

## ANGLING NOTES.

(By "Creel.")

## AWAY TO THE WEST.

an open road, 'neath a beautiful  
to the west where fishes lie,  
of silver and amber gold,  
a gem of wealth untold.

west then, I must hie,  
the breath of God is ever nigh,  
Elixir of Life is in the air,  
hush of the day, an Angel's  
ver.

shies of silver, you lure me on,  
worship God, where grief is gone,  
in sore and weary, and fain would  
rest,  
God's good land, away to the west.

rothers, anglers and secretaries.—In-  
sting information welcomed.

onditions and rivers continue very  
factory for Southland anglers, al-  
gh there is nothing to chronicle in life  
of exceptional fish or bags, still, the  
age fisherman with fly or minnow has  
no difficulty in creeling some nice fish.

he following further information has  
to hand with reference to "deeds  
on the opening day. Mr J. Hen-  
son secured 30 good conditioned fish  
the Otapi, mostly on the Blue Dun  
d Irish March Brown Fly. On the  
eti at Dipton, Messrs R. Sinclair, 21  
a (heaviest 4lb); R. McKay, 30 fish;  
Taylor, 22 fish, J. McBean, 22 fish (25  
unds weight), all on the fly, were some  
the bags recorded. During the last  
ek three local anglers fishing the tidal  
sters at Otatara with the minnow  
eled eight fish, the heaviest being 3½lb,  
in good condition. A brother angler  
kes complaint about being put off a  
tain stretch of water on the Makerawa,  
as he points out, it is a very mean  
itude for any farmer to take up, as the  
rags fisherman does little or no harm  
fishing a river, as most of the time  
is on the banks of the stream or in  
water. Further, many a fisherman  
ues stock for our farmer friends, doz-  
of anglers have assisted a sheep that  
become "cast," and even to the  
iter's knowledge, rescued sheep from  
a river itself. One instance of thanks  
turned to two anglers for services ren-  
in rescuing a horse that had become  
ed." The owner gave the fishermen  
sion to put a camp on his property,  
also supplied fencing wire, etc., and  
good piece of ground to cultivate  
spuds," etc., etc. That one "little  
uch of Nature that makes the whole  
"orin kin," et?

## OPENING DAY.

For the opening day of the season on  
Friday last the streams were a little high  
at clear and in splendid condition for  
fishing. Fair weather prevailed; the  
morning was rather cold, but, as the day  
ore on, conditions improved and good  
atches were recorded. The Wyndham  
nglers' Society held an all-day handicap  
ompetition; and at night eight fisher-  
en weighed in. Angling is a sport re-  
quiring a great amount of skill and un-  
imited patience. The layman often pic-  
ures the fisherman on the banks of a  
ream for hours waiting for a rise; so it  
rather remarkable to note the number  
f young anglers participating in this first  
ompetition of the season. The weigh-in  
ok place in Gray's sample room, and a  
able, about 20 feet long, covered with  
pecked beauties was a sight worth see-  
ng. Following is the result of the  
ompetition:—

Name	No. Fish	Weight	Hdep.
A. Udy	20	15lb 10oz	scr
C. King	20	15lb 8oz	50 per cent.
J. Strang	25	15lb 3oz	5
J. Bogue	21	14lb	40
J. Crighton	19	11lb	10
J. Caldwell	11	9lb 6oz	20
J. Macpherson	13	8lb 4oz	100
A. Young	5	5lb 4oz	25

On the handicaps C. King was first (be-  
g only 2oz behind scratch man); G.  
logue, second; and J. Macpherson 3rd.  
With the exception of Messrs Crighton

and Young (who whipped the Wyndham),  
all the competitors fished the Mimihau.

## NEW ZEALAND'S SEA TROUT.

## WHAT ARE THEY? FARIO OR TRUTTA?

I have been requested to contribute  
another "fish" article, and gladly comply,  
in the hope that it may create, in the  
minds of those anglers who read your  
paper, a greater interest in the subject  
of, not only our acclimatised fish, but also  
their culture.

It must not be forgotten that the sport  
which the present day angler enjoys, was  
rendered possible solely through the  
patient and untiring efforts of those pion-  
eers who formed the first acclimatisation  
societies of New Zealand.

This work is still carried on by their  
successors, with the result that there are  
now few rivers, and streams which do  
not contain numerous representatives of  
the salmon family, and one is justified in  
asserting that there is no country in the  
world which offers such cheap sport to  
the angler as New Zealand does. And  
yet poaching is rampant here. Anglers,  
wake up!

Before making any attempt to answer  
the query raised by this article's heading,  
it will be necessary to first quote some  
statistics.

In the Southland acclimatisation dis-  
trict, the Waiau, including its tributaries,  
is the most westerly river where Brown  
trout fry (S. Fario) have been liberated—  
the total output therein from the year  
1885 to 1920 being 516,200. As far back  
as 1869 Fario fry were liberated in the  
Waiau, but I cannot quote exact numbers,  
as the records from that year up to 1884  
are imperfect as to locality.

In 1895, the waters running into George  
Sound and Preservation Inlet, received  
6,000 and 1,000 young fry respectively.

Of the lakes, Te Anau, 1889-92, 60,000  
fry; Hauroto, 1892-3, 6,000; and George,  
1894-9, 65,000; Stewart Island (apparently  
Lord's River) 1895-1909, 66,000.

