

Institute for Fisheries Research

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ON COOPERATION IN CLAM INVESTIGATIONS IN MICHIGAN

By Carl L. Hubbs

In reference to several verbal discussions of the cooperation the University might provide in the current investigation of the clam fishery of the state, we may now report:

1. Mr. Calvin Goodrich, Curator of Molluscs in the Museum of Zoology, agrees to identify scientifically any shells submitted.
2. He also agrees to furnish the Department with a set of the common species of freshwater clams of the state, with scientific and where possible or known to him, the common names. Some slight delay may be expected.
3. He states also that in studying the mussel fauna of the Grand River recently, that he found frequently about the clammer's camps, large numbers of discarded shells of the non-marketable species. He regards the practice of thus destroying non-salable species as bad, from the standpoint of the zoologists, even if the effect of the mussels on the streams be disregarded. The suggestion occurs to us that consideration might be given to legislating against this wasteful practice.
4. In order to allow scientific collecting and investigation of the mussel problems during the summer months, we recommend that any new legislation closing the season on any molluscs contain a provision for excepting

the taking of mussels for scientific purposes under a permit which may be granted by the Department of Conservation.

5. A short and preliminary survey of the mussel fauna of the St. Joseph River will be undertaken at once by the Museum of Zoology, to take advantage of the low water especially favorable for such work. This will be done by Henry Vanderschalie, Assistant in the Mollusc Division of the Museum, and Edwin P. Creaser, also of the Museum. The results of such surveys, insofar as they may affect the clam fishery, will no doubt be available to the Department. This work will be done during the week of September 14.
6. Two zoologists of Marrietta College, Ohio, both with some experience in the study of molluscs, are contemplating coming to this University to carry on advanced studies. One of them is especially interested in mussels, and has done work on the effect of pollution on these molluscs. One of these men might be interested in making a study of the conservation of mussels in the state. We expect to get into touch with these men to discuss this possibility in a very indefinite way.

Signed by Carl L. Hubbs, Director