

"When the Frost Is on the Pumpkin," It Is a Good Time to Skitter, Troll or Stillfish for the Fighting Pickerel

A WALK AND TALK WITH KIT CLARKE

Famous Eighty Year Young Angler Says He Feels "Forty Years Old."

THE SUN FAVORITE PAPER

By ALEXANDER M'D. STODDART.

Kit Clarke, noted angler, who has fished with Presidents, 80 years young and feeling about 40 years old, invited a Sun reporter yesterday to accompany him on one of his daily walks.

"Meet me," said the youthful angler, "at the Brooklyn Public Library, Linden avenue branch, at 2 o'clock, and if you arrive first get a book and learn something about fishing; if I arrive first I'll get a book and learn something about fishing, too."

Mr. Clarke lives in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, where as a young man he shot rabbits. For years he has spent three months of the twelve in the out-of-doors, has made it a practice of walking daily, and at reaching the four score milestone he is merely pleasantly fatigued after a two, three, four or five mile walk as his inclination leads him.

Recently he walked fifteen miles in a day. The walk he likes best, because of its interesting associations, is from Mill Creek, Flatbush, over to Fort Hamilton, five miles from where he gets off the Flatbush avenue car line. No one who sees the straight figure frequently on Clarendon road, Kings Highway or on the Bergen Beach or Canarsie road would think of calling Mr. Clarke old.

He enjoys smoking, and casually remarked in reply to a query if he had a certain limit that he smoked usually from twelve to fifteen cigars a day. Yet he is no crack on health and has no fads. He says the natural condition of man is to be in robust health. It is unnatural to be sick, and the man who dies before he is 70," he adds, "kills himself."

Mr. Clarke is a just a plain, common sense man who keeps abreast of what is going on in the world, fishes a little, plays a game of draughts occasionally and reads much, books, magazines and newspapers. In fact, although he owns an early and many other editions of Frank Walton and has a roomful of books on angling, one of his pet hobbies is to haunt old book stores and pick up books on angling that he cares for.

Likes to Write for "The Sun."

To recall the names of fishermen he has fished with is to call the roll of famous anglers of the other days, only one of whom is now living, Charles Hall, founder of Forest and Stream, now living in Washington, D. C.

He fished with Grover Cleveland many a time in Buzzards Bay, and among his other angling intimates were Thaddeus Norris, Seth Green, Fred Mather, William C. Harris, George W. Sears ("Nessmuk"), Alvin Dunning, Charles F. Murphy (not of Fourteenth street, but the maker of the first split bamboo fly), Amos J. Cummings, Wallace Eugene Blackford, Basford Dean and others.

Some of these anglers left books for the present generation, and Mr. Clarke himself is the author of two, "The Practical Angler" and "Where the Trout Hide." One of them he wrote because he had to stay indoors for many years recovering from pneumonia. He is averse to writing any more books, although he has scraps filled with his writings.

"Why should I write another book to leave behind me," he said to the writer, "I'd rather write for The New York Sun any publication on earth. My friends meet me as I go about, they greet me heartily and say 'I've read your stuff, old boy, in last Sunday's Sun, it's great.' This is why I don't want to leave a book. Besides, I've got twenty years ahead of me, and I'd rather have the handclamps of the people of today while I am here because they won't do it after I'm gone, and I'm sure that there are any nice trout brooks in heaven."

Fond of Weaks With 4 Os. Rod.

Mr. Clarke likes weekending in Flatlands Bay because it is near his home and he can make a day's trip out of it. With Louis Rhoad, artist and author, writer of half a dozen books, including "Angler in the Stream," and "The Book of Fish and Fishing," he goes in season to catch a few fish and make a day of it.

Incidentally that brings up Mill Pond, Flatlands, lying between the Sheepshead Bay Speedway and the old town of Flatlands. This body of water looks like a beautiful inland lake. Its sloping sandy shores being as clean as when the British in August, 1776, crossed from Staten Island to Gravesend and moved across Flatlands to Flatbush and compelled Gen. Washington to retreat, a number of skirmishes taking place across the land where Mr. Clarke led his men yesterday.

