

RISE TO HEIGHT of 143.4 miles, Viking rocket carrying camera, photographs California-Arizona area. Part of Mexico, the Gulf of California, and Lower California extending up to Los Angeles are visible. From left, the Gulf of California, the Laguna Salada and Salton Sea; lower right hand corner, the Phoenix area; black spot in far lower right is Lake Roosevelt, Arizona. Rocket was fired on February 4, 1955. (International)

Scientific Findings Brings Even More Marvel Over Amazing Habits of Fish

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor

New York (U.P.)—On the basis of new scientific fact and theory, we may now marvel even more than ever over the amazing ways of fish.

In Scotland, a scientist has produced proof that sea trout return not only to the fresh water stream in which they were spawned but to the very same little inlet of that stream, even to the same stretch of gravelly bank.

In this country, a scientist has found evidence upon which to erect a theory that the first fish returning to a spawning ground swim at once to its outermost reaches, thereby leaving room for later arrivals.

W. M. Shearer, of the Brown Trout Research Laboratory, Pitlochry, Scotland, captured, tagged and liberated sea trout in the many inlets of the River Dee.

A year later he recaptured six of these tagged fish, each one in the very same inlet where it had been captured the first time.

Two were recaptured along the same stretch of gravelly

bank. In his report to the scientific journal, "Nature," Shearer said this suggested that sea trout return to their native waters and do so more or less exactly one year later.

John C. Briggs, of the University of Florida, published Shearer's theory in an organ of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in the hope of stimulating other biologists into confirming it or knocking it down. Basically Briggs and Shearer both were trying to explain how millions of migratory fish can find room to spawn at the same time in the same stream.

"Outer Limit" Theory
Briggs labeled his theory the "Phenomenon of Differential Distribution." If the first arrivals do go directly to the outermost limits of suitable spawning grounds, the next arrivals could take up the adjoining territory and thus the spawning stream would fill up with spawning fish in an orderly fashion.

He found some supportive evidence in reported behavior of the king salmon, the sockeye salmon, the Pacific lamprey, the Atlantic salmon, and even the eastern brook trout which migrates only in fresh water streams. He saw certain advantages for the fish to behave according to his theory.

For one thing, the baby fish would have a better chance—"an especially important factor in such fishes as salmon or trout," he said, "which are quite cannibalistic."

Advantage To Fish
And for another: "In some Pacific salmon . . . the territorial behavior of the female. Once the territory is selected and the spawning activities are begun the female becomes a very zealous guardian and remains so for a considerable period after the eggs are deposited. This may discourage other females from pen-

etrating farther into the spawning area, especially if the stream is small.

"On the other hand, territorial behavior is only poorly developed in the steelhead trout and the sea lamprey, and these two species have been observed to follow the differential distribution pattern."

As to how some fish arrive at the spawning grounds before other fish, Briggs suggested it was due to their heredity—that it must be they are "offspring of parents that showed similar behavior."

But if Shearer's discovery about sea trout represented anything typical of all migratory fish, it wouldn't matter which fish arrived first—since all fish which had been spawned in a particular place in a spawning stream, would be headed for that particular place and none other.

Post Office Staff Members Receive Special Awards

Members of the staff of the Medford post office received recognition this week for having accumulated many hours of unused sick leave. The recognition was in the form of a certificate from district and regional managers.

The certificates indicate that staff members have more than 500 hours of sick leave to their credit, or more than 1000. The 500-hour certificates were signed by A. J. Tonsing, district manager, and the 1000-hour certificates were signed by S. G. Schwartz, regional manager.

Three members of the Medford staff have more than 2000 hours of sick leave to their credit. They are Earl H. York, Stanley Sherwood and Richard Singler, all supervisors. Those receiving 1000-hour certificates, besides York, Sherwood and Singler, are Otto W. DeJarnett, assistant postmaster; Prentice Petty, supervisor; William Catey, Lawrence Crocker, Boyd Kline, and Helen Rivers, all clerks; and Floyd K. Lawson, Charles Pettegrew, Earl Scripper, Virgil Swanson, Kendrick Watson, and Walter Wilson, carriers.

