

Report on the Fisheries of New South Wales for the Year 1912.

Receipts for the year 1912 amounted to £7,805 7s. 10d. and the expenditure to £7,971 13s. 0d., as against £7,936 5s. 10d. and £5,437 4s. 1d. respectively for receipts and expenditure for the previous year. The items on which increases were shown as compared with previous year were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Deposits on applications for oyster leases ...	...	...	...
Fines and forfeitures ...	19	15	7
Fishing-boat licenses ...	150	14	0
Fishermen's " " ...	13	15	0
Oyster vendors' licenses ...	62	2	6
Transfer fees ...	2	0	0
Sale of oysters and spat ...	17	0	0
While there was a decrease of:	212	15	4
Deed fees ...	64	0	0
Rent on oyster leases ...	545	0	5

The decrease in rent was brought about mainly by expiration of leases.

The quantity and value of fish and oysters imported and exported in 1912 is as follows:—

		<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	
Fish, 9,506,214 lb. ...	...	...	...	...	...
Oysters, 361 cwt. ...	...	...	...	...	...
		£283,357	0	0	0
Fish, 567,104 lb. ...	...	...	...	...	...
Oysters, 7 cwt. ...	...	...	...	...	...
		£13,848	0	0	0
		11	0	0	0

The particulars of imports and exports will be found in the Appendices.

The total quantity of fish for the year reached 172,551 $\frac{3}{4}$ baskets of fish, 11,321 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen crayfish, and 5,957 $\frac{1}{2}$ baskets of prawns, as against 164,988 baskets of fish, 14,279 dozens of crayfish, and 7,595 baskets of prawns for last year. Particulars of the output will be found in the Appendices.

These figures are based on supplies that have been notified through official channels only, but it is known that quantities go into consumption locally that no returns are received in regard to.

The appointment of a Principal Fisheries Inspector, which had been held over for a long time, was settled by the selection of Mr. J. B. Grane, with the designation of Supervising Inspector of Fisheries.

Mr. Grane was for several years carrying out inspectorial work on the North Coast, with headquarters at Port Macquarie.

The original intention was to appoint a high salaried officer as Chief Inspector of Fisheries, who would not only be a Chief Inspector, but be an expert in many different businesses connected with fisheries. However, on consideration of the matter in all its phases, it was thought that the importation of such an officer was not necessary, chiefly because the requirements laid down were not held to be necessary, and it was practically impossible to get them from one individual. It was considered that the case would be satisfactorily met by an appointment from the inspectorial staff on which there were sufficiently good men.

The Public Service Board, acting on this suggestion, considered the qualifications of those fisheries inspectors who were held to be fitted for the position, with the result that the names of three inspectors who would, in the Board's opinion, be capable of filling the office, were referred to this department, special prominence being given to that of the officer who has been appointed. The practical side of fisheries work has by this appointment been provided for, and the scientific side of fisheries work was provided for by the appointment of Mr. D. G. Stead as Superintendent of Fishery Investigation. Mr. Stead's work includes all branches of fisheries investigation, as well as fisheries economics, and the general work of distribution of fish.

The following probationary appointments were made to the inspectorial staff:—

Walter Barclay, from 1st July, 1911.
William McBride, from 2nd January, 1912.
T. Smith, from 29th April, 1912.
E. C. Smithers, from 2nd May, 1912.

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The staff of the Fisheries Branch still being insufficient to meet the growing requirements of the department, and it having been found that regular supervision of coastal waters remote from the headquarters of inspectors could not be carried out, it was decided to appoint some additional inspectors, to be stationed in waters along the coast at localities where they would be in direct touch with the local fishermen and oyster lessees.

Four additional inspectors were accordingly appointed, on probation, and stationed at Tweed Heads, Urunga, Brooklyn, and Bermagui, also three assistant inspectors, who were associated with other inspectors to gain experience in fisheries and oyster work.

Messrs. T. H. Durbridge, W. Hayward, W. N. G. Hincksman, and W. L. Butters were accordingly appointed, on probation, as Inspectors; and Messrs. J. J. Mair, W. J. Boyle, and W. Beetham as Assistant Inspectors.

These officers were allotted the following districts:—

Inspector T. H. Durbridge.—Stationed at Brooklyn, to supervise the waters of Hawkesbury River and its tributaries, including Pittwater.

Inspector W. Hayward.—Stationed at Tweed Heads, to supervise Tweed River and waters to and including Brunswick Heads.

Inspector W. N. G. Hincksman.—Stationed at Urunga, to supervise the waters to and including Woolgoolga on the north, and to and including Nambucca River on the south.

Inspector W. L. Butters.—Stationed at Bermagui (South) to supervise the waters of Bermagui River, and on the north as far as and including Wagonga River, and on the south as far as and including Bega River and Tathra.

Assistant-Inspector J. J. Mair.—Temporarily located at Gunnamatka Hatchery.

Assistant-Inspector W. J. Boyle.—Stationed at Forster, to supervise the waters of Wallis Lake, and on the south to and including Smith's Lake.

Assistant-Inspector W. Beetham.—Stationed at Port Macquarie to supervise the waters to and including Macleay River on the north, and to and including Camden Haven on the south.

Inspector Durbridge's resignation as Inspector was accepted as from the 28th November, 1912.

Acting under the provisions of the Public Service (Amendment) Act, 1910, a Departmental Board inquired into the salaries of officers of the Department, and dealt with the grading of each officer.

The maximum rate of salary payable to Inspectors was raised from £150 to £200 per annum, and annual increments of £7 10s. till £170 is reached, and £10 till £200 is attained, are paid in all cases where the efficiency and conduct of an officer warrant such a course.

Under the Provisions of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1910, officers of police of the rank of Senior-Constable have the powers and authorities of Inspectors of Fisheries; and to meet the requirements of the Department in regard to closures, &c., in districts where there are no officers, the following officers of Police have been appointed as Assistant-Inspectors during the year:—

Constable George William Archer	...	...	...	Mathoura.
First-class Constable Henry John Blanch	...	...	...	Barham.
Constable Thomas Burke	...	...	...	Tareana.
First-class Constable Francis Joseph Bell	...	...	...	Boodigal.
" " George Robert Blackwell	...	...	...	Tumbulgum.
Second-class Constable Ernest Brodie	...	...	...	Blakhurst.
First-class Constable Arthur Vernon Begbie...	...	...	...	Frogmore.
Constable William Charles Barry	...	...	...	Central Tilba.
" Daniel Bunnorth	...	...	...	Jingellic.
First-class Constable Francis Brown	...	...	...	Kew.
Constable Stephen Collins	...	...	...	Pooncarrie.
" Hugh James Carruthers	...	...	...	Barnawatha (Vic.)
First-class Constable Patrick Cahill	...	...	...	Moulamein.
" " Joseph James Clarke	...	...	...	Mande.
Second-class Constable John Andrew R. Clugston	...	...	...	Sutherland.
First-class Constable Thomas Chaney...	...	...	...	Eden.
" " William Constable	...	...	...	Kempsey.
Senior-constable Robert George Crooks	...	...	...	Yarrawonga (Vic.)
Constable James Henry Deane	...	...	...	Laurieton,
First-class Constable Henry Joseph Thomas Dole	...	...	...	Brooklyn.
Constable Henry William Edwards	...	...	...	Blakhurst.
First-class Constable William Henry Millard Faco	...	...	...	Bermagui.
Constable Hubert Norman Ferris	...	...	...	Euston.
Senior-Constable Frederick Firth Foers	...	...	...	Swan Hill (Vic.)
First-class Constable George Groves	...	...	...	Jerseyville.
" " Ernest Genner	...	...	...	Nambucca Heads.

First-class

The residence occupied by Inspector Gordon at Tuggerah was painted (two coats) at a cost of £12 10s.

Letter-boxes were fixed on Coraki wharf, and on the railway premises at Brooklyn, for the convenience of fishermen and oyster lessees, in order that they might deposit official papers therein.

In view of the exposure to which inspectors are subjected in carrying out their duties, arrangements were made to supply each officer with an oilskin suit and pilot coat. Gum boots were also supplied to those officers dealing with the measurement of oyster lease areas, as a means of protection in the execution of their work.

Experiments were made with some species of fish in the production of oil, and with very satisfactory results.

From the viscera and fat of 50 undersized black bream, which measured about 30 fluid oz., 8 oz. of oil were obtained. The percentage of oil to the whole mass was 27.

This oil is useful for many trade purposes, and is of value for application to the human skin for sunburn, stiffness of the limbs, &c. In the future, it is expected that enterprising firms will readily engage in the business of the extraction of oil from fish for commercial purposes.

A sample of pickled sprats, preserved in strong pickle brine, was supplied to Lichtner, Limited, for carrying out experiments in the manufacture of sauce, with a view to its comparison with the imported anchovy sauce.

An exhibit of pickled and dried fish, consisting of sprats, &c., pickled in brine, salted and dried mullet, whiting, tailor, trevally, black bream, and blackfish, was prepared and placed on view at the Tourist Bureau for a few days in November.

A representative of the Peterhead Trawling Company, of Aberdeen, Scotland, made inquiries as to the prospects of deep-sea fishing, and was supplied with all available information.

Inquiries were made as to whether cuttle-fish could be obtained in quantities, if required, the price of bone upwards of 4 in. in length being stated to be 1s. 6d. per lb.

It was ascertained, on examination of the sea-beaches by inspectors, that cuttle-fish could be obtained in varying quantities, but that it was not sufficiently abundant to remunerate persons specially employed in the work.

Inquiries were made by the Secretary to the Fisheries Department, Perth, on behalf of persons who proposed to enter into the shark-fishing industry, extraction of oil, &c., as to whether there was any local demand for these products; and information was given to the effect that Chinese firms in Sydney were prepared to pay for any quantity of dried shark fins at the rate of 1s. per lb., delivered in Sydney.

Inquiries were made by a resident of Victoria as to the prevalence of barracouta on this coast and the prices realised for same.

The writer was informed that these fish are plentiful off certain parts of the coast all the year round, and are numerous off Botany and Port Hacking during the summer months, their market price being about 3s. per dozen.

Information regarding the species of oysters, the spawning period, the establishment of new oyster beds, methods of cultivation, &c., was furnished in response to a request from the Provincial Secretary, Capetown, South Africa.

Like particulars were also forwarded to Mr. T. E. Willis, of Sydney.

General directions as to the method of curing and drying fish were supplied to Mr. W. Whiting, of Lord Howe Island, who was desirous of starting a fish-curing establishment in the vicinity of the island.

The Chief Inspector of Fisheries, Wellington, New Zealand, having intimated that the Government contemplated changes in connection with the administration of fisheries in their Dominion, was furnished with information regarding the administration of fisheries of this State.

The following species of fish, &c., were forwarded to this Department for identification during the year :—

Lizard fish (grinner).	Prawn (carrying eggs).
Porbeagle (mackerel shark).	Crayfish.
Prawns (preserved).	Macquarie perch.
Percoid perch (bobby perch).	Sea pen.
Leatherjacket.	Dolphin fish.
Salmon-catfish roc.	Portuguese man-o'-war.
Leopard fish.	Prawn.
Dragon fish.	Conger eel.
Groper.	Beche-de-mer.
Barber's pole.	Shark's teeth.
Runner.	Dusky perch.
Our fish.	Porpoises (two young ones).
Crayfish (in full roe).	Head of Macquarie perch.
Miscellaneous (from H.M.S. "Fantome").	

