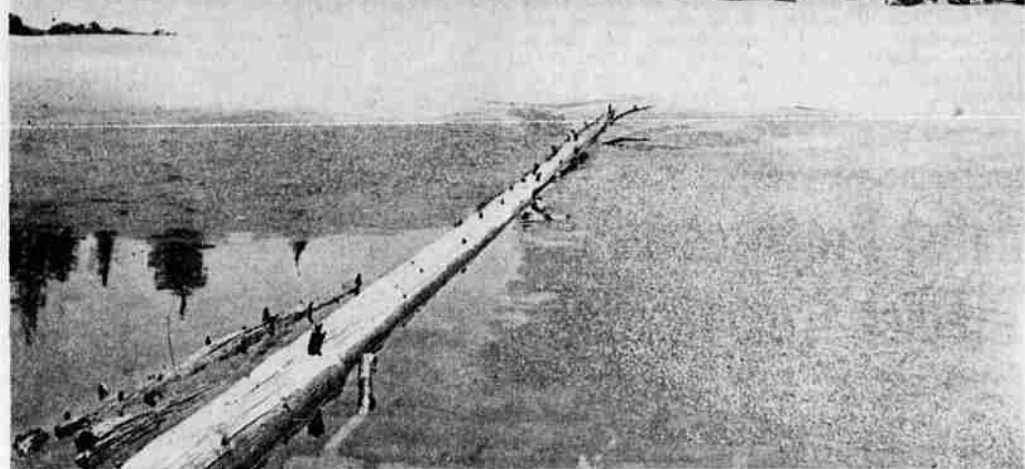


Herald and News Features



ICE BREAKS UP NEAR FALLEN GIANT — Part of the ice pack at the north end of Woodpecker Lake began breaking up last weekend, but the remaining portion of the deep mountain lake was still encased in an icy shield. Fishermen had little prospect that the lake, and others along the Skyline Trail, would be free of its icy surface before the next two or three weeks. The submerged log in the bottom of the picture depicts the transparency of the lake.



BADGER LAKE SPORTS ICY SEAL — A six-inch sheet of ice crusted Badger Lake, about two miles from Four Mile Lake via trail, as the trout season opened in waters along the Skyline Trail last Saturday, May 25. Some intrepid anglers ventured out onto the ice and slipped bait through cracks in its mantle to tempt a wary fish, but the lake's inhabitants had no appetite for such offerings. The presence of warmer weather accompanied by longer daylight hours is expected to melt the icy shield within the next several weeks.



RESERVOIR SPILLWAY — A solitary angler appraises the spillway of the reservoir near Spring Creek Road before casting his line into the placid waters in the foreground. Other fishermen tested that part of the reservoir behind the spillway with varied success.



NEAT CATCH AT RESERVOIR — Several hours of angling at the reservoir on Spring Creek Road yielded this catch of four crappies and three black bass for Ray Overton, 2793 Crest Street, who was among a host of fishermen producing fine catches in those waters Sunday.



STILL WATERS UNVIOLATED — Calm waters, relatively undisturbed by fishermen, greeted some of the anglers who tried their luck at the reservoir on Spring Creek Road last weekend. Within the next few weeks black bass will begin furrowing depressions in the bed of the reservoir to form nests for their spawn. Bass shape the nests with their tails, sending up swirls to the surface of the water which betray their presence to anglers.

Fishermen Brave High Country

Angler Finds Trout Wary On Opening Fishing Day

By DICK BRIGGS

That peculiar variety of male (the fisherman), oddly attired, ascended to the banks of lakes and streams in the Cascade Mountain Range beginning last Saturday and opened its annual campaign to coax some wary trout into snapping at a hook colorfully clothed in feathers and fuzz and baring but scant resemblance to any organism or creature on the face of the globe.

If the kaleidoscopic hues of hardware and feathered lures were more fantastically bedecked this year than last, the trout were less impressed, at least so far as concerned the host of anglers on hand to usher in the opening day of trout season in the high country.

Few anglers who tried worms or salmon eggs for bait at Lake of the Woods, Four Mile or Fish lakes closed their creels on a captured trout and a fewer number of the "purists," those fishermen who tempt their prey with artificial lures, did as well.

Other smaller lakes along the Skyline Trail were still clutched in the waning grip of winter. Snow clogged the trail into Woodpecker and Badger lakes and a six-inch mantle of ice shielded the angler from his intended victims. Clearly, fishable conditions in the mile-high trout lakes were at least three weeks away. While anglers in the frosty high country were flicking their lures or bait about the air rather fruitlessly, their counterparts

in the lower altitudes were basking in considerably warmer temperatures and doing rather well for themselves.

Many anglers in the lowlands traveled along asphalt roads, parked adjacent to river or stream beds, and caught sizeable rainbows within sight of their cars.

Meanwhile, that other hardy type of individual who makes an adventure of seeking out the most remote fishing spot generally caught nothing for his efforts; except, perhaps, a case of sniffles.

