

MONTAGUE FISHING RODS

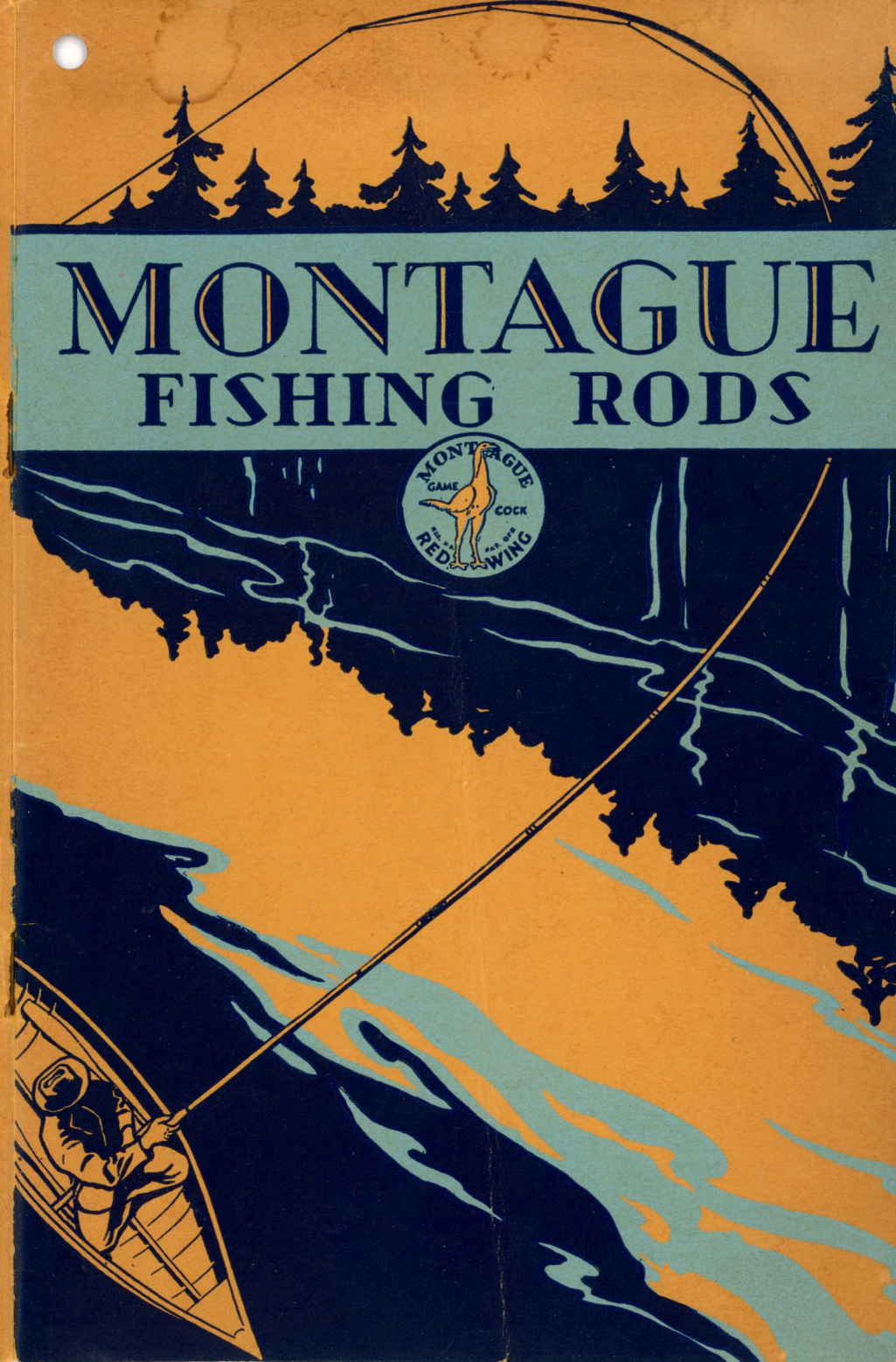


Go to Your Local Dealer for Rods

YOUR local dealer can usually furnish without delay the Montague rod that you require. He is familiar with fishing tackle and can help you in making your selection. He saves you transportation charges and delays and in case changes are required, relieves you of much inconvenience. He wants your patronage and will do his best to warrant it. Make use of his services when you need tackle. Distributors serve Industry economically; try your local dealer first. If necessary to write to the factory, prompt and careful attention will be given your letter.



MONTAGUE FISHING RODS



MONTAGUE



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HALF A CENTURY AGO, two young men of New England gave up their business of building bridges to engage in making fishing rods of split-bamboo. It required considerable confidence in the future of the sport of fishing, and especially in rods of split-bamboo . . . then still an innovation.

For the rest of their lives E. P. and L. L. Bartlett were rodmakers. So too was C. W. Schuler who as a young man joined them as their first and only office employee. Together they built the Montague Fishing Rod business up to the largest split-bamboo rod making establishment in the world. All three of them in turn served as president and general manager. Their active direction of the business lasted exactly 50 years.

The first Montague Split-bamboo Fishing Rods were good rods . . . the best that could be made.

There never has been any change from the original Montague policy . . . of making the best rod possible for the price charged. To every user of Montague Fishing Rods, to every dealer and distributor who sells them, Montague points to this policy as the foundation of its firm hold on world leadership in rodmaking. Montague Rods are made . . . and the entire Montague business is conducted . . . by Montague men who believe in and live to uphold Montague's unequalled prestige. Men who worked shoulder to shoulder with and were trained by the founders of the business.

Montague Rod & Reel Company
Montague City, Mass.



On the Nipigon River.

Edward Cave Photo

Your Choice in a Good Rod

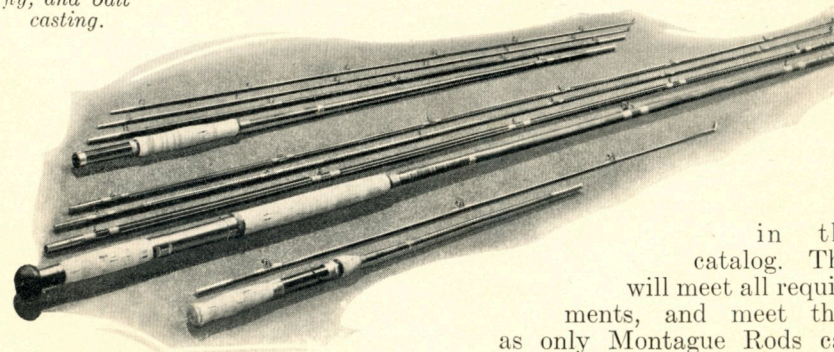
CATALOG
No. 31

TO the fisherman who lives in, or travels to, trout-fishing country, a fishing rod is a fly rod. In black bass country, the bass fisherman just as likely may be interested only in a bait-casting rod. So it goes through the whole gamut of fishing . . . inland, on the seacoasts, and out where the sharks begin. Every man to his ideal.

