

Seedack — ①

1923

JEF #1504
Box 155 file 8

Notes on fishing by Mr. Harry Trischman

The fishing in the park is good in all the streams, that is if you know how to fish. People who are used to fishing with a hook and line and a cork on the line, with no leader ^{or} of anything like that, are not going to be successful in catching trout. You have to know how to approach a trout stream properly and ^{lay} make your fly properly in the water in order to have the trout take it. If a dry fly is placed properly on the water the fish will take it much quicker than the ^{ordinary fly which} ~~other fly~~ ^{fly} since the ordinary ~~fly~~ makes more of a splash, ~~than~~ ~~splash~~ and also sinks. The sportsman will use a dry or ordinary artificial fly in preference to a spinner as he can cast better and handle his line better with a fly rather than a spinner. A fine split bamboo trout rod will not stand the rigors of spinner fishing very long without suffering from this abuse. Personally I prefer an artificial fly about No. 8 hook, except in the larger streams like the Yellowstone, Madison, and Snake Rivers. In the lakes one can catch as many fish on a No. 8 artificial fly as on any other bait, either artificial or ^{real} ~~real~~. In fishing for brook, ~~trout~~ or the smaller trout, I usually use a three or four foot leader with a single fly on account of the brush and other obstacles that a fisherman encounters, but in the larger streams and lakes I use a six foot leader and I use two or three flies to test out the stream and as soon as I find out what the fish are taking I transfer that fly to the end (unless it is already there) and remove the other one or two flies. I have just as much success with one fly as ~~I would~~ with two or three, as when I get two fish on at once I usually lose one in trying to land them both unless they are quite small. In fishing for trout one should use a fairly long line as it would be difficult to handle this with an

ordinary willow fish pole so I recommend the use of a moderate priced split bamboo trout rod, jointed.

I use just a common line--a tapered or double tapered lines are for the fancy fisherman who use a \$65.00 rod with a gate ^{guides.} ~~guides.~~ With this they can handle the tapered lines in good shape. I can get just as many fish with a cheap line as I can with a tapered line and a \$65.00 pole. In landing a 3½ pound Rainbow trout I usually ~~play~~ "play" him as long as he^x will play, and then, if I have a landing net I pull him out with that, ^{but without a net,} ~~and unless I have a net~~ I find a good place along the shore where I can draw him out onto the bank, gradually, and grab him by the gills so he won't drop back into the ^{water.} ~~stream.~~ After he gets through fighting I grab hold of the line and slide him into the shore rather easily without letting him have any slack, however, this requires sometimes fifteen or twenty minutes to play him out ^{and} ~~or~~ ground him. All trout weighting a pound or more have to be played before they can be landed easily and only the fishing ~~running~~ ^{in length} about eight inches can be pulled right out on the shore as soon as they are hooked.

In the Yellowstone River are the Rainbow, Lock^hleven, Cutthroat (or Native) Trout, and below about a point about a mile about Blacktail Creek are also found the Whitefish averaging about 2½ pounds each. In the spring of the year when the water is a little ^o rily I use a devil scratcher ⁽³⁾ and put a sinker on and am usually sure of getting a white fish if I am fishing between the point a mile above Blacktail Creek and Gardiner in the Yellowstone. An occasionally I hook a large trout instead of the Whitefish, because certain times of the year like in the fall about September 15th the trout will take the

Emerson Hough buck-tail which is a very deadly fly. For the year-around use, the coachman is my favorite fly, but the major pitcher is also good, and I have had good success with the grey hackel, brown hackel, black^{gnat} ~~mat~~, silver doctor, professor, grizzley king, queen of the waters, cow dung, and coachman. The fish along the roads are pretty well [^]wised [^]up and the fishing is not good in the easily accessible places. The best fishing I ever had was ⁱⁿ ~~on~~ Mariposa Lake on Two-Ocean Pass in the south boundry of the park at a place that had to be reached with a pack outfit which took several days. Along the highways the streams are whipped so much by good fishermen that an inexperienced fisherman that the fish are wild and in these places it takes a real fisherman to catch any fish. If people are good fishermen at all they can catch good trout at places two miles from the road in most any part of the park. I never use a double leader because the flies usually tangle up between the strands, although a great number of people do use double leaders, however, I doubt if they have caught any larger fish than I have caught on a single leader, as one can land almost any sized fish with a single leader by handling him carefully. I use the same colored line all of the time and never change. My line is grey or light green. If a fisherman fishes a long time and is over-taken by darkness I wouldn't advise him ^{not} [^]to try to return in the dark unless he is sure of where he is going, ^{but} ~~in this case I would advise him to build a fire and~~ wait until morning to return to his ^{camp.} tent. I would suggest that all fishermen carry waterproof matchboxes to keep their matches dry, as a fire is indispensable if he has to stay out all night, and the nights here are pretty cool at any season of the year. I carry a

waterproof matchbox when skiing in winter on account of the perspiration which would dampen the matches unless I had them so protected. All a fisherman needs in the way of food is a sack of salt in his hip pocket as he can ^{make palatable the trout he} ~~can~~ roast ~~treat~~ over the coals of his fire, ~~and salt them and make them very edible~~. In fishing with a spinner in deep holes it is a good idea to let the spinner sink down into the water four or five feet and then draw it up, this will attract the attention of the big fish and they can easily be caught. A good fisherman will look at his hook frequently to see that the point is not broken off, and also that there is no moss, or leaves or other matter caught on the hook as a fish will not strike a hook that has any foreign matter of this kind on it, and if the ^{spur} ~~fur~~ is broken off of the hook a man might lose a fine fish for that reason alone. Trout ~~can~~ be caught anytime of the day and the usual alibi of the fishermen who is unsuccessful do not count for very much--I mean alibis like, it is too early in the morning, or too late in the afternoon, or too light, or the sun is not in the right direction, or the wind is too strong, or the banks were too high, the water too clear, or not clear enough, or poor fishing tackle, too much natural feed, fish all caught out, tackle no good, no landing mat, too many fisherman, not my lucky day, wrong time of the year--none of these alibis are used by a good fisherman as he can catch them at anytime of the year whether the water is clear, or muddy, or whether there is wind, or no wind, and all of the rest of these alibis. The fisherman should be careful that his shadow does not strike the water as fish can see this plainly and it has a lot to do with his lack of success. The fish will also be scared if the fisherman slaps the water with his line. The idea being to

(5)

place the line on the water as lightly as possible and to always/^{aim}to
keep his line on the surface. After fishing half an hour the fly
will get soaked up and will sink so it is advisable to change flies
every half hour^{or so} in order to keep them on the surface. The big fish
will often ~~times~~ take a small fly, No. 12 but^{with so small a hook} it is very hard to land ~~by~~
~~the~~ fish as the hook will tear out so easily.

This is from the J.E. Haynes collection at M.S.U.

Harry Trischman was an army scout in Yellowstone, 1909-1916. He was then a ranger until 1946. He became assistant chief ranger and chief buffalo keeper during that time.

This was apparently written in 1923. Sounds like a really practical guy. Lots of strong opinions. I don't know if it was ever published anywhere.

3-9-09

Bud -
Here's something
Don Martinez ~~to~~ write!

The WISE
FISHERMEN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA

An Encyclopedic Handbook for Fishermen
Covering the Game Fish of the World and
How to Catch Them

Edited by A. J. McClane

Contributing Editors: Francis H. Ames, Bounce Anderson, Joseph D. Bates, R. L. Blanchard, Wayne Buszek, Jim Deren, Bob Edge, Capt. Tommy Edwards, Bob Elliot, Vlad Evanoff, Lou Feirabend, Don Harger, A. S. Hazzard, Marvin Hedge, Van Campen Heilner, George Heinold, Laura Heinold, Oliver H. Hewitt, Claude M. Kreider, Robert Page Lincoln, Stuart Logendyke, Donald S. Martinez, Warren Page, C. Jim Pray, Edward C. Raney, H. J. Rayner, Charles Ritz, Ollie Rodman, P. Sevringhaus, Don Shiner, Gen. Walter B. Smith, James V. Stoddard, Lew Stoner, W. C. Taylor, Bill Upperman, George N. Vitt, and Dwight Webster.

Yellowstone material

1957

Wm. H. Wise & Co., Inc.
New York

Other names for yellow pikeperch are Walleyed pike, Walleye, Pickerel, Jack salmon, and Dore. It is a true perch.

The pikeperch catch on the Great Lakes has shown a marked decline in recent years. Once 15 to 20 million pounds was an average annual catch, with blue pikeperch predominating.

DESCRIPTION

Coloration of the adult fish is yellow to brownish green with an overlay of dusky blotches or mottlings. The pupil of the eye appears to be clouded over.

The yellow pikeperch may be separated from the related sauger, *Stizostedion canadenses*, by the absence of oval spots in the spinous dorsal fin. It has a dark blotch near the posterior base of this fin, which is absent in the sauger. It reaches a weight of 5 pounds or more in many waters.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

Though once the Great Lakes abounded with the fish, it is still common extending northward to Great Slave Lake, Hudson Bay, and Labrador. It also extends southward along the Atlantic slope to North Carolina and west of the Alleghenies south to the Alabama and Tennessee River drainages.

FOOD

Its food consists of small fishes and crayfish. Feeding continues throughout the year.

HABITS

The yellow pikeperch breeds in the early spring. It usually runs into the lower reaches of the larger tributaries but utilizes rocky and gravelly shores if streams are not accessible.

Groups of fish participate in the spawning, with male fish predominating. Eggs and sperm are shed while fish are in a close group. The eggs are very adhesive and small, about $\frac{1}{32}$ inch in diameter. A large female may contain several thousand eggs. Incubation takes about one week at 57 F. At a temperature of 40 F., incubation takes four weeks.

FISHING TECHNIQUE

In some areas, yellow pikeperch is regarded as a good game fish of excellent eating qualities. The popular way to catch it is by casting with plugs or spoons, or by trolling. Bait fishing is effective when the fish are congregated in shallow water. Ice fishing for yellow pikeperch is also popular in many localities. See also **COMMERCIAL FISHING AND PERCH**.

—E. C. Raney

YELLOW SALLY. A kind of artificial fly especially good for fly casting for smallmouth bass. See also **FLY AND SPINNER FISHING AND FLY PATTERNS**.

YELLOWSTONE CUTTHROAT TROUT (*Salmo clarkii lewisi*). Also known as Blackspot Trout, it belongs to the Salmon Family, *Salmonidae*. Silt-ing and water pollution have slashed its numbers but its range has been extended by artificial stocking of river drainages and isolated lakes.

DESCRIPTION

A rather slender trout, it bears the red line under the dentary bone which identifies the cutthroat. Its black spots scatter unevenly. They do not appear on the belly but cluster anteriorly and on the dorsal, adipose and caudal fins. This fish rarely exceeds 5 pounds although a specimen of nearly 15 pounds has been hooked.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

Originally indigenous to the upper Missouri and Columbia river systems, it congregates most densely in the Yellowstone River now.

HABITS

It reproduces during spring and summer from May to July, usually from 3 to 6 weeks after the ice has gone. Lake populations run up into tributary streams to spawn over the gravel of riffles. Like other trout the female of this species excavates a nest about 3 inches deep by kicking gravel off the bottom with her tail as she lies on her side. A $4\frac{1}{2}$ pound trout produces 3000 to 45,000 eggs. After the spawning act additional nest building covers the eggs.

FISHING TECHNIQUE

This quiet trout lingers in pools and riffles of streams. It eats aquatic insects and other invertebrates as well as small fishes. When hooked it battles desperately underwater but seldom springs clear as the rainbow trout does. During the season a hundred anglers a day may cast their lines for this fish near Fishing Bridge in Yellowstone Park. They prize it for eating as well as for sport.

—E. C. Raney

YELLOWSTONE LAKE, WYOMING. The principal lake in Yellowstone Park, which see under **WYOMING**.

YELLOWSTONE PARK. This famous park is situated in the extreme northwestern corner of the state of Wyoming, projecting slightly over into the states of Idaho and Montana.

Despite the tourist traffic, there is a lot of fine fishing to be had inside Yellowstone Park. Indeed, quite a few discriminating fly fishermen return year after year to fish solely in the Park. Here there are six or seven major streams, literally hundreds of smaller creeks, and hundreds of lakes, as well.

Madison River. The principal stream in the western half of the Park is the Madison River. It is formed by the juncture of the *Firehole* and *Gibbon Rivers* near Madison Junction, and runs westward to *Hebgen Lake*, in Montana. The whole twenty miles of river in the Park are good fishing, except in late July and August.

Hebgen Lake is the reason for the continued good fishing in the upper Madison. The big trout in the river are actually transient lake fish that have moved up into running water from the lake. This occurrence of lake fish in the river is sporadic until late September when the brown trout migrate upstream in great numbers to spawn. The rainbows also come up the river, right along with the browns.

When this fall run is in the river, fine catches are made on wet flies, using the same technique as that employed by West Coast steelhead fishermen. Since the browns are in poor condition, they should be released by thoughtful sportsmen. The rainbows, being spring spawners, are at their peak at this time. The Madison is closed on September 30th,

to protect the trout during the latter part of their spawning run.

The first five miles of the river downstream from Madison Junction is fine dry fly water. Its only fault is its size—a little too big and unwieldy for easy wading.

Firehole and Gibbon Rivers. The Gibbon and the Firehole are ideal dry fly streams, and are very hard to beat during late June, again during September, and right up to October 15th, when fishing in the Park closes for the season. The Firehole is the larger of the two, but the Gibbon is much the same type of stream, and everything that applies to the Firehole is also true of the Gibbon.

Neither too hard nor too easy, the Firehole is the ace dry fly stream of the Park. The fish are mostly browns with a fair percentage of rainbows. The water is warm, but the fish are hard and gamey. Trout over 3 pounds are no rarity. During July and August when the fish are inactive, it is possible to pick up a few nice trout by fishing where cool tributary streams enter the river. The fish gather in schools in such places, and there are usually one or two unwary individuals that may be induced to rise.

The best section of the Firehole is that part between Biscuit Meadows and the head of the Falls. The deepest water and the largest fish will be found in the part of the river near Gull and Feather Lakes, reached by the truck road to "Old Faithful."

Yellowstone Lake and River. From the standpoint of the casual tourist who is only mildly interested in fishing, Yellowstone Lake and River are the chief attractions in the Park. Trout are caught off Fishing Bridge, where the river emerges from the lake, on every conceivable sort of tackle, including cane poles, hand lines, and surf tackle armed with spinners, flies, or worms. A confirmed fisherman will shudder and look the other way—it is vaguely disquieting to see sizable trout hauled out one after another in plain sight of noisy people.

About two miles north (downstream) of Fishing Bridge, Yellowstone River is good fly water. The indigenous cutthroat trout is the only specie found in

this part of the stream. They are handsome fish: bright, brassy yellow on the sides, and deep olive-green on the back, heavily spotted with black dots. Because of the crystal clarity of the water, it is possible to see trout in the stream if the light is right. Casting to a fish that is in plain sight when he slants up to your fly is an added thrill. In the Yellowstone River the trout run very uniform as to size: nearly all will be almost exactly one pound in weight. Fed by the clear, cold water of Yellowstone Lake, the river stays cold all summer and fishing is good right through the entire summer.

Neighboring Waters. An interesting day can be spent in grayling fishing in nearby *Grebe Lake*.

The upper portion of *Slough Creek* is worth the effort required to reach it. Big cutthroats can be taken on dry flies there after the high water subsides in early July.

Lewis Lake. South of Yellowstone Lake is the Pacific drainage, consisting of streams and lakes destined for the Snake and Columbia Rivers. Lewis Lake lies in the Park on the main highway. It holds big brown trout and Mackinaws, both being exotic species. Possessors of portable boats are urged to ascend the inlet to Lewis Lake, to the point where the rapids bar further navigation. Mackinaws take a small spinner and fly readily in the rapids.

Lewis River. Below Lewis Lake, the Lewis River runs within sight of the road for a mile or so. It is smooth as a mirror, running about three feet deep over clean gravel, with no cover of any kind. It presents about the toughest possible problem fishing, but it is worth trying if fish are seen rising, or if a breeze ripples the surface. Brown trout of 5 and 6 pounds, and even more, are present in this stretch. They are probably all fish that have dropped downstream from Lewis Lake.

The Lewis River farther down, where it runs through a deep canyon, produces good catches, but getting back up to the road means a difficult climb. Few people fish the lower part of the Lewis, and almost none fish in the even more inaccessible part of the Snake River that flows out of Yellowstone Park.

Falls River. Inasmuch as this stream is best reached from Ashton, Idaho, and

part of it is in that state, most of it is described under IDAHO, *which see*.

The Falls River in Yellowstone Park is enormously wide, around 300 feet or so. It is a stream of great natural beauty, but in the Park it is not a good fishing stream. Being wide, shallow, rather swift, and devoid of cover, it is likely that the larger trout either move downstream to the deeper canyon water, or else shift up into the Bechler where food is plentiful and the water deeper and colder.

Bechler River. The chief tributary of the Falls River is the fabulous Bechler River, all of which lies within Yellowstone Park. To reach the Bechler, you drive 6 miles north from Ashton, Idaho, on the Yellowstone Highway, and turn to the right just before reaching the store and cabins at Warm River, Idaho. A wide, gravel road soon brings you to the Park line where a sign board informs you that you are now in Yellowstone. Beyond this point the road is a wide, hard-surfaced boulevard that terminates at the falls which give the main river its name. The existence of this short piece of super highway lends credence to the rumor that some day a new Park entrance will be established here and the road extended to connect with the rest of the Park road system at "Old Faithful," bypassing both the West Entrance and South Gate. However, even if this does happen, the Bechler River will remain comparatively undisturbed for many years to come.

There are three reasons for the Bechler's immunity from overfishing. First, it is remote from any town or resort, being entirely cut off from the rest of the Park. Second, it requires an hour's hike through the timber to reach it. Third, and most important, it is guarded by an army of winged dragons, the greatest concentration of mosquitoes and deer flies ever seen anywhere in the whole region.

