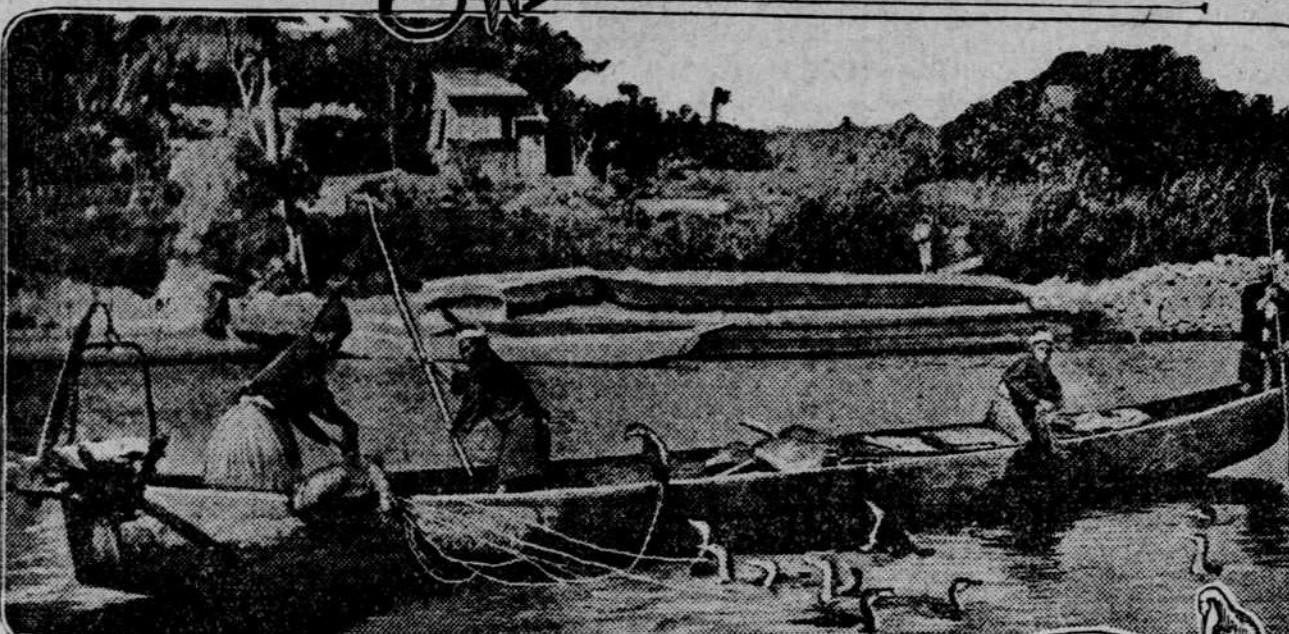


Fishing with Cormorants



FISHERS WITH CORMORANTS: THE BIRDS HARNESSED



FISHING WITH CORMORANTS IN FULL SWING



HARNESING A CORMORANT

JUST as hawks and falcons were formerly used in Europe, not only for sporting purposes, but to replenish their masters' larders with furred and feathered game, so do the Chinese and Japanese still employ trained cormorants, but in their case they are used solely for economic purposes. This may at first appear to be a somewhat primitive method of obtaining fish, yet it seems to be a very serviceable one, and has at least the merit of being exceedingly picturesque. The antiquity of this form of fishing is incontrovertible, and is conclusively proved by the existence of very early Japanese paintings, which, if we allow for a somewhat crude and Oriental treatment, otherwise faithfully depict the sport as it is practiced down to the present day. We have also documentary evidence to show that these birds were similarly utilized in China as far back as the sixteenth century. In many parts of the latter country cormorants are used on still-water lagoons or sluggish rivers, where they are allowed to swim free; but in Yunnan and Japan, where they are fished in swift-running streams, the birds are invariably harnessed.

