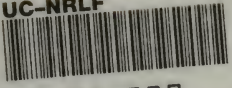


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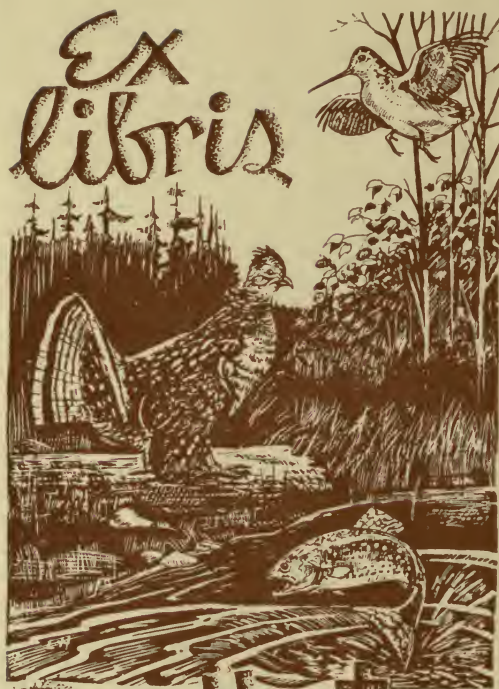


ADVICE TO YOUNG ANGLERS



BY HENRY GUY CARLETON

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libris



Don Horter



ADVICE TO

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YOUNG ANGLERS





My advice to young anglers may be given freely and with joy. I have found that old anglers do not usually take my advice except with some such vicious remark as "Wha-at! Have you just got onto *that!*" or "My dear boy, I got over that tom-fool notion twenty years ago;" or else they listen to what I have to say, look at me with almost human intelligence, then burst out in loud, hoarse laughter, and leave the room.

"Angling" signifies the art of decoying a living fish in his element by means of a natural or artificial bait. Decoying bullfrogs with red flannel, or catching leeches by persuading a small, innocent boy to swim through the infested pond, are both rare old sports, but are not mentioned by any of the authorities.

There are two requisites for the art of angling, one being to buy your tackle and the other to find the fish. The combination of tackle and fish is what makes up three-fourths of the fun.

Tackle is of various kinds, solid and fluid. Fluid tackle costs \$4 a gallon, but no dealer will warrant it to last.

The young angler must first provide himself with a rod or a fish-pole. A fish-pole costs from \$3.42 down, and a rod from \$4 up.

The Rod

Rods are not sold by weight. I have seen a fine white pine rod, 12 feet long, two inches thick and as full of life as a billiard cue, sell for \$3.65, while a rod only 10½ feet long, and not weighing over four ounces, costs \$30.

A good rod will last an angler many years. I knew a man once who had a fish-pole for which he only paid \$1.25, but which lasted his lifetime. He went fishing the day he got it and became drowned. I have a \$2 pole which was

presented to me in 1874 and is still in good condition. This is partly due to my excellent care of the pole, and partly because I have never used it.

The best rod is the split bamboo. A young angler may purchase an ordinary bamboo and get an industrious pickerel or cat-fish to split it for him, but the result is not generally satisfactory. If you are sole owner or lessee of a first-class split bamboo rod, do not abuse it. It was not intended by nature to waltz a mule with, nor to push a flat-bottomed boat off the mud, and when stepped on or sat down upon, it has a way of looking up at you with \$30 worth of mute reproach in its German-silver eyes which is very saddening to the true sportsman.

A fine rod is not designed to be used as a derrick. Many a young angler has lost his salvation by attempting to hoist a four-pound mud-turtle from the water with a seven-ounce expensive rod.

It may as well be stated right here that the all-round rod, warranted to take anything from a six-foot tarpon to a four-inch bullhead, is a dismal failure. The best tarpon rods are one size too large for bullheads, and the best bullhead rods are seven sizes too small for tarpon; but when a cast-iron rake is fastened to the "general," all-round rod, it is useful in skittering for clams.

The young angler who buys one first-class rod and handles it as tenderly as though it were a boil, is \$64 richer than the man who fritters away his substance buying cheap but glittering poles. A man may split kindling-wood in a far less expensive manner than by fishing with the kind of rod that has nickel-plated ferrules and comes in a long, narrow paper bag.

