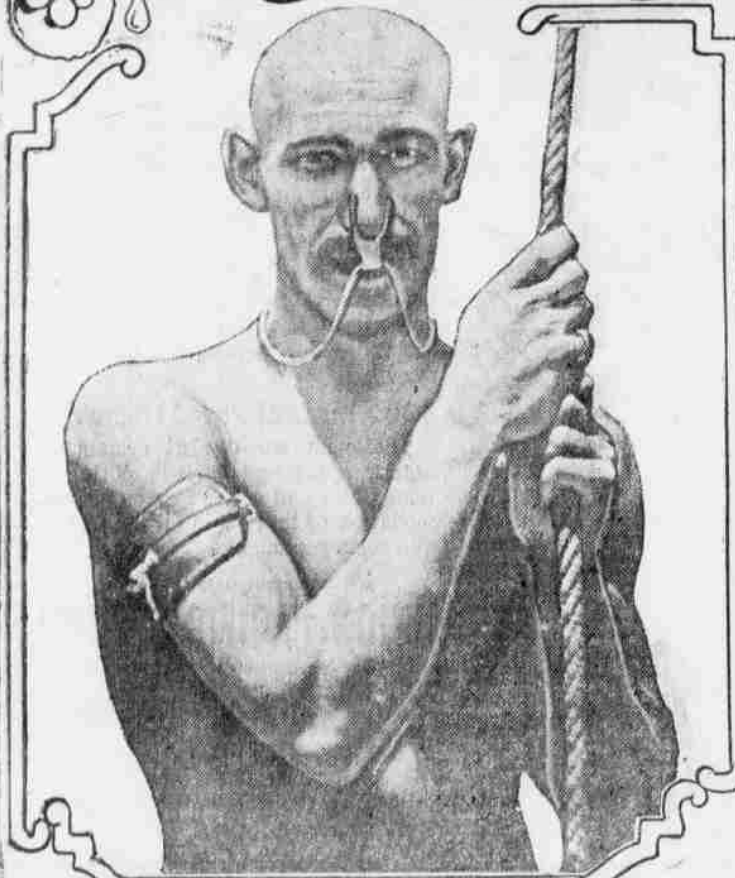


Ceylon's Pearl Fisheries



Arab Pearl Diver With Nose Clip.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

Ceylon has the oldest pearl fisheries in the world save perhaps those of the Persian gulf. And the Ceylon fisheries have been among the most prolific. Millions and millions of dollars' worth of those lustrous gems have come from the waters off the western and northwestern shores of the island since this fascinating sort of fishing began probably 1,000 years before Christ. Most of the pearls gathered in this long period have gone to the rajahs and princes of India; and even in the recent years in which there have been fisheries, these same insatiable collectors of pearls have absorbed from 80 to 90 per cent of the Ceylon "catch."

One unfortunate feature of the Ceylon pearl fisheries is their unprofitability. At intervals the pearl oysters mysteriously disappear and a number of years may pass without their reappearance. Then just as mysteriously hundreds of millions of the young bivalves will be found on the banks and lucrative fishing will again be possible. There was such a disappearance fifteen years ago, and no important fishing has been possible since. But this year it has been found the sands and rocks of the banks are covered by countless young oysters, and it is believed that once more in 1924 the famous old Ceylon pearl banks will be adding their wealth to India's vast stores.

The pearl "oyster" of Ceylon, like those of other lands, is really not an oyster at all. It is more nearly related to the mussels than to the oysters, and it differs markedly from the latter in having a byssus, or a bundle of tough fibers, by which it attaches itself to the bottom. The maximum size attained by the Ceylon pearl oyster is only four inches, and the shells are so thin that they may be crushed between the fingers.

Most of Them in Gulf of Manaar.

Pearl oysters are found on all parts of the coast of Ceylon, but exist in sufficient abundance to support an important fishery only in the Gulf of Manaar, which is a large indentation between Ceylon and India, lying immediately south of the line of giant stepping stones known as Adam's Bridge.

