

LINE & TRIGGER

It is stated that a series of experiments have recently been conducted by J. Parker Whitney, the well-known American sportsman and angler, on which he reports that fish, cold blooded as they are, can be frozen solid and thawed back to life, if not exposed to the sun or allowed to get more than 12 or 14 degrees below the freezing point. If exposed to a temperature of zero or below they will not survive, as the faint inner sensation of life then ceases. He says he has scarcely a doubt but a salmon from the Pacific Coast could be frozen and transported to the Atlantic Coast and resuscitated to full life under proper conditions. The test has not been made, but this summer a company at Taku Harbour, in Alaska, will make the experiment. It is known that in the rivers of the far north, which are frozen from side to side and to the bottom solid, fish peculiar to fresh water are found year after year. The only explanation given is that the fish are frozen and remain in the ice through the long winters, but as soon as the sun returns and clears the rivers and streams of ice the fish are there in plenty, and apparently thrive under the conditions.

The deer parks of England number about four hundred, and of these five are owned by the King, namely, Windsor, Richmond, Greenwich, Home and Bushey. Windsor Park contains more than one thousand fallow deer and one hundred red deer, while Bushey is also well stocked. The Duke of Devonshire owns four deer parks—Chatsworth, Hardwick, Bolton and Holkar. According to statistical information recently issued the largest deer park in Great Britain is Savernake, in Wiltshire, with 4000 acres, while Windsor, Knowlsey, Elridge, Duncombe, Blenheim and Buckhurst each contain more than 2000 acres.

During last month (September) the Colonial Ammunition Company manufactured at their works, Auckland, and delivered to the Government half-a-million rounds .303 ball, 50,000 rounds .303 blank, and 35,000 rounds .303 Gauge miniature ammunition, or at the rate of 7,000,000 rounds per annum.

Loafing with a rod and line
Where the waters swirl about,
Whipping up the stream—it's fine
When the speckled trout are out.
Working up the sparkling shallows
Where the sun the water hallows;
Laughing when the fish begin
Rolling, tumbling, falling in;
Loafing with a rod and line—
Ain't it fine!

Loafing with a rod and line
Where the waters swirl about,
Whipping up the stream—it's fine
When the speckled trout are out.
Recking naught of business trouble
While the happy waters bubble,
When the speckled trout begin
Rolling, tumbling, falling in;
Loafing with a rod and line—
Ain't it fine!

A Quebec paper narrates an extraordinary fishing disaster which occurred on Keuka Lake, apparently near Rochester, N.Y., on the 6th inst. Mr Lucien P. Wagner, a business man of Penn Yan, was fishing from a boat which was being rowed by one Jerome Lee, when he hooked a monster trout. The oarsman went to his assistance, but before aid could be rendered the unfortunate angler had become entangled in the line, and, in spite of desperate struggles, was pulled out of the boat and under the water, never to rise again. Lee declares that in the course of that short encounter between Mr Wagner and the fish he caught a glimpse of the latter, which was of enormous dimensions.

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And Take Nothing Else.

An American company is being formed to convert the swarming sharks of Central America into useful commercial products. The company will make jelly and tinned soup from the sharks' fins, fine machinery oil from their livers, handsome leather (equal to alligator) from their skins, walking-sticks from their backbones, and articles innumerable from their jawbones and teeth. Could not something in this direction be done nearer home.

The "Hot Lakes Chronicle" of Saturday says:—"The record catch of trout so far this season was made yesterday by Messrs Darlowe and Horton, who were out on the lake in the oil launch Moura. As the result of some seven hours' trolling they caught twenty-seven very good fish."

CYCLING.

How long may the frame of a bicycle be expected to last? This is a question which agitates the minds of many who have ridden their mounts for some years, and do not find themselves in a position to invest in new machines. They have heard of the crystallisation of the metal, and wonder whether after two or three years of fairly hard use their bicycle may not be under suspicion from this cause. Of course, every machine must give way at some time, and each year brings it nearer to its limit. Formerly, fashion and the wearing out of the running parts prevented the question of the endurance of the frame being carefully studied as the machine came to an inglorious end on the scrap heap, or was lost sight of as it passed through various ownerships. But now bearings of good machines seem to last for ever, and the style of frame does not change appreciably, so that cycles of four or five years' service are frequently met with. A good make, which has been used with reasonable care should be reliable for five or six years, and there are plenty of instances of their lasting longer.