The Reel

When the young angler has saved up money for several years and owns a good rod, he then should struggle to become possessor of a good reel.

A good reel is more valuable to a true sportsman, as a friend, than a small, rough-haired yellow dog.

Reels are of several kinds. There is the click reel, the multiplying reel, the Kentucky reel and the Virginia reel. Some reels are simple and some are complicated. The most complicated reel I ever saw was owned by a man who was coming home at 2 A. M., after a prolonged struggle with a demijohn of Monongahela at a wake.

There are nickel-plated man-traps sold under the name of reels which have caught more good citizens, and ruined them for life, than have been caught by the gallows. There is nothing sadder in this vale of tears than to see a strong, once happy man sitting down in his boat at 4 P. M., when the bass are biting at their best, trying to wind a reel upon which he thought he had saved \$4, but which has broken four brass teeth and a crank in the effort to say "Bliz-z-z-z!"

A click reel is only used upon a fly-rod. It makes a noise like winding up a kitchen clock, and from this simple but vicious habit it derives its name.

A multiplying reel is one which winds up the line several times faster than the crank turns. The multiplying reel is to be used in casting a minnow or a deeply pained bullfrog out upon the waters, and a reel which multiplies twice is preferred by the angler and is just the same to the frog.

Line, Leader and Hook

Lines are of several kinds. They are of various lengths also, but most of them are about as long as a piece of string. A braided line is the best to use upon a reel. A twisted line kinks, and one day's experience with a kinky line will use up more of a man's chances for a happy hereafter than he can replace during an entire camp meeting season at Asbury Park.

Silk lines are best to use in fresh water, but in salt water give me a linen line or give me death.

For fly-fishing use the heavy, enameled water-proof line; but for minnow or frog casting or dredging with worms, buy the fine hard-braided silk. It runs better from the reel.

Leaders are long, thin pieces of gut, which look like fiddle strings, but have too many knots in them for that purpose. It is generally whispered about that they are the product of the domestic cat; but this is a mistake, and those who are thus seeking an excuse for raising cats may as well be informed that I have exposed their hollow scheme.

Always test your leaders before using them. You may save money by purchasing cheap leaders, but you will lose fish. Show me a man who has just bought fourth-class leaders, and I will show you a man who will eventually use both Profanity and Rum.

Fish-hooks are of various shape, size and disposition. They were not intended to be carried loose in the coat-tail pocket. A courteous sportsman, when he discovers that he has inadvertently sat down upon a package of fish-hooks belonging to his friend, will immediately rise and try his best to return the hooks.



JUST THE SAME TO FROGGER

The Artificial Fly

The artificial fly is a fish-hook to which variously colored feathers have been tied, and is supposed to be easily mistaken by a fish for a real fly. If this be true, it is a strong proof that a fish hasn't sense enough to come in when it rains, and doesn't deserve to live.

Real flies may be obtained at most watering places much cheaper than the artificial flies, but for some purposes they are not so useful.

Artificial flies are all named. There are the "Professor," the "Hackle," the "Ibis," the "Yellow Sally" and several other breeds. Whenever a bilious angler has no luck, and nothing to do, he sits down and concocts a new swindle in feathers, christens it with a nine-jointed Indian name, and at once every angler in the country rushes in and pays \$2 a dozen for samples.

To cast the artificial fly well requires practice, and some persons are more skillful than others. The first thing I ever caught on an artificial fly was a large and muscular friend who was sitting in the stern of the boat, and who

was narrow-minded enough to make coarse remarks while we were rowing back to camp for surgical assistance.

Oysters do not rise readily to the artificial fly, particularly during the spawning season.

Tackle boxes are now thrown upon the market in great numbers, and are of several sizes. The smallest is made to contain chewing tobacco and fish-hooks well mixed up together; but the larger kinds have more compartments



AN OCCASION FOR COARSE REMARKS

than a tenement-house, and will hold lines, hooks, reels, sinkers, gangs, poker chips and other necessities with ease.