The pearl oysters are more or less concentrated on banks, which occupy a shallow, level plateau extending from the shore for a distance of three miles in the southern section to 20 miles in the northern and broadest part of the gulf. This plateau is bounded by the ten or twelve fathom curve, and falls away quite abruptly, so that within a very short distance of the fishing grounds we may get soundings of 100 fathoms, or even 1,000 fathoms. The area of the pearling grounds is about 800 square miles. The bottom is for the most part sand, diversified by outcroppings of calcareous rocks, which form flat or slightly inclined ledges, on which the pearl oysters grow. Aggregations of ledges constitute "pairs," or banks, which centuries ago received names that are still applied.

The largest and most important of these grounds is Cheval pair, lying from nine to thirteen miles offshore at a depth of five to eight and one-half fathoms, and extending about six and one-half miles from north to south and four and one-half miles from east to west.

The number of oysters produced are absolutely beyond comprehension. Some years ago, on one pair five miles long and two miles wide, small pearl oysters were ascertained to be present to the number of 10,000 per square yard, in places forming a layer over the bottom nine inches deep. One diver, who was down only 30 seconds, brought up 3,225 young oysters by actual count. This condition of the grounds was determined in November by government inspectors; in December of the same year no oysters were

as if by magic. On another bank, known as the Periya pair, scientific experts in the year 1902 estimated the number of young oysters at one hundred thousand million, but so insecure was their existence that on inspection a few months later it was found that all had been swept away.

Under Government Control.

The fisheries have been under government control and the taking of the oysters is permitted only after an inspection discloses that they are present in sufficient numbers. News that a fishery is to be held travels as by wireless telegraphy throughout Ceylon, India, and other parts of the East, and at the prescribed time 30,000 to 50,000 people gather in a few days on a strip of desert sand, with the Gulf of Manaar on one side and the jungle on the other, at a point convenient to the pearl-oyster grounds. A town over a square mile springs up like a boom town in the West, with regular streets, private houses, shops, markets, banks, a cemetery, and government buildings, such as a court house, post and telegraph offices, prison, and hospital. In the outskirts of the town large water tanks are constructed to supply water for washing clothes and for bathing; there are also wells or cisterns throughout the town. As there is no harbor, the fishing boats draw up in a long line on the beach.

A more heterogeneous aggregation of humanity could hardly be found elsewhere. Besides the officials, with their assistants and servants and the force of 200 native police, there are the multitudes of fishermen, merchants, mechanics, pawnbrokers, money-lenders, priests, coolies, and pearl buyers and speculators, of every conceivable color, speaking a score of tongues, and representing half a dozen religions. To amuse, divert, and prey on those who have legitimate business in the pearl town, there are fakirs, jugglers, dancers, beggars, gamblers, and loose characters of both sexes.

As soon as the fishery is over, the entire place seems to dissolve in a day as if by magic, the people hurry to their homes, the pearl town lapses again into a solitary sandy waste, and the beasts of the jungle take possession. Marichchukaddi may spring into being the next season, but may remain non-existent for many years.

How the Divers Work.

The fishing boats start for the grounds soon after midnight, so as to be ready for work as soon as daylight comes. They take positions about the supervising vessel moored over the particular ground selected, anchor, and remain actively engaged until noon, when the entire fleet sets sail and starts for the shore.

Except for a loin cloth, the divers are naked. Their fingers are covered by flexible leather shields to protect them from the rough corals and shells. In order to facilitate the descent, each diver employs a flat, oval stone, weighing 30 to 50 pounds. The stone is perforated at one end to receive a rope, and close to the stone a kind of stirrup is made in the rope to accommodate the diver's foot. The stone is suspended at a depth of four or five feet below the surface by means of a cord attached to an outrigger. When ready to descend, the diver places one foot on the stone, the other on the rim of a rope basket attached to a rope, inflates his lungs, loosens the slip-knot holding the stone, and sinks rapidly to the bottom.

