

## Trout Hatches Out.

By ALAN WARWICK.

At the bed of the stream, and half a mile up the gravel, lay a ball of jelly, rather smaller than a pea, and a trout's egg. Together with hundreds of others, it has been deposited right up in the shallowest of the little rivulet that ran down the big river. How the mother trout had got so far up the little stream was one of the wonders of the world. She had to pass a miniature waterfall and even, in one place, must have crossed a road. The stream just trickled across. The particular ball of jelly had separated from the others, and had rolled down stream some way from them.

Several weeks the egg was just jelly, and then, gradually, two spots and a shadowy coiled line appeared underneath the ball. These were the first signs of the eyes and backbone of a young trout.

By day they grew clearer and brighter, until at last a tiny creature hatched inside the skin of the egg. It began to form—muscles that beat and were exerting their strength against the thin shell. The young fishlet was trying to escape.

Free at Last.

One day, when the egg was nearly over, the coiled line stretched itself, the shell cracked, and the head was still in the shell.

The tiny body with the one big fin crawled over its back, over the shell, and underneath to the head again, until, at last, the fish was free.

The exertion seemed to have exhausted him, and for a time he lay on his side, getting ready for the next move. The next move was an inch. He went straight back to the security of the gravel and hid.

Building His Body.

Under the gravel and sand there he began to eat, but the new-born did not mind that, as at present he had not got a mouth that would do the work. It was still unformed. So to develop he drew his tail into a long line, and under his body was a yolk-sac, which gradually, as the days went by, grew smaller, until at last it disappeared.

The dwindling of the yolk-sac, the little creature grew more like a fish. The black eyes became more like the eyes of a fish and the fat fin gave place to the real trout. The mouth opened and began to open and shut in the formation of the gills. He came by now a perfect trout, shapely and colored like a brown spot.

He was ready for the battle of life. Within six weeks of being hatched he struggled up through the gravel.

Breakfast.

He was lying under the protection of a large stone when a fat, shining came rolling down the stream. It was a tiny trout, and it came by the troutlet's mouth and in it rolled.

He ate his first meal, and he enjoyed it immensely. Henceforth he was to look for the satisfaction of the first meal to cost him his life. He was bold, and leaving the shelter of the stone, walked forth to find the trout. The next day a tremendous giant shot into the water, and he made a meal of him.

He was a flash and a twist, the troutlet escaped the gaping jaw, and he was back into the gravel, and the trout went on its way.

He will eat the young of their own kind as readily as they will eat him, and so much do they eat trout that probably not one trout out of three ever lives to enjoy the same.

Experience made him more bold, and henceforth the troutlet ate anything and everything that came his way, though one day he was blinded into the water by a giant frog because that was all he saw.

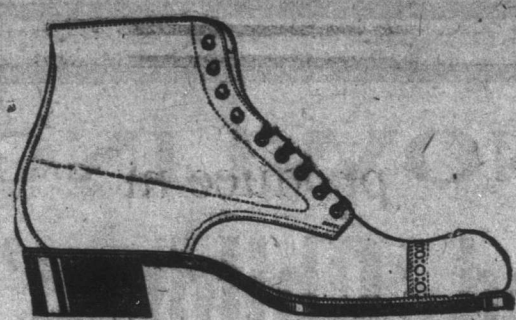
More than his own weight, the troutlet grew and became shapely and strong. At a year old he was four inches long—a perfect trout.

He would not be for another year, but years that he would be the king of the stream. When that time arrived, he would weigh over two pounds, and nothing less than a heron or an otter. With luck, he would live twenty years, unless he was taken by a tempting red worm or a barbed hook—Pearson's.

He is now being planned for a life of luxury. He will have a plain Egyptian printed crepe for a coat.