I submitted to Mr. T. B. Mills a design for a Sportsman's Complete Portable Tackle Box holding seven rods, four blankets, a demijohn, canned oysters, bacon and a folding boat, with extra compartments for a camp kettle and a bowling alley to be used in case of rain, but as yet I have not heard that he has taken any steps toward getting a patent.

Some persons complain that their reels will not fit into any tackle box made; that is because they buy the reel first. The proper way is to get your tackle box and then only purchase such articles as will go in snugly.

Hints on Game Fishes

Some fishes are very gamey while they are alive, and these are more highly prized by the true sportsman than fishes which only become gamey after softening up for several hours in the hot sun, like a menhaden. The mud turtle is not a game fish.

Most game fishes will rise to the fly, but the fishes which are fly enough not to do this pay lower rates on life insurance.

The trout is a various fish. In the South he is a lazy black bass with No. 14 mouth and the flavor of sour mud. In the Catskills he is mostly a work of imagination, and lives only in the clear, cold, running prospectus of a hotel charging \$4 a day. In Parmachene Lake and other fastnesses of Maine he is a medium sized whale with red speckles onto his sides, and it costs a sportsman \$9 a pound to go and drag him out of his native lair. In other portions of the effete North he is generally a five-inch spotted minnow capable of stretching an extra inch in the frying pan, and is as full of spirit, beauty and natural cussedness as a young and red-headed girl.

The untutored trout prefers a gob of worms to a fly, and this distressing fact has got more of the authorities on game fish in trouble than has the malaria.

The black bass is another game fish. He is of two species: the big mouth and the small mouth. To tell a big mouth from a small mouth has bothered the authorities for many years. Dr. Henshall says one is a *grystis Salmoides*, whatever that is, and that the other is a something or other *D. imieu*; but I think that the Doctor is prejudiced. There is a simpler way of distinguishing the two. Catch a six-inch bass, and if you can insert your fist in his countenance he is a small mouth, but if you can crawl down him yourself he is the other kind.

The black bass is very capricious in his diet. Sometimes he will take the fly, sometimes the minnow, and sometimes he prefers a large and fierce bug with thirty-four legs, and a name which I will not mention in an article which may be read by ladies. A black bass is as uncertain as a lottery ticket, but differs from this in that he is worth the money. He weighs from seven pounds down. Most bass weighing seven pounds are still swimming in their native waters, having been lost by fishermen who tell the truth.

A bass weighing under three-quarters of a pound is called a throw-back, and should be returned to the water. Bass weighing from three-quarters to one and a half pounds are cookies, and may be fried and devoured with a little butter and a great deal of pleasure. Bass weighing two pounds are corks; three pounds are thumpers; four pounds are busters; five pounds are snorters, and any bass weighing more than that is an old He.

The salmon is a game fish which may easily be captured in the Fulton Market and in Canada, but he is the exclusive property of the Restigouche Club, which has a patent onto him.

A good salmon outfit will cost \$135.64, and the railroad fares, board, guide and pool cost about \$737 more. Then, if you are in luck, you may catch a 16-pound salmon and ship it in ice to city persons who never eat fish, but who will say "Thank you" in a manner worth fully 40 cents on your return, and then

privately tell your friends that they believe you caught that salmon with a \$5 bill.

The striped bass is a game fish which was principally designed to amuse the Cuttyhunk Club and smash up high-priced tackle.

The pickerel is not a game fish. He is an insect.

There is a fierce fish called the tomcod which infests the lower Hudson. When dredging from a North river wharf for tommyies, sometimes you catch a tommy and sometimes you catch an old, water-logged boot, and you cannot tell which until you get it to the surface, except that usually the boot offers most resistance. A tomcod sometimes attains the length of six inches and weighs at least three ounces. He is very game. When you hook him, he helps you pull up the sinker, and then fans himself until you take him in out of the wet. Sometimes a tommy will be game enough to live until you can get him into the boat, but he is usually dead and half sour by that time.

How to Angle

There are various methods of angling, and each is useful in its way.