The Bechler meanders down a long meadow that stretches for miles to the north. Until late summer this is a vast swamp, breeding the insect hordes that make fishing impossible. In warm weather none can endure the layers of fabric required to keep the insects from biting through clothing. Insect repellents do keep mosquitoes in check quite

well, but deer flies ignore them. It is only after the first killing frosts of mid-September that the Bechler can be fished at all.

Those fortunate enough to be in the neighborhood in late September should plan to visit the Bechler. Nearly all large streams in the West hold big trout, and free-wheeling descriptions are apt to give the reader the impression that all the fish are big, which obviously is untrue—but it does come very close to being true in the Bechler. Any fisherman who takes the trouble to reach this stream will not be interested in small trout. In flat, open water of this kind it is easy to distinguish the rise of small trout and thus avoid wasting time on them.

There are plenty of trout in the Bechler scaling upwards of 5 pounds. Trout this big take a lot of careful handling to tire out with terminal tackle of dry fly size. Small hooks tend to cut themselves free, and 3X gut is apt to chafe through in a weed bed, or get cut off by the trout's teeth.

Although the Bechler is primarily a dry fly stream, a careful angler can improve his chances by using a small wet fly or nymph and a leader tapered down to 1X. With a dry fly one tries to drop the fly a foot or less upstream from the last rise. Because of the added hook weight in even a small wet fly, and the somewhat heavier leader, it is best to cast well above the last observed rise so that the impact of the fly will not alarm the trout. If the sunken fly is taken by the fish you may see a bulge in the surface or you may not. To be sure, watch the leader at the point where it enters the water. If the fly is taken, the leader will stop drifting down stream and will be drawn into the water as the line begins to tighten.

The Bechler, like most meadow streams, is best fished from the bank. Move slowly and keep well back out of sight. See also ROCKY MOUNTAIN TROUT FISHING.

—D. Martinez

YELLOWSTONE RIVER. Flowing out of Yellowstone Lake in Yellowstone Park, Wyoming, this stream offers good fly fishing for cutthroat trout along some stretches of its upper reaches.

Entering Montana, the Yellowstone River flows north to Livingston, and

then west and north to the North Dakota border, where it joins the Missouri River. It is paralleled by U.S. Route 89 to Livingston, and from there to Glendive by U.S. Route 10. State Highway 14 traces the remainder of its course to the North Dakota border. Prize-winning rainbow trout have been taken from this river. See MONTANA.

YELLOWTAIL (*Seriola mazatlanana*). This fish generally confused with Pacific amberjack and Pacific yellowtail. Very little is known of its habits.

DESCRIPTION

It has 21 to 22 gill rakers on the first gill before the angle, and a steep profile. A ridge runs along the top of the head. It is found from Mazatlan to the Galapagos Islands off the Ecuador coast.

Also another name for the PACIFIC YELLOWTAIL, and YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER, each of which see.

YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER (*Ocyurus chrysurus*). This is a handsome and abundant member of the Snapper Family, *Lutjanidae*. Southern Florida anglers, fishing near the bottom, probably boat more of these than any other fish.

DESCRIPTION

Its size and deeply forked tail set it off among snappers. It may reach over 2 feet and 3 or 4 pounds. Both the elongated caudal peduncle and the long lobes of the caudal fins stretch its length. The gill rakers are long and numerous, numbering about 20 on the lower part of the first gill arch. Compared with the rest of the body the head appears short.

In color this snapper is bluish gray streaked and spotted with yellow. The most prominent stripe runs backward through the eye and widens at the caudal peduncle. There it merges with five narrower stripes running along the sides and continues back to cover the caudal fin. Brassy splotches dapple the upper half of the body. The fins are yellowish. In the water the yellow dorsal fins make a golden streak down the center of an otherwise olivaceous back.

The iris is red. Over certain backgrounds the yellowtail snapper changes color. When over white sand the yellow

Donald S. Martinez

723 S. ST. ANDREWS PL.

LOS ANGELES

Feb. 23, 1939

From ~~the~~ American Museum
of Fly Fishing

do not quote
without
permission

Mr. Preston Jennings
11 Orange St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

(The paper was torn)

Only yesterday I tried to decipher your address from the little cardboard box in which you sent certain flies to Aleck MacDonald some months ago. Mr. MacDonald is in New Zealand right now, presumably having the time of his life at Alan Pye's, but before he left he handed me your sample flies, notes and the collection of insects in formalin. I still have your flies in my possession; inadvertently neglecting to return them to MacDonald. My activity (if that is the right word) in this matter has been sketching the insects in water color with the aid of a very low-power microscope, and then attempting to work out tentative dressings from the colored sketches, with the idea of collaborating with MacDonald next summer when he proposes to get out his book. I will be at West Yellowstone again all next season, not far from Coffee-Pot Lodge, MacDonalds Club on the Snake.

I intended to write you to thank you for all the work you did on the insect collection, since I stand to profit perhaps in a material way from this hookup. At the very least, my dry flies will show an improvement and I have really enjoyed puttering around with the new dressings.

By the way, from the drawings in your book, I got the impression that your flies were more lightly dressed than they really are. For my own use, and for a very limited number of my customers I prefer a fly with scanty hackle. However, in order to please the majority of the people that I do work for, it is necessary to make a pretty bulky fly. In the samples I am sending you separately, the hackle is a bit longer and more of it than I like, but in order to induce people to use my stuff at all, I have to make them this way. There is no point in my making flies that will never get used.

Both Mr. MacDonald and I fully realize that we won't come very close to final dressings on these new flies until after we have handled freshly caught specimens, and I also want to figure on some sort of a quantitative analysis if I make myself clear. Contrary to what you assumed from hearsay descriptions of the Snake-Madison area, the predominant type of fly during the latter half of the season is the caddis, all fairly large.

In the matter of Steelhead flies, I am taking the liberty of sending you a dozen samples, my risk, of course. You can get a much better idea of what they look like than from any list.

Should you contemplate visiting the lower Rogue (Lowery's) you will want some ~~Black Ant~~, size 10 and 8. The samples are otherwise about right for the Klamath or the Umpqua. I can see in my mind certain fishermen of my acquaintance sadly shaking their heads over some of these sample patterns. Even so, they represent not my own ideas so much as the concensus of opinion of successful anglers. The Steelhead flies put out by the factories are always woefully overdressed, being tied dry-fly style with a collar of hackle ahead of the wing. Since deep-swimming is what is needed a flat, streamlined fly on a moderately heavy hook is what is needed. If you happen to have some British Salmon flies on size 8, 6 and 4 hooks, you will find them entirely practical. The best patterns are really simplified salmon flies with either buck or squirrel wings, jungle cock shoulders. Size 4 and 6 are most useful size, mostly 6s. For the lower Rogue (i.e. the bottom 30 miles) smaller flies are used, viz 8 and 10, altho 6s and 4s are also employed.

Frankly, despite all the heated arguments I hear about patterns for steelhead, I think that when they are in the feeding mood they will take practically anything. My only conviction is that hackle-feather streamer flies are dis-appointing. Steelhead are the moodiest fish of the lot, striking freely at times and at other times stubbornly refusing to look at anything. This alternating mood of theirs convinces the fisherman that either he has discovered the all-time champion fly, or that the flies he has are worthless depending on the way his luck runs. This same thing is true of trout fishing in general, but doubly true in Steelheadin'.

Please keep the dry flies and next winter I will send a series of the patterns that we arrive at during the coming summer: they will very likely be entirely unlike these guesswork flies.

The sample flies you can use to order from, if they meet with your approval, sufficiently, or they may be returned. These, my best grade wet flies I get \$3.00 a dozen for. I prefer to send all flies on approval subject to return if not exactly what is wanted.

Miraculously, the steelhead have returned this winter to certain short streams entering the ocean near Los Angles, and we have been having some really fine fishing in a small stream only 20 miles from my home. It is preserved which of course accounts for the fishing being so good. Here is a snapshot of my companion with two fish we kept last week.

Thank you again for being so thorough and obliging about classifying MacDonald's insects.

Very truly yours

Donald Martinez

Donald S. Martinez

723 So. St. Andrews Pl.

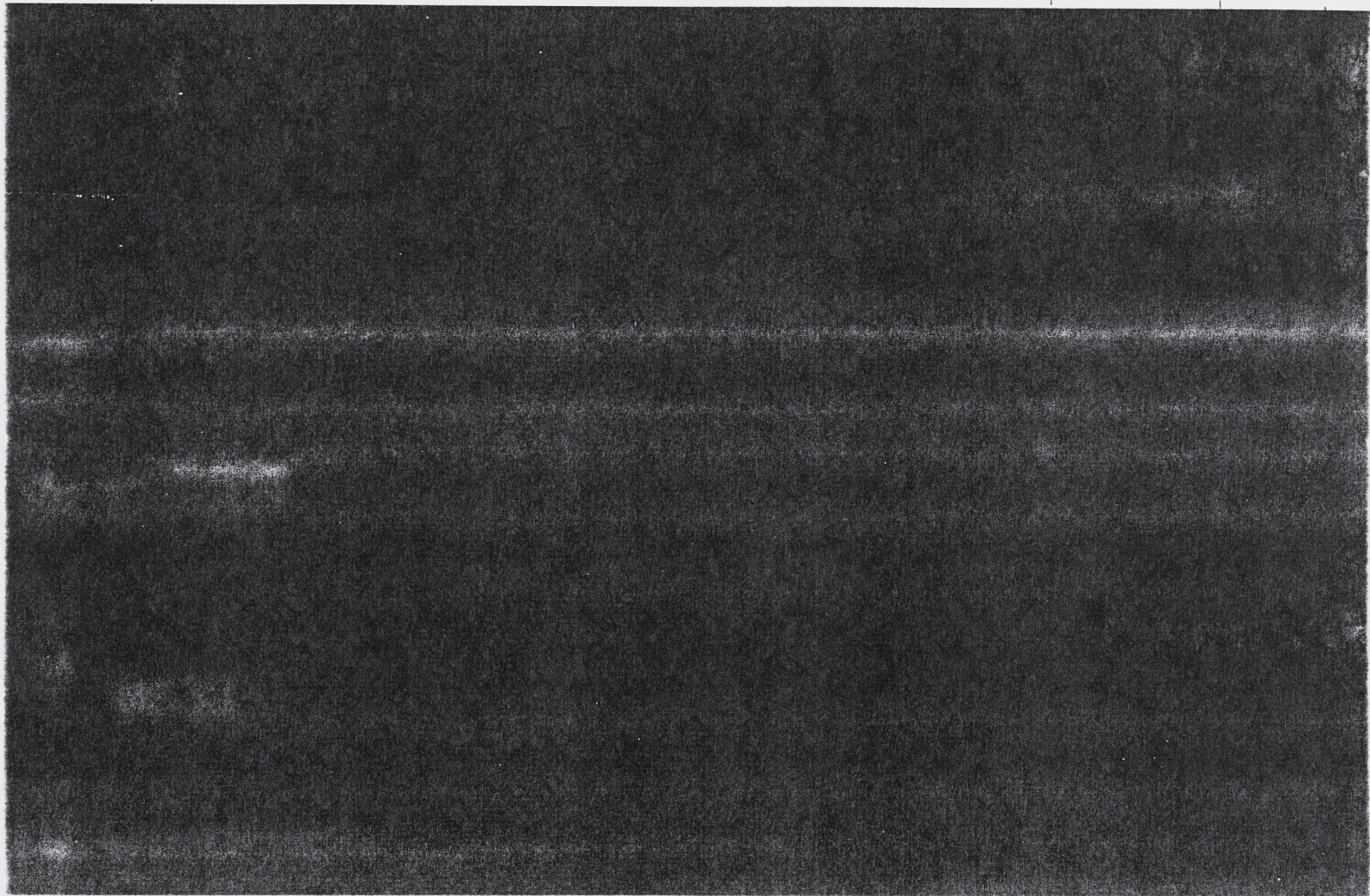
Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 23 1939

M Mr. Preston Jennings
Brooklyn, N.Y.

1

Dozen No.300 series Steelhead Flies at .25

Sent on approval, my risk.





FISHING GUIDE

By DONALD S. MARTINEZ

DON'S TACKLE SHOP

West Yellowstone, Mont.

There is no better trout fishing region in the United States than the section within a radius of 100 miles around West Yellowstone. Bigger fish may be taken during a brief period in the fall in certain Steelhead rivers emptying into the Pacific, and there are places where a greater number of fish may be caught at times, but considering the great variety of water, weather conditions, beauty of scenery, accessibility, large average size of fish, long season and safe wading this district is without a peer. There are hundreds of miles of large rivers running beside the highways, and other hundreds of miles of open water to be reached by side roads or trails. Practically all of this water is on public land, either National Park or National Forest, open to the public.

This map is only an outline of the available fishing. It will help you plan your time to advantage, however. Space does not permit a full description of each place. Where the map itself is obscure, or the text is not clear, please call on us in the store for fuller information. Conditions vary from time to time; a stretch of water that was barren in June may be excellent in August. It is our business to keep posted.

GAME LAWS

To insure continued good fishing the authorities both in and out of the Park occasionally close certain waters to fishing. License requirements vary from year to year. To be on the safe side consult us first.

SURPLUS FISH

We are always grateful for the loan of an exceptionally large trout for display purposes, but we deplore contests and competitions based on size or number of fish caught, regardless of method employed. Competition has no place in trout fishing. A large catch of average sized fish is interesting chiefly to the person that caught them. Well-meaning people sometimes offer us fish as a gift. We can not use them. Unless you intend to ship out a catch, please return surplus trout to the water. It is harder at first to put back a good fish than it is to catch it, but returning fish can be made a habit like anything else. Some of the best fishermen do not carry a net or a basket, releasing all their fish except an occasional very large specimen.

SELECTION OF FLIES

Early and late in the season, trout are taken on very large and gaudy flies, either streamers or bucktail patterns. Our experience during the past two seasons indicates that the use of these large flies in mid-season is a serious mistake. Instead of the bulky Jock Scots and squirrel tails used in the past, the more successful anglers now favor flies on hooks number 10 and 12 for the Madison River and in Hebgen Lake. The marked preference of the local fly fishermen for flies either dark in color or solid black should be heeded by strangers to these waters. The most effective wet fly in 1939 and 1940 was the Black Woolly-worm with the rough-bodied Black Nymph a close second. Either of these two were consistently deadly in a small size when fished on a light leader, IX gut being the most popular weight

with some experts going to 3X, which is perhaps too light for safety in wet fly fishing where the fish average better than two pounds. A careful dry fly man can get along with 3X gut, rarely popping off a fly, but will lose flies right along when fishing wet with gut finer than 1X. However, the greater number of strikes due to the use of light leaders compensates for the loss of an occasional fly.

Favorite dry fly patterns include the Adams, Birch's Favorite, Dunham, Special Ginger Quill and the Bi-visibles. During the month of June long hackled Variants on a 12 hook work well, due to the presence of the Brown Drake on the water, but later small flies do better. At times size 16s are a necessity.

As the experienced fisherman knows without being told, the best dry flies are apt to be small in size and dull in color. The nearer they approach the natural insects in size and outline, the more likely they are to work. Here again pattern is less important than good floating qualities.

Commencing in 1938 we began collecting and classifying natural trout stream insects from both the Madison and the Snake River watersheds. It is our intention to continue collecting the insects on which the trout feed and to work out artificials with the cooperation of certain expert fishermen. Dry-fly men can make a more intelligent selection of flies after examining the actual insects than they can hope to do by acting on hunches, or taking the advice of some tackle dealer in a remote city. The writer is well equipped to tie flies in imitation of the natural insects of this section, having been a fly maker for 20 years. Where the pattern permits we use game-cock hackle exclusively, insuring durable, high-floating flies. By selling direct to the user we keep our prices at a level actually lower than the cost of ordinary hardware store flies.

LIVERY & GUIDE SERVICE

To engage a professional guide for the first day at least of your visit is a good investment. He can show you the best places and correct any minor faults in your method of fishing or selection of tackle. We operate a livery service to and from the streams for the convenience of anglers coming by Western Air Express plane, who do not have the use of a car during their stay.

N. B. Hebgen is an artificial lake created by the dam at its western end. The map shows the shore line at full highwater stage. When the water is at a lower level, certain bays will be dry ground with the streams flowing in their old channels. Choice fishing will always be had near where streams enter the lake but when a lower water level exists, the streams mouths will not be where they are shown on the map.

Numbered Circles On the Map

1. Mouth of the South Fork. Go West on No. 191 about 7 miles, turn right, across road from schoolhouse, checking road by small creek, go north about 3 miles to shore of lake. Many large fish will be seen feeding in the evening in the slowly moving

water of the river channel. Wet flies best, boots or waders needed.

2. The South Fork. Turn right on Lake Shore road (marked with sign) 4.1 miles West of town on 191 as above, where straight stretch of highway ends. The stream may be reached by turning off on any of several side roads to the left, after driving two miles into the woods. Perfect Dry-fly water, trout average 18 inches, mostly rainbows. Hip boots are sufficient.

3. The Peninsula —

Check speedometer as you turn off main highway onto Lake Shore Road. Go 4.1 miles and turn off Lake Shore Road to your left. Fish anywhere around this peninsula, particularly in the Bay. The channel runs south along the east side of the point, and can be reached by wading. The west side of the point may be fished from shore. Grayling are taken here at times.

4. Mouth of the Madison. 3.5 miles North of town, turn left at Lake Shore Road. Park anywhere about .5 miles after leaving highway. Fine run of slow-moving water for either nymphs or wet-flies. High waders needed here.

5. Cross Madison River and turn left 300 yards at top of grade. Park in grove of pine trees a half mile west of highway. River channel runs along this shore of the lake. Boots required here. Try dry flies or nymphs in swampy back-water pools scattered among the willows for Eastern Brook Trout if lake shore does not produce.

6. Angle right from highway on old gravel road 3.4 miles north of town coming out on Madison River near Thornton's Camp, at old wooden bridge, that can be seen upstream from present cement bridge on highway. Good stretch of dry-fly water on near side of little island in the river about 300 yards above old bridge. Fish close to either bank.

