

1926

Maine Fishing, 1926

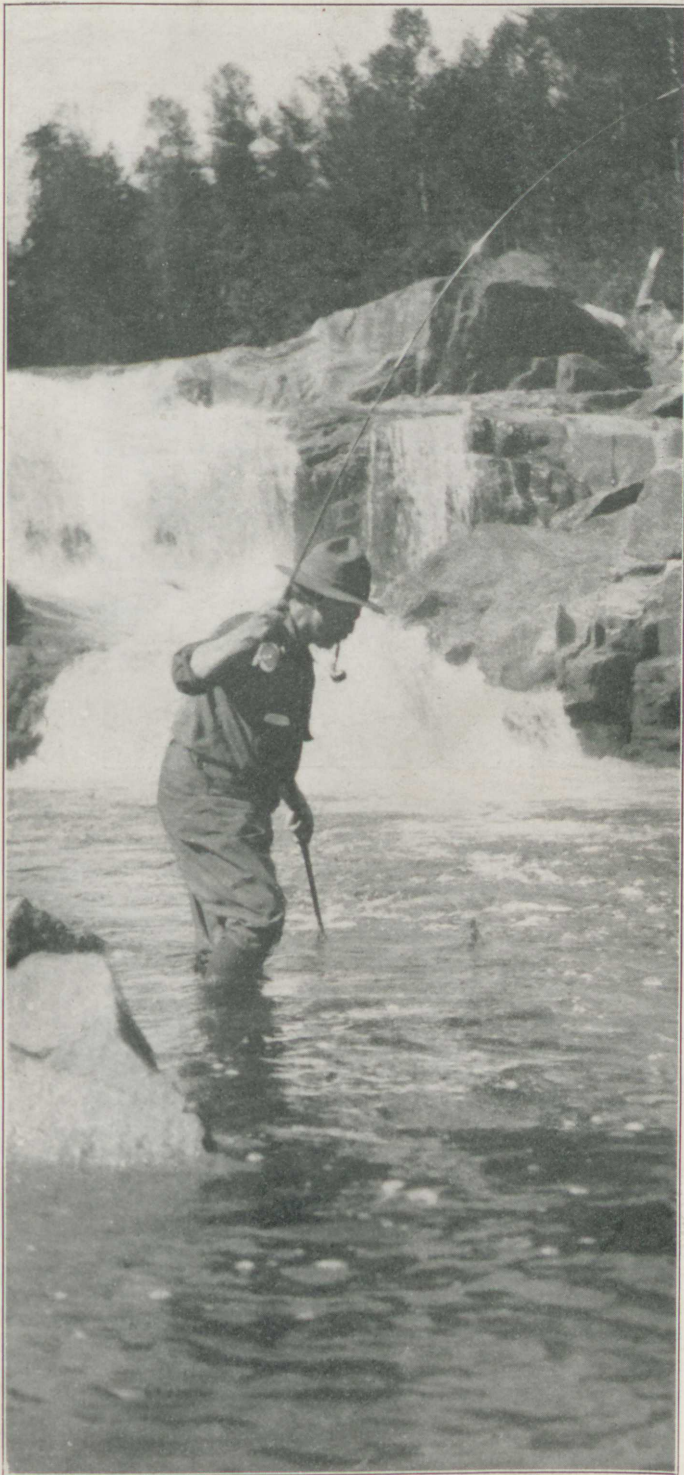
Maine Development Commission

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Maine Fishing



Official booklet
State of Maine

[1926.3

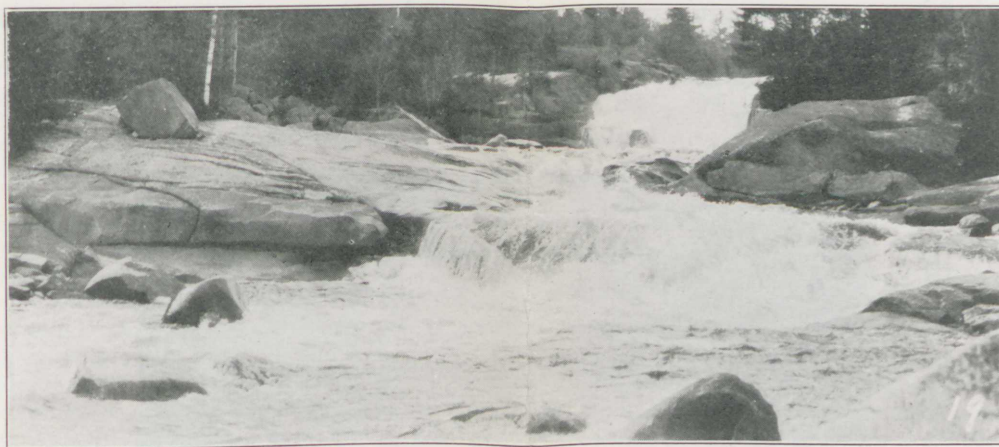
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MAINE FISHING