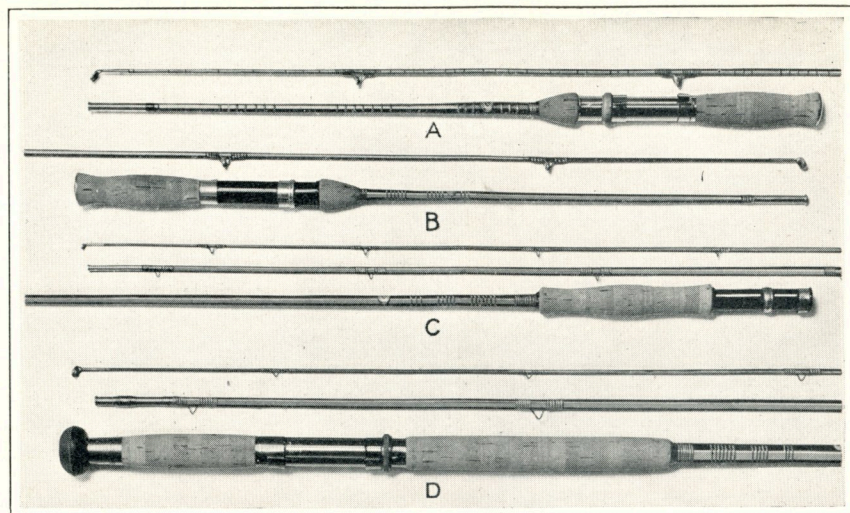
To the rodmaker, devoted to his craft even more intensely than the most enthusiastic angler to his sport, the first essential is that the rod be made of split-bamboo — the ideal material for fishing rods.

As the world's largest maker of high-grade fishing rods . . . which means rods of split-bamboo . . . Montague recommends the rods shown and described

*Montague
Manitou
rods; left to
right, trout
fly, salmon
fly, and bait
casting.*



in this
catalog. They
will meet all require-
ments, and meet them
as only Montague Rods can.



Close-ups of Montague Fresh-water Rods. A and B, Red Wing and Manitou bait casting; C, Manitou trout fly; D, Manitou salmon fly.

Montague Rods for Fresh-water Fishing

FOR sport fishing the rod comes first in selecting equipment. Before that, the kind of fishing to be done must be decided on. For all classes of fishing in fresh water and salt water in North American waters, there are some forty distinct styles of rods. This includes everything from the simple cane pole to the deep-sea angler's rod with a tip more powerful than an archer's bow.

Fresh-water rods may be divided roughly into two styles: (1.) for fly fishing, and (2.) for bait casting. In selecting a rod, fishermen group themselves into three classes. The largest class acts on the principle that fishing rods have been developed to a high degree of perfection by experts, which makes choosing a rod as simple as buying a hat or a pair of shoes. The class next in size includes the fishermen who devote more attention to the details of their sport. Much of their pleasure is derived from their knowledge of equipment and its handling. The last and smallest class, the experts, comprise a relatively small group.

To a fisherman of this latter class, any discussion of fishing rods is an old story. He knows the subject, has a library of fishing books, has read everything — and continues his accumulation of fishing information with unabated pleasure. He may even have made a rod or two himself. He can name over twenty special rod woods, and perhaps give you the specific gravity and weight per cubic foot. And he most likely will go further and tell you that the only material from which any fishing rod ever should be made is split bamboo — reasons for which he can elaborate all evening.

The average person is satisfied to depend upon manufacturing competition to have developed the best rods, as in other things. In this he is

Montague Split Bamboo Rods Lead the World in Popularity

entirely safe. The American fishing rod industry developed the split-bamboo rod, making by far the most popular type in the world for superior service . . . for years on end it has, in every way, demonstrated this superiority. If you witness a national championship casting tournament, you will see split-bamboo rods used — because they are the best. They hold the world's records, for both fresh-water and salt-water casting. If you witness the taking of a splendid Atlantic salmon or steel-head trout — the two fastest and most powerful sporting fish caught in fresh water, by the most highly refined fishing methods — you will see a split-bamboo rod the victor. Salmon fishermen and steel-head trout fishermen — the leaders in fly fishing — use split-bamboo rods exclusively.

As the earliest large user of high quality bamboo for fishing rods, Montague long ago began devoting very great attention to obtaining the best cane to be found. Bamboo cane is not, as may be supposed, a solitary species. There are in fact more than 170 distinct species of this grass.

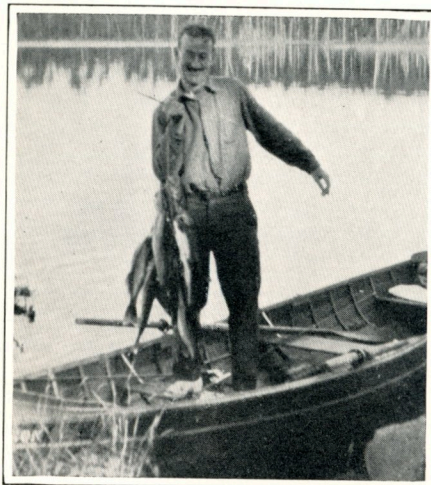


Montague Split-bamboo Rods in any sporting goods window display mean to the fisherman that here is dependable tackle.

These grow to heights varying from the most stunted and useless stuff to a height of 150 feet. Some cane of this great height attains a diameter of 15 to 18 inches, and shows an interval of several feet between the nodes or joints.

For many years, Montague has successfully controlled an excellent supply of the most valuable cane. This bamboo, of a cultivated species called Tonkin cane, grows in French Indo-China. The best of each years crop is used in all Montague Rods, and is selected with elaborate care by experts, from cane of the most approved size. A special advantage

is obtained through constant purchase in large quantities. This insures not only superior quality but also the very best of care in harvesting and seasoning.



Northern Ontario black bass and wall-eyed pike, taken with a Montague bait-casting rod by Mr. O. E. Forrest.

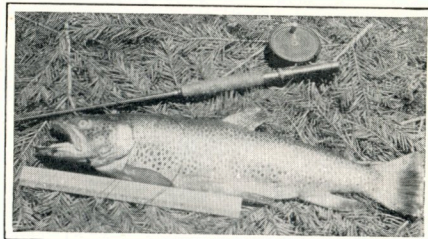
Besides controlling ample supplies of superior cane, Montague has an advantage in making its own ferrules and other fittings — all our own guides, tops, reel seats, reel bands and butt caps. We hard solder all guides and tops where soldering is necessary, and all fittings are invariably the best quality. We use no cheap foreign rod fittings of any description.

To return to bamboo, it is the hard enamel, or thick rind, of the bamboo that is used. Six tapered strips of this, shaped to fit together with finest precision, and glued, form each rod section or joint. In this connection, the familiar *fascies*, or symbolical bundle of sticks, on the back of a dime, has a special

significance. To the Romans it was a symbol of power.

Besides using cane of superior quality, seasoning and selection, Montague has developed a special tempering method, or heat treatment, which puts invaluable *mettle* in the cane. All Montague cane so tempered, or "Montagued," is treated before being made up into rods — not after.

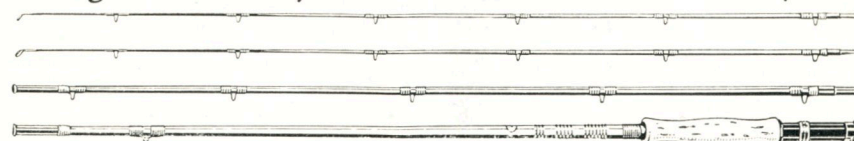
As to taper, length, weight — these have been arrived at by years of constant striving for improvement. That Montague Rods have long been noted for superior "backbone" or power... finely balanced for greatest all-round casting excellence together with best fighting strength and stamina... comes from most accurately combining superior merit in all elements of the rod. The requirements of every style of rod are thoroughly weighed, understood and met, with the most perfect performance and dependability. Each individual rod embodies the best in quality of materials, careful hand work, test-



Over 20 inches of "dynamite," lured to take a barbed imitation fly and reduced to possession, by a Montague fly rod.

ing and inspection. This is assured by Montague's high standards, constantly advancing knowledge, superior methods, and the largest split-bamboo rod production.