I have not had the opportunity of seeing them handled by the Chinese, but a few years ago, when on a visit to Japan, I made a point of going to Gifu to study the methods adopted by the Japanese on the River Nagara. Here the season lasts from May to October, during which time the river is visited by a small migratory fish, locally called a. This fish belongs to the Salmonidae family, and is known to ichthyologists as *Plecoglossus altivelis* T. and S. In size, it hardly ever exceeds a foot in length, and is more often only six or seven inches long. The Japanese epicures praise it very highly as a table delicacy, though it

must be admitted that the uneducated Occidental palate usually fails to detect its culinary merits; in fact, when I tasted it, I thought it compared rather unfavorably with the smelt, a fish it superficially resembles. The market value of the fish appears to be comparatively high, so that even if the season be a short one, the cormorant fishers are enabled to reap a sufficiently rich harvest, which more than compensates them for their many months of enforced idleness. But even in midsummer, there are many nights when the meteorological conditions preclude all possibility of fishing. A heavy downpour of rain—and how frequent this is in a Japanese June!—speedily fills the river with a turbid flood that renders fishing wholly impracticable. Nor can the birds do any good on bright moonlight nights, for then, in the beautifully clear waters of this mountain stream, the fish can see their enemies approaching and, moreover, they are not attracted by the glare of the great, faring braziers which are placed, in the form of an iron basket, on the bows of each of the vessels.

On the Nagara the mode of fishing is for some six or seven boats to work in company. These drift slowly down stream for eighteen or twenty miles in the form of an open line that usually extends right across the river. As a rule, each boat possesses about fifteen or sixteen cormorants. These are controlled by means of reins attached to a small collar round the bird's neck, which serves the additional purpose of preventing all but the tiniest fish being swallowed outright. The man standing in the bows, and therefore deriving full benefit from the light of the brazier, has some twelve birds in his charge, while the less experienced man posted amidships usually controls four or five only. The dexterity of these fellows is really one of the most remarkable

features of the whole proceeding. It seemed inexplicable how one man could manipulate so many birds—swimming and diving as they were in all directions—without their rels becoming hopelessly entangled. Yet by sorting them with a lightning hand-over-hand movement, these leads were always kept clear, and never once did I see a man in real difficulties. When a cormorant has completely filled its gullet, it naturally takes no further interest in the proceedings, and will then swim idly upon the surface. When this is observed, the unfortunate creature is promptly hauled in board, and by a gentle but firm pressure of the hand it is forced ignominiously to disgorge its booty, whereupon it is thrown back to recommence its thankless task. In this way a single bird will account for a large number of fish during the night, and as the flock numbers upwards of a hundred individuals, the total catch is sometimes considerable. In the morning, when all is over, the cormorants are allowed to rest on the gunwale of the boat, each bird, known by name, having its allotted perch, which it defends with angry croaks and pecks should a neighbor dare to dispute its right. The birds are absolutely fearless of their masters, and can be freely handled.

There could hardly be a more interesting experience than to follow a flotilla of cormorant boats at work on a still midsummer night. Even the Japanese themselves appreciate the picturesque of the proceedings, and every evening numerous boatloads of spectators may be seen on the river awaiting their arrival at Gifu. The fishing appears to be at its best in August, during which month the late Mikado used frequently to visit the scene.

The great braziers—huge, crackling baskets of flame—cast a strange and lurid glare over the surroundings. In their dazzling light the brightly illuminated figures of the fishermen seem to stand out with almost unnatural sharpness against the velvety blackness of the night, while the men's harsh cries of encouragement, the loud clatter of their oars, and the showers of hissing sparks falling upon the water all add to the weirdness of the scene.

Cormorants are apparently not very difficult to train, and have been used in Europe for sporting purposes far more often than is generally supposed. Early in the seventeenth century James I. was enamored with the sport, and appointed someone "Master of Cormorants," while he even went so far as to have ponds cut in a meadow-land near Westminster for the reception of various kinds of fish which were to be afterwards captured by his tame birds. Of recent years the well-known falconer Captain Salvin proved highly successful with his cormorants, and there are still some French sportsmen who keep these birds for their own entertainment.

Not So Crusty.
Though immortalized by Tennyson, "Christopher North" was not without his amiable side.

Everyone was at a loss for a reply except the judge's youngest student. Offering the judge his own chair and bowing low he replied with gravity: "To your absence, sir."

The boy was put on salary the following week for truthfulness.

To the Nursery of Earth.
"Say, mamma, was the baby sent down from heaven?"
"Yes, Willie."
"They must like to have it quiet up there, hey, mamma."

Equal to the Occasion.
The eminent traveler who was giving an illustrated lecture threw a picture of a celebrated Japanese upon the screen.

"This," he said, "is a portrait of Admiral Togo, I wonder if any little boy or girl in the audience has ever heard of him or can tell me what made him famous?"

Bobby Shortall raised his hand. "Well, my son?"

"He's the man they named the Salrey Toga trunk after."

SLUMS OF EDINBURG

Canyon-Like Streets in the Poorer Quarters.