WHETHER you enjoy the gentle art of angling or just like to catch fish as a diversion and incident to a canoe trip, a vacation at a lakeside farm or in the friendly wilderness — a vacation in old clothes and wading boots, or in full regalia and with all the appointments of fishing de luxe, Maine is the place for you.

Pick your lakes and streams correctly and you can have any kind of fishing you like — trout fishing, bass fishing, battles with the game ouananiche (pronounced wan-an-nish) celebrated in Henry Van Dyke's angling classic "Fisherman's Luck," the far-plunging *Salmo Sebago* — the landlocked salmon of Maine — square tails, togue, brown trout, golden trout, the voracious pickerel, perch and that flavorful member of the catfish family, the hornpout. There are millions of chubs and the lesser varieties for the kids to play with.

For royal sport and health-building recreation, tread the forest ways of Maine that Theodore Roosevelt loved. Whip the pools where Grover Cleveland and Joe Jefferson cast their feathered lures. Know the peace of quiet places that makes contentment your comrade.

On your own through the "big woods"

WITH rod and pack and paddle, over wilderness lakes and streams, through the springy brown carpeted woods of spruce and pine and fir, where is heard the eerie cry of the loon, the buck's whistle, the plaintive call of the whip-

poorwill sounding curfew, the splash of night-feeding trout, the "spank" of beaver tail, while through the darkening tree-tops big stars kindle — that's Maine's "big woods."

The fire crackles, the coffee pot bubbles over, bacon sizzles, trout hiss as they strike the hot spider. Afterwards a quiet pipe and a long night of refreshing sleep under blankets. Your competent, hard working, good natured, real backwoodsman guide is companion and mentor. That kind of "big woods" vacation sends you home tingling with vitality, rejuvenated, re-created, happy — fit to fight your weight in wilcats.

Community Camps where you "rough it in comfort"

LESS strenuous, but equally delightful, is a stay at one of the completely equipped community camps which neighbor some of the best fishing waters in America. Deep in the forest, you enjoy every comfort and are free from housekeeping cares.

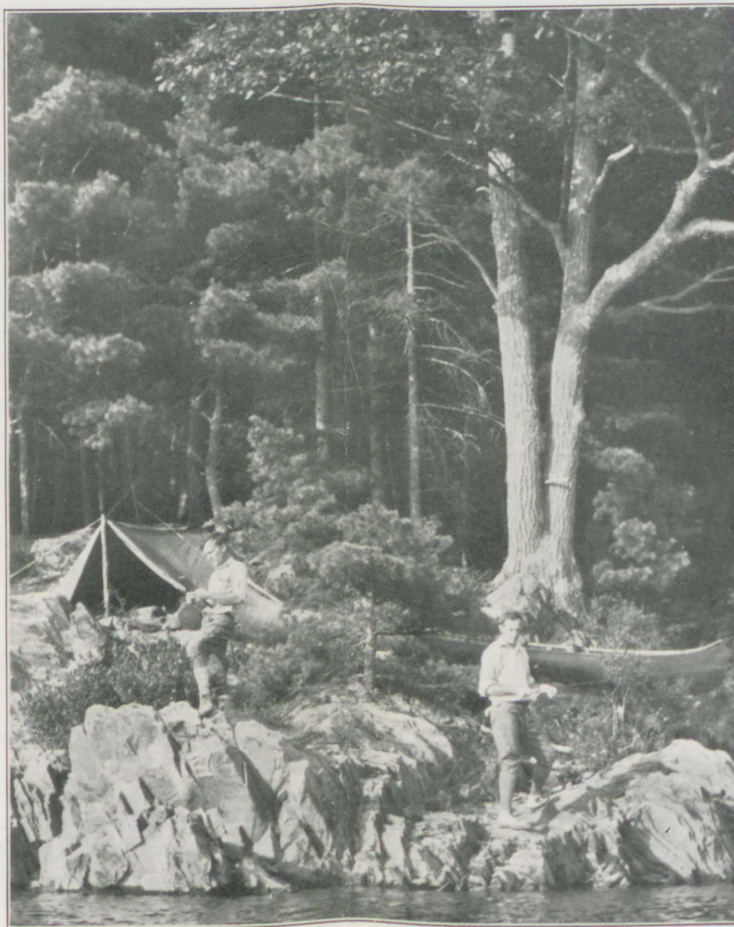
The central dining room provides meals that do not need the tonic air of Maine to make them appetizing. This dining hall is a social center for bridge and dancing, for loafing and friendly chats, where you get acquainted.

