

Good start for the salmon



Salmon leaping upstream toward the spawning ground

Salmon and sea trout which are migrating up the River Lune to spawn in the headwaters have no trouble in surmounting an eight-foot-high weir at Broadrairie, near Sedburgh, for the Lancashire Rivers Board has just spent £6000 in the creation of a fish pass.

There are also pens in which salmon can be kept temporarily and a counter house where the fish are electrically counted.

It is all part of a plan to cultivate the river, just as the farmer cultivates the land. No one yet knows how many fish in any river go above a certain point, but now the Rivers Board can discover the answer.

Hatching the eggs

There is also a scheme for hatching out more salmon. Hen fish, some weighing 30 lb., are taken from the river at Broadrairie and, with little fuss or loss of time, are relieved of their eggs. There may be 900 of these eggs for every pound of the salmon's weight. Milt from the cock fish is then added to fertilise the eggs which are next taken to hatchery buildings at Middleton, where they lie in metal baskets through which water flows for 60-90 days.

The eggs hatch out to become

tiny fish called alevins. For five or six weeks these little creatures live on the nourishment in the yolk sacs which are attached to them.

When the young fish have used up this supply and begin to feed, they are given a diet which includes yolk of egg and, later, liver, finely-ground meal, cod liver oil and salt. Eventually they are released into specially chosen streams which have been cleared of enemies, particularly eels. They are free to swim where they wish, and at the age of about two years and still weighing only a few ounces, they travel to the sea.

Heading for home

Several years later, having greatly increased in size, they are back in the rivers again, heading for the gravel beds where, in the natural state, the pink eggs are buried. But salmon eggs are so popular as food for various creatures that in the ordinary way only about four per cent develop into mature fish. The hatchery, on the other hand, claims a yield of 98 per cent of the eggs it takes care of.

These are indeed exciting days for the Lancashire Rivers Board officials who are conducting these experiments and carrying out the propagation programme.

Passing of the oldest soldier

The last veteran of the American Civil War (1861-65) has died at Houston, Texas. Walter Williams was his name, and he was thought to be 117 years old. He served in the Confederate Army, the forces of the Southern States, and will be remembered as the last of the "Johnnie Rebs"—the Confederate's nickname.

For Americans his passing marks the end of an era. At President Eisenhower's request, the Stars and Stripes were flown on all official buildings at half-mast, not only in homage to Walter Williams, but to the half-million men of both sides who died in what the President called: "The great and tragic drama of a century ago."

POLICE CADET TO THE RESCUE

While cycling home at night after duty at Staines, Police Cadet Flashman saw a car plunge into the Thames and come to rest about three-quarters under water. He immediately jumped into the river, managed to open the door, and dragged the driver to the bank. Then he returned to the car to make sure no one else was trapped.

Speaking to a CN man later, Police Cadet Flashman, who is 18, made light of his prompt action. But he has certainly started his career in fine style.

Return to Everest

Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Everest, is to lead a scientific expedition into the Himalayas, to make a special study of the effects of high altitudes on the body. His team will try to climb Mount Makalu (27,800 feet) without using oxygen, and the knowledge thus gained may prove valuable in the training of future space travellers.

The expedition will also study ice formations in the Everest range, and search for traces of the Yeti or "Abominable Snowman."

ON RECORD

New discs to note

MICHAEL HOLLIDAY: *Starry Eyed* on Columbia DB4378. Every disc by Mike Holliday makes easy listening, due to his relaxed, smooth style of singing. This number has the added attraction of a catchy Latin rhythm and a good arrangement for the accompanying band. (45. 6s.)

THE KNIGHTSBRIDGE CHORALE: *Ivy Will Cling and California Here I Come* on Top Rank JAR266. If you always long for a chance to join the chorus on a recording, then the Knightsbridge Chorale discs are just the thing for you. Two very cheery songs have been chosen for this release, with the kind of melody everyone likes to hum or whistle. (45. 6s. 4d.)

TCHAIKOVSKY: *The Symphony Number 6 in B Minor* on Pye GGL0036 was the last Tchaikovsky symphony, known as the "Pathétique," and first performed just a week before the composer died. It contains some of the most beautiful themes he ever wrote. In this recording Sir Adrian Boult conducts the London Philharmonic Orchestra through a moving and beautiful performance. (LP. 21s.)

ROSEMARY JUNE: *The Village Saint Bernadette* and *But Not For Me* on London HLT9014. Rosemary is a charming and talented member of the Ray Charles Singers, who appear every



week in the BBC television Perry Como series. Like Perry, she has warmth and sincerity, qualities which make both sides of this record very enjoyable. (45. 6s. 4d.)

SONNY CAMPBELL: *The One In The Middle and Wicked Love* on Gala GSP806. Sonny has so far enjoyed a varied career, first in the American Army, where he



won all the top military awards, then as a wrestler. Now he has turned his attention to singing, and he starts with two pleasant numbers in a deep, impressive voice. (45. 4s.)

ROBERT DONAT: *Favourite Poems At Home* on Argo RG192. If you should have any record tokens left do try to buy yourself a copy of this recording, especially if you are a lover of poetry. The late Robert Donat's beautiful voice and expressive reading make this selection a joy to hear. You will find more than a score of poems, chosen with care to give a varied and interesting hour or so with favourite pieces, perfectly read. (LP. 39s. 9d.)

MARCHES FROM THE OPERA on Pye GGL0034. Reinhard Linz is the conductor and again the London Philharmonic is the orchestra in this spirited recording. Among the excellent selections are extracts from *Aida*, *Tannhäuser* and *Carmen*. (LP. 21s.)

ENGLISH FOLK DANCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE on HMV 7EG8533. The Country Dance Band play the selection, which includes *Durham Reel* and *Waste To The Wedding*. (EP. 10s. 74d.)



FOR AGES MEN BELIEVED IN THE EXISTENCE OF DRAGONS. THE HIGHEST ORDER...



...OF CHIVALRY, THE GARTER, HAS FOR ITS BADGE A FIGURE OF ST. GEORGE FIGHTING ONE OF THESE MONSTERS. THAT DRAGONS WERE REAL WAS NEVER DOUBTED...



...IN OLDEN DAYS AND NO DOUBT THE DISCOVERY OF THE BONES OF PREHISTORIC BEASTS HELPED THE LEGENDS. PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT THEY WERE THE BONES OF DRAGONS RECENTLY DEAD. TRAVELLERS TALES WERE OFTEN...



...PROVED BY CLEVERLY FAKED 'BABY DRAGONS' WHICH CUNNING FISHERMEN MADE OUT OF THE BODIES OF VARIOUS KINDS OF FISH SUCH AS SKATE OR RAY...



...BUT IN 1912 A CREATURE WAS FOUND WHICH DID MERIT THE NAME DRAGON. THIS WAS THE GIANT LIZARD, THE KOMODO DRAGON. FOUND ONLY IN THE EAST INDIES ISLAND OF KOMODO, IT IS 12-15 FEET LONG, LIVES IN CAVES, IS CARNIVOROUS AND CAN SWALLOW A CHICKEN WHOLE.