with the fisheries of this region extends back for sometime. Mr. Trumpour, the head member of the firm, was interviewed by Dr. Scovell (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 20, 1894).

Avery W. Selkirk, Port Huron, Mich.---Has been here 6 years. The present company of which he is the head or manager has been in operation only during this year, but the old Port Huron Fish Company was fishing during the past 6 years. This is the only company at this place this year. They fish both pound nets and gill nets (Wakeham and Rathbun, September 1, 1894).

Thomas Sims, Detour, Mich.---Came from Glasgow, Scotland. Began fishing in this region about 1861 or 1862. Had no previous experience about here (Wakeham, August 18, 1894)

E. A. Tulian, Alpena, Mich.---Superintendent of the U. S. Fish Commission hatchery at this place. Has been here every fall but 2 since the hatchery started, which is 12 years ago (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 25, 1894).

Milton and David Wees, Sarnia, Ontario.---Have been fishing here about 34 years. They began to fish with seines and also troll lines, but did not do very much with the latter and have not for the last 15 years. They fished steadily with seines up to this spring (Wakeham, September 3, 1894).

Joseph Wilmot, Mackinac Island, Mich.---Came here from Buffalo in 1854 and began fishing for himself in 1858. Stopped fishing 5 or 6 years ago (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 20, 1894)

Andrus Wilson, Harbor Springs, Mich.---Has fished ever since he was big enough to work. Has been here 11 years. Previously was at Sheboygan, Wis. (Wakeham and Rathbun, August 21, 1894).

Cheboygan.---We arrived at Cheboygan in the morning of August 22, 1894. Interviewed Mr. William Gill. He has been here 18 years. Fished in the beginning, but since then he has been engaged chiefly in supplying the local demand for fish, buying of the fishermen hereabouts and selling to the townspeople(Rathbun).

Alpena.---Had a long interview with Mr. Casper Alpern. He is apparently the Alpena Fish Company, a very shrewd, active German Jew who has been engaged in fishing from here for some 22 years. He is a pusher and certainly accomplishes as much as any one could from this fishery (Rathbun).

Alpena.---It is about 30 years since I began to fish here. I gave up fishing 8 years ago, since the pulp mill started. The last fishing I was interested in was on Lake Michigan (S. H. Case).

FISHING; GENERAL.

FISHING STATIONS---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---Mackinac is the nearest fishing place on the American side and Cockburn Island the nearest station on the Canadian side, and that is about 30 miles away. That used to be a great fishing ground, but it is getting very light. Thessalon is about 20 miles from here, but they do not pack fish there, just engage in fishing (Butterfield).

Bay City.---There are nothing but fishermen's huts at the Charities. I think they bring all their fish to Bay Port to dress from the fisheries in the vicinity of that place (Beutel).

Port Huron.---Interviewed Mr. Selkirk here, who is the manager of the Port Huron Fish Company at Port Huron, a bright, intelligent man who spoke freely. Their fishing is done entirely in the lake (Rathbun).

FISHING; GENERAL; LOCALITY---LAKE HURON.

Mackinac Island.---In 1867 I was away from here for 3 months and put up 700 packages of fish, with 150 nets. I fished in one place straight along for 9 years, and little north of the Beavers in Lake Michigan.

The fishing in Mackinac Straits does not amount to much. The principal fishing is in Lake Michigan and down in Lake Huron. The first year I came here there used to be quite a little fishing here, but it never amounted to much.

From St. Ignace west about 60 or 65 miles up as far as Manistique, is the best fishing now. The other way the best fishing is from Cheboygan down. There is not much fishing between here and Cheboygan (Wilmot).

Cheboygan.---There is not as good fishing in the north part of Lake Huron as in the north part of Lake Michigan (D. Corlett).

Alpena.---Where they fish now they did not fish in the early days; that is out on the Big Reef about 40 miles where the sail boats could not go, but they were fishing in the same character of places.

The bay here used to be a rich fishing ground, and I do not know of a place on the lakes anywhere where there has been more fish taken out than in this bay in the same length of time.

From the Duck Island fishery on the other side they used to do an immense amount of business from Canada. Gautier used to fish there. And this place up between Middle Island and Thunder Bay Island, there was no place on the lakes where there has been as many fish caught as there, but if we get a blow off the lake we are liable to lose a whole gang of nets. It is honeycomb rock (Case).

Bay City.---They fish clear up to the head of the tributaries of the Saginaw River (Penniman).

Bay Port.---We fish principally around Stony Island (John Gillingham).

Goderich.---We have better fishing grounds than they have on the other side. Any place where you get shallow water and deep alongside of it is a good fishing ground. Duck Island is as good a fishing ground as there is in Lake Huron today, but it is not as good as it used

to be. They have pound nets and gill nets there (Eingster).

FISHING CENTERS -- LAKE HURON.

Port Huron.- This is a center for gill net fishing. We are the only firm here this year that fishes gill nets. Craig and Lang were fishing gill nets out of here with a Canadian tug last year. They have a fresh fish house here and a salt fish house in Detroit. In Detroit it is James Craig and here it is Craig and Lang. They have been relieved of their license this year owing to the fact that some little thing came up between Mr. Lang and the Canadian Government and they would not allow him his license this year. He lives on this side. That is the reason we are the only gill net people this year.- (Selkirk).

Goderich.- They fish from Bayfield with sail boats below here, but no other place south. Kincardine is the next fishing place north.- (Cragie).

FISHING; GENERAL; EXTENT---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---There is more twine in the water this year than ever before. Some of the nets will take fish and some will not, and some nets did not do anything.

The fishing generally in Lake Huron has decreased to the same extent that it has here. They have come over here from the other shores to see how it is here, which shows that it is getting light there. The fishing in the Straits is not very good this year. It worked about the same as it did here, had a little run and then dropped off. We do not get over 3 tons a week now. There are not over 20 pound nets in the water now. The gill nets are about all fishing except one tug. I want to lay our tugs up and fish the gill nets with sail boats as I think we can do better. Will not go so far out, but fish on the shore in 10 or 12 fathoms (Butterfield).

Detour.---Their fishing on the Canadian shore is falling away also. They have more nets and less fish.

They do not fish much at Mackinac now. Mr.

Arnold catches a few with seines. There is not much fish handled at Cheboygan now (Sims).

Mackinaw City.---We control all the fishing about here. Do not fish ourselves, but furnish the nets. Our fish all come from this region. On the other shore we go as far as Waubeshank Light in Lake Michigan. Connable's tug sometimes runs up as far as St. Helene, but they do not get any fishing to amount to anything. We have been shipping Connable a good many fish this year. There is quite extensive fishing from Charlevoix now (Robinson).

Petoskey.---The amount of fishing in Mackinac Straits has been less than it used to be as they have removed the nets which gave occasion for the decrease in the catch a few years ago (Hampton).

Harbor Springs.---There is a big decrease in the fishing since I came here 11 years ago. From this bay there has not been a very extensive fishery carried on. Connable is fishing from Petoskey. There are 2 or 3 parties fishing from there, but not very extensively. No tugs are running from there

now, but Connable runs from there in the fall.

When I first came here there was only one party fishing here of any account. He was a pound net fisherman named W. Peter.

There are not many nets in along this shore. I do not think there ever were any more than there are now. I fish right here in this bay around the point (Wilson).

Petoskey.---This is Connable's headquarters but they were not fishing from here at the time of our visit and there was no one to see. Not much fishing is going on in this region now (Rathbun).

Harbor Springs.---At Harbor Springs saw Andrus Wilson, who seemed quite indifferent as to how things were going, and from whom we did not get much information. There is not much of a fishery in the bay and he says the abundance of fishes is not changing much there now. He did not seem to care whether things were improved or not. He is the only fisherman now at this place (Rathbun).

Cheboygan.---There are more pound nets right here possibly than anything else. The gill nets were used extensively when he began using pound nets and there were more in proportion than there are now, more big rigs. There are more pound nets than there used to be (C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---There are double the number of men fishing here now that there used to be and they have more nets according to the men. There are more people fishing now than ever before (Gill).

Alpena.---When he first came here there were not so many nets. They fished for trout, but there was not near the amount of nets used.

The tugs used to do big fishing here. It was nothing unless a tug got 100 tons in a season (Case).

Southampton.---They are fishing more nets than ever before altogether, taking in the tugs. There are 3 tugs and 3 boats here that do not sell to the Buffalo Company (D. McCauley).

Southampton.---I think there are too many fishing now (Dobson).

FISHING; GENERAL; EXTENT AND NECESSITY OF REDUCING----LAKE HURON.

Port Huron.---The reason we keep up here better than the other lakes is because we have not the number of harbors and there are not the places for tugs to fish from.

I am considerably of the same opinion with you that fishing is going to diminish in time if we are allowed to run these large tug rigs. There is no question but that the excessive use of gill nets is going to deplete the fishing and there is no question but that these large tugs that can run 6 gangs of 50 nets, which means nearly 8 miles of nets to a gang; I consider that too much, and I consider that there should be a restriction. I have run 46 miles to a tug, and I have found that I can make more money by running less nets and less men on my tugs, but to do this we have to go back to the old style of fishing with sail boats; but we are going to put a little motor in our boats to save time, but the minute we get back to the small boats we are running less nets. A boat

is a boat, and if they are restricted to a certain number they can only operate a certain number. It is going to drive us to the disuse of tugs and running small boats.

It costs us about $7 a day to feed our little tugs with coal, and with that I can run my crew, fuel, nets and all with a little boat and a motor.

The moment we do get to this let the Government step in and limit us to a certain number of such boats and not let us have 15 or 20 of them, but put us down to a couple apiece, which is all any one man should have.

I have figured that it is cheaper for us to run 36 nets in a gang and only 4 gangs and one gang ashore than it is to run 6 gangs with 55 nets in a gang, and if all the tugs on this lake would confine themselves to 36 nets in a gang the fishing would last much longer(Selkirk)

EXTENT OF FISHERY ---- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- Doesn't think too many men are fishing in this region. Not one man has over 4 pounds. Statement of Mr. Robinson.- (Rathbun).

FISHING; GENERAL;HISTORY---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---He has been fishing here about 15 years. Before that he lived on Drummond Island and fished in this neighborhood and around Drummond Island. Has been buying fish now about 5 years. There was fishing when he came here in 1857, but they were very small rigs, half-breeds and Indians (Butterfield).

Detour.---In 1861 the fishing here was very limited, only himself and Mr. Newell. He was here before Mr. Newell. He had the first pound net here. I fished gill nets first. Used to fish here for trout in Canadian waters with gill nets. Fished gill nets for trout and whitefish and fished anywhere. We used to take the fish then in the spring and fall. Used to begin as soon as the ice got out, about the first of May, and fished up to about November 10. Fished all the season through. We salted the fish then, but the last 15 or 20 years we have sold all we could fresh. We used to fish about the same time as now. Used to go up 20 miles from here, but did not fish out in the lake more than 3 or 4 miles (Sims).

Mackinaw City.---The fishery here is an old one. As far back as we can get any evidence they were fishing here. St. Helene used to be their headquarters (Robinson).

Mackinac Island.---He came here from Buffalo in 1854 and went to fishing for himself in 1858. His father came from Montreal. I fished the first net up near Birch Point, about 50 miles from here in Lake Michigan. I fished there 2 seasons and then I went to fishing at a place called Swishwan, 10 miles from Birch Point. I have fished from Mackinac Island 6 or 8 springs. I have not done any fishing in 10 years (Wilmot).

Alpena.---When I began there was extensive fishing going on and it existed long before my day, but at that time it was carried on with sail boats. They had both pound nets and gill nets then. Pound nets were fished then more than they are now. It has played out so now that nobody fishes them to amount to much. Our pound net fishing is playing out here (Lincoln).

General.---When I first went to Alpena in 1882 there were 10 or 12 sail boats and 6 tugs fishing out of there. They had been fishing 3 or 4 years before that and they were fishing quite a number of sail boats with trap nets and gill nets. Thinks there are more tugs fishing in Saginaw Bay and from Port Huron now than at that time. But the sail boats have been frozen out. There is not one sail boat where there were 5 when he first went there. There is not one pound net where there were 10 when he first went there. But take the annual catch and it is greater than in 1881.

They will begin in the spring and they will probably have a good catch and maybe along through the summer, and the fall may be a bad one---the weather may be unfavorable and their fall catch will be light. Of course that is the catch they look to for their profits. While they may say it has been a hard season, they catch as many fish as they did the season before, but did not catch them at the right time to suit their taste. In 1881 the fishing was good at Alpena. In the fall of 1882 it was good in Thunder Bay and along the west

shore. In 1883 it was pretty fair, but in 1884 it was poor, and in 1885 still poorer, and it ran along that way for 2 or 3 years. Then they had a pretty fair season, then a poor season and then a good season, and so on. But about 4 years ago it got so poor on the shallows north of Thunder Bay Island that he gave up working the tugs there for spawn. They did not catch enough to make it an object. But one fall they had good fishing, catching as high as 5,000 at a lift with a tug, and the next fall it was very poor, and it has been pretty poor on the shallows there ever since. Tulian wrote him last fall that if the weather had been favorable he thinks he would have filled the hatchery at Alpena with eggs off the shoals, as the early part of the run had started in well (Wires).

Port Huron.---This Company has only been fishing this year, but the old Port Huron Fish Company had been fishing here 6 years. I have been here 6 years. This is an old fishing place. Mr. R. Holland fished here 20 years ago. He is now with the dredge people on

Government work. He can give you more of the history than any other man in this country. He has been here 40 years (Selkirk).

Sarnia.---They have been fishing here about 34 years. They began to fish with seines and also troll lines, but did not do very much with the latter and have not for the last 15 years (Wees).

FISHING; GENERAL; HISTORY ---- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Others had been fishing here before he began although not extensively, but there has always been some fishing here.- (Butterfield).

FISHING; HISTORY --- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- The first tug was fished from Alpena in 1874, using gill nets. The trap nets were fished here a long time before tugs came here. The tugs, however, fished the whole season through, so I dare say that there would not be much difference between the two, and I think the tugs have taken fully as many fish as the pound nets.-(Case).

SEASON --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- They catch a few fish under the ice here in the winter, but they do not fish much. They do not ship any away, however, and it is just for the local trade. Do not make a business of fishing here in the winter. , There are probably not over 3 tons caught here during that season.-(Butterfield).

FISHING; GENERAL; SEASONS---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---They begin fishing just as soon as the ice gets out, from April 15 to May 1. Both pound nets and gill nets are set just as soon as the ice is out, and we generally do our best fishing then, especially in the pound nets (Butterfield).

Alpena.---I do not do any winter fishing and there is no winter fishing done around here except a little for sport (Alpern).

Goderich.---There is scarcely any winter fishing about Goderich. The ice seldom makes good (Rathbun).

FISHING; GENERAL; METHODS---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---The fishing is carried on here with pound nets and gill nets (Butterfield).

Detour.---There is no other method of fishing carried on here except pound nets and gill nets (Sims).

Mackinaw City.---They use nothing but pound and gill nets in this region. We control all the fishing about here. We do not fish any ourselves, but just furnish the nets to the men.

I do not think gill nets are used quite as much as they used to be. Pound nets seem to be taking their place (Robinson).

Mackinac Island.---The fishing is all done by a few men with pound nets and not by gill nets any more. The pound nets are taking the place of the gill nets (Wilmot).

Harbor Springs.---I have pound nets now and have a few gill nets. Gill netting is not carried on here very extensively. I have 3 pound nets here. I have always run some pound nets down the Straits of Mackinac until this

year. Would not bring fish down here from the Straits (Wilson).

Cheboygan.---We have 2 kinds of fishing here; pound nets and gill nets (C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---I guess there is more pound netting than gill netting around here, even taking the tugs into consideration (D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---When I came here they were not using so many pound nets as they are now. I used gill nets when I fished, but there were a few pound nets then, but nothing to what there are now (Gill).

Alpena.---Mr. Alpern says that in this district gill netting is superceding the pounds, which is contrary to what we found further north. The reason he gives is that the pound net grounds are giving out and in Thunder Bay at least he claims that it is due to the fouling of the bottom (Rathbun).

Alpena.---When he was fishing there was no other extensive fishing going on here except pound and gill nets (Case).

General.---The reason for cutting out the pound nets in Lake Huron is that they have fished their grounds out. With the gill nets they fish new and better grounds and find it more profitable. The fish along shore were all caught out and the runs broken up by the pound nets. Originally they used to do splendidly with the pound nets in Thunder Bay.

They have probably fished as many or more nets in Saginaw Bay since 1881 and 1882 than they had fished up to that time, but you take it from Bay City around on the west shore of the lake, clear up to the Straits of Mackinac, and they have fished less.

The pound nets have simply become less and the gill nets more numerous. The gill nets could follow up the runs better.

Would say in a general way that outside of Lake Erie the miscellaneous fishes are not taken so abundantly as in Lake Erie. There is not such an incentive to use pound nets in the other lakes.

You take it on the best pound net grounds and you cannot do anything with gill nets, and

you take it on the very best gill net grounds and you cannot get at them with the pound nets. When gill netting and pound netting can both be carried on it is pretty hard to tell which is the more injurious to the fishing. Considers the gill net fishing a greater industry than the pound net fishing on lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan (Wires).

Bay Port.---The fishing in Saginaw Bay is pound net fishing altogether now. There used to be seining, but there is none now (James Gillingham).

Port Huron.---The only fishery with nets at this end of St. Clair River is a seine which is located in the upper part of Port Huron. There are very few pounds between Port Huron and Sand Beach. This Company has a few just above the head of St. Clair River. Outside of a few pounds, the American fishing in the southern part of Lake Huron is done with gill nets. This firm has two tugs and one sail boat. There is no other gill net firm south of Saginaw Bay (Selkirk).

Sarnia.---They began to fish with seines here about 34 years ago and also troll lines, but did not do very much with them, and have not for the last 15 years (Wees).

In the early days there was no other fishing but seine fishing and they used to seine on the American side just the same as we did here, and we never could see any difference in the fishing until they put in the pound nets and gill nets. When they put the pound nets above here, double headers, they had such large lifts it certainly decreased our fishing here. We never fished any gill nets here at all. There have been others fishing them around us here on the sly and they got a good many pickerel. They put them in just as soon as the ice is out. Gill nets are fished from Port Huron some for whitefish. We never fished gill nets for whitefish or trout. All the people who own seines here confine themselves to seines entirely. We would prefer the seine to any other kind of fishing (Wees).

Southampton.---Between Kincardine and Cape Hurd the principal fishery has been gill nets and seines, but seines are all done away with now (Dobson).

FISHING; GENERAL; TUGS AND BOATS -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- I have no tug. We had tugs, but fish with boats now as it is cheaper. When they have a long distance to go it is quicker to have tugs, but my furthest pound is only about 8 miles.

There are about 20 boats fished from here and 3 tugs.-(Sims).

FISHING; GENERAL; FISHERMEN---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---There are probably 75 men engaged in the fishery here who are dependent upon it (Butterfield).

Detour.---There are about 60 or 70 fishermen here (Sims).

Mackinaw City.---There are very few pound net fishermen have a gang of gill nets. They are mostly a separate class altogether. A gill net fisherman thinks he can fish nothing else and the pound net men the same way, but there are a few exceptions (Robinson).

Mackinac Island.---The fishermen who were formerly here have all died off or gone to farming. There was nothing in the fishing for them and they had to give it up. There are not 1/4 as many fishing now as then (Wilmot).

Cheboygan.---The fishermen have no other occupation (C. Corlett).

Goderich.---We have the best fishermen. I could go across to the American side and I bet I would catch more fish at Sand Beach than they catch there now. The men go out from here at 3 o'clock in the morning and come back at 12

or 1 o'clock at night.

The man fishing beside me on the reef would not fish the same as we would. He would not fish in deep water because it was too hard pulling the nets up. They are fishing for a company and they want to get where they can dip their nets easily and do not care whether they get a big haul or a small one. We were fishing alongside of them all last season and they were getting 500 or 600 lbs. to a lift and we were getting 1,000 or 1,500 lbs. to a lift. I will go to Sand Beach and guarantee to catch as much fish as I catch from Goderich.

There were more men fishing before there were any licenses than there are now. There are about 100 men engaged in the fishing here who are dependent upon it (Cragie).

Goderich.---Fishermen do nothing but fish around here as it takes all their time fishing and fixing up the rigs (Eingster).

Southampton.---Fishermen are generally mending their nets in the winter and do not do much winter fishing. They tried it, but fishermen must work at their nets in the winter as well as in the summer, mending your nets and

getting the nets ready and making corks and leads and everything like that, takes all the time. Some make their own corks and some buy them (D. McCauley).

Southampton.---The fishermen about here have no other occupation except fishing. It takes them all winter to get their outfits ready for the next year. A man who fishes here makes a business of it and does nothing else (Cosley).

Southampton.---The fishermen as a general thing when they lay up just quit altogether (Dobson).

FISHERMEN --- LAKE HURON.

General.- The fishermen around Lake Huron are mostly Americans. Around Lake Superior they are mostly Finnlanders and Swedes, and they will catch anything if there is any money in it.-(Wires).

CONDITION OF FISHERIES ON TWO SIDES OF LAKE HURON.

Southampton.- Our fisheries are in better condition than they are on the other side. There is more deep water and colder water on this side, and they are a better eating fish than down at Goderich and Bayfield. The water here is colder and purer and down there when a storm comes up the water gets muddy.- (D. McCauley).

FISHING; GENERAL; SIZE OF MESH AND FISH.

LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- A fish will gill in the gill nets about the same size they will in the pound nets of the same size mesh.-(C. Corlett).

Alpena.- I hardly think a 2 lb. fish would pass through a 3 1/2 inch pound net mesh. You take the twine and tar it. It is a heavy twine anyhow, and it stays there just like a wire net, and that twine will not shape to fish as it is very stiff, while the gill net twine will and the fish will go through a 3 1/2 inch gill net mesh that would not go through a 31/2 inch trap net mesh, and we can catch as small as 1 1/2 lb. fish, dressed. I caught a trout here last summer that weighed 55 lbs., dressed.-(Cleary).

FISHING; GENERAL; EXPENSE---LAKE HURON.

Southampton.---They cannot get men to work for them less than $30 a month and board, and paying so much for men and nets they cannot stand it (D. McCauley).

DESTRUCTIVENESS OF DIFFERENT APPLIANCES COMPARED.

LAKE HURON.

Sarnia.- If the government would make way with all the pound nets and gill nets and let them go on seining wherever they could and in the places where they could not seine let them have the places for spawning grounds. If there were nothing but seines used in the lakes it would not be over 5 years before the fish would be back as abundant as they ever were. We have destroyed more small fish with our 2 pound nets this year than we would in 3 years with the seines.-(Wees).

POUND NETS; LOCATION, NUMBER.

POUND NETS IN LAKE HURON,

1894.

Abstract of Dr. J.T.Scovell's Report.

SECTION I (B.L. Hardin)

PORT HURON TO PORT HOPE, MICHIGAN.

Extent of Shore line.---About 70 statute miles.

Character of bottom.---Sand and mud strewn more or less with boulders. For several miles each side of Sand Beach, bottom is composed of hard rock, making it a difficult matter to drive pound stakes.

General direction of Strings.---Perpendicular to shore.

Number and Disposition of pound nets. There were 42 pound nets fished in 24 strings along this shore. None of the strings contained more than 3 nets each. 5 strings had 3 nets each, 8 had 2 nets each, the rest 1.

DESCRIPTION.

Distance inner end strings from shore.--Varies from 10 rods to 1 mile. The large majority start 30 or 40 rods offshore.

Depth of water.---Inner end of leads is in from 6 to 16 feet, generally in about 10. The pots rest in from 18 to 30 feet of water, generally in about 20 feet.

Length of leads.---Varies from 30 to 150 rods. Three are 30 rods long, fourteen are 40 rods, eight are 50 rods, two are 60 rods, thirteen are 80 rods, and two are 150 rods.

Size of pots.---Varies from 18 by 20 feet to 32 by 35 feet. Majority of them are from 26 to 30 feet square. Depth varies of course, with depth of water, object being to keep them 2 or 3 feet off the bottom.

Total length of strings.---Of the 24 strings, only 1 was over 200 rods long, 6 between 100 and 200, and the rest less than 100 rods long.

Size of mesh.---In leads 5 to 8 inches, in hearts and tunnels 4 and 5 inches, in pots 1 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches, generally 2 1/2 to 3 inches. Many pots had 3 inch mesh in front and sides and 2 1/2 inches in back.

There are no pound nets from Port Hope to entrance of Saginaw Bay.

SECTION II.

SAGINAW BAY--POINTE AUX BARQUES TO SABLE POINT.

Extent of shore-line.---About 170 miles.