The Arab divers wear nose clips of flexible horn attached to a cord around their necks, while the divers of other races simply compress their nostrils by hand during the descent.

Under the arrangement that prevailed at the last great fishery, the divers were allowed to retain one-third of their catch, to dispose of as they pleased. The government retained the remainder and sold it at auction.

Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

MARY GRAHAM BONNER
CONTRIBUTOR TO THE HEPPNER HERALD

TURKEY GOBBLER'S SPEECH

Mr. Turkey Gobbler was in the barnyard. Near him stood Mrs. Turkey Gobbler as well as many other of his relatives and barnyard friends.



Almost Bursting With Pride.

"Listen to me, Turkeys," he said, "for today I wish to make a speech. Gobble, gobble, gobble. I have a great deal to say."

All the turkeys gathered around Mr. Turkey Gobbler, and after he had cleared his throat and looked at all the different animals to see if they were paying attention to him, he smiled his best turkey smile, and commenced:

"Ah friends," he said, "it is not well to boast, but a little real pride is all right. We turkeys can be justly proud.

"We are honored on the day of Thanksgiving. Now Porky Pig over yonder in the pen, is never honored in such a way. His family never receive the great and beautiful compliment we do.

"I often look at them, and I say to myself that it is no wonder they are always digging in the mud with their snouts, for they cannot hold up their heads and gobble with pride as we can. Simmy Sausage, Brother Bacon, Pinky Pig, Master Pink Pig, Miss Ham, Sir Percival Pork, Sir Benjamin Bacon, are all right in their way, but they are not animals of any importance. And they know it! That is why they grunt their way through life.

"Now, the ducks quack and swim and the geese cackle and make a great deal of noise and quarrel with their neighbors. That's because they're geese, of course! They don't know that creatures are far happier and have a far better time who are pleasant, and who enjoy their neighbors. But then of course you can't tell by their family name what they are like!"

Mr. Turkey Gobbler cleared his throat again and after seeing that all were still listening to him, he continued: "Billy Goat is all very well, but then, too, one can tell by his family name that he doesn't amount to much. How glad I am our family name isn't that of Goat! He will eat almost anything. There is nothing superior about his diet, and by diet, I mean his food.

"Mr. Rooster crows and makes a great fuss, but he gets pretty frightened by an automobile horn! His grandfather or great grandfather or great, great grandfather said he made automobiles stop to see which way he was going, as he wasn't going to let them think their horns were of more importance than his crowing.

"He is of the opinion that roosters should go up and start some barnyards in the clouds just so as to show the airplanes they haven't the right to go wherever they please!

"But he hasn't gone as yet because he hasn't heard of any Rooster airplane express going to the clouds.

"The hens cackle and make a great fuss, but they don't amount to so much. And the chickens aren't greater. But ah, we turkeys! It is not because I wish to boast, but it is because I am almost bursting with pride, as Thanksgiving day comes around again, and I think of the honor that has been shown our family.

"Porky Pig's family will do for any old breakfast. Who has set aside a special day in the year when the special food at the banquet is bacon or pork or ham? No one, and I doubt if they ever will.

"Who has set aside a special day in the year when the special food at the banquet is chicken? No one. A chicken will do for any meal at all, though I think chickens are more favored than pigs.

Chickens do mostly for lunches and dinners and suppers, and bacon is mostly for breakfast. Where is the honor in being eaten by people who're hurrying off to school or business or who're still half-asleep and not in the least appreciative? As I say I do not wonder they grunt their way through life. But we have had a day set aside when we are the great and important feature of the occasion. And all those big words mean that we're The Thing about Thanksgiving day.

"People take time over Thanksgiving day dinner. They are not in any hurry. They do us great justice. They admire our family, too. They stop and say:

"Look at that magnificent turkey. Ah, we are appreciated."