City is Not Without Beauty—Princes Street Said to Be Most Impressive of Any Throughfare in Europe.

Edinburgh.—Edinburgh has slums that look and smell the thing they are. There is something not only forbidding, but almost threatening in the canyon-like streets of the poorer quarter, with their huge grim tenements built of uncompromising stone and rising high above the sunless streets. One meets on the Old North bridge, which spans the gulf between two high portions of the town, pale-faced women hooded in their shawls, and bearing in their faces and vice. One sees also on that historic bridge, however, many a lovely girl's face, many a daughter of the people such as inspired some of Burns' finest love songs. The land is manifestly full of native vigor, and the commonfolk show the discipline of the struggle that they and their ancestors have long waged with a thin soil, a difficult topography and a climate somewhat niggardly of sunlight and warmth.

Edinburgh still deserves its ancient name of Auld Reekie, and between its boldly magnificent topography, its self-generated smoke, its stormy skies, and its frowning and monumental architecture, it has a sort of grandeur hard to match in other and gayer cities. Holyrood is surely a plain enough royal residence, but where in any other town is there so nobly and almost insolently dominant a pile as Edinburgh castle. It gives the final touch of something like domesticity to that aloof and high-set mass of gloomy architecture to see at night the gleam of lights through a few of its long, slitted windows. Nothing can be finer than the sudden holes of after-sunset brightness that appear in the stormy skies of Edinburgh on summer evenings. These aspects of the sky suggest



In the Canongate.

nothing less majestic than a Mitonic war of the heavenly hosts.

It has been said that Princes street of Edinburgh is the most impressive in Europe, and if any such assertion is to be accepted it owes its truth not so much to the highway itself and its buildings and monuments as to the amazing topography of Edinburgh, some of whose noblest features lend a sort of awful dignity and splendor to Princes street. The marvelous view of the castle and its slopes would alone give Princes street the highest distinction, and the castle and its steep constitute only one of several noble eminences within view. The broad gardens, too, are rich and lovely, and there are fine old historic structures along the highway, while the Scott Memorial really does not look like a church engulfed by an earthquake with its steeple still above ground. As a matter of fact the monument, with that amiable and studious seated statue of Sir Walter Scott within, is a dignified and beautiful thing, even though it has to vie with the austere and awful steep crowned with the vast and wandering pile of Edinburgh castle.

HUBBIES MUST POUND ROCK

New Pennsylvania Law is Put into Operation for the First Time.

Philadelphia.—When six deserting husbands were sentenced to three months' work breaking stone at the house of correction by Judge Bregy there was put into operation for the first time in Pennsylvania a new law, passed by the last legislature, which the court declared would materially reduce the cases of wife desertion in this state.

The law empowers the court to commit recalcitrant husbands to the house of correction, there to be placed at some profitable employment at hard labor, and provides that 65 cents a day shall be deducted from their earnings and paid to the wife. The minimum sentence is three months, but this may be extended to six months if the husband shows no willingness otherwise to support his wife.

Heretofore the only punishment within the power of the court in this state was a jail sentence, leaving the man's wife and family to be taken care of, in many instances, by charity.

Bags Eighty Billion Germs.
Baltimore.—Having bagged eighty billion germs in the wilds of Ecuador and Peru, Dr. Andrew W. Sellards of Johns Hopkins university has arrived here, and will proceed to make a scientific study of the creatures at short range. Among the collection are yellow fever, bubonic plague and uta, which is really South American leprosy.

LEADER OF THE NAVY ACADEMY ELEVEN



Captain Gilchrist.

Under the able direction of Captain Gilchrist, and backed up by Coach J. A. Reilly, who played halfback at New Haven two years ago, the midshipmen of Uncle Sam's Naval academy are being put through their practice games in preparation for the big game with their gridiron enemies of Uncle Sam's Military academy.

CHANGE IN RULES IS ASKED

Players' Fraternity Draw Up Demands and Stars Will 'Hold Out' if Magnates Refuse Them.

If the members of the baseball players' fraternity stand pat on their demands made on the major league magnates and the latter refuse to give in to their aims, there should be a wholesale holdout when it comes to signing contracts next year. A number of the big league stars have already agreed to hold out if the demands of the fraternity are turned down.

A series of demands were drawn up recently and will be placed in the hands of the magnates during the winter, after which they will be submitted to the national commission with the request that they be made part of the laws governing organized baseball. It was said that already 65 per cent of the members of the players' fraternity have endorsed the proposition.