Collections

Collections of fish specimens were supplied to the following Public Schools. These collections are found to be of considerable value in the education of school children in fishing districts:—

Telegraph Point, Blackwall, Bungwahl, Tuggerah, Nambucca Heads, Bermagui, Lower Southgate, Larriston, Eden, Brooklyn, Urunga, Teacher's College (Sydney), Moruya.

Reports were received of the destruction of 227 cormorants during the year by inspectors, who were supplied with ammunition by the Department.

As it was necessary that the Department should have some receptacle in the Commonwealth Fish Market, in which seized fish could be deposited while the sales were progressing, a floor space was rented in the market, and a large box, substantially built, was provided for the purpose.

The fish market controlled by Mr. W. Duncan, at Redfern, which had been in existence for several years, was discontinued in June, and Mr. Duncan became one of the fish agents at the Commonwealth Co-operative Fish Exchange, Redfern.

Serious losses are occasionally sustained by fishermen and prawners, owing to the unsatisfactory method followed by some agents of handling their consignments at the fish markets.

In March one of the agents forwarded sixty-four boxes of cooked prawns to the fertilizer works without bringing them under the notice of the inspector of fish at the markets, and consequently without receiving a certificate that they were unfit for food.

From inquiries made by the officers of this Department it was quite evident that sixty-two of the cases of prawns were in good condition, and that they were freely eaten by the man who carted them to the works. The manager of the works reported them to be in good order.

The attention of the agents was drawn to the edible condition of the prawns, and as the Department was of opinion that the consignors should be remunerated on the basis of the average price realised for prawns at the market during the week they were destroyed, they were requested to reimburse the ten fishermen who consigned the prawns.

The explanation of the agents was that the sixty-four cases were part of a large consignment forwarded on the 18th December, 1911, and by reason of their being exposed to the hot sun in an open railway truck from Unanderra to Sydney, were inferior in condition to other daily consignments and would not sell, and after other prawns of the same consignment had been returned to them by the buyers and refunds of the purchase-money insisted on, they decided to have the sixty-four boxes destroyed.

There is no doubt that the prawns could have been sold at a price during the period of two months that they were in the cool chamber if the agents had been disposed to take the prices offered.

As the agents declined to compensate the catchers, and the Department was powerless to insist on payment, a statement of particulars was brought under the notice of each of the fishermen who consigned the prawns, with a view to their taking any action they might think fit.

On the 11th May, 1912, several local residents cut a channel at the mouth of Tuggerah Lake. This, however, closed up during the night, and again on the 13th idem they attempted to cut another channel, but without success. The entrance remained closed until July, when the Department of Public Works had a channel cut to relieve the farms on the banks of Wyong Creek from the waters which were covering them. This channel continued open for the remainder of the year.

Owing to the Warringah Shire Council constructing a channel at the mouth of Narrabeen Lagoon in April, at the time that these waters were about to be thrown open to meshing and prawn nets, a large body of fish escaped to the ocean, thus robbing the fishermen of the full measure of their expected harvest and causing a loss to the public. The Lands Department was moved to cause instructions to be given to the shire council that the practice of cutting a channel connecting the lagoon with the ocean must not be continued without Departmental approval.

The practice of making artificial openings from the lakes along the coast to the ocean waters frequently resulted in injury to the fisheries, as large bodies of fish of all sizes were by this means allowed to escape to the ocean. This would not be such a serious matter if channels were opened during the travelling seasons of the fish, but the local parties interested were in the habit of carrying out such work at any time without considering the fisheries.

With a view to preventing unauthorised persons cutting channels through the sand-bars, the Lands Department issued notices warning the public that any person acting in this manner would be prosecuted for trespass.

A sand-bar formed at the mouth of Lake Illawarra on the 9th January, completely closing it to ocean waters; but the lake became open again on the 22nd July, and remained open until the end of the year.

In consequence of the great destruction to small fish in the upper waters of Port Jackson by the indiscriminate use of garfish nets, action was taken to prohibit the use of garfish nets in the waters westerly of a line drawn from Little Sirius Point to Wolsley-road, Point Piper, and also in Middle Harbour, above the Spit punt crossing.

In response to an expressed wish from the fishermen at Lake Macquarie, who found that fish were caught by means of long lines, or bulcows, before they could reach the lake waters, the use of these implements for the purpose of catching fish in the channel entrance and Black Ned's Bay was prohibited.

The owners of pound nets, which had been erected in various parts of Port Stephens, where they intercepted fish from working on to hauling grounds contiguous to them, were instructed to discontinue their use, and several sites for the erection of pounds, with wings attached, were selected in various parts of Port Stephens in localities where there were not hauling-grounds. Tenders were invited from licensed fishermen for the right to lease the sites for a period of twelve months, at a rental of £5 each. The tender of Henry Blanch for one of the sites was accepted, and in the other cases no tenders were lodged.

As numbers of undersized fish were being captured by fishing parties at week-ends, particularly on Sundays, periodical visits of inspection were made to the various fishing-grounds between Lake Macquarie and Port Hacking on Sundays, and catches of fish were examined. In a great many cases the catches consisted mainly of undersized fish, and the parties in whose possession they were found were proceeded against. The result of these prosecutions has had a very beneficial effect, as anglers are now more inclined to return small fish to the waters.

Proceedings were taken against two persons for using explosives in Brunswick River for the destruction of fish, and fines of £10 were in each case imposed.

At the request of the Public Works Department, which was preparing information for the Victorian Government as to the disposal of silt by dredging, reports were obtained from inspectors of fisheries as to the effect, harmful or otherwise, the deposition of dredged material in the sea has upon fisheries.

With the exception of the inspectors at Hunter River and Port Stephens, where it was reported that dredging deposits were injurious to fishing grounds, the inspectors were of opinion that no harm was caused to the grounds off their districts.

Attention having been drawn to the pollution of the waters of Camden Haven inlet in the vicinity of oyster leases, action was taken to compel the owners of the properties on which the source of pollution existed to have same removed.

A quantity of fish, principally pink bream, flathead, and whiting, were observed dead and dying in Lake Illawarra during August. The cause of death appeared to be due to the liberation of harmful gases through the stirring up of the mud by freshets and wind.

Proprietors of sawmills at Nambucca River, who were in the habit of depositing sawdust in the river, were forbidden to continue doing so, as it was detrimental to oyster-culture.

Whaling.

Applications were made by representatives of several whaling firms from England, Norway, and Durban for the right to establish whaling stations on various parts of the coast.

Some of these applications were for an exclusive right to conduct whaling operations on certain sections of the coast, but as there is no provision under the existing legislation whereby an exclusive right to establish whale fisheries in the territorial waters of New South Wales may be accorded to, the requests could not be complied with. However, a floating factory stationed at Jervis Bay, supplied by three whalers, dealt with 157 whales in two and a half months. The oil produced was valued at £12,500. Owing to insufficiency of labour, all the carcasses were not fully utilised, and the yield of oil was not as great as it would otherwise have been.

The species of whales taken consisted of the Blue, Finner, Humpback, Seivhal, and Sperm.

Porpoises.

An industry in the capture of porpoises was started by some fishermen for the purpose of obtaining their teeth, which form the currency in certain parts of the Solomon Islands and German New Guinea.

The teeth have a wholesale value of from 6s. to 12s. 6d. per hundred according to the species, and as the porpoises carry up to 180 teeth each the business is very remunerative.

The hides and oil are not utilised, owing to the absence of depôts for treating them, but there would be considerable value in the carcasses if turned into a fertilizer.

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With the object of improving the fish supply, and the quality of fish consigned to market, the various shipping companies trading on this coast were asked to have the boxes and other receptacles in which fish are packed thoroughly cleaned prior to their return.

The companies were generally desirous of assisting the Department, but were unable to see their way to cleanse the cases themselves; and considered it to be a matter which devolved upon the owners or consignees.

The North Coast Company, which carries the bulk of the fish to market, was asked to instruct their local agents to refuse to accept consignments of fish in cases that were not properly cleaned. The company expressed a desire to give every possible assistance to the Department in ensuring cleanliness, and intimated that instructions would be issued to the agents at the various ports of call to ensure cleanliness in the cases.

Owing to the absence of authority, the Department has been unable to take definite action, but the whole of the fisheries inspectors have been clothed with the powers of the Pure Food Act, and have in many cases been able to have a cleaner and more healthy condition of matters brought about.

In connection with this matter, the Department of Public Health has been moved to have a regulation framed which will empower fisheries inspectors to compel the owners of fish-cases, &c., to keep them in a perfectly sanitary condition.

A Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Food Supply and Prices opened in July, 1911, and sat from the 19th July of that year until 14th February, 1912. As a result of its inquiry, the Commission made the recommendations 1 to 13, set forth on page 41 of its Report.

Another case of destruction of fish fit for food occurred in November, at the Commonwealth Co-operative Fish Exchange, Redfern, when an agent sent about 20 baskets of flat-tail mullet to the tip.

Although the market inspector reported that these fish could have been disposed of at a reasonable price, the agent held that there was no demand for fish of the class mentioned, and that they had no option but to destroy them.

Endeavours were made to ascertain the names of the fisherman who consigned the fish in question, but without success, as the agent would not furnish such particulars.

The Department was therefore unable to bring the facts under the notice of the parties interested. A number of licensed fishermen who had several consignments of fish condemned at the Fish Markets in consequence of their being in a condition not fit for human consumption were advised that the trouble arose from the faulty packing and treatment of the fish, and were furnished with directions as to the proper method to adopt in the treatment and packing of fish for market.

With the object of impressing upon fishermen the necessity of keeping clean the boxes used for the carriage by rail, notices were exhibited at the railway stations on the Northern and South Coast lines, drawing attention to the provisions of the Pure Food Act, 1908. Like notices were also posted on wharves where fish were packed.

It is worthy of note that several southern tunny, of the species known as "Thunnus Maccooi" (Cast), which were first recorded from the coastal waters of this State in the year 1907, were captured off Botany, and were marketed as bonito.

The tunny has been observed in several parts of the coast, and appears to be very abundant. A sample—of commercial importance—of one of the Holohuria, or "sea cucumbers," commercially known as "beche-de-mer," was forwarded to the office by Inspector Hockey, who stated that he obtained thirty-five in one day at Sandon River.

As the fishermen, for the want of a road, were much inconvenienced in not being able to get their fish from Woody Head to the Clarence River steamers, action was taken whereby the Lands Department was moved to establish a public road from the jetty at Salt Water Inlet to Woody Head.

The appeal which was lodged against the decision of Mr. Justice Street in Equity, upholding the claim to Dee Why Lagoon by the Salvation Army, was upset by the Privy Council; and it was held that the waters of the lagoon are under the jurisdiction of this Government.

With a view to bring about the uniformity in the size of fish baskets, an investigation was made by the Superintendent of Fisheries Investigation in regard to the receptacles in use, and it was found that they varied in size, some containing about 80 lb. of fish, while others would hold only about 70 lb.

Standard fish baskets of the following dimensions were approved by this Department, and the basket manufacturers and fish agents were duly notified:—

		Top.	Bottom.
Length	...	23 inches	19 inches.
Width	...	17 "	13 "
Depth clear of rise in bottom	...	.....	18 "
Rise in bottom not to exceed	2 inches.		

It

It was desired to give full effect to the adopted standard size in the form of a regulation; but as the Department was advised that a regulation of the proposed nature would be outside the scope of the Fisheries Act, the enforcement of the dimensions could not be insisted upon in this manner.