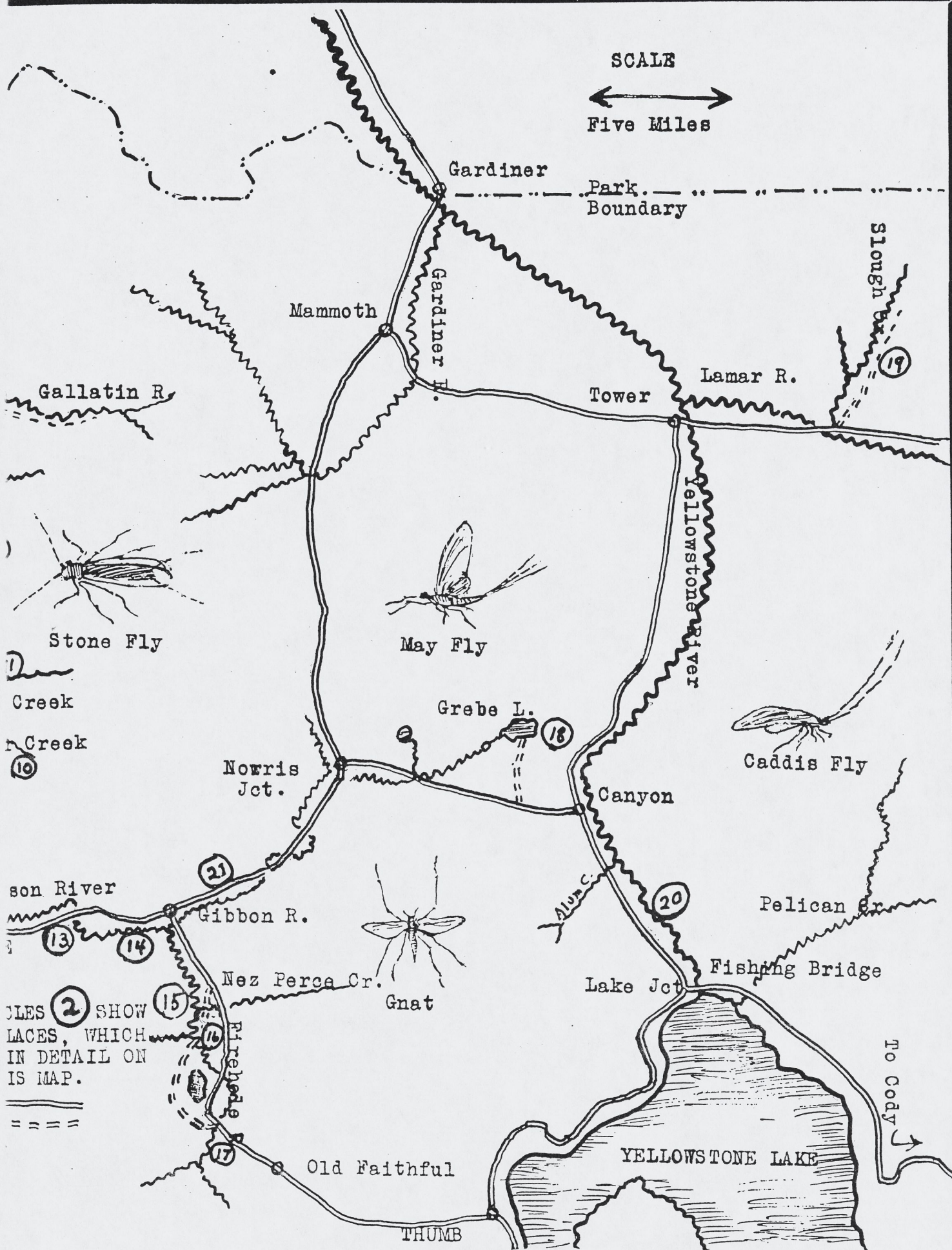
7. Turn right on dirt road at head of grade 300 yards after crossing bridge. About 1.8 miles after leaving highway the river's presence will be indicated below high bank. River may be reached from several parking places along here. All fine water thru this stretch. Wet flies best. Waders needed. Few fishermen work this water.

8. Turn right at Forest Service sign "Baker's Hole" 3 miles north of town on 191. Very good place late in the season. Also a good place for a voluntary swim.

9. Back of the Barns. Most over-fished and at the same time the most productive stretch of the Madison. Turn left one mile after entering Park. Road leads into a clearing with many buildings, the old stage-barns being the most prominent. The course of the river will be seen about a half mile distant. Two white trestles mark Hole No. 1, next one downstream is Hole No. 2 distinguished by big rock where road leads down to the water and No. 3 is the last pool working down stream. If all three pools are busy, continue down stream on dirt road running along the edge of the high ground about a mile, and try your luck. The water for some distance above and below the 3 "Holes" is shallow and lacking in hiding places which probably explains the presence of so many trout in the "Holes".

(Continued on Back Page)

SCALE
 Five Miles

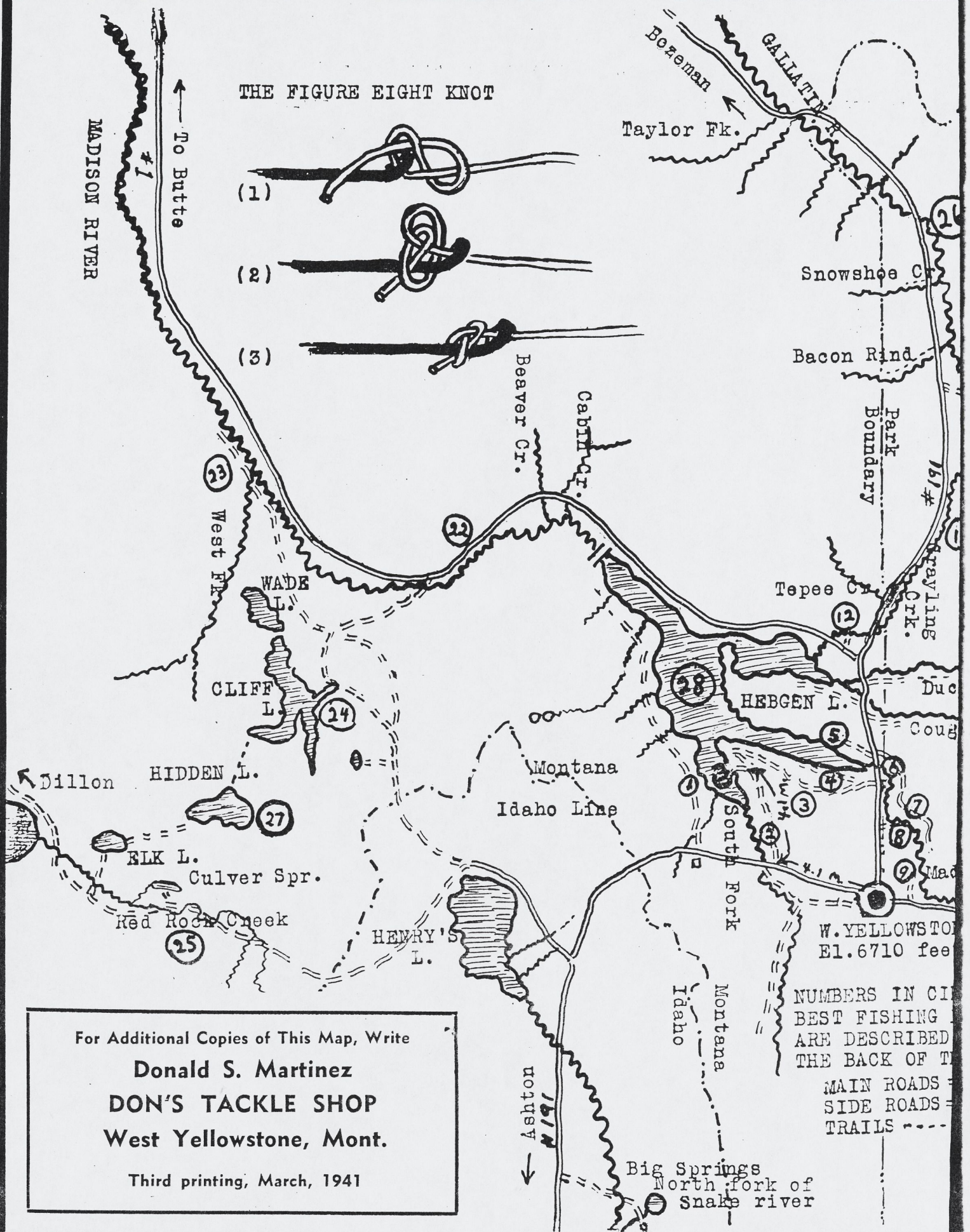
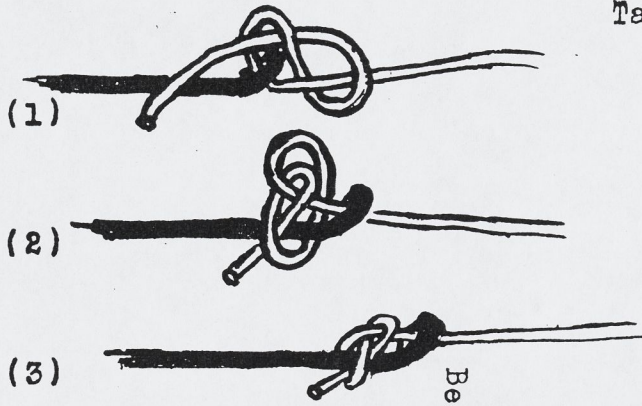


CIRCLES 2 SHOW PLACES, WHICH IN DETAIL ON THIS MAP.

=====
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To Cody

THE FIGURE EIGHT KNOT



For Additional Copies of This Map, Write
Donald S. Martinez
DON'S TACKLE SHOP
 West Yellowstone, Mont.
 Third printing, March, 1941

NUMBERS IN CIRCLES
 BEST FISHING SPOTS
 ARE DESCRIBED ON THE
 BACK OF THE MAP
 MAIN ROADS -
 SIDE ROADS -
 TRAILS - - - -

10. Cougar Creek. An ideal Eastern Brook Trout stream if there ever was one. Slow and deep. Banks are brushy in places. Worms are the safest bet here.

11. Duck Creek. From the highway down to Hebgen Lake the banks are very thickly grown with willows. It is not an easy stretch to fish, but pays well for the user of dry flies. Just inside the Park line is a vast meadow running back for miles to the east. Here is an unbeatable stretch of perfect dry fly water. Moderate depth and slow current. The trout are mostly Browns with Rainbows, Brooks and Grayling for variety.

12. The Grayling. Excellent dry-fly stream up to August 1st. Turn off highway to the right before reaching the place where the stream parallels the road. Leave car when creek is reached. Fish up as far as barns on left bank facing up-stream. Fish will be in pockets in the riffles. Dry-fliers best, hip boots sufficient.

The Grayling in the Park offers nice fishing at a point 15.5 miles from town. Moose trouble occurs here sometimes; cows with calves should be avoided.

13. About 7 miles inside the Park Gate, the road crosses the Madison. Upstream from the bridge is a stretch of very interesting dry-fly water. The fish lie along the bank which is cut under by the current and also in depressions in the bed of the river. Can be fished from the bank.

14. The Nine Mile Hole. A little less than nine miles inside the Park gate. Two very large boulders about 150 yards apart on the near bank mark this spot. The boulders resemble haystacks that have been eaten away near the ground. The run of deep water past the space between the boulders is nearly always good for at least one big rainbow. Large flies, fished wet. Waders or hip boots.

15. The Firehole. Neither too hard nor too easy, the Firehole is the ace dry-fly stream of this section. The fish are mostly Browns with a fair number of rainbows. The thick growth of weeds in the stream harbors countless insect larvae. There is a big hatch of flies of one sort or another every evening and rising fish can be found at all times. Fish over 3 pounds are no rarity. The water is warm but the fish are in no way weakened because of this fact. Some fine water lies right beside the main road where the canyon widens out above the falls. If you can get past this stretch without stopping to fish, you reach—

16. The Mouth of the Nez Perce. Turn off highway to right crossing the Nez Perce Creek on plank bridge seen from highway. Park anywhere in the next quarter mile. This is a rather deep, slow-moving stretch of water, but feeding fish are most apt to be close to either bank or in the shallow glides. Very small dry flies are indicated here besides larger imitations of the various sedge flies that are nearly always in evidence. When rising fish are scarce, try nymphs. Waders needed, but good fishing can be had from the bank at times.

17. Biscuit Meadows. Park near sign-board on highway reading "Biscuit Basin" and walk to Firehole River about one hundred yards to the west. Not much fished in this stretch, the River holds many big fish in this portion.

18. Grebe Lake. The place to get Grayling. This lake is closed to fishing by the Park authorities until late in the season. Ask before planning to visit it. A hike of about 40 minutes from the gate beyond which cars are not allowed brings you out on the southeast corner of the lake, near

the Grayling Hatchery. Mark the spot where you emerged from the woods well, if you plan on staying till dark. Best fishing will be found around east end of lake near mouth of a small creek. Besides the very plentiful Grayling there are some fine rainbows to be had here. Grayling are a moody fish, but by staying till dusk, a good catch is reasonably certain. Rather small flies are preferred, fished wet. Gauze wing patterns are highly recommended and squirrel tail patterns in size 12 will be found effective.

19. Slough Creek. There are very large Cut-throat in the flat stretches to be reached by the road and trail indicated on the map.

20. After viewing the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone time yourself to reach the part of the Yellowstone River above the falls anywhere from a mile upstream from the mouth of Alum Creek to a point 2 miles down from the outlet, at sundown. Every evening there is a big rise of Yellowstone Cut-throat, all running about a pound. Dry-flies size 14 or 16 to match the duns on the water will do the trick here. Watch out for white marl patches in the bed of the stream: they are very slippery. There is no handsomer variety of trout than these Cut-throat. Keep only five fish.

21. The Gibbon. Open water in the meadows. Plenty of good trout but by no means easy to catch. Recommended as a change from fishing in big waters. Dry-flies. Boots.

22. The Lower Madison. In the Gorge. Unlike the Upper Madison where the trout all run around two pounds, down here they come in all sizes. Your next fish may be six inches or six pounds. Most of them will be around 10 inches, and flies size 8 or 10 are most useful. The bed of the river is made up of round, smooth boulders, the current is swift, so unless you are experienced in swift water wading it is advisable to pass up the Madison below the Dam. Neither felt nor hob-nails hold well on the smooth rocks.

23. The Madison along here is not as swift and treacherous as in part nearer the dam, but it is still no place for a novice. To reach the back road on the other side of the river, cross on the plank bridge leading to Cliff Lake Post Office. Best flies last season were Black Nymphs, size 10 and Black Quill with squirrel tail wing.

24. Cliff Lake. Lake Tahoe on a small scale for scenery. This is the best place we know, for a specimen Rainbow. Fish over five pounds are quite common. Boats, guide and outboard when required, may be had at Neely's Ranch at very reasonable rates. Early and late in season is best time for exceptionally large trout. Take warm clothing; sudden showers are frequent at this altitude but seldom last long. Medium sized Cut-throat occur in enough numbers to keep the fisherman interested if the big Rainbows happen to be sulking. Very large flies are needed and the best heavy leaders at your disposal. Neely's Ranch is outfitting point for pack trips to Hidden and Otter Lakes.

25. Red Rock Creek in Centennial Valley. 35 miles from town. Eastern Brook Trout and Grayling in good numbers. Not recommended after August 10. Red Rock Lakes are the home of the last surviving trumpeter Swans. A smaller stream than any listed above; hip boots are all the protection needed. Fish average about 10 inches.

26. The Gallatin. The River is of only moderate size where it first meets the highway but grows larger every mile it travels. After summer showers it is sometimes milky for a short time. Usually it is exceptionally clear, always cold and for the most part rather swift and shallow. Like the Lower

Madison it holds fish of every size but most of them are well-conditioned Rainbows of about three-fourths of a pound. Despite its fast current it is an excellent dry-fly stream. After August 1st flies made to imitate a grasshopper have been very effective.

27. Hidden Lake can be reached in an easy one day trip by way of Elk Lake. Fishermen are ferried across Elk Lake and driven to Hidden Lake. A reasonable charge covers transportation and boat hire on Hidden Lake. Flies similar to British Salmon flies work well here.

28. Unlike many lakes, Hebgen offers excellent fly fishing during the entire open season. In the hottest weather the fish take flies nicely. Almost the entire shore line of some fifty miles can be reached by road, or a day spent in fishing from a boat is restful after a prolonged spell of stream fishing. Near the mouths of streams entering the lake will be found occasional Grayling and Eastern Brook Trout. Silver-side salmon are picked up occasionally. They resemble a Rainbow rather closely, but show no pink or red markings and are somewhat chunkier in build. The commonest fish in Hebgen is the Rainbow-Cutthroat hybrid. In most cases the Rainbow strain predominates. Browns (often called Loch Levens in the west) are the second commonest fish. Whitefish are taken at times, mainly near the mouth of the South Fork.

From daylight until two in the afternoon is usually the best time to fish Hebgen. After that time, the wind comes up and makes casting difficult. When the wind dies down again toward sunset is also a good time to fish. Although the places where a stream comes in are fished the most, the fact is that one place is about as good as another clear around the entire lake. Notice the direction of the wind and go to a place where the breeze will be off shore, in order to assist casting and lengthen the time until the wind gets too strong for easy fishing.

When the fish are taking surface insects, try dry flies. There is no point in moving from place as feeding fish are always cruising along the shore and they will come to you if you stand still.

The north fork of the Snake River rises at "Big Springs" shown at the lower edge of the map. It is a wide, slow moving stream down as far as the Island Park Reservoir, very clear and cold. High waders are needed but the wading is safe and easy, due to the smooth gravel stream bed. The river teems with small and medium sized fish and casts are rewarded with rises more often than not. There are plenty of big fish, not easy to take, to occupy the advanced angler who wants "problem fishing". Species of trout are Rainbow, Eastern Brook and Cutthroat. Although essentially a dry fly stream, small nymphs have taken many good fish in recent seasons.