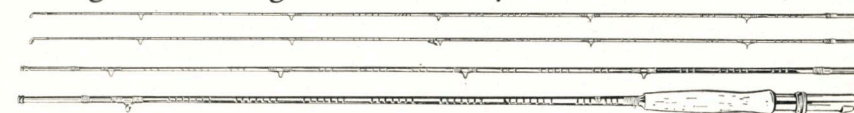
Montague Manitou Fly \$35.00



This superb rod is the pride of Montague's best rod makers. It is their supreme achievement, as the finest fly rods always has been. Three joints and extra tip. Each joint hand made of six strips of specially selected Tonkin cane. Stock that has been aged and Montague heat-treated for temper with the greatest care, shown in its rich brown color. Designed and hand worked for highest perfection, and having superiority in action, power and stamina not approached in any other rod. Ferrules are 18% nickel silver, hand weltd, serrated, perfectly fitted, wound over and made waterproof. Reel seat is of lustrous black hard rubber with nickel silver band and butt cap. The grip, shaped to fit the hand, is of fine satin-finish solid cork. The first guide and the top on one tip are genuine agate; top on reserve tip Perfection steel. Intermediate guides are file-hard Tungsten steel. There is a hook ring just above the grip. Windings, at guides, ferrules and grip, are pongee and purple silk; hard rubber winding check above grip. Finished by hand with a special waterproof varnish, thick, smooth and tough. Packed in a heavy green poplin bag and the whole in a polished aluminum rod case with watertight screw cap.

Lengths: 8½ ft., 9 ft. Light Trout. 9 ft., 9½ ft. Medium Trout. 9 ft., 9½ ft. Bass.

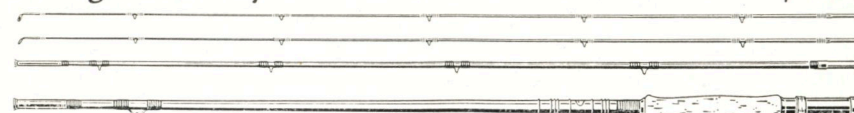
Montague Red Wing Game Cock Fly \$25.00



An extraordinarily efficient and very handsome fly fishing rod. Named the Game Cock for its superior casting and admirable fighting mettle. Three joints and an extra tip. Thoroughly seasoned, selected Montague heat-treated heavy brown Tonkin cane in six strip construction. Ferrules are hand weltd and serrated and, with the hand made reel seat, are 18% nickel silver. Solid cork grip, well shaped. First guide and top on one tip are genuine agate; top on reserve tip Perfection steel. Intermediate guides are file-hard steel and a hook ring is provided at grip. Windings are red and yellow silk, and varnish finish is heavy and thoroughly durable. Packed in a partition green poplin bag, then in a polished aluminum rod case with watertight screw cap.

Lengths: 7½ ft. Light Trout. 8½ ft., 9 ft., 9½ ft. Medium Trout. 9 ft., 9½ ft. Bass.

Montague Trail Fly \$20.00



The highest grade rod that can be produced at its price. Three joints and extra tip, of selected Montague heat-treated brown Tonkin cane. Ferrules hand weltd and serrated, and with the waterproof reel seat are 18% nickel silver. Nicely shaped solid cork grip. First guide and top on one tip genuine agate; top on reserve tip Perfection steel. Intermediate guides file-hard steel. Convenient hook ring just above grip. Attractively wound with yellow and dark red silk, and nicely varnished. Packed in a partition canvas bag and aluminum case with bayonet cap.

Lengths: 8½ ft., 9 ft., 9½ ft. Trout. 9 ft., 9½ ft. Bass.

FLY RODS

For Trout and Bass Fly Fishing

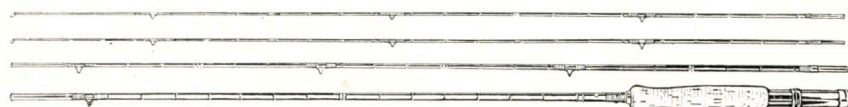
Montague Flipline Fly \$15.00



Price considered, better quality is not to be found than is provided in this very serviceable rod. Three joints and extra tip, of selected heat-treated brown Tonkin cane. Ferrules are roll welted, split and wound over and, with the waterproof reel seat, are 18% nickel silver. Solid cork grip, shaped in a popular style. All guides and tops are file-hard steel and the first guide is agatine. Convenient hook ring at grip. Closely wound with garnet and lemon silk and well varnished. The tips are packed in an aluminum tip case and the whole in a partition heavy canvas bag.

Lengths: 8½ ft., 9 ft., and 9½ ft.

Montague Fishkill Fly \$12.00



An attractive, well made workmanlike rod of good quality. Three joints and extra tip, carefully made of selected heat-treated brown split cane. Straight rolled welt ferrules split and wound over, like the waterproof reel seat are 18% nickel silver. Shaped solid cork grip. Ringed first guide, tops of both tips and intermediate snake guides are of file-hard steel. Hook ring above grip. Closely wound with two colors of variegated silk and neatly varnished. Packed in a velvet covered form and canvas bag.

Lengths: 8½ ft., 9 ft., and 9½ ft.

Montague Splitswitch Fly \$8.00



A serviceable rod at the lowest possible price, and exceptional value. Three joints and extra tip, made of selected brown split cane. Improved roll welted ferrules and reel seat of solid brass, heavily nickel plated. Grip is solid cork. Tops and guides are file-hard steel. First guide is agatine. Winding is red-orange and green silk, and varnish is a good job. Provided with a tip form and put up in a partition canvas bag.

Lengths: 8½ ft., 9 ft., and 9½ ft.

For Casting with Natural and Artificial Lures

BAIT RODS

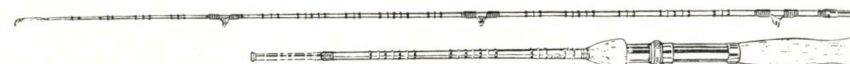
Montague Manitou Casting \$20.00



Designed and built to give the highest possible efficiency in bait casting, together with the most pleasure, and to give battle valorously under all circumstances—this splendid rod is as near the bait caster's ideal as Montague can make it. Sensitive, powerful, dainty. The short butt and long tip construction as shown has been proven by time to be the best for all round service. Specially selected Tonkin cane, thoroughly aged and carefully Montague heat-treated, the latter increasing power and producing a rich dark brown color. Six strip construction, very carefully hand worked for casting perfection. The chromium plated 18% nickel silver ferrules are hand welted, serrated and wound over, beautifully fitted and waterproof. The lustrous hard rubber reel seat has a spiral locking band and a hood of chromium plated nickel silver. The two solid cork grips are precisely shaped to give highest satisfaction and comfort in handling; they are given a beautiful satin finish and a chromium plated metal butt cap is provided. All guides and the top are large genuine agates, perfectly mounted and smooth polished. Windings at ferrules and above grip, including winding check, are pongee and purple silk. Finished with special waterproof varnish, thick, smooth and tough, applied by hand. Packed in green poplin partition bag, then in a polished aluminum rod case with watertight screw cap.

Lengths: 5 ft., 5½ ft. Medium. 5 ft., 5½ ft., and 6 ft. Heavy.