Mill Pond washes the shores of William C. Whitner, old Sheepshead Bay estate that included the famous Sheepshead Bay racetrack and John Lett's farm. When the British arrived at Flatlands they built a mill to grind their flour, which is still standing today preserved by the Whitney estate. This mill is so situated that the water-power drove the wheel and the water was dammed, permitting its use as needed.

Thousands of weakfish and striped bass come into the pond to be employed to see that anglers do not angle there. Everywhere are signs, "Fishing Prohibited." To give added authority, both Whitney and Lett have ordinances passed forbidding fishing. "By Order of the Borough President."

Mr. Clarke presides for weakfish with a four ounce rod with a split bamboo fly, and as a result weakfish and striped bass no longer are found in the section where formerly they were plentiful.

RECORD TUNA AND BASS TAKEN ON NEW JERSEY COAST; GEESE SHOT IN GREAT SOUTH BAY.



August Kubler, New York angler, and the largest striped bass caught this year on the New Jersey coast. Weight, 50 pounds, 14 ounces. Ferrand photo.

BATTERY SHOOTING NOW IN FULL SWING

Ducks and Geese in Great South Bay Region Lured by Decoys to Gunner.

BRIGHTWATERS, L. I., Nov. 4.—Sportsmen are having the season of their lives, hunting for wild fowl. First come snipe and railbirds, then plovers, and finally ducks and geese. The first of these birds will keep them busy until the expiration of the season.

Ample ducks have already rewarded their time, and now the battery season is in full swing. The battery is a float, such as is used in baiting, surrounded with decoys. On the float the gunner stands, and picks off the fowls as they plunge down among the decoys and again as they rise after the first shot.

Maybe the same flock won't come again, after losing part of their flock. Very few another flock will come and still others get a liberal education. High winds after the best of snipe and geese. The birds are difficult for them to rise and get started against the blows of a gale. During their efforts to get started many of them fall before the gunner.

The greatest sportman of Brightwaters has his home in the Bay section. In form of his yard is the ground containing an extensive range of snipe and geese. The harbor, on the eastern side, is entered and left by automobile. His garage is in the rear of his house. His boat is moored in the bulkhead of the harbor by means of a float of his own.

The harbor by the way, was excavated from Great South Bay to the Merrick or South Country road, one mile long, 175 feet wide and 20 feet deep.

In summer he sails forth to favorite haunts on the bay for fish. He knows where to find a snipe, and where to find a plover, and where to find a duck. He knows where to find a large weakfish. He knows where the bluefish may be caught when they are in the bay and the chances where they may be treed for when present and "breaking."

But just now the gentleman sportsman is interested only in wild fowl shooting. He boards his motor cruiser and anchors somewhat distant from his batteries. Then he takes a small dingy or rowboat and goes to his battery. With the same small boat he retrieves his game.

After gunning an afternoon, he divides, on his return, his bag with his friends or gives them a game dinner.

CANNERS LIKE GRAYFISH. Highly Pleased With Excellent Quality of Dogfish.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 4.—The United States Bureau of Fisheries has started a campaign in the interest of the dogfish, which is now to be known as the grayfish. Progress is reported for recent months, and three of the best canners in the United States are actively engaged in packing the fish.

They express themselves as highly pleased with the excellent quality of the fish, and the economy with which it can be handled.

"The value of the by-products is an important factor in making it possible to provide a high-grade food product at a low price," says the bureau. "Considering the fact that the appropriation authorizing the work was not granted until the latter part of June, and that nothing could be undertaken before then the bureau is fortunate in the prospect of a peak ample for its needs."

The destruction of the grayfish and the extent to which it has interfered with heretofore poor profitable fisheries has caused the fishermen to regard it with such aversion and regard it as a pest which they are endeavoring to exterminate by the exercise of considerable persistence that they can be induced to catch them or even bring in those caught on hooks set for other fishes.