Character of bottom.---Composed variously of sand, gravel, mud and rock. Around the Charity Islands clay and rock, generally very good driving ground. From Pointe aux Barques down to Caseville bottom is composed of sand and bedrock mre or less overspread with boulders, features which do not constitute a good driving ground. The grounds are better adapted for driving pound stakes between Sand Point and Fish Point, while from Fish Point to Quannakissee River the bottom is made up of very hard sand and gravel, making it very difficult to insert stakes.

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The southern and western parts of the bay present a bottom composed of more or less soft mud and clay excellent grounds for the intro-

duction of pound nets; in neighborhood of Alabaster, however, the bottom is very rocky.

General direction of strings.---Perpendicular to shore.

Number and disposition of pound nets.---There were 352 pound nets fished in 77 strings in Saginaw Bay. On the average these strings contained from 3 to 5 nets, the greatest number of strings containing 3 nets. No tendency was manifested to fish the pounds singly as there were only two single pounds in the bay. These were:

2	strings	containing	1	net,	2 nets.
12	"	"	2	nets,	24 "
24	"	"	3	"	72 "
8	"	"	4	"	32 "
18	"	"	5	"	90 "
1	"	"	6	"	6 "
2	"	"	7	"	14 "
1	"	"	8	"	8 "
5	"	"	9	"	45 "
2	"	"	10	"	20 "
1	"	"	17	"	17 "
1	"	"	22	"	22 "
77					352

DESCRIPTION.

Distance inner ends strings from shore. Varies from 50 to 150 rods, averaging from 50 to 90.

Depth of water.---Inner ends of strings in from 4 to 15 feet, generally from 4 to 9. The pots are in from 6 to 30 feet. Inner pots in from 6 to 10 feet and outer pots mostly in from 8 to 18 feet. The pounds on the west side of the bay north of White Stone Point are in deeper water, from 20 to 30 feet. The great majority of all the pots in the bay are in from 8 to 15 feet of water.

Size of pots.---20 to 32 feet square, generally 28 or 30 feet square.

Length of leads.---Varies from 30 to 140 rods, those extremes being rarely met with. The large majority of the leads are about 80 rods long, nearly all of them falling between 60 and 85 rods in length. A very few are 40 rods long.

Total length of strings.---The longest string of twine, which was located off Bay Port, extended just 6 miles out into the bay, being about 5.8 miles long in itself. The next in length was a string just 1 3/4 miles south of the above, and was in actual length about 3.8 miles but including two gaps in the continuity of the string it extended out about 4.5 miles. These are the long strings in the bay, all the others being proportionately much shorter, i.e., they would run mostly between 200 and 600 rods in length, majority being a little less than a mile long.

Size of mesh.---In leads 5 and 6 inches, in hearts and tunnels 4 to 5 inches, in front and sides of pot 2 1/2, in back 2 inches.

SECTION III.

LOWER PENINSULA--POINT AU SABLE TO CHEBOYGAN.

Extent of shore-line.--- About 150 miles.

Character of bottom.---From Point au Sable north toward Sturgeon Point, a clay bottom covered with boulders is found; around Sturgeon Point bottom is very variable but bad for stake driving. In Thunder Bay sand, clay and boulders make up the bottom. North of Thunder Bay in the vicinity of Middle Island it is very rocky. Around Rogers City and in Hammond Bay the bottom is found to consist of clay covered with layers of sand and gravel.

General direction of strings.---Perpendicular to the shore.

Number and disposition of pound nets.--- There were 29 nets fished in 14 strings, the strings containing from 1 to 3 nets. 5 strings contained 3 nets each, 5 contained 2 nets each, and the remaining four 1 net each.

DESCRIPTION.

Distance inner ends of strings from shore. Varies from 30 to 80 rods, majority of the strings beginning 30 or 40 rods from the shore. One string began 3/4 mile from the shore and another 1 1/2 mile.

Depth of water.---Inner ends of strings in from 10 to 18 feet, mostly in about 10 feet. At outer end of strings the depth of wa ter varies from 20 to 40 feet, generally 25 to 35 feet.

Size of pots.---28 to 30 feet square, great majority being 30 feet square.

Length of leads.---Varies from 40 to 70 rods, majority were 40 rods in length, the next most common length being 65 rods.

Total length of strings.---The longest string was 200 rods in length. Four strings were 140 rods long, two 135, the rest between 45 and 90 rods long.

Size of mesh.---In leads 6 inch, in hearts and tunnels 5 inch, in cribs 2 1/2 inch front and sides, 2 inch in back, except in 3 nets where it was claimed 3 1/2 inch mesh was used.

SECTION 1V.

SOUTH CHANNEL--CHEBOYGAN TO MACKINAW CITY AND SOUTH SIDE OF BOIS BLANC ISLAND.

Extent of shore-line.---About 24 miles.

Character of bottom.---On south side of the channel there is enough sand, mud and clay to make very good grounds for driving stakes. On north side of the channel there is a great deal of rock and gravel and the bottom is bad for driving or holding stakes.

General direction of strings.---Perpendicular to the shore.

Number and disposition of pound nets.---There were 37 pound nets fished in 21 strings a along these shores. The strings contained from 1 to 4 nets. 3 strings had 4 nets each, 1 had 3 nets, 5 had 2 nets, the rest had 1 net each.

DESCRIPTION.

Distance inner ends of strings from shore. In nearly every instance, 30 rods.

Depth of water.--- Inner ends of strings in from 10 to 12 feet and nets in from 16 to 50 feet. A few small nets were fished in 16 and 18 feet, but the most of them were set in from 30 to 40 feet.

Size of pots.---Five pots were 24 and 26 feet square, all the rest were 30 feet square.

Length of leads.---Varies from 25 to 70 rods. 8 leads are 60 and 70 rods, the rest are 35 or 40, mostly 35, with exception of 2 leads that are 25 rods in length.

Total length of strings.---1 string was 235 rods long, another 180, the rest under 100 rods in length.

Size of mesh.---In leads 6 inches, in hearts and tunnels 4 1/2 and 5 inches, mostly 5. In pots 2 to 3 1/2 inches, mostly 3 1/2.

SECTION V.

NORTH SHORE BOIS BLANC ISLAND AND UPPER PENINSULA FROM ST. IGNACE EASTWARD TO DETOUR.

Extent of shore-line.---About 90 miles.

Character of bottom.---On north side of Bois Blanc Island, clay, rock and gravel. Upon the main shore eastward from St. Ignace the bottom is mainly soft being composed of mud, clay, sand and gravel.

General direction of strings.---They are perpendicular to the shore.

Number and disposition of pound nets.---There were 69 nets fished in 42 strings along these shores. The strings contained from 1 to 5 nets each. 1 string contained 5 nets, 2 contained 4 nets, 2 contained 3 nets, 13 contained 2 nets, and 24 had 1 net.

DESCRIPTION.

Distance inner ends of strings from shore. Varies from 5 rods to 3/4 mile. In the great majority of instances the distance is from 20 to 40 rods.

Depth of water.---Inner ends of strings in from 6 to 10 feet, as a rule; the nets in from 18 to 40 feet, generally from 25 to 40 feet.

Size of pots.---Varies from 22 to 44 feet square, but the great majority were 30 feet square.

Length of leads.---Varies from 30 to 65 rods, nearly all were either 40 or 50 rods in length.

Total length of strings.---The longest was 240 rods in length. There were two 180 rods long, 7 between 100 and 140 rods, the rest under 90 rods long.

Size of mesh.---In leads 6 and 7 inch, nearly all 6. In hearts and tunnels 5 inch, in pots 3 1/2 and 2 1/2, mostly 3 1/2.

SECTION VI.

DRUMMOND ISLAND AND SMALL ISLANDS IN POTAGANNISSING BAY.

Extent of shore-line.---Rough estimate 80 miles.

Character of bottom.---Soft clay and mud predominate. Sand, grass and rocks at a few points.

General direction of strings.---Perpendicular to shore generally, but around the islands they are set off the shore in the most convenient direction.

Number and disposition of pound nets.

There were 81 nets fished in 70 strings around these islands. The greatest number of nets in one string was 2, and there were only 11 strings containing 2 nets. All the remaining nets were fished singly.

DESCRIPTION.

Distance inner ends of strings from shore. Notes do not give much data on this point, but on the few occasions mentioned, the leads begin within 3 to 15 rods of the shore.

Depth of water.---The nets are located in from 20 to 90 feet of water, mostly in from 30 to 50 feet.

Size of pots.---30 feet square in nearly every instance. There were a very few nets 20, 24, 26 and 28 feet square.

Length of leads.---40 and 50 rods, mostly 50.

Total length of strings.---The longest not over 110 rods, majority about 60 rods in length.

Size of mesh.---Not mentioned in the notes save in one or two instances, in those, mesh in leads 6 inch, in hearts and tunnels 5 inch, in pots 3 1/2.

SECTION VII.

STRAITS OF MACKINAC WEST OF ST. IGNACE--NORTH SHORE.

Extent of shore-line.---About 35 miles.

Character of bottom.---From St. Ignace as far west as Epoufette the bottom consists mainly of sand and clay with a few rocks. Off and above Epoufette, near the shore the bottom is soft, composed of mud and clay.

General direction of strings.---Perpendicular to shore.

Number and disposition of pound nets. There were 64 nets in 27 strings fished along this shore. The strings contained from 1 to 6 nets each. One string had 6 nets, one had 5 nets, two had 4 nets, five had 3 nets, twelve had 2 nets and six had 1 net.

DESCRIPTION.

Distance inner ends strings from shore. Varies greatly, from very near the shore to 2 miles off. The majority of the strings probably begin between 3/4 and 1 mile from shore. The rocky character of the bottom near the shore prohibits the driving of stakes any closer in.

Depth of water. At inner ends of strings varies from 16 to 30 feet, generally from 20 to 30 feet. The nets were in from 20 to 30 feet.

Size of pots.---Generally 30 feet square.

Length of leads.---Nearly all 40 rods long, a very few were 45 and 50.

Total length of strings.---The longest 270 rods, next 225 rods. There were 8 strings between 100 and 200 rods, the rest under 100 rods.

Size of mesh.---In leads 6 inch, in hearts and tunnels 5 inch, in pots 3 1/2 and 2 1/2 inch, mostly former.

POUND NETS; LOCATION; NUMBER; &C. - LAKE HURON.

Detour.- There are 52 pound nets fishing around here and are owned here. They are close by. The main pound net fishing is on the islands and they set on all the islands.

The water gets pretty deep. We fish our nets in 50 feet of water. Our pound nets are set on clay bottom, we cannot drive them on this hard rock bottom. It requires soft bottom.

Their nets are set off Drummond Island and the scattering islands north of it. They have 4 nets set off the south side of Drummond Island. It is not a whitefish ground as it is rocky. The nets are mostly on the north side of Drummond Island, and there are nets all down that shore among the islands. Fishing is also carried on from St. Joseph's Island, and there are 7 nets fishing there now.- (Butterfield).

Detour.- There must be 20 times as many pound nets fished now as at first. I have about 20 nets and my 2 sons have 7. Within

a range of 15 or 20 miles there are at least 40 pound nets. They set them as far apart as they can, but where they are so numerous they have to get them close together.

The pound net fishing is not all done on Drummond Island. There is some done down at the Snows, but only 4 or 5 nets. With that exception they are all on the islands. My son has a net or 2 down by the light-house. Last year it being a failure there, they are not driving so much, but there were probably 10 or 15 nets there last year. There are but few nets on the southern part of Drummond Island. They have probably 8 or 10 nets between here and the little channel.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- They fish more pounds than ever before, and they are gradually putting more in.

An old gentleman fishing for yellow pickerel over near St. Ignace has 6 pound nets in a string in 16 or 18 feet of water.-(Robinson).

Mackinaw Island.- They set a few pound nets around this island, but did not make it

pay. A man set 2 pound nets off Point Aux Pins last year, with the intention of catching fish, and I thought he would get some, but it never paid him at all; did not pay him for putting the stakes in the ground. I went around there sailing one morning with a party and was going to show them the rig he had for catching fish, but when I got up there the stakes were all broken off and the twine under water. The current is too strong.- (Wilmot).

Harbor Springs.- Thinks it is a mistake to crowd pound nets too close together, that it is for the good of the fishermen as well as the fish.

I have in twine over on the south shore here where in the width of the pot, - 32 feet- it would drop off 15 or 20 feet. You will find places where you cannot put in twine at all it will drop off so fast. It is rocky all along the shore here after you get up off the bank, and it is pretty hard setting nets. Right here there are no rocks, but after you get up a mile or 2 you will find rocks close

to the shore.-(Wilson).

Cheboygan.- The number of nets has increased very much. There are twice as many now. There are about 20 between here and Mackinaw City this summer, a distance of about 16 miles. Then there are 11 on the island and 3 down between here and Hammond's Bay and 6 in the bay.

Pound nets should not be any closer than a mile apart for each string, but might have 2 or 3 in a string.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- If the pound nets were too close they would soon catch all the fish out and would not get any at all.-(D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- When he began fishing pound nets were not so numerous and it gave the fish a chance. They are getting too many fishermen according to the amount of fish and with these small meshed nets they clean them right out.

Between here and Alpena I dare say there are 300 pound nets, including Thunder Bay. You go 40 miles up the shore and there are a pile of pound nets scattered along. There is one

man down here has 7 nets within a mile. Where there is a feeding ground, and it may be a small feeding ground, and fish will rush for it, and they will put their nets all around that feeding ground.

There is no fishing with pound nets from now until about September 10, when they put their nets back again, but not on the same grounds. They go into a different place, but does not know why they do so, except that they go off on the reefs.-(Gill).

Alpena.- I think the pounds are just about the same in number in Saginaw Bay. You could not increase them very much because now they are only about 1/2 a mile apart.-(Tulian).

Alpena.- You will find at the mouth of the Bay here 21 fathoms of water and you can go quite a little distance in with that water and then it shallows up to 18, 17, and 12 fathoms, and we have pretty good water close to the shore. My outside pound nets are in about 40 feet of water, my inside net is in about 12 feet and that is pretty close to

shore.-(Alpern).

Hammond's Bay.- It was about 3 or 4 years after the good fishing here, before any one went up to Hammond's Bay and we put in one net close to shore and took out 100 barrels. That was about 3 years after we began fishing here. We had so many in this one net that there were about 20 barrels of smothered fish in the bottom of the net. Hammond's Bay has been a good fishing ground ever since. They are getting good fishing there every year.-(Case).

Bay City.- In Saginaw Bay the fisheries are pound nets principally. When I first came here a man who had 1 pound net could get all the fish he could handle. There were very few shipped fresh. A man who had 3 nets was a big fishermen, but unless a man has a dozen now, he is not in it.

They are driving now at Little Charity, Big Charity, and Sand Point and some at Tawas. In the fall the nearest fishing to the mouth of the river is about 3 miles. In the fall they do not set so near the river as they do

in the spring. At a place called Tabico is about as near to the mouth of the river as they set in the fall.

The Gillingham Brothers have 40 nets and they run ashigh as 20 in a string off toward Big Charity Island.

I do not know of 2 strings ever being set on one ground. Each man has 1 string on his frontage and the distance apart depends upon the length of his frontage.

There are about 300 pounds fished inside the bay.

I think if they had fewer nets and had them further apart the catch would be just as good. Often times one man will set a string of nets to shy the fish away from his neighbor.- (Penniman).

Bay City.- We do not do any fishing in the bay outside of Caseville. There are no pounds fished in the bay at present. There are at least 150 pounds fished in the bay during the season, spring and fall. They take in all the shore between Tawas and Caseville and there are some off the Charity Islands.

I believe there are more pounds now than 10 years ago.-(Beutel).

Bay City.- I think it would be better for the fishermen if the number of nets was regulated on this side the same as they are in Canada. Next year I do not think you will see half as many nets as there were.

I had 150 myself one time, and everybody is dropping off the same as I am. I was getting most as much soft fish as I was other years, but not as much hard, when I dropped out; but these fellows wanted me to pay them wages and they run me in the hole and it would not pay, no matter how much fish I got. I always found that fishermen did better if they were using there own gear. We own our own grounds. Some men only have 1/4 mile frontage and some have 2 or 3 miles, so it would be hard to say that the nets should be a certain distance apart, as each man is going to fish on his own land.-(Benson).

Bay City.- Generally however wide a man's frontage is, he puts in only 1 string of pounds. This does not apply always to the

bigger concerns. This fact is mentioned in the testimony of one witness.-(Rathbun).

Bay Port.- James Reeves fishes about 3 miles this side of Caseville and fishes a big rig of pound nets. We never do any fishing except right around here. The Charity Islands are fished from Bay City; all the fish from there goes to Bay City.

I do not know as there are any more pound nets now than there have been for several years. I presume, as a whole, there are more than in 1885, as there are other parties fishing.

If you can drive a stake in a couple of feet by 100 blows of the hammer it is what we call hard bottom. We sometimes drive 4 or 5 feet, but there are not many places where we drive over 6 feet, and it is generally hard bottom all over our grounds.-(John Gillingham).

Bay Port.- Pound nets are the only thing that have been fished in the bay excepting fyke nets. There are as many pounds in Saginaw Bay as ever, and more I think.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- This is the first year they

have tried pound nets on the Canadian shore near here and they did splendidly. Pound nets are fished in the southern part of the lake on the American side, but not in the river, and the same way on the Canadian side. The nearest pound nets are about 2 miles from the river. There are no pound nets anywhere in the St. Clair River.

The location of the pounds of the Huron Fish Company in Lake Huron are on the American side, just abreast of the United States Light Ship, above the head of the River St. Clair. I have only 2 strings, 3 in one and 2 in the other. Craig and Lang have strings south of us and there are more north of us about 4 or 5 miles.-(Selkirk).

Sarnia.- This is our first season of pound net fishing.-(Wees).

Goderich.- Some parties fish pounds down at Blue Point and below here. They fish them in the southern part of the lake south of Kettle Point and they fish some in Sable River north of where Sable River approaches the lake from Lake View down to the main river.

North of Goderich 2 pound nets were fished this year up this side of Port Albert, but unsuccessfully, and I know of no other pound nets between there and Manitoulin Island. The pound nets below Kettle Point were fished about a couple of months this year. They have been fishing them for about 4 or 5 years. There has never been a dollar made in the pound nets this side of Blue Point.

The bottom in some places is too hard to drive pound nets, but there are lots of places where you can drive them. There are very few places up around Manitoulin where you can drive them.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- Below Goderich pound nets have been set about 18 miles south of here. This year they were set within about a mile of the light just above Sarnia. There are about 10 pound nets set between the river and Blue Point about 18 miles up from the river. Between Blue Point and here there are 13 nets. There are more nets set south of here than over from Blue Point down to the river. There are 10 or 11 nets set there that never were

set there before. There has never been much pound net fishing between here and Bayfield, but between Bayfield and the river there have been pound nets for the last 8 or 9 years.

Southampton.- The following has reference to the region between Kincardine and Cape Hurd. I never saw any pound nets here. I never saw 1, but I heard there were some, although I did not see them.-(D. McCauley).

Southampton.- Between Kincardine and Cape Hurd there has never been much pound net fishing. They tried 2 or 3 here a couple of years ago. They tried one up at the fishing Islands, but did not make a success of it.-(G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.- There are no pound nets here at all. There are none between here and Georgian Bay. They have fished pound nets down in Sable Bay south of here. I do not know of any between here and Goderich. Pound nets are not allowed about here, which is the reason they are not fished. They are a kind of net I do not know anything about. They have applied for licenses here to fish

them. You could not very well fish them on the shore here, but you could fish them up among the islands. Those islands are above the Indian Reservation.-(Cosley).

Southampton.- I do not know much about pound net fishing and never did anything at it. It has never been carried on around here. I think there was one put in and it was a failure, and there have been none since.-(Dobson).

Southampton.- No pound net fishing between Kincardine and Cape Hurd so far as we could ascertain.-(Rathbun).

POUND NETS; LOCALITY AND NUMBER - LAKE HURON.

Detour.- We do not have any pound nets up the St. Mary's River. We go out around the islands in the direction of Georgian Bay.

I am generally the first one to strike fish in the spring as my nets are up this way. There are no nets down this way on the main shore. They are mostly on Drummond's Island and on St. Joseph's Island in Canada. They fish a considerable number of pound nets on the Canadian shore. There are nice grounds over there.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- About 10 miles from my father's nets there are several nets belonging to Canadian parties at Thessalon, and I buy their fish.-(Sims).

Detour.- They fish a good many pound nets around Detour, from there around to Point St. Ignace.-

Mackinaw Island.- We used to run pound nets on the north shore in the fall.-(Wilmot).

Alpena.- Besides his gill netting, Mr. Alpern runs a number of pounds.-(Rathbun).

Bay City.- They use pound nets sometimes over 20 miles up Saginaw River from its mouth.-(Penniman).

Bay Port.- Near the mouth of Saginaw Bay on the east side, the fisheries are in the adjacent waters on the shoal ground, which they cover, more or less out to the edge of the channel, running out from off the mainland or from the Three Islands.-(Rathbun).

Georgian Bay.- There are no pound nets in Georgian Bay at all.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- I have been fishing pound nets down between Drysdale and Blue Point or Kettle Point. I began fishing pound nets there 3 years ago this summer, and got through about 6 weeks ago. Pound nets were set there before then. They have had pound nets there I guess about 9 years.-(McClean).

Goderich.- There are not many pound nets along this coast, and they are most numerous along the lower part of this coast. Some have been put in this spring in place of some of the seines and they are said to have taken many more sturgeon than the seines, this season.-(Rathbun).

POUND NETS; LOCALITY --- ST. MARY'S RIVER.

In St. Mary's River they do not extend their pound nets out into the channel very far. They fish in Hay Lake and Lake George, where they are out of the regular line of the boats.-(Wires).

POUND NETS; LOCALITY AND NUMBER - LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- When I began they had both pound nets and gill nets. Pound nets were fished more then than they are now. It has played out so now that nobody fishes them to amount to much.-(Lincoln).

General.- In Lake Huron they have not been increasing the number of pound nets of late years. The number of pound nets was at its maximum in 1881 or 1882. Since then it has been on the decrease. There were more pound nets fished in Thunder Bay and along that shore, all the way from Bay City to the Straits of Mackinaw in 1881 and 1882, than have been fished there since.-(Wires).

HERRING POUNDS --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- The herring fisherman should not be allowed to fish except in certain depths of water. 16 feet is the least depth they should allow the herring net to be put in. A herring net that is put into 20 feet of water the whitefish will work into more or less. The whitefish nets are out in only 26 feet and you put the herring net out that depth and they are going to catch everything. The greatest trouble with them here is that the herring nets in deep water catch the small whitefish.-(Robinson).

Cheboygan.- Some people who have herring nets, and are too poor to buy the whitefish nets, use the former.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- They take herring in the pound nets where they have a mesh small enough. I canshow you now where these people who claim they are fishing with big mesh will have 150 or 200 barrels of small fished mixed in with the big ones.-(Gill).

POUND NETS; HISTORY, ETC.

POUND NETS; HISTORY -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- We began pound net fishing about 1864. I put in the first pound net that was put in here. It was right over on the point of Drummond Island opposite here. Mr. Newell and myself fished here 3 or 4 years before anyone else came, but we were soon followed by others.-(Sims).

Cheboygan.- I have never done anything but fish pound nets, and they were fishing pound nets here before I came here.

My father helped fish about the first pound nets that were ever put in this country and that must be 40 years ago. That was up above St. Ignace on the Michigan shore. When I began fishing there were not half as many pound nets used as there are now. There are more now than there ever have been.-(C. Corlett).

Alpena.- The first pound nets were put in here about 1860. We came here from Sandusky and put the first net in about 3 1/2 miles north of the river. At that time there were no nets between here and North Point, which is

9 miles up. We fished in the lake one year before we came here, but had only small shallow nets. We used to fish in about 30 feet of water then. We fished at Whitefish Point in Thunder Bay and could not catch anything. At the time we were there we could not get any fish and had good nets, and after we came away they began to come in there. They kept increasing the pound nets here for 6 or 8 years and then it got into the hands of a few. A man from Sandusky had 3 men over at North Point and a man named McDonald was on the other side and had what they call Scarcecrow Island, which is a splendid point, and at that time I was fishing at Sulphur Island, so that 4 or 5 parties controlled the trap net fishing. There was only one year that they had any trouble and then S. H. Davis pulled a man's stakes off Sulphur Island. We were fishing 6 or 7 years before there was any decrease. They began to decrease within 10 years. They were fishing pretty extensively up to 10 years ago with the pound nets.

In 1859 the first trap net (pound) was

set in Thunder Bay at Whitefish Point by Ruggles and Bennett. They set 4 nets that year and had splendid fishing from about September 1st on. The same year a small pound was set at Sulphur Island by Trombley of Saginaw.

