



Empire Sportsman

ROD COCHRAN

A New York Press Association Service

The American League of Anglers, as well as the Outdoor Writers of America Assn., have recently voted to favor a 200-mile interim fisheries jurisdiction off our coasts. The flood tide that seems to be running through sportsman circles these days, is that it is unrealistic and dangerous to await action by the Law of the Sea Conference to save our precious marine resources from destruction by foreign fishing interests.

The Studds-Magnuson 200-Mile Fish Conservation Zone Bill was bottled up in the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Sub-Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives at last report, but support for the bill is picking up steam across the country.

Sportsmen have led this battle for a number of years to move back from our shores the large foreign fishing fleets. Most countries have a more realistic attitude than the U. S., and save the rich inshore fishing grounds for their own citizens. Sport fishing boats have virtually been run down by large factory-ship trawlers, only a little more than a good cast from shore. Not only was there heavy traffic on the fishing grounds, but the population of fish began to disappear.

Congress finally got the message when the U. S. commercial fishery began to be put out of business, and there were a few shooting speers on both the East and West Coasts — there are 162 House sponsors of the Studds-Magnuson bill. Anyone who has priced fish lately in the market know what has happened — and sport fishing certainly hasn't improved in the meantime.

The foreign fishery invasion began in the early 1960's with the appearance of huge fleets primarily from Iron Curtain countries. Just one year of intense systematic concentration on haddock, the most valuable of Atlantic ground-fish, by the Russian fleet, for instance, was enough to virtually eliminate a strong class of small fish that could have carried the fishery well into the 1970's. Since then, a once great haddock fishery has gone straight downhill until today scientists fear it might never regain its former abundance even should all fishing for that species be halted immediately, according to Allan J. Ristori, in the American League of Anglers' newsletter.

Notice Of Meeting To Hear Complaints In Relation To Assessment Roll

TAKE NOTICE, that the assessors of the Village of Andover have prepared their assessment roll for the current fiscal year; that a copy thereof has been filed with the undersigned Joan C. Dibble at her office in said Village, where it may be seen and examined by any person at all times during business hours until the third Tuesday of February, 1975, and that on said third Tuesday of February 1975, at the Village Office, between the hours of two and six P. M., the Board of Trustees and the assessors will meet for the purpose of completing such assessment roll and of hearing and determining complaints in relation thereto on the application of any person considering himself aggrieved thereby.

JOAN C. DIBBLE,
Village Clerk

Appreciation

I would like to thank my family, relatives, friends and neighbors for their many cards, gifts, flowers, food, visitations and other acts of kindness extended to me during my two weeks stay in the hospital and convalescence at home. They will never be forgotten.

Norma Quinn

Using Older Seeds

Seed supplies for most vegetable crops for home gardens will be adequate this year, but prices are higher than last year — up to 15 to 30 per cent.

However, some varieties, particularly of carrots and onions, are in tight supply, reports Prof. Philip A. Minges at the N.Y. State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University.

"The best way to get varieties of choice is to order seed early," he advises.

Because of higher prices and tighter seed supplies for some crops, homeowners may wonder if it is all right to plant seeds left over from last year.

The answer is "yes", if the seed has been stored under reasonably dry conditions, Minges says.

Most garden seeds germinate best soon after they are harvested and processed, and their ability to germinate and produce good plants gradually decreases with age, he explains.

"Under relatively dry, cool conditions, the aging process slows

down, but if the seeds are subjected to moist, warm conditions, the ability to germinate goes down rapidly."

Most seeds stored over winter in a dry place in the house or in a tight container will have fairly good germination for two to three years.

For some crops such as cucumbers, squash, and tomatoes, the seed remains viable longer than for other crops such as onions and sweet corn.

"To make up for the possible lower percentage of germination of older seeds, it is best to plant them a little thicker than usual," Minges suggests.

Seeds that have been kept for more than two years after purchase can be tested during the winter by planting some in a container indoors and see how many make good seedlings.

Using seeds saved from the garden is risky because of possible cross-pollination, and the danger of carrying diseases with the seed. In addition, many of the best varieties are hybrids which seldom reproduce true to type, Minges says. However, home gardeners who understand the problems and

techniques of saving seed might get by with some crops.

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