"An interesting feature of the campaign is the complete change in the fishermen's attitude after they have had some experience in the fishery, and the interest which they exhibit in the bureau's plans regarding it."



Capt. Charles F. Ackerson and wild geese shot at Brightwaters, Great South Bay, L. I. W. H. Ballou photo.

November Best Month for Catching Pickerel

By GEORGE L. BUGEY.

The trout fisherman has hung his pet pickerel as a true pickerel himself in the first rush and your fish begins.

I have seen pickerel break water two and three times, and this on fifty or sixty feet of line is very liable to make things interesting. When the lure is a live minnow the pickerel should be permitted to have the bait. Let him run, you won't lose him.

When he starts his second run, then, and don't let him have any slack line, for if you do you are liable to lose the fish. Having secured the pickerel, take pains that your fingers do not get caught in his mouth, as you will find his teeth are very sharp.

Pickerel are like human beings in their capriciousness, but in their appetites. Sometimes when their stomachs are filled nothing will tempt them but a tiny smelt, just as a man or woman might only take a bite of food at the end of a meal with a demitasse.

Still Fishing Lazy Man's Way.

There is one other way to fish for pickerel and that is by still fishing. This method has followed mainly by those who do not care to fish for the pickerel. It has been aptly termed "the lazy man's way." With the exception of the time the same lures are used in still fishing as in skittering and slow trolling.

Skittering Method of Fishing.

There are many who are fond of other ways to fish for pickerel. You'll find them in the country. Some do not fish for pickerel, but for what is known as the skittering method. All that is needed for the skittering method is a motor boat, some tackle, a few live minnows, and a line the length of the job, as well as a line the length of the job to the end of the line. Now the pickerel is very shy and will not bite unless he is in a position to strike. He will not bite unless he is in a position to strike.

Aunt Jane Aids Uncle Sam. Tells How to Breed Fish, Which Government O. K's.

"To breed fish," writes Aunt Jane to The Sun, "you cut and scale the fish, cutting it into five equal slices. Sprinkle it with a little salt and pepper, dip it in olive oil, and broil it slowly over a wood fire for seven or eight minutes on each side. When nicely browned, place the fish on a hot platter, and spread over it a sauce made of two ounces of butter, one lemon juice and a little chopped parsley."

World's Record Swordfish Catch.

AVILA, CALIF., Nov. 4.—James W. Dunn of Los Angeles, Cal., who was mentioned in The Sun recently for catching five spears weighing between 126 and 160 pounds, fishing with his own bob and jig, A. W. Wilson, the other day brought in ten swordfish, establishing a new world's record.

Trotting Glee Fun.

Another favorite method of fishing for pickerel is by slow trolling. A spinner or minnow is used for a lure. Fifty or seventy feet of line being put out behind the boat, which is towed by a small motor.

When the fish strikes he is allowed to take the bait for a moment and is then hooked and landed in one motion. The fish coming into the boat with a rush.

ANGLER WAITS TWO YEARS FOR A BITE DO FISH GRAB THE FISHERMAN'S BAIT?

W. C. Boschen, New Yorker, Seeks Gamest Pacific Fish That Swims.

SWORD AND SPEAR FIGHTS BAIT SIZES DISCUSSED

Sunshine Avalon, washed by its waters of blue, witnessed a scene recently somewhat unusual for a day not a holiday. Whistles blew, sirens screeched and horns added their ruck. Almost every boatman and angler of the Pacific coast were on the pier. All of them were there to part with the New York Times, who was starting East. The man was W. C. Boschen, all around sportsman and good fellow, who spends the summer days out of doors angling for big game fish and the winter days duck shooting.

Mr. Boschen was the first angler to take the swordfish on rod and reel. This was in 1913, the year that he got his record swordfish. It weighed the high mark of the Tuna Club until just before the close of the summer season this year. This 255 pound swordfish—the greatest fish found in this habitat of water—was off beaten by Haco H. Johnston's fish, seven pounds heavier.