Some such individuals sought to reach Cold Springs, starting point of the trail to Heavenly Lakes, and mired their automobile in a quagmire near Long Lake Trail. The fishermen finally extricated their vehicle from the mire and departed for a not so inaccessible area.

Soon after, along came another intrepid angler in a truck pulling a horse trailer, occupied by an appropriate animal. The horse, obviously, was to eliminate the problem suffered by those anglers who moved exclusively on wheels.

What the horseman did at the ice covered mountain lakes when he got there (if, indeed, he did) is not known, and whether or not he ever returned is even less certain.

The entire subject suggests that angling in the wild hinterlands may not be all it's cracked up to be. Perhaps, one can do just

as well plunking a huge blob of nightcrawler, with a one-ounce sinker attached, into a roadside stream strewn with trash and beer cans.

Last weekend, the lowlanders had a few problems, too. The Williamson River, which along with the Wood River was closed until Saturday, flowed with the brackish coloring of the huge marsh it drains from the north. Despite its unusually murky waters, anglers who floated an appropriate nymph into riffles usually did well.

One such fisherman reported hooking and releasing 20 rainbows while selecting his limit of 10.

Many other anglers shunned the Williamson River in favor of Spring Creek, which a short time before had been stocked with some 200 trout.

As usual, those who worked the transparent creek with salmon eggs made catches approaching limits.

Diamond Lake — other waters that opened to anglers Saturday — produced sizeable fish, but farther south on the Klamath River, Copco increased the spillage from the dam near Keno and disrupted the fishing for the weekend.

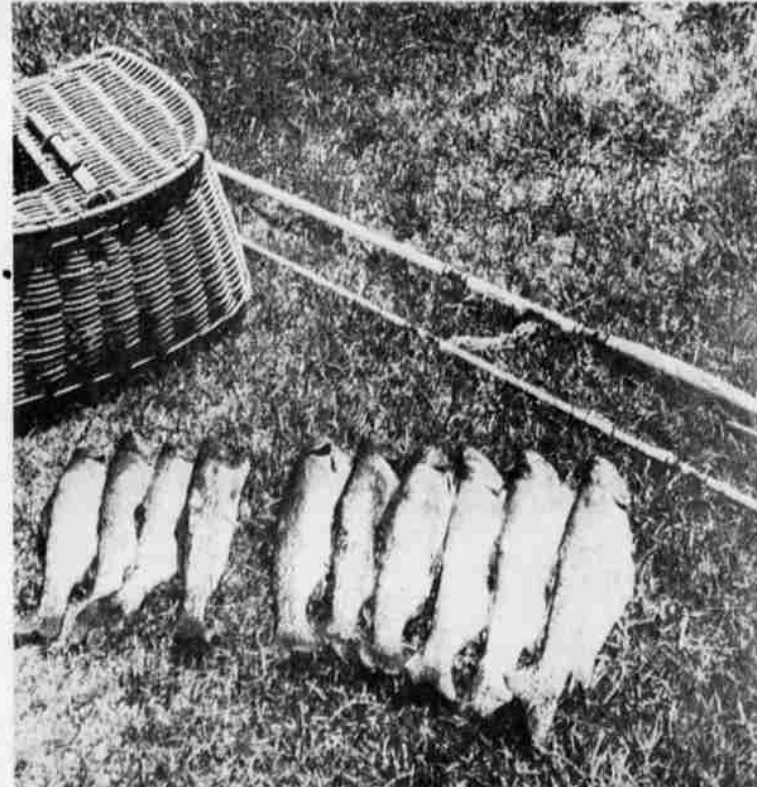
Last week, most of the prize rainbows in both size and quantity were going to the fishermen who ranged in the lowlands of the Klamath Basin, but sometime within the next month the high lakes, disrobed of winter's touch by the warmth of summer, will occupy center stage for even the most steadfast of the lowlanders.



SUMMERY TERRAIN BELIES SNOW CLOGGED TRAILS — Snow-capped Mt. McLoughlin looms above this forest located along the dirt-surfaced road to Cold Springs, take-off point to the trail leading to the Heavenly Twins Lakes area. About three miles south of Cold Springs, near the Long Lake Trail, a quagmire makes the road impassable to traffic. Heavenly Twins and other lakes along the Skyline Trail are still locked in a mantle of snow.



LOW BRIDGE AWAITS BOAT CARRYING AUTOS — Slushy roads bordered with snow awaited anglers venturing into Four Mile Lake and Fish Lake during the opening of the fishing season in the high mountain country west of Klamath Falls last Sunday. In photo above, a partially fallen evergreen, extending across Four Mile Lake road, complicated the problems of those anglers who carried boats on the tops of their cars. Fishermen equipped with car-top boats stopped their vehicles in front of the tree and motored slowly under it. Fishing was generally slow in the two lakes during the opening day weekend.



KLAMATH WATERS YIELD LIMIT — While most anglers experienced little success in their efforts in the high lakes which opened to trout fishing last weekend, other fishermen did considerably better in streams and rivers at lower altitudes. This limit catch came from the Klamath River and Spring Creek, with six of the rainbows coming from Spring Creek.