It is sincerely hoped that this Guide will make your stay in or near West Yellowstone more enjoyable. If we can save you a wasted day or introduce you to a new stream we will feel well repaid. One thing we are sure of is that we know more about trout fishing than map-making, so our feelings will not be hurt in the least if you ask us to make clear to you anything that is written or drawn on this map. With a reasonable amount of effort you should catch some good trout every day of your stay in this section. If your luck continued bad, it may be your flies that are at fault. Perhaps we can help you. Somebody from our shop is out fishing everyday. Our information on conditions and what flies the fish are taking is not founded on guesswork or hearsay.

Donald S. Martinez

723 S. ST. ANDREWS PL.
LOS ANGELES

Mr. Preston Jennings
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

When I wrote you yesterday about steelhead flies, I must have had my mind on dry flies, because I omitted the very popular "Golden Demon" from the list. This fly is much diversified, but the sample herewith is fairly typical.

Two of the patterns in the assortment, Tri-color and Logie were put in chiefly because I consider them handsome flies, but in the interests of accuracy I should mention the fact that they are neither of them to be considered as popular steelhead flies.

The Alexandra has a certain number of adherents so I am sending one of them as well as the Golden Demon.

Very truly yours

Donald Martinez

February 24, 1939

March 1st, 1939.

My dear Mr. Martinez:

Under separate cover I am returning the flies which you were good enough to send on approval. Perhaps I did not make myself very clear in my letter, but all I wanted was a list of your popular Steelhead patterns. In any case, I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending the flies and if I could afford the luxury, I would add them to my collection although I have and am familiar with all of the patterns.

I was hopeful that some of your patterns would show some relationship to a few of the more common insects indigenous to the Pacific Coast, but with the exception of the Royal Coachman and the Umpqua Favorite all of the patterns seem to be of British origin.

In regard to the dryfly patterns, I would like to see the results of your developments after you have had a chance to work with the living insect. I would like to point out, however, that undyed materials have in general been preferred for dryflies. This material and hackles especially is not available in sufficient quantities for commercial fly tying and for that reason I have had to continually refuse to have my name connected with a commercial venture.

There is no question but what sparsely dressed flies will kill more fish than bulky ones and I try to keep on the sparse side.

Caddis flies are certainly important in northern latitudes and it is too bad that so little is known of them. In this region they are almost entirely nocturnal and for that reason are of little importance to the dryfly fisherman. Perhaps they are day flies at high elevations and it would be interesting to have your observations.

Again thanking you, I am

Yours truly,

Donald S. Martinez

723 S. ST. ANDREWS PL.
LOS ANGELES

March 6, 1939

Mr. Preston Jennings
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Jennings:

So far as I know, the only insect hatching in October and November on the Rogue and the Klamath Rivers, that is large enough, and common enough to be considered as part of the diet of Steelhead trout, is the insect shown in this sketch. It emerges on cold, rainy days. The nymph is a very heavy bodied, clumsy looking affair. They make their way to the edge of the river, crawling up on stones to shed their nymphal skins. I recall that the nymphs seem entirely at home in the air, showing considerable activity. If I did not grab them quickly, they would evade my hand and scuttle back into the water again.

This sketch is from notes in my note-book and is colored from memory. It is close enough to identify the insect.

The reason I am stressing this one insect is because, so far as I say definitely, it is the only insect that has been taken as a pattern for an artificial fly, and only by a very limited number of Steelhead anglers. The artificial intended to simulate this bug is usually an imported May-fly, detached body covered with pale gray floss, whole feather wings from the shoulder of a drake mallard's wing with a heavy hackle of blue gray. Which does not come within 700 miles of imitating the actual fly, to my notion. A much closer imitation would be No. 8 quill Gordon dry-fly, tied very sparsely to be fished wet. But the body should be quite thick.

In describing the natural above, I should have said that the winged form is much heavier, 'stubbier' than other may-flies.

The person best qualified to tell you what insects are taken by Steelhead is Mr. Milton Bugbee, Vida, Oregon. He fishes pretty much the year around and makes his home on the MacKenzie at the Oregon address, besides which they have another place on the Klamath River at Somes Bar, Calif. Vida, Oregon is more apt to reach him. He has kept notes on what he has found in the stomachs of steelhead, or I should said - failed to find, as they are apt to either entirely empty or with just a few odds and ends, frequently of no nutritive value.

(I recall a 5 pounder from the Klamath that we kept to broil, that was loaded to the gills with wild grapes, loosened from the gills over the water by a high wind that day.)

I would hazard a guess that natural insects have had no measurable part in the designing of steelhead flies. Late in the year there are not many flies on the water when the bulk of the fishing takes place. The fish are apt to be in deep, rough water calling for heavy gut and big hooks. The average steelhead angler is rarely the observant type of fellow. Mostly they are interested in only in hooking fish by a mechanical repetition of long casts, pretty much at random. The fish are usually out beyond the distance where a small fly can be presented with any accuracy. Only seldom do enough fish show to make it pay to try a dry fly. When fish are seen rising, they are more apt to be salmon than trout altho there is no of telling for sure which species it is as the salmon make a slow head and tail rise exactly like that of a feeding trout.

As to dry flyb hackle, you are of course perfectly right the difficulty of getting natural dun necks in any quantity. Even if dyed hackles do work as well as natural, the fact that really good white necks are almost unobtainable, makes it a never ending problem to keep a supply of blue gray and dun necks. An elderly acquaintance of mine had quite a few natural blue dun necks about a year ago. I propose to wheedle out of him where he got them. As I recall it, they were not very expensive. If I find out where he got them, I will let you know.

Mr. Bugbee is the sort of man that likes to do favors for other anglers. I feel sure he will gladly give you the results of his findings.

Very truly yours

Ronald Martinez

Caddis flies are in evidence all day long up our way in Montana. The main body of caddis flies spend the greater part of the day on grass stems in the meadows, congregating in vast numbers over the water about one hour before sunset, but there always a few individuals on the water regardless of the time of day.

FISHING GUIDE

By DONALD S. MARTINEZ

Totem Tackle Shop, West Yellowstone, Mont.

There is no better trout fishing region in the United States than the section within a radius of 100 miles around West Yellowstone. Bigger fish may be taken during a brief period in the fall in certain Steelhead rivers emptying into the Pacific, and there are places where a greater number of fish may be caught at times, but considering the great variety of water, weather conditions, beauty of scenery, accessibility, large average size of fish, long season and safe wading this district is without a peer. There are hundreds of miles of large rivers running beside the highways, and other hundreds of miles of open water to be reached by side roads and trails. Practically all of this water is on public land, either National Park or National Forest, open to the public.

This map is only an outline of the available fishing. It will help you plan your time to advantage, however. Space does not permit a full description of each place. Where the map itself is obscure, or the text is not clear, please call on us in the Totem for fuller information. Conditions vary from time to time; a stretch of water that was barren in June may be excellent in August. It is our business to keep posted.

SHIPPING FISH

We have facilities for keeping trout in cold storage, and if you plan to take some home with you, we will freeze them for you overnight. We do not charge our patrons for this service. Trout may be shipped by Railway Express to any point in the country, the company keeping them used until delivered.

SURPLUS FISH

We are always grateful for the loan of an exceptionally large trout for display purposes, but we deplore contests and competitions based on size or number of fish caught, regardless of method employed. Competition has no place in trout fishing. A large catch of average sized fish is interesting chiefly to the person that caught them. Well-meaning people sometimes offer us fish as a gift. We can not use them. Unless you intend to ship out a catch, please return surplus trout to the water. It is harder at first to put back a good fish than it is to catch it, but returning fish can be made a habit like anything else. Some of the best fishermen do not carry a net or a basket, releasing all their fish except an occasional very large specimen.

SELECTION OF FLIES

In wet flies, the consensus of opinion favors flies larger and brighter than those commonly used elsewhere. This is about the only observation that can be safely made, so wide is the range of size and pattern. We can tell you what flies have taken prize fish in the past, and what patterns are delivering from day to day; the final

choice you will have to make yourself. Some of the patterns that have been most popular in recent years are Black Doctor, Silver Doctor, Royal Coachman, both bucktail and streamer wing, Matuka, (a New Zealand design), Jock Scot, Alexandra, Mormon Girl with squirrel-tail wing, Black Nymph and Golden Demon. This list is by no means complete. More important than pattern in wet flies is the way they are tied. They should be on heavy hooks to induce quick sinking and most important of all, they must not be bulky, because a fly that is overdressed will drag to the surface in swift water, regardless of the weight of the hook upon which it is tied. Flies made along the lines of British salmon flies are best, being designed to swim deep in the current. They should be flat and streamlined, and not made like an oversize dry-fly, the common fault of factory flies in this country. In waters tributary to Hebgen Lake and in the Lake itself sizes 4 and 6 are most used, in other waters they should be smaller, with certain exceptions that will be noted in the numbered descriptions of fishing places that follow.

As the experienced fisherman knows without being told, the best dry flies are apt to be small in size and dull in color. The nearer they approach the natural insects in size and outline, the more likely they are to work. Here again pattern is less important than good floating qualities.

Commencing in 1938 we began collecting and classifying natural trout stream insects from both the Madison and the Snake River watersheds. It is our intention to continue collecting the insects on which the trout feed, and to work out artificials with the co-operation of certain expert fishermen. Dry-fly men can make a more intelligent selection of flies after examining the actual insects than they can hope to do by acting on hunches, or taking the advice of some tackle dealer in a remote city. The writer is well equipped to tie flies in imitation of the natural insects of this section, having been a fly-maker for 19 years. Where the pattern permits, we use game-cock hackle exclusively, insuring durable, high-flying flies. By selling direct to the user we keep our prices at a level actually lower than the cost of ordinary hardware store flies.

GUIDE SERVICE

There are several of us attached to the Totem in one way or another, that go fishing at every opportunity. Very often one of us can go along with a stranger to this section. We make no charge for this sort of intangible service. We can always supply the names of competent professional guides, when required. In general, guides are not needed. With the exception of the Madison River below the dam, all the streams are safe to wade and all worthwhile water is shown on this map.

N. B. Hebgen is an artificial lake created by the dam at its western end. The map shows the shore line at full high-water stage. When the water is at a lower level, certain bays will be dry ground with the streams flowing in their old channels. Choice fishing will always be had near where streams enter the lake, but when a lower water level exists, the stream mouths will not be where they are shown on the map.

Description of Places Identified by Numbered Circles on the Map

1. Mouth of the South Fork. Go West on No. 191 about 7 miles, turn right, checking road by small creek, go north about 3 miles to shore of lake. Many large fish will be seen feeding in the evening in the slowly moving water of the river channel. Large wet flies best, boots or waders needed.

2. The South Fork. Turn right on Lake Shore road (marked with sign) 4 miles West of town on 191 as above, where straight stretch of highway ends. The stream may be reached by turning off on any of several side roads to the left, after driving two miles into the woods. Perfect Dry-fly water, trout average 18 inches, mostly rainbows. Hip boots are sufficient.

3. The Peninsula. Turn out across sage brush flat 4 miles from No. 191 on Lake Shore Road. Brings you out across the bay from No. 1. Very dependable place for good fishing late in the day. May be fished from shore or waded. Cut-throats and Grayling are often taken here, besides the commoner Rainbow and Brown trout.

4. Mouth of the Madison. 3.5 miles North of town, turn left on Lake Shore Road. Park anywhere about .5 miles after leaving highway. Fine run of slow-moving water for either nymphs or wet-flies. High waders needed here.

5. Cross Madison River and turn left 300 yards at top of grade. Park in grove of pine trees a half mile west of highway. River channel runs along this shore of the lake. Boots required here. Try dry flies or nymphs in swampy back-water pools scattered among the willows for Eastern Brook Trout if lake shore does not produce.

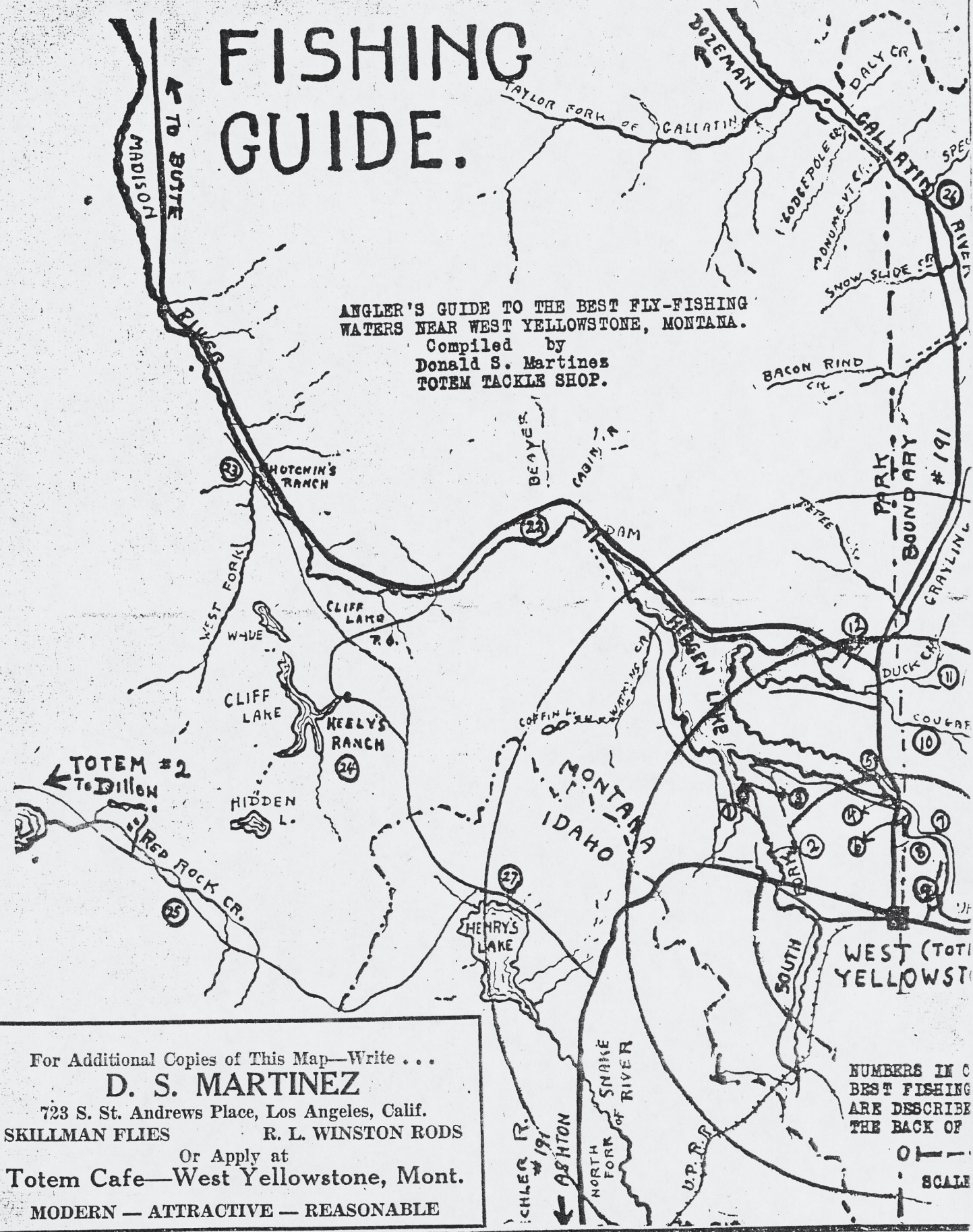
6. Angle right from highway on old gravel road 3.4 miles north of town coming out on Madison River near Thornton's Camp, at old wooden bridge, that can be seen up-stream from present cement bridge on highway. Good stretch of dry-fly water on far side of little island in the river about 300 yards above old bridge. Fish close to either bank.

7. Turn right on little dirt road at head of grade 300 yards after crossing bridge. About 1.5 miles after leaving highway the river's presence will be indicated below high bank. River may be reached from several parking places along here. All fine water thru this stretch. Wet

(Continued on Back Page)

FISHING GUIDE.

ANGLER'S GUIDE TO THE BEST FLY-FISHING WATERS NEAR WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA.
 Compiled by
 Donald S. Martinez
 TOTEM TACKLE SHOP.