Casting the fly is the most scientific method. Let the young angler imagine the rod and line to be a whip, and then let him try to land an imaginary mule



AN ANGLER

40 feet away, and he will slowly acquire the correct motion. If there is a tree behind him, he will also get some subsequent exercise which will be healthful and invigorating, though he may lose his patience and some tackle.

Casting the minnow or frog is great sport, when the bass are biting well, which occurs in the dark of the moon, about once in four years. Hook the frog

In the slack of his trousers, sling him out as far as you can, and await results. Fresh excitement can always be had by putting on another frog—that is, fresh excitement for the new frog. Hook a minnow through the lip. He will live longer than when hooked through the kidneys, and he will have just as much fun.

Trolling is splendid exercise for the man who rows the boat; but the corpulent man who sits astern and swears at his luck does not get the benefit of this. Most trollers use a gang, which is an arrangement of ten hooks; but this must impair a fish's digestion, and should be forbidden by law.

Still-fishing is best suited to paralytics, convalescents from brain fever, and persons who are dead. The sport consists in putting a hunk of bait on a hook, flavoring it with saliva, and then lowering it to await the coming of some goggle-eyed marine tramp in search of a free lunch.

Concerning the Black Fly

The black fly is not as large as the bull dog, but he can bite with both ends. There is not a single black fly in the Adirondacks. All the black flies there are born married and have large families.

The black fly earns his living by raising lumps like the egg of a speckled hen on the forehead and behind the ears of a man, who will simultaneously wish that he could die and be out of his misery. One hundred and seventy black flies can feed comfortably on each square inch of a man's ears; but the simple-hearted natives of Maine, the Adirondacks and Canada do not mind them until they settle down nine deep.

The lumps raised by a black fly will grow seven days and then burst into a rich, dark-red bloom, which is much admired by the angler when he sees himself in a looking-glass trying to shave.

There are mosquitoes and deer flies also in these localities, but they are mere toys to the man who is wrestling with several million free and easy black flies.

Sometimes the black flies will swoop upon a camp of anglers in Maine, and in four minutes there will be nothing left but a few whitened bones and the red pepper.

Most tackle men sell various kinds of highly perfumed paste, which they recommend for black flies and then charge fifty cents a box. These pastes all have musical names and a brown smell, and the black flies are very fond of them. The natives of Maine use tar-oil. A liberal bath of tar-oil makes a man smell a good deal like sludge acid and sometimes like a turkey-buzzard, but it does seem to lessen the appetite of very young black flies, or those which are chronic cripples or invalids. But rather than go around smelling like a dead Turk who has been kept too long, I will die in battle with the black flies and save my reputation.



A FEW FLIES

Camping Out

Camping out is a noble and improving sport, but should be indulged in with caution.

Should the young angler find himself to be hopelessly lost in the woods, he should proceed to camp out and yell in a shrill tenor voice every four minutes during the night, until he is rescued by a large leather-headed guide who earns \$4 a day.

The first duty of the camper out is to build a fire, which is a pleasant process during or just after a rain. Having built the fire, he should spread his blankets to the windward. The windward of a camp fire changes every sixty-four seconds, which will fill the young angler with smoke and emotion and keep his mind occupied by moving his blankets in a circle. After three hours of this solemn amusement, he may let the fire go out, and, listening to the grand old voices of the pines and mosquitoes, drop to sleep, if he can, and be happy.

If the young angler finds that he has no matches, he may rub two sticks together after the manner of the North American Indians in Cooper's novels; but unless he happens to be an Indian himself he will quit after several hours' industry, and keep warm by dancing a jig.

Should he discover during the night that he had accidentally spread his blankets upon a nest of large and polygamous ants, he should at once arise and move camp. No angler should be cruel to dumb animals.

The art of cooking in camp is of great value. Soup, coffee and boiled cabbage may all be prepared in the same utensil, but for sponge cake and calves-foot jelly a separate pan must be used.

I had a friend who went camping in the North Woods for two weeks, and he says he enjoyed every minute of his stay; but rather than go again he will go to State prison for nine years.

If the few little precepts I have given can be of any use to the young anglers who will read them, I shall be glad. They have been of no use to me.

HENRY GUY CARLETON.



