

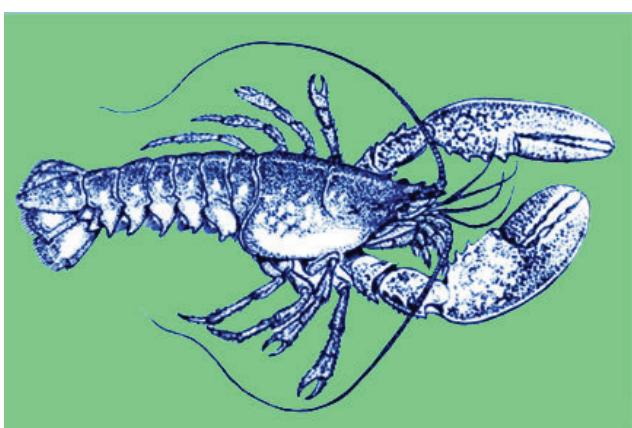
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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

YANKEE LOBSTERS



From The Daily Morning Astorian, Jan. 23, 1889:
• Thirty boxes of lobsters arrived yesterday morning from eastern waters (off Massachusetts). Of the 30, 27 were taken on the Gen. Canby to Cape Hancock (Cape Disappointment), where they were “planted” in Pacific waters; two were sent to Shoalwater Bay, and one to Gray’s Harbor.

... Mr. Johnson, the gentleman now in charge of the lobsters, believes that there are about 200 lobsters in the lot, and that each lobster contains from 20,000 to 30,000 eggs. ... They are original Yankee lobsters.

Note: So what happened? The Oct. 19, 1889 edition included a follow-up story:

“The first fruits of the effort, seen by The Astorian’s reportorial force, was showed last evening by Captain J. A. Brown ... who had a sure enough young lobster in his lily-white hand (taken from Shoalwater Bay) ...

“He, the lobster, was as big as a tarantula. ... Send the news abroad that eastern lobsters are thriving in western waters.”

“Thriving” was quite an overstatement. Despite being introduced to Pacific Northwest waters several times, even up to the 1960s, they didn’t thrive at all.

The CanadianEncyclopedia.ca explains: “Although American lobsters seem able to survive in the Pacific, there is no evidence that any of the introductions has resulted in a reproducing population.” And now you know.

FORMIDABLE FROSTY



Probably because of the utter disappointment at the lack of promised snow recently, the following Jan. 14 headline on CBC.ca was an attention-grabber: “Corncob pipe and button nose: Giant snowman towers over Alberta acreage.”

The Canadian snowman in question, built by Rob Sarvas, owner of Sarvas Construction, as a Christmas present for his 2-year-old granddaughter, is 23 feet tall. It took him four days, using an excavator. “Hat is made from a tarp and chicken wire,” his wife, Janet Sarvas, posted on her Facebook page, “corncob pipe and button nose” are cardboard.” Her photos of the snowman are shown, via CBC.

Frosty also has a sled hill on his back, and snow stairs. Those so inclined could even climb on top of his head.

“My husband is very skilled with his machines,” Janet told CBC. “It’s a 3-acre property but about an acre of it now has almost no snow because Rob scraped it up. He scraped up a lot of snow to make that snowman.”

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN’ ... OF YOUNGS BAY

WILD YOUNGS BAY COHO SALMON

OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES WITH COHOS NETTED IN YOUNGS BAY AT THE MOUTH OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER. SPECIAL THANKS GO OUT TO THE CREWS OF THOR SEPPA’S PREDATOR AND BILL IVANOFF’S FIN POWER FOR LANDING THESE SILVERS IN ONE HOUR ‘SHORT-SETS.’ FISHING IN THIS MANNER ENSURES THE BEST POSSIBLE HANDLING OF THESE NUTRIENT-RICH AND FLAVORFUL FISH.

Wild Salmon Taraki Roll WITH CRISPY SALMON, DAIKON SPROUTS, AND POKE SAUCE	11.95
Wild Salmon Cakes WITH GRAIN MUSTARD, DILL, AND LIME GLAZE	10.25
APPETIZER	17.45
DINNER	

Fun rerun: When Jim Capellen of Astoria recently visited his family in California, they went to dinner at King’s Fish House in Calabasas.

The menu is huge, and right smack in the middle, prominently featured in the “Today’s Regional Specials” section, were Youngs Bay salmon:

“Our journey continues with cohos netted in Youngs Bay at the mouth of the Columbia River. Special thanks go out to the crews of Thor Seppa’s Predator and Bill Ivanoff’s Fin Power for landing these silvers in one hour ‘short-sets.’ Fishing in this manner ensures the best possible handling of these nutrient rich and flavorful fish.”

The Ear has been to Calabasas, and thinks it’s a mighty unlikely place to find Youngs River salmon. Even so, Capellen’s daughter went shopping the next day at her local market, and what did she find? You guessed it ... Youngs River salmon. (*In One Ear*, 11/13/2009)



DIRT FISHIN’ FIND

“I usually don’t dig in the winter time, but due to the king tides we had last week, I decided to hit a certain spot that might lead to some good finds,” metal-detecting enthusiast and Astorian

Don Kelly of the Northwest Artifact Recovery Team (fb.me/NorthwestDiggers) noted in a Jan. 19 Facebook post.

“Well, besides digging tons of trash I decided to dig along the tide wall, and sure enough all my experience paid off as I unearth my first ever flying eagle one cent piece, dated 1857.

Just speculating, but I think it washed up against the tide wall during the king tides. Shifting sands smoothed it out, I’m thinking.” Don’s photos of his find are shown.