Montague Red Wing Casting \$15.00



A rod of high standard and excellent action—splendid quality and an all-day joy for casting. A fighting rod with spunk to spare for all comers. Short butt and long tip as shown. Thoroughly seasoned, selected, Montague heat-treated brown Tonkin cane of six strip construction. Ferrules are hand welted, serrated and wound over, and with the reel seat are of 18% nickel silver, chromium plated. Reel seat has a strong special locking band, conveniently large and knurled. The two grips are of solid cork and expertly shaped for service and comfort. Metal butt plate is chromium plated. All guides and the top are genuine agate, smooth and solidly mounted. Rod is closely wound with red and yellow silk, including winding check above upper grip. Handsomely varnished. Packed in a heavy partition green poplin bag and a polished aluminum rod case with a screw cap.

Lengths: 5 ft. and 5½ ft. Medium. 5 ft., 5½ ft., and 6 ft. Heavy.

Montague Trail Casting \$12.00



Price considered, this is as fine a rod as can be asked for. Two-piece as shown. High grade, selected heat-treated brown Tonkin cane. Ferrules are hand welted, serrated and wound over, and with the reel seat are 18% nickel silver, chromium plated. Strong, convenient and dependable locking reel seat. All guides and the top are large genuine agates. The two solid cork grips are correctly shaped, and there is a chromium plated metal butt plate. Windings are green and yellow silk, including winding check above forward grip. Varnish finish is smooth, thick and durable. Packed in a heavy partition canvas bag.

Lengths: 4½ ft., 5 ft., 5½ ft. Medium. 4½ ft., 5 ft., 5½ ft. Heavy.

BAIT RODS *For Bait Casting with Natural and Artificial Lures*

Montague Flipline Casting \$10.00



A rod of thoroughly good quality. Two-piece as shown. Selected heat-treated brown Tonkin cane. Ferrules are roll welted, split and wound over, and with the reel seat are 18% nickel silver. Reel seat has strong, secure locking reel band. All guides and the top are finest agatine. The two grips are solid cork, well shaped, and butt is finished off with a metal end plate. Windings are garnet and lemon silk, including winding check above forward grip. The varnishing is thick and nicely done.

Lengths: 4½ ft., 5 ft., 5½ ft. Medium. 4½ ft., 5 ft., 5½ ft. Heavy.

Montague Fishkill Casting \$8.00



A rod of good quality, with short butt and long tip as shown, and made of selected brown split cane. Ferrules are improved roll welted and wound over, and with the reel seat are 18% nickel silver. Strong locking reel band. All guides and the top are finest agatine. Two nicely shaped solid cork grips. Wound attractively with two colors of variegated silk, and neatly varnished. Packed in a canvas partition bag.

Lengths: 3 ft., 3½ ft. (butt and tip same length) \$6.00 4½ ft., 5 ft., 5½ ft. \$8.00

Montague Splitswitch Casting \$6.00



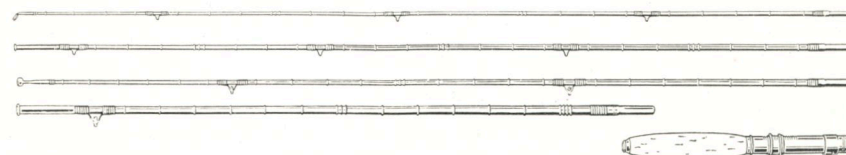
Made in approved short butt and long tip style, this rod is in every way an exceptional value at its modest price. Selected brown split cane stock. Locking band reel seat and roll welted ferrules are brass, heavy nickel plated. Two nicely shaped grips of solid cork. All guides and the top are imitation agate. Winding is red-orange and green silk. Packed in a neat canvas partition bag.

Lengths: 4½ ft., 5 ft., 5½ ft.

*Combination Rod for Fly
Fishing and Bait Casting*

COMBINATION FLY AND BAIT

Montague Fishkill Combination Rod \$13.50



This unique yet very simple and extremely practical rod is we believe the first ever built which meets the requirements of both fly casting and bait casting with complete success. Ideal for a fisherman who can obtain both kinds of fishing on week-end trips by automobile from place to place. Just the rod on canoe cruises, hikes or saddle trips where either kind of fishing may be offered and equipment must be held down to minimum. Handle and butt joint are used either with middle joint and tip for fly fishing or with stout tip for casting. Or when preferred a light fly rod is made of two sections. For bait casting also two different lengths are provided. Thus one rod takes the place of several and does it well. Good quality selected heat-treated brown split cane and a detachable reversible butt with solid cork grip. Ferrule sockets in grip ends are of two sizes. This permits the rod to be used as follows:

As a 9 ft. fly rod, reel below hand. (By reversing the butt, rod may be used for still fishing with reel above hand.)

As a 6½ ft. light fly rod.

As a 6 ft. bait casting or light trolling rod.

As a 3½ ft. bait casting or light trolling rod.

The guide on the butt joint and the guides and top on the casting tip are agatine. The snake guides on the fly rod's second joint and tip are file-hard steel and the top is agatine. Ferrules are straight roll welted and with the reel seat are 18% nickel silver. A hook ring is provided just above the grip. Winding is in two colors of variegated silk, and varnishing is neat and thorough. Packed on a flannel covered form, in a canvas bag.

Fishkill Fresh Water Trolling Rod \$15.00



Steady trolling — and there are places where this kind of fishing gives most pleasure and best results — calls for a sturdy rod, for best service and satisfaction. This fine special trolling rod of split bamboo will be appreciated... plenty of backbone for constant trolling, and ample power for any fight, with the biggest lake trout or musky. Three joints and extra tip, of selected brown split cane. Rolled welt ferrules, wound over, and reel seat with locking band, also butt cap, are 18% nickel silver. Two grips of solid cork — upper one 3" long. First guide and both tops are agatine, balance of guides nickel silver bell design. Closely wound in two colors of variegated silk. Carefully finished with good thick varnish. Packed in canvas partition bag.

Length: 8½ ft. *Weight:* 8 oz.

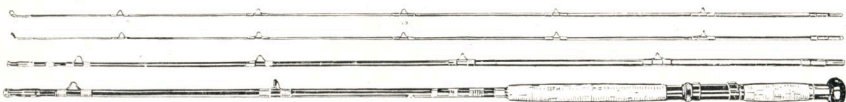
SALMON FLY RODS *For Salmon and Heavy Bass Fly Fishing*

Montague Manitou Dry Fly Salmon Rod . . . \$40.00



For the highest enjoyment of fly fishing for salmon, Montague has with great care developed this special rod—which although designated for dry fly casting nevertheless is extensively used also for conventional wet fly fishing. A rod of superb casting qualities, and one which in good hands is more than a match for the fastest and heaviest salmon at his best. The skillful and experienced caster finds it a joy to handle. A rod of truly superb action, giving splendid accuracy and distance with a minimum of casting effort. A rod which encourages the fine precision and delicacy which set dry fly work apart and bring its rich rewards. A rod especially appreciated by anglers who incline to the use of light tackle or who find the use of a heavy rod rather arduous. Especially suitable for women anglers. Although 10½ feet long, it weighs but 9½ ounces and its action is, we believe, unequalled in any other rod. Three joints and extra tip, each built of six strips of thoroughly seasoned and specially selected Tonkin cane, Montague heat-treated for maximum temper and giving the stock a lustrous brown color. The ferrules are reinforced double thick 18% nickel silver, serrated and wound over and made waterproof, and are of our own manufacture. Reel seat is the universal locking type, and also 18% nickel silver. The first guide and the tops are genuine agate and the intermediate snake guides of Tungsten file-hard steel are finished a dark bronze color. The main grip, of solid cork, is of the approved cylindrical design, and along with the solid cork extra extension grip is satin finished. The extra extension grip plugs into a deep socket in the end of the reel seat, providing the advantage of a double grip when desired in playing large fish or for changing off to two hands in casting. Instantly detachable and easily carried in a pocket, this extra grip dispenses with the annoyance of a lower grip in single-handed casting. Wound at guides, ferrules and grip with pongee and purple silk. Heavily varnished by hand with a special waterproof varnish that is smooth, clear and tough. Packed in a heavy partition bag and the whole in an aluminum rod case with watertight screw cap. Made in one length only, 10½ ft., weight 9½ oz.