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WILLIAM MILLS & SON

has been the standard of comparison for over 85 years, and is to-day unapproached by any goods at any price.



Fishing Tackle bearing the Monarch Brand is second only to tackle bearing our name. It is equal in quality to that sold as best by other houses, and prices on Monarch Brand are much lower.



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Insist on getting Fishing Tackle with these trade marks. They have 75 years manufacturing experience behind them.

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The care taken in properly balancing the "H. L. Leonard" Salmon Rods makes the action of these rods very perfect, and no other make of rods, whether made of split bamboo or any other wood, approach them at all in action or quality.

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| E | Rod 15 feet long, weight 22 to 23 ounces, length of handle 23 inches. | \$50.00 |
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"H. L. LEONARD" LIGHT SALMON OR GRILSE RODS

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|---|---|---------|
| J | Rod 14 feet long, weight 18 to 19 ounces, length of handle 20 1/4 inches. | \$40.00 |
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MONARCH BRAND SPLIT BAMBOO SALMON FLY RODS

- | No. | | Each. |
|-----|---|---------|
| 35 | Four-piece Split Bamboo, with extra tip, length 14 feet, weight about 17 ounces. | \$14.00 |
| 40 | Three-piece Split Bamboo, with extra tip, length 14 feet, weight about 13 to 20 ounces. | 13.00 |

THE "H. L. LEONARD" SALMON FLY REEL

- | No. | | Each |
|-----|--|---------|
| 48 | German silver frame, with hard rubber panels, capacity 120 yards "Imperial" waterproof salmon fly line, largest size, has our new graduated adjustable drag. | \$25.00 |

MONARCH BRAND SALMON REELS

Fine Quality Rubber and Metal Reel

Balance handle is protected by metal Safety Band. Reel has removable click and adjustable drag.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|---------------|
| Sizes..... | | 4 | 4 1/2 inch |
| No. 40 Nickel and Rubber..... | | \$13.00 | \$14.00 each. |

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "INTRINSIC" WATERPROOF SILK LINE

Double tapered 42 or 60 yards, from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per line.

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "STANDARD IMPERIAL" WATERPROOF SILK LINE

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| Size C, 60 yards, tapered at one end..... | \$5.50 |
| Size D, 60 yards, tapered at one end..... | 5.00 |
| Either of above 60 yard lines spliced to 150 feet Mills' Celebrated "Red Spool" Line | 1.00 |

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S SALMON LEADERS

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|-----|--|--------|
| 5 | Medium weight single gut Salmon Leader..... | \$1.50 |
| 30 | Heavy weight single gut Salmon Leader..... | 2.00 |
| 19 | Extra heavy finest quality single gut Salmon Leader..... | 3.50 |

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S HIGHEST QUALITY SALMON FLIES

At prices ranging from \$3.00 per dozen up according to size and pattern, particulars on application.

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TROUT TACKLE

	Each.
H. L. Leonard, Catskill Rods, 9 feet, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ounces.....	\$30.00
H. L. Leonard, Trout Fly Rods, all lengths and weights.....	30.00
Wm. Mills & Son's Standard Fly Rods, all lengths and weights.....	18.00
Monarch Brand "Nonpareil" Rods, all lengths and weights.....	10.00
Manhattan Company's "Eclipse" Rods, all lengths and weights.....	6.50
Manhattan Company's "Paragon" Rods, all lengths and weights.....	3.50
"Excelsior" Split Bamboo Rods, all lengths.....	1.00
H. L. Leonard Fly Reels.....	\$8.00 to 11.00
William Mills & Son's "Fairy" Reel.....	7.50
Monarch Brand Fly Reels.....	\$2.50 to \$5.00
Manhattan Company's Fly Reels.....	\$0.60 to 2.00
Wm. Mills & Son's "Intrinsic" Fly Line, per line.....	\$2.10 to 7.00
Wm. Mills & Son's "Imperial" Fly Line, per line.....	\$1.50 to 4.00
Monarch Brand Fly Line, per line.....	\$1.10 to 2.50
Manhattan Company's "Acme" Fly Line, per line.....	\$0.55 to 1.30