For Additional Copies of This Map—Write ...
D. S. MARTINEZ
 723 S. St. Andrews Place, Los Angeles, Calif.
 SKILLMAN FLIES R. L. WINSTON RODS
 Or Apply at
Totem Cafe—West Yellowstone, Mont.
 MODERN — ATTRACTIVE — REASONABLE

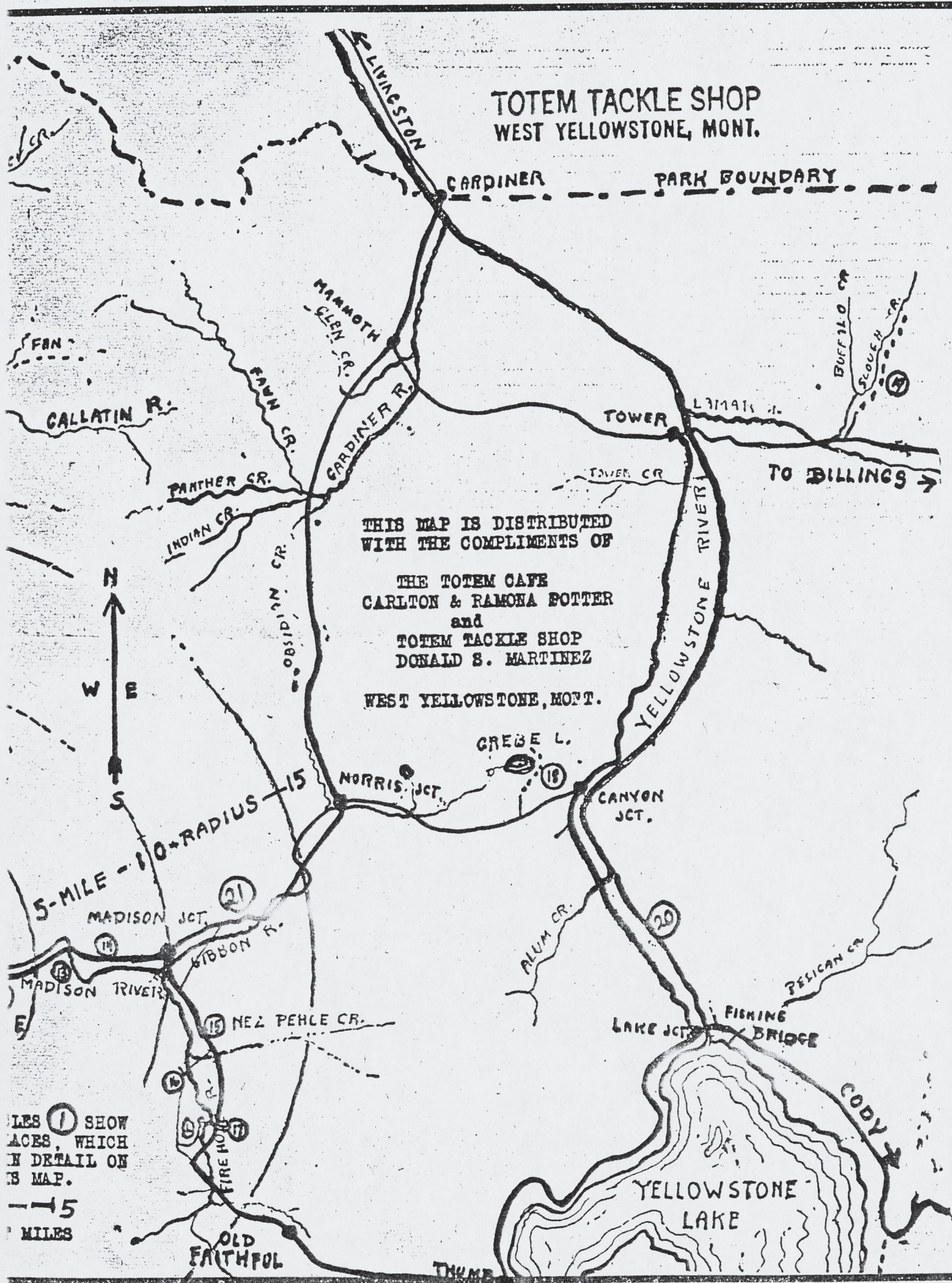
NUMBERS IN C
 BEST FISHING
 ARE DESCRIBE
 THE BACK OF
 SCALE

TOTEM TACKLE SHOP
WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONT.

CARDINER PARK BOUNDARY

THIS MAP IS DISTRIBUTED
WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF

THE TOTEM CAFE
CARLTON & RAMONA POTTER
and
TOTEM TACKLE SHOP
DONALD S. MARTINEZ
WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONT.



CIRCLES 1 SHOW
SPOTS, WHICH
ARE DETAIL ON
ANOTHER MAP.

5
MILES

OLD
FAITHFUL

YELLOWSTONE
LAKE

TO BILLINGS →

BUFFALO CR.

SCOUR CR.

L 371416

TOWER CR.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER

CANYON
JCT.

GREBE L.

MORRIS JCT.

INDIAN CR.
PANTHER CR.
FAWN CR.
MAMMOTH
GLEN CR.

CALLATIN R.

N
W
E
S

5-MILE - 10-RADIUS - 15

MADISON JCT.

GIBBON R.

MADISON RIVER

NEZ PEHLE CR.

ALUM CR.

PELICAN CR.

LAKE JCT. FISHING BRIDGE

CODY

THURME

Flies best. Waders needed. Few fishermen work this water.

8. Turn right at Forest Service sign "Baker's Hole" 3 miles north of town on 191. Very good place late in the season. Also a good place for a voluntary swim.

9. Back of the Barns. Most over-fished and at the same time the most productive stretch of the Madison. Turn left one mile after entering Park. Road leads into a clearing with many buildings, the old stage-barns being the most prominent. The course of the river will be seen about a half mile distant. Two white trestles mark Hole No. 1, next one downstream is Hole No. 2, distinguished by big rock where road leads down to the water and No. 3 is the last pool working down stream. If all three pools are busy, continue down stream on dirt road running along the edge of the high ground about a mile, and try your luck. The water for some distance above and below the 3 "Holes" is shallow and lacking in hiding places, which probably explains the presence of so many trout in the "Holes."

10. The Cougar and 11. Duck Creek. Only recommended for expert dry-fly men. Plenty of good fish in flat, still water. Mud bottom.

12. The Grayling. Excellent dry-fly stream up to August 1st. Turn off highway to the right before reaching the place where the stream parallels the road. Leave car when creek is reached. Fish up as far as barns on left bank facing up-stream. Fish will be in pockets in the riffles. Dry-flies best, hip boots sufficient.

13. About 7 miles inside the Park Gate, the road crosses the Madison. Upstream from the bridge is a stretch of very interesting dry-fly water. The fish lie along the bank which is cut under by the current and also in depressions in the bed of the river. Can be fished from the bank.

14. The Nine Mile Hole. A little less than nine miles inside the Park gate. Two very large boulders about 150 yards apart on the near bank mark this spot. The boulders resemble haystacks that have been eaten away near the ground. The run of deep water past the space between the boulders is nearly always good for at least one big rainbow. Large flies, fished wet. Waders or hip boots.

15. The Firehole. Neither too hard nor too easy, the Firehole is the ace dry-fly stream of this section. The fish are mostly Browns with a fair number of rainbows. The thick growth of weeds in the stream harbor countless insect larvae. There is a big hatch of flies of one sort or another every evening and rising fish can be found at all times. Fish over 3 pounds are no rarity. The water is warm but the fish are in no way weakened because of this fact. Some fine water lies right beside the main road where the canyon widens out above the falls. If you can get past this stretch without stopping to fish, you reach

16. The Mouth of the Nez Perce. Turn off highway to right crossing the Nez Perce Creek on plank bridge seen from highway. Park anywhere in the next quarter mile. This is a rather deep, slow-moving stretch of water, but feeding fish are most apt to be close to either bank or in the shallow glides. Very small dry flies are indicated here besides larger imitations of the various sedges flies that are nearly always in evidence. When rising fish are scarce, try nymphs. Waders,

needed, but good fishing can be had from the bank at times.

17. Continue on back road as above, until a small lake is seen on the left. A narrow road turns off to the left at the far end of the lake and curves back around the far side of the lake, bringing you within sight of a beautiful stretch of water that is very seldom discovered by the casual tourist type of angler. All ideal dry-fly water for a mile or more in either direction.

18. Grebe Lake. The place to get Grayling. This lake is closed to fishing by the Park authorities until late in the season. Ask before planning to visit it. A hike of about 40 minutes from the gate beyond which cars are not allowed brings you out on the southeast corner of the lake, near the Grayling Hatchery. Mark the spot where you emerged from the woods well, if you plan on staying till dark. Best fishing will be found around east end of lake near mouth of a small creek. Besides the very plentiful Grayling there are some fine rainbows to be had here. Grayling are a moody fish, but by staying till dusk, a good catch is reasonably certain. Rather small flies are preferred, fished wet. Gauze wing patterns are highly recommended and squirrel tail patterns in size 12 will be found effective.

19. Slough Creek. The writer has never fished here, but people that know say that there are very large cut-throat in the flat stretches to be reached by the road and trail indicated on the map.

20. After viewing the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, time yourself to reach the part of the Yellowstone River above the falls anywhere from a mile-upstream from the mouth of Alum Creek to a point 2 miles down from the outlet, at sundown. Every evening there is a big rise of Yellowstone Cut-throat, all running about a pound. Dry-flies size 14 or 16 to match the duns on the water will do the trick here. Watch out for white marl patches in the bed of the stream: they are very slippery. There is no handsomer variety of trout than these Cut-throat. Keep only five fish.

21. The Gibbon. Open water in the meadows. Plenty of good trout but by no means easy to catch. Recommended as a change from fishing in big waters. Dry-flies. Boots.

22. The Lower Madison. In the Gorge. Unlike the Upper Madison where the trout all run around two pounds, down here they come in all sizes. Your next fish may be six inches or six pounds. Most of them will be around 10 inches, and flies size 8 or 10 are most useful. The bed of the river is made up of round, smooth boulders, the current is swift, so unless you are experienced in swift water wading, it is advisable to pass up the Madison below the Dam. Neither felt nor hob-nails hold well on the smooth rocks.

23. The Madison along here is not as swift and treacherous as in the part nearer the dam, but it is still no place for a novice. To reach the back road on the other side of the river, cross on the plank bridge leading to Cliff Lake Post Office. Best flies last season were Black Nymphs, size 10 and Black Quill with squirrel tail wing.

24. Cliff Lake. Take Tahoe on a small scale for scenery. This is the best place we know for a specimen Rainbow. Fish over five pounds are quite common.

Boats, guide and outboard when required may be had at Neely's Ranch at very reasonable rates. Early and late in season is best time for exceptionally large trout. Take warm clothing; sudden showers are frequent at this altitude but seldom last long. Medium sized Cut-throat occur in enough numbers to keep the fisherman interested if the big Rainbows happen to be sulking. Very large flies are needed and the best heavy leaders at your disposal. Neely's Ranch is outfitting point for pack trips to Hidden and Otter Lakes.

25. Red Rock Creek in Centennial Valley. 35 miles from town. Eastern Brook Trout and Grayling in good numbers. Not recommended after August 10. Red Rock Lakes are the home of the last surviving Trumpeter Swans. A smaller stream than any listed above; hip boots are all the protection needed. Fish average about 10 inches.

26. The Gallatin. The River is of only moderate size where it first meets the highway, but grows larger every mile it travels. After summer showers, it is sometimes milky for a short time. Usually it is exceptionally clear, always cold and for the most part rather swift and shallow. Like the Lower Madison, it holds fish of every size, but most of them are well-conditioned Rainbows of about three-fourths of a pound. Despite its fast current, it is an excellent dry-fly stream. After August 1st, flies made to imitate a grasshopper have been very effective.

27. Henry's Lake, Idaho. This is the only place listed where an Idaho license is required. A parking fee permits the visitor to fish in the mouth of the spring brook at Staley's Springs, where Cut-throat trout well worth mounting are often caught. After sundown is the best time.

Hebgen Lake is listed last because it is already well known. Large flies, such as the Alexandra take well, either from a boat or fished from shore. Those who do not fly-fish, take fish by trolling with fly and spinner combinations, streamer flies, various spoons and wobblers. The trout in Hebgen Lake run no larger than those in the streams running into it, averaging about two pounds. As to species they run Rainbow, Brown and Cut-throat in the proportion of about 5-4-1.

The North Fork of the Snake River in Idaho is outside the province of this map. We make many flies for some very particular anglers who fish the Snake every year. South of Yellowstone Park lies the Jackson Hole country. For information on the streams of this section, the reader is referred to R. W. Carmichael, head fishing guide at Jenny Lake, Wyoming.

It is sincerely hoped that this Guide will make your stay in or near West Yellowstone more enjoyable. If we can save you a wasted day or introduce you to a new stream we will feel well repaid. One thing we are sure of is that we know more about trout fishing than map-making, so our feelings will not be hurt in the least if you ask us to make clear to you anything that is written or drawn on this map. With a reasonable amount of effort you should catch some good trout every day of your stay in this section. If your luck continues bad, it may be your flies that are at fault. Perhaps we can help you.

March 11th, 1939.

My dear Mr. Martinez:

The fly covered by your sketch is apparently Isonychia velma, which is one of the flies I am trying to track down. We have a fly of the same genus but of a different species here in the East which seems to be the basis for the Coachman Family of trout flies. I did an article for Country Life and The Sportsman sometime ago and they have finally published it in the March issue. You might have a look at the article to see what I had to say about this fly.

I have only a few specimens of Isonychia velma and would very much appreciate any nymphs, duns and spinners you can collect. No doubt Mr. Macdonald would be glad to let you have the bottles and collecting fluid.

I have just checked a collection of flies from the Mackenzie taken at Vida, but did not find any specimens of Isonychia velma. It is a very active nymph, and both the duns and spinners are strong fliers so unless you are looking for them they are apt to be missed.

You will probably think me crazy, but I am of the opinion that both the Atlantic Salmon and the Steelhead take artificial flies because the gaudy fly, when fished deep in turbid water, appears to them to be an excellent picture or suggestion of the natural insects upon which they were accustomed to feed in think clear water during their youth. The whole problem is to make a picture that will appear in a fog the same way the subject would appear in good light.

It would seem that it is not a question of what the Steelhead is feeding on at the time it is caught, but what it was accustomed to feed on during the time it was originally in fresh water.

Am glad to get the name and address of Mr. Bugbee and will write to him in due course.

Yours sincerely,

P.S.

In case you have facilities for breeding chickens for hackle, You might get in touch with Mr. William Seymour, Carmel, N.Y. who has been breeding Old English Blue Games for me for the past three years. He has quite a stock of blue birds and will undoubtedly let you have a couple of settings of eggs at a reasonable price. His birds are from the original stock which I brought over from England three years ago and this strain had been developed over a period of sixty years for quality and color of feather.

P.J.J.

April 13, 1939

Donald S. Martinez

723 S. ST. ANDREWS PL.
LOS ANGELES

Dear Mr. Jennings:

I attended school at Washington Green, Connecticut and remember very clearly catching some very nice speckles in the Shepaug River on live minnows, striped dace they were. The enclosed streamer fly recalls these minnows to my mind. If the natural arch of the feather were reversed it would come still closer to imitating these dace.

Along with this bundle of feathers were the finely barred specimens in the cellophane bag. I think these are what we have needed for a long time to use on bunch wings where a dark wing is required. Like yourself, I deplore split wings of mallard, teal or starling as being too opaque and very short-lived, but this feather seems to fill the bill perfectly. The markings are so fine they do not offend the eye as in teal or pintail barred side feathers. Used sparingly this new wing shows about as much pattern as the neurat-ion in an ephemerids wings.

I got these feathers from 'HERTER'S, Waseca, Minn. They list them as "Bali Duck" probably one of the brown pin-tail ducks native to the southern hemisphere. R. Bergman calls this feather "Yanosh" which sounds like it might be a trade name of Yiddish origin.

Just a word of warning : some of the materials this Herter concern list, do not quite come up the glowing descriptions in the catalog.

Some day I hope I can raise a flock of Game chickens for the hackles. Unfortunately our dwelling occupies a 60 foot lot right in the middle of Los Angeles, so keeping chickens, particularly roosters, is out of the question.

Offhand, I doubt if your McKenzie river correspondent will turn up that 'Isonychia Velma'. Where I found them was in the lower Rogue River, right down at sea level. The McKenzie is pretty high up in the Cascade range, and I imagine carries a very different assortment of insects as compared to the Rogue near its mouth.

I missed the boat on your article in Sportsman etc., being too late to buy a copy. Will pick up an old copy in a second hand book store.

The current Fishing Annual -(Sports Afield) carries an article I wrote last winter. It is intentionally geared down to amateur level, but has one or two ideas in it you might use some day. My small son, etat. 11, really caught the large Rainbow in the illustration, but the captions are the editors, not mine.

Mr. MacDonald will be back from New Zealand in about a week, and we can start work on the artificials to match the samples you classified for him. If they turn out fairly well, I'll send you some for your opinion.

Very truly yours

Don Martinez

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA

Nov. 30, 1939

Dear Mr: Jennings;

By a co-incidence I just pulled out a little used sliding door in my work room and paused for a moment to look at your photo-clipped from the American Magazine and tacked up on the door sort of for reference. just before the postman brought your note.

I did not fish in the Snake at all last season, nor did I collect any insects from the Snake, all my efforts being confined to the waters flowing Eastward from the divide. Aleck Macdonald's keeper at the coffee-pot Club did a little collecting from the Snake, but everything that guy did turned out wrong. His collecting fluid was wrong for one thing - my fault I guess - and some of his bugs took on a coating of crystals and looked like rock and rye whiskey. Other specimens disintegrated. The loss of his efforts was not a serious one, as his entire output of specimens was meager and haphazard. The man really tried to be co-operative, I think, but God just did not make him a bug collector.

I took out an Idaho license but just never did get around to fishing in the Snake. Another season, I propose to do a lot of fishing on the Idaho slope : it is only 9 miles to the Idaho line from our place, less than 20 miles over a fast highway to the best part of the Snake. You will note on the enclosed map that only some 6 miles separates the South Fork of the Madison from the Snake where it rises at Big Springs. The divide is a very low pass, in fact the whole district is essentially level, accounting for the slow running streams. There are mountains all around, but they stand well back from the rivers for the most part. My idea is that the same or nearly the same insects occur in similar waters on both sides of the divide. The Same Caddis in one instance, the large tan fellow with leathery wings and apparently the same Orange Crane fly as well as the same Brown Drake are found in both the No. Fork of the Snake and in The Madison and its tributaries, as they could easily drift from one stream to another on a high wind.

You probably meet more discriminating anglers than I do out here in the west, but my experience so far has been very disappointing as far as inducing people to use flies approximating the natural insects on the water. Dry fly fishermen, that is. I met with an entirely unexpected response from the casual type wet fly fisherman. In the case of the Orange Crane fly which is very common all thru late May and well into June, I could not supply the demand for a crude imitation designed to be fished wet. Same way with the nymph of the very common Brown Drake. My customers would look at the specimen in the bottle, then at the artificial, and always bought when I happened to have any tied up. Not so in the case of the dry-fly lads, however, contrary to what you might expect. Matter of fact, we get a great many poseurs, all togged out in the latest gadgets, masquerading as dry fly fishermen, who really don't know

anything much about the sport, but are determined to impress all and sundry that they are experts. Ray Bergman, whom you probably know, tells me he has had the same experience ; that after a lecture on what fly is a good one to use from the natural imitation standpoint, taking into account floating qualities, translucence, height of wing, color as seen against the light, etc, etc., the customer will always, according to Bergman, say " Have you got a Royal Coachman"? Pretty discouraging from a commercial standpoint, but I am very glad to continue this insect collecting work just for my own information and amusement.

I shall send you all the insects I have on hand, such as they are. Those in large bottles are those collected from the North Fork of the Snake. Those in small bottles are from the Madison slope, except in two instances where the small bottles are marked Snake River.

