

### CORMORANT FISHING ON DARK OF MOON

#### Post-War Sport Of Handling Birds Now Being Revived In Japan

By MILES W. VAUGHN  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
GIFU, Japan.—Gyokomaru, world's champion fishing cormorant, popped from the depths of the Nagara river into the light pattern of a giant torch of flaming pine knots and disgorged a full 18 ounces of assorted brook trout from his capacious gullet into a wicker basket on the bottom of our spanpan.

It was a good catch and Gyokomaru, who is just getting back into stride after years of war-time semi-idleness, turned to his master, with a smirk of self-approval, and prepared to be put back into the water. The occasion was a revival, after five years of war, of one of the world's oldest sports—cormorant fishing, which ranks with falconry as an exhibition of man's ability to train a wild creature to do his hunting for him.

Gyokomaru, 21 years old and in the prime of life, belongs to a man

who himself is a champion, Kanji Yamashita, head of a family which for 17 generations has belonged to the Nagara village guild of cormorant fishermen, former purveyors to Japan's imperial household.

**Handles 12 At Once**  
Yamashita is 64. He is the only man in the world who can handle 12 trained cormorants at a time and likes to recall how he demonstrated his skill at the San Francisco Fair in 1935.

Cormorant fishing is a chief tourist attraction of the town of Gifu, which sprawls along both banks of the swift-running Nagara River.

This first post-war exhibition attracted thousands of guests, including many American soldiers, who stood on concrete parapets along both sides of the river rapids or sat in house-boats along the river.

Fishing is done only in the dark of the moon and conditions were ideal this night, since the sky was overcast and there were occasional rain showers. As soon as it was dark, boatmen at the head of the rapids began releasing hundreds of tiny wooden candle boats which bobbed down the current in the center of the river and formed a moving series of lights like giant fireflies extending as far as one could see. Simultaneously, fireworks displays were started.

**Flares Lighted**  
Half an hour later the six cormorant fishing boats moved into position at the head of the rapids and boatmen lighted their flares, which are used to attract the small brook trout called "ayu." The flares are large iron baskets at the end of a pole extending at right angles from the bow of the boat—a narrow, pirogue-like canoe some

### DAILY CROSSWORD

- |                                 |                                |                               |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                   | 3. Beverage                    | 19. Cover                     |
| 1. Astern                       | 4. Atomizer                    | 20. Greek letter              |
| 4. Little girl                  | 5. Persia                      | 21. Claimed                   |
| 7. Entice                       | 6. A reddish-yellow carriage   | 23. Guido's highest note      |
| 8. Baby's name                  | 7. Girl's name                 | 24. Escape (slang)            |
| 10. On the ocean                | 9. Edible parts of nuts        | 25. Sun-dried brick           |
| 11. Infrequent                  | 12. Very black                 | 27. Dwelling                  |
| 12. Burlap material             | 13. Footmen (archaic)          | 28. Donkey                    |
| 13. One who wilfully destroys   | 14. Fate                       | 30. German city               |
| 15. Blunder                     | 16. Mother (affectionate term) | 33. Foray                     |
| 16. Spring month                |                                | 34. Location of the Taj Mahal |
| 17. Sign of infinitive          |                                | 35. Point of land             |
| 18. A maker of suits            |                                | 37. Wager                     |
| 20. Just gone by                |                                |                               |
| 22. Pointless                   |                                |                               |
| 24. Disembark                   |                                |                               |
| 26. Great Hebrew prophet (Bib.) |                                |                               |
| 29. Public notice               |                                |                               |
| 30. Greek letter                |                                |                               |
| 31. Goddess of dawn             |                                |                               |
| 32. Bog                         |                                |                               |
| 35. Theleg (anat.)              |                                |                               |
| 36. Sacks                       |                                |                               |
| 37. Clubs                       |                                |                               |
| 38. Ireland                     |                                |                               |
| 39. Fencing sword               |                                |                               |
| 40. Man's nickname              |                                |                               |
| 41. Spread grass to dry         |                                |                               |

**YESTERDAY'S ANSWER**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50

**CRYPTOQUOTE—A cryptogram quotation**

LYZ WMEXL DJQ RDXL LYMU  
EZHAMEZQ SW UZJMAX MX RSBZ  
SW LEALY—USZLYZ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: LEISURE WITHOUT BOOKS IS DEATH, AND BURIAL OF A MAN ALIVE—SENECA.  
Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

40 feet long. The baskets are filled with flaming pine knots and are replenished frequently to provide a great ball of flame which is reflected on the water.

When the boats are in position, the cormorant masters, barefoot, with tight black silk turbans, black shirts, and grass skirts much like those of an Hawaiian hula dancer, take their positions and remove the hunting birds from wicker cages.

Each bird has a brass ring around his neck at the bottom of his enormous gullet, which is capable of holding a quart or more. The birds are controlled by strings which the fisherman holds in his right hand and manipulates to keep the birds working under water as the fishing progresses. Most fishermen can handle not more than four or five cormorants.

**Drum Beating**  
At a signal, the boats are released and start a mad rush down stream with a tremendous beating of wooden drums, which aid in attracting the fish. The cormorants are released directly under the torches and immediately start scooping up the trout.

A well trained bird will keep swallowing trout until his gullet is full and the tail of the last fish is protruding from the cormorant's mouth. The birds seize the fish at right angles and then quickly juggle them in their serrated bills and swallow them head first.

A trout caught by a cormorant is supposed to be of vastly superior flavor to one caught in a net or trap, because the fish is killed the moment the cormorant seizes him. Instant death is supposed to cause the superior flavor.

