

KNOW YOUR FISH

Good day everyone...it's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.

During the midst of fishing season, I usually come on with a hint here or there for the new fisherman on the streams in Pennsylvania. On one occasion I told you of the methods used by that great Governor and trout expert, Gifford Pinchot, and might once again, after three years, do so at another time.

If any sport finds the most avid enthusiasts, it is fishing--the Isaak Waltons of Pennsylvania are some of the best stream men--trout fishermen in the world--one--Bruce Brubaker, the best fly-caster in the world--the champion. R. O. Heycock has sent along some information under a note to me titled "To catch fish--know something about them". With new lads on the streams every year, it is apparent that such information is important.

A fish's life is roughly divided into two parts, eating and trying to escape being eaten, writes Mister Heycock. Trout in particular, are at times gluttons second to none. During an active feed in a fly hatch, it is not at all unusual for a healthy trout to consume his own weight in a twenty-four hour period. And good trout fishermen, a breed of their own have a good idea where they're going to fish, because they've been there before. One can wade this spot or that with his eyes closed. Because he's caught trout there before he has confidence, and that's a mean asset to have in going after trout!

The usual fisherman has a couple of buddies who fit and compliment him like an old shoe. They all agree when to leave, the

best time to get to the stream, the right time to move, and they all get hungry and dry at the same instant; trout fishermen like this are angling souls on a single track! Mr. Heycock recommends the Yellow Breeches in Central Pennsylvania, running west of the Susquehanna, with 37 miles of trout fishing and containing them all: browns, brooks and rainbows. Old magical names still persist there; Inks Mill, Barnitz, Craighead, Rose Garden, Allenberry, Boiling Springs, McCormick's Mill, Lisburn and the lower dams. And he says, an angler can sneak up like an old Cherokee on Big Spring at Newville for those powder-puff brookies that spook when a gnat flies over the stream. Trout, says he, have been caught on the most outlandish creations of man, but only because they felt it was something good to eat, or kill or investigate at the time. For best results, fish up-stream. Trout are fussy about naturalness of the food and this fancy and fastidious fellow's suspicions must not be aroused. And remember, your first cast is always the best--the most natural--no matter what you think--the trout thinks so. Again, happy fishing! It's mid-season and they're waiting for you!

This is Pete Wambach. It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.