Those receiving 500-hour certificates are Susie Fredenberg, Budd Gall, Hamilton Ecker, Roland Hoyer, Lee Hubler, Boyre Kellogg, Paul Kurovsky, Gilbert Merritt, Delmar Myers, Ada Neal, William Rose, and Chester Silliman, clerks; and Leign Blew, Randolph Huggdahl, Ivan Lantz, James A. Neff, Charles Wiley, and Clarence A. Williams, carriers.

State Bar Board Elects Four Men

Portland (U.P.)—Four men have been elected to the board of governors of the Oregon State Bar, to succeed four members due to retire, Secretary John H. Holloway announced today.

John A. Helzel, Salem, was elected from the 1st congressional district; Robert H. Foley, Bend, from the 2nd district; Herbert S. Gooding, Portland, from the 3rd, and George W. Neuner, Roseburg, from the 4th.

Officers retiring in September were Orval D. Hokum, John Day, president; Thomas H. Tomie III, Portland, vice-president; Wendell Wyatt, Astoria, and Samuel M. Bowe, Grants Pass.

Victoria, Va.—(U.P.)—Sheriff A. B. Shackleton, 83, retired Monday after 60 years as Lunenburg county's chief law enforcement officer. He was the nation's oldest sheriff in point of service.

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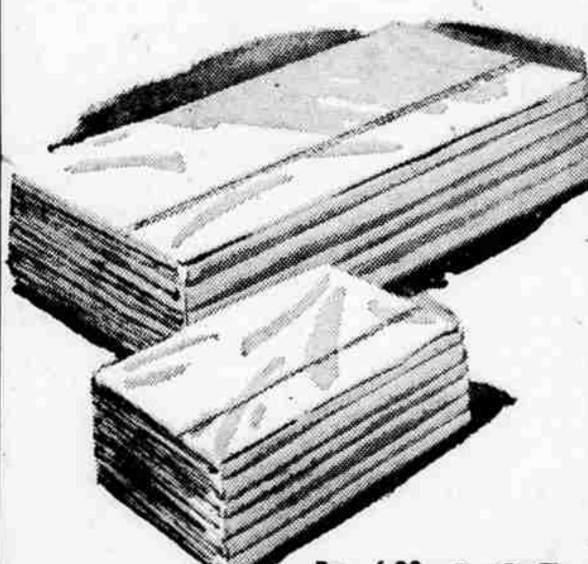
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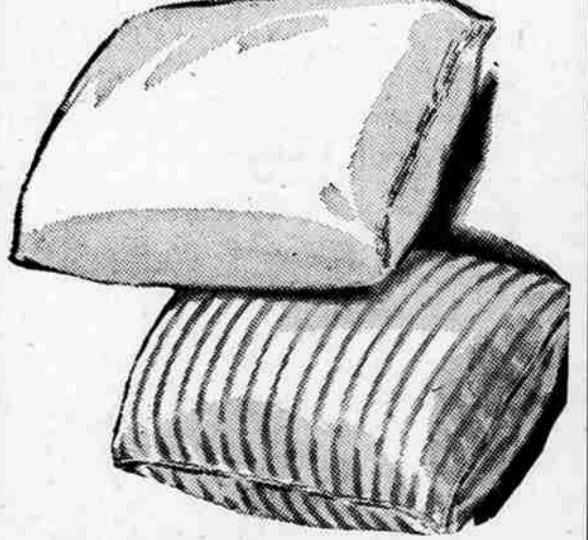


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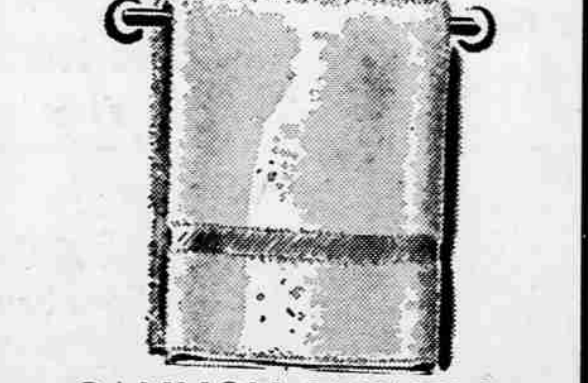
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