Montague Manitou Salmon Fly Rod . . . Prices below



Of the same best possible quality and finish as the Manitou Dry Fly rod described above, these rods are the conventional design, lengths and weights for salmon fishing with a fly. Great attention is given to making each individual rod as perfect as possible. All the experience, knowledge and skill of a half century of leadership in split-bamboo rod making is brought to bear in every detail of the work. The thoroughly aged and very carefully selected heavy special Tonkin cane is Montague heat-treated with painstaking care to give it the very best of temper that can be achieved. Through every step, the most patient, thorough and expert work by master craftsmen insures a perfection which is invaluable to the angler. Insures the heart-warming response of a rod that almost *knows* when that last ounce of energy *must* be delivered, to lay the fly on the psychological spot or to turn the battle at the psychological moment. The style of these rods has been standard for many years. All refinements have been made with great care to achieve improvement. Fittings are the same as in the dry fly rod above, but heavier and stronger, according to length and weight. The two grips are longer and the lower one is permanently attached and equipped with a snap-on rubber butt cap over one of nickel silver. Every rod is packed in a heavy canvas partition bag, and the whole in a waterproof aluminum case with screw cap.

12 ft., 16 oz.	\$50.00	14 ft., 21 oz.	\$60.00
13 ft., 17 oz.	\$50.00	15 ft., 23 oz.	\$60.00

For Salmon and Heavy Bass Fly Fishing SALMON FLY RODS

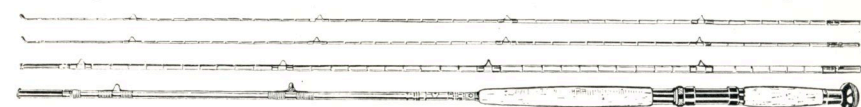
Montague Red Wing Salmon Rod . . . Prices below



These rods are built to meet every demand including that of price, which is always a consideration to the average fisherman. We believe that any Red Wing salmon rod, length, weight and especially price considered, is unbeatable. In quality these rods leave nothing to be desired; the same in service. Three joints and extra tip of thoroughly seasoned selected Montague heat-treated heavy brown Tonkin cane in six strip construction. The ferrules are reinforced double thick, hand-welded and serrated, and with the locking reel seat are made of 18% nickel silver, finished dark bronze. Two grips of solid cork, and metal butt thimble finished with snap-on rubber cap. First guide and tops are genuine agate, smooth and firmly mounted; intermediate snake guides are Tungsten file-hard steel. Hook ring at upper grip. Winding is the standard Red Wing pattern in red and yellow silk. Varnishing is thorough, laid on thick and smooth, and lastingly tough. Packed in a heavy canvas partition bag, with the tips in a watertight aluminum case.

12 ft., 17 oz.	\$35.00	14 ft., 22 oz.	\$40.00
13 ft., 18 oz.	\$35.00	15 ft., 24 oz.	\$40.00

Montague Trail Salmon Rod \$25.00

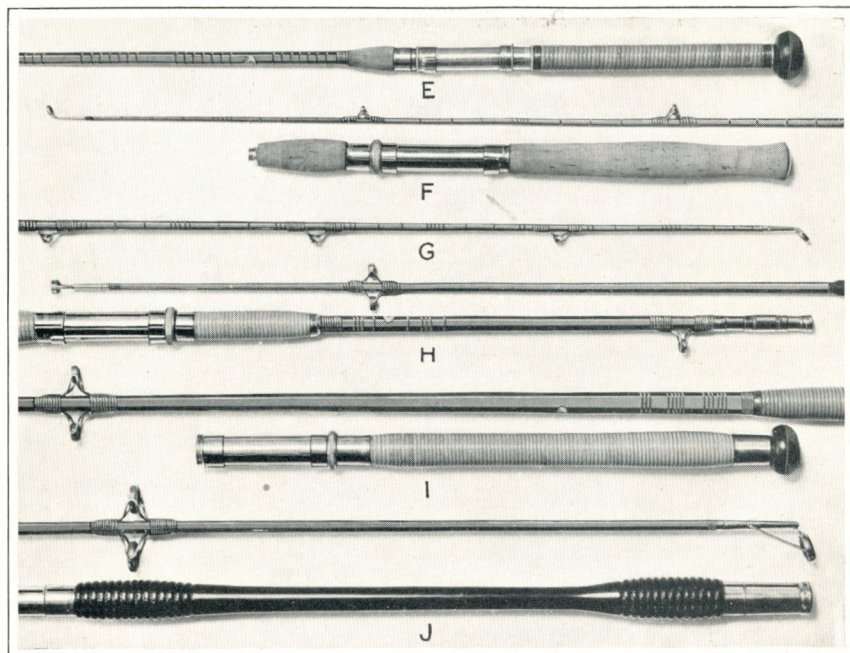


A thoroughly efficient rod, in all ways measuring up to accepted standards. A good caster and a good fighter. Three joints and extra tip, of selected, heat-treated brown Tonkin split cane. Ferrules are straight hand welded, double thick and wound over. They and the reel seat with locking band are 18% nickel silver, dark bronze finish. The two grips are solid cork, the end one finished with rubber-capped metal butt thimble of nickel silver. First guide and both tops are genuine agate, and intermediate guides are Tungsten file-hard steel. Hook ring above upper grip. Wound closely with yellow and dark red silk. Carefully and well varnished. Packed in a partitioned heavy canvas bag. Made in 12 ft. length only; weight approximately 17 oz.

Montague Flipline Light Salmon Rod \$20.00



A single-hand rod for small salmon or grilse, also for steelhead trout, land-locked salmon or black bass fly fishing. A powerful caster, and with good handling can give any fish odds of pounds to ounces and beat him. Three joints and extra tip of six-strip selected brown Tonkin cane, heat-treated for best temper. Roll welded ferrules and locking band reel seat are 18% nickel silver, bronze finish. Ten-inch solid cork grip of salmon-rod type. Guides and tops are all Tungsten file-hard steel. Hook ring above grip. Wound closely with garnet and lemon silk. Well varnished. Packed in partitioned heavy canvas bag. One length only: 10 ft., weight approximately 8¾ oz.



Close-ups of rods shown opposite. E, Red Wing Three-Six; F, Fishkill Weakfish; G, Fishkill one-piece boat; H, Trail two-piece boat; I, Manitou Tarpon; J, Manitou Surf.

Montague Salt-water Rods

MUCH of what has been said in general about Montague Split-bamboo Rods for fresh-water fishing applies equally to those for fishing in salt water. Here, however, is greater variety and much more contrast.

In general salt-water rods may be divided as (1) shore rods and (2) boat rods. The shore rods find their most individual type in the surf-casting style, the boat rods perhaps in the Three-Six. All styles have special uses, explaining their different designs.