Mr. Case began fishing at Sulphur Island in 1867. The pound had not been entirely set, when, in taking it up, they caught 60 barrels of whitefish. This was early in September and the fact is referred to in his testimony. In 1868, 3 of his pounds on Sulphur Island (the entire lot) took about 124 barrels of whitefish in one day's fishing.

Scarecrow Island has furnished a great pound fishery. Ruggles and Bennet had pounds in there. They were set by Mr. Case and the fishing let out on shares to a half-breed who knew nothing about fishing them and did not do nearly as well as a man of experience. He did not keep the nets mended and they became riddled with holes. This was in 1861 or 1862 and there were 2 pounds. However, the half-breed got 750 barrels of whitefish in the course of 2 1/2 months.-(Case).

Bay City.- Pound net fishing began before my time here.-(Beutel).

POUND NETS; HISTORY --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- They did not fish any pound nets at first. They brought pound nets here about 1859 or 1860. None of us knew here what a pound net was. A man by the name of Hurlburt first brought pound nets here, but they were all shallow water nets and did not amount to much.-(Wilmot).

Alpena.- We brought the first pound nets here in the Bay and fished them at a place called Whitefish Point. The gill netters had been here a long time then.-(Case).

POUND NETS; HISTORY -- LAKE ERIE.

I have been here (Alpena, Michigan) about 30 years. I helped put in the first pound net that was ever put in on Lake Erie. That was about half way between Huron and Vermilion, that was at a place called Ruggles Cove. That was the first pound net put in on Lake Erie and was put in by my uncle, whose name was Ruggles. He has been dead 8 or 10 years.- (S. H. Case, Alpena, Michigan).

POUND NETS; DECLINE AND CAUSE -- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- Pound net fishing right here in this locality is almost extinct. I am fishing pound nets every year, but am fishing less every year. I have the twine on hand and am fishing at a loss. I have not made any money out of pound net fishing for the last 7 or 8 years. The pound nets are decreasing, because our pound net grounds are really this bay and certainly if we ruin the ground it will not pay. I used to fish here as high as 30 pound nets and all I have this year is 9. I own 6 miles of beach on this side, all for the purpose of fishing, but it is too foul for fishing purposes now. That ground is covered with refuse of all kinds, but not exactly wood refuse. In some places you will find a slimy substance covering the bottom. I have had divers go down here and they tell me that the bottom of this bay clear down to the point is covered with a slimy substance. I think it must be from refuse as that is the only way we can account for it and it must come

from this river. The pound nets up north of the point are killed by this Turnbull mill. That really was a good pound net ground, but this year and last year they have not made their expenses.-(Alpern).

Alpena.- Pound net fishing here in the bay is played out. The ground at Miller's Point is probably as good as it was 10 years ago, or ever was. It is a sort of a shoal spot and the action of the water keeps it clean, and it is an out of the way place and no mills around it.-(Cleary).

Alpena.- I think the main reason that the pound net fishing does not pay is that there are no fish to be caught.-(Lincoln).

POUND NETS REPLACING GILL NETS --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- According to Mr. Robinson there is not so much gill netting now as formerly, pounds being more numerous and taking the place of the gill nets to a greater extent.-(Rathbun).

POUND NETS; NOT PROFITABLE --- LAKE HURON.

Port Huron.- Pound nets are not profitable. The only way we can make any money out of it is for us to get the first price from them. If we ship to dealers we would not get nearly as much for them. The fishermen are all under contract.-(Selkirk).

POUND NETS; DESCRIPTION.

POUND NETS; DESCRIPTION - LAKE HURON.

Detour.- The pots of the pound nets are set in from 35 to 50 feet mostly, but there are 1 or 2 deeper than that, the deepest being about 75 feet. It does not pay to fish in deep water. The leader is about 40 to 50 rods. We use about 40 rods on our nets. We use a long tunnel and most of the nets use a long tunnel.

There is only one net in a string as a general thing. We tried 2 last year, but got nothing in the outside pot, not enough to pay for driving the stakes. The water gets pretty deep. We fish ours in 50 feet of water.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- The length of the leader is about 40 or 50 rods. Have been setting the pots in 70 to 90 feet of water, but did not have good success with them, and are cutting them down now as they could not make them stand on account of too much current; that is, off Drummond Island.

I use a long tunnel. The long tunnel

is easier to lift they claim, but I do not really like them so well. The fishermen prefer them, however, as they are easier to handle. Where they are fishing in 80 feet of water pnly use one tunnel and have it square with the big end. We would use a short tunnel in the deeper water where we had to use 2 tunnels. In that deep water we have to splice the stakes. We drive the stakes with an ordinary pile-driver. We drive them down as far as we can get them, but they will hold well, down 8 or 10 feet.

The water is too deep here to extend the pound nets out very far. He fished 2 nets this spring at one time, but the outside one did not fish well. I find that the inside net always catches more.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- They generally fish pound nets in all the way from 16 to 45 feet, and have 2 nets in 48 feet.

The leaders are not over 36 to 45 rods. Anything over that they put 2 leads to a string. They think the fish lead better with short leads. We have fished as high as 8 pots in a

string on the Lake Michigan shore. On this shore we seldom put over 4 in a string, and that gives us as deep water as we can get without going into the channel.-(Robinson).

Harbor Springs.- I have one pot in 65 feet of water. We have set pots in 105 feet. We use hard-wood for the tops and tamarack for the bottoms of the stakes. It is claimed, so I saw in the books I have from Washington, that the nets are set deeper here than anywhere else in fresh water.

The average length of the leaders here is about 20 rods. The water drops right off as soon as you get out to the channel bank. We fish only 1 pot in a string.-(Wilson).

Cheboygan.- In Hammond's Bay one man has 3 strings, 3 in one string, 2 in another and 1 by itself, and they are not over a mile apart. The middle one does not fish at all. The others cut it right off.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- They generally calculate to run their pound nets off the channel bank. They go in from 20 to 60 feet of water. They put 2 pounds in one string here. They will

string on the Lake Michigan shore. On this shore we seldom put over 4 in a string, and that gives us as deep water as we can get without going into the channel.-(Robinson).

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Cheboygan.- They generally calculate to run their pound nets off the channel bank. They go in from 20 to 60 feet of water. They put 2 pounds in one string here. They will

set one in 25 feet, another in 40 feet and perhaps another in 60 feet. The fish cannot get past and must get in one or the other. They have from 3 to 5 pounds in a string sometimes.-(Gill).

Alpena.- We used to set our pounds mostly in strings. We had 3 with 80 rods of lead each. The fish would lead readily that distance. We had 3 in one string, 2 in another and 2 separate.

There has been no change in the manner of setting the pound nets and the way they are made except in the tunnel. When we first started we had nothing but short tunnels. The first was used was what they called the gap. There were no tunnels at all. They were set in the shape of the heart somewhat but were more round. They would have 2 long poles fastened to the bottom of the pot and when they went to lift they would raise those poles right up and of course in that way probably half the fish would go out, but they used to get any amount of them. After that they used short tunnels, and then they got to

using long tunnels and of late years there is nothing but the long tunnel used. In deep water they have to use the long tunnels.-(Case).

General.- The pound nets in Lake Huron are not all the same size mesh, he thinks. The pot is usually from 30 to 35 feet square, that is a good average size for lakes Superior, Huron and Erie. The crib would always have a uniform mesh all through it.

They have their leaders from about 35 to 40 rods long, as they consider that some of the fish will not lead further. Where the net runs right out from the shore and the water is shallow quite a ways out has seen 65 rod leaders; but they would go out generally about 35 or 40 rods.

Thinks that 3 or 4 pots on a string of pounds would suit most of the fishermen all right.-(Wires).

Bay City.- The old round pound has been done away with a good many years, the old fashioned ones. The pounds used here are the short tunnel pounds.

Gillingham Brothers at Bay Port have 40

nets and they run as high as 20 nets in the string off toward Big Charity Island.

I think too many nets in a string are fished in some places in Saginaw Bay. I do not know as you can get strings much closer together. Those nets that run out from North Island over to Big Charity, hurt the fishing more than the others. Some of those strings are 3 miles long. I would not have over 7 or 8 pots in a string. There are a lot of fishermen too poor and cannot afford to fish so many pots and they get cut off.

The leaders are usually from 60 to 100 rods here. The inside leaders are longer than the outside. I think they should limit the length of the leaders. Throughout the bay the strings range from a little less than a half mile to 1 1/2 miles long.-(Penniman).

Bay City.- Most of the leaders we use are about 80 rods. The pot is about 32 feet square. Some fish as high as 10 nets in a string. Gillingham has 30 nets in a string, but most of them do not fish over 10. On Little Charity we get to about 30 feet depth

for the outside pot and the inside one commences in about 10 feet.

We do not lift in the space between the inner end of a leader and the next following pot when set in strings.-(Beutel).

Bay City.- I would place a limit on the length of the strings to the satisfaction of most of the fishermen. I think you should allow no man to put over 4 or 5 nets in one string and allow them not to fish over 75 or 80 rod leaders. We have to have long leaders here. On some of our grounds we have to go out half a mile from shore before we can get water enough to drive it.-(Benson).

Bay Port.- We fish across the flat with our pound nets so that the outer pots would be in about 13 feet for our deepest net this spring, except in the channel where it was about 18 feet. We generally have from 4 to 6 leaders. The length of the leaders is about 80 rods on an average. The pot is 30 feet square.-(James Gillingham).

Bay Port.- Our pound nets are in quite long strings and every so far there is a gap

left for vessels to pass through. We deepest we set nets is 35 feet and they would run off the bank a little. We set them in as shallow as 9 feet.-(John Gillingham).

Bay Port.- My deepest pot is 21 feet. I cross the inside channel and then come on the bars. I set 6 nets inside the bay. Where I am it takes 6 nets to reach 20 feet of water. I begin to set the leaders about 10 feet from the shore. The inside pot would be in about 13 feet. I have 5 pots in a mile. I have gaps between them to allow boats to go through. Boats drawing 8 or 9 feet of water go in there. I drive one pot at the end of the lead and reverse on the other and leave a gap about 10 or 12 rods wide. We have a pot for each end of the lead where there is a gap. Do not put any lights on them.

I make the pots 28 and 32 feet square. The leaders are 75 and 80 rods.

We get our nets from Boston and New York. I buy my twine from Benson. The twine is all white when we get it.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- Where we fish pound nets we run from 12 to 22 feet of water. We have about 3 nets only in a string. That is about as far as we can go out as we strike the channel where they are dredging. Our leaders are 40 rods long each. We can come right up to the shore, but we go, generally, about 18 or 20 feet from the shore. Sometimes we begin out 50 feet from the shore.

We were talking of using wire leaders this spring, and I do not know why it would not be practicable. I think it would be cheaper than twine in the end.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- Some of the pound nets south of here used to be double headers before this year. The leaders are from 60 to 80 rods. The pot would be in about 36 feet. The water is level off there and the outside pot would be in about the same water. The pots are about 26 feet square.

It is harder to fix up wire leaders than cotton leaders. If logs came through them they are pretty hard to mend. Wire would be a very good net in the current.-(McClean).

POUND NETS; DESCRIPTION --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- In the beginning they had only 1 1/4 inch mesh in the pound nets, and would take very small size fish.-(Wilmot).

Cheboygan.- The largest size mesh in the pots of the pound nets is 3 1/2 inches.-(D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- When the pound nets are tarred they will shrink about 1/16 of an inch. Any rope or line that you put in the water will shrink some. The thread of the gill net is so small that it does not amount to much, but a pound net, with the tarring and using, must shrink quite a bit, I think it would shrink 1/8 of an inch.-(Gill).

Sarnia.- Our leader is about 75 rods long and we run out into 21 feet of water.-(Wees).

POUND NETS; STRINGS --- LAKE HURON.

General.- Regarding the placing of pound nets on Lake Huron: They do not use many in a string There are very few places where they can fish many until they get down into Saginaw Bay, and there they fish quite extensive strings. At Thunder Bay, Michigan, they probably have 4 or 5 nets in a string.-(Wires).

Port Huron.- On the Canadian shore, if they are allowed to haul a seine after the month of May, there is a class of small pickerel come down here, about No. 4, and they would catch any amount of them. They are close in shore so that the pound nets will not catch them. The deeper the water the larger the fish we get, and that is what puzzles me, that the Canadian government will only allow 1 net in a string, when they should, in fact, compel them to go out further.-(Selkirk).

POUND NETS; MESH, MESH AND FISH.

POUND NETS; MESH -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- We use 5 inch mesh in the leads and some use 6 and 7 inch. Use 5 inch in the heart, 5 in the tunnel and 3 1/2 in the pot. They do not allow us to use anything smaller than 3 1/2.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- Pound nets are 3 1/2 inch mesh in the pot. In the tunnel I use 4 and 5 inch mesh, and about the same size in the heart. Use 7 inches in the lead.-(Sims).

Detour.- In the pots of pounds they use 3 1/2 inch mesh when the nets are new and before tarring. They shrink down to nearly 3 inches. The law does not specify whether the mesh is to be measured new or after shrinking.-(Rathbun).

Mackinaw City.- We use 3 1/2 to 4 inch mesh in the pot of the pound nets, but 3 1/2 inches is the legal Michigan size. The heart and tunnel of the pound nets are from 4 to 4 1/2 inch mesh, both the same, and the leader runs from 5 to 6 inches, just according to the idea of the fishermen.

I think there should be a regulation in regard to the pound nets. I would have a larger mesh net. Would say have a 4 inch mesh, although that does not meet the approval of a good many. My partner is not of the same opinion that I am in regard to it, he thinks 3 1/2 inch mesh is large enough, but I say that 3 1/2 inch for the pound nets is not large enough.-(Robinson).

Mackinaw Island.- A man fishing pound nets should not have aything less than 3 1/2 inch mesh; that is rather small, but still it will let out quite a good sized fish.-(Wilmot).

Harbor Springs.- I use 3 1/2 inch mesh in the pots. I doubt very much whether there is a 4 inch mesh put in a crib in the Straits.

In the leads we use 8 inch mesh. I would use that size because the fish do not go through it at all, but just follow it, and the larger we can get the mesh the safer the twine is and the less pressure there is on it. I would not say butthat 10 inch would be just as good as 8 inch.-(Wilson).

Cheboygan.- Some use the same mesh as formerly and others do not. At Hammond's Bay they do not use anything less than 3 1/2 inches. They use smaller mesh up on this shore and we use some ourselves. They use it in the spring when they ought not to.

I do not think it would hurt anything if the mesh was 4 inches. I think they would get enough fish to make it pay with that size. I think if it was made universal it would be all right. Of course it will shrink down to about 3 1/2 inches if it is tarred. It will shrink at least 1/8.

In the leads we use 6 inch mesh and 5 inch in the hearts.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- In the pound nets when he began fishing they used the same size mesh as they do now. They use a bigger mesh for big fish they claim, but they had a great many small mesh nets.-(Gill).

Alpena.- I think the pound nets have always used about the same sized mesh. The back of the pot is the principal place and the rest of the net does not amount to much. If they reduced the size of mesh in the back of

pot, that is what kills the little ones.-(Lincoln).

Alpena.- Talking about the pound nets at the time when he used to fish them he said:

We had some mesh 1 1/4 or 1 1/2 inch bar, and then we got down to 1 inch, which is the smallest we ever used here, but some had larger than that. Generally about 1 1/4 inch bar we used.

They had a bill through regulating the size ofthe mesh, but it was not enforced. I do not think they should fish anything under 1 3/4 inch bar, or 3 1/2 inch mesh. You get down to 1 inch bar and you would catch everything.-(Case).

General.- The size of the leader mesh depends considerably upon the current. If they have much current to contend with they use very large mesh. They probably use, on an average, about 3 inch mesh in the heart and from 4 to 4 1/2 and possibly 5 inch in the leaders. The crib is possibly 3 inches and the leader would be 4 1/2 to 5 inches. As to shrinkage, a 2 inch bar would shrink 1/4

inch; that is, it would shrink about 1/8 in tarring and it also shrinks a little in wetting; that is cotton, not the linen which they use for gill nets.

He can remember, when a boy, that his father owned a fishing boat on North Bass Island, Lake Erie, and they used a smaller mesh than now. Would have then about 1 1/2 to 2 inch mesh in the cribs. That was probably 19 or 20 years ago, and they used them that way until within the last 10 years, then they began making them a little larger. When he left Lake Erie in 1881 they used the smaller meshed cribs.-(Wires).

Bay City.- We have a fine and coarse mesh in the State of Michigan. The law requires that pots should not be less than 2 1/2 inch mesh, hearts not less than 4 and leaders not less than 5 inches. This mesh law just applies to Saginaw Bay and river. The Game Warden last winter took quite a good many nets that were too small. A net will shrink about 1/4 inch. A 2 1/2 inch, after it is tarred, is about 2 1/4 inches.

For a pound net for whitefish I would not

have less than 3 1/2 inch mesh and 4 inch would be better.-(Penniman).

Bay City.- The pots of the pound nets are all the same size. We use a 3 inch bottom for the pot and the sides are 2 1/2 inches. The leader and heart are 5 and 6 inches.-Beutel).

Bay Port.- The mesh in the heart is 4 inches. In the tunnel 3 to 4 inches and in the pot 2 1/2 inches.

The mesh shrinks in tarring some. They gill some when the mesh is first put in now. The nets shrink about 1/8 inch or perhaps 1/4 inch. They are a little over 2 1/2 inches when they are made.-(James Gillingham).

Bay Port.- We have always fished about the same size mesh here, 2 1/2 inch new. We do not use any 3 1/2 inch mesh. In the leads we use all the way from 4 to 6 inch mesh. The heart and tunnel are fine mesh. I think it makes a difference what size mesh we use in the leads. The main object of using small mesh in the tunnel is to keep fish from gilling. It is easier on the leaders to have

a large mesh.-(John Gillingham).

Bay Port.- We make the mesh of the leaders 6 inches, the tunnel and heart 4 and 5 inches and the crib 2 1/2 inches. They have always been that size. Most of the fishing now is herring fishing and they have to have a small mesh. Some use 2 inch mesh in the pots.

I think a man should use nothing smaller than 5 inch leads. It does not make any difference about the pots. A 4 inch mesh should be small enough for the hearts. I think a man should have nothing smaller than 2 1/2 inch sides and 2 inch back in the pots. I do not think the heart should be less than 4 inches in the lake. It is all right for those fellows who fish inside to have 3 inch for perch.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- Our pound nets have small meshed pots for herring. 2 1/2 inch mesh is the smallest we use in the pots. The hearts are 5 inch and the leaders 6 and 7 inch; that is on the American side. There are no large mesh pound nets used on the American side here. They are all 2 1/2 inch mesh and that

is plenty large enough for the herring.-(Selkirk).

Sarnia.- We fish an 8 inch leader. The tunnel is 5 inches, heart 6 inches and the pot 2 1/2 inches.-(Wees).

Goderich.- Below here the mesh that we use would be a herring size mesh. They do not use a whitefish mesh at all.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- They use 5 inch mesh in the leaders and the tunnel and heart are about 2 1/2 inches. The tunnel and the pot are about the same size, 2 1/2 inches.-(McClean).

POUND NETS; MESH --- LAKE HURON.

Goderich.- If you tar a net and put it in the water it will not make the mesh any smaller than just the amount of the tar. If the nets are tarred and thoroughly dried before they are put in the water they will shrink but very little. The only way they would shrink is to tar them and leave them out a good while until they are thoroughly dried. They would want to be left out about a month and then the tar draws up the knots and the corners of the meshs. It does not help pound nets to keep the twine soft. It is better to have it hard.-(McClean).

Goderich.- The pounds have a fine mesh being designed for pickerel, herring, etc.-(Rathbun).

POUND NETS; PROPER MESH--LAKE HURON.

Detour. He would be in favor of a regulation mesh, the pot being 3 1/2 inches. It does not make much difference about the rest of the net. (Sims).

Mackinaw City. I think there should be a regulation in regard to the mesh of the pounds. (See under pounds for details). (Robinson).

Mackinaw Island. They ought to regulate the size of the mesh in the pound nets. And a mesh that will surely let those little fish out. As long as they fish the small mesh, they will catch them as fast as they grow. You will find now they have a small mesh in the pots, an apron. (Wilmot).

Cheboygan. I think there should be different regulations in regard to pound nets than there are now. I do not think they

should be allowed to fish small mesh pound nets in the spring at all. The proper size mesh for the herring nets would be 2 1/2 inches, and they should be allowed to fish that only in the fall.

In the ordinary pound nets the mesh should not be less than 3 1/4 or 3 1/2. A 4-inch mesh would let a pretty big whitefish through, and I would prefer 3 1/2-inch. A 4-inch mesh would let a No.1 whitefish through, weighing 1 1/4 pounds dressed. (D. Corlett).

POUND NETS; PROPER MESH ---- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- The proper thing to do to save the fish and bring them back is not to allow them to fish any nets smaller than 3 1/2 or 4 inches for the pound nets, and there should be a law that would oblige them to do that. There is a law compelling them to fish 3 1/2 inch mesh, but nearly everyone has a finer mesh than that and they let them use it.-(Gill).

Cheboygan.- The mesh in the pots about here is all smaller than 3 1/2 inches and no respect is paid to the law in that regard.-(Rathbun).

Bay Port.- The main fishery is for fish which cannot be taken in 3 1/2 inch mesh. They fish presumably for herring, the mesh being 2 1/2 inches when new, but only 2 inches or less after tarring etc. It is evident that a larger mesh than 2 1/2 inches cannot be insisted on, but it might be an improvement if that size could be insisted on after tarring or when actually in use. James Gillingham

says the herring gill too much in that size.-(Rathbun).

Goderich.- 2 1/2 inches is too small a mesh for the pound nets. That size is all right, however, for a herring pound.-(McClean)

Goderich.- If I were fishing pound nets to-morrow, I would rather have a pot 2 1/2 than 2 3/4 inches, as that would keep the fish from gilling.-(McClean).

Georgian Bay.- I would not allow anything under 4 inch mesh in the pots of the pound nets.-(Major Elliott).

POUND NETS; PROPER MESH -- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- Mr. Robinson would favor using a 4 inch mesh in the pots. Mr. Trumpour thinks 3 1/2 inch mesh is large enough.-(Rathbun).

TWO SIZES OF MESH IN POUND NETS. --
LAKE HURON.

Petoskey.- In allowing two sizes of mesh in the pounds, one for herring and the other for whitefish, it almost amounts to allowing a small mesh for all kinds of fish, because a man who is complained of for using a small mesh will invariably swear that it was used in catching herring, and the only way that they can be provided against is, if he catches a single fish of any other kind except those that are not prohibited, it is a violation of the law and he must come prepared to swear that in every case where he caught any other fish that he immediately returned them to the water. During my administration we have had one or 2 cases where we have convicted them, but it is only cases where the evidence is pretty plain that I feel safe in prosecuting. I think that a better way, rather than to let them apply to all of the waters, would be to incorporate in the law regulating the size of the mesh a section providing that in certain waters specified in that section, mesh of a

smaller size might be used in catching certain fish.

We used a good many pound nets of a small mesh for catching smaller fish. In Lake Michigan we get both blue-fins and long-jaws. In one case I was ready to begin prosecution for the use of small mesh nets, but dismissed the case because the parties brought proof that they were catching other fish, although in my opinion I think they caught whitefish in the small mesh just the same, but under the law they were prepared to prove their case so there has been no conviction.-(Hampton).

POUND NETS; REGULATING MESH --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- Mr. Joseph Wilmot thinks that they should use a big mesh in the pots.- (Rathbun).

POUND NETS; MESH AND FISH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- If we fish small meshed nets for herring we would catch small whitefish. They catch a good many small whitefish now, but some of the men will not draw the net up tight and will scoop them out. One man fished here from Bay City and would catch anything that came along and they made him take his nets out. If the law established just such a mesh, they would not catch any of the small fish.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- We use 3 1/2 to 4 inch mesh in the pot of the pound nets. Some claim that they do better fishing with 4 inch mesh and they do not want to handle the fish that would go through a 4 inch mesh. McCloud brought down 1800 lbs. of fish one time and I do not think there were 1/2 dozen in the lot that would go under 4 lbs. and they do not use anything less than a 4 inch mesh. You take a 4 inch mesh, or even a 3 1/2 inch mesh and the small fish will nearly all go through.