During the early part of the year a large number of sand whiting and blackfish eggs, and, in December, several millions of crayfish eggs, were collected in the spawning pond at Gunnamatta Hatchery, and about 90 per cent. of the fry were liberated in local waters.

A number of sand whiting in the pond died in July, owing to an imperfect circulation of the sea water in the pond, and the accumulation of cockle-shells and dead sea-weed. The removal of this rubbish, and improvement in the water supply, and the substitution of fish food for mussels and cockles, had a good effect upon the fish remaining.

Some of the sand whiting in the spawning pond were found to be badly affected with body ulcers and parasites, owing to the partial stagnation and imperfect oxygenation of the pond water.

Some trouble was experienced owing to a leakage in the pond, but as the bottom would probably require to be re-concreted, and would necessitate the removal of the fish to enable it to be done, it was decided to let the matter stand over for the time being.

Experiments in the preparation of some fish food products by pickling and smoking were carried out for a short time at the Hatchery with the object of benefiting the industry by the opening of new avenues of the fish trade.

Assistant Inspector Muir, who had experience in curing fish in Scotland, was employed on the work for a time, but the experiments carried out by him were not satisfactory, and the work was discontinued at the end of the year.

Owing to the large number of people, that frequented the Gunnamatta grounds at inconvenient hours, the keeper was unnecessarily hindered in the execution of his ordinary duties, and it was therefore deemed essential to restrict the visiting days to two afternoons a week, viz., on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

In April, owing to the trouble occasioned by visitors interfering with the fish, the spawning pond was enclosed by a wire-netting structure.

Oyster Fisheries.

Applications to the number of 571 were accepted. The total foreshore covered thereby was 179,819 yards, and in addition to this 31 acres of deepwater ground was included in the applications.

No licenses were issued, but authority was given in 34 cases for the removal of oysters from applied-for areas pending issue of licenses.

There were in existence, at the 31st December, 1912, 2,010 leases, aggregating 596,458 yards of foreshore and 69 acres 26 perches.

The surrender of 117 leases was accepted—61 for the purpose of consolidation with other areas, and 43 as they could not be successfully cultivated; and 13 leases were forfeited consequent upon non-payment of rent within prescribed time.

The sale of oysters from hauling-grounds during the year realised £495, particulars of which will be found in the following tabulated statement:—

	Situation of hauling-ground.		Amounts realised.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Port Stephens—				
Paddyman's Bar	168	8 9		
Carrington Flat	81	4 3		
Do	52	10 0		
Tablee Flat	86	12 6		
Evens Flat	10	11 3		
Corries Island	12	4 6		
Richmond River—			411	11 3
Porpoise Wall	14	6 9		
Fronting Lower Ballina	6	5 0		
Do	6	12 0		
Shoalhaven River	20	5 0		
Wapengo Lake	4	0 0		
Hunter River	32	0 0	83	8 9
			£495	0 0

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As was pointed out in last year's Report, a threefold benefit resulted from the sale of oysters from hauling-grounds—the revenue of the State fisheries was increased, the fishermen had the hauling-grounds improved so as not to damage their nets, and the oyster lessees received material for stocking their grounds or for selling direct.

Mr. Thomas Dick, an oyster lessee of many years' standing in Hastings River, reported that his experience with cement blocks for the attachment of oyster spat was not of a satisfactory nature, owing to the damage caused to the shells in removing them, and that a coating of cement on the blocks was not satisfactory. He exhibited at the Port Macquarie Show some slabs of cement or concrete showing oysters 4 years of age. He stated that he had discovered a suitable slate, which he patented, and that the success attaching to this method of culture exceeded his expectations. Some of the slates, with large quantities of young oysters attached, were forwarded for inspection.

Mr. Dick expressed his opinion that with the use of this class of slate he could catch thousands of bags of oysters where none were formerly caught.

The specimen slates were, at Mr. Dick's request, forwarded to the Australian Museum.

Owing to the pollution of the waters of Kooloonbung Creek, Port Macquarie, by the discharge of refuse from adjoining properties, proceedings were taken against the owner, and subsequently, in the interests of public health, the taking of oysters from four leased areas that were affected by the pollution was prohibited for a period of six months, as the oysters were in such a condition as to be unfit for consumption as food.

In view of the depredations committed on oyster leases by unscrupulous persons, who were in the habit of visiting George's River at week-ends, special police protection was afforded, which resulted in convictions being obtained against several persons.

To enable oyster lessees to obtain oyster-spat from Crown lands, for the purpose of laying down on leased areas, the practice of selling oysters from Crown lands at Cowan Creek was continued, but little advantage was taken of this arrangement, as only twenty-eight bags were applied for during the year, and were supplied at a cost of 5s. per bag.

The fisheries inspectors were instructed to give special attention to the removal of oysters from training-walls, and to see that these structures were not damaged by the removal of stones carrying oysters. The public visit walls in large numbers and remove stones with oysters attached, thereby threatening the undermining of the walls.

The Department was desirous of vesting in the Department of Public Instruction a plot of ground at Karuah, for the purpose of carrying out, as a means of education to the Public School pupils at Karuah, experiments in oyster culture, and making observations as regards their development; but on being advised by the Crown law authorities that there was no power in the Fisheries Acts to enable this to be done, the proposal was not carried out.

Attention having been drawn by the Fisheries authorities in Melbourne to the small-sized oysters shipped from Sydney, many being of an unmarketable size, slaps were taken to deal with the matter.

With a desire to prevent the shipment of oysters under the lawful size, some bags in course of transhipment were examined, and several shipped from Queensland to Melbourne were found to contain unmarketable oysters; but in the absence of sufficient authority under the Fisheries Acts, oysters consigned from one State to another other than to this State, cannot be seized on the wharves or steamships.

Inland Fisheries.

Inspector Barclay, and Messrs. Lawrence, Wilburd, and Hellyar operated at the Jenolan and Duckmaloi Rivers, between the 9th July and the 28th August at the Jenolan, and to the 14th September at the Duckmaloi River. During the time their operations were hampered by floods.

The stripping season at Prospect Hatchery commenced on the 6th July, and from the trout pond 28,350 eggs were obtained.

Eighty thousand seven hundred and fifty eggs were taken from trout trapped in Duckmaloi and Jenolan Rivers, and conveyed to Prospect, where they were hatched out. In the process of hatching a considerable percentage died, owing to the high temperature of the water, and other causes.

The first consignment of fry was despatched on the 30th September, and distributions were continued until the 16th October. Fry, as stated hereunder, were liberated in streams in the following districts:—

South Coast District	...	...	...	...	...	500
Northern District	...	...	...	...	...	7,900
Western	...	...	...	...	...	5,400
Southern	...	...	...	...	...	10,200
						Six

Six thousand three hundred fry were placed in three ponds at the Hatchery, with a view to providing future spawning fish.

The waters of Kangaroo River, a tributary of Port Hacking River, were examined, and found to be unsuitable owing to the high summer temperature and low altitude, for the acclimatisation of trout.

A request for the establishment of trout nursery ponds on Goobarragandra River, about 15 miles from Tumut, was not approved, owing to the comparative proximity of the Talbingo trout nursery ponds, where it is intended to concentrate work when certain proposed improvements are carried out.

Illegal methods of fishing being prevalent in the waters of Lachlan River, in the vicinity of Forbes, and the local police being unable, through pressure of other duties, to cope with the evil, two inspectors were sent from Sydney to patrol the waters and to secure evidence of any illegal fishing. Evidence was obtained against a local resident of using a fish-trap, and as a result of proceedings he was convicted and fined £2 and costs of court.

The difficulty in enforcing a close observance of the close season in inland waters against fishing generally and by every method except by rod and line, or hand line with not more than two hooks attached, is very great, as it becomes necessary to see the capture of the fish to determine whether they are caught by lawful methods or otherwise. The matter could be partially met if the Department had power to prevent the sale of fish during any specified period, but no such authority exists.

In the interests of the conservation of fish, the Public Works Department was moved to have fishways provided when weirs or dams are being constructed in inland waters, so that fish may not be obstructed in passing up and down the streams.

Several inquiries have been received from residents in the country as to the best manner of obtaining supplies of fish suitable for stocking dams—mostly in the Western Districts—and as the golden-perch, or yellow-belly, is the most suitable species, the parties have been generally advised that arrangements should be made for the capture of small fish in the nearest river and transported in casks or other suitable vessels.

At the request of the Trustees of National Park, the waters of Port Hacking River, above Audley, were tested by officers of the Department in October to ascertain the species of fish that inhabited the waters. Nets of small mesh were used, and the following species were obtained:—

1. Australian Smelt.
2. Flat-headed Gudgeon.
3. Goboid Gudgeon.
4. Blue Eye.
5. Australian Bass.
6. Freshwater Mullet.
7. English Perch.
8. Common Bel.
9. Common Carp.
10. Mountain Minnow.

At the request of the National Park Trust, 1,927 perch were captured in the Centennial Park ponds and transferred to Kangaroo Creek, Port Hacking, to augment the supply of 207 of the same species of fish which were liberated in Port Hacking River in 1910.

On the occasion of the ponds at Centennial Park being thrown open to rod and line fishing in March, the largest fresh-water eel authentically recorded was captured by an angler. It weighed 25 lb. 4 oz., and measured 4 ft. 9 in., with a girth of 17½ in.

Australian Bass.

One hundred and thirty-three small fish were captured in Nepean River in May, conveyed by an officer of the Department to Cudgegong River, without loss, and liberated about 5 miles from Rylstone.

During the same month 60 bass were transplanted from the same river to Bell River, near its junction with Macquarie River.

The whole of the fish were carefully attended to by the Superintendent of Fisheries Investigation, and were liberated without the loss of a single fish.

At the request of the Colonial Secretary of Fiji, 135 Australian bass were captured in Nepean River and despatched in s.s. "Makura" on the 6th May, 1912, in charge of Mr. W. J. Hill, who landed 109 of the fish alive at Suva. They were liberated in selected streams, which had been chosen for their suitability for this class of fish.

The Fijian Government expressed its high appreciation of the efforts used by the Department in securing and shipping the fish, and also of the care taken by the person in charge during the voyage.

In February, 414 Macquarie or mountain perch were transplanted by the Department in two lots from Murrumbidgee River to Snowy River.

The first lot, consisting of 205, from 3 to 8 inches in length, were liberated at Coolamalong Crossing, some miles above Dalgety, and the second lot of 209 at Hickey's Crossing, a short distance below Dalgety. It

It is expected that these fish will readily take to their new waters, and, when established, will form an additional attraction to anglers.

With a view to affording a greater amount of protection, a section of Snowy River, extending from Bulgundra Creek to Mowanba River, was closed against the use of fishing nets and fishing lines for three years from the 1st May, 1912.

In view of the pollution of streams and destruction of banks, &c., by sluicing plants, in inland waters, representations were made to the Mines Department, to see that every possible precaution is taken by the erection of settling dams, to prevent any deleterious matter from being carried into any river or stream which may in any way affect or injure fish life or fish spawn.

In several cases where it was intimated by the Mining Wardens that gold-dredging leases had been applied for, it was pointed out that provision should be made in the leases that no sluicing should be allowed unless the operators were prepared to construct settling dams of sufficient size to preclude any fouling of the rivers, as neglect of this precaution would cause a good deal of destruction to fish life.