In general, salt-water fishing is a more robust sport than is inland fishing. The surf-caster, instead of a half-ounce or a quarter-ounce bait uses one weighing from two to four ounces. A "two-handed" rod

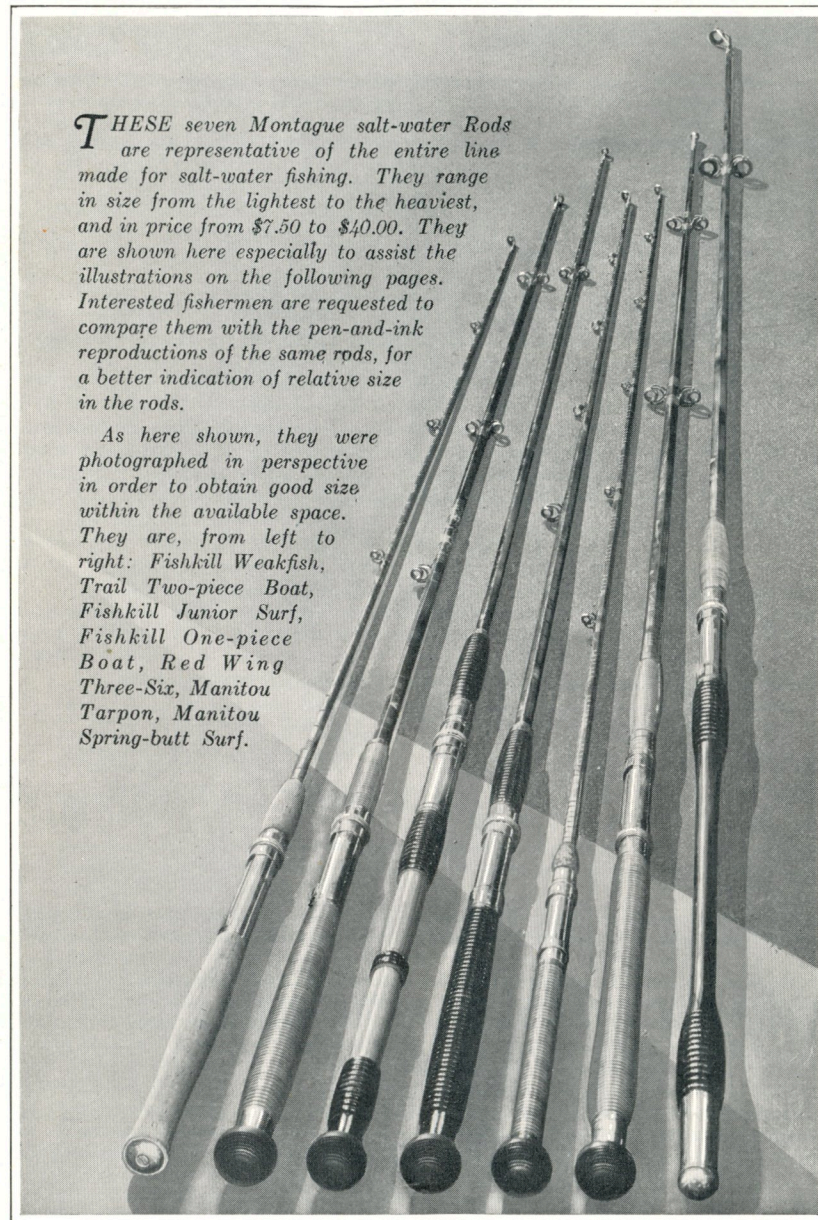
for him, with which to cast out beyond the ocean breakers. And not only must he have a big, powerful rod to shoot out his heavy sinker or squid but almost anything in the ocean may come along and give him battle!

Montague Salt-water Rods are the most highly developed high-grade rods for estuary, bay, lagoon, pier, beach and ocean fishing. They represent many years of very thorough study, investigation and effort for improvement. As illustrated and described in the following pages, they have been extensively refined and restyled, and several new styles have been added. Fishermen wishing to conform with the regulations of leading salt-water fishing clubs will find

Montague Salt-water Rods of Split-Bamboo

THESE seven Montague salt-water Rods are representative of the entire line made for salt-water fishing. They range in size from the lightest to the heaviest, and in price from \$7.50 to \$40.00. They are shown here especially to assist the illustrations on the following pages. Interested fishermen are requested to compare them with the pen-and-ink reproductions of the same rods, for a better indication of relative size in the rods.

As here shown, they were photographed in perspective in order to obtain good size within the available space. They are, from left to right: Fishkill Weakfish, Trail Two-piece Boat, Fishkill Junior Surf, Fishkill One-piece Boat, Red Wing Three-Six, Manitou Tarpon, Manitou Spring-butt Surf.



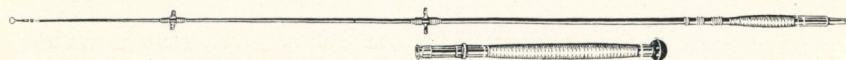
Montague Rods of the required specifications. For every fisherman there is a Montague Salt-water Rod which will be found exactly right

...built in Massachusetts, by expert salt-water rodmakers, for best service under each particular condition.

TARPON RODS

For Tarpon, Tuna and General Heavy Game
Fishing in Salt Water

Montague Manitou Tarpon \$30.00



In this series of Montague rods the angler will find the highest attainment of our many years' experience in building split-bamboo rods for salt-water fishing. We especially wish to call attention to the tip construction. This is *double enamel*, each layer in six strips, the full length of the tip, which is one piece with separate butt, as shown above. Made of the most carefully selected butt-cut Tonkin cane, thoroughly aged and most carefully Montague heat-treated to insure best temper and powerful action. The heat treatment produces a lustrous rich brown color—*not painted*—against which the silk windings of pongee and purple show attractively. The butt section is of selected old growth white Hickory, wound with cane, filed in. The sturdy ferrule center with the reel seat and butt thimble are 18% nickel silver. Rugged Tarpon reel seat has locking reel band, and end of butt is finished with a rubber butt cap. Guides and top as listed below. Each rod is heavily and carefully finished with thick, clear, tough varnish. Packed in a heavy canvas bag. Provided in four tip weights as follows:

Six ounce tip—This rod meets the "Light Tackle Class" specifications of the Catalina Tuna Club, Aransas Pass Club, and other clubs having "Light Tackle Class" regulations. The tip is 61 inches long and the butt 14 or 18 inches as chosen. Both grasps are on the butt. All guides are on one side and with the offset casting top are genuine agates.

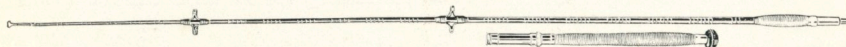
Nine ounce tip—This tip is 61 inches long, and the butt 18 inches. The forward grasp is on the butt end of the tip. The two sets of large double guides and the large stirrup top are all genuine agates. This is the rod shown above.

Twelve ounce tip—This rod meets the "Heavy Tackle Class" regulations of the Tuna Club and similar organizations. The tip is 61 inches long and the butt 20 inches. The forward grasp, guides and top are the same style as on the 9 ounce tip.

Sixteen ounce tip—Same style as 12 oz. tip but heavier for heavy duty.

Note:—The above rods in 9 and 12 ounce tip weights may also be supplied with all the guides on one side instead of arranged in pairs, in which case an offset top is used. This style meets favor on the Pacific Coast. If rod is wanted with guides all on one side it should be so ordered, as double guides are supplied otherwise.