Fish will go into the pound nets in

quantities and with even a large mesh there will be a good many small fish in it, and when you raise the net they cannot work out. Of all the fish we buy from McCloud and Pemble we never got a fish under 4 lbs., dressed, and they get more fish than any other pound nets on the shores, and they never use any more nets. They have used 4 inch mesh for 8 or 9 years. They have been planting a great many whitefish in St. Martin's Bay for a number of years, any quantity of whitefish and trout, and there were a number of fishermen in there last year using small meshed nets, herring nets, and small whitefish will work in on the herring grounds. One party alone took out about $800. worth of small whitefish, not one of them weighing over 3/4 of a lb. They were herring pound nets with 2 1/2 inch mesh and the whitefish would work in.-(Robinson).

Harbor Springs.- He uses 3 1/2 inch mesh for the pots. Smaller fish than 2 lbs. will stay in that size mesh, especially when you have a quantity of fish in the pot. You can crowd a 2 lb. fish through a 3 1/2 inch,

but it would not go through naturally. With a 4 inch mesh every fisherman would have to quit fishing. You can put a 2 lb. fish right through a 4 inch mesh. I think there is more 4 inch mesh used for gill nets than anything else, but they are not crowded at all and when they swim up to them they will work in a little and there they stay. I doubt very much whether there is a 4 inch mesh put in a crib in the Straits. Where fish are very plenty they can use that size, but they will get all the very largest fish; but there are a great many fish that do not grow to be very large.- (Wilson).

Cheboygan.- They catch a good many small fish in the spring. There are no whitefish here at all in the fall. As far as I am concerned I am ready to quit the small mesh at any time. I have not used much of it this summer.

In the leads we use 6 inch mesh and 5 inch in the hearts. The fish do not mesh in those. Did not get half a dozen all summer in all the nets. I do not think it would

make any difference it we increased the size of the mesh, about the fish meshing. Of course there would be a few mesh and there are a few now. You would not have so many gill because you would not get so many of those little fish. I do not think there would be any bother about that. If they all used 3 1/2 inch it would be all right, but I think it would be better if we had 4 inch, and I am sure it will play out altogether if they don't do something.-(C. Corlett).

General.- The fish do not mesh in the leaders to amount to anything, nor in the heart. In the pots they mesh quite a good deal. That is one reason why they prefer a fine mesh pot. With a 2 or 2 1/2 inch mesh you are not going to gill a great many fish, but with a 3 inch mesh you would gill an awful lot of fish and every one you gill that gets loose and gets away is a dead fish, that is whitefish. You disturb the scales or injure the gills of whitefish and you kill it. In making regulations for pound nets do not increase the size of the mesh, thinks you would destroy a great many fish by so doing.

Thinks that in most places 2 1/2 inch mesh would be all right. It would let all the small whitefish through without any trouble.

You can shove a pretty good sized whitefish through a 3 inch mesh when it is stretched. A 3 inch bar is too large for whitefish. A 4 inch extension mesh is plenty large enough because if you had it any larger the fish would gill in it and would make it a nuisance. With a 3 1/2 to 4 inch mesh you would lose all the herring, so that this size is suitable for whitefish only. Pretty good sized pickerel would gill in a 4 inch mesh. A good sized pickerel would gill in a 2 inch mesh.- (Wires).

Bay City.- You take a pound net and go inside the pot to lift, especially when it is full and those fish are just going round and round. How many small whitefish do you think would ever go through a 3 1/2 inch mesh. The larger the mesh is of course the more would go through, but it does not seem to me that a great many of those fish would go out of that mesh. You take a 4 or 5 inch pot and you

will catch a good many herring.-(F. M. Clark).

Bay City.- I saw a school of mackeral come in and there were no small meshed seines to be had, and the men got out their salmon nets, 7 inch mesh, and seined the mackeral and got them, about 8 barrels.-(Wm. Wakeham).

Bay City.- We cannot fish larger than 2 1/2 inch mesh in the pounds for herring. We use about the same leader for herring that we have for whitefish and a big leader does not seem to stop them. Take one man just beyond another fishing for herring and the second man seems to get just as many as the first. I do not suppose if they saw the leader stuck up that they would try to go through it.-(Beutel).

Bay Port.- Sometimes the fish gill some but not a great deal. In the first place there are more large fish than there are small ones of any other kind of fish and the larger mesh will gill them worse. With a small mesh they cannot get their heads in to gill.

2 1/2 inches is just about the proper size for herring. A very large herring will not go through that mesh and some gill in a

2 1/2 inch mesh, especially when you corner them down.

I think it would gill more if it was 2 1/2 inches after it was shrunk. I do not think it will make it any better to increase the mesh at all. Up around Detour they have lots of little whitefish and it would not pay to have such fine mesh. We do not hardly ever see a whitefish that it would take 3 or 4 to make a lb. A man could not fish in the fall here at all with a larger mesh, but in the spring we could catch pickerel with a large size. I do not think anything larger than a 2 lb. pickerel would go through a 3 1/2 inch mesh. A 1 lb. pickerel will gill in a 3 inch mesh.-(James Gillingham).

POUND NETS; MESH AND FISH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- With a 3 1/2 inch mesh in the pot of the pound net, some fish weighing 1 1/2 lbs. will go through when it is freshly tarred, but if it gets old it shrinks perhaps 1/4 of an inch. I have some nets laying here now that were 3 1/2 inch new and perhaps now are only 3 1/4 inch. When there are a great many fish in the pot you will get more small ones as they block up the meshes. We lose 2 1/2 lb. fish sometimes in the pound nets.-(Sims).

Cheboygan.- The main trouble is they are putting too small mesh in the pound nets. The spring fishing ground is no good in the fall. You take it this fall, they will put in one net and catch perhaps 2 tons, and perhaps there will be 800 or 1000 lbs. of little whitefish about 6 or 8 inches long. It would take 6 or 8 of them to weigh a lb. and they throw them right out on the gut pile as they cannot sell them. If a man could put them up in boxes like they do sardines they might be good for something. There are lots of

them fishing with a 2 1/2 inch mesh. That is, what we call 2 1/2 inch mesh, but they use it corner-wise and it will hold a very small fish. The law says 3 1/2 inches, but they do not go by the law.-(Gill).

Sarnia.- We think that the 8 inch mesh in our leads lets the pickerel through.-(Wees).

POUND NETS; MESH AND FISH -- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- The most of them generally fish 2 1/2 inch mesh. They are allowed to fish a small mesh for herring and menominees. The regular size for herring is 2 1/2 inches and for whitefish 3 1/2 inches.-(D. Corlett).

Bay City.- I do not know as we could regulate the mesh as our herring industry is 2/3 of the fishery in the fall. We use just as many small herring as we can dress, but we never get very small ones. In June or the first of July we usually get some small ones. We consider about 6 or 8 inches a small herring.-(Beutel).

Bay Port.- The herring will all go out where a lb. mackerel will go out. A 1 lb. pickerel might squeeze through a 2 1/2 inch mesh, or will get so far through that you will kill them taking them out. Our herring are not much different in shape from the pickerel as they are pretty fat and round.-(John Gillingham).

POUND NETS; MESH AND WHITEFISH - LAKE HURON.

Detour.- A 3 1/2 inch mesh will hold smaller than 1 1/2 lb. fish.-(Butterfield).

POUND NETS; LEADING AND GILLING.

POUND NETS; LEADING AND GILLING - LAKE HURON.

Detour.- The fish seem to stop whether the mesh in the leader is large or small. We used to use a small lead, but of late years I have used 7 inch mesh.

In a 3 1/2 inch pot herring will mesh some, but no other fish, except as they get tangled up in it.- (Sims).

Mackinaw City.- Some of the fishermen think the fish will go through the leaders and some of them think they will not, but they are getting the idea here now that it is best to use a larger lead. A few years ago you could not get them to use anything larger than 4 inches.-(Robinson).

General.- All fish practically lead. Of course some will lead a great deal farther than others. They do not attempt to pass through the leader. Black bass, after they follow the leader a certain length will sometimes leave it. Does not know any other kind in the lake that will do it, but probably any of them would. If you had your leader long

enough they would get tired of following it. That is why they have their leaders comparatively short, from 35 to 40 rods.-(Wires).

Bay Port.- If you have a bar where it is shallower at one end than the other, the fish will sometimes lead toward the shallow water. The fish lead in shore in the fall and they do in the spring when they come ashore to spawn. I have seen nets in 5 feet of water and they would get them so full you could hardly lift them, and the outside nets would hardly have fish enough to eat. They would be pickerel at the head of the bay.

I do not catch two fish a year fast in the leaders. When a net is arranged in a certain way the fish will gill all over. If you go to work and set the nets right against the fish they would all gill, you want to set it at an angle. Very few herring gill in the pot.-(Dubey).

Bay Port.- I know herring will go through the leaders because I have found them gilled from the outside of the pot lots of times when they were trying to get into the pot from the

outside. I presume they were attracted by the fish on the inside of the pot. Herring will gill in the pounds if the mesh is the right size, but I never heard of whitefish gilling. Pickerel will not gill very much. I think the most of the gilling is either in a blow or when the nets are being lifted. I do not suppose the herring would gill very much if they were not crowded.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- We have no trouble with meshing the fish in the pot or leaders, unless it happens to be a few small herring. Fish lead about 4 feet from the leader, that is, they will not go within 4 feet of the leader, and they do not go through, no matter what the size of the leader.-(Selkirk).

Sarnia.- We have been bothered a good deal with the fish gilling in the pot, they were all herring. They would get their head in so that they would drown and then would puff up so that we would have to throw them away. There was quite a good deal of it and I presume it was on account of the sturgeon being in there. I think we have made some

lifts in our 2 nets and probably we would throw away sometimes nearly a bushel, I should say from 75 to 80 herring, we would have to throw them away. We throw them right in the water and the current would carry them off. We put all the offal back on the land, but we threw over the fish that were gilled this season, because they all threw them in the water. The small pickerel will gill in the net also, but not many of them, as we did not get many pickerel. A middling good sized herring would go through that mesh.-(Wees).

POUND NETS; SEASONS.

POUND NETS; SEASONS -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Sometimes we get our pound nets in about April 20 and sometimes not until about May 20 and it lasts about 3 weeks. The slack time for spring fishing begins about the first of June. That slack fishing will continue about 3 weeks, but we generally pull out altogether about the first of July and do not put our twine in again, although some put their nets in, but they are not catching enough to pay for the wear and tear on their twine. I do not use mine again until next spring. Do not fish on account of the wear and tear on the nets and the poor fishing.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- The pound nets are set as soon as the ice goes out. We got them in this year about April 25. The first of May would be a late season.

They fish the pound nets right along during the spring fishery until about June. If we would take our nets up in June we would [illegible]etter off. I do not keep my nets in [illegible]h, but some do. My son is putting his

nets in now. The fishing will begin again about the first of September and they keep the nets in until the close of navigation.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- We begin fishing with the pound nets about the first of May. Then it will run up to the last of June, after which it will begin again the latter part of September and run to the latter part of October. During July and August we get no fish at all in the pound nets except at E. Poufette. One party McCloud and Pemble , have a gang of nets here from 45 to 48 feet deep and last year their biggest catch was in August, but this year they are not catching so many this month. We do not fish pound nets in November, because we do not get any fish and last year the storms blew our nets out.-(Robinson).

Harbor Springs.- We fish pound nets in the forepart of the season, about June, and it lasts about 2 months. Our best fishing lasts about 2 months. We keep the pound nets in until about the middle or last of September. No one keeps them in later than

that here in the Bay.-(Wilson).

Cheboygan.- Our fishing here begins about the first of June and it is all over by the first of August. We do not put our pound nets in again in the fall. We used to put them in for herring, but did not last fall and do not think we will this year.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- They put the pound nets in here the first of June and are just pulling them out now. They do the best fishing just about June 20 and up to July 10. This year they got pretty good fishing up to the first of August. There is no fishing with pound nets from now until about September 10. when they put the nets back again, but not on the same grounds.-(Gill).

Alpena.- Around here the pound nets are not out of the water at all.-(Lincoln).

Alpena.- The pound nets used to get the heaviest fishing in November.

We used to start in fishing pound about the first of September. Had no summer fishing. We would fish as long we could stay in for the ice. In fact we have had to leave

our twine in sometimes and could not get it out. That used to be anywhere from November 15 to 25.-(Case).

General.- The pound nets are fished in Lake Huron from Spring to fall. In Saginaw Bay they pull out during the summer months, but around Thunder Bay and Detour they keep them in usually right through the season.-(Wires).

Bay City.- The pound nets are put in the bay as soon as the ice goes out. I remember one season the nets were set in the bay March 28, and one season they were not in until May 2. The average would be about April 15. They are kept in until the run of pickerel begins to leave the shore. When the pickerel are out they take the nets up. They would take them out in the head of the bay earlier than they would farther out. The number of stakes driven in the bay would not indicate the number of pound nets set. In The fall the first nets are driven at the outside grounds. The grounds we drive last in the spring we drive first in the fall and catch the fish

coming up. Quite a number of crews are driving now and will get their nets in early in September.

They do not set the nets near the mouth of the river until the latter part of September. Those nets are kept in until about November 25 when they begin to pull them out. They do not fish into December. 2 years ago I had to send out tugs to get some of my nets.- (Penniman).

Bay City.- Pound nets are fished spring and fall, and begin to fish in the spring just as soon as the ice goes out, sometimes about the first of April. If we get out by that time we feel satisfied and sometimes we get out earlier. When you can get out in one place in the bay you can get out all over, because we have to wait for the ice to move. Sometimes, if it is a soft winter, it will open up in March, and we got fishing March 25 last year, but it froze up on us April 5. Once in a while a net is set before the ice is gone, but as a rule they wait until it is all out. Our last nets at the Charities came

out about July 4. The bay fishing quit the last 2 or 3 years about the first of June. They put them in again about the first of September, but there are no fish brought to market until September 15 or 20. We fish until about November 25 at the latest.-(Beutel).

Bay Port.- I set the twine in the spring just as soon as the ice goes out. We calculate to get it driven generally about April 15 and get the twine in about May 10 or 15.

Most of our spring herring come early and we do not get hardly any after May. We could get them earlier if we could get in earlier. It takes us about a month to get all our twine in. Last spring we set some twine early, but there was not much fishing, so we went on with our driving.

The pickerel come in from May 20 until about June 20, generally. They are a little later of late years. They last about a month. We do not get any very much later than the 4th of July. We calculate to pull out right after the 4th of July, and do not set again until the 10th or 15th of September. We do not

calculate to commence to set outside before September 20.

In the fall the fishing generally begins with perch, suckers, etc., for awhile Last fall the first herring we caught was somewhere in October. We get the herring then right up to the time we pull out. We generally begin pulling out about November 15 and calculate to get them all out by November 25.- (James Gillingham).

Bay Port.- We generally get our nets in about September 20 in the fall, and in the spring we set as soon as we can, but it is generally 2 or 3 weeks later than the ice goes out. In the spring our fishing begins to drop off about the first of July. We do not fish any during the summer. We have a couple of small nets in here at the islands, but do not get much in them. We do not make a business of fishing in the summer. Generally from the 4th of July up to the first of September we do not fish, and then after the first of September we would keep on until the ice freezes us out. We calculate to pull out

about November 20, sometimes earlier and sometimes a little later.-(John Gillingham).

Bay Port.- In the spring we set our nets about 3 weeks after the open water and I finished putting in my nets the 5th of May this year. We begin to take some pickerel as soon as we get them in, but our principal pickerel fishing is later, along in June. We take our nets out about the 10th of July. They catch pickerel up the bay before we get them so they must be going out.

We start setting in the fall about September 20, but it depends upon the weather about when we will finish up. If it is good weather it will take about a week to get the nets out. We leave our stakes out all summer.-(R. Gillingham).

Bay Port.- I never begin driving stakes until about April 15. We begin to put the twine in the first of May, but do not get any fish as they have not come down yet from above. It takes me 2 1/2 months to set all my twine. I do my driving before I set any twine. June is our best month for spring fishing and up to the first of July.

In the fall we begin to fish again about the first of September and expect to pull out by November 10 and are all out by November 15. We do not fish later because we are afraid of getting caught in the ice. I lost one net last fall.

We do not fish in the summer because the water is too shallow and gets too warm. About July 15 the water is poison to the fish and they have got to get out.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- Our pound net season commences the 15th of April and ends the 15th of July on this side. Then we pull out, mend up our nets and put them back in the water the first of September, and end the 10th of December. We never pull out here before December 10. What protects us is the current so that the ice does not form. I think we could hang on here until the first of January without any trouble.-(Selkirk).

Sarnia.- This is our first season for pound net fishing. We got one net out May 15 but a big blow came on and tore our nets up so we had to take them out and fix them up and

it was about the first of June before we commenced fishing. We will keep our nets out of the water until about September 20.-(Wees).

Goderich.- Where they fish south of here they put the pound nets in about the first of May. They commence driving their stakes about the first of May and commence to lift about the 17th of May. We fished last fall until about October 15. We pull them out for a while in August and clean the nets up and put them back again. Have them out about 2 weeks.

They do not fish pound nets in November on this shore because it does not pay them to keep the twine in on account of the storms. If the weather was good, November would be the best month for herring.-(McClean).

POUND NETS; SEASON --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- They have tried pound nets in the winter, but do not seem to take anything.

Alpena.- There never was any pound netting except in the fall. I was the first man to set pound nets here in the spring and I never caught anything but trout. In times back they always used to figure to commence to drive stakes in July so that they could get their nets in by the first of September, but we do not expect a very heavy run of fish until the first of October.-(Alpern).

POUND NETS; CATCH, SMALL FISH,

INNER AND OUTER CRIBS.

POUND NETS; CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- In the early part of his fishing would get whitefish and wall-eyed pike. The wall-eyed pike used to be very plentiful then. On my ground up here about 26 miles, in Meniskong Bay, where we used to fish early in the spring we could get a lot of them, but now there are so many people fishing that we have abandoned it.

We got the nets in this year about April 25. The first of May would be a late season. At that time we took nothing but whitefish. We used to get a heavy catch of pickerel in June, but now they are very scarce.

The fishing will begin again about the first of September and they keep the nets in until the close of navigation. They get whitefish again then. Do not get anything but whitefish inside, but outside we will get trout next month, that is on the south side of Drummond Island. We set there in the spring and catch a few whitefish, but towards fall we get nothing but trout. Pound nets set on the south side of Drummond Island take whitefish

in the spring and trout in the fall.-(Sims).

Cheboygan.- In the pound nets the principal catch is whitefish. They do not take many herring. I do not suppose we catch a ton of lake trout in the pound nets during all the summer.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- There are places where they catch some whitefish all summer. Yesterday some one sent to him 220 lbs. of whitefish and he expects to get a good many more in a couple of weeks.

The principal fish they take in the pound nets are whitefish. From September 10 until about the middle of October they will get nearly all trout, unless they happen to be on whitefish grounds somewhere off in deep water, and then they will get some whitefish mixed. After that time the whitefish come on again.-(Gill).

Alpena.- They have always got more or less whitefish in the pound nets since my recollection. They would begin taking them in July. September would be the best month and the fishery for them with pound nets would

last until about the first of November. Would not do much pound netting in November. They might some years, but as a rule they did not.-(Lincoln).

Alpena.- We used to get the herring. Herring brought a good price then and would pay if we caught a large amount of them.

We would get an abundance of whitefish and occasionally trout, and in September we got a good many pickerel. Would get herring later, after the whitefish in November. We got a few earlier, but the most of them later.

The pound nets never take many trout at any time of the season. In some places they might have taken more if they had been fished in the spring, but we did not pay much attention to trout.-(Case).

Bay City.- The principal catch is herring and the herring do not go as near the river as they used to years ago.-(Penniman).

Bay City.- Our principal fish are herring, pickerel, perch and whitefish, but the latter are not so common. Get a few trout.-(Beutel).

Bay Port.- We do not use any of the

whitefish pots. We fish for herring on all the ground we fish because that is all we get in the fall to amount to anything. Our pound net fish are whitefish, trout, pickerel, bass and pike.-(James Gillingham).

Bay Port.- Our whitefish fishing does not amount to much of anything. Pickerel and herring are our principal fish.-(John Gillingham).

Bay Port.- We begin to take some pickerel as soon as we get the pound nets in, but our principal pickerel fishing is late, along in June.

I believe the principal fish caught down around Port Austin is whitefish and trout.

We begin to get the whitefish in the spring just as soon as we get in, and it does not last very long.-(R. Gillingham).

Bay Port.- We get pickerel, herring and whitefish in the spring. Some years we catch as many herringin the spring as in the fall. We get a number of whitefish early in the spring if we have good clear weather. When there are lots of freshets no whitefish come in the bay here as the water is too dirty

The fish we get in the pound nets are herring, pickerel and some whitefish, and we get a few lake trout in the fall, but not many. Some falls we would not get 500 lbs. They do not come up as far as this.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- In the spring we catch No. 1 pickerel, No. 2 pickerel, some herring, and a very few perch. Sturgeon fishing is our main fishing. We get more value of sturgeon in one day than all the rest of the fishing put together for the season. In the fall the herring are the principal fishery. We get a September run here and then they come along pretty fair through October in small lots and in November the fishing is pretty fair. They hang on up to the first of December.

We do not get any whitefish to speak of or trout, in the pound nets.

We get a very few perch in the pound nets, but the pickerel, herring, and perch are the principal fish. We do not get but a very few pickerel in the spring and in fact sturgeon are the only thing we fish for. In the fall the herring are the only thing we fish for with

pound nets.-(Selkirk).

Sarnia.- In the pound nets this spring we have caught principally sturgeon and herring and a few pickerel. We could catch the pickerel with the seines and I think the reason we did not get them in the pots was on account of the long lead. We also got a few sheepshead, mullet and a few catfish. Did not get any suckers or black bass, but got a few white bass. Did not get any pike, but got 2 maskinonge-(Wees).

Goderich.- They fish with pound nets for pike, sturgeon, whitefish and herring. Sturgeon are their main fishery down there (below Kettle Point), but for the last 2 or 3 years they quit fishing for them as they cannot get any fish. From Blue Point up they fish for sturgeon. Blue Point used to be the best place.

In the pound nets they get no whitefish after the first month of fishing. They get none in the fall. They would get sheepshead and some sturgeon. May is the first month.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- In the spring about the first lifts would be herring and whitefish and a few pickerel. After that run the sturgeon come on about the first of June and last all through June. We get a few herring then. When the pickerel are on you do not get many herring. The pickerel chase the herring off. During July and August we get sheepshead, suckers, some herring, a few pickerel, and an odd sturgeon. In the fall they figure on getting herring. If they get good weather in October and the last part of September the fishing is good. You just want a good 25 mile breeze to make good fishing, and blowing on shore. The fall would not get many pickerel as they go out in deep water then. The herring fishing would be the best in the fall. If they do not get herring they get nothing and it does not pay to keep the nets in. We never fish along shore in December on account of the ice.-(McClean).

Goderich.- You are bound to get whitefish in the pound nets if you are fishing for herring.-(Eingster).

POUND NETS; CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Saw a man deliver to Anthony & Butterfield the catch of 2 pounds located near Hay Point about 12 miles up the river from Detour. The pots were in depths of 17 and 20 feet. The total catch made only about 2/3 of a bushel and consisted of grass pike, yellow pike, black bass, rock bass, and 2 or 3 bull heads. In the spring and fall they catch some whitefish in these pounds, but these same persons have other pounds outside on which they depend for their catch of whitefish.- (Rathbun).

Detour.- Saw a lot of fish deliver to T. Sims, from 8 pound nets at Thessalon, Ontario. I tallied off the following:

272 whitefish weighing 300 lbs.

356 wall-eyed pike weighing 700 lbs.

There were about 100 lbs. of grass pike mostly weighing about 3 to 4 lbs. each, there being no small ones among them. There were 6 or 8 lake trout weighing 1 1/2 to 3 lbs. apiece. In addition to the above there may

have been 40 or 50 lbs. of fish of the same species, which were not weighed with them, and which would complete the catch from the 8 pounds. It was a very poor catch, and that is what they expect at this season.-(Rathbun).

General.- In Lake Huron, outside of Saginaw Bay, the principal fish taken with the pound nets are whitefish and herring. The catch of whitefish is much more valuable, though they may catch more tons of herring.-(Wires).

General.- In Lake Huron they do not get many waste fishes in the pound nets compared with the number they take in Lake Erie. The same is also true of Lake Superior.-(Wires).

Thunder Bay, Michigan.- In the pound nets in Thunder Bay they take whitefish, herring and some lake trout, wall-eyed pike, a few black bass, a few sturgeon and some perch. Get a few sheepshead, but never knew them to sell any. They sell a few suckers, but not many. Do not catch many suckers in Thunder Bay. Get a few catfish, but not many.-(Wires).

Saginaw Bay.- In Saginaw Bay they catch a little of everything. The fishing there is more like that of Lake Erie. They would catch practically what they would in Lake Erie.-(Wires).

