

THE OUT-OF-DOORS

Varying Phases of Field and Trail

E. B. ARCHIBALD, of Toronto, is one of the greatest pole-vaulters in the world. At the elimination trials two years ago, he vaulted the extraordinary height of 12 feet 5 inches, and last winter, at Buffalo, succeeded in clearing 12 feet indoors, a distance never before accomplished, and hence a world's record. He is, as can well be imagined, very skilful, and the way he manages to throw his 190 lbs.



Clearing 12 ft., 5 inches

of avoirdupois over such a dizzy height, has always been the surprise of the spectators, as well as the dismay of his opponents. He fully expects to do 13 feet before the season closes, and those who have watched him in his work consider the performance well within his powers.

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A Little Known Sport.

By C. A. BRAMBLE

ANY time during the early part of the summer, should you wander to the lake or river-side—where the current is slack and the surface mirror like, the time being eventide, you shall possibly see the rings of rising fish. The fluttering, soft, little grey moths and shad flies are abroad by the million, living their brief lives, and such as touch the water disappear as if by magic, sucked down in the middle of one of the rings which bespeak a feeding fish. These are whitefish, and they afford most excellent sport to the crafty angler.

From six o'clock until dark is the time for the best fishing. You should take your light fly rod, a cast of the finest gut, drawn gut for preference, and an assortment of the smallest white millers, and May flies, you have in your book, certainly not larger than No. 12; some gentles, or shreds of white kid, and a landing net having a handle of full length. With this outfit, and the use of a canoe, or better yet, a dinghy, you may anticipate sport.

Selecting the centre of a gentle current, where the rises seem thickest, you throw out the killock or anchor, and make ready for business. The fishing is extremely simple; you have to let out some fifteen or twenty yards of line and cast down stream, sometimes to one side and sometimes to the other, letting the flies—you may use a dropper as well as a tail fly—sweep around until they trail dead aft. A swaying motion should then be given to the rod tip, and if nothing takes, the cast is repeated.

A whitefish rises very quietly, there is no dash about his methods, and sucks in the fly so gently that the first intimation the angler gets is the slight pluck which tells of a hooked fish. Up to this point the fishing has been, as I have said, simple, but if you would basket your fish you must handle him with skill, for he has a mouth so tender that it resembles wet blotting-paper in texture. It is quite an art, this working a heavy whitefish up to the net against even a moderate current. Your hand can hardly be too light, and the least excess of force, or failure to yield line when the fish makes his first few rushes, will spell disaster.

The warmer the evening the better the sport, and often the fish are put down suddenly, by a fall in temperature, or a slight mist. While feeding they are all near the surface, contrary to their usual habits, for they are bottom feeders; it is only during these few warm evenings of early summer that the whitefish becomes "game"; therefore, it behooves the angler to avail himself of the brief but happy season.

Sometimes the fly will yield a fair basket; at other times the fish rise short and merely nibble the end of the wing, and at such times a gentle on the point of the hook, or a shred of an old white kid glove, is indicated. This additional attraction generally proves irresistible.

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History of the Queen's Own.

THE Queen's Own, now camped at Quebec on their way to Aldershot, dates back to April, 1860, when an order was issued uniting a rifle company at Barrie, another at Whitby and four in Toronto into one battalion. During the stirring days of the Trent affair, the outside companies were dropped, and the organisation became a purely city regiment of ten companies. Its first active service was in 1864; its second, in 1866, when it took part in the battle of Limeridge in the Niagara Peninsula. Some of its members served in the composite regiment under Colonel (now Lord) Wolseley with the Red River Expedition of 1870. It also was present, under Colonel Otter, in the Western trouble of 1885, notably at Cut Knife Creek. It has also been called upon for active service in connection with several provincial industrial disturbances. Lord Roberts is its honorary colonel, and General Otter was once its commanding officer. Many of the past and present officers of the militia have graduated from its ranks.

One of the most unique features of the regiment is the fact that every officer, past or present, has risen from the ranks. Every private is therefore a potential colonel, and it has often occurred that a private in the ranks had in civilian life a higher social status than his captain or other superior officer. This explains why so many prominent officers of the militia saw their first service in this unique corps. It also explains why the regiment is able to take expensive trips abroad without assistance from the government. One trip to New York, lasting three or four days, cost the regiment over ten thousand dollars. The expenses of the present trip to Aldershot, which will require seven weeks, will be borne mainly by Sir Henry Pellatt himself.

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