According to CoinValues.com, the coin was designed by James B. Longacre and made of copper-nickel; 17,450,000 coins were minted in the two years the penny was issued, 1857 and 1858. By the way, 1 cent in 1857 would be worth 30 cents now.

“It’s more about the history to me,” Don explained, “but in the condition it’s in, (it’s worth) around \$30 to \$50. Uncirculated coins fetch \$450, and if a proof coin is ever found, it’s worth \$30,000.”

“If you heard a loud scream about 10 a.m. this morning,” he added, “I’m sure it must have been me. Gotta love dirt fishin’ — I know I do! Bucket lister for sure!”

‘WHAT’S NEW?’

Open Forum

What’s new? Perhaps you might want to call the topic ‘Small Town Friendliness.’ Burger King has the nerve to come to Astoria!

Columbia House Condominiums

“I have been digging through boxes,” Astoria’s favorite ex-patriot Daymon Edwards (who now lives in Korea) wrote, “... (and) ran across something you might be interested in. This letter to the editor appeared Nov. 14, 1987 ... it was timely then, timely now — very little changes.” The title is “What’s new?”

Here’s the letter: “‘What’s new in River City?’ you ask. Well, you might want to call the topic ‘Small Town Friendliness.’ Burger King has the nerve to want to come to Astoria!

“Columbia House Condominiums are up in arms again with stories of devaluation of property and traffic hazards, same line used against the proposed hardware store. It wasn’t too long ago when the condominiums went through the process to build. The residents on the hill with river views said the same thing about the proposed prison-like structure.

“Dairy Queen received a public funds loan to remodel, and what a fine use of the money. Everyone connected with the project said how it would help the community. Other restaurants in town didn’t like the idea at all.

“Enter McDonald’s. What a joy it is to get out onto Marine Drive from their drive-through going west. They received an award from their parent company for landscaping. Did the judges go to the back facing Bond Street?”

“The tree limbs slap you in the face as you walk by, cardboard blocks on the sidewalk and the mansard roof-line doesn’t even go across the back. This kind of false front devalues the property on Bond Street.

“We live in a free enterprise system. Most of the aforementioned like it, as long as they are the first on the block.

“Please do us all a favor. Work hard on your own property and don’t volunteer for the promotion or welcoming committee of Astoria. Daymon Edwards, 330 Bond St., Astoria.”

Does the complaint sound familiar? The letter was written over 30 years ago, yet it’s timely, indeed.

THE POWER OF SHARING



“In late December, the Seaside Police Department was contacted via email about a phone that had been found in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in front of Ladder Company 3 of the Cambridge Fire Department,” Jon Rahl, Seaside assistant city manager wrote.

“The phone was dead, but the firefighter managed to charge the iPhone and promptly discovered the lock screen had an image of a couple standing in front of the Tillamook Head Trail. The firefighter located where this trail-head was, and reached out accordingly with an image of that lock screen.” The screenshot is shown.

“On Jan. 6, (the Seaside Police Department) posted a photo of this locked screen and sought the public’s help in perhaps locating this phone that was found 3,100 miles from the location where the photo on the phone was taken.

“The Facebook post reached more than 20,000 people, was shared more than 300 times and, ultimately — assisted by a local Verizon store employee who was able to use his connections — (we were able) to determine the owners.

“Those owners were Oregon City residents, and were extremely delighted to get their phone back, and the photos they had taken, which had been missing since an October vacation to Massachusetts.” The couple even sent a thank you note (bit.ly/phonethx).

“An interesting aspect of this story,” Rahl added, “is that the phone was left in a rental car at Boston’s Logan Airport and discharged before the couple realized it was missing. How it then made it to the edge of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Campus in Cambridge is a mystery, but the story illustrated the good that can come from social media when using the power of sharing.”

A PLEASANT MEETING



From the Jan. 23, 1887 edition of The Daily Morning Astorian:

“Four years ago, Capt. Bergman and his daughter were washed overboard from the vessel the captain was commanding, in a storm off Cape Flattery. A sailor named Brown rescued them from drowning.

“About a month ago the Harvey Mills foundered off that same terrible coast, and Brown the sailor, was one of the three that were tossed about on the stormy water. They were saved, and as luck would have it, it was Capt. Bergman, now of the ship Majestic, that saved them.

“Each man had saved the other’s life, and the meeting, as can be readily imagined, was a pleasant one.”

Note: Brown’s rescue was miraculous. When the Harvey Mills foundered on Dec. 14, 1886, eight escaped on two hastily built rafts; 12 stayed on board. The next morning, one raft and the ship were gone.

Jacob Brown and the remaining crewmen were adrift for four days with no food or water, with seas constantly breaking over them. One went insane and jumped overboard to his death; Brown and the rest were rescued by Capt. Bergman. (bit.ly/LewDry)

‘SEND ME ...’



Need a fine art fix? The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, which has over 34,000 artworks in its collection, is only a text away.

Text “send me (whatever)” to 57251, keeping it as simple as possible, and see what happens. For example, some sample requests are “send me something purple” or “send me trees.” Shown, a reply to “send me ocean,” Sibyl Anikeef’s “Little Sur River Mouth No. 2” circa 1940.

This sure beats the alternative. The museum’s website (sfmoma.org) says: “If you were to walk past each artwork currently on view, you would walk almost 7 miles. To show the museum’s entire collection at once would require the construction of another 17 SFMOMAs, and you would need to walk the equivalent of 121.3 miles to see each piece.”