You live in log cabin camps with two to four sleeping rooms, a cosy living room with an open fire place, many of them with a completely equipped bathroom, a little veranda porch, even electric lights.

For people somewhat unacquainted with woods life, those who have only a couple of weeks vacation, folks who wish the privacy of family life without housekeeping cares, these community camps in the Maine woods are ideal. Your vacation

is care-free and complete. You may play as hard as you like or enjoy the most delectable loaf.

These woodland camps are legion. They are found in all the lake regions of Maine that are famous for fishing.



*On your own — where
you don't worry and
living is a pleasant
adventure*

Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts, Phila.

Maine's Principal Fishing Regions

MAINE'S lakes and streams in the different parts of the state constitute several distinct regions of large extent, where the conditions vary widely.

Without attempting to narrowly define and limit the boundaries of each section they may be listed as the Sebago, Long Lake and Oxford County Regions in southwestern Maine; the Rangeley Region and the Dead River Region in northwestern Maine; the Belgrade Lakes Region in Central Maine; the Moosehead Region of North Central Maine with the Allagash Region extending to the Canadian border; the Fish River Region with its chain of lakes in north eastern Maine; the Grand Lake Region of southeastern Maine. To these might be added the Schoodic Grand Lakes bordering the state between the Fish River Region and the Grand Lake Region.

A glance at the map of Maine, with its twenty-five hundred lakes and ponds and its five thousand rivers and streams indicates clearly that these divisions only roughly define some of the better known and more important of Maine's fishing waters. Much of the central, northern and eastern part of the state is an angler's paradise.

Its seacoast also affords the salt water fisherman the finest of sport, ranging from cunner, pollock and tomcod fishing off the rocks to deep sea fishing for cod and haddock, and strenuous battles with dogfish, horse-mackerel or tuna, fly fishing for pollock, casting for mackerel and bottom fishing for flounders.

For hotels, camps and farm homes where accommodations can be secured at from fifteen dollars a week and upward consult booklet "Where to Stay in Maine."

The Sebago Region

THE Sebago region of southwestern Maine has been famous for generations. It includes meadow streams where trout fishing is excellent together with larger streams and ponds that yield bass, pickerel and perch.

The famous Sebago salmon are a species of game fish originally native to Sebago. Far-plunging, lively, powerful, they afford the finest of sport early in spring when they are close to the shore and rush at smelt and spinners. Later, as insects hatch, they offer opportunity for fly fishing. Still later in the season, in the deep, cold water, spinners and smelt once more become most effective.

Trout rise to flies in the brooks that thread this country of low hills and woods most of the season, though fly fishing is least productive in August. Many of the streams which flow into Sebago Lake and other lakes stocked by the State are closed to fishing. The State Fish and Game laws should be consulted.

The Sebago Region includes the longest settled section of Maine but judicious protection and stocking of these waters has kept fishing good throughout much of this region.

The Rangeley Lakes and the Dead River Region

NO fishing waters in America are better known than the Rangeley Lakes with their long, tongue-twisting Indian names. Year after year thousands of sportsmen eagerly await the announcement that the ice is out of the Rangeleys.

The Rangeleys first won fame for the size and fighting quality of their trout. But since salmon were introduced there, some thirty or forty years ago, their numbers have increased so rapidly that today more salmon than trout are taken from the Rangeleys.

The fishing season in the Rangeley district is from the time the ice goes out in the spring — generally a few days to two



Big Fellows, test your Angler Skill.

weeks later than the opening of the Sebago fishing season — until September 30th.

During this time fly fishing, also trolling with live and artificial baits, tempt speckled beauties to trials of skill and cunning that warm the angler's heart. Plug or still fishing is forbidden by law.