The following information regarding the acclimatization of trout has been furnished by local residents in trout districts who have on occasions been supplied with trout fry for liberation:—

H. Bolton, Berridale.—Three to four thousand trout ranging from $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. to 6 lb. weight were caught in Gungahline River, and about 150 ranging from $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. to 7 lb. were taken in Back River.

A. J. Rial, Wolsley Park.—Trout have been seen in large quantities in the head waters of Tamut River, The Gulf, Doubtful and Happy Jack Rivers, mostly ranging from 2 to 7 lb. in weight. Trout scaling up to 9 lb. were caught in Happy Jack River.

N. McBean, Woe Jasper.—A number of 2 lb. fish was taken from the waters of the Lower Goodradigbee River, and there is every indication that fish of 4 and 5 lb. weight are in the waters. Two anglers landed thirty fish averaging $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb. in one day about 3 miles up from the junction of the river with the Murrumbidgee. Mr. McBean also states that Micalong Creek is well stocked with trout and should as time goes on prove of good service in keeping up the supply of fish in the Goodradigbee.

James Waddell, Adaminaby.—Good trout are abundant in mountain streams west of Adaminaby, where big catches have been made.

J. W. Cunningham, Tumbarumba.—Trout up to 5 lb. weight are reported to have been caught in Mannus Creek and Paddy's River, and that a good many of the inhabitants use grubs instead of the artificial fly.

R. G. Whalan, Kenny Hill.—Caught one trout in Nepean River, near Menangle Bridge, with a white grub.

H. B. Whiting, Taralga.—Caught some trout weighing about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in Abercrombie River. D. Mairland, Tumut.—Trout are increasing in Goobarragandra River and in Jounama Creek, and about two or three hundred of small size are caught every week in the season, while in Tumut River trout are to be caught lower down than formerly.

W. M. Boyds, Braidwood.—Caught several 5 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight and one 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in Badja River.

E. H. Ferguson, Wagga Wagga.—Trout up to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. weight were caught in Umbango Creek.

W. T. Edwards, Craigie.—Trout appear to be doing well in Craigie or Little Plains River, and fish up to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight were caught.

A. H. Jefferys, Delegate.—From 200 to 300 trout up to 5 lb. weight were caught in Delegate River.

J. Gale, Queanbeyan.—The streams in the district, Condor, Coolamon, and Peppercom Creeks are well stocked, and trout up to 12 lb. weight have been caught in Upper Queanbeyan River.

S. B. Craig, Yalbrathin, Taralga, has caught trout up to 6 lb. in local waters.

Town Clerk, Mitagong.—Trout appear to be increasing in Baker's Creek, and one was caught weighing 2 lb.

J. McClymont, Carlislefield.—It was reported in the local newspaper that a trout 4 lb. weight was caught in Cadiangolong, near Cadia.

A. L. Hughes, Gingkin.—There is a bounteous supply of trout in the Hollander River, also in the upper portion of the Cowwong and Tuglow Rivers.

A. E. Ivatt, Glanville.—The trout in Winburndale Creek are strong and healthy.

J. C. Wilburd, Jenolan Caves.—There are a good many small trout in the Jenolan River and dams.

- T. A. Nicholte, Bathurst.—A few trout were caught in Macquarie River.
 Town Clerk, Carcoar.—Fair catches of trout up to 5 lb. were made in Coombing Creek.
 O. Smith, Fitzgerald's Valley, Wimbledon.—A few trout up to 4 lb. weight were caught in Reedy Creek.
- J. Wilson, Hampton.—A few trout up to 3½ lb. weight were caught in Duckmaloi River, Binda, and Off Flat Creeks.
- D. Eaton, Titania.—Trout are increasing in the Duckmaloi River, and have been taken up to 6 lb. in the Fish River Creek.
- E. M. Fawcett, Titania.—Have caught about 100 trout, weighing up to 5 lb., in Duckmaloi River.
 H. A. Lake, Shaw.—About 150 trout up to 3½ lb. weight were caught in Coombing Creek.
 A. Squier, Rockley.—Trout up to 5 lb. weight were caught in Campbell's River.
 H. Whalan, Edith.—Individual catches of 16, 17, 18, and 20 trout up to 5 lb. weight were made in the Upper Duckmaloi River.
- W. F. Cregan, Bon Lomond.—A few trout up to 3 lb. weight were caught in Moredan Creek. Trout are plentiful in the Beardy River waters.
- R. Wauch, Btanga Park, Walcha.—A few trout were caught in Cobrabad Creek, with worms and crickets.
- H. Graham, Barraba.—A few small trout were caught in Nanganah Creek.
 W. Gray, Pomona, Ammidale.—Several trout up to 5 lb. in weight were caught in Slynx River, and in Serpentine River trout up to 7 lb. weight were taken.
- A. E. Everett, Ollera, Guyra.—Trout up to 4 lb. weight were caught in Guyra Creek.
 W. Baxter, Marimba.—Fair numbers of trout, up to 3 lb. weight, were taken in Ollera and Moredan Creeks.
- R. Mulligan, Morven, Guyra.—A few trout up to 3 lb. weight were caught in Sandy Creek.
 Town Clerk, Inverell.—Several trout, scaling up to 2 lb., were caught in Swanbrook Creek.
 Town Clerk, Dungog.—Some trout were reported to have been taken in the headwaters of the River near Beach Beson Plain.
- J. T. Ryan, Nundle.—A few trout up to 1½ lb. weight were caught in Wombarrumya Creek and Peel River.
- J. F. Chaffey, Gien Innes.—Trout up to 2 lb. weight were caught in Beardy River, and in Furruga-bad and Waterloo Creeks.
- H. T. Jones, St. Leonards Creek.—Trout up to 4 lb. weight were caught in St. Leonards and Shingle Hut Creeks.
- G. W. Fitzgerald, Bendemeer.—The trout caught were of a smaller size than formerly, the average weight of fish captured in McDonald River being ¾ lb.
- A. M. Cadell, Deepwater.—Trout up to 6 lb. were caught in the headwaters of Deepwater River.
 S. Stephens and Shire Clerk, Gloucester, Moonan Flat.—Trout have done well in head waters of Barrington River.
 W. J. Seargent, Frederickton.—A small trout was caught in a tributary of Pungel Creek.

Prohibitions, Closures, &c., effected during the Year.

The taking of oysters from the areas specified hereunder, were prohibited for a period of one year from the 9th April, 1912, and three years from the 20th October, respectively:—

The whole of the waters of Throsby's Creek (Hunter River), together with all of its bays, creeks, and inlets.

Long and Pearl Bays, Middle Harbour, and part of Sailor's Bay.

A public oyster reserve was proclaimed on the 26th November in the following waters:—

Commencing at a point where the south prolongation of the west boundary of portion No. 64 of 51¼ acres meets the line of mean high-water mark of the northern bank of Tomago River, and running thence generally south-westerly along the line of mean high-water mark aforesaid 2,000 lineal yards.

The use of fishing-nets known as garfish nets were prohibited in the waters described hereunder from the 6th March, 1912:—

That part of Port Jackson lying westerly of a line drawn south-easterly from the southern most extremity of Little Sirius Point to the northern extremity of the eastern side of Wolsley-road, Point Piper.

Also that part of Middle Harbour lying westerly and north-westerly of the punt crossing at The Spit.

The use of a long line, or bulrow, was prohibited in the waters of Lake Macquarie and Black Ned's Bay, described hereunder, from the 13th December, 1912:—

The channel entrance to Lake Macquarie, Black Ned's Bay, and small portion of the lake surrounding the entrance.

The waters described hereunder were closed against the use of fishing-nets:—

Minnamurra River and tributaries, upwards from its entrance to the South Pacific Ocean to the railway bridge crossing that river;

for three years from 4th February, 1912.

Part of Cowan Creek (a tributary of the Hawkesbury River) including the whole of the waters of Jerusalem Bay, together with its tributaries, lying westerly and northerly from lines drawn between Cowan Point and Little Shark Rock Point, and Cowan Point and Shark Rock Point, respectively,

from 13th March, 1912, to 14th December, 1914.

County of Fitzroy, Parish of Woogoolga: the whole of the waters of Woogoolga, Willis and Hems Lakes, and Darkum Creek, together with all of their creeks, lagoons, inlets, and tributaries, for three years from 24th April, 1912.

Deep Creek, Middle Creek, and South Creek, tributaries of Narrabeen Lake, for five years from 27th April, 1912.

That part of Beza River and tributaries upwards from the north prolongation of the west boundary of William Taylor's conditional purchase portion No 38, of 50 acres, for three years from 14th May, 1912.

The tidal waters of Macquarie Rivulet, Yalla Creek, and Horsley's or Muddy Creek, from their entrance to Illawarra Lake, together with all of the respective affluents and tributaries, for three years from 12th June, 1912.

The channel entrance to Lake Macquarie, Black Ned's Bay, and small portion of the lake surrounding the entrance, for three years from 27th June, 1912.

Narrabeen Lake and tributaries,

from 27th June to 31st December and during the months of January, February, March, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December of the years 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and January, February, and March, 1917.

The tidal waters of Ton Thambu Lagoon, and tributaries, for one year from 18th July, 1912.

The channel entrance to Tuggerah Lake and a small part of lake surrounding the entrance, for three years from 25th July, 1912.

County of Dudley: The whole of the waters of Crescent Head Creek or Lake, together with all of its lagoons, creeks, inlets, and tributaries, from 1st October, 1912, to 28th February, 1913.

The whole of the waters of Throsby's Creek (Hunter River), together with all of its bays, creeks, and inlets, from 14th November, 1912.

The waters of Port Hacking eastward of a line drawn from Gunnamatta or Hungry Point to Cabbage Tree or Pulpit Point were opened to net-fishing for a period of six months from 14th May, 1912, and for a further period of six months from 14th November following.

The whole of the waters of Narrabeen Lagoon were opened for meshing nets and for dip or scoop nets from the 27th April to 26th June, 1912, and during the months of April and May in the years 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916.

The proclamation closing the waters hereunder mentioned against the use of fishing-nets was rescinded:—

Port Jackson westerly from a line drawn south-easterly from the southernmost extremity of Bradley's Head to the eastern side of Wolseley-road, Point Piper, but exclusive of Johnstone's Bay and Darling Harbour, and also exclusive of that part of Parramatta River westerly from a line drawn south from Dundas wharf to the opposite bank at Newington.

Middle Harbour and tributaries lying westerly and north-westerly from the punt crossing at The Spit.

The proclamations declaring the nets specified in the Schedules hereunder set forth lawful for use as "mehing" and "hauling" nets respectively in the waters specified in the relative Locality Schedules were rescinded:—

Schedule.

Total length of net, not exceeding 125 fathoms.
Mesh of net, not less than 3 inches.
Depth of net, not exceeding 50 meshes.

Locality Schedule.

That part of Port Jackson together with all bays, inlets and tributaries, including Parramatta and Lane Cove Rivers, upwards from a line from Little Sirius Point to Wolseley-road, Point Piper.

Schedule.

Total length of net, not exceeding 200 fathoms.
Length of bunt, not more than one-third of total length of net.
Mesh of bunt, not less than 2½ inches.
Depth of bunt, not exceeding 250 meshes.
Length of each wing, not exceeding one-third of total length of net.
Mesh of wing, not less than 3 inches.
Depth of each wing, not more than 200 meshes.
Hauling line at each end of net, not exceeding 50 fathoms in length.

Locality Schedule.

That part of Port Jackson, together with the bays and inlets, lying between a line drawn from the southernmost extremity of Bradley's Head to the northern extremity of Wolseley-road, Point Piper, and a line drawn from the southernmost extremity of Little Sirius Point, to the aforesaid extremity of Wolseley-road.