This gives us a total of only 720,000  
brown trout distributed over a fairly wide  
area, and yet I am informed that all the  
waters, west of the Waiau, are teeming  
with trout, which shows that some of  
them must have been stocked by migra-  
tory fish.

Now, in the Homeland, brown trout  
(Fario) are looked on as migratory, to the  
extent of frequenting brackish waters only,  
not the sea. That is left to the sea trout  
(S. Trutta) which have been classed as a  
separate species from Fario.

The Southland Acclimatisation Society  
procured their first consignment of brown  
trout ova, from the Tasmanian Society in  
1868, and a second lot in 1870. Accom-  
panying the latter were 154 ova  
(S. Trutta). These hatched out well, the  
fry being retained for breeding purposes,  
yielding in September 1874, 1,100 ova, the  
fry raised therefrom being subsequently  
put into the Oreti and Makarewa.

The Otago Society also procured 150  
sea trout ova from Tasmania in 1870, and  
the fry raised therefrom were liberated in  
the Shag River.

These are the only instances of libera-  
tion of "known" sea trout in New Zea-  
land, and I mention the fact to show that  
our N.Z. variety, numerous as they are,  
could not possibly be their descendants.  
What then are they?

Seeking for further information, and  
referring to the most recent authority  
(The Migrations of Fish, by Meek, director  
Marine Laboratory, Cullercoats, published  
1916, available from "Athenaeum"), I found  
that a section of the authorities held the  
extreme view that there is only one species  
of salmonidae, with many varieties. Others  
admit the distinction of the salmon (Salmo  
Salar), and combine sea trout (S. Trutta),  
and brown trout (S. Fario), as forming one  
species. The author holds that apart from  
long study of the subject, and differences  
in the natural home of these fish, a  
presumption of their distribution lends  
support to the view that the three are  
distinct. He further states that "during  
the Miocene period of the earth's existence  
the salmon family was divided into two  
groups, one confined to the North At-  
lantic, the other to the Northern Medi-  
terranean—that the latter were changed  
into trout, and further divided into sea,  
and brown trout (Fario). Both of these  
were originally confined to the Caspian  
region, and spread, after the Glacial  
Epoch, to the localities they now fre-  
quent. The absence of the trout from  
the eastern region of America is

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## TULLY'S DRAPERY SUPPLY SALE,

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satisfactorily explained by this hypot-  
hesis.

In the museum there are specimens of  
our brown trout (presumably river fish,  
from their colouration) and an English sea  
trout. I can see no striking difference be-  
tween them structurally. H. C. Pennell  
(Badminton Library) says that the only  
reliable test between brown and sea trout,  
lies with the vomerine teeth—brown trout  
two rows, sea trout one row, but the  
latter's teeth alternate from side to side.  
(The vomer is the bone which runs along  
the central portion of the roof of the  
mouth).

Let us now sum up the position. We  
find our rivers, and streams to be stocked  
with brown trout—the same old variety  
of "S. Fario" that exists in the Home-  
land, and from whence Tasmania's supply  
was obtained. Living in the ocean that  
bounds our shores are a variety of trout  
possessing the same habits and qualities as  
the sea trout of the northern hemisphere.

Having shown that the number of known  
sea trout turned into our waters were too  
few to have raised such a numerous family  
as our sea trout are known to be, then  
the answer to the question, as head of  
this article, resolves itself into this:—

Either there has been evolved out of  
our brown (river) trout, a sea trout, akin  
to S. Trutta, or the supposed brown  
trout ova imported to N.Z. was not true  
to type.

The best method of solving the problem  
would be to send Home some specimens of  
"sea" trout, for identification, as was  
done with the supposed grilse from the  
Waiau. The verdict would prove of in-  
terest to all lovers of fish culture.

## SAWMILLER'S FOOTBALL.

Last Saturday at Browns, employees of  
Messrs Kilkelly Bros. (Spar Bush) and  
Messrs Lindsay and Dixon (Lora Gorge),  
met in their final match of the season.  
There was a large gathering of spectators  
and they were treated to a real good  
game of the popular Rugby. For the  
first quarter of an hour the teams were  
very evenly matched, when Blee (Lora),  
potted a very pretty goal. This encouraged  
Lora players and as the outcome of a  
good forward rush D. Night scored, the  
spell ending 7—nil in Lora's favour. The  
reverse in the first spell had the effect  
of sharpening up Kilkelly's players and  
they made strenuous efforts to score but  
the defence was very sound. Eventually  
C. Sims (Kilkelly's) kicked a splendid pen-  
alty goal, making the score 7—3. With this  
success Kilkelly's were encouraged to  
further efforts, but though they made  
strenuous attempts to cross their oppo-  
nents' line, the defence was too sound. Ten  
minutes before time Blee (Lora) kicked a  
penalty goal, putting the issue beyond  
doubt, although Kilkelly's continued to  
attack strongly. The game was played  
in a very good spirit and after the match  
the referee (Mr Bert Hinton) was made  
a presentation of a case of pipes from the  
players. Mr J. Kilkelly thanked the  
Lora Gorge players, and Mr Kerr for the  
loan of his paddock, stating that he hoped  
the inter-mill games would become a  
fixture every winter.

Messrs D. Knight and A. L. Chisholm  
returned thanks on behalf of the Lora  
Gorge players, and called for three cheers  
for Kilkelly's footballers.

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