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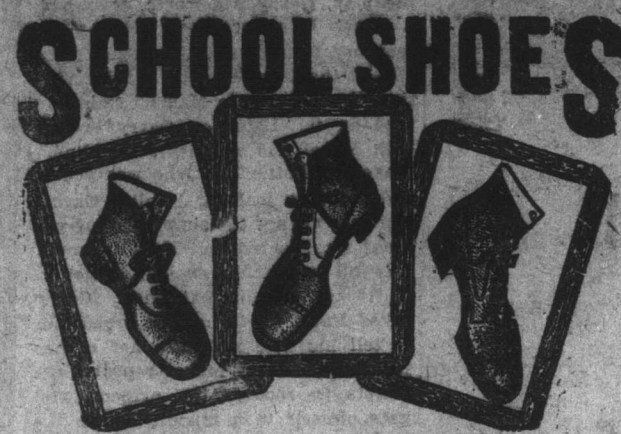


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218-220 WATER STREET

## Eight Indian Regiments to Have Native Officers.

DELHI, India.—The Government of India's plan for the trial "Indianization" of a section of the Indian army has been approved by the Legislative Assembly and is to be put into effect at once. This scheme, which represents a partial capitulation to demands made incessantly for several years in the Legislative Assembly and through other channels, calls for the "Indianization" of eight infantry regiments for the purpose of testing the ability of Indian officers. If the trial is found successful further concessions are to be made at a later date. The plan has been drawn up by Lord Rawlinson, Commander-in-Chief of the army. In explaining it he says: "The government considers a start should be made at once so as to give Indians a fair opportunity of proving that they are efficient in every way. The eight units in question will be chosen judiciously so as to include as many representative types as possible. 'I hope the people of India will realize the importance of this step, and that it now rests with them to justify the decision of the government. I hope an effort will be made to make the measure a solid and conspicuous success. The responsibility which lies before the young men who

will officer the 'Indianized' regiments is not light. They will have in their hands not only the lives of their men, but also the task of maintaining untarnished the high and ancient traditions of the regiments to which they are appointed. I can assure them that in the new and wider career which will now open to them, they will have the active and generous support of the government of India and of their British comrades in the army. Their success or failure will mean much to India. The initiation of this scheme constitutes an entirely new departure which, though limited in its scope, is one which may have far-reaching results."

## Spring Greens.

Dandelions are considered a liver tonic. They contain valuable properties of potash and salts, and so are no longer neglected food products but have taken a position equal to spinach, chard and other vegetables in the cultivated gardens. Dandelion greens should be thoroughly washed after detaching leaves are discarded, and then left standing in cold salted water for one hour to remove any possible insects. The leaves should be cooked in an uncovered vessel, and be sure the salted water is boiling before putting in the dandelion. To eliminate the objectionable bitter taste change the water

once in the cooking and add a bit of baking soda to the first water. Dandelions require only ten or fifteen minutes' cooking and when tender should be drained.

## Freed of Famine

RUSSIA'S BINS NOW BULGE WITH GRAIN.

Moscow.—Too much bread promises to be Russia's dilemma in 1923. From 1917 until 1922 bread was the most precious thing in Russia. A farmer could trade a bushel of grain for a grand piano or anything which the hungry city dweller had to offer. Now the same peasant could walk from one end of Russia to the other and, excepting in a few isolated famine districts, could not get a loaf of bread for the same sack of grain. If the harvest of this year turns out as expected, Russia will have a surplus of grain which could be sold abroad.

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From a country which less than 18 months ago was clamoring for crusts Russia has changed into a nation which promises within a few months to be swamped with wheat and rye.

At Saratof, near certain communes that have been listed as famine-stricken, rye flour, the staple of bread, is quoted at less than 25 cents a bushel, which is 36 pounds. At Samara, the district where even cannibalism occurred among the starving a year ago, rye goes begging at less than 40c. a bushel.

In Moscow, naturally, transportation costs have made prices somewhat higher, almost double the retail price in the great producing regions. Siberia, once the granary from which wheat poured into Western Europe, did not fare so well. In last year's harvest, and there prices are higher, but in Odessa and at Kiev, in the southern wheat belt, recent official quotations show wheat costing under 70 cents a bushel.

The Soviet Government, through the collection of taxes, has rolled up a grain reserve amounting to nearly 200,000,000 bushels. Some of this is needed to feed the army, but as for the bulk of the grain, unless it can be exported, the Government does not know what to do with it.

A brown horsehair hat, in a cunning poke shape, is trimmed with padded flowers of chiffon in soft pastel shades.

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## MUTT AND JEFF

THE NOISE REMINDED MUTT OF A GLASS OF BEVERAGE.

—By Bud Fisher