This year Mr. Boschen's heaviest swordfish weighed 216 pounds, which won third prize for the largest fish of the season. Duffin arrum eluding him out of second place with a swordfish of 222 pounds.

Mr. Boschen brought to gaff this season several swordfish weighing 229, 243, 244, 272, 274, 280 and 316 pounds. He fishes exclusively for swordfish, or broad-bills, as they are termed at Catalina.

Recently Mr. Boschen's capture of swordfish on rod and reel, the spearfish was classified as swordfish. The distinction has now been made clear. There is only one true swordfish, the gladius. The other is the spearfish, which could be called a swordfish if it were not for the fact that the fish are quite different.

The bill of the broadbill swordfish is so broad that it is known as the broadbill. It is 3 1/2 feet long when the species is grown and is flat and wide, and at the base has a width of from 4 to 7 inches, terminating at a point. Also the meat is entirely different.

The swordfish, on the contrary, has a round spear about 1 1/2 inches thick, 18 inches long, and looks exactly like the sailor's marlinpike, from which it receives its name.

Swordfish are like human beings in their capriciousness, but in their appetites. Sometimes when their stomachs are filled nothing will tempt them but a tiny smelt, just as a man or woman might only take a bite of food at the end of a meal with a demitasse.

Incidentally the New Yorker once had a swordfish on his line for ten and a quarter hours. He was so patient that he lost it at the last minute, when the boatman had his hand on the leader.

Mr. Boschen fought the fish all day long. The hours lengthened into night, and the trade winds had blown up into a small storm. The fish had fought for a distance of twenty-five miles, which was a record for the fish.

Another fish fought by Mr. Boschen for seven hours, another for four hours and a half and several for four hours. The 255 pound record fish fought his captor for 4 hour 52 minutes only.

The swordfish is a very lowly creature. The fish is a very lowly creature. The fish is a very lowly creature. The fish is a very lowly creature. The fish is a very lowly creature.

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BAG LIMITS REDUCED. OPEN SEASON CHANGES.

Various States Place Restrictions Upon Hunters' Game.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 4.—During 1916 bag limits on several of the various game birds were reduced.

Georgia reduced the number of deer and turkeys that may be taken from three to two each a season and prescribed a limit of fifteen a day on quail.

Mississippi restricted the killing of quail to ten a day.

Manitoba reduced the limit on ptarmigan, prairie chicken and partridge from twenty to fifteen a day and from ten to fifty a season, and on ducks from fifty to forty a day after October 1.

Clubs Seek Cod and Blackfish. The following clubs will fish today for cod, blackfish, whiting and haddock.

CLUBS SEEK COD AND BLACKFISH.

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At 10 o'clock, the following clubs will fish for cod, blackfish, whiting and haddock.

At 11 o'clock, the following clubs will fish for cod, blackfish, whiting and haddock.

At 12 o'clock, the following clubs will fish for cod, blackfish, whiting and haddock.

At 1 o'clock, the following clubs will fish for cod, blackfish, whiting and haddock.

At 2 o'clock, the following clubs will fish for cod, blackfish, whiting and haddock.

HIGH WATER FOR LOCAL ANGLERS FROM NOV. 4 TO NOV. 12.

The following table shows the high water for local anglers from Nov. 4 to Nov. 12.

Nov. 4 10:30 A.M. 11:30 P.M. Nov. 5 11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.

Nov. 6 11:30 A.M. 12:30 P.M. Nov. 7 12:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.

Nov. 8 12:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. Nov. 9 1:00 A.M. 2:00 P.M.

Nov. 10 1:30 A.M. 2:30 P.M. Nov. 11 2:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.

Nov. 12 2:30 A.M. 3:30 P.M.

IRON STEAMBOAT CO.

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ROD AND GUN.

BLANKISH AND LIND.

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AMERICA.

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Campbell, 10 Broadway.

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