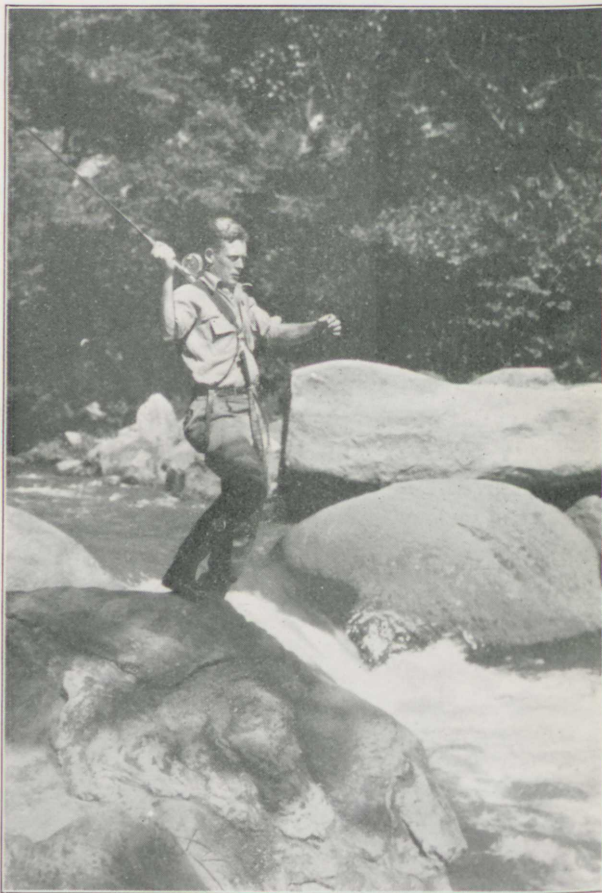


Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts, Phila.

White Water where Fish are Fighters

Belgrade Lakes Region

FOR anglers who consider the small mouthed black bass the supreme fighter of all the finny tribe, the Belgrade Lakes Region invites attention.

As a matter of fact, black bass are found in a great many lakes and ponds in every county in Maine south of a line drawn from Bethel on the west to Houlton on the east. These include the Belgrade Chain in Kennebec County, Pennessewassee Lake, Long Lake and Highland Lake, the lakes around Waterford in Oxford County, Big and Little Sebago Lakes, Thomas Pond in Cumberland County, and Kezar Lakes in Oxford County, Long Pond or Crescent Lake at West Parsonsfield in York County, Sebec Lake in Piscataquis County, Damariscotta Pond in Lincoln County and Meddybemps Lake in Washington County, famous for its small mouthed black bass, where Grover Cleveland and Joseph Jefferson enjoyed rest, recreation and keen sport.

But the Belgrade Region has for many years been headquarters for bass fishing in Maine. The angler who demands action, who already appreciates or wants a demonstration of the fighting qualities of black bass, should fish Belgrade waters. In recent years square tail trout fishing in the Belgrade Lakes has come into great favor and rivals the Rangeleys since the introduction of salmon into those waters.

The Moosehead and the Allegash Region

THE Moosehead and the Allegash Region is largely a primeval wilderness of lakes and streams and mighty forests. Spring comes a little later than in south and western Maine. Trout of many kinds, square tails, togue, brown trout and land-locked salmon provide the sportiest of fishing.

Moosehead is the queen of Maine's waters, the largest lake lying wholly in one state. Its cold, clear depths are cruised by big fellows that put the angler and his tackle to a hard test. The famous canoe trips down the Allegash to the St. John's River or down the West Branch to Norcross have been a wilderness classic for half a century.

Fish River Region

LESS well known than some of other Maine waters, the Fish River chain of lakes provides as fine sport and as hard-fighting fish as you can find anywhere. Spring comes a little late and the cool, clear, spring-fed, lakes and fast-flowing

streams of this region afford wonderful fly fishing even in August.

Salmon, trout and togue of large size reward the angler who whips the waters of the Fish River Region.

Grand Lake Region of Washington County

OF all game fish, the ouananiche has the reputation of being the most dynamic, the hardest fighter, size considered, that ever rises to a fly. This quick-water-loving salmon is taken in the waters of Grand Lake Stream and Grand Lake. Big speckled trout and togue are other members of the finny tribe that make fishing in these waters a never-to-be-forgotten pleasure.