If you are interested in getting a good collection of Snake River insects, I suggest you write to R.W. (Bob) Carmichael, c/o Stanley Andrews Sporting Goods, 1144 Third Ave., San Diego, Calif. Bob is head guide at Grand Teton Park on the other fork of the Snake River. He fishes every day from early May until late in November, and would be glad to help. An erratic bird, but a very capable fisherman. Mr. Len Conway engaged him for a few days during the season just past and can tell you something about him. I recall that both Mr. Conway and Manning Barr mentioned knowing you, when I had the pleasure of going fishing with them last summer, by no means forgetting Mrs. Conway, for whom I have a very high regard.

Getting back to the insects, PLEASE do not bother to classify them. Aleck Macdonald agrees that we had better forget any more work on the insects of the district up there until we get a complete collection, which I intend to do myself next year, rather than entrusting it to some one else. By fishing in the Snake one or two days a week thru the season, I can tell which are the commoner insects and get an idea as to which ones the trout prefer, noting what I find in the stomachs of dead fish. Then when we have a complete file, we will start worrying about the classification.

One thing I would like to know is whether the May Fly dated July 4, Madison River, is the same bug as those from the Firehole June 11 and also July 7th. I noticed that the Madison insects were smaller, darker and a bit longer in the caudal setae than those from the Firehole. Enough smaller so they could not be the spinner phase - or am I wrong about that. There is a third similar insect, a handsome Olive Drake, between these two in size, not quite as common as the Brown, the large Brown, I should say. All three are easy of imitation and very effective indeed during late May, all of June and the first few days of July. After that time dry fly fishing fell off badly and it was no longer easy to get a good catch.

I may call on you later for a clutch of the Old English Game eggs. A fishing acquaintance is getting a small ranch in the country and wants to undertake raising the birds, fully aware of the bother and risks he will probably run into.

Very truly yours

Donald Manning

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York.
December 11th, 1939.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Thank you very much for your interesting letter and the two fly patterns enclosed. I have never seen an artificial tied to suggest a Crane Fly and am glad to have your pattern. Leonard West gives a dressing in his book of an "Orange Crane fly" but I had never had occasion to tie one. We see the naturals at times but somehow I had always associated them with still water, which is generally poor trout water in this part of the country. I take it that the artificial kills well.

The Brown Drake is Ephemera simulens, and is the only Mayfly found both in the East and the West. It is a typical lake type fly and occurs in vast numbers on the northern lakes extending from Maine to British Columbia. I had a number of specimens from Canim Lake B.C. this season. You did an excellent job of copying the nymph and I would not be at all surprised if you are not the first to tie a fly to represent it. Here in the East the fly emerges at night, in fact I collected a number of them emerging from Lake Michigan around midnight, and for that reason fishermen do not often see the nymph. Incidentally, if you have a duplicate I would like very much to add this one to my collection of naturals. I suppose that it is a daylight emerger at high altitudes, is this correct?

All of the Brown Drakes which you collected, ranging from May 25th on the Snake to July 7th on the Firehole are Ephemera simulens. The variation in size is probably due to a variation in the amount of food available in the different areas.

The Brown Drake in general appearance and size is quite similar to our eastern March Brown, however this latter fly lives in fast water and the nymph clings to the rocks. The nymph of the Brown Drake as you know is of the burrowing type and must live in places that provide suitable soil for burrowing such as sandy or silty bottoms. I will send you a few flies that I use when the March Brown is on and I believe that you will find them effective for the Brown Drake as well. You will have to give me a little time to tie them as I am going to be rather busy until after Xmas.

Dont think there is any question but what you will find the same flies on both the Snake and the Madison where similar water conditions exist. I think that the same flies will be found throughout the Rockies. It is a funny think that the flies of the Rockies and the Pacific Coast are more closely related to flies found in Asia than to the ones on the East Coast. It looks as if they came from the same stock before the Bering Strait was broken through, while the Great Plains have been an impassible barrier.

See that you are making a fisherman out of your boy. He is certainly a nice looking youngster and from the size of the fish he carts around must be some fisherman.

Re collecting fluid: This season I used 4% solution of formaldehyde, made by mixing one part of commercial formaldehyde with nine parts of distilled water and it has worked ok so far. It will preserve nymphs as well as flies.

I fished a wet fly for a good many years and then went to the dry fly in a big way because I could use the natural insect for a guide in selecting the fly pattern. For the past three or four years I have gone back to the wet fly, especially nymph patterns and find that wet patterns can be used intelligently and will generally produce more fish. Many dry-fly men undoubtly think that dry-fly fishing is the last word, but I am not at all sure.

I will make up a check list of the flies, but will not bother about the the scientific names, except in the case of the commoner ones. I will send back the naturals as soon as possible and would like to keep only one of the Craneflies and the Brown Drake Nymph in case you have duplicates.

Is the Learthy Winged Sedge the Caddis which you think important? Note that there is only a single specimen in your collection, so I wondered if it was really plentiful.

Thank you for your suggestion about Bob Carmichael, but I think we are getting a pretty good check, especially if you intending collecting on the Snake next year.

Let me know when and where you want the eggs shipped and I will get them off to you. Late March and April is the best time to start them setting.

Yours sincerely,

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA

Decemebr 15, 1939

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Unfortunately that Brown Drake nymph is the only specimen that I was able to collect last summer. The hatch was quite abundant every evening that I happened to be on the Madison, or its chief tributary, the Firehole, but that one nyph was the only I got my hamds on. I recall that I was scooping up hadfuls of loose muddy silt and idly washing out the contents very much as a placer miner sifts out the loose sand and gravel in a gold pan. I really tried hard to get another specimen or two, just so I could share them with interested people like yourself. Why it was so infernally hard to get these nymphs, I don't know yet. At times the surface of the water would be dimpled all over where these flies were emerging from the nymphal skin. I could get all I wanted just as they were drawing themselves out of the shuck and right afterward for a second or two. Incidentally the wings seem to harden in a jiffy, and the insect pauses for only a second or two before taking off. Much shorter time than most insects require to to get organized before taking flight.

I am reasonably sure that by doing a bit of dredging in the mud instaed of trying to grab a nymph coming to the surface I can get all the specimens I want next June, and will send you some as soon as I can, but until then I need the one I did get for a part of my sales talk to help dispose of the artificials I have made up. Dislike to intrude the sordid commercial note but that bug in a bottle is the greatest salesman I've ver had, So far as I can rememeber every single person to whom I showed that nymph together with the artifical, bought at least one or two, figuring that the nymph is common and the resemblance fairly accurate, they would be well on the road to success. Matter of fact the artificial is fairly effective at that.

Feel free to take any of the other specimens that interest you, whether they happen to occur once or several times. The only one I value particularly is the Brown Drake nymph. I will make you a water color sketch of it, however to take its place until I can get you another on rather a lot of them.

The commonest caddis all season long is the ligh grey fallow, about a size 13 or 12 gray hackle fly would approximate the size of the insect as it appears when the wings are in motion. The next commonest is the dark gray mottled with brownish, a smaller insect about a size 14 - and the third commonest is the tan, Leathery Wing Sedge, as I think of it. All three are exceedingly common, drifting up and down the stream in clouds, resembling a fairly heavy snow flurry. Matter of fact some evenings last June we had both the simulated snow storm and the real thing at the same time, the weather being pretty goddam grim during all of June.

The Firehole is a warm river, open the year around with insect hatches and surface feeding trout all winter long according to the rangers. In the fishing season the water temperature runs from the middle seventies well up into the eighties, b'laeve it or not. The weed bed are very dense, and the insect contenet enormous, due to warm water, year around growth and probably most important of all, there is no spring high-water whatever with consequent wash-outs. As you might expect from the occurence of still water forms, the rivers are slow moving, almost sluggish in fact. The surprising thing about this cock-eyed warm water and slow current set-up is the great strength and activity of the trout. The browns, even the smaller ones are miles ahead of any I ever took in Wisconsin and Michigan, for speed and stamina. They often take wild leaps like those of a fresh run steelhead. If anything they are a better fish than the rainbows, especially early in the year, when the rainbpws are still lean and out of cõdition.

The raising of the game cocks is entirely contingent on the continued interest of this rancher acquaintance. I propose to nurse him along and hope he doesn't change his mind about undertaking this matter.

Take all the time you need with the naturals before returning them, and please do help yourself to those that interest you, with the one exception noted so verbosely above.

There is an Orange Crane Fly in Michigan, never plentiful, but very conspicuous because of its slow flight and long dangling legs. It never was common enough to warrant the making of an imitataion, but the Yellowstone species is a very common indeed. As you surmised, it occurs only in very slow rivers where they enter the Hebgen Reservoir and in the rather sluggish Snake River. A state entomologist told me that Crane flies in that district passed their larval stage in muddy ground near water, and could be classed as an aquatic, but that other forms were strictly terrestrial.

The Brown Drake "hatches" from 6:00 P.M. until full dark which is about 10:15 or 10:30 during June in Montana. It may hatch all night for all I know. By ten thirty we were always frozen to a point where walking was no longer safe due to congealed joints.

The caddis flies are on the water all day long, but in limited numbers. They spend their days running up and down grass stems flying out over the stream in a body about an hour before sundown or about 3 hours before full dark, the twilight being long at that latitude. Dry fly fishing is not very good when nothing but the caddis are on th water. Either a Gray (Plymouth) Bi-visible or a Brown Bivisible does fairly well for me during these caddis flights, but the fishing is only a shadow of what we get during the May fly season, some five weeks long, June 1st. to July 4th., that is.

Thank you for your continued interest in our problems. I will be very glad to have the American March Brown dressing for reference.

yours

W. S. Martinez

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York.
December 27th, 1939.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

I was afraid that the nymph of the Brown Drake was the only specimen you had, as they are rather difficult to collect. I will have my artist make a drawing of it before I return it to you. Unfortunately she is tied up illustrating a book for Scribners at the present time, but will be free in a few weeks.

I sent you a few Grey Fox Hackle, and Grey Fox Variant flies which work very well on slow moving streams when the March Brown is in season. I usually use the G.F.Hackle during the day and the G.F. Variant late in the evening. Nearly all of the naturals have eggs of a yellow color and the gold tinsel must suggest eggs to the trout. In fishing flat water I find it advantageous to use a 12 foot leader tapered to 3X. Leaders of this length are usually too light at the butt end so I tie them myself beginning with 15 or 16 thousands gut and taper straight down to 3X. I realize that this is a rather light leader for Western fish, but it seems necessary for the best results on still pools and flat water.

For some reason I have never been excited about caddis flies, however a friend of mine in Seattle tells me that the "Orange Sedge" is one of the best dry flies especially for fall fishing in the Coastal streams. I think that the early season caddis which you describe as being light grey, must be a species of the Grannom. These flies appear in countless millions on some of our streams and as they operate only at night it is practically impossible to interest a trout in any kind of a dry fly while these bugs are around.

I passed up the Firehole when I was in Yellowstone, first because of the water temperature and second because of the number of bears and tourist. I was told however that trout could be taken on a dry fly with a water temperature of 74½ degrees and frankly it did not seem exciting at the time. It is possible that the fish have become acclimatized and fish better than one

would expect.

You did not say anything about the artificial Crane fly, and I am wondering if it is a good killer? I think that the larva is aquatic, but that it crawls ashore to pupate, hence the only time a trout would get a chance at the fly was during the egg-laying operation.

Think that you would be able to collect some of the Brown Drake nymphs by means of a small scoop made of mosquito wire. The sandy accumulations behind rocks is the place where they usually burrow.

The emerging flies get off the water quickly if the air is dry, which it usually is at your altitude. Am inclined to think that a little breeze helps them to get off the water as their type wing construction requires a slight breeze for easy taking off as well as landing on the water.

Will get the flies back to you as soon as I can get a drawing made of the nymph. Apart from the Brown Drakes the collection is not very exciting. There is one fly, which we ordinarily call the Quill Gordon in the collection. You probably know the fly as it has a typical quill body, and emerges early in the season.

Yours sincerely,

December 27th, 1939.

Dear Mr. Macdonald:

Thank you very much for the flies which have arrived safely.

Mr. Martinez has send me a few naturals collected in the Yellowstone district during the past season and I was agreeably surprised to find a number of specimens of Ephemera simulans. This is a large Mayfly quite similar to the March Brown in general appearance, but differs in that the nymph like all of the Ephemera group burrows in the sand and silt. So far as I know this fly is the only Mayfly which occurs in both the East and West; it is probable that it migrated via the Canadian lakes where it occurs in vast numbers.

In view of the fact that this fly also occurs on the still waters or placid pools of the Snake, I thought that you might be interested in trying some Grey Fox flies which work on water of a similar type here in the East, when flies of the March Brown group are in season. I am sending you a few of the Hackle patterns, which I used on the Ausable with good results, as well as a few of the Variants which seem to work better late in the evening.

Will be glad to have a sample of the dry Stonefly if you can dig up one. I used a fly of that type on the heavy water of the lower Madison with some success.

Yours sincerely,

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA
January 3, 1940

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Thank you very much for the two dressings of the Grey Fox. I had already cribbed the winged Grey Fox from A Book of Trout Flies, and judging from the flies you sent me, I got it reasonably close to your patterns. I am glad to have an additional argument in favor of wingless flies. I can do double split wings with fair results, but as you very well know they are very tedious to make.

I am sending you a few samples of certain flies. Please notice the "Birch's Favorite" - a pattern and size essentially similar to your Hackle Grey Fox. I tried this fly during the Brown Drake hatch and had very few refusals. When the trout started for the fly he always took it. Not caring for the softish Golden Pheasant breast feather tail of the Grey Partridge front hackle, I made up some substitute flies, to use as an alternate. These might be described as Multi-hackles Variants, resembling the M-H Gold Variant except for the fur body. Being anxious to arrive at a dressing that I could conscientiously recommend to my customers (- I damn near wrote 'patients') I took very close note of the performance of this fly. I failed to note a single 'refusal'.

Quite a coincidence; your Grey Fox, Hackle is almost the same fly except lighter in tone.

I also enclose two Louis-Rheadish flies made to sell. It is very discouraging the way fishermen see insects much bigger, darker and more strongly colored than they really are.

I will get more specimens of that May-fly nymph, you may be sure. It will pay me well to send samples of some of these larger and more easily copied insects to stores and resorts retailing my wares.

Regarding that Crane Fly. It is a good killer, very good as a matter of fact, but it is a lake shore or meadow insect, not a stream insect so far as I know. It was very much in evidence during late May and the first half of June in the meadows where the So. Fork of the Madison enters the Hebgen Reservoir - "THE PENINSULA" on my store map. Wet Fly fishing is very good all season at this point, almost too good, as it attracts a lot of fish hogs. I did not notice this crane fly in any great numbers elsewhere. I did see a few on the Madison, I recall, and Rawles, keeper at Coffee-Pot turned in a specimen from the No.Fk. of the Snake. Paler in color but the same as the Madison watershed Crane Fly otherwise. I have a hunch that the Crane flies noticed on the streams had drifted in from adjacent meadows -

I should have remarked above that there were many refusals - 'short rises' I mean, to the Louis Rheadish 'Pictorial' may flies.

If the insect you identify as a 'gordon' is the one I think it is, I am going to have to think up a new name for the showey looking flies I have been selling right along as 'Gordons'.

By the way, there is a small Caddis- about a 16 or 17 approx., very common indeed on the Owens River, a fourth rate watercourse in central California. I was instantly struck with the resemblance to the Grannom as made by English fly-dressers. Mottled Grey wing, rather roughly segmented body, and brilliant green eggs, the color and sheen of peacock sword feather. About the only stream insect I have ever been able to identify from a store bought fly, incidentally.

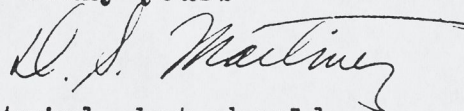
I rationalize the use of a metal body as on a M-H Gold Variant, by remembering that Dunne points out that a metal body has a high light along either side, probably giving an effect of translucance.

As you say, that insect collection isn't so hot. In fairness to the fishing up our way, I should point out that it was a sloppy job of collecting except during the first 3 or 4 weeks of the season. I lost interest in it partly because of lack of interest on the part of my customers and partly because of lack of co-operation by one or two individuals that I had counted on doing a good share of the work. Another year, I will do better, however, just for my own information. One of many regrets is the fact that I dozed thru a course in Limnology under Doctor Needham. I took it with the vague idea that it might help my trout fishing which it probably would if I had studied harder. I now remember exactly nothing of the whole course. Please never tell the good Prof. that one of his students was so utterly indifferent.

Probably my best bet to learn something is to cultivate a certain State entomologist who fishes up our way. If he will let me go with him a few times, I think I can pick up a lot.

Thank you for the sample flies and for your sustained interest.

Very truly yours



P.S. The Reversed Caddis Flies are new and untried, but should do well. They will be good floaters, the hook is partially concealed and the horns (antennae) will stay on point the right way.

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

January 9th, 1939.

*I think
Jennings hadn't
remembered
to type
1940*

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Thank you very much for your letter and for the flies. I am trying to get together a workable collection of flies from the entire U.S. with the idea of finally cataloging them with the natural flies which they imitate.

*had
early on
they are*

I am not at all sold on the idea of exact imitation, but I am very much interested in knowing what pattern of artificial fly will kill, when a given natural fly is present or in season.

Gordon designed two flies, one the Quill Gordon, the other the Gordon. The latter fly is seldom used here in the East. Gordon called this fly the Golden Spinner and I imagine he must have designed it to imitate Iron humeralis a light yellow fly which occurs in scattering numbers on some of our rapid streams. There is a similar natural in the West, Iron longimanus, but it has not showed up in any of the collections from the Yellowstone district.

The Quill Gordon, however, represents Iron pleuralis a very important early fly which emerges here during April and May. You have a similar fly, Rhithrogena brunnea common over the entire West. It is interesting to note that this same family of flies is represented in England by Rhithrogena semicolora after which several flies have been patterned, viz., Greenwell's Glory, Blue Quill, Blue Upright, Blue Dun etc.

Think that you will find that the Grey Fox flies will work when the Brown Drake is up, but you will have to use a long leader. My experience has been that lightly lightly hackled flies work better on still water than winged flies.

