

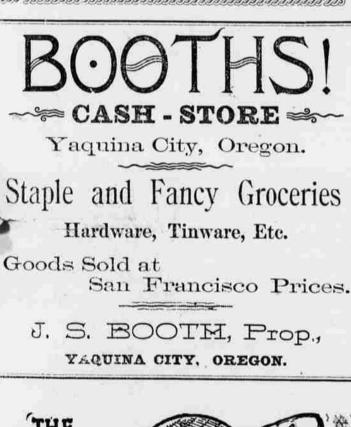
TOO LATE! TOO LATE!!

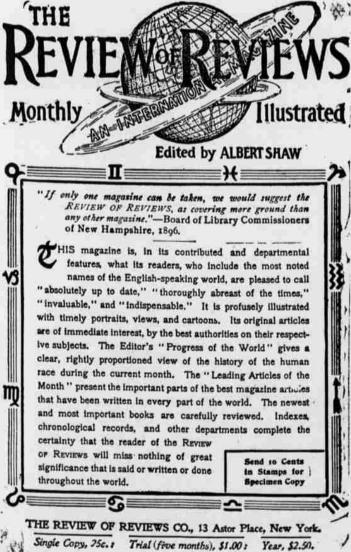
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The Habits of Salmon.

(Continued from last page.) time. While my experiments have uot determined this part of the question, I have no doubt as to the correctness of Mr. Buist's view regarding the same, and the record ever, by later developments I am volume of fresh water than any of shows that it was generally accept- satisfied that where the natural the rivers of Oregon or California, ed at that time. However, as regards the migration of the first for spawning are situated near the ply of that species to the detriment crop 18 months from time of spawn- head waters of long streams, if the of the smaller streams. That this ing, I think my observations sub- young fry hatched from their eggs is not the case is shown by the destantiate the results of Mr. Buist's experiments, as though from situ- character or habits may become in the Columbia, while the coast ation, I was unable to keep the such a measure changed as to streams are holding their own or young fry in ponds until they cause a portion to wander to ad- increasing in supply. would migrate of their own volition. jacent waters, perhaps to a distance I turned them out in a creek near of from 50 to 75 miles. I am com- homing instincts of the salmon is by from whence I took the water pelled to believe this for the reason found in the fact that many of our by a ditch to supply ripening ponds that about the time I built my coast streams become barred by and hatchery, and 18 months from hatchery on Rogue river, I also sand owing to heavy westerly swells spawning, a good number came engaged in salting salmon on the during the running time of the down the ditch into the ripening Coquille river, and at that time the salmon natural to the stream, and ponds and from thence proceeded into the bay. These were about 7 different in appearance from those mon laying close to the mouths of inches in length, bright, shiny and of Rogue river, but within the past such streams, and often trying to showed the smolt spots very plainly. five years I have inspected the runs get into them by taking an overland This happened every year that any of this character of salmon, on the trip, although there was an open number was turned out from the Coquille river and find them identihatchery.

first crop, which migrate to the sea. for believing that the salmon native regular proceedure on the part of Regarding the migration of those to a particular stream do not go salmon by residents of the coast. which remain until the second very far from its mouth during the The fact that some fish may be year, although no positive proof time they spend in the sea, is that taken which have been branded has been shown by the experiments each river has salmon which are with peculiar hieroglyphics, I think in this country, to my mind the different in marking than that of is no proof that such salmon have proposition has much support, by another, and the fact that by an taken trips to the Orient, as we the fact that immense numbers of artificial change in their conditions have so many people that are wagfish wheels in the upper waters of near at hand does not prove to the the Columbia, the identity of which | contrary. has been a matter of speculation to those interested. These may be the parr, and there seems good the coast streams from the Sacrathe lower river, although millions salmon, it nowhere arrives to the rivers of Japan. have been caught at the Cascades condition of fatness and flavor as and above. Another fact is that in the waters of the Columbia, the smolt loses its spots during the Rogue, Klamath and Sacramento. for the silvery brightness and lack idea that salmon migrated to great of smolt spots of the small fish distances, as in that case the run sidered the same as the grilse, or the blueback, which is taken with The fact that the young return in are much greater in size, having the time so materially that they increased largely in girt, and shaped | could make no long journey before treated this last important question, time necessary for feeding, to acthe next proposition, viz: Where count for their astonishing increase is there sea habitat, etc.? will re- in weight each year. ceive our attention. During the by cutting off the adipose fin and that three or four months later the mouths of the rivers to which Stormontfield. mature fish were taken bearing this is no way to determine what quanmark several years later.