Other Fishing Waters

BESIDES the lake systems which have been roughly indicated, there are in Maine's 2465 lakes and ponds which show on the map as well as many others not shown; smaller systems and regions and places that provide unexcelled fishing. The first fly fishing in the spring is for sea-salmon at the pool in the Penobscot River at Bangor, in the St. Croix River at Calais and in the Dennysville Pool. For years it has been an established custom to send the first Penobscot River salmon taken in the Bangor pool to the President of the United States. These lordly fish weigh from 18 to 30 pounds.



Fly Fishing Five Mile Rapids, the Rangeleys

STATE OF MAINE



Stream Fishing

An open letter by one who has fished many Maine Waters

“GOOD stream fishing cannot be found in all parts of Maine for the reason that many streams are closed because the lakes which they enter are stocked by the state.”

“One of the best streams in the State is Sourdnahunk Stream, which is in the Mt. Katahdin country and is described in the booklet “In the Maine Woods” published by the Bangor & Aroostook R. R. You can get this stream fishing by stopping in the camps on Sourdnahunk Lake, Kidney Pond or Daicey Pond.

“Another place where you would get good stream fishing is at the Katahdin Lake Camps, run by Mr. R. E. Dorr of Millinocket, Me. as there are good streams within three miles of the camps, one of which is 25 miles of quick water and is free from brush.

“In Munsungun and Mooseleuk Streams, tributaries of Aroostook River which flows through the town of Masardis in northern Aroostook County, there are splendid riffes and pools where the trout hide.

“A few miles farther north in the Fish River Country there are said to be more miles of perfect trout waters available to the fisherman and more fish to the mile than in any other section of Maine. This country is described in the booklet In the Maine Woods.’

“There is good stream fishing in the vicinity of Topsfield which is reached from Forest Station on the Maine Central R. R., and there are camps on Musquash Lake. There are several good trout streams in eastern Hancock and upper Washington Counties reached from the “Air Line” highway running from Lincoln to Topsfield. At Tunk Stream in East Sullivan are several good brooks nearby. There are camps on Tunk Pond.

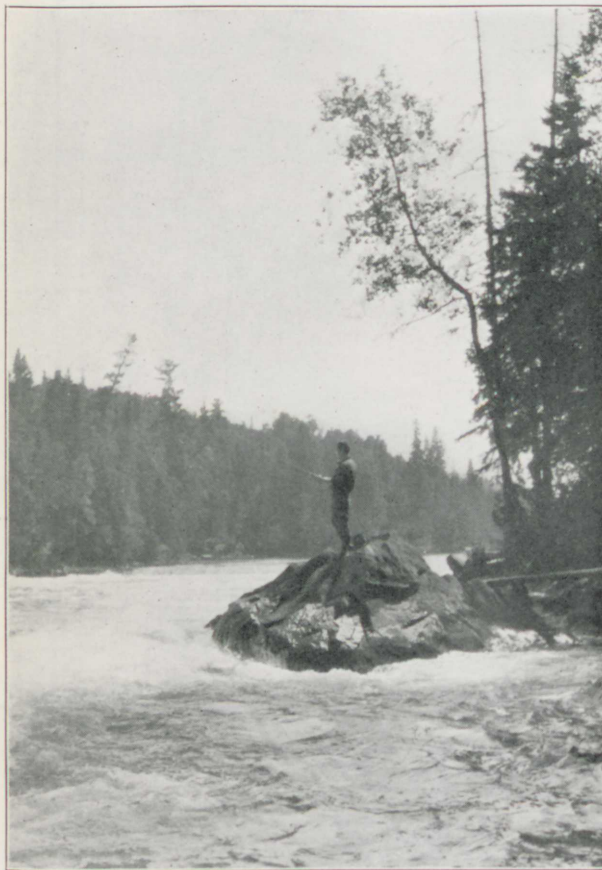
“The Jackman section, with camps at Lake Parlin, Woods Pond, Heald Pond, Crocker Pond and other ponds in the vicinity of Jackman, offers more or less good stream fishing.

“Penobscot Lake north of Jackman, but reached through Rockwood, the railroad station being Kineo Station, empties into the South Branch of the Penobscot River which is good trout waters.

“At Round Mountain Lake in the Dead River Region there

is very fair stream fishing in Alder stream and always good fly fishing on Round Mountain Lake throughout the season.

“Kennebago Stream in Franklin County may be fished with a fly only from the Big Falls so called, to Indian Rock



*Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts, Phila.
Where Salmon and Trout Run Big*

from dawn until darkness sets in, and only one fish a day may be killed. That is enough for any man as the salmon and trout run to three, four, five and an occasional six pounds.