Do you handle any flies other than those you tie yourself? Note that your letter-head carries the name Skillman flies, and I was interested to know what they are.

Yours sincerely,

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York.
February 26th, 1940.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Well my artist finally got around to making a drawing of the *E. Simulans* nymph, so I am returning your entire collection under separate cover. I retained one specimen of *E. simulans*, otherwise the collection is intact. I think I mentioned that several bottles were broken on the trip east and I hope that there will be no further loss suffered.

Rhithrogena brunnea, occupies much the same position in western streams that *Iron pleuralis* does here in the east and I believe that you will find that a well tied Quill Gordon will do the trick when *R. brunnea* is on. If you could get a few of the duns or subimagines I would appreciate having a specimen.

Ephemera simulans, seems to be quite important and I will be interested to hear if the Grey Fox flies work out to your satisfaction. I may get out to northern Michigan this year and I have tied a few "Brown Drake Straddlebugs" to try in case *E. simulans* is emerging. (Sample enclosed) These flies can be fished either wet or dry and as you probably know are used extensively in Ireland for lake fishing, when *E. vulgata* is emerging.

There is a large yellow Mayfly of the genus *Hexagenia* common to lakes, as far west as Minnesota and it is possible that you have a similar fly, do you remember seeing it?

Yours sincerely,

Donald Martinez.. Yellowstone Collection.

June 9th,.. Firehole..Ephemera simulans, Brown Drake
May 25th,.. do
June 25th,. Madison do
June 26th,. Madison do
July 4th,.. Madison do
June 14th.. do Brown Drake nymph
May 25th,.. Hegben... Callibaetis
July 2nd,..Snake..... Rhithrogena brunnea, Quill Gordon
June 30th,. Madison.. Acroneuria pacifica, Stone nymph
July 6th,.. Madison.. Polynarcys californica, Brown
Stone.
May 24th,..Hegben... Ichneumon fly, lays its eggs
by injecting them into a living
caterpillar.
July 22nd,. Snake... Larva of a diving beetle, commonly
called a Water-Tiger
July 13th,. South Fork. Lacewings; the larva is un-
known to science. There is
another bottle without label
which contains the same.
Aug 16th,. Snake.... 1 Baetis, 1 Yellow Sally

The bottles containing small Caddis, small stone flies
and Craneflies seem such a mixture that I have not
attempted to get them classified. If you can get
a sufficient number of Caddis flies of one species,
I will be glad to send them to Cornell for identifi-
cation.

SKILLMAN FLIES
R. L. WINSTON RODS

Will use the Straddle-bug lough Erne type fly for a "Spinner"
Will report on it along with Grey Fox

WINTER ADDRESS
723 SO. ST. ANDREWS PLACE
LOS ANGELES

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

~~WEST YELLOWSTONE MONTANA~~

March 1st. 1940

Dear Mr. Jennings:

I am exceedingly grateful to you for going to all the trouble you have in this matter of Yellowstone insects. Although, as Ray Bergman told me last fall, you can harangue some guy for an hour about the desirability of matching size color and outline of whatever insect is most prevalent, etc., etc, and when you run out of breath the customer says "Have you got a Royal Coachman?"

Even so, I propose to keep at this collecting. I most certainly shall get a number of individuals of each of the successive caddis hatches for you, and enough Simulans nymphs so we can pass out a few of them. I can bribe or bully my small son into getting the specimens we need, if unable to do it myself.

Not surprised some bottles were broken. Mr. Farley's stout lads always manage to bust everything they handle. Will pack in sawdust henceforth. Matter of fact, the most valuable specimens to me are the crane fly and the simulans nymph, being easily copied with a fairly obvious wet fly imitation, the others I do not value at all.

In a recent letter you asked about "Skillman" flies. I use that name as a trade name for the stuff I sell to stores and resorts. Skillman is my middle name, my mother's family name - town near Princeton is where the first settlers of that name held forth, later some of them moved to Michigan. The name Martinez establishes a presumption in peoples' mind that I am a Mexican, and not likely to have done much trout fishing. Around here everyone whose name ends in EZ is automatically a Mexican. If solvent and fairly presentable Mexicans become "old Spanish Families" to their faces. I fall some where in between being neither one nor the other - 1/4 Spanish via New Orleans. All of which has nothing to do with trout fishing. Incidentally, calling the Yellowstone enterprise "Totem Tackle Shop" hasn't helped matters. Added to the foregoing, I look a good bit like Carl Potter, my landlord at Yellowstone, handle Winston Rods which are generally known as Stoner rods and invariably confused with Powell Rods. Figures out as some six or seven aliases.

For several seasons in a row, I used to fish in northern Michigan. Always liked the Jordan from Chestonia down to its mouth near East Jordan the best of the lot, with the Boardman my second choice. The Jordan is about the world's coldest stream, rather hard to wade and to fish but a grand stream just the same. Late in the season, after August 15th., the big rainbows run up the lower two or three miles of the Jordan from Pine Lake every evening. I can't prove that they do not stay in the stream all day, but I never saw but one or two in full day light. They used to run from 2 or 3 pounds up to unmanageable size. We used sizable salmon flies for them size 2 to 2/0.

I will look for the large yellow May, but it seems to me that the lakes around Yellowstone do not produce May flies as lakes do elsewhere.

Very truly yours

Donald S. Martinez

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

March 25th, 1940.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Under separate cover I am sending you a few screwy looking dry flies, which I hope will look to a fish like a Yellow Stonefly in the act of depositing it's eggs.

As near as I can tell there is a fair hatch of the Light Stonefly, (*Acroneuria pacifica*) on the lower Madison along in the latter half of June and I thought that you might see if these flies would work.

A friend of mine in Seattle tried the same design, tied with a dark grizzle hackle to suggest the Dark Stonefly, and he writes me that it worked very well.

The reason I asked about the Skillman flies was to ascertain if you handled flies by other manufacturers in your shop at West Yellowstone. If you did, I was going to suggest that you try a few of the Iris No.1 Streamers tied by Lyon and Coulson, Buffalo, N.Y. I have spent a great deal of time and money developing the Iris design, and I turned the fly over to them on an exclusive royalty basis, with the hope of getting some of my money back. The fly killed very well last year on all kinds of fish and I think it might kill well in the West, that is if there are any minnows or small fish in the streams.

The basis of the design, is the fact that light entering the water from any angle other than vertical is split and large fish feeding on small fish see the small fish by means of split light.

Yours sincerely,

Sample Iris No.1 enclosed

DONALD S. MARTINEZ
WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA

March 30 - '40

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Thank you very much for the flies. I don't think that ovipositing Stone is screwy looking. It fished down and across with an intentional drag, the buck-tail appendages will spilt the current, setting up bifurcated striations (two \$4.00 words) and I have noticed that stones do this very thing. I'll bet right now these flies will be murderously effective, if I can only induce the club-footed peasants I have to deal with that they will work. Forgive me if I bellyache about my clientele. Besides the farmers from Idaho and Utah, I get some of the very best people in the world, men like Len Conway and Manning Barr whom I think you know and Hap Hoover, from Kansas City who is a good fisherman if there ever was one and many more on the same order, so I shouldn't kick.

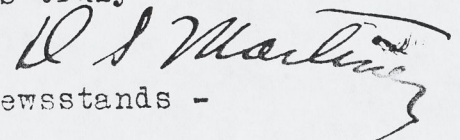
I have on hand a considerable stock of Lyon and Coulson streamers that I acquired when I took over the shop at Yellowstone. It was originally a combination of tackle, soda fountain, souvenirs, post card, bedlam and tourists, now happily all gone but the tackle enterprise, but much of the residuary stock remains, including the Lyon and Coulson stuff. I shall add your streamers to this stock, thereby bringing it up to date. I buy quite a bit of stuff from them thru their west coast man, Don Morrell of Fresno. Good outfit and Morrell, uniquely, goes fishing himself.

That prismatic streamer will work in Cliff Lake, see back of map - where there is an indigenous smelt, a long, long way from home, on which the trout feed, probably accounting for their splendid condition and rapid growth. I am getting prismatic conscious of late years. I think that the flashes or gleams appearing ~~xxxxxx~~ on the bottom of running waters must be caused by rainbow colored flashes from the undersurface. We go swimming on hot afternoons in the Madison and I propose to lie on the bottom in fast water and look up at the surface. I have thought right along that opaque nitrate of silver treated leaders were all wrong. This experiment should produce one of those snappy \$50.00 magazine articles I get off from time to time and render me outwardly cleaner than most citizens of West Yellowstone, at the same time.

I have recently written Mr. Seymour asking the privilege of buying one or two clutches of O.E. Blue Dun eggs. Too early yet to expect a reply.

Thank you again for sending me the very useful flies

Yours truly



Have an article in Fishing Annual now on newsstands -

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA

June 4, 1940

Dear Mr. Jennings:

I am sending you separately a nymph of the current American March Brown, the same as the one I selfishly refused to give you last winter and then, as you probably recall, the bottle got broken on the return journey to Los Angeles.

If you want a number, say ten or twelve of these specimens, let me know by Air Mail, and I can dig up some more with no great trouble. The "hatch" will continue another three weeks, but the number of nymphs will of course diminish as time goes on.

There is a beautiful dun on the water now; I am guessing that it must be the insect that suggested the Hedrickson pattern; it certainly suggests it. I will collect a few of these to send you later.

I have ordered some Iris No. 1 to try in some of the bigger waters around here. I propose to get these into the hands of anglers skilled enough to give them a little better than an even break. A lot of my ~~usual~~ clientele only catch fish through a minor miracle. Will try to get a picture of some fish taken on them, if they happen to be outstanding specimens.

The Madison River in the Park, and the Firehole are just coming into their best form right now. We have been having some great fishing the last few days.

I have some 8 Specimens of the nymph on hand, and will get some more, just in case. Please call on me for more of them, if you can use them.

Very truly yours

Donald S. Martinez

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York,
June 25th, 1940.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Have just returned from a trip to the Michigan Ausable, where I had some nice fishing for Brown trout. Took a number of good fish including one 19 inch 2 lb 10 oz all on Iris Streamers.

Had expected to connect with the hatch of the large mayflies (*Hexagenia*) commonly called "Fish Flies" or "Caddis Flies" in Michigan, but the hatch was delayed probably on account of the late Spring.

Thank you a lot for the nymph of the "Brown Drake" *Ephemera simulans*. Noticed that you referred to it as the nymph of the American March Brown which occurs only here in the East. No I will not need any more of these but I want to thank you again for sending this specimen.

Good luck and tight lines,

Yours sincerely,

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York.
April 12th, 1940.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Thank you very much for your for your letter of March 30th and am glad to know that you are going to stock some of the Iris Streamers. I think that they will work in Cliff Lake as you suggest. We rode over to Cliff lake on horseback from Hutchin's Ranch a couple of years ago and found the lake a dead calm. Could not raise a fish to a fly but managed to land a two pound Rainbow on a small spinner deeply sunk.

Do not think that you will find out very much by trying to see under water unless you have a pair of water-tight goggles. Our eyes are designed to receive light from the air, and make the necessary corrections to compensate for the bending of light as it passes from air into the watery portion of our eye. Water has an entirely different index of refraction and we can see clearly only, when we protect the eye with some water-tight glass such as goggles or a helmet.

It is funny that you brought up the question of leaders, as I had just sent Lyon and Coulson the specification of a leader which as far as I can tell is practically invisible to trout under any light condition. A sample is enclosed and if you like it I believe that you can get them from LAC.

Have not seen Mr. Seymour lately, but imagine that he can let you have a setting or two of Blue Gams eggs.

Enjoyed your article in the "Fishing Annual" and liked the looks of the Jordan. We are going to the Michigan Ausable in June and if we have time will certainly have a look at the Jordan.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Donald S. Martinez,
723 S. St. Andrews Place,
Los Angeles, California.

SKILLMAN FLIES
R. L. WINSTON RODS

WINTER ADDRESS
723 So. ST. ANDREWS PLACE
LOS ANGELES

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA
Decemebr 30th. ,1940

Mr. Preston Jennings
71 Orange St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Thank you for remembering us with the Christmas card.

I wish I could say that evrything was fine in the poultry yard, but it isn't. It seems that nearly all the eggs hatched and the birds grew almost to maturity and then went down with some epidemic - singularly fitting name of chicken pox - and the last I heard there were four survivors - three hens and an ambiguous individual that the poultry man swears is neither a cock nor a hen. This does not seem likely. It is probably a rooster. Being away all summer, the continuance of this hackle raising project is largely out of my hands. If Maynard Reynolds wants to go ahead and try again I will join him. Very likely he will by the time the egg laying season comes around again.

In the matter of the "IRIS" streamers. I always have an axe to grind; I mean that when fishing I like to use my own original patterns in the hope of snagging a record fish. However, I took an "IRIS" out of stock and put it on my hat-band but neglected to give it a fair trial until almost the end of the season. The day I did get around to using it I hooked and landed two large fish in the first few casts, then raised and held briefly 11 good fish, one right after another and all in the same bend. If I had been on a rock steelhead river I would have looked at the hook after losing the first of these 11 strikes, but hook breakage is very rare in this grassy, meadow stretch of the Madison. Yep, the hook was broken. Even so, the fly raised a remarkable number of fish in a short stretch of river, and next summer I can and will conscientiously plug the fly.

No new developments in flies to report. I am going to have to work out a green beetle which I think I will just turn over to Major Frierson. He fished in New Zealand a few winters back, and down there they set great store by a green beetle which is apparently very close to the one we have for about a week each year. The trout seems to prefer this beetle to anything else and very hard to take when it is one the water. Land insect or no, it appears on the water in considerable numers. A brown hackle, size 14, with sword feather body will take an occasional trout when this beetle is out. The other problem will be No. 10 Black Gnat, a slim bodied insect with white bands between the abdominal segments.

This horrible looking grub - "Wooley-worm" is a made over bass and croppie fly. Properly fished it is murderous all season long. I made and sold as many of these things as all other flies combined last summer. I hate the looks of them and consider them more of a lure than a fly, but they have had a boom for the two seasons last past with no sign of a let up. They should be used only in still or very slow water, fished deep, with a twitching of the line by the left had. The movement of the hackl is what gets 'em, suggesting perhaps the waving breathing apparatus of the May-fly nymphs and others.

I have owed you a letter for a long time, I believe. I have not written because nothing noteworthy has turned up. I do appreciate your interest in my problems.

Very truly yours

Donald S. Martinez

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, N.Y.
January 12th, 1941.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

It was nice to hear from you again and while you may have thought that you did not have anything to write about, your letter was most interesting.

Dont know what to think about the Game Chickens, as Bill Seymour has from time to time had the same difficulty with the birds he is breeding for me, that is they would die off for no apparent reason. On the other hand my fishing partner Mr. Stauffer has been breeding the same stock for three years and has never lost a chicken except from some well known cause such as hawks rats etc. This stock has been bred in England for hackles for some sixty odd years and it is possible that they have been weakened by too much inbreeding and will pick up any germ that is floating around.

I have the same trouble with hooks breaking, especially when I try to handle too much line in a strong wind. I am glad, however, that you got a couple of good fish on the Iris before the hook broke. The fly has worked very well all over the country including Alaska and Canada for all kinds of fish. The No.1 pattern is better in in strong light and I am now working on other designs for conditions where the light is poor.

The wooly worms are evidently taken for the emerging pupa of a large Caddis fly. Caddis flies are abundant in the Rockies and many of them emerge during the late season. You probably know that the larva after completing its growth, covers the $\frac{1}{2}$ opening to its house with a grating and under goes a pupal period. During this period the change to a fly takes place. On emerging from the house, the fly is still swathed in an envelope or pupal sheath, but the legs are left free for swimming. It is my understanding that while in this condition, the fly or pupa will do a lot of swimming around especially if it has difficulty in breaking the sheath. This generally takes place at night and for that reason the process has been little observed by fishermen but the trout apparently know all about it.

Yours sincerely,

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA

March 29, 1941

Dear Mr. Jennings:

This is a tardy reply to your last letter, written in mid-January. Nothing has come up to write about, Or I would have written sooner.

For two years I have been trying to scheme out a practical way of representing the breathing filaments on the back of a May fly nymph's abdomen and I think I have finally hit it. I realize that the sample nymph pattern herewith is too bright in color and too dark. When you make flies to sell, it is necessary to take into account the customers preferences. Two of these are that the fly be a color harmony and fairly low in price. For more advanced fishermen the Maribou filament should be a grayish-yellow and the raffia on the belly natural, with the wing case a medium tan. Even so, I am quite certain that this design will catch fish. During the May-fly hatch the fish are on the prowl most of the time and will grab almost anything. Right there is where so many weird patterns and crazy ideas get their start, I suppose.

I am pleased with the filament idea on my new nymph but rather sour on the rest of it. It is likely that I will fetch up with something entirely different later on.

It has rained a great deal this winter out here. No chance to do any local winter steelhead fishing. Other years we have had some pleasant times in nearby streams all winter long, but they are still running very high and muddy. Season is closed now. To get good winter fishing around here you have to take some slight liberties with dates and political geographical divisions, but we put back all the fish we get in the winter anyway, so the conscience is fairly clear.

Expressman just brought back my two Winston "service rods" newly varnished ready to go. Hot Dog ! Only six weeks now.

I will hazard a guess that Harlan Major wishes he was dead before he gets through answering letters about his fishing article in the current Collier's. Risky business.

In case you think that maribou has possibilities as a body material, I am enclosing some - undyed - in case you do not have any in your kit.

Very truly yours

D. S. Martinez

May 19th 1941.

My dear Mr. Martinez:

I hope you will forgive me for not answering your letter of March 29th at a sooner date but the fact of the matter is that I misplaced it and only just found it. Thank you a lot for the nymph and the raffia and Maribou. The nymph looks good and I am sure will take fish at the proper place and time.

Have you tried Beaver fur for gills? This is a soft fur with lots of action in the water, and it may be easier to apply than the Maribou. The enclosed nymph is one I tied last year for trial in Michigan during the Caddis or Fishfly hatch, which incidentally is a large yellowish Mayfly, but I did not have a chance to try it as the flies did not put in an appearance as per schedule.