How She Wanted It.
Dorothy (who was being chastised)
—Please, please, mother.

QUEER FACTS ABOUT DRESS

Cut and Make of Some of Our Common Articles of Apparel Explained.

We still have buttons, but no button-holes, on the cuffs of overcoats. They were originally introduced in the Seventeenth century, when coat cuffs were intended to turn back.

The stripes down the sides of some trousers are a survival from the time when breeches were made so close in fitting that they had to be buttoned on. The buttons are forgotten, the stripes alone remain, says Pearson's Weekly.

The swallow-tail coat is the descendant of that which was buttoned back to save the lining from getting dirty by rubbing against the hide of a horse. Side pockets on coats were the outcome of the slash made to permit the projection of the sword handle.

The original reason for cutting away the coat in front was to display fine linen—the wearing of which was a sign of wealth.

Stockings were once made from a straight piece of material. The clocks down the sides are the survival of the seam that made a fit possible.

The leggings worn today are "direct descendants" of the leather stockings once worn by our ancestors.

Buttons were at one time regarded as ornaments, and many people, because of this, refused to wear any buttons but those which were absolutely necessary to keep their clothes together.

"First-Aid Auto Kit" Latest.

Automobilists used to be content with carrying—by way of extraordinary accessories—a fire extinguisher, a swing for the baby and a tow rope, but with the list of those injured in auto accidents growing daily, some are beginning to add another piece of equipment, and an enterprising manufacturer of hospital goods is capitalizing this new need, says the New York Sun and Globe. He has provided an "automobile first-aid kit," which consists of the articles necessary to render first aid to persons injured while working on an automobile or driving it.

Perpetual Sodas.

There is one girl in New York who is "fed up." Her job is to drink nut sundaes, sodas, all the soda fountain concoctions there are, or to order them, at any rate, and go through the motions. She is a spotter. Besides detecting dishonesty and seeing if the ticket systems of the fountains work properly, there is the service business to look at, satisfied customers and all of that. The technique is just the same as in spotting in a jewelry store. The first essential is complete disguise as an ordinary customer and the second is alertness.

Paid Just the Same.

"What do you make a week?" said a magistrate to an Italian organ-grinder.

"Four pound, sare."

"What! Four pounds for grinding an organ?"

"No, sare; not for da grind—but for da shut up and go away!"—London Tit-Bits.

NOTICE OF TEACHERS' EXAMINATION

Notice is hereby given that the County Superintendent of Morrow County, Oregon, will hold the regular examination of applicant for State Certificates at the Court House, as follows:

Commencing Wednesday, December 19, 1923, at 9 o'clock a. m. and continuing until Saturday, December 22, 1923, at 4 o'clock p. m.

Wednesday Forenoon

U. S. History, Writing (Penmanship), Music, Drawing.

Wednesday Afternoon

Physiology, Reading, Manual Training, Composition, Domestic Science, Methods in Reading, Course of Study for Drawing, Methods in Arithmetic.

Thursday Forenoon

Arithmetic, History of Education, Psychology, Methods in Geography, Mechanical Drawing, Domestic Art, Course of Study for Domestic Art.

Thursday Afternoon

Grammar, Geography, Stenography, American Literature, Physics, Typewriting, Methods in Language, Thesis for Primary Certificate.

Friday Forenoon

Theory and Practice, Orthography (Spelling), Physical Geography, English Literature, Chemistry.

Friday Afternoon

School Law, Geology, Algebra, Civil Government.

Saturday Forenoon

Geometry, Botany.

Saturday Afternoon

General History, Bookkeeping.

Very truly yours

J. A. CHURCHILL,
State Supt. Public Instruction.
32-34

SUMMONS

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Morrow County.

Charles Beckett, Plaintiff,

vs.

Gladys Beckett, Defendant.

To Gladys Beckett, Defendant.