Little Kennebago Stream may also be so fished and five fish may be killed per day—they run smaller in this stream.

“Cupsuptic Stream, north of Cupsuptic Lake of the Rangeley Chain, may be fished from the pier at the mouth to Big Falls June 15 to Sept. 30 with artificial fly only. Not more than three pounds of fish nor more than five fish may be killed in any one day.

“The Magalloway River on the extreme western border of the state offers splendid stream fishing above the lake by wading after the ice goes out in the spring and until about the middle of June when the trout work down into the lake around the mouths of brooks, and one casts from a canoe. There is good fishing throughout the summer in the pools on Big and Little Magalloway.

“Twenty years ago I used to regularly fish Grand Lake Stream, the outlet of Grand Lake in Washington County, but the fishing fell off after a big concrete dam with a screen was built at the foot of the lake; thus preventing the salmon from going down into the stream.

“It is hard to tell where the “Best” fishing of this sort can be obtained in Maine as each place offers its individual attractions and the best thing to do is to look over the booklets of some of the camps and then make a check-up by writing for further information.

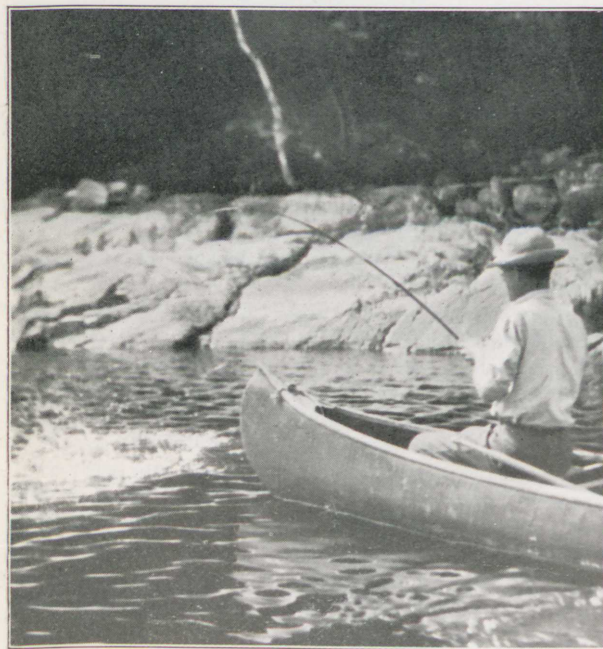
“The best fishing is in May, June and September. June is also the season when the black fly is most prevalent in the woods. That is the reason I go in September. In July and August because the waters are warm the fishing is not so good but there are certain northern lakes where you get very good fishing even during those two months.

“There are numerous outlying lakes, ponds and streams in which there is excellent trout fishing, and a special feature is the opportunities offered during the summer for fly-fishing.

“St. Croix River, which issues from the southwestern end of upper Schoodic Grand Lake, forming the boundary between Maine and New Brunswick, affords splendid fishing. Along this stream are many points of historic interest. The scenery

is inspiring, especially that portion of the river below Calais where it begins to widen out. The banks are high and rocky, forming retaining walls for fine stretches of wild country.”

“Fishing for the great sea salmon of the St. Croix River is exciting sport. The salmon of the St. Croix River are conceded to be superlative for their beauty and their game qualities. They weigh from eight to twenty-five pounds and even thirty pounds. The pool at Calais is, without doubt, the best in Maine. The fish rise to flies cast from the banks, so that it is not necessary to use boats. They begin to run early in the spring and may be caught until the latter part of July, though toward the end of the season they are neither so plentiful nor so gamey.”



Victory in Sight

When the "Ice Goes out"

THE earliest fresh water fishing in Maine is in Sebago Lake, in the southern part of the State in Cumberland County, 16 miles from the city of Portland, that being the first lake that clears, or in other words, from which the ice "goes out."

While on this subject, it may be interesting to explain just how the ice does "go out." The general impression is that it breaks up and floats down the streams which are the outlets of the lakes. This supposition is a fallacy.

Under the heat of the spring sun and the warm rains, the ice which has bound the lake during the Winter, begins to slowly disintegrate, and this process keeps up until it is nothing more than millions of suspended icicles which are held together at one or two points only. The surface of the lake is like a honeycomb. Gradually open water spaces of a small degree appear at various places, and the shifting winds move the body of ice in and out of these open places and to and from the shore so that it is gradually further disintegrated. This action, however, does not accomplish its purpose to any great extent. Only a heavy wind (which usually comes from the northwest) moving the ice from the north and west shore of the lake can do this.