experiments with the marked sal- instinct inborn in the salmon that mon were made in 1879, and as I in a general mix up the Columbia was satisfied that salmon returned being among the most suitable for to their birthplace, I did not con- the development of this species, by tinue the experiment further. How- means of sending to sea a greater spawning grounds of the fish taken she would draw to herself the supare turned out near the sea, their crease in the supply of chinook in "Salmo Quinnat" were entirely at such times I have seen the sal-

This I believe fully supports Mr. at the same season of the year, in been observed by hundreds of peo-Buist's statement regarding the Rogueriver. Among other reasons ple, and is considered a matter of very small samlon are taken by the some wander into another stream gishly inclined, and I am inclined

The fact also that while the "Salmo Quinnat" is common to doubting that the work was done reason to believe so, from the fact mento to the Columbia, and also to the species common to the waters that none of this kind are taken in Alaska, where it is known as king of Coos bay are found in any of the second year, which would account This would seem to preclude the taken in that part of the Columbia. of one year would not be identical These must not, however, be con- in character with that of another, for reason of the general mix up. semes in the lower river, when re- the grilse form and remain some turning from the sea, as the latter time in the tidewater, would shorten up to a form nearer like that of the it would be the season for them to adult salmon. Having sufficiently come again, to say nothing of the

The well-understood principle experiments at Stormontfield, and that great activity is not conducive just previous to the departure of to increase in weight and fatness the young smolts. Mr. Buist says would seem to indicate that instead necessary legislation in the journal that quite a number were marked of making long journeys, when at having the largest circulation in sea, the salmon remained very near

the fishermen at those rivers. These were there not some natural homing

Another support to the proof of river many times the size within a cal in every particular with the run distance of three miles. This has to believe that such salmon had been branded near where they were discovered. Another reason for on the coast of Asia is that none of

In conclusion I would refer to the necessity of additional legislation for the preservation and propagation of salmon in the rivers of Oregon, for reason that from the pressure which the product of the Fraser river and Alaskan waters put on those operating the fisheries of Oregen there is great danger that the industry will be lost to the state. All matters pertaining to legislation for the preservation of the supply should be placed with a board of commissioners selected from among the best minds of the state who have made a study of the subject, and this commission should before the sitting of each legislature acquire all the data possible to submit to each branch thereof, and prior to the sitting publish such findings as they would suggest as the state, that the public might have full notice, and free discussion be had, that the legislators might be well informed, and the introduction of "cinch" bills or the passage of bad laws be thereby prevented. Under the present system it is difficult to give adequate protection and at the same time enable the people to take in their different seasons those fish which are suitable for food supply, as the laws at present furnish in greater degree protection to the steelhead than to the chinook, thereby doing as much harm as good for reason that the steelhead is of the least value commercially and one of the greatest of the trout salmon. The greatest protection afforded this species the greater the detriment to the run of "chinook salmon." What we require are laws that appeal to the citizen as being based upon common sense and good reason; therefore not to be more honored in the breach than observance, which is largely the case under those existing at present. After careful examination and passage the laws should be strictly enforced if any good is to be derived."

mon so marked had been taken by

quite a number of these marked they common, and that the reason fish were taken in the Firth of Tay for the difference in degrees of and adjacent waters. As to the fatuess of the same variety of salfact that some of these marked fishes mon would be found by a considerwere taken as stated by Mr. Buist, ation of the fact that those rivers we have a living witness in the mentioned take their rise in everperson of Mr. Geo. Harris, a worthy lasting snow, the melting of which Scot, who resides near Chetco, Or., causes a large flow of fresh water who was connected with the Tay to extend to the ocean, and by that fisheries during the time that Mr. means produce a better feeding-Buist made his experiments at ground for its salmon than those shorter streams which take their In conducting my experiments, rise in the mountains of the coast. I followed the plan of Mr. Buist in However, let the theory be correct holding a portion of the young fry or not, the fact as to the quality in the ponds, but as I was not pre- remains, as well as that of the pared to feed them until they were chinook, or "Salmon Quinnat," ready to go of their own accord, I being found in very limited quantikept them only five or six months, ties north of the Columbia, until at which time they were about 4 Prince William's sound is reached. inches in length, when, after mark- and neither there nor in any of the ing quite a number by cutting off streams from thence to the Yukon the adipose fin, I turned them loose. are there any streams in which they Some of these were caught as grilse are plentiful. This last-mentioned weighing five or six pounds and stream not being developed, there

tity of salmon it way carry, but as We also had reports from both it is frozen a good part of the year the Coquille river in Oregon, and it is doubtful if the "Salmo Quin-Smith river in California, that sal- nat" are plentiful in that section. Thersfore it would seem that

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