Four important demands are under consideration, it is understood. They are:

- No player who has been a member of a major league club for ten years shall be given other than his unconditional release.
- No player who has been a member of a major and minor league club, inclusive, for 12 years shall be given other than his unconditional release.
- No player who has been carried on a major league's pay roll until July shall be released to the minors unless waivers are secured from the 16 clubs of the American and National leagues.
- A major league club owner shall be prohibited from carrying a player who has an opportunity to play on another major league club until the late months of the season, thus taking advantage of the time when the teams are carrying many recruits, to send the player in question to the minors.

Denver Race Meet.
Along with the other brands of sport Denver is chosen for the classic racing meet of the 1914 season. John M. Kuykendall is back of the scheme and he says he will bring some of the best horses in the country there in competition.

Cobb Lauds Yankees.
Ty Cobb declares that the Yanks have improved about 70 per cent through the addition of their recruits and predicts that next year they will be in the fight all the way.

PHILLIPS.



Left Tackle on Princeton Team.

SCHEMES OF GRIDIRON

Real Football Player Is Thinking Every Minute of Game.

Rule Which Allows Punting Anywhere Behind Scrimmage Line Permits Revival—Officials Must Watch the Ball Closely.

With the playing of the opening games of the 1913 football season, close followers of the game, especially those who played under the old rules, are watching with interest the manner in which the players take advantage of the rules, some of which permit foxy players to "pull off" the unexpected if certain plays are used at the proper time.

Although the rules have not been changed to any great extent, there are many ways in which a heady player can keep his team out of danger by carefully sizing up the situation and ascertaining the plays which might work the best when his team is crowded near his own goal line. A real football player is thinking and scheming all the time, and it is this type who generally makes a name for himself.

The rule which states that when a forward pass is thrown out of bounds before striking the ground in the field of play the ball shall go to the opponents at the point where it crossed the sideline, is one which has not been taken advantage of enough. There are many players in a squad who can hurl the oval 40 or 50 yards with the accuracy of a baseball. If a coach is fortunate enough to have such a player this man should be carried along for this specialty.

Under the ruling which allows a re-substitution of a player at the beginning of the second and third quarters and at any time during the final period, a player who can throw the ball out of bounds 30 or 40 yards down the field is a valuable asset. If a team is close pressed and finally takes the ball away from its opponents on the one or two yard line, the natural thing to do is to punt the ball as far out of danger as possible.

In striking contrast to this method of preventing a team from scoring would be the sure, safe method of throwing the ball out of bounds 30 or 40 yards down the field. Even if the wind were blowing against the oval the passer would get more distance to his throw than a kicker, for the simple reason that the ball is thrown in a spiral fashion, thus allowing the ball to bore through the air and with a definite direction. The defensive team has no chance of receiving a free trial at the goal, and there is no chance of the catcher running the ball any distance.

This play was used sparingly last season, especially in the early stages. Near the close of the year the coaches used it more, and soon discovered the value of a man who could throw the oval a long distance with accuracy. The preliminary practice every season is devoted to kicking and throwing the oval, and the coaches now should have a good line on the men who are most adept in handling the ball.

The change in the rules which allows the ball to be kicked from any point back of the scrimmage line is sure to bring back the on-side kick, considered by many to be one of the most valuable ground gaining plays.

As the rule this season permits the kicker to boot the oval from any position, the old on-side kick is sure to come back into its own and be used a great deal. The play will be all the more valuable because the ball is free property the moment it strikes the ground, whereas in the old days the oval had to be touched by an opponent before one of the kicking side could recover it. As a result there is going to be plenty of scrambling for the ball, so the officials will have to be on top of the play all the time to award the oval to its logical owner.

Although these plays should come in for a lot of consideration by coaches and players, there are other points which are of invaluable assistance to a team if the players carry out instructions. The point regarding a player stepping out of bounds or fighting to cross the side line when he is cornered is a most important one. When a team in possession of the ball is crowded within two yards from the side line the offensive eleven is in a "hole" and its chances of gaining ground mightily slim.

The players always should remember to fight to get out of bounds when tackled close to the boundary. It is almost impossible to gain ground on the wing close to the side line and it is almost as hard to make any headway on the wide side because the defense is shifted over to meet an expected attack. If a team is forced against the boundary it is much better to lose a down by sending a play out of bounds than it is to try to gain through the line or on the wide side.