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "INTRINSIC" LEADERS

	Each.
Can be had in seven different weights, 6 feet lengths.....	\$0.35

MANHATTAN COMPANY'S "ELECTRIC" LEADERS

	Each.
Can be had in 4 weights, six feet lengths.....	\$0.05 to \$0.27

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	Dozen.
In all patterns, O'Shaughnessy's Hooks, sizes 6 to 12.....	\$1.00

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "SPECIAL STREAM" FLIES

	Dozen.
In a great variety of patterns on sneck hooks, sizes 6 to 15.....	\$1.00

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	Dozen.
All popular patterns, well tied on Hollow Point Sproat Hooks.....	\$0.50

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "LEVISON" FLY BOOK

Each Fly is held in the book at full length and separately by a spring and hook made especially for this purpose. Capacity of books, from 32 to 120, price from \$3.00 to \$10.75.

MONARCH BRAND FLY BOOK

Has metal bar on each end to hook flies on, and two springs in center of each leaf. Capacity from 4 to 12 dozen, price \$1.50 to \$6.00.

Also a full line of

EYED FLY BOXES

WADING NETS

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"H. L. LEONARD" SPLIT BAMBOO RODS.

No.		Each
0	Single piece rod, 5 ¼ feet long, 5 ounces in weight, with independent single grasp handle.....	\$25.00

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "STANDARD" SPLIT BAMBOO RODS

No.		Each
216 ¼	Three-piece and bait casting rod, length 6 ¼ feet, weight 6 ¼ ounces.	\$18.00
237	Three-piece black bass bait rod, length 7 feet, weight 6 ½ ounces....	18.00

MONARCH BRAND "NONPAREIL" SPLIT BAMBOO RODS

No.		Each
4021	Bait casting rod, two piece, length 5 ¼ feet, weight 5 ¼ ounces, has large agate first guide and large agate tip, rest of guides bait casting two ring; double cork grasp.....	\$12.00

MANHATTAN COMPANY "ECLIPSE" SPLIT BAMBOO RODS

We have made a specialty of "Eclipse" Rods for many years, and they have given perfect satisfaction to many excellent anglers. All rods are nickel mounted.

No.		Each
3026-S	Two-piece bait casting rod, length 5 ¼ feet, weight 5 ¼ ounces, double cork grasp, very large two ring guides, large tip.....	\$6.50

B. F. MEEK & SON'S BAIT CASTING REELS

From \$22.00 up.

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "INTRINSIC" BAIT CASTING REEL

Good points enough to fill the whole booklet, among them are:
Phosphor Bronze Bearings, Perfect Adjustment, Light but Strong Construction,
\$15.00 each,

MONARCH BRAND BAIT CASTING REELS

From \$3.25 to \$10.00 each.]

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From \$2.00 to \$6.50 each.

WILLIAM MILLS & SON'S "RECORD" LINE

Hard braided silk line. Swells very little when wet. Renders freely from reel. No dressing whatever. Does not stick to rod. \$3.50 per 100 yards.

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A plain, undressed silk line, specially braided for bait casting. Color, mottled black and white. Put up on 50 yard spools, two connected. 90c. per spool.

Just a small selection is shown above, complete catalog, showing full line of rods, reels, lines, baits, etc., free on request.

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H. L. LEONARD TARPON, TUNA AND SALT WATER RODS

No.		Each.
195	Regular Beach Rod. 7 feet long, weight about 23 ¼ ounces, handle 18 inches long, tip 5 ¾ feet long, weight 11 ounces	\$25.00
196 ½	Tarpon and Tuna Rod. 7 feet long, weight about 26 ounces, handle 20 inches long, tip 5 7-12 feet long, weight 14 ounces.....	25.00

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No.		Each.
130	Two-piece Rod, with extra tip, length 7 ¼ feet, weight about 17 ounces.....	\$18.00
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		Each.
	Monarch Brand Salt Water Rods, all weights from.....	\$5.00 to 10.00
	Manhattan Company's Salt Water Rods, all weights from..	\$1.60 to 5.00

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Each.