POUND NETS; CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Scarcely anything but whitefish are taken in the pound nets in the early spring. Perhaps a few pickerel, but not to amount to anything. Take a very few trout in the spring also. The run of whitefish lasts 6 weeks, but it does not run heavy as long as that. We get 3 weeks good fishing and then it drops off a little. When we begin we generally get about a ton to a lift, then they will drop down to 800, 700, and 600 lbs.-(Butterfield).

General.- The pounds take the greatest proportion of waste fish and the greatest variety of fish.-(Wires).

Bay Port.- They use nothing about here practically except pounds which are fished chiefly for pickerel in the spring and herring in the fall. Incidental catches are whitefish and trout. Perch, suckers, etc. are taken in considerable numbers.-(Rathbun).

Goderich.- The pound nets are said to have taken many more sturgeon this one season than the seines.-(Rathbun).

POUND NETS; CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Sarnia.- This is a pickerel and sturgeon ground, but I do not think out books will show 500 lbs. of pickerel caught this year, but, of course, we began a little late.- (Wees).

POUND NETS; CATCH OF SMALL FISH - LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- We do not like to handle the small fish and talk strongly against it to all our fishermen, but they say the fish are in their nets and if we do not take them they would have to take them ashore and throw them away.-(Robinson).

Alpena.- We always used to catch a good many young whitefish in the pounds and that had a good deal to do with the decrease. The small ones, unless they were very small, we used.

They catch more small fish in Lake Michigan than any place I know of and used to smoke them. That would be at South Haven and along that shore and also along the north shore.-(Case).

Goderich.- In those pound nets they will take any whitefish from the size of a herring up. I have seen them shipping them about the size of herring, about 12 inches long, but now they do not get any whitefish except a few runs oflarge ones along the shore.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- Pound nets are set so that they would catch all the small pickerel that come along and herring, too.-(McClean).

POUND NETS; CATCH OF SMALL FISH - LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- I have brought in as much, I dare say, as 1000 lbs. of fish that we would throw right in the woods. These were whitefish not more than 8 or 9 inches long and there was no sale for them. Had only 1 1/2 inch mesh in the pound nets then.- (Wilmot).

POUND NETS; CATCH OF SMALL FISH --- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- Both Mr. Gill and Mr. C. Corlett say that too many small fish are being taken and that the mesh in the pound nets should be increased. Corlett would be glad to make a change, but could not afford to while others still used the small mesh. He is confident, however, that the large mesh would take as many fish and they would be larger. There would be no more gilling in the pot than at present, but it would be larger fish that would gill. He complains of the small price they generally receive for whitefish here when selling to Detroit and Chicago. He said nothing about the cost, but can it not be due to the small size of the fish, in part at least?

Mr. Gill was especially emphatic in denouncing the capture of so very many small whitefish, which are taken in large numbers and a very large part of them being too small to use for any purpose, are thrown in the refuse heap. He mentioned 18 lbs. which were brought to him on Friday last, of which it would take

4 to make a lb.

Just before leaving Cheboygan, on July 23, 1894, Mr. Gill, the fish dealer, brought down to the Hotel a lot of whitefish which had been brought in by C. Corlett from his pounds. There may have been 40 or 50 altogether and the majority weighed under 1 lb. dressed. A large number measured 13 inches long, and it would have taken about 3 to make a lb. Mr. Gill said they were a sample of what was being caught right along in Corlett's pounds by the use of small mesh and that it should be stopped. He was very emphatic in denouncing the practice.-(Rathbun).

Alpena.- With pound nets there never are any small whitefish caught.-(Alpern).

POUND NETS; CATCH OF INNER AND OUTER POTS --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- He fished 2 nets in a spring at one time, but the outside one did not fish well. I find that the inside net always catches more.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- Last year the fisherman up this side of Waubeshanks caught all of his fish in the inside pots and this year he caught them all in the outside pots. It is just as the fish happen to run.-(Robinson).

Alpena.- The outside deep water pot would fish best except in the spawning time, when the inner ones nearer the reef would fish better.-(Case).

Bay City.- Truedel says the outside pots fish the best. I think he has gravelly bottom.-(Beutel).

Bay Port.- Sometimes the inside pot on a double header will catch more fish than the other.-(Dubey).

POUND NETS; HARMFULNESS.

POUND NETS; HARMFUL FEATURES - LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- You can take my word that if fishing has been killed, it is just on account of the pound nets fishing too small a mesh.

After they got through ruining the fish in Lake Erie they came here with their pound nets. The pound nets were the only thing that spoiled the fish around here.-(Wilmot).

Alpena.- I do not like pound nets, although I may be prejudiced, but I do know they slaughter small fish. You take it anywhere and you will notice where you find pound nets the fish have decreased, although they will tell you they have not. They will put up small whitefish and call them herring. It is only a question of time when they will have killed the herring off.-(Lincoln).

POUND NETS; INJURIOUS FEATURES - LAKE HURON.

General.- Setting so many pound nets in a string interferes with the movements of the fish and the more you put in a string the more it interferes with their movements.-(Wires).

Goderich.- There are no pound nets in Georgian Bay at all. You let them set 1 pound net where they run this seine at Rattle Snake Harbor and it would make a difference in 2 or 3 years. If they open the ground up the fish would all be gone in a few years.-(Cragie).

POUND NETS; CATCH OF SPAWNING WHITEFISH AND TROUT -- LAKE HURON.

Harbor Springs.- Down at Cross Village they put nets in and fish through the spawning season up to the first of December. You would not get the whitefish here for one reason, it is deep water and they go into shallow water to do their spawning.-(Wilson).

Cheboygan.- You cannot drive a pound net on the spawning ground of the whitefish, as it is generally stony ground and you cannot get the pound net in.-(D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- They fish the pound nets all through November and that is the time when they catch the biggest whitefish and trout in the pound nets.-(Gill).

POUND NETS; USE OF APRON --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- In speaking of the proper sized mesh to be used in pound nets he states:

But the fishermen are very unfair and they put a small meshed apron in front of their nets and the small fish cannot get out. The only way to stop the evasion of the law would be to impose a heavy fine for doing so. It seems so cruel to catch the small fish that are of no value to anyone.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- A good many put a false back in and catch all the small fish.-(Robinson).

General.- When fishing for herring in the fall they would be likely to use an apron having a finer mesh - 1 1/2 to 2 inches - than the pot, which is fixed to one side or to the back, being simply fastened along the upper edge and they bunt into that. About 1 1/2 to 2 inches would be the size of the mesh of the apron. This applies to Lake Huron and the north shore of Lake Michigan, and it is about the same on Lake Superior.-(Wires).

POUND NETS; MISCELLANEOUS.

POUND NETS; NAVIGATION -- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- We could find places that are deeper to set our nets, but it is no use to go any farther than that and we would be liable to get in the way of the boats.- (Robinson).

Mackinaw Island.- They have pound nets right in the way of navigation in lake Michigan, have them 4 or 5 miles right out in the lake, but the water is too deep here for them to do so.-(Wilmot).

Saginaw Bay.- There is considerable complaint about the apparatus interfering with navigation in Saginaw Bay, but not here in Thunder Bay. There are places in Saginaw Bay where the twine runs out so far they have to make an opening for the boats.-(Tulian).

Bay City.- We have no trouble from the vessels as the water is too shallow. The navigation people do not complain at all.- (Beutel).

POUND NETS; RELATIONS TO NAVIGATION - LAKE HURON.

General.- In Saginaw Bay the nets interfere some with navigation, but they never pay any attention to it.-(Wires).

Sarnia.- Our pound nets get destroyed so much by boats and rafts. We have had no damage to our nets to speak of, except it has been caused by the boats.-(Wees).

POUNDS AND NAVIGATION--LAKE HURON.

Port Huron. Those sand suckers and such shore boats are continually running through our nets, and if it is the case that we have to put our nets out at our own risk from Government traffic, why should not the Government control the stream from the shore out? (Selkirk).

POUND NETS; LIFE AND CARE --- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- I have some pound net twine 8 and 10 years old. The crib part will not last over 3 or 4 years. We tar them twice altogether. We do not figure on putting in new backs in less than 3 years and perhaps can use the rest of them a little longer.- (C. Corlett).

Bay Port.- Gillingham uses tar that costs him $20. a barrel. They tried it here this spring for the first time. They expect it will last longer than the other.

Twine here in the bay will last about 3 years. In the summer we could rot a net in one season and we save money by pulling out our twine then. We tar our nets but once and it does not burn our hands, but the dust that comes out of it burns out faces. The leaders generally last 4 or 5 years. Flood-wood and logs especially ruins our twine a good deal. Our nets begin to rot first about 2 or 3 feet from the surface and not so much at the surface. At the surface it gets washed by the sea and keeps cleaner.

In the corners it does not last so long. That is where the fish turn and rub up against it and get it all slimy.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- We used coal tar. We tried the new Milwaukee tar, but did not like it, it has not the substance to it. I think the stiffness that the tar gives the nets is what makes it durable.-(Selkirk).

Sarnia.- We will keep our nets out of water until about September 20. We will simply wash the nets and dry them, but may tar the pot. We tar our nets ourselves.-(Wees).

POUND NETS; LIFE AND CARE --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Our pound nets will last from 3 to 5 years, and the way I am fishing mine now they will last 20 years. A pound net will be hurt more now in a week than in all the spring when I am fishing.-(Butterfield).

Sarnia.- A pound net set in the water complete would be worth about $500.-(Wees).

POUND NETS; METHODS --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- I let the men have my pound nets on shares and they live on the grounds.- (Sims).

POUND NETS; METHODS -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- The pound nets are all fished with seine boats.-(Butterfield).

POUND NETS; WHEN LIFTED --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- They lift their pounds every day when they can get to them.-(Butterfield).

POUND NETS; HOW OWNED AND NUMBER TO A FISHERMAN

LAKE HURON.

Detour.- No one man owns more than 2 or 3 pound nets. We own the most, but let them out on shares and only fish 3 ourselves. 3 and 4 pound nets is about all one crew can attend to.-(Butterfield).

Alpena.- During his fishing they had about 7 men, but of late years, of course, 3 men would run 3 or 4 pound nets.-(Case).

Bay City.- The pounds are owned by individual fishermen mostly. There are very few firms that own their own twine.-(Penniman).

Bay Port.- The seasons are more stormy than they used to be. A few years ago we would have but one blow in a season, both spring and fall, and now it blows about all the time. The worst time in the spring is generally for 2 or 3 weeks after the ice goes out, and in the fall, November is the worst month.-(Dubey).

Port Huron.- The storms do not bother us at all. We used to fish on the Canada side, way up, but could not stay there in December on account of the ice forming and it would cut the twine off. They are not sheltered from the northwest winds on the Canada side. We get more northwest winds in the fall than from any other direction and are sheltered from them. Up the shore, 6 or 7 miles, we would have to pull in about the middle of November to protect ourselves from the ice.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- There is considerable loss from storms also, especially on the lee shore.-(McClean).

POUND NETS; STORMS AND LOSSES -- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- Quite a number of pound nets were blown ashore during the storms last November, but during such storms they are not lost as most of them are found again.-(Robinson).

POUND AND GILL NETS COMPARED.

POUNDS AND GILL NETS; CONDITION OF FISH.

LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Half the fish the gill nets take are dead when they get them and the pound net fish are all alive and in much better condition. The pound net fish all come in alive and firm. Half the gill net fish they have to look out for to see that they are not soft. They salt some of them as they are not fit to ship fresh. When they salt them if the bones are sticking out the dealers call them "ragged" and if they are a little blue on the belly they throw them out. They do not freeze any fish here.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- There is no difference in the fish taken in the gill nets and pound nets if they have not been out too long, but if they have been out too long, those that are drowned are not as good as those taken alive, as they are full of water.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- We do not make any difference in the quality between pound and gill net fish. We class the fish from the

gill nets just as the same as from the pound nets, but I hardly think they are as good keeping fish as the pound net fish.-(Robinson).

Cheboygan.- The best fish for market are the pound net fish. The gill net fish are harder but they leave them in the water so long many of them are dead and they get soft. Take them right through the pound net fish are worth a little more and we get 1/2 cent more for them. Some of the gill net fellows did not fish at all this year, as they could get only 2 1/2 cents for whitefish and trout.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- We get harder fish in the pound nets because they are all alive when we take take them, but we get a larger fish in the gill nets and can sell them for just as good a price. A fish that is too soft to sell fresh can be salted all right, and there are always more or less salt fish from the gill nets.-(D. Corlett).

Alpena.- It is certain a pound net fish is a better looking fish, but I think the gill net fish is fully as good, and bet-

ter in the summer time than the pound net fish, because it is a deeper water fish.-(Alpern).

General.- The water is warm in Lake Erie and the fish taken with the pound nets are a good deal better fish anyway. You take it in lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan, you can leave your gill nets out 4 or 5 nights and your fish will all be alive and as bright as a dollar.

Has an idea that the gill nets waste a great many more fish than the pound nets. You set a gill net in shallow water and a cold storm comes on and you do not go out to lift it, the fish are all dead. I have seen them throw away any amount of fish and that never occurs in the pound nets. Sometimes gill nets get adrift and there are tons and tons of fish wasted.-(Wires).

Bay Port.- A gill net fish is not near as good as the fish out of a trap net. A fish left dead in the water 24 hours is rotten. A fish will spoil in water 3 times as quick as it will out.-(R. Gillingham).

Goderich.- There is no doubt the pound nets get the fish in the best condition. The fish from shallow water are not as hard as those from deep water and I do not like them so well to eat. Pound net herring are better than gill net herring because you have to pick them through the mesh and it softens them by handling.-(Eingster).

POUNDS AND GILL NETS; DESTRUCTIVENESS COMPARED --- LAKE HURON.

Petoskey.- As to whether the gill nets or the pound nets are the most destructive I have no decided opinion, but my judgment is that the gill nets, under the present system of fishing, are the more destructive, because they can go with the gill nets right to the spawning grounds where, from the nature of the water, pound nets cannot be set. There are many reasons why, in the enforcement of the law, I think the pound nets are less destructive. They are always in places where you can observe them and a reasonable expense and you can see whether they do comply with the law or not, while the gill net is here today and in another place to-morrow and is out of sight always and can even be set without a buoy so that no one but the owner can find it in deep water.-(Hampton).

POUNDS AND GILL NETS; PROPORTIONATE CATCH BY EACH --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- The pound nets take the largest proportion of fish in this region by a good deal. I should say more than as much again, but, of course, there are more pound nets than gill nets. Would not get 1/3 as much from the gill nets as from the pound nets.-(Robinson).

Cheboygan.- There are more fish taken with pound nets than with gill nets now around here. Still the tugs catch an awful lot of fish with the gill nets.-(C. Corlett).

Bay Port.- The gill nets catch more trout than the pound nets.-(R. Gillingham).

GILL NETS; LOCALITY, SEASON, &C.

GILL NETS; LOCALITY -- LAKE HURON.

General.- When they begin fishing in the spring they start in generally near home and work along the shore as they find fish most abundant. They carry on their fishing in sight of the land moving across the lake as soon as the weather will permit. The Port Huron tugs fish as far north as Port Austin Point and probably on to the Canada waters on the eastern side of the lake. The Cheboygan tugs fish in the vicinity of Bois Blanc Island and Spectacle Reef and would run down the shore of Michigan to the vicinity of Hammonds Bay, a distance of 25 or more miles. The tugs from Alpena and Au Sable work all through the adjacent region and as the season becomes favorable work out on to Big Reef, which is off the mouth of Saginaw Bay, fishing in deeper water around the reef until fall, when during the spawning season the fishing is carried up onto the reef. Many of these tugs work over on to the Canada side of the lake. Sometimes even going in sight of the

Canadian shore. During the spring and summer and providing the fishing is not good along their own shore they may fish any distance out and in any place where the depth does not exceed 100 fathoms.-(Wires).

GILL NETS; LOCALITY; SEASON---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---The gill nets are set in from 40 to 60 fathoms. That is about as deep water as we can get. We fish in a little shallower water in the spring and fall and in the above depths in the summer (Butterfield).

Detour.---The gill net fishing is very light now, but it will gain soon. It is light in the summer. About the last of August they expect the gill net fishing to improve again. The fishing continues solely for trout and will keep gaining until October, which is the best month for trout. It will end about October 25 or November 1. Do not generally fish any later. There are no fish after that. They move off into deep water. They come in shallow water in October. We do not attempt to follow them when they move off, as we would have to set the nets on rock bottom and it would tear them. We cannot ship much after November 10, as the boats stop running and there is no chance to ship.

The boats do not go as far as the tugs, but fish close to shore (Butterfield).

Detour.---The gill nets are fished all summer more or less. They set them about the same time in the spring, but they catch nothing but trout. They are set about 8 or 10 miles from the mouth of the river, out in Lake Huron, and they will take nothing but trout in the spring and fall both. There is a slack season in the summer with the trout. They are most abundant in the fall, but in the spring they are more abundant than they are now. We have the same slack time during the summer that we have with other fishes. In the fall the fishing begins to improve about October when they come on to spawn. It will begin to improve a little in September, but principally in October. During the summer season we go about 8 or 10 miles out into 50 or 60 fathoms, and through October they go into about 8 or 10 fathoms, on the edge of the shoals (Sims).

Mackinaw City.---The gill net seasons are just as soon as the ice goes out in the spring, and they fish a good many through the ice in the winter. That is the only winter fishing in these parts. We fish gill nets right through the open season. During the heat of the summer

we do not fish them extensively, as we do in the spring and fall.

They fish with gill nets everywhere around here. They have grounds out here, and they go anywhere from 2 miles from shore clear across the lake to the north shore. The main gill net grounds are at St. Helene Island; just to the south of that island.

In the winter there is no open water fishing here. They cut a hole in the ice, take a long pole and tie a cord on the end of it and run it through and put their nets on it. They fish for whitefish mostly in the winter, but catch a few trout. It is a light fishing in the winter (Robinson).

Mackinac Island.---I used to fish over across at the Snow Islands on the outside for trout, using 5 1/2 inch mesh and getting nothing but trout.

I used to fish under the ice. I fished here a good many years under the ice, and one winter my brother-in-law and myself fished 3 gill nets (Wilmot).

Harbor Springs.---They set gill nets in the deep water anywhere. They fish them from here and from all over. Off Cross Village or in the Straits they will go out until they find the deepest water.

We fish some gill nets here all through the season; do the best in the spring and fall. We set them in the deepest water we can find(Wilson)

Cheboygan.---The tugs fish right out here to Spectacle Reef, and some up at White Shoals.

They use the gill nets here through all the open season. Of course their best season is early in the spring and late in the fall, during September and October. It is not so good in November, but of course they fish then.

There are quite a few gill nets fished through the ice in the winter for menominees.

There are 5 or 6 boats fishing gill nets at Roger's City, about half way to Alpena (C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---They fish all the way from 3 to 6 miles off the shore from Bois Blanc Island in from 25 to 50 fathoms. Spectacle Reef is one of our principal fishing grounds. There is good trout fishing in the summer, or was at least.

During July and August there are very few fishing gill nets. Most everybody lays up their nets during those months. We start in as soon as the ice goes out, then omit those two months and begin again the first of September (D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---They fish gill nets off shore from 4 to 15 miles. They go over to Spectacle Reef Light a good deal. They fish in from 40 to 150 feet of water.

They begin fishing gill nets when the season first opens and fish all summer, but they do not get nearly as many in the middle of the summer. First in the spring they get trout, and get trout right along all summer more or less. They get the most whitefish from June until about July 15. They generally begin to drop off shortly after July 4. They catch a good many whitefish in November. In the winter they do not fish through the ice with nets to amount to anything (Gill).

Alpena.---Right now we are fishing in 23 or 24 fathoms of water; that is where the best fishing is now. We lift sometimes in 70 fathoms.

We are fishing gill nets all over Lake Huron on both sides. I have had gill nets so close to the Duck Islands that we could see people walking there. We do not fish in that deep hole in the middle of the lake. That is about 170 fathoms. Once in a while we get into 100 fathoms, but get a very poor quality of fish there. We get our good trout not deeper than 40 fathoms. Sometimes we fish in deeper water than that; if the fishing drops off (have a still spell of weather and the fish swim high) we drop in deeper water. One of my boats lifted in 80 fathoms last Wednesday. I have 6 sail boats which stay out 12 miles from here at a point on the shore.

At Detour they never did much tug fishing except once in a while somebody would go there with a tug and fish a short time and leave for some other locality. The locality is not good except as a headquarters. There is no one certain time of the year when you can catch fish there, but here our tugs do not think of going less than 30 miles away from here, and from that to 40 or 60 miles (Alpern).

Alpena.---In the spring we generally set in from 25 to 35 fathoms and get trout and a few whitefish, but not many. In 24 or 25 fathoms may get a few whitefish. We will fish in from 25 to 35 fathoms for probably 2 months in the spring, and then we go for the edges of the reefs---the Big Reef---and there are some reefs inside of that---and we fish then in from 20 to 25 fathoms right along the edge of the reef. We fish those grounds until fall and then we go right up on the reef where they are spawning. Once in a while we get a few whitefish during the summer, but not to amount to anything. The sail boats get a few inside, but we do not fish the inside grounds. In the fall we go on the north ground and fish that if there are any fish in there. If we set on the north ground and the fish come on the spawning ground we would get nothing but whitefish, but where we fish what we call the Big Reef there is nothing but trout on it.

The sail boats do not fish on our grounds as they cannot reach them. In the spring they generally go into deep water and get trout, but they do not fish the same grounds that we do.

They go over on the north ground into deep water 35 or 40 fathoms; over the reef, and catch nothing but trout, but our grounds are too long runs for sail boats. I fish right with the Au Sable tugs when I go out.

I fish around pretty close to the Ducks in the spring sometimes. Our boats here never go over to the Canada side, however.

Those charts of yours are not correct as to the depth of water. On the main part of the Big Reef the shallows way out in the middle of the lake is as shallow as 9 fathoms. There are places where the chart gives 20 fathoms and it is only 12 or 13 fathoms. There are depths of 12 to 14 fathoms over a much greater extent than is shown on the chart. In fact the Big Reef starts from Middle Island, north of Thunder Bay, and extends diagonally across the lake to off the region about Point Clark and then extends southward into the southern part of the lake, being the shallow water included between the contour lines as shown on the chart of Lake Huron. The main patches of the shallow water are shown out in the middle of the lake east of Alcona. The Big Reef is generally

designated as that shallow part in the middle of the lake. There is a place on the north ground where you can get 4 fathoms of water, and they do not give it on the chart. We do not fish Grayling Reef at all in the fall, as the trout do not seem to come on it then.

The gill nets in the spring are used at any place inside the Big Reef. We go clear down abreast of Au Sable in depths of 35 fathoms. I have never struck 40 fathoms at any place inside of that Big Reef, although it is so marked on the chart in 2 or 3 places, but 37 is the most I have ever found. Spring gill net fishing inside the big reef is in depths of 35 to 36 fathoms, and I have fished as far south from here as Au Sable. West of the Duck Islands I have fished in 60 and 65 fathoms and shoaler. I do not fish up as far as Spectacle Reef. The tugs and small boats together fish the whole ground here (Cleary).

Alpena.---It is too far for sail boats to go to the gill net grounds now. They fish here in the summer and south of the islands, but still it was scattered all along the shore here (Lincoln).

General.---In Lake Huron they fish way out in the open lake. From the mouth of Saginaw Bay the tugs will run about 10 or 12 miles an hour, and run 5 hours to the fishing grounds, making a run of 45 or 50 miles, but probably not more than 25 or 30 miles off the shore, clear out on the Big Reef. The Big Reef is about 40 miles or a little less below Thunder Bay. This big reef off the mouth of Saginaw Bay is so far out that along about the middle of November they never run out there as they are somewhat afraid of snow storms.

Elsewhere along Lake Huron they do not get out more than 2 or 3 miles from the mainland, except around the islands. That is outside of this big reef they do not fish gill nets generally more than 2 or 3 miles, or not more than 5 miles at the most from the mainland and the islands (Wires).

Bay City.---Gill netting has been carried on but very little in Saginaw Bay, and that only as an experiment which did not prove a paying one. There is a little gill netting under the ice here in the winter in February and March, but it does not amount to much. They just get

a few herring, perch and mullet (Penniman).

Bay Port.---We have never fished any gill nets here. Gill nets were never fished here to amount to anything that I know of. All they have been fished around here is in the bayous for pike. I do not think there are any gill nets set under the ice here for herring (John Gillingham).

Port Huron.---At the present time 20 miles is the nearest we are gill netting. We are running 30 miles, abreast of Port Sanilac. We do not have as good fishing within 30 miles as we do further north.

