

FISH CORRESPONDENCE.

Two Letters Relating to Fish Culture in the Great Basin.

A Request for Expert Advice and Recommendation of the Fish and Game Commission.

For the information of your readers and intelligent readers please give place to the enclosed correspondence between Col. Marshall McDonald and Yours truly, A. Milton Moore.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, December 20, 1893.

Hon. Marshall McDonald, U. S. Fish Commissioner, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:—Recently I am beginning to believe that the lake in the Jordan river and Utah lake will prove a fruitful experiment. This I regard very greatly, for at one time we were promised the results from the large enclosures of fry you kindly sent me in 1887 and 1888.

Now have I had from the fry just this year river and lake some two years later. In view of the very heavy fallers, let me ask if it would be possible to obtain from you a few million white fish fry (Carassus auratus) in the next few days.

For Utah lake, these being a fresh water fish, I am confident they will thrive and multiply rapidly in these waters, and they are so much like the chad in appearance, size and quality, they would give a great boon to the Territory.

Great Salt Lake has flowing into it on the southwest the Jordan river, on the east the Weber and Ogden rivers, and on the southeast, Bear river. Between the mouth of these large bodies of water with the Lake there are a great number of smaller streams and springs emptying into it, I am firmly of the opinion that the conditions (climate, soil, etc.) will be well on the west side of the Lake all along the 93 miles of shore water the influence of these streams. I believe that in these waters they would find all the conditions favorable to their growth and development.

Further, I also believe that we have plentiful water in which the water and the common salt of sea salt (California Salts) will find the necessary conditions for them to grow and multiply abundantly, and that we have waters noted in the development of the salt and fresh water terraces and the large bull frog (Rana catesbeiana) there is no such water.

Would it be possible to obtain through your commission the possession and location of an experienced man to examine our facilities for the propagation of the fish above named, so that in our future experiments we may not go about them blindly?

I would be glad to learn that you favor such a venture, for a number of reasons, chief among which is that this is geographically and commercially a central point, well supplied with speedy and efficient distributing facilities, by which fish and fish products can be economically distributed throughout this vast inter-mountain region.

If you favor these suggestions and can send me a thoroughly successful expert (one also well versed in artificial water culture), will you please let me know about what expense will attend his coming, that will be my request, and very greatly obliged.

Respectfully yours, A. Milton Moore.

P. S.—It is impossible for me to assist you in this company with my request, could you give me the name and address of a person willing and competent to undertake this commission, with whom I can communicate? Any suggestion you may feel like imparting on these or kindred matters will be very thankfully received. A. M. M.

The Response.

U. S. COMMISSION OF FISH AND GAME, WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1, 1894.

A. Milton Moore, Esq., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sir:—Replying to your letter of December 20, I beg to say that the problems connected with aquatic life in the Salt Lake basin have often been under consideration by the Fish Commission, and it has been my intention to have a study made of the conditions which exist there, but up to the present time I have had no funds which could be applied for that purpose. I do not seem to be expected to undertake the planting of marine fishes in Great Salt Lake until we have made a suitable investigation of its characteristics, and such action would involve considerable expense, and from our present knowledge of the region, would not seem to offer much prospect of success.

I cannot find, however, that the waters of Great Salt Lake have ever been carefully studied, and as soon as the subject can be taken up, it will give me great pleasure to organize a field party for the purpose of conducting such a survey. I shall, probably, not be able to do so this coming season, as we have sufficient work in hand for the employees who are available for field service, but I may be able to do so in the next following one.

I agree with you entirely in your opinion that the experiments relative to the stocking of these waters should not be entered into blindly, and I am equally desirous of administering them with caution in that respect. I have not a competent expert expert, such as you describe, who could be spared the coming summer, and in fact, those who are best acquainted with the planting and care of aquatic life are the ones who could report upon the conditions of the waters, as being favorable or not for such experiments. It would be more desirable to have a physical examination precede any other work.

I regret to say that I shall not be able to supply you with any white fish fry this year. Our distribution has been entirely exhausted, leaving your letter was received. I think, however, that I shall be able to do so a year from now. Very respectfully, M. RICHMOND, Commissioner.

The Harbinger (Wyming) says that Fred Huntington sent a visit to Missouri, about a mile from town, near the Mattheus ranch. The enclosure forty-one inches from tip to tip.

Hair Death advertisement with decorative border and text.

OGDEN advertisement with decorative border and text.

Notes section containing various news items and reports.

WANTED section with various notices and advertisements.

MONEY BROKERS advertisement.

AGENTS FOR THE WEST advertisement.

Bullington Route advertisement for Denver, Kansas City, and St. Louis.

UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM advertisement with logo.

THE THROUGH CAR LINE advertisement.

Notes section containing various news items.

RIO GRANDE WESTERN advertisement with logo.

WANTED section with various notices.

MONEY BROKERS advertisement.

AGENTS FOR THE WEST advertisement.

Denver & Rio Grande Railroad advertisement.

Tender and Juicy Meat advertisement.

Z.C.M.I. sell them advertisement.

WHOLESALE PRICES advertisement.

COAL advertisement.

LUMBER YARDS advertisement.

Hero advertisement with image of a can.

HIGHLAND Cream advertisement.

SAPOLIO advertisement.

DESERT EVENING NEWS advertisement.

Read The Saturday News advertisement.

German Book of Merit advertisement.

DESERT EVENING NEWS advertisement with large text.