

New tackle

Warwick rods in demand

MARCUS WARWICK, of Uppingham, has been building superb cane fly-rods to order for many years, but his output has always been limited. However, one of his rods so impressed an American angler visiting this country that it resulted in a substantial order being placed by a dealer in Michigan. Now, with the acquisition of new premises, he has completed plans to meet home and overseas demands.

Specifically for the United States market, Marcus Warwick is hand-building a series of four hollow-built split-cane fly-rods from 6 ft 6 ins to 8 ft 8 ins. In his range will be a further two rods of 8 ft 9 ins and 9 ft in hollow-built or solid-built cane, and a 9 ft 6 in hollow-built rod for reservoir trout fishing, which will be made only to special order. All the rods are available to British anglers.

We have examined two of the rods — the 7 ft and the 9 ft — and have no hesitation in saying they will delight any discerning fly-fisherman, more particularly the river angler who loves the "feel" and the through-action of a first-class split-cane rod. All are made on the compound-taper principle, beautifully finished (matt finish is optional), and while the standard rings are tulip end, diamite butt and hard chrome snake intermediates (because these are preferred), optional rings of the customer's choice can be fitted. The standard reel seating is a housed-butt cap and sliding ring, but a screw winch fitting can be substituted at no extra cost, if desired. The handle is scroll-shaped or cigar-shaped according to which reel fitting is required. Ferrules are of nickel silver.

The rods vary in weight from 3¼ oz for the 7 ft to 6 oz for the 9 ft 6 in and the range of line sizes is from four for the smallest rod to seven for the 9 ft 6 in, but there is some latitude in that the rods are capable of fishing well with lines one size heavier or lighter than those quoted.

Prices for the hollow-built rods, including VAT, range from from £44 for the smallest rod of 6 ft 6 in to £65 for the 9 ft 6 in model. In solid cane the rods are somewhat cheaper.

Anyone wishing to examine Warwick rods can do so at 40 North Street East, Uppingham, Rutland, Leicestershire, but visits must be by appointment, either by letter or telephone (Uppingham 3400, or, in the evening, 2487).