In the fall we start from Port Huron and run way off to the Saginaw Bay big reef. We set our nets on the edge of the big reef in 30 fathoms. We fish all the way from 30 miles off Sanilac to the big reef off Saginaw Bay.

The early fishing is done in the north part up off Saginaw Bay and Sand Beach, and in the summer we run down in the shallow water at the southward, and we get our trout down there just the same. We find it more profitable as the season decreases through July and August; we find it less expensive to fish near home. All

our whitefish are obtained in the southern part of the lake and we do not get any up off the Big Reef (Selkirk).

Goderich.---The fishing carried on along the shore is chiefly with gill nets. I have been fishing 23 years. Gill nets have always been used from here since I have been here, and I never fished anything else.

I have fished gill nets down here at Kettle Point, and that is the farthest down I have fished, and only went down one fall just for a trial. I know the tugs used to go pretty well up, and if they got good fishing near the river they would not go up so far.

The sail boats do not go any farther now than they did 18 years ago. I fished 18 years ago just as far from this harbor as these sail boats have done this year, and they have done just as well as I did 18 years ago. 19 years ago we fished on this reef about 20 miles off-shore and we fished north about W.N.W. from here and about W.S.W. from here. Now we are fishing northwest from here. Then we were getting both whitefish and trout.

We do not fish quite so far away in the fall or spring as we do in the summer. We used to fish here in the summer with sail boats and used to go up along the islands and fish in the fall because it was too much exposed here for the fall fishing, but now with the tugs we do not go up there in the fall at all because there is not much made in the fall fishing for the big trout, because we have to get up another kind of net to catch them, and by the time you get up there and get back home again it eats up all the profits. That is the islands around the Manitoulins. There is hardly ever any one goes up among the Little Fishing Islands except the Southampton sail boats.

The fishing depends a great deal upon the season. Of course sometimes the fish run along the reef in the center of the lake. In the spring I prefer to set in deep water, probably in from 35 to 50 fathoms, and in the summer I want to get out along the edge of those reefs. It is not the general rule that we would get the best fishing on the tops of the reefs, but have part of our nets on the edge of the reef and

part in deep water. We generally get the best fishing in the summer (Cragie).

Goderich.---In this part of Lake Huron the gill nets are used quite extensively up around the islands above Southampton. That is around the Fishing Islands, but it has not been a success for a number of years. There is not 1/5 of the men go up there now that used to. That fishing was in the fall. We fished whitefish nets about in the center of the lake. We commence right off here in the spring about 1 1/2 hours' run or about 15 miles off, and keep working along the reef near the center of the lake. The American tugs set right alongside of us. We go up as far north as Southampton sometimes in July and August. We never go south of Bayfield. When I first started about 18 years ago we used to fish down off Bayfield altogether. Bayfield is 48 miles above Port Huron. The best fishing is up off Southampton. We get as much in one gang up there as we would in two down below here. We fish anywhere at all along this reef. We set on the edges of the reef mostly. The best bottom is broken bottom with sand and loose stones on it, and on

the slopes.

We get about 30 fathoms of water on the reefs and up north will get 75 and 80 fathoms. I have set in 120 fathoms off Manitoulin Island.

The tugs do better fishing farther away than they do close in. If you get a place where there have been no nets set you are bound to catch more fish in a few lifts. This time of the year you have to move about every second set, but they will soon come back again.

There has been quite a little difference here these last 4 years. It always gets poor in June and it keeps poor all the season inside here and in the spring it will be just as fine as ever again. It is a feeding ground and they come on for the minnows (Eingster).

Southampton.---Gill net fishing has been the main fishing here.

The tugs sometimes fish on the same grounds with the sail boats. They can fish together, but the tugs can go in calm weather better than the boats and can make quicker trips. Some of the sail boat men are on the tugs.

The whitefish nets are fished as far north as Big Island or Loyal Island with the tugs, and

the sail boats will go that far sometimes. The tugs do not go farther than that. They go south about 15 or 20 miles, half way to Kincardine. They go out about 40 miles into the lake over to the Big Reef. The sail boats run over to the Big Reef sometimes, but not so many now since the tugs started. The boats do not like to stay with the tugs if they can help it. I have often gone out and had to row both ways, and sometimes they have to weather a storm. Fogs are the worst thing we had with the fishing boats; it is worse than smoke. If we have a long distance to go it is no use to use the oars when we are becalmed.

We begin to fish in deep water between the reef and the shore in the spring as soon as the lake is clear of ice. Some years it would be clear about the middle of April and some years it would be in May before it is clear. During the summer months we are scattered all around. We go out on the reef the latter end of May, and June and July. The tugs will go in August, but the fishing boats do not like to go then as the days are getting shorter and storms are coming on. We expect to have the whitefish nets ashore

before the beginning of September generally. We do not use whitefish nets after that. We take up the trout nets then and use them during September and October.

The trout nets are set on the rocks in shallow water from 25 fathoms in to 10 fathoms. They will be fishing all along the coast north of here up as far as Cape Hurd. Sometimes the fishermen from Goderich and Kincardine move up north also, and fishermen from here go up and camp out and fish above here. When we started fishing first we never went out over 12 miles, and used to get good fishing.

The deepest water we fish in is 100 fathoms; we get small trout in that depth, but they are very good to eat. We begin fishing for them pretty early in the spring. The shallowest water we have on the reef is from 8 to 9 fathoms That would break in a gale of wind so that it would be dangerous to cross (D. McCauley).

Southampton.---Sometimes the tugs and sail boats fish on the same grounds. I have often fished among the sail boats. The reason of the decrease in the boats I suppose is because the whitefish are scarcer. The sail boats have to

fish in deep water in the summer as well as the tugs, but in the spring and fall they both fish inshore.

We fish down near Kincardine first in the spring and out northwest from here. We start in about 20 fathoms and set out probably to 40 or 50 fathoms. We will go out from 12 to 15 miles in the spring at first; that is for 3 or 4 weeks, and then we begin to go way out into the middle of the lake. Our fishing grounds in the middle of the lake are on the banks out there in about all depths. We fish on that 9 fathom bank and fish in 75 and 80 fathoms. We go about half way to Cape Hurd, which is as far as we go north. We go south within 10 miles of Kincardine. That fishing will continue up to November. In October we set our trout nets back of the Fishing Islands. We do not set them in deep water, but in from 8 to 20 fathoms. We do not go inside of the Fishing Islands as it is too shallow water. They will fish in October up along that shore from here to Cape Hurd. The boats move up in those coves and harbors and fish out of there in the fall.

They just move up there and live there for a time (G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.---Gill nets are the principal fishery here.

The sail boats in the spring go to deep water as soon as they begin. To get deep water they have to go 12 or 15 miles. They fish inside of 12 miles also. In the spring they hardly ever go into less than 30 fathoms for a month or 2, and will go up to 70 or 80 fathoms. They do not go very far up or down the coast, but about straight out either west or northwest. They go southwest sometimes, but hardly ever. They go W.S.W. sometimes. There is sail boat fishing up off the Fishing Islands in the summer season. After the spring fishing, about July, they will go up and down the shore. They will go 25 miles north and about 10 or 15 miles south. In the summer they fish in any depth of water and all over. The sail boats would not go over 15 or 16 miles from land.

In the fall the sail boats, some of them, go up the shore and some fish here about the last of this month. They will not fish 25 miles up in the fall, however. They do not go out

over 6 or 7 miles from land in the fall. In the spring the tugs will go to deep water as soon as they start. They will go out farther than the boats, but the farther they go the shallower the water gets. They go out on the reefs as early as they can. They fish up the coast at least half way to Cape Hurd. They go 40 or 50 miles out now, about west by north, right straight out in the lake. They fish on the Big Reef out there. All the region about here is fished with gill nets (Cosley).

Southampton.---In the spring we go out in from 20 to 80 fathoms of water. The tugs go to deep water where we cannot go. The tugs fish as far as Nine-Fathom Bank. They will go as far north as Greenwich and tugs from Georgian Bay come down about as far as that. They will go about west by south from here, nearly off Kincardine. They fish all along the Big Reef. I have fished on the Big Reef with a sail boat, but not of late years. The sail boats fish out about 20 or 25 miles generally. We have gone as far as 45 miles, but since the tugs started we have quit it. The sail boat fishing is

mostly between Southampton and Cape Hurd, and if they fish far north toward Cape Hurd they have a temporary station farther north. We used to go out 20 miles in the summer, but do not go out so far in the fall.

With 4 1/2 inch mesh we have the best fishing in the spring. Sometimes we will be in 25 fathoms and sometimes in 50 fathoms. We have no regular depth in the spring and no depth in the summer, but just shift around wherever we can find the fish. The tugs fish on the edge of the reefs all the season. They will fish there until the last of this month (Dobson)

Southampton.---There is not as good fishing now in the shallower water to which the sail boats used to resort. Some of them used to go out on the reefs near the middle of the lake, however. The tugs go farther than the sail boats and make quicker passages. They fish some seasons, however, in shallow water in company with the sail boats.

Gill net fishing is not carried on much below the parallel of Southampton. They go some to the south, but are soon met by the boats from Kincardine. Their licenses give them

permission to fish between Kincardine and Cape Hurd, but there are tugs again which are stationed part of the year at Tober Mory and fish south of Cape Hurd, so the Southampton tugs generally stop some distance south of Cape Hurd. They go out sometimes as far as Nine-Fathom Bank on Big Reef. They follow along that bank to the south and go into deep water to the north. Their grounds are everywhere to the east of those limits, covering the entire region to as near the Canada shore as the depth of water will permit. They fish sometimes in as great a depth as 100 fathoms (Rathbun).

GILL NETS; LOCALITY -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- The tugs run clear over to the south shore and down as far as Little Channel. About 30 miles from where they lifted to-day.- (Butterfield).

Cheboygan.- There is very little fishing down in the river. We used to use gill nets around the piers here a little for yellow pickerel, but there does not seem to be any the last 5 years.-(C. Corlett).

Port Huron.- The tugs of the Huron Fish Co. are often stationed farther north than Huron, depending upon the grounds they are fishing on as determined by the season. They fish as far north as the big reef, off the mouth of Saginaw Bay and from there down the lake to within about 20 miles of the river. Formerly they used to fish further south.- (Rathbun).

Goderich.- If you do not set along the edge of the reefs here in deep water you are not going to get fish. If you set in shallow water as they do on the other side you will

not get any fish.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- I fish gill nets principally. Capt. Eingster never fished anything else but gill nets.-(McClean).

Goderich.- Gill net fishing is the principal kind of fishing carried on along this shore of Lake Huron, and a number of tugs are used from Goderich and other places farther north. They fish as they do on the Michigan side and cover a large area. They rarely ever have attempted to fish gill nets south of Point Harris. It is too far away from them and they do not seem to find much there. They fish all through north of that place, selecting such grounds as they consider suitable. They do not go as far north as the big reef off Alpena, but go pretty well toward it and also in the vicinity of and probably on the big reef off Saginaw Bay. They evidently go on the American side of the line as their gangs are often, more or less, mixed up with the American gangs and their tugs are frequently close together.-(Rathbun).

GILL NETS; LOCATION -- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- Spectacle Reef is about 18 miles from here and that is one of the principal gill net fishing grounds. They call it Spectacle Reef anywhere within 7 or 8 miles of there, but the best fishing is within 2 or 3 miles of the reef.-(C. Corlett).

GILL NETS---ST. MARY'S RIVER.

At the bend of the river about 15 miles below the Soo they use small pieces of gill net and catch some whitefish all the season (Butterfield, Detour).

GILL NETS; SEASON.

GILL NETS; SEASON---LAKE HURON.

Alpena.---With us fishing is a business from the word go. There is not a year that we do not bust the ice in the spring, and I fish the last thing in the fall. A year ago we quit early, December 10, and the year before that we lifted the last nets December 23, and the year before that on the 22nd (Alpern).

Alpena.---We begin gill netting about the first of March. I set the 5th of March this spring. We get out just as quick as we can. I have worked my way out here when the ice was 14 inches thick. For the last 5 years we have pulled out here generally from December 20 to 24. I think it was the 23rd last fall, and the fall before it was the 23rd, and the fall before that the 24th (Cleary).

General.---On Lake Huron the season opens as soon as navigation opens and closes when navigation closes. It opens fully a month earlier than on Lake Superior. Has seen them set their nets there in March, but as a general thing they get their nets in there the first of April. Last season they got their nets in by

the middle of March. In the fall the close of their season is usually about the last of November. They shut down about the same as on Lake Erie (Wires).

Port Huron.---During July and August is the only time we can get any profitable fishing at this end of the lake.

We fish gill nets all the season from the time the ice leaves until it closes us up (Selkirk).

Goderich.---After very still weather here in June and July our fishing slacks off and it is on account of the fish coming up to the surface.

We begin to fish just as soon as the ice gets off the lake. We started this year March 17 and last year April 10. We never like to start before the 10th or 15th of April because if you start before then there is generally a good deal of broken weather and we have wages to pay, and it would be better for us if we did not start until April 15. We fish then up to the first of November, which is our season, but last year I pulled out the last of September, and this year I shall probably pull out about the

same time. We fish all summer, but fishing is not as good in the summer as it is in the spring but we fish the same amount of nets (Cragie).

Goderich.---I begin fishing as soon as I can for the ice. We set the 17th of March this year. Generally begin about the first of April. Last year we hauled out the 10th of October. We keep at it all through the summer. We will haul out this year about the first of October. We haul out on account of the storms.

The spring is the best time for fishing with us.

We lay up our tugs as soon as we are through in the fall. There is no chance for winter fishing here, but last winter if a man had a good tug he could have fished all winter (Eingster).

Southampton.---We fish the whitefish nets right along until the first of October, beginning as soon as the navigation opens. We started this year about March 20, but some years we do not get started until the 20th of April or 1st of May. It is generally about April 20. We fish then up to the 1st of October. They take out the trout nets some-

times earlier than the first of October. I am going to set some today. We take the whitefish nets ashore the first of October so they will last another season. During September we may use both whitefish and trout nets, just to keep the thing going until we get our trout nets ready (G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.---We use the trout nets about the last of August. We do not use them in the spring. We begin to use them the last of August and continue until we finish up. We use the whitefish nets in the spring as soon as we start. As a rule they start about the first of April or as soon as navigation is open. They generally quit the summer fishing the last of August; that is the sail boats, but the tugs fish out on the reef right through the summer. The sail boats as a rule quit about the last of August. They do not take the whitefish nets up again until the next spring.

We would sometimes fish for suckers in the winter, but never for whitefish or trout. They have set whitefish nets in the winter, but never got more than 2 or 3.

The large trout nets are used from about

the last of August until November. The tugs and sail boats both use them. The boats fish only the trout nets then, but the tugs fish both for a while, but quit them after a short time (Cosley).

Southampton.---The whitefish nets are used right up until now from about April. They begin to use them as soon as the ice is out and fish them up until about the first of September. They do not use them at all after that as they are not strong enough (Dobson).

GILL NETS; WINTER SEASON -- GEORGIAN BAY.

Down by Thessalon in the North Channel of Lake Huron they fish through the ice. They caught a lot of fish there last winter and shipped them.-(Elliott).

GILL NETS; HISTORY.

GILL NETS; HISTORY -- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- There was quite a lot of fishing with gill nets going on when I first came here.-1854-(Wilmot).

GILL NETS; HISTORY --- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- In 1845 to 1848 there were about 200 fishermen using small sail-boats with gill nets from Thunder Bay Island and Sugar Island. They fished near shore right in sight of land. They caught almost entirely whitefish, very few trout. Fishing was good, the catch being salted. About 1848 fishing dropped off there and the same men went down to Au Sable or Oscoda where good fishing continued up to nearly 1865. There were many boats fishing from there when Mr. Case first came to this region.-(Case).

Port Huron.- Gill netting was carried on here years before my time.-(Selkirk).

Southampton.- When I came here there were 3 boats fishing gill nets with 3 men to a boat. There is the same number of men to a boat now, except sometimes when the fishing is not good they will cut them down to two men and use less nets. It was a very small fishery when I first came here, and about the beginning of the fishery here. The number of

boats gradually increased from that time. I have seen as high as 24 sail boats out of here about 12 or 13 years ago. There were more fishing with sail boats then than at any other time. There were no tugs then. They started tugs about 10 years ago. I think James Clark had the first tug I know of. He was connected with the Buffalo Fish Co. McKenzie owned the first tug that was out of this place about 10 years ago. After that the tugs increased all the time. There have been 5 tugs here since 3 years ago.-(D. McCauley)

Southampton.- The great fishery here is with gill nets and it is an old fishery from this place, going far back of the experience of any of our fishermen.-(Rathbun).

GILL NETS; NOT PROFITABLE -- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- I never liked gill nets, but have fished them, but there is no money in them.-(C. Corlett).

GILL NETS; DESCRIPTION.

GILL NETS; DESCRIPTION---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---They use 4 1/2 inch and 4 3/4 inch mesh in their gill nets.

They use 4 1/4 inches, which is the lowest they are allowed to use.

They do not use the same gill nets for whitefish that they do for trout. Use finer twine for whitefish and a little smaller mesh. The trout tear fine twine all to pieces (Butterfield).

Detour.---In the gill nets we use 4 3/4 and 5 inch mesh. That is the legal size in Michigan (Sims).

Manistique.---For the whitefish net they use 4 1/4 inch mesh altogether for summer fishing. For fall fishing on the reefs they use 5 1/2 and 6 inch mesh, as they are a larger fish. They seem to get a larger run of fish in the fall on the reefs. They use about 5 or 5 1/2 inch mesh for trout. When they are fishing for trout late in the fall they use a stronger net.

The boat nets are not as large as the tug nets. They use 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 lbs. of

twine to a net. The net would be about 20 rods, weighing 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 lbs. according to the twine. They are 18 meshes or between 5 and 6 feet deep (Robinson).

Mackinac Island.---I fished big mesh nets for trout in the fall. Used to fish outside of the Snows for trout with 5 1/2 inch mesh and would get nothing but trout (Wilmot).

Harbor Springs.---Would have to use 3 1/2 inch mesh for blue fins (Wilson).

Cheboygan.---There were 2 tugs here last fall and they did not fish anything less than 4 1/4 inch mesh.

The gill nets do not shrink much by tanning or using (C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---The mesh in the gill nets is 4 1/2 inches for summer fishing and 5 1/2 inches in the fall for both whitefish and trout We catch larger fish in the fall (D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---The size of the mesh for trout would be 4 1/2 to 5 inches. For trout they sometimes use 5 1/2 inch mesh, but I would rather have 5 inch. Use the same as we do for whitefish. A good many now have 4 1/4 inch mesh for whitefish. When I fished with gill

nets I fished a 5 inch mesh all the time(Gill).

Alpena.---We have 90 lead nets, about 55 rods long. We use 4 5/8 inch mesh in the gill nets. The leader is 4 1/4. I used to fish 4 3/4. Once in a while a man takes a notion to fish that size and sometimes 4 3/8, but 4 5/8 inches has been the standard mesh around here. There is very little shrinkage in gill nets (Alpern).

Alpena.---When he began fishing they would use about the same mesh as they do now, 4 5/8 and 4 3/4, but the twine was coarser (Lincoln).

Alpena.---When he was fishing they would use 4 5/8 inch mesh, and it is not changed much but up on Lake Michigan they had some 6 inch mesh (Case).

Port Huron.---We use 4 5/8 inch mesh, which is the smallest we have in gill nets. Our nets are 16 meshes deep. They do not shrink. We use Scotch and Irish twine.

I use 4 5/8 inch mesh for the reason to help protect the fishing, and perhaps as a matter of habit. I am in favor of 4 5/8 inches and in fall fishing I would be in favor of a larger mesh (Selkirk).

Goderich.---We use only one size of gill net here and the one number of thread; No. 50 Scotch thread. The size of the mesh is 4 1/2 inches. For trout we use 5 1/2 inches and sometimes 6 inches.

They run about 20 nets to a sail boat and have from 70 to 80 leads, 9 feet apart, and the net is 18 meshes deep. We import our nets from Scotland.

16 years ago they were using just the same size gill nets as now. We do not use 5 or 6 inch mesh here at all. If we go up to fish the fall trout above Southampton we would use a large mesh. If we fish outside in deep water we would use the same nets we have here, but if we go in close to the rocks we would have to get coarse nets because fine nets would not stand either the fish or the bottom. For the shore trout in the fall above Southampton they would use 5 and 6 inch mesh and coarser twine, but everywhere off the shore they would use the ordinary mesh.

Our mesh in the gill nets is regulated by law. If there was not law we would use about the same size we are using now, but if others reduced the nets we would have to do so in

order to compete with them. I think most of the nets in the old country were made that size.

We fished 4 5/8 inch mesh here for a number of years, and then we got a permit to fish 4 1/2 inch. At least it was not us here who did it, but the fishermen from other quarters applied for it (Cragie).

Goderich.---Gill net fishing is a late method of fishing, but they are working a little different from what they used to. They used to have a float and stone and now they have leads and corks on them. They used to make their own gill nets here about 17 years ago, but now they can buy them cheaper than they can knit them. The twine now is finer than formerly.

The trout nets are 4 1/2 and 4 5/8 inch mesh; that is the net which is commonly used. In the fall we used to use 5 and 5 1/2 inch. That was those coarse nets that we set close to the rocks (Eingster).

Southampton.---We use 3 kinds of gill nets here. There is the whitefish net, which is 4 5/8 and 4 3/4 inch mesh. The trout nets are 5 1/2 to 6 inch and the herring nets 2 3/4 inch The whitefish nets are about 18 meshes deep or from 16 to 20 meshes. The trout nets are from 14 to 16 meshes, and the herring nets, some of them are 40 meshes deep and some 60 meshes. The whitefish nets have from 50 to 90 sinkers, about 8 feet apart. The difference in the net is caused by different quality of twine. The whitefish nets are from 70 to 90 according to the quality of the twine. The trout nets run from 40 to 60 according to the twine. Our nets are all made of linen. We used to make our nets all by hand, but now they are made by machinery. They have been making them by machinery for about 20 years. We have used some nets made in this country. I believe they are cheaper than the foreign nets.

When I started fishing we were using stone sinkers and could not use as long nets. We began to use the lead sinkers about 20 years ago. We used to use cedar floats about 2 feet

9 inches long, with a string on the end of them and tied on the side of the line. We would take them off every day when we lifted them. When we began to use lead sinkers we began to lengthen the nets. I think the lead sinkers started first in Georgian Bay. They were using stones and large floats all over the lakes when I came here. At that time we never set them back at once.

We used to fish 5 inch mesh in the beginning. We used 5 inch all the time we used stone sinkers. When we began to use lead sinkers we began to use 4 1/2 and 4 3/4 inch mesh. That was about the time they began to make nets by machinery. We had to make the sinkers ourselves, however, and do now. We have molds and run them, and can do it very easily.

A gang of nets costs about $250. besides the corks and leads. That would be a gang of 16 nets. We have to pay from $2 to $2.50 a lb. for the twine. I had one net stolen and found it in Detour. There would be 3 lbs. of twine to a net and 18 nets to a gang, and some times they will cost as high as $2.30 a lb.

It is very hard on corks to fish in deep water down to 100 fathoms. A man wants two sets of corks so as to keep one in the lake and one ashore (D. McCauley).

Southampton.---We have whitefish and trout nets. The whitefish nets are 4 1/2 inch mesh, 18 meshes deep, weigh 3 1/2 lbs. and have 80 leads 9 feet apart. The trout nets are 5 1/2 inch mesh, 15 meshes deep and have 70 leads 8 feet apart. The sail boats and tugs use both kinds (G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.---We use both herring and trout nets in the fall.

Trout nets and whitefish nets are different. The mesh in the whitefish net is 4 1/2 and 4 3/4 inches. They are 18 meshes deep. The size of the trout mesh is 5 1/2 inches.

The trout nets have about 70 leads 8 feet apart. In the whitefish nets the leads are 9 feet apart. The whitefish nets are longer than the trout nets. They run from 90 to 100 leads, 9 feet apart. A No. 60 thread will run 100 leads and No. 50 thread about 80 leads.

The finer the twine is the more fish they will catch, but the fine twine is a little more

expensive. In deep water the coarser twine will catch about as many fish and they are cheaper. They use fine twine for inside fishing (Cosley).

Southampton.---We use 4 1/2 and 5 1/2 inch mesh. The trout net is 5 1/2, but I have used as high as 6 inches. The whitefish net is the principal one used. They do not use the whitefish net at all after about the first of September as they are not strong enough. The twine is too fine and they will not stand it in the fall. The twine I am using now is No. 30 and that I use in the summer is No. 50 and 60. We have to have a coarser and stronger twine during the stormy weather.