In the name of the State of Ore-

gon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit on or before six weeks from the date of first publication of this summons, or on or before six weeks from the date of service upon you, if served personally without the State of Oregon, and if you fail to so answer for want thereof, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief prayed for in his complaint, to-wit:

For a decree of the court granting to the plaintiff an absolute divorce from the defendant and granting to the plaintiff the care and custody of the minor children of the plaintiff and defendant.

This summons is served upon you by publication in the Heppner Herald, a weekly newspaper of general circulation published at Heppner, Morrow County, State of Oregon, once a week for the period of six weeks, by order of the Hon. William T. Campbell, County Judge of Morrow County, State of Oregon, made and entered on the 3rd day of December, 1923, and the date of first publication of this summons is December 4, 1923.

WOODSON & SWECK,
Attorneys for the Plaintiff.
32-36 Address, Heppner, Ore.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE UNDER FORECLOSURE

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Morrow County
Helen V. Knappenberg, Plaintiff,
vs.

A. C. Allison and Cora A. Allison, his wife, and the Farmers and Stockgrowers National Bank, a corporation, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given, that under and by virtue of an execution and order of sale issued out of the above entitled court in the above entitled cause to me directed, dated the 30th day of November, 1923, upon a judgment rendered and entered in said court on the 25th day of October, 1923, in favor of the plaintiff, Helen V. Knappenberg and against the defendants above named for the sum of \$10,000 with interest thereon from November 1, 1920, at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, \$640 attorneys fees and costs and disbursements taxed and allowed in the sum of \$18.60, and accruing costs of sale, and wherein the court decreed the sale of the real property mortgaged by the defendants, to secure payment of said judgment.

I will on Wednesday the 2d day of January, 1924, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the front door of the County Court House in the city of Heppner, Morrow County, Oregon, offer for sale and sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand, the following described real property situated in Morrow County, Oregon, and ordered sold by the court, to-wit:

Southwest quarter, East half

of the Northwest quarter, East half of the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter, West half of the Northeast quarter, West half of the Southeast quarter of Section 8, also that portion of the East half of the Southeast quarter of Section 8 lying west of the Gooseberry road, as the same is located and established over and across said lands, all in Township 1 South Range 24 E. W. M.

Or so much thereof as is necessary to satisfy said judgment, costs and accruing costs.

Heppner, Oregon, November 30, 1923.

GEORGE McDUFFEE,
Sheriff of Morrow County, Ore.
32-37

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

DR. F. E. FARRIOR

DENTIST

Office Upstairs Over Postoffice
Heppner, Oregon

S. E. NOTSON

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Office in Court House

HEPPNER, OREGON

WOODSON & SWECK

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Masonic Building

HEPPNER, OREGON

DR. A. D. McMURDO

PHYSICIAN and SURGEON

Telephone 122

Office Patterson's Drug Store

HEPPNER, OREGON

DeLUXE ROOMS

Summer Rates

75c & \$1.00

Over Case Furniture Co.

Same E. Van Vactor R. R. Butler

Van VACTOR & BUTLER

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Suite 304 First National Bank Bldg.

THE DALLES, OREGON.

WATERS & ANDERSON

FIRE INSURANCE

Successors to

C. C. Patterson

HEPPNER, OREGON

New York Life Insurance Co.

—affords the holder PROTECTION in more ways than one.

—It protects your family in the event of your death.

—It protects your business, of which you are, perhaps, the most valuable asset, while you are living.

—It protects your credit in times of financial stringency by the loan privilege it offers.

—It protects you by substantial payments if totally disabled by accident or disease.

—It pays double in case of accidental death.

The New York Life offers many different plans of insurance each of highest merit in its place.

Can you afford to take chances against fate when you can secure absolutely reliable and trustworthy protection at a moderate cost? Think it over.

Phone Main 13 or write us and we will be glad to call and show yourself and your wife just what these policies are.

New York Life Insurance Co.

S. A. PATTISON, Resident Agent
HEPPNER, OREGON