As open water appears in various places in the ice, the wind gets a sweep under the ice and causes it to ripple like the waves on a pond, but, of course, in much lesser degree. It, however, serves its purpose, to rub the icicles together and, as they are very thin, porous and honeycombed by the work of the sun and rain, they very quickly grind up. This disintegrated ice piles up on the eastern and southern shore into great windrows, and this process of grinding is what makes the ice disappear and clears the lake. In reality, the ice does not "go out" but merely grinds up melts and disappears.

The writer has stood on the shores of many a lake and watched this disappearance, which takes place so rapidly that it seems as if you could see the ice moving down the lake. A large body of water, under a heavy wind, clears in a few hours, and what was the day before a field of ice, is now a sweep of sparkling blue water, in which the fish, because of their long fast since spawning time in the fall, are ready to take the lures that are offered.

A few days after the ice goes out of Sebago Lake, it disappears from the more northern lakes of the same chain, or region, Long Lake, Highland Lake, Woods Pond, Moose Pond, Kezar Lake and others.

The lakes in the Belgrade chain clear a few days after those in the Sebago region and those in the Rangeley and Moosehead country two to three weeks later than Sebago. Grand Lake waters in eastern Maine clear about a week or ten days later than in the Sebago region.

The early fishing in these waters is for salmon and trout which are taken on artificial bait, such as quill bait, red fish made of celluloid, wag tails, or live smelt on a spinner or threaded on to a single hook. After the first few weeks a trolling fly baited with worms is effective. Details of baits and lures is given elsewhere.

For the first week or ten days, fishing is mostly by trolling, as fly fishing does not usually commence until the water has been warmed by the sun so that the fish are working to the surface to get the bugs and other insects which come up from their breeding places in the bottom of the lake or have dropped or been blown from the trees and bushes that line the shore.

This rule applies to practically all fresh water lakes in which salmon and trout are found.

Bass fishing by trolling is not lawful until the 20th day of June, though bass so caught, while lawfully trolling for salmon or trout may be lawfully kept, but exceptions to the general laws should be studied.

During July and August, because of warm weather, fresh water fishing is the poorest, and in some waters the only way they can be caught is by still or "plug" fishing, which is not legal in the Rangeley Lakes and certain other waters, particulars of which are given elsewhere.

In some of the more northern lakes like Tim Pond and Kennebago in Franklin County, the Sourdnhunk region in Piscataquis County, the Fish River system in Aroostook County and other lakes which are entirely spring fed, so that the waters are cool, fly fishing is satisfactory even through July and August. It is quite apt to be the rule that on such waters, particularly in Franklin and Piscataquis Counties the law allows fly fishing only.



Riffs and Pools along the Sourdnahunk

Laws and Licenses

Inland Fishing Laws

ON lakes and ponds on salmon, landlocked salmon, trout and togue from time ice is out of waters in spring until September 30th, inclusive: in rivers from time ice is out until September 14th inclusive.

Open season on trout and salmon in brooks and streams of State governed by general law, from time ice is out until Aug. 15th, following. (*Important* streams on which there are special laws are excepted in this new general law — see law book for full text of these exceptions.)

Black Bass and White Perch: Open season on black bass and white perch in lakes and ponds governed by general law from June 20th to September 30th, inclusive: in rivers, brooks and streams from June 20th to September 14th, inclusive

Special laws apply to Sebago Lake, Long and Thompson Ponds, Upper and Lower Kezar Ponds, Lovewell's Pond, Moosehead Lake and other important waters. (Consult law book.)

Fishing Licenses

A RESIDENT of the State of Maine is obliged to take out a fishing and hunting license, which costs 25¢ and is obtained from the Town Clerk in the place of legal residence. This license does not have to be taken out each year but is good so long as licensee remains a resident of Maine or until canceled for cause as provided by law.

A non-resident, sixteen years of age or older, is required to take out a fishing license costing \$3.15 and a new one must be taken out each year. These licenses are on sale at most of the camps and hotels, at many sporting goods stores, by Game Wardens, many Town Clerks and other officials, and at the State of Maine Publicity Bureau, Longfellow Square, Portland, Me. They can be sent by mail on receipt of price and the following information:

Age..... Height..... Weight..... Complexion.....
Color Hair..... Color Eyes..... and Nationality

and must be signed by the licensee before it is effective.

