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FISH DIVISION

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Report No. 89

REPORT ON A DISEASED PIKE RECEIVED FROM DR. DAVID E. HILLS,
FIFE LAKE, MICHIGAN

The pike was probably taken from Fife Lake although this is not definitely stated.

According to Dr. Hills it was "speared by one of our boys".

The fish was probably taken on the 11th or 12th of February and did not reach us until February 16, 1931.


The pike was twenty-two inches long. State of preservation poor. Surface of fish very dry. Internal organs in no state of preservation for disease determination.

There were five abraded areas on the surface of the fish. Scales and skin had been removed in these places. Three of these were on the right side and seemed to be pussy. There was degeneration of muscle tissue in these areas which was probably the result of bacterial decomposition since no evidence of fungus was present.

Since the fish was in such poor condition when examined there is no possibility of arriving at an absolute conclusion in regard to the abnormal condition. There is, however, strong evidence that a mechanical injury, probably a previous spear wound, was the cause of the trouble.

This report has inadvertently been mislaid, for which we beg pardon.

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH


By Wendell H. Krull
Fish Pathologist