Inland Waters.

The waters described hereunder were closed against fishing generally and by any method of capture for the periods stated:—

County of Buccleuch: Adjungbilly Creek, and tributaries, from its junction with Tunnut River, upwards to its source,
from 6th February, 1912, to 31st December, 1912.

Murrumbidgee River and its tributaries upwards from the junction of Brodho River. Goodradigbee River and its tributaries. Tunnut River and its tributaries above the junction of Goobarra-gandra River. Goobarra-gandra River and its tributaries. Snowy River and its tributaries. Fish River and its tributaries,
from 1st May, 1912, to 31st November, 1912.

Micalong Creek and tributaries from its junction with the Goodradigbee River upwards to its source. Adjungbilly Creek and tributaries from its junction with Tunnut River upwards to its source. Peppercorn Creek and tributaries from its junction with Goodradigbee River to its source
from 1st January, 1912, to 30th December, 1912.

County of Cook: Marangaroo Creek, or Middle River, and tributaries from its junction with Cox's River, upwards to its source,
from 27th January, 1912, to 31st December, 1913, and from 1st January to 30th December in the years 1913 and 1914.

That part of the Snowy River and tributaries (including Kara and Beloka Creeks) upwards from a line drawn south from the west point of entrance to Bulgundarra Creek to a line drawn north from the east point of entrance to Mowamba River,
for three years from 1st May, 1912.

That portion of Jenolan River and tributaries (including the creeks above the Carves House, the upper and lower reservoirs, and the spawning pond) upwards from the notice-board defining the limits of the closure, at a point situated about half a mile north-easterly from the spawning pond,
from 29th May, 1912.

That part of the Cudgong River (flowing past the village of Dabee) and tributaries between a line forming the west prolongation of the north boundary of Edward Cox's portion No. 5 of 827 acres, and a line forming the south prolongation of Edward Cox's portion No. 1 of 1,095 acres,
for three years from 27th June, 1912.

That portion of the Ball River, at Wellington, and tributaries from its junction with the Macquarie River, upwards to the east prolongation of the south boundaries of J. Donahoe's portion No. 11 of 25 acres 2 rods and water reserve No. 1,491, in the parish of Curra, county of Gordon,
for three years from 4th July, 1912.

The waters specified hereunder were closed against fishing generally and by any method of capture except by rod and line or hand-line with not more than two hooks attached:—

That part of the Nepean River lying between the Nepean Railway Bridge, at Penrith, and the junction of Cataract River with that river near Douglas Park,
from 23rd January, 1912, to 31st December, 1912, and 1st January to 30th December in the years 1913 and 1914.

That

That part of the Cudgong River and tributaries upwards from the main traffic bridge at Mudgee to its source in the Great Dividing Range.

That part of the Cudgong River and tributaries, upwards from its junction with the Macquarie River to the north prolongation of the eastern side of Mill-street, town of Kylestone, from 1st January to 30th December, 1913.

The waters described in Schedule "A" hereunder were closed against fishing generally and by any method of capture except by rod and line or hand-line with not more than two hooks attached from 1st October to 31st December, 1913, but the taking of trout by such methods was declared unlawful, though in the waters specified in Schedule "B" the taking of trout by means of rods with artificial flies and landing nets during November was permitted.

Schedule A.

The whole of the waters of that part of the Murray River, together with all its lakes, lagoons, creeks, inlets, billabongs, and tributaries within the State of New South Wales, including the Darling, Edwards or Kyalite, Barwon, Murrumbidgee, Lachlan, Bogan, Macquarie, Castlereagh, Namoi, Gwydir, Macintyre, and Severn Rivers, together with the whole of their lakes, lagoons, inlets, creeks, billabongs, and tributaries and also the whole of the inland lakes, lagoons, and billabongs, whether connected by flow or disconnected with any one of the herein specified waters lying west of the Great Dividing Range in the State of New South Wales.

Schedule B.

The headwaters of Murray, Murrumbidgee, Namoi, Lachlan, Macquarie, Castlereagh, Gwydir, Severn, and Macintyre Rivers, together with the whole of their tributaries. "Headwaters" shall mean and include such portions only of the waters specified in Schedule "B" as trout may be found to exist in.

The waters of the rivers hereunder mentioned, together with their lagoons, creeks, inlets, and tributaries, for several miles on either side of the towns specified, were closed against fishing generally, and by any method of capture except by rod and line or hand-line, with not more than two hooks attached, to take effect from the 1st January to the 30th December, 1913.

Murray River at Albury, Corowa, and Toomswai, Murrumbidgee River at Gundagai, Narrandera, Darlington Point, Carrathool, and Balranald. Darling River at Bourke and Wilcannia, Kyalite, or Edwards River, at Deniliquin. Macquarie River at Wollington.

The waters described hereunder were closed against the taking of any species of trout or salmon by any means whatever:—

County of Selwyn, parish of Selwyn: The whole of the waters of Eight-mile Lagoon, near Tunut River; also, County of Wallace, parish of Kandra: The whole of the waters of Three-mile Lagoon, near Eucumbene River,

from 1st January to 30th December, 1913.

The waters of all rivers flowing through the territory of New South Wales, with all their tributaries and affluents, and also all inland lakes,

from 1st May to 31st October, 1913.

The waters described hereunder were closed against the taking of the fish called "Australian bass" (Eastern), "Freshwater perch."

That part of the Hunter River and tributaries upwards from the bridge crossing the river at the town of Morpeth, during the month of June, 1912.

The whole of the rivers, lakes, lagoons, creeks, inlets, and tributaries, together with the harbours into which they debouch east of the Great Dividing Range, being the whole of the waters flowing through the eastern watershed of the State of New South Wales, from 1st July to 30th October, 1912.

APPENDICES.

A

STATEMENT of Receipts for the Year 1912 :—

	<i>Receipts.</i>	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Fishermen's Licences :—		
1,890 at 5s.	472 10 0
515 at 2s. 6d.	64 7 6
		536 17 6
Fishing Boat Licenses :—		
1,024 at 5s.	256 0 0
254 at 2s. 6d.	31 15 0
		287 15 0
Oyster Vendors' Licenses :—		
269 at £1	269 0 0
45 at 10s.	22 10 0
		291 10 0
Deposits on applications for Oyster Leases	...	1,222 17 10
Rent on Leased Areas	4,543 5 6
Transfer Fees	99 0 0
Fines and Forfeitures	319 10 0
Oyster Spat Collections and Sale of Oysters	...	504 12 0
		Total ...
		£7,805 7 10

Expenditure.

Salaries ...	...	6,124 2 7
Contingencies ...	...	1,847 10 5
		Total ...
		£7,971 13 0

B.

Return showing Imports of Fresh Fish (Oysters) into New South Wales during the Year 1912.

Country.	According to Country whence Imported.		According to Country of Origin.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
New Zealand	cwt. 361	£ 185	cwt. 361	£ 185

C.

Return showing the Imports of Fresh Fish, or Fish Preserved by Cold Process, into New South Wales, during the Year 1912.

Country.	According to Country whence Imported.		According to Country of Origin.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
United Kingdom.....	lb. 228,594	£ 4,705	lb. 228,594	£ 4,705
Canada	19,536	587	18,295	525
New Zealand.....	562,030	11,515	562,030	11,515
Japan.....	300	19	300	10
United States .....	.....	.....	1,241	62
Total	810,480	16,817	810,480	16,817

D.

RETURN showing the Imports of Fish preserved in tins, or other air-tight vessels, during the Year 1912.

Country.	According to Country whence Imported.		According to Country of Origin.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
United Kingdom.....	lb. 2,691,360	£ 59,687	lb. 2,160,722	£ 38,195
Cape Colony.....	17,584	648	17,584	648
Canada.....	824,887	26,827	568,245	19,027
Hong Kong.....	92,278	3,086	.....	.....
India.....	167	13	224	16
New Zealand.....	86,844	5,091	88,930	5,126
Alaska.....	.....	.....	52,300	1,473
Belgium.....	17,708	888	10,285	372
China.....	.....	.....	92,278	3,086
France.....	3,835	215	14,632	1,102
Germany.....	21,320	647	10,474	339
Denmark.....	.....	.....	3,875	78
Italy.....	7,526	363	5,458	300
Japan.....	221,245	5,889	80,716	1,987
Netherlands.....	43,268	1,312	561,576	22,040
Portugal.....	384	7	384	7
South Sea Islands.....	56	3	56	3
Siberia.....	.....	.....	145,729	3,756
Spain.....	162	11	3,162	104
Sweden.....	30	1	190	9
Norway.....	1,281	57	7,436	261
United States.....	2,871,638	91,817	3,087,337	98,631
Total.....	6,901,593	196,562	6,901,593	196,562

E.

RETURN showing the Value of Fish, potted or concentrated, including extracts of, and caviare, Imported into New South Wales, during the Year 1912.

Country.	According to Country whence Imported.		According to Country of Origin.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
United Kingdom.....	lb.	£ 13,967	lb.	£ 13,937
Hong Kong.....	46	.....	.....
New Zealand.....	4	.....	.....
Belgium.....	2	.....	.....
China.....
Denmark.....	46
France.....	1	.....	8
Germany.....	380	.....	91
Italy.....	8	.....	53
Japan.....	96	.....	8
Norway.....	34	.....	96
Russia.....	43
United States.....	3	.....	326
Total.....	14,541	.....	14,541

F.

RETURN showing Imports of Fish, Smoked or Dried (but not salted), into New South Wales, for the Year 1912.

Country.	According to Country whence Imported.		According to Country of Origin.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
United Kingdom.....	lb. 706,313	£ 21,956	lb. 243,662	£ 4,408
Hong Kong.....	13,537	969	.....	.....
New Zealand.....	3,861	72	3,861	72
Belgium.....	3,751	174	.....	.....
China.....	.....	.....	13,537	969
Germany.....	309,500	12,840	42	1
Italy.....	47	1	82	3
Japan.....	39	1	39	1
Netherlands.....	.....	.....	972	20
Norway.....	254,964	9,735	1,022,376	40,024
Portugal.....	.....	.....	7,501	253
Sweden.....	92	4	32	1
United States.....	165	14	165	14
Total.....	1,292,269	45,766	1,292,269	45,766

RETURN showing Imports into New South Wales of Fish, during the Year 1912, not elsewhere included.

Country.	According to Country whence Imported.		According to Country of Origin.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
United Kingdom.....	cwt. 1,027	£ 1,756	cwt. 708	£ 1,100
Canada	378	751	80	134
Fiji	3	6	3	9
Hong Kong	635	2,896	.....	.....
Belgium	1	2	.....	.....
China.....	5	22	660	2,918
Denmark .....	.....	4	119	232
France	4	.....	6	12
Germany	941	1,751	86	167
Iceland .....	.....	.....	291	519
Italy	8	20	8	20
Japan.....	45	51	45	51
Netherlands	245	236	367	331
Norway	192	218	983	1,576
New Hebrides	1	1	1	1
United States	976	1,794	1,274	2,411
Total	4,481	9,571	4,481	9,571

H.
RETURN showing Exports from New South Wales, during the Year 1912, of Fresh Fish (Oysters).

Destination.	Quantity.			Value.		
	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.
Fish, fresh—Oysters—New Pom- meun	cwt. 7	cwt.	cwt. 7	£ 11	£	£ 11

I.
RETURN showing Export, including Interstate Transfers, from New South Wales, of Fish (Fresh, or Preserved by Cold Process), during the Year 1912.