Montague Red Wing Tarpon \$25.00



The three rods in this selection are identical except as specified below where weights are given. All are highest quality and made with one piece tip and detachable butt. All are six strip construction, made of carefully selected and heat treated brown Tonkin cane, *not painted*. Both grasps are wound with cane. Ferrule, reel seat with locking reel band, and butt thimble, are of 18% nickel silver. Rubber butt cap is provided. Guides and tops are as listed below. Each rod is wound with red and yellow silk, and heavily finished with smooth, thick, tough varnish. Packed in a heavy canvas bag. Made in three tip weights as follows:

Six ounce tip—This rod meets all club "Light Tackle Class" regulations. The tip is 61 inches long and the butt 14 or 18 inches as chosen. Both grasps are on the butt. All guides are on one side and with the offset casting top are genuine agates.

Nine ounce tip—Tip is 61 inches long and the butt is 18 inches. The forward grasp is on the butt end of the tip. The two sets of large double guides and the large stirrup top are all genuine agates. This is the rod shown above.

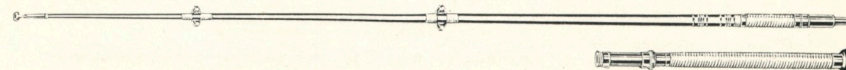
Twelve ounce tip—This rod meets the "Heavy Tackle Class" regulations of all clubs. Aside from weight of tip this rod is same construction as 9 oz. tip rod.

Note:—The above rods in 9 and 12 ounce weights may also be supplied with all the guides on one side instead of arranged in pairs, in which case an offset top is used. This style meets favor on the Pacific Coast. If rods are wanted with guides all on one side please so stipulate on order, otherwise double guides are supplied.

For Tarpon, Tuna and General Heavy Game
Fishing in Salt Water

TARPON RODS

Montague Trail Tarpon \$15.00



Made in three weights as specified below, these rods are high grade and built for real service. Construction is one piece six strip tip and detachable butt. Selected brown heat-treated Tonkin cane, *not painted*. Has cane wound grasps. Ferrules, reel seat, locking reel band and butt thimble are 18% nickel silver. A slip-on rubber butt cap is provided. Guides and tops as listed below. Wound with green and yellow silk. Finished with thick, clear, tough varnish. Packed in a heavy canvas bag. Made in three tip weights as follows:

Six ounce tip—Meets the "Light Tackle Class" specifications of the Catalina Tuna Club, Aransas Pass Club, and other clubs. The tip is 61 inches long and the butt 14 or 18 inches as chosen. Both grasps are on the butt. The first guide and the offset casting top are fine agatine, the intermediate guides being one ring nickel silver. Guides are all on one side.

Nine ounce tip—Tip is 61 inches long and the butt 18 inches. Forward grasp on butt of tip. Two sets of double bell guides are regular, with agatine stirrup top.

Twelve ounce tip—Meets the "Heavy Tackle Class" regulations of the Tuna Club and similar organizations. The tip is 61 inches long and the butt 20 inches. The forward grasp, guides and top are the same style as on the 9 ounce tip.

Note:—The above rods in 9 and 12 ounce weights may also be obtained with all the guides on one side instead of arranged in pairs, in which case an offset top is used. This style meets favor on the Pacific Coast. If so wanted, please stipulate in ordering, otherwise double guides are supplied.

Montague Red Wing "Three Six" \$30.00



Among all Montague's highly developed split bamboo salt-water rods, this is one of the most interesting and successful. It meets the "Three Six" specifications of the various salt-water fishing clubs (originated by Thomas McD. Potter). It is pronounced a very distinct advance in rod building. Aside from its particular specifications in length, taper, balance and weight, it is similar in general to our Red Wing Tarpon Rods previously described. Yet at a glance it is seen to be a much finer implement. A "Three Six" rod, according to official regulations, must not exceed 6 ounces in weight and must not be less than 6 feet in length. Before Montague produced this rod, the butt or handle on such rods had been so heavy that strength in the tip was necessarily sacrificed to keep the weight of the entire rod inside the 6 ounce limit. By the use of duralumin, we have successfully reduced the butt weight to only 1½ ounces. This enables building a full 4½ ounce tip, and results in the strongest "Three Six" rod that's made. The one piece tip of six strip construction is carefully selected Montague heat-treated brown Tonkin cane. It carries five genuine agate guides and an agate top. Winding is red and yellow silk, and the finish is good thick, smoothly applied tough varnish. Two grasps, the upper one on butt of tip, satin finish solid cork, the lower one cane wound. Ferrule, reel hood and reel band are 18% nickel silver. A butt cap plugs into a socket in the butt, and this has a rubber button. The weight of this plug-in button is not included in the weight of the rod.

Montague Manitou Spring-butt Surf Casting Rod



6 or 6½ ft. tip \$35.00

7 ft. tip \$40.00

In this rod Montague meets every surf-casting requirement to the highest perfection. The one piece tip is *double enamel* in six strip construction, and the detachable spring butt of most approved dimensions, action and weight. Tip is made of the most carefully selected butt-cut Tonkin cane, thoroughly aged and carefully Montague heat-treated to bring out maximum temper and power. In action, the work of this rod is supreme. The Montague heat treatment leaves a lustrous rich brown color—it is *not* painted—distinctive and a handsome background for the heavy silk windings of pongee and purple.

A swivel casting top of genuine agate is provided, very strongly mounted in 18% nickel silver. Properly spaced below the top is a pair of genuine agate guides. These are exceptionally large, being 24 mm. stones set in 18% nickel silver. The hand grasp on the tip's butt is of filed in cane. Ferrule, reel seat with locking band, and butt thimble, are 18% nickel silver. The ferrule is doweled, and forms a very rigid and waterproof joint. The butt, measuring 30 inches over all, is selected old growth white Hickory, with grips neatly turned, attractively stained, hand rubbed finish, the color of dull rich old mahogany. The butt has more power than spring butts as made heretofore, as the very powerful and active tip provided has been found to perform its best with this stiffer butt. The butt cap, of mushroom type and 18% nickel silver, is 3 inches long and of shape and size to fit in the pocket of a standard casting harness. The reel seat is hand made, waterproof, and of Tarpon type, with strong hood and locking reel band. The entire rod is protected with a heavy waterproof varnish, smoothly laid on and very tough. Packed in a heavy canvas bag with separate pockets for tip and butt.

Made in three tip lengths: 6 ft., 6½ ft., 7 ft.

Montague Red Wing Spring-butt Surf



6 ft. or 6½ ft. tip \$25.00

7 ft. tip \$30.00

Distinguished for excellent quality and action, a surf-casting rod for hard service. One piece tip of regular six strip construction, is best selected and thoroughly seasoned Montague heat-treated brown Tonkin cane—*not* painted. Upper grip, on butt of tip, is cane wound. Male ferrule or center is made with full waterproof dowel. It and the Tarpon reel seat with waterproof socket and locking band, and the 3 inch mushroom butt cap, are all 18% nickel silver. The 30 inch detachable butt is best old growth white Hickory, of most approved stiff action, with neatly turned grasps. It is stained mahogany color and highly polished. Top is swivel type, large and sturdy, made of 18% nickel silver and having a large 24 mm. agate ring solidly mounted. The two large 24 mm. surf guides are genuine agate, securely mounted in 18% nickel silver. Winding is red and yellow silk. Heavily varnished. Packed in a heavy canvas bag.