We use a 5 1/2 inch mesh on the rocks in about 15 or 20 fathoms. Would use them as far up as Greenwich. The tugs use 5 1/2 inch mesh and fish in about the same places as the sail boats. The 5 1/2 inch mesh is used in shallow water along the shore and the 4 1/2 inch mesh in the deeper water (Dobson).

Southampton.---There are 2 kinds of nets fished for trout: one called the whitefish or summer nets have the mesh 4 1/2 to 4 3/4

inches. This is the only kind used during the spring and summer up to the first part of September, when they begin to use a larger mesh, 5 1/2 to 6 inches. The latter is used during September and October. At first the tugs may use some of both kinds, but the former is soon given up. The larger mesh is employed in shallow water near the shore for the larger fall or shallow water trout, which are 8 and 10 lb..fish, etc. They are fish evidently which have come on to spawn. The 4 1/2 inch mesh take the smaller and deeper water trout and also whitefish.(

GILL NETS; DESCRIPTION -- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- I used to fish 4 1/2 inch and 5 1/2 inch mesh gill nets.-(Wilmot).

Cheboygan.- We fish 4 1/2 inch mesh gill nets.-(D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- The gill nets will swell and it sometimes makes them a little smaller in the mesh, but not enough to make any difference. They do not tar the net or do anything with it, unless they tan it sometimes, and then it naturally makes them a little smaller. Any rope or line that you put in the water will shrink some, but the thread of the gill net is so small that it does not amount to much.-(Gill).

Alpena.- There have never been any small mesh gill nets fished here. The smallest mesh we have ever fished has been 4 5/8 inches.-(Alpern).

GILL NET MESH---LAKE MICHIGAN.

In Lake Michigan and the other lakes they use smaller mesh for whitefish, but they catch very small fish (Endress, Whitefish Point,Mich.)

REGULATING SIZE OF MESH IN GILL NETS.

LAKE HURON.

Goderich.- So far as gill nets are concerned, I think the fairest way is to have a certain sized mesh and not attempt to throw the small fish out.-(Eingster).

GILL NETS; PROPER MESH -- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- The gill nets should not be less than 4 1/2 inches.-(Wilmot).

Cheboygan.- Five inches is small enough for trout. If they would not fish with anything but a 5 inch mesh we would have more fish.-(Gill).

Port Huron.- I am in favor of 4 5/8 inches and in fall fishing I would be in favor of a larger mesh. I would like to see the law establish the mesh at 5 inches.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- I think the size of the mesh is all right, because if you were to fish with any larger mesh I do not think the fishermen could live. If I had to fish with any larger mesh than I am using now, I would quit it and we would all have to quit fishing.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- The mesh in the gill nets I think is all right. I would not advocate anything smaller. Larger than that you could not make pay, and anything smaller would catch

fish too small for the market, and would catch big fish as well, it would catch 20 lb. fish.-(Eingster).

Southampton.- I guess the size of the mesh is about right.-(D. McCauley).

Southampton.- I would not regulate the size of the mesh at all. I think they are about right now. I would not like to see any gill net less than 4 1/2 inch mesh. I would not have them any less for my own use. If they were 4 inch we would have twice the trouble in clearing the fish out of them. They would get caught more by the middle then and get so tight we could hardly get them out. Now they are caught mostly by the head and teeth.-(G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.- I believe if the whitefish net was a little larger in the mesh they might not get as many fish, but might get just as much in weight. I do not think you could get any better size net than we have now. I don't think they catch too many small fish.-(Cosley).

GILL NETS; PROPER MESH--LAKE HURON.

Detour. About 5-inch mesh for the gill nets would be about right, which would allow the small fish to escape. (Sims).

Goderich. I am in favor of having the mesh regulated as it is now, especially on the outside fishing. The inside fishing does not amount to so much. The mesh is all right for herring here. If you were fishing with a 2 1/2-inch mesh, you would do no harm around the beach. You would catch no small whitefish. (Eingster).

GILL NETS; PROPER MESH --- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- They would catch more and larger fish if they would use 5 inch gill net instead of 4 1/2 and 4 1/4. There will be no fishing soon if something isn't done to correct the current practices.-(Gill).

Goderich.- The gill nets which they use, 4 1/2 inch mesh, are all right.-(Cragie).

Georgian Bay.- My opinion is that the mesh of the gill nets should be about 4 3/4 inches. The President of the Georgian Bay Fisherman's Association is in favor of that size.-(Elliott).

GILL NETS; MESH AND FISH.

GILL NETS; MESH AND FISH ---- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- With the fine twine a 4 inch mesh catches a pretty small fish. A fish weighing 2 1/2 or 3 lbs. will go through a 4 1/2 inch mesh. A pretty good sized fish can go through if they strike it right, but a fine twine holds them much better than a coarse twine.-(Butterfield).

Mackinaw City.- The mesh in the gill nets is about right and I do not think you could better it much, as they catch no small fish at all now. Never get any under 1 1/4 lbs. They all go in as No. 1 fish.-(Robinson).

Mackinaw Island.- The gill nets should not be less than 4 1/2 inches. They will catch a fish that weighs 2 lbs. and will not take anything under.

Used to use a 5 or 6 inch mesh for big whitefish and those we set in 9 or 10 fathoms.-(Wilmot).

Cheboygan.- Through a 5 inch mesh a whitefish as small as 1 1/2 lbs. will go, but you would not get many that size. You put a 4 1/4

mesh and you will get a pile of little ones and not get a big one. In a 4 inch mesh you will get them from 1 to 2 1/2 lbs. right along, but if you have a 5 inch mesh a great many of the little ones will go through and that leaves the big ones. I believe a man will get just as much in weight with a big mesh as he will with a little one.-(Gill).

Alpena.- In gill nets with 4 5/8 inch mesh I do not think you will gill any white-fish smaller than 1 1/2 lbs, dressed. Once in a while would get smaller fish in our nets that happen to get tangled or caught by the jaw, and we throw them overboard. The trout would be about the same size that we take in the gill nets.

Lincoln got up some fine twine nets with small mesh. His twine is 2 cord. You take it, for instance, on this south shore, we get a run of pretty small trout sometimes and his nets would fish better.-(Cleary).

Port Huron.- Am in favor of a 4 5/8 inch mesh and in fall fishing I would be in favor of a larger mesh. In our fishing here

we never get a fish less than 1 1/2 or 2 lbs. and generally not less than 2. We are in the market selling and if we get a fish too small there is a good deal of fault found and we take that measure to get the fish more of a uniform size. I would like to see the law establish the mesh at 5 inches.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- A trout weighing 2 lbs. will go through our mesh. Whitefish are stouter than the trout in proportion to their weight and a less size whitefish will go through. A whitefish weighing 1 1/2 lbs. would go through. It is not very often that we see a whitefish so small as that, but they will easily slip out when we are hauling the nets.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- They do not gill under 2 lbs. but they will get caught by the teeth sometimes and we will catch them that way in a 5 inch mesh.-(Eingster).

Southampton.- About a 1 1/2 lb. trout will go through out net.-(D. McCauley).

Southampton.- We use a 5 1/2 inch mesh on the rocks in about 12 or 15 fathoms. The fish we catch in the 5 1/2 inch mesh we can-

not catch in a smaller mesh at all. There is only a certain time of year we get them. We get trout as high as 10 or 20 lbs. We could get nothing else as the mesh is too big. In the other nets we catch trout all through the season.-(Dobson).

Georgian Bay.- According to our laws they use from 4 1/2 inch mesh to as high as they wish. I was on one of the best fishing stations on Georgian Bay last week and some of them were using 5 inch mesh for whitefish and were catching a greater number of lbs. of fish than the others and some of the others have ordered a 5 inch mesh. They said they believed the small fish that they caught in a 4 1/2 inch mesh are getting caught off.-(Major Elliott).

GILL NETS; MESH AND FISH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- A 2 lb. trout will probably go through a 4 1/2 inch mesh. It depends a good deal, however, upon where he strikes it, as we have a very fine twine now and they tangle up in it easily. A 2 lb. trout would go through, however, if the net was tight, and a 3 lb. trout would go through it sometimes. A fine twine catches more, but it breaks quicker. I use No. 47 and No. 50 thread.-(Sims).

Cheboygan.- In the gill nets we would not catch anything less than 1 1/2 lbs., dressed.-(D. Corlett).

Port Huron.- All the fish taken in the gill nets are of large size, the mesh being 4 1/2 inches.-(Rathbun).

GILL NETS; MESH AND WHITEFISH - LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- The regular whitefish gill nets take no small whitefish and Mr. Robinson concludes that their size is about right.-(Rathbun).

GILL NETS; MESH AND FISH -- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- As far as catching small trout is concerned, if you regulate your mesh for catching 2 lb. whitefish, that would catch smaller than 3 lb. trout. Of course making them fish those large mesh nets would necessitate the loss of herring and that class of fish.-(Tulian).

Goderich.- There are not many 1 1/2 lb. trout actually gilled. A 1 1/2 lb. trout will go right through a 4 1/2 inch mesh.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- In the gill nets the size of the mesh regulates the size of the fish all right.-(Eingster).

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF RIGS.

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF FISHING; RIGS---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---I used to fish at first with 12 lbs. of twine in the fall (See further under Fish; Decrease).

The tugs do not run many nets for trout in the fall, only about 40 or 50 because it tears them up so. The average number of nets is 120 all in the water. They are set over every day. A boat will run about 45 nets. They kepp them in the water most all the time (Butterfield).

Detour.---A tug will fish about 120 or 130 gill nets and some more than that. They have 4 different gangs, lifting one at a time and having the others fishing.

The boats will use about 60 gill nets. They may have 3 or 4 gangs and fish them all generally (Sims).

Mackinaw City.---One of the Mackinaw boats will use a gang of about 80 nets. Of course they are not as large as the tug nets.. The nets would be about 20 rods long. They will

use 2 gangs of nets, about 30 or 40 nets in the water at a time. The nets being left out 2 nights as a rule; that would make 3 gangs of nets, one on the shore and 2 in the water. 80 nets to a boat is a pretty big average. Some of the best fishermen have that amount and others will not have over 60 nets (Robinson).

Harbor Springs.---There has never been a great many gill nets used from here. Connable did a good deal of it when he first commenced, and he does now when he fishes in the fall during the spawning season (Wilson).

Cheboygan.---The number of boats which fish out from here would not indicate how much fishing was going on in this region, as boats from other localities fish here (See under tugs and boats).

A good rig around here is about 100 nets. The nets are about 500 feet long. A tug generally fishes about 36 nets in a gang; has 4 gangs and their nets are all 800 feet long. They fish 5 gangs here in the spring early sometimes (D. Corlett).

Alpena.---Each tug lifts about 8 miles of nets (Alpern).

Alpena.---A boat would probably use about 3 miles of twine (Lincoln).

Alpena.---They used to use smaller rigs than they do now; probably would not run half the nets they do now in the sail boats, and there were no tugs.

The tugs here probably lift 5 or 8 miles of netting (Case).

Port Huron.---We fish 10,000 feet to each gang of nets and we have 3 gangs and each net is 278 feet long. There are 36 nets to each gang. We have 3 gangs in the water and one out. In the fall we use only 2 gangs. In the spring we use 6 gangs. Our sail boat fishes 3 gangs, just the same as the tug only they are smaller gangs, but 20 nets in a gang (Selkirk).

Goderich.---A tug will use double the amount of nets that a sail boat will. They run about 20 nets to a sail boat and have from 70 to 80 leads 9 feet apart. With a sail boat we fish 4 gangs. We do not keep a gang

ashore. But once in a while we take them ashore to fix them up. In the tugs we generally have one gang ashore. A tug will fish 5 gangs with 4 in the water (Cragie).

Goderich.---There is not 1/5 of the men go up among the Fishing Islands that used to. That fishing was in the fall.

A tug will use 5 gangs, 4 in the water and one ashore. Those gangs are about 5 miles long. We lift 36 nets each day. All the tugs have about the same and that is all they can handle. The sail boats use about half what the tugs do (Eingster).

Southampton.---A sail boat will use about 60 whitefish nets altogether. They will be divided into 4 gangs and generally there is one gang ashore, getting it ready to take out again. There would be about 45 nets in the water at one time. The tugs have more than 120 nets. The small boats, some of them fish more than others. When I started fishing first we would use about 30 short nets. They would be hardly as long as the trout nets we have now.

The trout nets are put into shorter gangs, probably from 12 to 14 nets to a gang and 2 gangs to a

boat. The tugs will have 3 gangs and 20 nets in a gang (D. McCauley).

Southampton.---The sail boats use generally from 70 to 80 nets. They have them all out the first month. The tugs will use about double the amount of the sail boats. The sail boats have 4 gangs in the water and the tugs will have 4. The 4 gangs are in about all the time (G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.---Of the large trout nets used after about the last of August, the sail boats will use about 20 nets if there are 2 men in a boat, and if there are 3 men she would want about 30 nets. The tugs generally have about 60 nets. The sail boats would have 30 nets in 3 gangs and the tugs would have 60 nets in 2 gangs. If a tug was properly fitted out it would have to have about 30 nets to a gang and about 3 gangs. They have fished that number.

The whitefish nets the tugs use 36 nets to a gang and some have 5 gangs to a tug. The sail boats would have about 18 nets to a gang and fish about 4 gangs (Cosley).

Southampton.---Of the whitefish nets used during the spring and summer they will use about 16 nets to a gang and have 4 gangs. This is with sail boats. Sometimes there will be half of them ashore. There are so many of them to handle you cannot take them all out at once. You have got to keep bringing them in and taking them out. They generally keep 3 gangs in the water and one ashore. The tugs use about 36 nets to a gang and have 5 gangs, one ashore and 4 in the water.

The tugs have 100 leads, which are 9 feet apart. The sail boats use about 85 leads and they are the same distance apart. The trout nets are not much more than half as long. They would have not much more than half the number of leads. The average depth of the trout net is 6 feet. They are about 15 meshes deep and the others are 18 meshes deep(Dobson)

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF RIGS --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw Island.- When I first commenced I had only about 60 gill nets to a boat. The fishery was very extensive then. There used to be about 30 boats leaving Mackinaw Island then and about 40 leaving St. Ignace and all along this shore. There was nothing but fishermen here then. No one fishes from here now. I have not set a net in 5 or 6 years.-(Wilmot).

Cheboygan.- The gill net fishing 2 years ago was just as good here as anywhere, but last summer there were 2 boats fishing out of here and they didn't make their expenses, but the summer before that one man fished out of here with one boat and made about $1500.-(D. Corlett).

Port Huron.- The gill net gangs are large ones, but not as many nets are used as at Whitefish Point, etc.-(Rathbun).

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF FISHING -- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- There is certainly too much gill net fishing. If they had run they had run the same amount of twine years ago, that large tug of Alpern's would not have brought the fish in.-(Case).

Goderich.- There are more nets in the lake now than there ever were.-(Eingster).

GILL NETS; EXTENT -- GEORGIAN BAY.

On Georgian Bay the sail boats use generally 4 gangs each.-(Elliott).

GILL NETS; TIME OUT,

CONDITION OF FISH.

GILL NETS; TIME OUT, CONDITION OF FISH.

LAKE HURON.

Detour.- We have four different gangs and lift one at a time and have the others fishing. The nets should be visited every day, but we cannot always do so on account of the weather. Where they have 3 gangs they lift one every day.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- The nets are left out 2 nights as a rule.-(Robinson).

Cheboygan.- Here the tugs have to lift every 4 days generally. They fish 5 gangs here in the spring early, sometimes.

With the small boats we leave the nets out about 3 nights. The fish will saty in good condition that length of time. May be once in a while a bad one, but as a rule they are all right.-(D. Corlett).

Alpena.- During the hot weather they will probably not lift over 3 or 4 gangs.-(Case).

Port Huron.- We leave our gill nets out

3 nights. In the fall we use only 2 gangs in the spring we use 6 gangs.

The only waste fish we get is when we cannot get out to our nets and fish die and rot, but that doesn't happen often. We probably get 10 or 15 lbs. a day that we have to salt. They are a little too soft to dress good so that when the knife goes through them it lets the bones out. We cannot ship the fish with the bones sticking out and the salt hardens them.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- With the sail-boats we fish 4 gangs and they will be out 4 nights. A tug will fish 5 gangs with 4 in the water. We leave those out 5 nights and some 6 nights. Sometimes we have a few soft fish that are not fit to ship for the fresh market, but not very many, and they can be salted.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- We get a good many soft fish as we cannot lift the nets regularly. If you lift out here in 60 fathoms, the nets being out 5 nights, there are very few bad fish among them.-(Eingster).

Goderich.- Fish will not remain in good

condition in gill nets over 5 days now, but in the spring they will live a long time. The current kills them. If they are caught so that they can move their gills freely they will live 8 or 10 days. We have found them dead lots of times 1 night out.-(Eingster).

Southampton.- About 2/3 of the fish we got to-day were alive when we lifted the nets. The nets had been out 4 nights.-(D. McCauley).

Southampton.- The gill nets here are left out 4 nights. We have no trouble in keeping the fish alive in them, but, of course some will get drowned.-(G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.- There are not very many fish destroyed in the gill nets. If it happens to blow 3 or 4 days and you do not get out to your nets, perhaps a few fish caught the first night are not fit to ship but as a rule they are fit to salt.-(Cosley).

Southampton.- A trout will live in the nets a good deal longer than a whitefish. I have had fish live in a net until they cut themselves almost in two, but they were caught around the middle, and I have had them where

they would die inside of an hour, when they were caught around the gills and would drown.- (Dobson).

GILL NETS; CONDITION OF LAKE TROUT TAKEN.

LAKE HURON.

Goderich.- There are probably 25 or 50 lbs. of soft fish to a catch unless it is after a big blow when we cannot get out to our nets. About 2/3 of our fish are alive when they come to the surface if the nets are lifted regularly. It all depends upon how the fish are caught, because sometimes they get in around the gills so that it chokes them very quickly.-(Cragie).

Southampton.- We have to prick our trout when they come up as they are swollen some.-(Cosley).

GILL NETS; TUGS AND BOATS.

GILL NETS, TUGS AND BOATS---LAKE HURON.

Detour.---There are 2 sail boats and 3 tugs fishing gill nets from here(Butterfield).

Mackinaw City.---There are no tugs used here. They fish tugs from Charlevoix and Petoskey. There are no tugs this side of Alpena in Lake Huron that I know of.

They fish what they call the Mackinaw boats for gill nets here. Those we have here are made mostly at St. Ignace. There would probably be 40 or 50 of those boats from here. They have 2 men to a boat (Robinson).

Harbor Springs.---There are about 3 or 4 tugs fishing from Charlevoix. Girken & O'Neal fish from there (Wilson).

Cheboygan.---The first tugs I ever heard of were used 15 years ago. They did good fishing. There were not many that long ago. Connable was not here then, but was at Petoskey. That is the first I remember of hearing any thing about them. The reason they did not keep using them I suppose was that the fish were not abundant enough for them. For the last 15 years there has always been tugs here

more or less, but they have not made their headquarters here, but staid below and above here. There were 2 tugs here last fall, one of Connable and one of Davis (C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---In the past there were 4 tugs fishing out of here one spring, and 2 or 3 sail boats. That was 4 years ago, 2 of Connable's and 2 of Booth's tugs. I heard that a tug has been fishing out around here from Detour this summer, but I did not see it. The boats that fish out from here would not indicate how much fishing was going on in this region. Connable had a couple of tugs at Mackinaw City this spring and set a few nets, and then the Agitator, one of Booth's tugs, was here (D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.---There were tugs fishing from here last spring, but they quit as they did not get anything. They did not have any tugs here until 2 years ago. They built that big transfer of Connable's 2 years ago and they caught a great many fish, and then another party came in here either from Sand Beach or Bay City and he run pretty strong a year ago. Connable was here also a year ago with 2 tugs and a large

gang of men. They came here a little while this summer and could not get anything and went away again (Gill).

Rogers City.---There are 5 or 6 boats fishing gill nets at Rogers City about half way from Cheboygan to Alpena (C. Corlett).

Alpena.---We fish gill nets here with small boats. I have 6 sail boats. They stay out 12 miles from here at a point on the shore. We do not use tugs for fishing our pound nets. The tug fishing is a very expensive mode of fishing. The only way you can make tug fishing pay you have to handle a large amount of twine (Alpern).

Detour.---At Detour they never did much tug fishing except once in a while somebody would go there with a tug and fish a short time and leave for some other locality. The locality is good only as a headquarters(Alpern)

Alpena.---When I began fishing there must have been 20 sail boats fishing at Alpena, North Point, Nine-Mile Point and Sugar Island.

About 12 years ago there were 9 tugs fishing out of here (Lincoln).

Alpena.---The first tug was fished from Alpena in 1874 by Capt. Persons, using gill nets. He caught any amount of trout then, but there was no market for them. About 1876 he fished with a tug off Oscoda and South Point. The greatest number of tugs they have had here at any one time was 6 or 7. That must be 15 or 16 years ago (Case).

Port Huron.---We use both sail boats and tugs for gill netting. We use only one tug, but there are two in the pool, Dubey having one. We have only one sail boat. We are the only ones who are running gill net boats from here. One of the tugs is at Sand Beach. One is owned by J. B. Dubey & Sons, the other by myself. There is only one sail boat and two tugs fishing between here and Sand Beach.

No other tugs but ours are fishing as far north as Saginaw Bay Reef. Our tug is 65 feet long and 15 feet beam. Davis brought one of his tugs down here one fall since I have been here, but that is the only one that has been here besides ours (Selkirk).

Goderich.---They fish with sail boats from Bayfield below here, but from no other place south. Kincardine is the next fishing place north. They fish with one tug and 3 or 5 boats, I think. Then I think there are 3 or 4 tugs in Southampton and quite a number of boats. It is the biggest fishing station on the lake. I have been using a tug 6 years and I think there was one here that had been used here for about 8 years. They were not used here for that length of time, however. Tugs have been used here only 4 years. We use them up the lake. In this district this is the 4th season. There was one here during 1 or 2 years before that time, about 9 years ago, which fished here for a little while, and not making much of a success, went up the lake to fish. Fished 8 miles up the lake, but I began fishing here and fished here until about 12 years ago, and then went up the lake for 7 years, and then I fished here again. I was at the Manitoulins. I was one season at Greenwich Harbor at the Manitoulins. This is a very old fishing place and the small boats

were fishing here long before my time. The railroad has been here about 40 years.

The sail boats do not go any farther now than they did 18 years ago. I fished 18 years ago just as far from this harbor as these sail boats have done this year, and they have done just as well as I did 18 years ago. There was one year when there were 21 sail boats here, 19 years ago. But they were sail boats that came from Southampton and fished here for 2 months in the spring and then went up to Southampton again for the balance of the season. There have never been as many sail boats since then, and they have been gradually decreasing until now there are only 2.

There are 3 tugs fishing out of here now. The sail boats require 3 men and the tugs 6 men; 5 to handle the nets (Cragie).

Goderich.---There are 3 tugs fishing from here now. Both the sail boats are laid up now. There are 5 tugs at Southampton, one at Kincardine, 2 at Tober Mory, 2 at Club Island and 1 at South Bay. There used to be 25 sail boats fishing out of here and no tugs at all, but the tugs are replacing the sail boats, and

making it worse for the fishing. With the sail boats you would never go out more than 15 or 20 miles, and out in the middle of the lake there was always a place where they did not fish, but now the tugs can go anywhere in the lake. A tug will pay now in preference to a sail boat. If there had never been any tugs fishing it would have been a good deal better as there would always have been this spare ground in the middle of the lake (Eingster).

Southampton.---They use smaller boats for the herring netting than we have here. Some of our boats are built here and some in Goderich. They are from 28 to 32 feet keel; some are over 5 tons and some less; they are 2-masted (D. McCauley).

Southampton.---They have used tugs here 4 years with gill nets. There have been 5 tugs here during that time. There was 1 tug the first year. There was a little tug fished here 2 years before that. There was 1 used here 4 years ago along with the little one and then they sold the small one and got another one. Year before last and last year they got 2 more tugs here. There were 5 tugs here last

year for a while, but one was only chartered.

Sail boats have always been used here. There used to be more than there are now. I have seen as high as 20 here. Some of them would go to Georgian Bay in the summer for a while and then would come down here again. Last year there were 9 or 10 fishing here. 20 years ago there would be 20 or more. The number of sail boats has decreased and the tugs have taken their place (G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.---This year there were 5 tugs fishing gill nets and there were 6 the biggest part of the time, and there were 6 or 7 sail boats. There are more than that now because a lot came down from Georgian Bay. Four came from Georgian Bay, so that there would be about 10 sail boats altogether here now.

There have never been more tugs here than now. There were none here when I came. They began to fish from here about 7 years ago, and they have gradually increased since. Of course it is the men of the town who fish them. They are owned here. The Buffalo Company owns one of the boats this year; Logey & McCauley

own 3 tugs this year.

