THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, MARCH 8, 1916-3.

seems to have spread from Egypt

though long ages afterwards, for

stone tools continued to be used in Great Britain and northern Europe

for about 2000 years after they had been discarded in Egypt. Egypt's

nearest source of copper was Mount

## Some Interesting Facts About **Copper---The Great Part it Has** Played the in World's History

Sinai-whence she obtained her tin. Germany is now, apparently, en- ment to other kinds of ornaments. is not known-while all this time gaged in a Teverish search for copper, With this stimulous to the arts and both copper and tin lay unsuspected which to her, has become indeed one crafts, hitherto confined to the use in English soil in abundance-a fact. of the "precious metals." To supply of stone and bone, there naturally discovered in due course by the her dire necessity, Belgian, and pre- followed the production of metal Phoenicians, who exploited the minsumiably also German, kitchens are tools and implements, and, most imeral fields of Britain as far back as being ransacked for copper cooking- portant of all, weapons for the chase 1500 B.C. And from this fact it is utensiles, which are being thrown in- and war. implied that the natives of these

to the net to furnish the munitions of It is not known how long a time islands had already had their eves war. It is reported that every pos- elapsed between the discovery of the opened to their great source of wealth. sible kind of substitute is being ex- means of making metal beads and and the uses to which it could be put perimented with, but so far to no ornaments and the application some two thousand years B.C.

purpose. metal to the general purposes of life. That the use of copper was inde-This news is some indication of But the use of metal for fashioning pendently discovered by the natives the stupendous part which the dis- tools and weapons certainly goes of these islands is improbable. For covery of copper has played in the back some 6000 years. On this point tunately, evidence is obtainable on history of the world's civilization. For there is an almost universal agreethis point from which a learned pro with that event was ushered in the ment fessor contemptuously called "old

reign of the age of metals and the! It must soon have been manifest bones in museums." These same "old emancipation from the bondage of that the new weapons left much to oones" have been collected in large the Stone Age be desired in point of hardness, as

numbers from ancient burial-mounds There is naturally much room for compared to the old stone weapons. or "barrows," in various parts of speculation as to the circumstances It is also unknown who first discov-Great Britain and Ireland. These which led up to this tremendous ered the fact that the admixture of mounds are circular in form, and the event. Prof. Elliot Smith ventures about one per cent. of tin, and the skulls of the dead they contain are to suggest that the earliest piece of consequent formation of "brozne" of the type known as "round" skulls, metal was formed, accidentally, at imparted marvellous hardening qualias distinct from the "long" skulls of the toilet table of a proto-Egyptian ties which was the next step in adthe people of the Stone Age. That is belle! At any rate, it is certain that vance. Once made, the secret of the to say, the people of the round skulls the Egyptian women-and occasian-process spread throughout most or were an alien race; and they introally the men-used the crude copper the ancient world, as museums bear duced the art of metal-working, for ore, malachite, as the ingredient of witness, following the great lines of metal objects in the specimens of a face-paint. And he suggests that commerce and intercourse. their tools, ornaments and weapons one day a lump of this dropped into The earliest piece of bronze is the

a charcoal fire, with the result that rod found at Medun, Egypt, dating have been found in their tombs



a bead of copper was formed. This, from 3700 B.C., while Mesopotamia These aliens were "wise men from doubtless, led to the production of has yielded a large statuette dating the East," Armenoids, who brought more beads, and from this by experi- from 2500 B.C. The use of copper with them this priceless knowledge.

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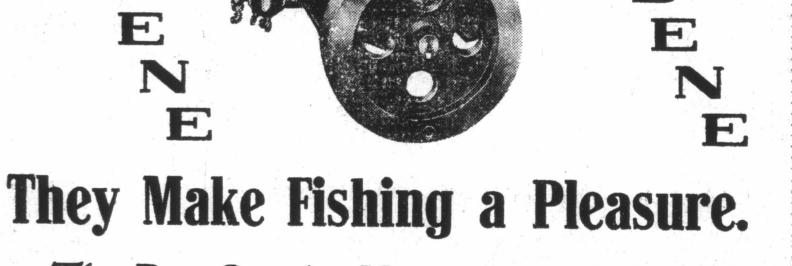
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