Have done very little fishing so far this season as most of the streams have been closed on account of the dry season and the number of serious fires. Do expect to make up for lost time during July when I expect to go to New Brunswick for Atlantic Salmon.

Have heard a good deal about the Winston rods and understand that he does a good job of rod building. I have acquired a couple of rods during the past year both of which were built by amateurs. The real secret of any rod in my opinion is in the selection of the wood and really good wood is not available in commercial quantities.

Write to me when you get time and I will try not mislay your letter again.

Yours sincerely,

September 21st, 1941.

Dear Mr. Martinez;

Have just been looking over some old letters and happened to run across one of yours dated March 6th 1939 in which you write of a natural fly which occurs on the Rogue, Klamath etc during October.

I am positive that this bug is the Mayfly of the Coachman family which I have been trying to obtain and I wonder if you or any of your friends could collect a few of the Nymphs, duns and spinners for me? The nymphs hide under rocks and feed by sticking their front legs out into the current, the hair on the front legs being so arranged that food drifting with the current is directed into their mouths. As you say, the nymph crawls out on a rock, splits its shuck and the winged fly emerges. The dun can be collected from the stream at times, especially if it is damp weather, but the spinner is usually found around lights at night, they then carry a mass of greenish eggs.

This group of Mayflies are called Isonychia because they have two equal pads on their front feet. Here in the east Isonychia bicolor, is the basis for the Leadwing Coachman, Coachman, and Royal Coachman while the western species, Isonychia velma, is apparently the basis for the California Coachman, as well as the Governor and flies of that type.

I am still trying to get together a workable collection of western naturals and this is about the only common fly that I have not got in my collection and I hope that you will be able to help me out.

Do you or any of your friends fish for winter steelhead? Apparently these fish are interested in the migrating young of the Candlefish and most of the effective winter flies seem to be predicated upon a minnow or small fish rather than an insect. I am developing some small streamers based on the principles of the Iris and would like to have them tried for winter steelhead. In making the designs I have used late fall and winter light, which incidentally is quite different from the light present

during the summer when the sun is further north and the rays more direct. Samples of the streamers are enclosed and if you can think of anyone who would like to try them, I would be glad to tie a sufficient number for test purposes.

A friend of mine, Ellwood Colahan, tells me that he dropped in to see you this summer. He is a good fisherman and casts a nice line.

Yours sincerely

Summer Address:
DON'S TACKLE SHOP
West Yellowstone
Montana

Winter Address:
723 S. St. Andrews Pl.
Los Angeles, Calif.
FEderal 6863

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

Septemeber 26, 1941

Dear Mr. Jennings:

For a wonder we have enough woolly-worms made up to last until late today so I am answering your letter right away for a change.

I will write C.Wesley Hall - 1st.Nat'l Bank Bldg. San Diego and ask him to pick up a few of the nymphs, duns and spinners you require; will also send him a couple of bottles of collecting fluid. He takes his steelhead fishing quite seriously and is thorough in everything he does. Fishes Rogue at Gold,Bch.

Maynard Reynolds fishes winter steelhead. He is a research man for the Union Oil Co., and rund the Sierra Tackle Company as a sideline in charge of a young woman who ties flies and runs the store during the week, Maynard goes there only on Saturdays and Sundays. The address is 4085 N. Mission Road, Los Angeles. Being both a hobby and a business you can expect good co-Operation from Reynolds. Also a conscientious, thorough sort of a guy. Fishes EEL RIVER.

Until last year when it rained almost continuously around L.A., I fish winter steelhead in the narrow confines of Malibu Creek. There are 9 large rock walled pools in the fishable part of the stream and landing a fish is much like playing them in the Y.M.C.A swimming tank - they can't get snagged, they can't get off and they can't getout of the pool.

Went to Cliff Lake yesterday and had the worst day I ever had over there. Just 2 or 4 sprats all day long, but my companion got a 3 pounder.

Madison River below the dam is down lower than ever before. Running 200 second feet instead of the normal 700 to 1200 out of Hebgen Dam. Propose to go down there after lunch if I can bamboozle my spouse into tending store two days in a row.

I have sudden crush on the Gallatin - the portion some ten to 15 miles outside the Park bouhdary to the north. They were taking a moderate sized dry fly over there a few days ago - 14 ginger Cahill to be exact. Nice fish from ten to 15 inches - mostly rainbows with a few Grayling and Cutthroats for variety.

The weather has been terrible ever since August 8th. but we should have little pleasant weather in the three weeks remaining.

Maybe it is the faintly comic name or some such factor that has caused the exceedingly great popularity of the woolly-worms this year, but in any case they have been almost too popular. Had to get part time help again to make them during the season; always an unsatisfactory deal as these part time experts make no effort to turn out a strong or uniform fly. Here are a few samples, black is most popular, followed by brown and yellow with a smattering of greys, reds and greens.

Very truly yours

Don Martinez

71 Orange St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
October 2nd, 1941.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Thank you for your letter of September 26th and for the Wolly-worms. You know I wrote you some time ago that I thought that these bugs were being taken for the larvae of the caddis fly, but if you dont mind, I would like to revise my opinion.. I have not played around with lakes very much as our nearby lakes are too hot for trout, but I do know that all of our lakes abound in both Damsel and Dragon flies. The Dragon fly larvae is a sluggish creature which is often used for Bass bait and usually travels under the name of "Perch Bug". The Damsel fly larvae, however, is quite active and moves about on plants and weeds. Also they must migrate considerably especially when they are ready to crawl out and cast their nymphal shuck. Most of these nymphs are of a greenish brown color and when mature measure around 20mm in length, which is the size of the flies you sent me. They have a short tail which is really gills and these are in constant motion. The Black nymph which has been so successful could readily suggest one of the Damsel fly nymphs when seen within the window of a fish especially if it was a dull day. I would suggest, however, that the hackle be tied on only the front half of the fly to suggest the legs of the natural in action. The tail should be of a soft feather to suggest as much action as possible.

Do hope that you will be able to get some of the "Coachman" insects for me. It is too bad that they do not come as high as Yellowstone, but so far none have been found at a greater elevation than 6000 feet.

Yours sincerely,

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Federal 6863

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

Nov. 14, 1941

Dear Mr. Jennings:

I have heard nothing from Wesley Hall of San Diego - the man on whom I have been relying to send specimens of that I. Velma that you want. Since writing him one Sherwood Wheaton, a friend of both Hall and myself, tells me that his partner - Hall's that is, suffered a stroke of some kind and that Hall has been upset in consequence, so I hesitate to nudge him about the specimens. I did send him a some bottles of collecting fluid and suggested he send them on to his regular Rogue River guide asking the guide to pick up some nymphs and adults. Incidentally, this insect is sometimes called the Heath bug after a gent who lives in Marshfield, Oregon. Heath uses a rather indifferant English dry fly with an extended body, fished wet, when this bug is on the water. The artificial is a wretched copy of the natural in my opinion.

It will be difficult to trace a connection between this insect and any given artificial. Fly fishing for steelhead trout is something fairly new. It was still considered speculative in 1926, the first season I fished the Rogue. Catching steelhead on flies goes back about ten years before 1925, I know that, but only in recent years has it had many adherents. In no type of fishing are the ideas of the participants so divergent as in steelheadin'. Anything goes in the way of flies from 14s to 3/0 streamers with no particular selection of flies that can be called standard. Different makes of flies of the same name bear no resemblance to one another. There isn't enough literature on the subject to offer any list of flies and description of dressings that can be called even remotely authentic.

When the brutes are in the streams and on the prod, everyone gets fish and vice versa. It does not take the finesse that general trout fishing requires. Mostly it requires a weak mind and a strong back to stand in deep, swift and exceedingly cold water for long periods of time. making repeated long casts, one just like another. Trout fishing is to steelhead fishing as steelhead fishing is to handline fishing for cunners or sheepshead. I no longer depend on selling flies and tackle for steelhead fishing to any but a very limited extent so I can speak freely. To trace the descent of a particular pattern of fly as used by steelheaders would be a thankless task. They just ain't insect conscious. If they were to learn to distinguish say a caddis from a stone fly then it isn't likely they'd remain steelhead fishermen.

Sorry if I seem to meddle in your affairs but unless you've had dealings with steelhead fishermen, per se, you may not have a very clear idea of how they re-act.

Getting back to the boom of the wooly-worms, I had thought that the rough-bodied black nymph suggests the dragon fly larvae rather strongly. I can't figure out what the wooly-worm suggests. I'd say its effectiveness is likely due to the many hackle fibers, all pointing outward and forward, giving a lot of movement in the water, suggesting the undulating breather action of the external gills on may fly nymphs or more likely, just life and movement in general.

Dragon fly larvae are abundant in the weedier, warmer streams in Montana and Y.N. Park. The thick weeds in the Firehole are full of them but I never find them in stomachs. The damsel fly larvae does turn up quite often. Ours is a pale apple green when fresh, turning light olive brown in formalin solution. Maybe the damsel fly nymph is more adventurous than the dragons, venturing out of the weed beds at times. The dragon nymphs are medium olive on the belly and blackish olive on the back portions.

Sample is intended to suggest our E. Simulens nymph, the outstanding characteristic of the natural is the waving gills on the back. I have a strong hunch this fly will work swell. Have to wait and see, of course. Doubt if it will be much commercially, being too unattractive to the human eye. Come to think about it, the black woolly-worm is no beauty either.

I'll try in a couple of other quarters to dig up some specimens of I. Velma.

Suggest you write to Clarence Gordon at Glide, Oregon. He runs a hotel for steelhead fishermen on the North Umpqua in Summer and fall and a hotel at Palm Springs Calif., in the winter and spring months. He is serious angler, ties nice flies and has a grade A clientele. You might send him a couple of bottles of collecting fluid. I am sure that Mr. Gordon has heard of you even if you do not place him. Ray Bergamn stays with him sometimes.

Sorry that Hall did not come through with your specimens so far. He is usually so accommodating about any little favor of this kind that I hate to ask him to do things because he always does about 6 times as much as I expect him to do.

Yours

D. S. Martinez

71 Orange Street,
Brooklyn, New York.
November 20th, 1941.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Thank you for your letter of the 14th, enclosing the nymphs. I like the looks of the Rough Black Nymph and I believe that it is successful because of the fact that so many of *E. Simulans* emerges at night and under poor light conditions fish see things as silhouettes. I wrote you several days ago in connection with the Black Squirrel tail, which may and probable does suggest a Stonefly under similar light conditions.

I am enclosing a dressing of *E. Simulans* nymphs as seen as a silhouette, and while it may not work any better than the Rough Black nymph, it does conform to a definite principle. Like most fishermen, I have definite ideas about flies, in that I do not like to fish with a fly unless I think I understand what I am trying to do.

Dansel fly nymphs are very active at night and will even decoy to lights held near the water, and here again the Black woolly worm comes in as a silhouette. On the otherhand, on bright days when fish must use the weaker light reflected by the insect, an Olive green, similar to the coloring of the natural should by all that is good and right be better than the black or silhouette. And the same should hold true in the case of *E. Simulans* nymphs.

I have been able to trace many Salmon fly patterns to natural insects by taking into consideration the lighting conditions under which the particular insect is normally seen. I think that Steelhead are like Atlantic Salmon in the respect that neither are particularly interested in food, but will take an artificial fly, if the artificial looks like a common insect as it normally appeared to them when they did feed on it during their Parr stage. In any case that is the basis on which I am standing.

If you do get any specimens of *Isonycha velma*, let them come along, as this is the only common bug lacking.

Yours sincerely,

Summer Address:
DON'S TACKLE SHOP
West Yellowstone
Montana

Address:
Andrews Pl.
Los Angeles, Calif.
FEderal 6863

DONALD S. MARTINEZ

Nov. 23, 1941

Dear Mr. Jennings

Our last two letters crossed in the mail.

The Fishing Guide mentions two black flies, Black woolly-worm and black Rough-bodied Nymph. These two you already have in your files, I know. The text on the circular reads Black Woolly Warm, in the proof on the damn thing they had woolly misspelled (mis-spelled) and when I corrected it the printer got it woolly-warm on the next attempt. Sounds like an ad for a sweater or a union suit. Incidentally, I find there is a tendency to call the fly woolly-warm along with a lot of other variations and corruptions like curly worm etc.

I have always ascribed the apparent superiority of black wet flies to greater visibility, sharper outline against the light and clearer to see when below the surface when the background is mostly water with solid substance seen through water. A sort of foggy greenish grey background I'd call it. I forget what Major Harding calls this background or rather how he describes it. Can't get enthused about the Harding book anyway. When he gets in a tough place and his reasoning bogs down on him, he takes an easy out by saying " it isn't important anyway.

There are two large wet flies in popular demand during the "salmon fly hatch" the Red Squirrel Tail and the " Bloody Butcher" - samples herewith. The smaller grey fly I call Blue Dun Squirrel Tail - it is my own favorite. I add it to show what my own idea of a wet fly is and to disclaim any responsibility for the other two. The two big flies do show some resemblance to the natural, which as you probably know is bright orange under the abdomen with wings of a rather dark brown color. The so-called Bloody Butcher, seen against the light might give some appearance of the orange body on the natural, but the natural is opaque rather than clear as to body. As I recall the insect, it is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long in the body with an overall length of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches or a bit more from mouth to tip of folded wings. Around our section up there they appear in late June and/or early July. Very common on the Gallatin and the Madison below Hebgen Dam, but rare near the town of West Yellowstone. Almost never seen in fact. The larvae must require a lot of oxygen and the slow streams don't hold many big stones. Lots of small stones - yellow Sally ? - in the Firehole and Madison above Hebgen Dam. Gunnison River in Colorado had the big stones by the million; it is a swift, rocky stream with lots of rocks for the nymphs to hide under.

Apparently the Bloody Butcher squirrel tail did derive from the Butcher salmon fly at some remote time and place. Not much resemblance left now except the multi-colored hackle. These long winged squirrel tail flies do give a good representation of the wing of the natural salmon fly. They are effective, but more fish are taken on naturals than on artificials during this hatch. Sort of a field day for the native fishermen.

Yours

D. S. M.

May 17th, 1942.

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Well I suppose that you are about ready to shove off for Yellowstone. A friend and neighbor of mine has been planning to come out this summer but I am afraid that he will be grounded as he usually flies. Perhaps you remember him as he visited your shop last year. His name is Ellwood Colahan.

There is one fly which has me puzzled and perhaps you can throw some light on it. You know the Brown or Yellowish Stonefly, Acroneuria pacifica, length about 1" to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " which comes out on the lower Madison the latter part of June and gradually works its way to the highest elevations in the Park during the latter part of July. This family of flies are thought to lay their eggs at night, therefore the only time that the fish could see them would be during very poor lighting conditions. This would mean that the natural flies would be seen as silhouettes against the direct white light entering the water vertically. Under such conditions a fly tied in terms of density, viz Black and White, should work during the day at times when this fly is in season. It is possible that the effectiveness of the Rio Grande King (black) is due to this condition. In any case the enclosed Squirrel Tails have been tied with the above condition in mind and I would be grateful if you would do a little experimenting with them.

Yours sincerely,

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Winter Address:
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DONALD S. MARTINEZ
Sept. 26, 1942

Dear Mr. Jennings

Regarding the three squirrel winged bi-colored bodied wet flies you sent me to try during the Stone-fly hatch -

I never did get to fish during the main stone fly hatch on streams where the insect was hatching. The hatch is of short duration at any given point. but lasts for some time - say a month - if you move upstream with the hatch. The large insect I refer to is identified somewhere as Pteroarchus Californicus. I think you give it an entirely different generic and specific name, but anyway it is a whopping big critter - I dress an imitation of it on a long shank #6. Sample enclosed. I do not know if the sample is any good or not. The insect hatches no closer than 25 miles from here in the Madison below Hebgen Dam and in the Gallatin. No one reported whether they had good luck or bad on this imitation. Bad, I guess, or there would have been re-orders. I enclose it merely to show the approximate size of the natural.

In the Madison River above Hebgen Lake and in the Firehole in particular, a small stone fly is abundant. It is apparently very similar in size and color to the English Yellow Sally, going by the drawings in my Leonard West. This is a fly a little smaller than the flies you sent me to try. It is not a very important fly to the fisherman as it hatches in a sort of sporadic fashion. Not many at a time and not much in favor with the trout. My observations on this are not extensive enough to be conclusive. I used the flies you sent me from time to time and took a thumping fine catch of Eastern Brooks out of a series of springholes with none of them. The others worked well in general use on rainbows and browns but I can not certify that they were in any way connected with a stone fly hatch. I am sorry to let you down on this but that's the way it worked out.

My small son who is not so small either come to think of it, was here a little less than four weeks this summer, the rest of the time being spent attending summer school, making up credits in high school. About the first thing he did on arrival was to do some cleaning up here in this shop and one of the items he disposed of was a small stack of unanswered letters, yours among them, so I am not certain of your street address. Within a few days you will get a package containing a bottle of formalin with soem nymphs and adults of that Isonychia velma (Sp?) from Sam Frierson who left here this morning to go to Agnes, Orgeon. I gave him the bottle and minute instructions. Sam is a Colonel in the Army Air Corps and his continued survival has been contingent on attention to details for twenty five years so you'll get insects all right this time, asuming that my recollection of your street address is correct - viz. - 71 Orange St. Brklyn. If wrong, perhaps you'd better go to the branch post office in your neighborhood and tell them to be on the look-out for this package from Col. Frierson from Oregon. Better suggest to the lads in the P.O. that it is a secret part for a bomb sight or some such. Laymen are apt to regard all insect life with levity

If Mr. Colohan ever irks you too strongly, here is shot for your locker. One day a crowd of fishermen were in the little lunch room next door around the horse shoe shaped counter. One of these people, a Mr. Reichardson from Long Beach was talking. He said " Last night just at dark, I saw a large reddish colored animal drinking at the edge of the Madison River but it was so dark I couldn't be sure what it was" Someone said " That sounds like it was Mr. Colohan" and brought down the house.

Yours
Donald S. Martinez

Grey Spurred tail
Grey thro / Black thro.
Black thro.
Jas. - A.P.T.Patt