They used to have more sail boats and less tugs. When I first came here there were not as many sail boats as now, but I have seen as many as 20 boats here about 10 or 12 years ago. Some of the sail boats dropped off before the tugs came because fishing got poor and they had lost money, and the Buffalo Company got to fishing here and they run the poor fishermen out.

I do not think the tugs have hurt the fishing. Some of the men here are still making money fishing tugs. On the Georgian Bay it has been a failure this year for the tugs so I have heard. The boat fishermen have only made an ordinary living out of the fishing. The boat fishing is nearly done in this region right here.

If you want to go to work to fish to make money you might better get in a tug than a fish boat. If the tug fishing was prohibited it would probably break up the fishing pretty well unless we might get more fish in the sail boats if there were no tugs (Cosley).

Southampton.---In 1860 there were as many boats as now, I think. At Goderich there used to be as high as 25 boats at a time, and I have known that many to be here. There would not have been as many boats 35 years ago.

They have had tugs here for quite a number of years, about 7 I think. There have been 5 tugs fishing out of here for the last 2 years and before that I think there was only one. Up to 3 years ago there was only one tug. There is no other place where tugs belong between Kincardine and Cape Hurd.

Before that time the fishing was done by sail boats. The sail boats are getting less all the time. They are getting to use tugs. The fishing is getting so far away that it is impossible for the sail boats to reach them.

There were more sail boats 15 years ago than there are now and more than there were in the beginning. That was the time when there was about the greatest number of sail boats. They increased up to that time and they have gone down since. Most of the tugs belong to the Buffalo Company. There were at least 13 sail boats here 15 years ago. The boats that

are here now do not fish here in the summer. Only 5 boats were fished here this summer. There has never been as many as 20 boats fishing here. They used to come here about June and July. I have seen as high as 25 boats here at once. They used to come here that way in olden times, but now the fishing seems to be about the same all over, and then there are not the boats to move around that there used to be. A lot of those men who had sail boats are using tugs now (Dobson).

Southampton.---Good sized two-masted sail boats have been employed. There were about 24 when fishing with sail boats was at its height some years ago. About 7 years ago the first tug was used. The number has now increased to 5 and the number of sail boats has greatly lessened (Rathbun).

GILL NETS; TUGS AND BOATS - LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- There were only 2 tugs fishing out of here until Lincoln started in.-(Cleary).

General.- The gill net fishing is usually carried on by means of steamers and also by means of sail boats, which are more numerous than the tugs. The headquarters for the steamers are Cheboygan, Alpena, Au Sable, Port Huron, and Bay City.-(Wires).

GILL NETS; TUGS AND BOATS - LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- There are not enough fish about here now to make it pay using tugs for gill netting. There have never been many tugs fishing from here. Never more than 2 or 3 at a time.-(Gill).

Alpena.- Mr. Alpern has a very large tug called the "Maxwell A". He says it is the largest fishing tug on the lakes, unless it may the"Agitator" of Booth, which was patterned after it somewhat. It is certainly the largest tug in the business I have yet seen. Then he has a smaller tug, which is yet of good size, and several sailboats stationed about 12 miles from Alpena. These are all engaged in gill netting.- (Rathbun).

GILL NETS; TUGS AND BOATS --- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- About 40 years ago there were about 40 gill net boats on Thunder Bay Island. There have been 5 or 6 tugs fishing here at times since I can remember. There were tugs fishing here about 8 or 9 years ago. Davis had 3 or 4 tugs here at that time and they caught a large amount of fish.-(Case).

Goderich.- When I say there are but 2 boats fishing from here I do not include those who fish elsewhere, but just the ones fishing here. There are 7 tugs altogether fishing from here. There are no tugs fishing out in the bay south of here. There are 5 sailboats fishing from Bayfield.-(Cragie).

GILL NETS; METHODS.

GILL NETS; METHODS --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- The gill nets are always set on the bottom here.-(Robinson).

Cheboygan.- We always set our nets on the bottom,- (D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- The gill nets are always set on the bottom.-(Gill).

Alpena.- We lift by hand. We have 6 men lifting our nets. We have 90 lead nets about 55 rods long, and in lifting they spell each other, 2 men lifting at a time. It takes them about 4 hours to lift 8 miles. We lift sometimes in 70 fathoms. We figure that if it is very easy lifting and they are in shallow water and everything goes all right they get through in about 3 1/2 hours. It does not make any difference if they have 2 tons of fish in them, it would not take any longer. I do not want to try lifting by steam here. I should think it would be all right if they have a nice clean bottom, but the way we have it here they get foul of everything maybe every 15 minutes, a man knows it when he is hauling by hand, but they would

separate our nets a half dozen times a day with thesteam arrangement.-(Alpern).

General.- The gill nets in the lakes are always set on the bottom. Where they fish with hooks they set them at all depths, but the gill nets you cannot fish in the lakes successfully except on the bottom.-(Wires).

Port Huron.- We set the gill nets simply with reference to the depth of the water and in the way we think the fish are running until we get to the Canadian line and then we have to shift. We sometimes set them running off the shore almost zigzag and sometimes straight. We often set in a circle around a reef. Set just to keep in a certain depth of water.

We always set our gill nets on the bottom and never try setting them on top and would not catch anything if we did.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- We haul our nets by hand. I think the best method we can get is the hands, at least for saving the nets.

We do not keep a gang ashore, but once in a while we take them ashore to fix them.

In the tugs we generally have 1 gang ashore. A tug will fish 5 gangs with 4 in the water.

We set our nets according to the depth of the water. We do not zigzag very much, but cannot set our nets as we would like to. We have got to set them with the current or else they will get all bunched up.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- We set our nets straight generally. We have got to get with the current or else the nets will all be in a lump. I have set zigzag on the banks, but it will not do where there is a strong current running.-(Eingster).

GILL NETS; METHOD --- LAKE HURON.

Port Huron.- We haul our nets entirely by hand.-(Selkirk).

GILL NETS; LIFE AND CARE.

GILL NETS; LIFE AND CARE -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- They tan them every month.-(Butterfield).

Mackinaw City.- The nets rot a good deal in warm weather. A gill net will last about 3 years here.-(Robinson).

Cheboygan.- We put lime on our gill nets to keep them. We wash them with it once a month. It cuts the slime and everything off. Gill nets will last generally about 2 seasons.-(D. Corlett).

Alpena.- We clean and tan our gill nets once a month. My neighbor here across the way commenced to use this hemlock extract. It is very dark, but you can make it light by the amount you put in. I have been using bark for years and it is very easy to be had here. We do not want any dark nets, only just the faintest trace of color. We tan entirely by steam here.-(Alpern).

General.- Those fishermen will have a portion of their gill nets tanned very dark and part of them will be tanned light. If

They strike a light sand bottom they will not set one of those dark nets on it, because it will not fish on sand bottom, they will set their lightly tanned nets on that bottom. The dark ones will fish on dark bottom.-(Wires).

Port Huron.- We tan them every 3 weeks and in the fall every 4 weeks. My nets have been running ever since last spring and I have only lost one net this year. In this lake the twine will last longer than in Lake Erie.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- The reason our nets are darker now is that they were just tanned last night and have not been hanging long on the reels. We tan about once a month in the summer season and probably about 6 weeks in the spring. The nets will rot very easily now if we do not watch them.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- We get up half a rig of nets each year and if we fished through October we would use about our whole gang. We tan our nets every 4 weeks. We use lime also. Very often if there is a good deal of slime on them we put lime on the nets and it cuts

the slime off.-(Eingster).

Southampton.- We tan our nets so dark because it preserves them. They will fish just as well light, but it preserves them. I would just as soon have them dark as any way. It will save the nets from moulding. We tan our nets every month.-(Dobson).

GILL NETS; LIFE AND CARE --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Do not have any trouble with the slime in the summer, but in the fall when they begin to set on the rocks the nets get covered with the slime and it hurts them. We generally use our gill nets up in one season. I try to make a tug net last 2 seasons and we are talking of taking them out now. By keeping them out of the water now they are generally good for 2 seasons. Gill net fishing is more expensive than pound net fishing.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- The nets are tanned with hemlock bark. I do not know what good it does, I am sure.-(Sims).

GILL NETS; STORMS AND LOSSES.

GILL NETS; STORMS AND LOSSES -- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- There is considerable loss in the fall of the year with gill nets. The rocks cut the nets all to pieces, especially if they get many fish in them.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- There is not much loss of netting by nets going adrift, but we sometimes lose them in the fall.-(Sims).

Port Huron.- We are troubled by storms worse than they are further north, as the water is shallow and it brings up more dirt and tears our nets more.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- We do not have very many gill nets destroyed by storms. We get them torn up and have to renew about half every year, so that the nets will last about 2 years.

Our tugs can go out in most any weather we have here. This harbor was dredged out 3 years ago and was not a very good place before that. Two years ago, last 15th of July, I was out on the reef here and there was an American tug alongside of me and we got a northwester, we had 5 hours run before

it and got in here just about dark. The American tug started home when we started lifting and it was a God-send to him that he did start home, for he got on the beach and he had to run her ashore.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- I do not lose many nets. I have lost only 24 nets in 7 years. We often get parted and destroyed by logs, but we will get the remnants back again.-(Eingster).

Southampton.- They lose considerable gill netting by storms sometimes.-(Cosley).

GILL NETS; STORMS AND LOSSES --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- Last year there was an extensive loss of gill nets by storms during November. We had very heavy storms last year all through November, and it bothered the fishermen very much.-(Robinson).

GILL NETS; CATCH.

GILL NETS; CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- The fishing continues solely for trout and it will keep gaining until October which is the best month for trout. It will end about October 25 or November 1. After that they move into deeper water and we do not attempt to follow them.-(Butterfield).

Detour.- The gill nets are fished solely for trout.-(Sims).

Mackinaw City.- Both trout and whitefish are taken in the gill nets. At other times (?) they get both trout and whitefish together, but at the same time they are supposed to be fishing only for one kind at a time.

With the gill nets they take whitefish, trout and menominee.

In the winter they fish for whitefish mostly, but catch a few trout. They catch quite a good many fish right off here. Perhaps get 50 or 60 lbs. to a gang of nets, that would be about all. It is a light fishing in the winter.

Get very few waste fishes in the gill

nets. Get a cleaner catch in the gill nets than in the pound nets.-(Robinson).

Harbor Spring.- In our gill netting here it is not whitefish we catch mostly, but what we call the blue-fins and trout. We have to use 3 1/2 inch mesh for the blue fins.-(Wilson).

Spectacle Reef.- There is good trout fishing there in the summer, or was at least.-(D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- We get the best fall fishing in October for trout and in November for whitefish. We calculate to get to Hammond's Bay this November for whitefish. There is generally good fishing at Waubeshanks in the fall for whitefish. We get most of the whitefish in November, but we get more trout than we do whitefish. Get more trout in October. There is bigger fishing in November for whitefish than at any other time of the year(D.Corlett).

Cheboygan.- In their gill nets they get all trout now, but get whitefish when they are on. They also catch the menominee white-

fish in special nets.

First in the spring they get trout and continue to take them, more or less, all through the summer. They get the most whitefish from June until about July 15. They generally begin to drop off shortly after July 4. They catch a good many whitefish in November with the gill nets.-(Gill).

Alpena.- Trout and whitefish are all that we can get in our gill nets.-(Cleary).

General.- In their deeper fishing off the reef they do not catch anything but trout to speak of.-(Wires).

Bay City.- There is a little gill netting under the ice in Saginaw Bay in February and March, but it does not amount to much. They get just a few herring, perch and mullet.-(Penniman).

Bay Port.- The gill nets have been fished around here solely in the Bayous for pike.-(John Gillingham).

Port Huron.- Up at the Big Reef we get nothing but trout and down here we get about 100 lbs. of whitefish to a ton of trout and

about 100 lbs. of pickerel to a ton of trout. The whitefish and pickerel begin in July. All our whitefish are obtained in the southern part of the lake and we do not get any up off the Big Reef.-(Selkirk).

Goderich.- These trout we catch in the summer, but we do not catch the fall trout at all. There are a good many claim that if we fish after the close season we would catch the fall trout.

We do not catch the fall trout in the fall season. If you get a real good big blow and have your nets pretty close in, you might get an odd one once in a while then on the bottom, but the deep water trout are about all we ever catch. We have never tried to set gill nets on the bottom of the lake in deep water for them.

The trout we generally get in the gill nets are the big black trout. We do not get them through the summer season at all. You have got to fish for them in the fall when they come in shallow water on the honeycomb bottom.

Our fishery is almost entirely for trout. When I first started fishing here it was fully 1/2 whitefish. We used to get our whitefish on the inside ground. We would never get many whitefish outside of 25 fathoms of water. You would get none to the north or west of here of any quantity.

In the gill nets we take trout at all seasons and that is about all we do take. Take no herring and hardly any whitefish. Do not get any pickerel here at all, except the sailboats get an odd pickerel once in a while, but there are never very many pickerel here. Do not catch perch, bass, or catfish.

We used to get a good half of the catch whitefish, the other half being trout. We would get them from about 17 fathoms out to 30 fathoms, and the outside part of the gang would not get as many whitefish if we got over 25 fathoms out. We were fishing both for whitefish and trout. We never caught them separately, but trout and whitefish were always together.-(Cragie).

Goderich.- Around the Fishing Islands there are just as many herring and pickerel, but they cannot sell them when they get them. There are other fish taking their place in all the better markets.

I have set in 120 fathoms off Manitoulin Island and got trout and moon-eyes. We sell the moon-eyes for whitefish.

I have not caught 200 lbs. of whitefish all the season out of 130,000 lbs. of trout. We get millions of little bloat and get lawyers but throw them away. Get a few moon-eyes.- (Eingster).

Southampton.- In the gill nets we get hardly anything but whitefish, herring and trout. Might get occasionally an odd sturgeon, and once in a while a pickerel. Never get perch, black-bass or catfish. Get no sheepshead. Get lawyers, but we do not eat them, we make no use of them here. Do not get pike or maskinonge. We get plenty of suckers. We get the common whitefish and then we get the cisco, but very seldom get them. They go

in as whitefish if they are big size. We get mostly small trout in deep water now.-(D. McCauley).

Southampton.- In the whitefish nets in the spring we take principally trout.-(G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.- In the gill nets we get herring, whitefish and trout. You can fish for trout in about 2 feet of water in the fall. But ordinarily they fish for trout in about 18 fathoms. They get nothing but trout on the Big Reef and they get them all through the year. Theyuse the whitefish nets for trout all through the year except the fall when they are fishing larger mesh for the fall trout.-(Cosley).

Southampton.- In the gill nets we do not get anything worth speaking of but herring, trout and whitefish.-(Dobson).

GILL NETS; CATCH-- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Get nothing but trout in the gill nets. All 3 tugs have not brought in 100 lbs. of whitefish this summer. The most I have ever seen is 3 whitefish to a lift and they lift dozens of times without catching any.- (Butterfield).

General.- When they are fishing for trout they seldom catch a whitefish and when they are fishing for whitefish they seldom catch a trout with the gill nets.-(Wires).

GILL NETS; CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Southampton.- We saw a small lot of fish landed this afternoon, from 20 to 35 fathoms, having been taken in a gill net the mesh of which measured 4 1/2 inches. There were two small boxes of fish, consisting mainly of trout. There were 6 or 8 whitefish, the most of which weighed from 1 to 2 lbs. each. Two of these whitefish were slightly different from the others and were called"cisco" by the fishermen.-(Rathbun).

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Detour.- Saw the catch brought in today by Anthony & Butterfield's tug "Lillie A". They were caught in 30 gill nets (about 600 feet to a net) about 25 miles south of Detour, depth 40 to 60 fathoms. The catch consisted of 152 lake trout, weighing 286 lbs., dressed. There was also one Long jaw, but no whitefish. This was considered very poor fishing for that amount of netting.-(Rathbun).

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF CATCH -- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- McClean has cleared $5000. with his tug in one year, and Alpern has taken every year 150 or 200 tons of fish with his tug, and gets 5 cents per lb. for them on the dock.-(Tulian).

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF CATCH --- LAKE HURON.

Alpena.- During the hot weather they will probably not lift over 3 or 4 gangs and they will get only from 800 to 1200 lbs. of fish.

In the earliest time we had 1 tug like Lincoln's here, and Lincoln was running it and he brought in 7 tons of fish.-(Case).

GILL NETS; EXTENT OF CATCH OF LAKE TROUT.

LAKE HURON.

Port Huron.- In July and August of this year our average catch has been 600 lbs. daily and that is more of an average than was ever known before for one tug.-(Selkirk).

Southampton.- I had a lift yesterday of 388 lbs. of trout, and that is a thing you do not get very often at this time of year in a 5 1/2 inch mesh.-(Dobson).

GILL NETS; CATCH OF SMALL; GENERAL.

LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- They do not take small fish in their gill nets.-(C. Corlett).

Goderich.- I have seen fish given away to the little boys of a class that to-day I sent to Buffalo and sold as first class fish, that was owing to their small size.

We used to catch just as many of those small fish when we were fishing 4 5/8 as 4 1/2 inch mesh, as they get caught by the teeth, and I do not think the size of the mesh makes a particle of difference as far as that is concerned. There are a great many men both in Canada and the United States who are making a living out of fishing and are making nothing more than a living, and if they were to stop them and put a larger mesh on them, they would have to drop it entirely and find something else to do. We were fishing 4 5/8 and now we are fishing 4 1/2 inch, and I do not see any difference as far as the small fish are concerned. There has been a certain

amount of those small fish caught in the nets and they were caught by the jaws.-(Cragie).

GILL NETS; CATCH OF SMALL WHITEFISH.

LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- The gill nets do not take small whitefish as they set in too deep water.-(Robinson).

Southampton.- Here you do not get any small whitefish in the gill nets, but in Georgian Bay you will get small ones. I think about 2 lbs. is about as small as I have seen in a net.-(Cosley).

GILL NETS; CATCH OF SMALL FISH --- LAKE HURON.

Cheboygan.- They also take too many small fish in the gill nets on account of the size of the mesh. There will be no fishing soon if something isn't done to correct the current practices.-(Gill).

Port Huron.- You will never see any small whitefish caught in the gill nets.-(Selkirk).

GILL NETS; HERRING, MENOMINEE.

HERRING GILL NETS---LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.

They use a few herring gill nets, but they do not bother with the herring in the gill nets as they are so small (Robinson).

Mackinac Island.

I have never fished gill nets for herring only, but they fish them over on the south shore, and make a practice of fishing for nothing but herring (Wilmot).

Cheboygan.

They do not use gill nets here much for herring (C. Corlett).

Port Huron.

Description.---The gill netters are deepening their twine for the herring and instead of running 18 meshes they run up to 30 meshes deep, but they cannot do that in Lake Huron. We do not use small herring gill nets in this lake, but I saw them on Lake Erie last fall. We have tried the herring gill nets, but it is not practicable in any way (Selkirk).

Goderich.

They do not use any herring gill nets on this side except a few may use them in the winter through the ice. They used to make a practice of it some 10 or 12 years ago, but it is about 18 years since they have done much at it. They could not catch enough to make it pay and they lost their nets. There is no herring fishery along this coast except down around the French settlement and down at Bayfield when they get any ice, but they have not done anything at it for the last 2 or 3 years (Cragie).

Goderich.

We use quite a few herring nets here in the winter with ice fishing, but it has been a failure for the last few years because we have had no ice, but they do not use them here in the summer as herring are worth nothing in the summer. There are any amount of herring in the lake, but they only come in around the islands in the spawning season.

Description.---We used to use about 90 or

100 lbs. of twine to a boat. 3 1/2 lbs. of twine would make about 70 yards. They are 60 meshes deep. The mesh is 2 3/4 and 2 5/8 inches.

Catch.---They do not take anything in the herring nets but herring except an odd perch. I never saw a small whitefish in them. I have seen a gang of nets set for herring in Lake Erie come ashore with 4 tons of perch gilled in them.

Time out.---When I fished I lifted my herring gill nets every day, and then some of the herring would be dead.

November.---I think if a man had a gill net herring rig here and set it in 70 or 80 fathoms in November he would get a good many herring (Eingster).

Southampton.

Description.---The herring nets have 2 3/4 inch mesh. Some of the herring nets are 40 meshes deep and some 60 meshes deep.

Locality.---They go north to the Fishing Islands for herring; from Chief's Point up to Cape Hurd. They fish inside in the bays in shallow water.

Boats and Rigs.---They use smaller boats for the herring netting than we have here. A herring boat does not use very long nets. They will use from 6 to 12 nets apiece. They do not like to put them all in the water at one time because they are afraid of losing them by storms.

I do not know anything about the herring nets. I do not fish herring nets because a man who is fishing one rig cannot attend to both. Herring nets are pretty costly, small mesh, fine twine and deep nets, and the storms are apt to destroy them (D. McCauley).

Southampton.

Description.---We use herring gill nets here. They are 3 1/2 lbs. nets and are 50 to 60 meshes deep and have 2 3/4 inch mesh. They would have about 40 leads and they would be about 6 feet apart. I do not do any herring fishing and none of the tugs fish for herring (G. S. McCauley).

Southampton.

We use both herring and trout nets in the fall.

Description.---The herring nets are 2 3/4

inches mesh and 50 meshes deep. We have used them 18 meshes deep, but they are not that now. We have them as low as 12 or 14 meshes deep.

Season.---The herring nets are not used much until the last of October. They are not used in the spring. We fish them through November. The close season does not apply to herring nets. They fish herring nets all through November. The water freezes up here about December 15. There has been some fishing done here in the winter under the ice, but not much. They could not make it pay. For one reason, you can hardly ever get ice that is fit to fish on as it is too rough.

The tugs do not use herring nets at all. They use the whitefish nets and some trout nets in the fall. The sail boats start in about the last of August and fish for trout and herring. As a rule when the trout go out there is about a week or so of herring fishing. Sometimes there is a lot of herring netting in the water. Each man is supposed to have about 8 or 10 nets.

Number of Boats.---There would be about 40 or 50 boats up at the islands where I fished in

the fall, but they come from different places. There would probably be 6 or 7 from here.

Fishing Islands.---The herring fishing is done about the Fishing Islands and up as far as Cape Hurd. We used to be able to catch the fish inside of the Islands altogether, but can not now. They have to go on the outside of the shoals now. The herring are not on the inside and you have to go to the open lake for them. There are shoals of water there that run out in the lake 2 or 3 miles. Some say the cause of it is that the water has gone down 2 or 3 feet. I never heard the Fishing Islands called by any other name.

Description.---The herring nets have about 50 leads 6 feet apart. The net is so deep that you have to have more corks on it than on the other class of nets.

Bottom, Methods.---The herring nets are all set on the bottom. There is no particular way of setting them only to get in shallow water about the depth of the net. It is stony bottom where we fish them.

Catch.---We occasionally get a trout in the herring nets, but nothing else. Do not

get many whitefish.

Proper mesh.---The size of the mesh in the herring gill nets is all right as it is I think. If any bigger than that I think you would let the herring through, and if smaller you could not catch them at all (Cosley).

Southampton.

Description.---Use 2 1/2 inch mesh nets for herring.

Rigs.---They will have but one gang of herring nets and they haul them every day. Each net has 50 corks 6 feet apart. They use about 1,000 yards of net to a boat (Dobson).

Southampton.

The herring nets have 2 3/4 inch mesh. The gangs are small compared with those employed for trout and whitefish and are generally set over one night only. The herring grounds are close in shore among the islands and in the coves about Chief's Point and Cape Hurd. Many of the fishermen go up from Southampton and make temporary stations along that coast. The season is in the fall, no herring being fished for at other times. (Rathbun)

HERRING GILL NETS -- LAKE HURON.

Goderich.- In order to fish a gill net to catch herring you would want one about 2 3/4 inches, and if you want one so that they won't gill you would have to have a smaller mesh.-(McClean).

Goderich.- Gill net fishing for herring is not extensive.-(Rathbun).

MENOMINEE GILL NETS --- LAKE HURON.

Mackinaw City.- The menominee whitefish net is 2 7/8 and 3 inch mesh and that is the regular herring net. They use them for the herring as a rule.-(Robinson).

Mackinaw Island.- I had a few nets, along toward the latter part of my fishing, for menominee whitefish and caught a few for our winter supply. We used 3 inch mesh for menominee whitefish.-(Wilmot).

Cheboygan.- They do not use gill nets here much for herring, they mostly fish for the menominee whitefish.-(C. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- For menominee we use 3 inch mesh.-(D. Corlett).

Cheboygan.- They have regular nets which they use for catching the menominees, the size of the mesh is 3 inches.-(Gill).