Destination.	Quantity.			Value.		
	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.
United Kingdom	lb.	lb. 12	lb. 12	£	£ 2	£ 2
New Guinea (British) .....	.....	753	753	.....	31	31
Hong Kong.....	.....	750	750	.....	25	25
Straits Settlement	1,496	324	1,820	41	14	55
Japan	200	271	471	8	9	17
Java.....	1,027	612	1,639	33	20	59
New Pommern.....	805	.....	805	35	.....	35
New Caledonia	68	.....	68	2	.....	2
New Hebrides	50	.....	50	2	.....	2
Philippine Islands.....	10,655	4,660	15,320	301	163	464
South Sea Islands .....	.....	20	20	.....	1	1
Total	14,301	7,407	21,708	422	271	693

J.
RETURN showing Export of Fish (of Fish, Potted or Concentrated), from New South Wales, during the Year 1912.

Country of Destination.	Foreign Origin.	Total.	
		Quantity.	Value.
United Kingdom	£ 2	£ 2	£ 2
Fiji	23	23	23
New Guinea (British)	20	20	20
Ocean Island.....	5	5	5
Dutch New Guinea.....	1	1	1
New Pommern	2	2	2
New Caledonia.....	10	10	10
New Hebrides	2	2	2
South Sea Islands.....	16	16	16
Tinor	1	1	1
Total	82	82	82

RETURN of Exports of Fish preserved in tins, or other air-tight vessels, from New South Wales during 1912.

Destination.	Quantity.			Value.		
	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.
New Zealand	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
United Kingdom	4,377	432	4,809	119	5	119
Tanning Island	353	59,058	353	16	16	5
Fiji	59,058	62,259	59,058	1,534	1,376	1,534
New Guinea (British)	62,259	1,560	62,259	1,376	36	1,376
Norfolk Island	1,560	2,906	1,560	36	95	36
Ocean Island	2,906	1,178	2,906	95	36	95
Straits Settlements	1,178	12,087	1,178	36	284	36
Caroline Islands	12,087	514	12,087	284	13	284
Celebes	514	951	514	13	31	13
Dutch New Guinea	951	2,400	951	31	74	31
Japan	2,400	122	2,400	74	3	74
Java	122	17,220	122	3	359	3
Kaiser Wilhelm's Land	17,220	13,804	17,220	359	352	359
Marshall Islands	13,804	45,621	13,804	352	969	352
New Pommern	45,621	37,061	45,621	969	955	969
New Caledonia	37,061	46,598	37,061	955	1,104	955
New Hebrides	46,598	236	46,598	1,104	8	1,104
Philippine Islands	236	160,202	236	8	3,463	8
South Sea Islands	160,202	3,448	160,202	3,463	95	3,463
Timor	3,448	48	3,448	95	1	95
United States	48	.....	48	1	.....	1
Total .....	.....	472,435	472,435	.....	10,928	10,928

L.

RETURN of Exports of Fish, Smoked or Dried (but not salted), from New South Wales during the Year 1912.

Destination.	Quantity.			Value.		
	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.
Fiji	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
Hong Kong	632	674	1,306	25	23	48
New Guinea (British) .....	.....	501	501	.....	21	21
Straits Settlement	114	338	452	4	14	18
Egypt	106	2,383	2,489	4	115	119
Germany	19,222	.....	19,222	1,175	.....	1,175
Java	450	.....	450	50	.....	50
New Pommern	150	.....	150	5	.....	5
New Caledonia	103	.....	103	4	.....	4
New Hebrides	103	224	103	4	5	4
Philippine Islands	100	.....	100	3	.....	3
South Sea Islands	20	967	987	1	42	42
Turkey (in Europe)	20	342	362	1	22	23
Total	2,955	.....	2,955	104	.....	104
Total	23,852	5,429	29,281	1,375	242	1,617

M.

RETURN of Exports of Fish, other (including salted), from New South Wales during the Year 1912, not elsewhere included.

Destination.	Quantity.			Value.		
	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Foreign.	Total.
New Zealand	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	£	£	£
Fiji .....	.....	1	1	.....	2	2
Hong Kong .....	.....	0	0	.....	19	19
New Guinea (British) .....	.....	2	2	.....	2	2
Ocean Island .....	.....	3	3	.....	8	8
Egypt .....	.....	7	7	.....	15	15
Java	173	80	253	162	70	232
New Pommern .....	.....	2	2	.....	3	3
New Caledonia .....	.....	11	11	.....	16	16
Timor .....	.....	65	65	.....	123	123
South Sea Islands .....	.....	1	1	.....	2	2
United States .....	.....	27	27	.....	91	91
Total	173	217	390	162	361	523

Imports.

Description.	Quantity.	Value.
Fresh Fish or preserved by cold process	lb.	£
Fish preserved in tins	810,490	16,817
Potted or concentrated	6,901,593	106,562
Fish smoked or dried (but not salted)	1,292,269	14,541
Not elsewhere included	501,872	45,766
.....	.....	9,571
Total { Fish.....	9,506,214	283,257
{ Oysters	cwt. 361	185

Exports.

Fresh Fish or preserved by cold process	21,708	693
Potted or concentrated	472,435	82
Fish preserved in tins or other air-tight vessels	29,281	10,928
Fish smoked or dried (but not salted)	43,680	1,617
Fish, other—including salted .....	.....	523
Total { Fish.....	567,104	13,848
{ Oysters	cwt. 7	11

RETURN of Fish sold at the Metropolitan Markets, Sydney, also by J. Chinnery at Manly and Newcastle,
for the Year 1912.

O.

Consigned or Received from the following Waters.	Fish.	Crayfish.	Prawns.	Crabs.	Tortoises.
Tweed River.....	baskets. 2,398½	dozens. 1,089	baskets. 53	dozens.	dczens.
Richmond River	7,787½	118	44	.....	.....
Clarence River	36,318½	1	.....	.....	.....
Bellingor River	177	15	.....	.....	.....
Nambucca River	415½	.....	.....	.....	.....
Macleay River	4,348½	836½	.....	.....	.....
Hastings River.....	3,198½	74	.....	.....	.....
Camden Haven.....	3,067	315	75½	.....	.....
Manning River	4,834½	303	.....	.....	.....
Cape Hawke	15,748½	3,879	305	.....	.....
Port Stephens.....	16,669	1,62½	569½	.....	.....
Hunter River.....	1,251	65½	12	.....	.....
Lake Macquarie	13,448	.....	8	.....	.....
Purgessah Lakes	10,606	.....	42	.....	.....
Temagal (Go-ford)	493	5,2½	181½	.....	.....
Hawkesbury River	3,875	71	.....	.....	.....
Pitwater.....	448	.....	.....	.....	.....
Narrabeen Lagoon	13	.....	1	.....	.....
Port Jackson and Parramatta River.....	4,371	19½	909	.....	.....
Botany Bay and George's River	7,269	83	1,041	.....	.....
Port Hacking	736	6½	481	.....	.....
Lake Illawarra.....	6,713	.....	1,062	.....	.....
Mianaurra River.....	124	.....	15	.....	.....
Shealhaven and Crookhaven Rivers.....	3,769	9	.....	.....	.....
Jervis Bay.....	1,436	1	.....	.....	.....
St. George's Basin	1,833	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ulladulla	1,615	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cyde River	457	70	.....	.....	.....
Moruya River	2,671½	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wagonga River	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
Berrigan River	1,608	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bega River	168	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pambula River.....	922	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eden	671	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wonboyn River	16	.....	2	.....	.....
Other places	2,966	2,902	.....	.....	.....
Murray River .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Waters not specified.....	.....	.....	.....	786½	.....
Total	162,211½	10,529½	4,801½	786½	2
Local sales (country)	10,740	796	1,156	78	.....
Total for year	172,951½	11,324½	5,957½	864½	2

RETURN of Prices realised for Fish at the Commonwealth Co-operative Fish Exchange, Redfern., for the Year 1912.

