

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

June 6, 1933

Report 217

ON CONDITION OF WALL-EYES IN LAKE MISSAUKEE

Under date of May 26, the following request was received:

"We have had a number of "Wall Eye" Pike planted in Lake Missaukee during the past years but have never taken any from the lake of any size.

"We received over a hundred this spring that were 12 to 18 inches in length for planting, they were planted by men from the Conservation Dep't.

"During the week of May 16th five in number were picked up dead on shore, their tails were half eaten away and around the fins were red streaks, something like chapped hands would look.

"May 24th I caught the "pike" that I am sending to you and he showed indications of the same thing but not so noticeable, still it appeared to be a sickly acting and looking fish.

"If they are not adapted to the waters of this lake we will have to plant them in "Long Lake".

"There were some good sized ones caught from "Long Lake" during the past years season, these lakes was at one time connected by a channel.

Thanking you, I am,

Yours truly,

Paul Lance (Signed)
Conservation Officer
Missaukee County, Michigan."

The pike referred to arrived in good condition, and was examined by Mr. Kwang Wu, parasitologist in the Zoology Department of the University. He located three species of parasitic worms, namely Proteocephalus, sp., Bothriocephalus cuspidatus and Neoechinorhynchus tenellus. These, however, were not present in sufficient quantities to indicate them as a sufficient cause for death or serious disease.

The skin showed some inflamed areas, but whether this was due to some bacterial or protozoan disease or to mechanical injury was not evident.

We can only report that there is some evidence, from Mr. Lance's statements, that the walleyes in Missaukee Lake are diseased, but whether this has been a serious factor in limiting the abundance of walleyes in Lake Missaukee we can not say. The conditions favorable for walleyes are very imperfectly known, and we would have no real basis for a flat statement that the Lake Missaukee was or was not adapted to walleyes.

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

Carl L. Hubbs
Director

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MAY 19 1950
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