In the paced 100-kilometres race for the championship of the world, Robl was beaten by Dickentman by nine laps—410 yards each. The winner covered the 62 miles odd in 1hr 26min 28sec. Goernemann was third, 15 laps behind. It is stated that Dickentman will visit Australia during the coming season, but whether he will follow the racing is not certain. He comes here on a very different, and, perhaps, a pleasanter mission.

The crack cyclist Don Walker says that he has signed an agreement to come to this colony. He had intended racing in New Zealand this season, but his interstate engagements are so numerous and lucrative that he had decided to forego the pleasure of visiting New Zealand, where he knew he would be heartily welcomed. So he will remain in Australia and compete against the European cracks likely to visit here. "Rover" says that he can assure "Wanderer" the agreement in question signed by Walker is in the possession of the New Zealand League.

The Japanese Minister of War has decided, after a series of tests, that each division of the infantry regiments shall have a cyclists' corps.

The latest craze of the sensational cycling showman is, after tiring the public of France with "looping the loop," to flash down a long incline, at the end of which, by the impetus gained, the machine and rider flit across a 130 feet gap on to another platform.

Quite a sensational item of news is contained in a recent issue of the Australian "Cyclist." It is to the effect that our old friend Martin is about to be married. The lady is Miss West, a resident of St. Kilda, and the marriage is announced to take place shortly.

A queer plea was advanced by a solicitor who appealed at the Supreme Court at Wanganui against the decision of Mr C. C. Kettle, S.M., who had fined him for riding on a footpath. The by-law under which the information had been laid stated that "No person shall use, drive, or

conduct any velocipede, bicycle, or similar carriage on or upon any footpath or pathway within the borough." The solicitor said that if the word "conduct" was retained the by-law was unreasonable and drastic, and if that were ungrammatical, and therefore, the by-law could not be held good. Sir Robert Stout disagreed with this subtle view, and ruled that the conviction was good.

The opening run of the Auckland Cycling Club took place on Saturday, there being an excellent muster. The riders taking part assembled at the Ponsonby Reservoir at two o'clock, and a procession having been formed, Mr Crozier, captain of the club, led the way along Karangahape Road and down Queen-street to the Devonport ferry tee, where they embarked on the p.s. Eagle for St. Heliers Bay. The riders and their friends assembled at the foot of St. Heliers Hill, where a hill-climbing contest and free-wheel contest took place. There was a large number of entries for both events, and keen interest was taken in the contest. Mr H. J. Fielder acted as handicapper and starter, the judges being Messrs Crozier (for decorated bicycles), and Messrs Crozier, Badley and Clarkson. The following are the results of the various events:—

Most Comical Costume: T. Sparrow ("Irish Lady") and A. Tremaine ("Chinaman"), of the Howie Club, divided the prize.
Best Decorated Ladies' Bicycle: S. H. Howie's motor trailer, 1. There were three entries.
Hill-climbing Contest: First heat—A. Bond, 20yds, 1; F. Hunt, 22yds, 2. Price, 25yds, 3. Time, 63sec. Second heat: W. Tierney, scratch, 1; S. G. Braith, 20yds, 2; T. Sparrow, 22yds, 3. Time, 55sec. Third heat—F. Ewen, 15yds, 1; V. Sutherland, 22yds, 2. A. Bach, 22yds, 3. Time, 63sec. Fourth—Sutherland, 1, Bond 2. Time, 58sec. The winner is a member of the Howie Touring Club, and he was accorded an ovation by his clubmates, who carried both rider and machine in triumph to the starting-point after the conclusion of the event.

Rudge-Whitworth Free-wheel Contest: There were 21 entries for this event, which was open to allcomers. The winner was A. Bach, of the Rudge-Whitworth Club, A. Bond being second.

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