

THE GREAT OUT-DOORS

Edited by EDWARD CAVE.



If you decided to try your hand at catching the leaping "silver king" of the Gulf of Mexico, the tarpon, would you get the strongest rod you could and try to catch the "daddy of them all"; or would you select a rod weighing only six ounces, yet measuring six feet or more in length, and use a six-strand line, the smallest and weakest made for salt water fishing? The latter is the "three-six" tackle used by the lightest of light tackle anglers. We believe that W. C. Oliver, of Birmingham, Ala., who caught this 215-pound, six-foot, eleven-inch tarpon, would have been justified in refusing any bribe to exchange his big rod and thirty-six-strand line for lighter tackle while fighting that fish.

Courtesy Ashaway Line & Tackle Mfg. Co.



At present Grand Lake Stream, in Maine, is full of ice, but in almost no time at all fishermen will begin to sprout in it. The reason father or brother has not been himself lately is that he is full of the annual impulse to so sprout—perhaps not in Grand Lake Stream, although it is one of the "fishiest" we know, but somewhere. This famous stream and the lake of the same name are among the best of Maine's land-locked salmon waters. And the land-locked salmon fishing comes first of all, as soon as the ice goes out. In this swift water salmon averaging two pounds in weight pull like ten-pounders—and jump like sixty.

Courtesy Boston & Maine R. R.



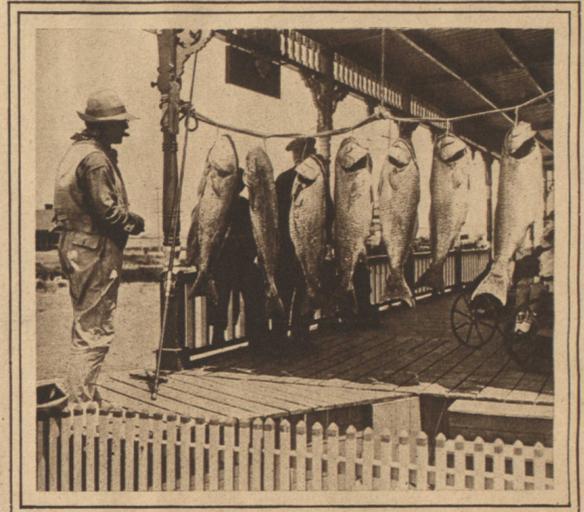
Did you ever catch a flounder? Perhaps not. Perhaps you would as lief try to catch an eel. But a flounder is not as bad as he looks—and on the table he is decidedly good company. Furthermore, he is approachable. Any ordinary citizen with a day off and some small change may make his acquaintances in one of the several bays around New York. Lots of us have done so, with profit to mind and body and very small expense. These men are typical of the best class of flounder fishermen in a typical bay power-boat.

Photo by T. L. Briggs.



The world's biggest prize for the rod and reel angler is the broad-billed swordfish. This tremendously strong and most dangerous of the ocean's game fish is not easily hooked, and very few men have been so lucky—or unlucky—as to get tied to one. This, the heaviest swordfish ever killed with rod and line according to rules laid down by the Tuna Club of Santa Catalina Island, Cal., was taken last September by Hugo R. Johnstone, of Hamilton, Mass. It weighed 362 pounds, and was brought to gaff in two hours and forty-five minutes. Heavier fish of this species were taken by other fishermen last year, one weighing 365 pounds, another 377, and another 404; but their captors were disqualified for various reasons. The Atlantic sword-fishing center is Block Island, but no such fish have yet been taken in that vicinity with rod and line.

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Some men never will bother with fish so small as trout or so plebeian as flounders. Luckily for such, if they live near New York, it is possible for them, on their weekly days off, to catch some of the finest of the big fish in the sea. The two surf fishermen who landed these seven channel bass, weighing from twenty-eight to forty pounds each, are New York business men who fish at Barnegat Beach.



If your friend John happens to be a blown-in-the-glass trout fisherman, and is looking for the fishing experience of his life, he ought to know about the Gunnison River, in Colorado. However, if he has not already been there, its name probably means no more to him than the Amazon means to you. There is a little town out in Colorado famous among trout fishermen. If you ever get a letter from John post-marked "Cebolla," be sure that you will hear about it for the rest of your life.

Courtesy Denver & Rio Grande System.



If you don't want to wade for your fish (the water's too cold early in the season, anyhow), you can troll for 'em from a rowboat or a canoe in Grand Lake, Sebago Lake, Long Pond, Songo River and Square Lake. Of course we're neutral, but here is a young man, George Trusty, who fishes out of the last named lake land-locked salmon that weigh up to eight pounds. Sebago Lake, the old homestead of the Sebago salmon, has produced fish weighing up to twenty pounds and more; but that was years ago, and the big ones were caught in a weir. Today an eight-pound land-lock is a good fish. Ask 'em about Square Lake.

Courtesy Boston & Maine R. R.