Perfect in material and workmanship. Simplest, surest and
strongest drag. Drag works only against fish. Light weight
—large capacity..... \$45.00

MONARCH BRAND SALT WATER REELS

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Sizes 200 to 500 yards.....	\$6.25 to \$28.00

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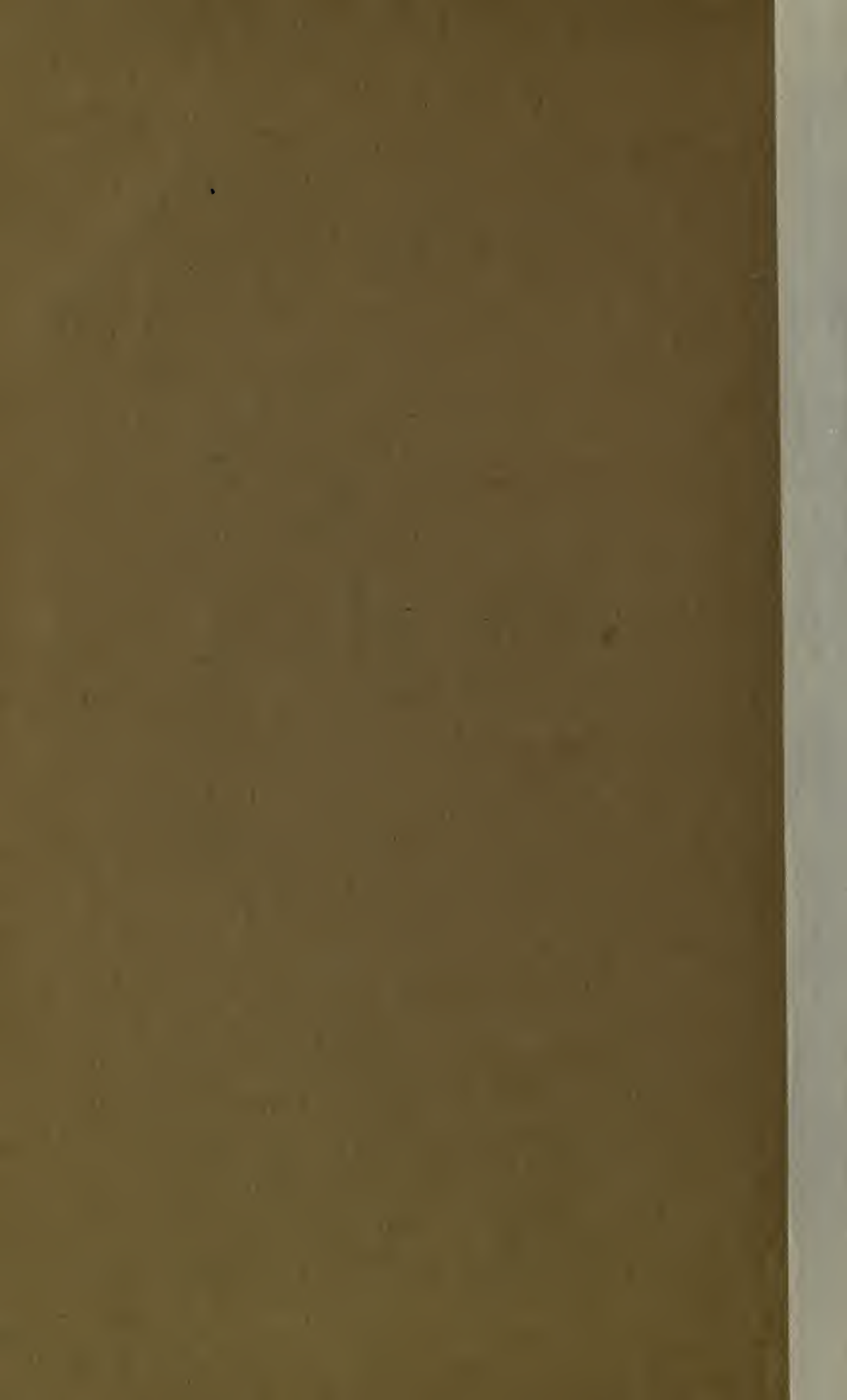
Sizes 200 to 500 yards.....	\$2.25 to 10.00
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