Consigned or received from the following waters.	Fish.	Cray-fish.	Prawns.	Crabs.	Name of Fish.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Twoed River.....	bkts.	doz.	bkts.	doz.	Black bream ... bskt.	20/- to 32/-	15/- to 65/-	20/- to 60/-	20/- to 50/-	15/- to 35/-	15/- to 50/-	15/- to 60/-	15/- to 50/-	20/- to 60/-	20/- to 55/-	15/- to 55/-	10/- to 60/-
Richmond River	6,702 1/2	118	44	...	Whiting	30/- ,, 126/-	30/- ,, 90/-	20/- ,, 120/-	15/- ,, 120/-	16/- ,, 80/-	14/- ,, 110/-	16/- ,, 160/-	12/- 100/-	20/- ,, 120/-	20/- ,, 110/-	20/- ,, 100/-	21/- ,, 12/-
Clarence River	31,622 1/2	1	...	...	Flathead.....	20/- ,, 65/-	22/- ,, 45/-	20/- ,, 48/-	21/- ,, 48/-	16/- ,, 35/-	18/- ,, 40/-	21/- ,, 50/-	18/- ,, 35/-	20/- ,, 50/-	21/- ,, 49/-	20/- ,, 45/-	19/- ,, 45/-
Bellingen River.....	99	15	...	...	Jewfish	7/4 1/2 ,, 10 1/2	-5 ,, 8	-4 ,, -9	-5 ,, -9	-3 ,, -8	3/3 ,, -7	-4 ,, -7	-3 ,, -7	-5 ,, -9 1/2	-9 ,, -9 1/2	-5 ,, 1/-	-5 ,, -9
Nambucca River.....	316 1/2	...	...	...	Salmon	2/6 ,, 27/-	5/- ,, 8/-	.....	.....	.....	6/- ,, 8/-	10/- ,, 15/-	5/- ,, 15/-	8/- ,, 14/-	.....	3/- ,, 9/-	.....
Macleay River.....	3,676 1/2	...	...	...	Mullet	7/- ,, 40/-	3/- ,, 14/-	5/- ,, 20/-	6/- to 30/-	5/- to 18/-	5/6 ,, 20/-	6/- ,, 36/-	4/- ,, 25/-	10/- to 40/-	4/- ,, 35/-	4/- to 30/-	.....
Hastings River.....	1,613 1/2	...	...	...	Leather-jacket ..	7/- ,, 14/-	5/- ,, 12/-	2/6 ,, 13/-	5/- ,, 16/-	2/6 ,, 11/-	3/- ,, 11/-	3/- ,, 12/-	4/- ,, 11/-	7/- ,, 16/-	6/- ,, 16/-	4/- ,, 16/-	4/- ,, 16/-
Camden Haven	2,170	...	...	...	Garfish	25/- ,, 100/-	20/- ,, 70/-	16/- ,, 40/-	8/- ,, 40/-	11/- ,, 30/-	14/- ,, 50/-	15/- ,, 60/-	12/- ,, 50/-	20/- ,, 50/-	15/- ,, 50/-	15/- ,, 50/-	6/- ,, 26/-
Manning River	3,202 1/2	258	40	...	Blackfish.....	6/- ,, 30/-	3/- ,, 14/-	4/- ,, 17/-	6/- ,, 25/-	5/- ,, 15/-	5/- ,, 15/-	6/- ,, 25/-	4/- ,, 20/-	10/- ,, 25/-	7/- ,, 30/-	6/- ,, 20/-	4/- ,, 22/-
Cape Hawke	10,326 1/2	278 1/2	...	...	Silver-bellies... ..	5/- ,, 15/-	4/- ,, 8 1/2	3/- ,, 8 3/4	.....	.....	3/- ,, 8/-	3/- ,, 11/-	3/- ,, 10/-	5/- ,, 15/-	5/- ,, 16/-	4/- ,, 12/-	3/- ,, 14/-
Port Stephens.....	12,776	2,791 1/2	296	...	Yellow-tail .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5/-	.....	.....
Hunter River	330	45	345	...	Tailer	7/- to 25/-	3/- to 20/-	5/- to 20/-	7/- to 22/-	6/- to 16/-	7/- to 16/-	9/- to 21/-	7/- to 20/-	8/- to 28/-	11/- to 21/-	4/- to 18/-	8/- to 17/-
Lake Macquarie	11,313	65 1/2	12	...	Trevally	10/- ,, 30/-	10/- ,, 17/-	8/- ,, 19/-	11/- ,, 20/-	7/- ,, 14/-	7/- ,, 15/-	11/- ,, 21/-	8/- ,, 20/-	14/- ,, 23/6	12/- ,, 21/-	10/- ,, 18/-	10/- ,, 30/-
Tuggerah Lakes	5,930	...	...	...	Butterfish .....	.....	5/- ,, 6/-	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Terrigal (Gosford) ..	377	494	6	...	Mixed Fish.....	10/6 to 40/-	7/- ,, 34/-	11/- ,, 41/-	32/-	14/- ,, 21/-	17/- ,, 24/-	8/- to 31/-	5/- to 31/-	11/- to 30/-	8/- to 31/-	7/9 to 31/-	7/- to 29/-
Hawkesbury River ..	2,500	7 1/2	33 1/2	...	Snapper	-7 ,, 1/2 1/2	-7 ,, 1/1	-8 1/2 ,, 1/5 1/2	-6 to 1/4 1/2	-5 ,, 1/2	-3 ,, 1/3 1/2	-5 1/2 ,, 1/3 1/2	-4 ,, 1/-	-8 ,, 1/6 1/2	-9 ,, -10	-4 ,, 1/3 1/2	.....
Pittwater.....	47	...	...	...	Squire .....	.....	-7 ,, 1/1	-8 1/2 ,, 1/5 1/2	-6 ,, 1/4 1/2	-5 ,, 1/2	-3 ,, 1/3 1/2	-5 1/2 ,, 1/3 1/2	-4 ,, 1/-	-8 ,, 1/6 1/2	-9 ,, -10	-4 ,, 1/3 1/2	.....
Narrabben Lagoon... ..	...	...	1	...	Black Rock Cod ..	.....	.....	-6 ,, -9	-6	-3 ,, -4	-3 ,, -6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Port Jackson and Parramatta River.	1,957	5 1/2	302	...	Flounders	1/3 to 12/6	1/3 to 18/-	-9 ,, 13/-	1/3 to 14/-	1/- ,, 6/9	1/- ,, 15/-	.....	1/- to 10/6	1/6 to 12/-	1/3 to 25/-	1/3 to 24/-	.....
Botany Bay and George's River.	7,015	80	967	...	Soles.....	3/- ,, 10/-	1/3 ,, 18/-	-9 ,, 13/-	1/3 ,, 4/-	1/- ,, 6/9	1/- ,, 15/-	.....	1/- ,, 10/6	1/6 ,, 12/-	1/3 ,, 25/-	1/3 ,, 24/-	.....
Port Hacking	628	6 1/2	479	...	Kingfish	15/- ,, 22/-	15/- ,, 22/-	11/- ,, 21/-	36/- ,, 84/-	.....	.....	10/- to 38/-	.....	.....	90/-	48/- ,, 90/-	.....
Lake Illawarra	5,985	...	932	...	Red Rock Cod bskt.	.....	22/- ,, 30/-	15/3 ,, 36/-	18/9 ,, 30/-	18/-	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Minamurra River.....	124	...	15	...	Gurnet .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10/- to 16/-	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shoalhaven and Crookhaven Rivers	1,819	...	...	...	Eels	4/- ,, 11/-	.....	5/- ,, 14/-	7/6 to 16/-	5/- ,, 9/-	5/- to 16/-	7/- to 12/-	4/- to 10/-	6/- to 12/-	6/- to 11/6	4/- to 12/-	.....
Jervis Bay	1,040	...	...	...	Long Tom	7/- ,, 9/-	4/- to 8/-	4/- ,, 11/-	7/- ,, 11/-	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8/- ,, 14/-	5/- ,, 12/-	5/- ,, 12/-
St. George's Basin ..	1,045	...	...	...	Morwong.....	16/- ,, 22/-	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ulladulla	1,486	...	...	...	Crayfish .....	.....	.....	13/6 ,, 17/-	.....	14/- to 18/-	.....	12/6 to 15/6	7/- to 14/-	11/6 ,, 18/-	13/6 ,, 20/-	14/- to 18/-	13/-
Clyde River	423	70	...	...	Crabs.....	1/6 to 12/6	6/- to 12/-	7/- ,, 14/-	11/- to 14/-	7/- ,, 11/-	8/- ,, 14/-	7/- ,, 14/-	7/- ,, 15/-	8/- ,, 16/-	8/- ,, 20/-	6/- ,, 16/-	7/- ,, 18/-
Moruya River	2,463 1/2	...	...	...	Prawns... measure	-9 ,, 5/3	1/- ,, 6/-	1/6 ,, 6/-	2/- ,, 7/6	2/3 ,, 9/-	.....	.....	.....	3/- ,, 8/-	2/- ,, 10/-	1/3 ,, 9/-	1/- ,, 8/-
Bermagui River	1,026	...	...	...	Oysters	30/- ,, 35/-	22/6 ,, 55/-	30/- ,, 46/-	30/- ,, 42/6	20/- ,, 47/6	32/6 to 38/-	30/- to 35/-	30/- to 35/-	20/- ,, 35/-	30/- ,, 35/-	22/6 ,, 50/-	32/6 ,, 50/-
Bega River	7	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pambula River	35	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eden	108	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wonboyn River	16	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other places	1,216 1/2	2,891 1/2
Waters not specified	669 1/2
Total.....	121773 1/2	8,216 1/2	3,575 1/2	669 1/2													

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FISH Return, Municipal Market, Sydney, for the Year 1912.

Consigned or Received from the following Waters.	Fish.	Cray-fish.	Prawns.	Crabs.	Tor-toises.	Name of Fish.	Prices realised for Fish.											
							January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Tweed River.....	30	Snapper..... lb.	1/6 to 1/5	3/4 to 1/1 1/2	1/6 to 1/3	1/5 to 1/3	1/4 to 1/0 1/2	1/3 to 1/1 1/2	1/6 to 1/1 1/2	1/5 to 1/1 1/2	1/6 to 1/5	1/6 to 1/10	1/8 to 1/3	1/6 to 1/2
Richmond River	1,061	Black rock cod ..	1/3 1/2 to 1/7 1/2	1/6	1/5	1/7	1/6	1/8	1/4	1/8	1/3	1/6	1/3 1/2	1/6
Clarence River	4,537	Red bream..... bskt.	25/- to 6/3	25/- to 5/0	20/- to 5/0	20/- to 6/0	15/- to 35/-	10/- to 40/-	14/- to 40/-	18/- to 41/-	17/- to 50/-	25/- to 90/-	20/- to 45/-	24/-
Nambucca River	178	Black bream	30/-	110/25	60/25	100/40	70/25	80/18	65/43	100/20	80/30	100/40	80/45	70/30
Macleay River	672	Whiting..... ..	18/-	50/18	35/18	32/6	18/35	30/16	30/15	30/18	30/25	41/22	6/40	18/35
Hastings River.....	1,570	835 1/2	Flathead..... ..	1/6 1/2	1/11	1/6	1/10	1/3	1/9	1/4 1/2	1/8	1/3 1/2	1/6 1/2	1/5	1/7 1/2
Camden Haven.....	866	74	...	...	...	Jewish fish..... lb.	6/-	8/5	18/6	12/4	8/4	6/6	12/8	6/11	10/20	6/6	15/3
Manning River.....	550	39	...	...	...	Salmon..... .. bskt.	5/-	30/3	16/5	21/5	25/5	16/5	25/6	26/5	21/10	30/10	30/8
Cape Hawke.....	3,202	19 1/2	...	...	...	Mullet..... ..	6/-	16/5	12/5	10/5	10/6	12/5	12/5	15/8	15/10	18/12	20/6
Port Stephens	1,029	632 1/2	3	...	...	Leather-jacket. ..	15/-	to 60/10	to 35/8	to 30/6	to 24/6	to 30/6	to 21/14	to 40/10	to 35/15	to 45/10	to 40/16
Hunter River	80	45 1/2	25	...	...	Herring..... ..	6/-	30/5	19/5	19/6	17/6	13/5	20/6	25/5	16/15	30/10	25/8
Lake Macquarie	509	...	...	...	...	Garfish..... ..	18/-	25/15	20/15	20/15	20/12	6/20	6/14	10/15	15/15	15/10	8/28
Tuggerah Lakes	4,569	...	8	...	...	Blackfish..... ..	5/-	6/6	5/6	6/6	6/3	6/4	6/5	6/3	6/4	4/10	3/5
Terrigal (Gosford)	116	48 1/2	36	...	...	Tarwhine..... ..	6/-	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8
Hawkesbury River	1,237	43	15	...	...	Silverbellies	6/-	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8
Pittwater	34	...	...	...	...	Yellowtail..... ..	5/-	to 16/3	to 16/6	to 16/4	to 18/4	to 12/5	to 13/6	to 18/6	to 18/6	to 20/6	to 16/5
Port Jackson and Ferra- matta River.	1,933	14	607	...	...	Mackerel..... ..	8/-	20/5	12/6	15/8	16/5	12/6	5/17	6/10	19/5	16/8	18/6
Botany Bay and George's River.	254	3	74	...	...	Tailer..... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Port Hacking.....	8	...	2	...	...	Trevally..... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lake Illawarra	728	...	80	...	...	Pilchard..... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shoalhaven and Crook- haven Rivers.	1,950	9	...	...	...	Butterfish..... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jervis Bay.....	396	1	...	...	...	Estuary perch.. ..	12/6	to 40/12	to 25/12	to 30/12	to 25/10	to 25/10	to 25/10	to 25/10	to 25/10	to 25/10	to 25/10
St. George's Basin	788	...	...	...	...	Mixed fish..... ..	1/6	6/6	6/2	9/2	2/6	2/6	6/2	8/3	10/3	12/4	8/2
Ulladulla.....	29	...	...	...	...	Flounders..... doz.	3/6	12/2	8/3	9/2	2/6	8/2	8/2	9/3	10/3	12/4	8/2
Clyde River.....	34	...	...	...	...	Soules..... ..	3/9	57/3	42/4	51/3	72/9	24/2	8/6	12/7	57/69	108/73	132/7
Moruya River.....	208	...	...	...	...	Kingfish..... ..	12/6	51/12	19/6	18/6	18/8	16/6	12/12	8/12	57/69	108/73	132/7
Wagonga River.....	9	...	...	...	...	Teraglin..... ..	2/6	6/2	3/6	3/2	3/2	3/1	3/1	3/1	3/1	3/1	3/1
Bermagui River.....	642	...	...	...	...	Nannegal..... ..	24/33	24/48	90/6	90/6	30/10	42/10	30/12	24/6	15/50	24/24	12/12
Bega River.....	161	...	...	...	...	Groper..... ..	2/6	5/2	4/6	4/2	6/1	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6
Pambula River.....	887	...	...	...	...	Red rock cod... ..	2/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6
Eden.....	463	...	...	...	...	Gurnet..... ..	4/-	6/3	6/3	6/4	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/3
Other places	1,686	11	2	...	...	Eels..... ..	2/-	1/1	2/6	1/1	1/1	1/3	2/3	1/6	4/2	2/6	3/3
Murray River .....	...	...	...	...	2	Pike..... ..	1/-	to 2/6	1/1	to 2/6	1/1	to 1/3	1/1	2/-	1/6	2/-	1/1
Waters not specified .....	...	...	104	...	...	John Dory..... ..	...	18/21	...	...	...	27/6	6/12	5/12	...	...	...
Total.....	30,416	1,785 1/2	852	104	2	Pigfish..... ..	1/2	6/6	18/6	9/6	9/6	9/5	9/6	6/6	6/12	12/12	12/12	
						Carp..... ..	6/-	6/9	6/6	4/6	6/3	2/6	3/3	4/3	3/6	3/6	3/6	
						Sergeant Baker ..	3/-	to 6/3	5/3	to 4/6	5/3	to 4/6	2/6	4/2	6/2	6/2	5/2	
						Morwong..... ..	6/-	24/3	10/4	12/3	12/4	12/4	12/2	2/6	12/3	12/4	12/4	
						Crayfish..... ..	15/-	21/12	22/13	15/6	20/11	6/15	6/20	18/7	17/6	12/18	18/13	
						Crabs..... ..	2/-	6/1	3/9	9/2	8/1	6/2	6/2	6/1	8/2	9/2	4/6	
						Smoked fish	2/-	30/2	8/1	3/6	12/2	6/2	6/2	8/3	6/6	...	...
						Prawns..... measure	1/-	8/3	8/2	7/9	8/4	8/2	8/5	10/4	10/3	8/2	6/8	
						Oysters..... bag	...	...	...	37/6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
						Turtles..... each	...	32/45	35/30	30/35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
						Murray cod ... lb.	1/8	to 1/11	1/7	1/11	1/7 1/2	1/11	1/8	1/10	1/6	1/1	1/5	
						Perch (fresh- water).	1/6	8/7 1/2	9/5 1/2	8/4	8/4	7/3 1/2	5/4 1/2	9/4 1/2	11/3	7/4	8/6	
						Catfish (fresh- water).	...	...	...	3/-	6/-	...	...	...	...	...	...

