



Trout

**W**HIRRRRRRRR! The reel sings out, the rod's tip bends, a silver flash, another, another; the battle is on, trout versus angler; and may the better wit and the greater alertness—by no means certainly the angler's—win the day.

Probably nine-tenths or more of Izaak Walton's numerous progeny would rather "go a-angling" for trout than for any other fish. The swiftness and hardfighting gameness of the trout, the wild, beautiful scenery of its favorite haunts, the sleek beauty of any one of its many species, the very good eating it provides when (and if) caught, all help to make it the very king of freshwater fishes.

The various species of trout, home-biding fellows for all their adventurous disposition, have wandering brothers in the salmon. The salmon most sought after as game fish, indeed, are placed by naturalists in the same genus with trout, and even give it their own scientific name, *Salmo*. The big salmon of the commercial fisheries are also rated as close relatives, but ranked in a separate genus.

But even though it does dwell permanently in fresh water, the trout can on occasion do some vigorous traveling on his own account. The Yellowstone trout used to be a good deal of a puzzle, because it was found in the headwaters of the Snake River, which drains to the Pacific, and also in Yellowstone Lake, on the Atlantic side of the divide. But the divide between the lake and the upper rills of the river is in places a flat wet meadow, and here in rainy seasons trout have actually been seen working their way over "the top of the world", through shallow pools.

*Science News Letter, May 14, 1932*

PSYCHIATRY-VITAL STATISTICS

# First Research Shows Human Defectives Meet Early Death

**T**HOSE unfortunate babies who come into the world with badly defective brains usually die young. This is shown in the first extensive study ever made dealing with life curves of mental defectives.

Dr. Neil A. Dayton, director of research in the Massachusetts State Department of Mental Diseases, has completed the investigation. Dr. Dayton studied the cases of almost 9,000 mental defectives, including records of 878 deaths.

From death rates among these defectives, he figures that out of 1,000 idiot baby boys born, at ten years only 276 will be living. In the general population 803 baby boys out of 1,000 survive this age. At 20 years of age, 211 of the idiots will still be alive, still with their pathetic baby minds capable of understanding no more than a normal three-year-old child. At 30 years of age, 124 of the original thousand will be living; at 40 years 93; and by 60 years only 23.

Imbecile baby boys, with minds capable of developing as far as a seven-year-old child's, have a somewhat stronger hold on life than the idiots. Among 1,000 male imbeciles born, 314 will be alive at the end of ten years, while morons, who reach a mental level of seven to twelve years, have a still bet-

ter chance of surviving. Out of 1,000 male morons born, there will be 705 survivors at the end of ten years.

Chances of survival among female defectives differ somewhat from the figures regarding males. Girl babies born defective have a slighter chance of surviving the first twenty years of life than have the males. But the death rate after twenty years favors the females.

*Science News Letter, May 14, 1932*



The Science Service radio address next week will be on the subject of

## THE WISDOM OF LIVING THINGS

Dr. Edwin G. Conklin

professor of zoology at Princeton University and prominent cytologist, will be the speaker.

FRIDAY, MAY 20

at 2:45 P. M., Eastern Standard Time

Over Stations of The Columbia Broadcasting System

## CONVENIENCE COUPON

for New or Renewal Subscription to Science News Letter

Send this coupon to Washington while you are thinking of it.

**Science News Letter,  
21st and Constitution Avenue,  
Washington, D. C.**

Please  start  renew my subscription to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER. I am enclosing remittance as checked below:

- 2 years, \$7
- 1 year, \$5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and State \_\_\_\_\_

If this subscription is a renewal, check here . . . . .