Non-residents cannot build camp fires on a fishing trip in unorganized townships unless they are in the charge of a registered guide.

Legal Devices for Fishing in Inland Waters

SINGLE baited hook and line, artificial flies, artificial minnows, artificial insects, spoon hooks and spinners, so-called; set lines can be used only while fishing through the ice. Two lines only can be used by one person in summer fishing.



In Northwest Maine — One of the Rangeleys

“Where to Stay in Maine”

THE booklet “Where to Stay in Maine” is a practically complete list of hotels, camps, farm and other board places at Maine resorts on the seacoast and inland. It lists hotels, sporting camps, community camps, farms, boarding houses, boys’ and girls’ camps, golf courses, distances from Portland, on which railroad the places are located and how reached, rates per day, week and season. A copy will be sent free on request to State of Maine Publicity Bureau, Portland, Maine.

Other Books and Information on Maine

OTHER State booklets which will be sent on request include “Maine — Land of Remembered Vacations,” “Maine by Motor,” “Maine Golfing,” “Maine Camping and Canoeing.” Detailed information on Maine mountain climbing and hiking, and Maine’s industrial and agricultural opportunities will gladly be sent to those interested. Write us for whatever information on Maine you desire. We will see that you get the facts.

INFORMATION BUREAU,
Secretary of the State of Maine,
AUGUSTA, MAINE

1926.7

Favorite Baits, Flies, and Lures for Maine Waters

Salmon

For early fishing as soon as the ice leaves and for the following week or two

Salmon Flies

These flies have a long shank hook and a bunch of worms is used with the fly
They are fished as wet flies; no bait, when fly fishing only is permitted

Salmon Baits

For later fishing

Trout Baits

For early fishing
Trout will take worms more readily than salmon

Trout Flies

Most common patterns

Smelt on Single Hooks
Archer Spinners with smelt
Cupsuptic Baits with smelt
Phantoms
Rangeley Spinners with smelt
Nature Baits

Maine Lake Trolling Flies

Parmachenee Belle
Silver Doctor
Durham Ranger
Jock Scott
Dusty Miller
Thunder & Lightning
Mitchell

Cupsuptic Baits with worms
Rangeley Spinners with worms
Other similar bait which law permits

Smelt on Single Hook
Archer Spinner
Cupsuptic Baits with worms
Phantoms
Rangeley Spinner with worms

Maine Lake Trolling Flies—used as for Salmon

Bucktail	Montreal White Tip
Black Gnat	Parmachenee Belle
Brown Hackle	Professor
Coachman	Queen of Waters
Cowdung	Royal Coachman
Dusty Miller	Rube Wood
Grizzly King	Silver Doctor
Hares Ear	Seth Green
Ibis	White Miller
Jessabo	Wickhams Fancy
Jock Scott	Yellow May
Jungle Cock	Welch Rarebit
King of Waters	White Streamer
Lester	Brown Streamer
Montreal	Yellow Streamer

Also some patterns of Dry Flies

Stream Fishing

Flies as per above list, also best patterns of Dry Flies

Small Gold Spinners with worms
Tacoma Baits
Pearl Spinners with worms
Emeric Spinners
Denver Spinners

Lake Trolling

Willow leaf
Fluted Baits
Gold Bowl

Black Bass
Pork Rind Baits
Wilder Dilo Lures

Trout

Bass

Any of the common
trolling Spoons

Bass Flies

Black Gnat
Brown Hackle
Coachman
Col. Fuller
Grizzly King
Ibis
Lord Baltimore

Montreal
Parmachenee Belle
Professor
Silver Doctor
White Miller
Yellow May

Bass

Bait Casting with Live Bait

Such as shiners, helgramites, frogs, lizards, etc., and with artificial baits

Pickereel

Almost any legal spinner or bait with red in it will attract the voracious pickereel. Baits should have short wire leader.

White Perch

Any of the smaller spinners such as:
Roman Spinners
Denver Spinners
Tacoma Bits
Emeric Spinners
Pearl Spinners
used with worms

The above baits and flies are standard for any of Maine's inland waters. In each locality however there is some special bait which is thought to be better than any other. Information regarding them may best be obtained of local guides, camp or hotel proprietors, and sporting goods dealers.

We suggest that instead of stocking up at out of state stores that you wait until arrival at Maine stores or at fishing grounds and purchase of local dealers or camp proprietors. It is advisable when making mail bookings at hotel and camp to inquire if fishing tackle can be purchased locally.



Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts, Philadelphia