Gyokomaru caught more than 50 trout during a single run down the rapids. The catch weighed about eighty pounds and was valued at 1,500 yen or about \$30.

**CAPE FEAR**  
(Continued From Page One)  
The job. Most of them were North Carolinians. During that period they won virtually every award that is offered by Uncle Sam's Maritime commission for meritorious service.

This story of accomplishment at the Cape Fear shipyard will unfold in future issues of "Along the Cape Fear."

**WIDESPREAD SEARCH NOW UNDERWAY FOR TEXTILE MILL MAN**  
GREENSBORO, June 5 — (AP)—Law enforcement officers in Greensboro and Kernersville, with aid of State Highway patrolmen, county sheriffs deputies and police throughout the state, continued their search tonight for Walter L. Holt, 53, Greensboro, textile executive, who has been missing since Tuesday night.

Holt was last seen about 6:10 p. m. Tuesday when he left the office of Vance Knitting company, of which he is secretary-treasurer, in Kernersville, according to police. He was reported wearing a gray suit and traveling in a blue 1946 Ford coupe, bearing license 117-173.

Holt's wife stated he had appeared nervous lately and that she feared he was a victim of amnesia.

The English town of Bideford, in Devonshire, dates from before the Norman Conquest. In the 17th century it was a serious rival of London and Exeter as a center of trade. The town was the birthplace of Sir R. Grenville, one of the founders of Virginia.

**ROYAL**  
TODAY AND SATURDAY  
Prices Always 25c Plus Tax  
Music And Bullets Blazing Your Way!  
**GENE AUTRY**  
IN  
**TWILIGHT ON THE RIO GRANDE**  
with  
STERLING HOLLOWAY  
ADELE MARA • BOB STEELE  
CASS COUNTY BOYS  
Added—  
Serial "WHO'S GUILTY"  
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Latest World-Wide News

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Family 20c Plus Tax  
Bullet - Jammed Action in the Badlands!  
**Johnny Mack BROWN**  
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with  
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"SON OF ZORRO"  
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LATE SHOW TONIGHT  
ALSO SAT.  
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**BLONDIE KNOWS BEST**  
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The Imperfect Lady  
Plus:  
Late World News—  
Popeye Cartoon

### \$36,000 COCKTAILS IN HARRIED CHINA

#### Money Comes In Bundles Of Thousand Dollar Bills

BY WILLIAM C. PAYETTE  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
SHANGHAI (U.P.)—This is inflation: Your money comes in bundles of thousand-dollar bills about eight inches long. That's \$500,000. Nobody bothers to count it.

Your morning paper is \$2,000. Breakfast is \$24,000, a taxi-ride to the office \$36,000.

Lunch is \$64,000, a pack of cigarettes \$6,000, and a cocktail \$36,000.

We had a dinner party. The check was over a million dollars, without champagne, slippers or chorus girls.

My friend Yuan Ming Chin pays \$100,000 a month for his three-room apartment. He had to pay

\$10,000,000 "key money" to get the key to the place. He borrowed the money and pays 10 per cent interest. That makes his rent \$200,000 a month and he still owes the \$10,000,000.

Only \$500,000 a Month  
His salary as assistant director of the Shanghai office of the ministry of information is \$500,000 a month. His wife works for a U. S. government office. She gets \$2,000,000 a month. That's how they get by.

"I should quit the government service," he said, "but if we all quit, who would work for the government?" He's loyal and poor.

"When I was in Boone University in Hankow," he said, "I had three dollars a week. I had three meals a day, including chicken. I lived very well.

That was in 1939.

"Then I taught in the Central Political Institute. I got \$70 a month. I still lived well. I even had a horse. By 1944, I was making \$30,000 a month, and I was paying \$50,000 a month rent, but that was war. We just try to hold on. Somebody must."

**Coolies Better Off**  
Yuan's case is typical of the white collar man. The coolie, who

may get his rice with his work, is better off.

The boy who carries my bags downstairs I tipped \$2,000. The little old woman at the door offered me a bag of peanuts for \$1,500.

A friend of mine strolling on the bund, had his pocket picked of \$500,000.

A cafe offered us a bottle of whisky. Price \$600,000.

You take your bundled money around in sacks, if you're planning to do the town. You throw it into a drawer when you get home, stacked in half-millions.

Nobody wants the Chinese national currency. Tomorrow it may be worth half as much, so you get rid of it. That makes more inflation. You can't bring United States dollars to China, but there seem to be a few around. Everybody has "a friend" who can convert them at the unofficial rate of \$50,000 to one, against the official rate of 12,000 to one.

More than 17,000,000 women are now employed in the United States. This compares with 12,500,000 employed at the time peak, and 13,000,000 in 1940.

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**Spencer TRACY**  
*Katharine Hepburn*  
**Robert WALKER**  
*Melvyn Douglas*  
IN MGM'S  
**"The Sea of Grass"**  
Late News Shows: 12:25, 2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 9:05.

Next! . . .  
The Entire Week Starting Sun. June 8  
**"THE ANGEL & THE BADMAN"**

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**THE CRITICS PRONOUNCE IT "WONDERFUL"**  
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Wilmington's Original Cut-Rate Drug Store

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**83c PONDS CREAMS**  
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**60c MURINE FOR THE EYES**  
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**Six Ounce RUBBING ALCOHOL**  
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**For a glorious TAN USE SKOL**  
SKOL blocks out harmful, burning rays, but lets you tan gloriously! Antiseptic. Helps relieve sunburn.  
**NON-OILY**  
PREVENTS PAINFUL SUNBURN...  
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**\$1.00 DRENE SHAMPOO**  
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