R.

RETURN of Prices of Fish realised at Duncan's Fish Markets, Redfern, during the Year 1912.

Consigned or received from the following waters.	Fish.	Name of Fish.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.*	December.*
Bellinger River	bskts. 78	Black bream ... bskt.	35/- to 55/-	30/- to 45/-	35/- to 45/-	30/- to 45/-	30/- to 45/-	35/- to 45/-	30/- to 45/-	30/- to 45/-	40/- to 60/-	35/- to 45/-	.....	.....
Nambucca River	21	Whiting	30/- ,, 50/-	30/- ,, 50/-	35/- ,, 50/-	30/- ,, 50/-	30/- ,, 50/-	30/- ,, 50/-	40/- ,, 70/-	30/- ,, 50/-	40/- ,, 80/-	25/- ,, 60/-	.....	.....
Camden Haven.....	31	Salmon.....	20/- ,, 32/6	20/- ,, 32/6	20/- ,, 30/-	18/- ,, 30/-	20/- ,, 30/-	20/- ,, 30/-	22/6 ,, 30/-	17/6 ,, 30/-	25/- ,, 40/-	25/- ,, 30/-	.....	.....
Cape Hawke.....	1,876	Mullet.....	8/- ,, 20/-	6/- ,, 18/-	10/- ,, 18/-	10/- ,, 20/-	10/- ,, 18/-	8/ ,, 18/-	12/- ,, 20/-	8/- ,, 18/-	18/- ,, 30/-	12/- ,, 19/-	.....	.....
Hawkesbury River.....	116	Leather-jacket ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10/- ,, 15/-	8/- ,, 12/-	10/- ,, 27/6	8/- ,, 12/-	.....	.....
		Garfish .....	.....	.....	16/- to 25/-	16/- to 25/-	18/- to 30/-	20/- to 30/-	.....	20/- ,, 30/-	20/- ,, 35/-	25/- ,, 35/-	.....	.....
Total	2,122	Blackfish.....	8/- to 14/-	8/- to 10/-	8/- ,, 14/-	8/- ,, 16/-	8/- ,, 12/-	8/- ,, 12/-	10/- to 18/-	8/- ,, 12/-	10/- ,, 25/-	10/- ,, 15/-	.....	.....
		Tarwhine .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25/- ,, 30/-	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Tailer .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15/- to 20/-	.....	19/- to 22/6	.....	.....	.....

Remarks.—Markets closed, and business transferred to the Commonwealth Co operative Fish Exchange at the close of June in the year.

* No returns furnished.

Fish Return, Chinnery's Market, for the Year 1912.

Consigned or received from the following waters.		Fish.	Crayfish.
Richmond River.....	baskets.	24	dozens.
Clarence River	130	7	20½
Hawkesbury River.....			
Total		161	20½

Fish Return, Manly Market, Manly, for the Year 1912.

Consigned or received from the following waters		Fish.	Crayfish.	Prawns.
Clarence River	baskets.	29	dozens.	baskets.
Hawkesbury River	15	367	6½	133
Pittwater	13	481	.....	.....
Narrabeen Lagoon.....				
Port Jackson and Paramatta River				
Total		908	5½	133

Fish Return, Newcastle Market, for the Year 1912.

Consigned or received from the following waters.	Fish.	Crayfish.	Prawns.	Crabs.
Hastings River	baskets.	dozens.	baskets.	dozens.
Manning River	12	18	35½	.....
Cape Hawke.....	1,082	6½	6	.....
Port Stephens	344	405½	199½	.....
Hunter River.....	2,844	72	.....	.....
Lake Macquarie	922	.....	.....	.....
Tuggerah Lakes	1,620	7	.....	.....
Waters not specified .....	.....	.....	.....	13½
Total	6,831	501	241	13½

Return of Oysters consigned to Markets from the Waters of the State during 1911. 2

Waters.	Bags of Oysters.	Waters	Bags of Oysters.
Tweed River	544	Hunter River.....	543½
Brunswick River	123½	Brisbane Water	152½
Richmond River	1,102½	Hawkesbury River	2,023½
Evans' River	318	George's River and Botany Bay	2,250½
Clarence River	1,388	Crookhaven and Shoalhaven Rivers	641
Sandon River.....	35	Jervis Bay and Currambene Creek	90
Little River.....	36	Clyde River.....	1,790½
Woolgoolga Creek	2	Murrumbidgee River	5
Bombah Creek	23½	Turres Lake	6
Bellingen River.....	523½	Wagonga River	73
Nambucca River	278	Wapengo Lake	17
Macleay River	266	Nelson's Lake	31
Hastings River	1,449½	Parramatta River	89½
Cathie Creek	12½	Kiah River.....	5
Camden Haven	404	Nalluca River	2
Manning River	1,208		
Wallis Lake.....	697½		
Port Stephens and Karuah River	4,013½		
		Total	20,048½

W.
 RETURN of Oyster Leases Surrendered and Forfeited in the waters of the State during the Year 1912.

Waters.	Surrendered.		Forfeited.	
	Number of Leases.	Area.	Number of Leases.	Area.
Tweed River	4	yards, 1,250 and 6 acs.	.....	yards.
Cudgura Creek.....	2	500.	.....	.....
Bellinger River.....	1	200	.....	.....
Bonville Creek.....	.....	.....	1	500
Clarence River.....	3	700	.....	.....
Nambucca River.....	7	2,500	.....	.....
Macleay River.....	4	700	.....	.....
Hastings River.....	6	800	.....	.....
Camden Haven.....	38	10,656	.....	.....
Manning River.....	14	3,950	4	630
Wallis Lake.....	9	4,387	.....	.....
Port Stephens.....	2	500	.....	.....
Hunter River.....	29	11,783	.....	.....
Brisbane Water.....	3	1,160	.....	.....
Hawkesbury River.....	2	1,650	.....	.....
George's River.....	1	2 rds, yards,	.....	.....
Shoalhaven River.....	3	500	5	1,000
Currambene Creek.....	3	1,122	.....	.....
Cyrala River.....	27	6,380	.....	.....
Wagonga River.....	2	400	.....	.....
Panduhla River.....	.....	.....	3	432

X.

RETURN of approximate value of Boats and the number of Men engaged in the capture of Fish, and
 cultivating Oyster-lease Areas, for the Year 1912.

Locality.	Fisheries.			Oysters.		
	Boats.	Value.	Men.	Boats.	Value.	Men.
Tweed River.....	20	£ 1,185	29	7	£ 41	10
Brunswick River.....	2	30	4	3	15	3
Bryon Bay.....	4	90	12	.....	.....	.....
Richmond River.....	19	917	37	22	364	25
Clarence River.....	78	3,358	133	13	667	18
Nambucca River.....	3	86	6	6	380	6
Bellinger River.....	4	98	8	6	583	6
Macleay River.....	18	795	28	14	583	12
Hastings River.....	12	1,631	25	35	1,234	24
Cathie Creek.....	.....	.....	.....	2	9	2
Manning River.....	18	516	28	17	509	19
Wallis Lake.....	86	2,174	73	8	243	12
Port Stephens.....	53	4,638	90	24	999	24
Hunter River.....	15	397	28	11	243	12
Lake Macquarie.....	69	325	102	.....	.....	.....
Tuggerah Lakes.....	28	782	53	.....	.....	.....
Brisbane Water.....	3	117	6	6	205	7
Terrigal.....	2	218	4	.....	.....	.....
Hawkesbury River.....	36	939	69	38	1,409	35
Pittwater.....	7	210	14	.....	.....	.....
Port Jackson.....	43	850	7	.....	.....	.....
Botany Bay and George's River.....	31	1,033	99	.....	.....	.....
Port Hacking.....	2	75	4	45	1,175	40
Illawarra Lake.....	35	1,776	53	1	12	1
Brackhead to Clifton.....	11	1,200	22	.....	.....	.....
Shoalhaven and Crookhaven Rivers and Jarvis Bay.....	19	1,077	34	8	59	10
Batemans Bay.....	3	61	6	25	620	13
Durras Lake.....	3	65	6	.....	.....	.....
Moruya River.....	3	70	4	2	10	1
Tross Lake.....	.....	.....	.....	1	10	2
Wagonga River.....	1	12	1	4	197	5
Berrigan River.....	7	335	13	3	10	3
Wapengo Lake.....	5	.....	.....	5	8	3
Panduhla River.....	6	93	10	5	31	5
Camden Haven.....	16	546	18	5	160	7
Karubi River.....	12	168	27	45	2,007	45
Nelson Lake.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4	4
Nulliea River.....	.....	.....	.....	1	5	1
Kiah River.....	1	40	4	1	5	1
Browe Lake.....	.....	.....	.....	2	16	2
Murch River, Cutagee, and Wallaga Lake.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bega River.....	1	27	3	.....	.....	.....
Merimbula River.....	4	53	5	.....	.....	.....
Eidon.....	3	60	2	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	615	20,047	1,130	364	10,776	348