

97

SALT RIVER FISHERIES

Yesterday's Sensational Events Among the Anglers.

Of all the men in this town who understand the fish business by instinct Brother Roberts is surely the king bee. He goes along for months at a time without saying anything but when the psychological moment arrives he can always be depended upon to start something. About a week ago Brother Roberts gave the signal and now the whole country has gone fish mad.

Numerous parties go to the river daily, most of them southwest of the city, but occasional expeditions are seen all along the river. One man who spent yesterday on the river said he thought he saw as many as 300 people fishing during the day. And anybody who failed to catch fish yesterday might as well quit trying to ever catch any.

Incidentally a new record was made yesterday and the incident serves to show that a big fish like gold is where you find it and not necessarily where it ought to be. Rural Mail Carrier Grant, who was never yet discovered outraging the truth, is authority for the statement that Eph Engleman, a farmer who lives east of the city, caught two big fish in the Salt River Valley canal, the larger one weighing thirty pounds and the smaller one eleven pounds. That is the record fish to date. It is claimed that others as large have been seen but this is the first thirty pounder to go on record. The farmers under this canal have been kicking about not getting a proper water supply and it is suggested that if they would clean the fish out of the ditch it would carry a larger head. It might be well, too, to inspect the headgate and see if the fish have not broken it. Mr. Engleman also caught a fish in the Maricopa canal that weighed ten pounds and a half, but the Maricopa is outclassed as a salmon fishery.

A small boy named Ferris also captured a sixteen pound fish which was jockeying round in the river trying to gain an entrance to the joint head.

Wayne Davis made an unusually good catch yesterday and held the record for a few hours until returns came in from the Engleman homestead. Davis captured five fish, the largest of which weighed twenty-four pounds and the smallest sixteen.

Lee Redwine was also among the anglers and caught a good string but he couldn't get into the running. His biggest fish only weighed thirteen and three-fourth pounds. That would have been a big fish last week but it can not claim attention now. The real sports say that Mr. Redwine is only a piker and afraid to tackle the full grown fish.

C. M. Sturgis and Tom Whitney went out yesterday afternoon and have not reported yet. If Mr. Whitney catches anything worth mention he will be expected to embalm the cor-

pus delicti and place it in evidence.

Many of those who go fishing are also enthused with the fine swimming the river affords now, the long quiet stretches of the river being as clear as crystal and of any depth desired. It is remarked by many that if the tourist only wants bathing and fishing he is wasting his time and money to go to California.