Think Term Unfair.
A letter writer questions the use of the term "Big Three" as applied to Harvard, Yale and Princeton. He thinks it unfair to Penn, Cornell and Dartmouth. Its origin dates from 1874, when Harvard took up the game and the triangular tournament came into existence, Princeton having adopted the game in 1869 and Yale in 1872. Penn did not take up the game until 1876, Dartmouth in 1882 and Cornell in 1887.

Reward for Maranville.
President Gaffney of the Boston Braves says that when his contracts for 1914 are made out Shortstop Maranville will get the biggest increase in pay. Maranville's salary this season has been but \$1,800. He likely will get \$2,000. And it is said for him that he has never intimated that he ought to have a raise.

Mack Wants Felton.
Manager Connie Mack, usually regarded as a most conservative bidder for ball-playing talent, recently made a record offer of \$15,000 a year to Sam Felton, a Harvard college pitcher. Felton is also a star quarterback in football. He has a small fortune in his own right and turned down the Mack offer.

FOOTBALL IS MADE A "SPECIAL STUDY"

Football has been advanced to the dignity of a "special study" at Wesleyan university this year. The faculty announcement made at the opening exercises included this statement, and assigned Daniel Hutchinson of the University of Pennsylvania, as special football instructor, assisted by Doctor Fauver, professor of physical education.

Under this faculty indorsement a winning football team is expected.

TALBOT.



Left Tackle on Yale Team.

PLAN A. A. U. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ten-Mile Run, Seven-Mile Walk and Two Cross Countries Will Be Held in Vicinity of Gotham.

A mail vote on the holding of the ten-mile run championship, seven-mile walk, junior national cross-country and senior national cross-country championships for 1913 has been called for by James E. Sullivan, chairman of the championship committee of the Amateur Athletic union of the United States.

It is planned to hold all these championships in the vicinity of New York. In all probability the ten-mile run and seven-mile walk will be held on November 29, at a place to be selected later. The junior and senior cross-country championships will probably be held over the national course at Van Courtland park on November 8 and 15, respectively. The intercollegiate cross-country championships will also be held over the Van Courtland park course November 22.

Preserve Tennis Balls.
Tennis balls can be preserved in usable shape for an indefinite length of time if they are kept absolutely dry. They lose their resiliency and become "dead" before they are worn out, because dampness decomposes the rubber. An air-tight box containing a substance that will absorb moisture and prevent decomposition has recently been patented, as well as a similar air-tight case for protecting tennis rackets from moisture.

International Shoot.
Switzerland won the international team shooting match at Camp Perry, O. The Swiss team has won the prize for many years. The shooting was with free rifles on the 300-meter range, 120 shots—40 standing, 40 prone and 40 kneeling. Switzerland scored 4,957 points, France 4,771, United States, 4,577 and Sweden 4,571.

GATHERING PEACHES IN GEORGIA



Typical Scene in a Southern Orchard Where Negro Girls and Women Do the Fruit Picking.

PAID HIM TO BE TRUTHFUL

Youngster Also Proved His Ability to Get Himself Out of a Tight Situation.

County Judge Albert H. F. Seeger of Orange county, N. Y., is a lawyer who doesn't believe in wasting time during office hours, and his office force devotes the daylight of six days a week to work.

Some years ago the judge went away for a Saturday afternoon and his

clerks invited all the young law students of Newburg to spend the afternoon at their office. The judge returned unexpectedly for some additional papers he wished to use, and the air was filled with tobacco smoke and idleness when he entered.

"To what unexpected good fortune do I owe the visit of so many young people?" Inquired the judge, with a smile at the array of young men whose muddy shoes were resting on the top of his polished mahogany desk.

To Clean the Serpentine.
It is estimated that it would cost £30,000 thoroughly to cleanse the Serpentine, where, now that the school holidays have begun, boys may bathe at all hours of the day, yet it cost only £6,000 to construct. This was in 1730, when Queen Caroline had it formed from ten separate ponds, fed by the River Westbourne, which they ran across the park into the Thames at Chelsea. After this river became polluted by the increase of population on its banks it was turned under-

ground, and the Serpentine water has since been drawn from wells, which also supply the Round Pond and the lakes in Buckingham palace grounds and St. James' park.—London Chronicle.

Gifted.
"I am convinced," said Mr. Meekton, "that women are especially qualified for the duties of statesmanship."
"Why?"
"Because most of the women I have known were natural born lecturers."