Any of the above rods can be supplied with a 42 inch Hickory extension butt in place of the regular butt, at no extra charge. Price of extension butt alone \$7.50.

Montague Fishkill Spring-butt Surf



6 ft. or 6½ ft. tip \$15.00

A remarkable rod at a reasonable price. One-piece tip of regular six strip construction is selected heat-treated brown Tonkin cane—*not* painted; and carries large genuine agate swivel top and double agate guides. Rod is closely wound. 30 inch spring butt of Hickory. Tarpon reel seat with locking band, with closed end male ferrule and butt thimble are 18% nickel silver. Grasps on detachable butt are neatly turned and have a handsome new zebra-finish, blending with the solid rich brown of the spring section; slip-on rubber butt cap. Heavily varnished. Packed in a canvas bag.

Either rod can be supplied with a natural finish 42 inch extension butt in place of the regular butt at no extra charge. Price of extension butt alone \$5.00.

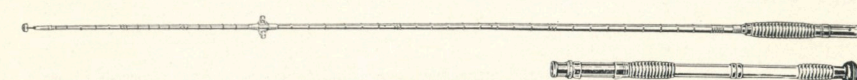
Montague Offshore Spring-butt Surf



6 ft. tip \$10.00

A handsome, serviceable surf-casting rod built to approved specifications. One-piece tip is selected Tonkin cane, built up of six alternate strips of clear white and heat-treated brown stock, *not* painted. The 30 inch spring butt is of natural finish hardwood. Tip has one pair of agatine surf guides and reversible agatine top. All mountings are 18% nickel silver and reel seat has locking band. Winding is red and green silk. Nicely varnished. Packed in a canvas bag.

Fishkill Junior Salt-water Rod



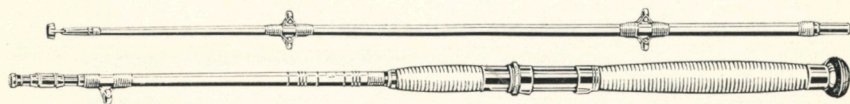
..... \$10.00

A good rod that is very popular for pier and boat fishing. The one piece tip is made of six strips of heat-treated bamboo dark brown in color—*not* painted. The miniature spring butt is made of selected hardwood with attractive zebra-finished grips. All metal parts are 18% nickel silver. Regular trim consists of one pair of agatine guides and an agatine stirrup top. Tip is closely wound. Packed in a canvas partition bag. Made in three tip lengths 5, 5½ and 6 ft. and each length in three weights, light, medium and heavy. On light tips a butt 18 inches long is used; with medium and heavy tips the butt is 21 inches long. All butts are interchangeable.

Note:—The above rods may also be supplied with all guides on one side and an offset top. In this case the first guide and top are agatine and the intermediate guides nickel silver bell. This style of trim is in favor on the Pacific Coast. In ordering please be sure to specify tip length, tip weight and style of trim.

BOAT RODS *Two-piece Rods for Salt-water Trolling and Pier Fishing*

Montague Trail Boat Rod \$15.00



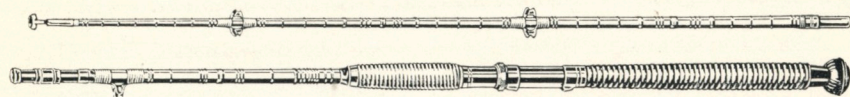
This expertly built boat rod is an excellent fighting weapon. Two joints of even length, made of fine quality six strip heat-treated brown Tonkin cane. Grips are cane wound. The double thick reinforced ferrule, sturdy reel seat with locking band, butt thimble and the guide and top mountings are all 18% nickel silver. All guides and the top are genuine agate — one set of double guides on a 5½ ft. rod, and two sets on 6 ft. or 6½ ft. rods. Butt has snap-on rubber cap. Wound with green and yellow silk in the popular Trail pattern, and heavily varnished. Packed in a heavy canvas partition bag.

Lengths: 5½ ft., 6 ft., 6½ ft.

Made in three weights:

Light (No. 5 ferrule). Medium (No. 6 ferrule). Heavy (No. 8 ferrule).

Montague Flipline Boat Rod \$10.00



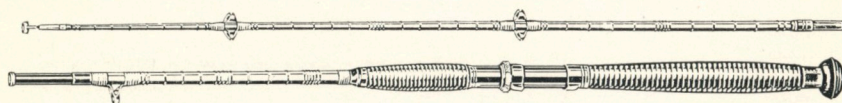
A very popular general utility rod for salt water, bay and inshore fishing. Two joints of even length as shown. Six strip construction of brown Tonkin cane. Double grips wound with fine cane; snap-on rubber butt cap. Strong salt water reel seat with locking band, butt cap, winding check, double thick reinforced ferrule, first guide and stirrup top mounting, and bell guides are all 18% nickel silver. First guide and top are large size genuine agate; double bell guides. Wound closely with garnet and lemon silk, and heavily varnished. Packed in a heavy canvas partition bag.

Lengths: 5½ ft., 6 ft., 6½ ft.

Made in three weights:

Light (No. 5 ferrule). Medium (No. 6 ferrule). Heavy (No. 8 ferrule).

Montague Fishkill Boat Rod \$7.50



A good quality salt water rod with two joints of even length as shown. Made of selected brown Tonkin cane in six strip construction, with zebra-finish turned double grips of hardwood. Reel seat with locking band, hand welt double thick ferrules, butt cap, winding check, first guide mounting, stirrup top and bell guides are all 18% nickel silver. First guide and top fine agatine; double bell guides. Closely wound with two colors of variegated silk, and nicely varnished. Packed in a canvas partition bag.

Lengths: 5½ ft., 6 ft., and 6½ ft.

Made in three weights:

Light (No. 5 ferrule). Medium (No. 6 ferrule). Heavy (No. 8 ferrule).

BOAT RODS

Montague Fishkill One-piece Boat Rod \$7.50



This is a true one-piece rod, tip and butt being a unit. For salt water. Selected brown Tonkin cane of six-strip construction, with zebra-finished turned double grips of hardwood. Reel seat with locking band, butt cap, winding check, first guide and offset top mountings and bell guides are all 18% nickel silver. Agatine first guide and top. Guides on one side only. Wound closely with two colors of variegated silk and carefully varnished. Packed in a canvas partition bag.

Lengths: 5½ ft., 6 ft., and 6½ ft.

Made in three weights: Light, Medium, and Heavy.

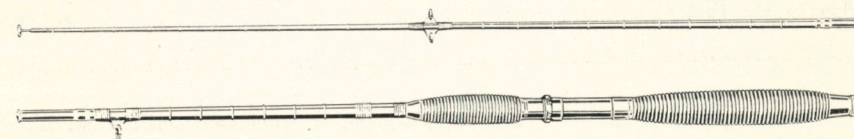
Montague Fishkill One-piece Weakfish Rod \$12.00



A rod of distinct individuality which is designed to please the most ardent Weakfish enthusiast. One piece tip of six strip selected heat-treated brown Tonkin cane. Detachable 18 inch butt with two solid cork satin finish grips. Reel seat with locking band, male ferrule, butt end plate and guide and top mountings, all 18% nickel silver. Three genuine agate casting guides and genuine agate offset casting top. Winding, two colors of variegated silk. Nicely varnished. Packed in a canvas partition bag.

This rod is also being used successfully for salmon fishing in the Pacific Northwest.

Montague Offshore Boat Rod \$6.00

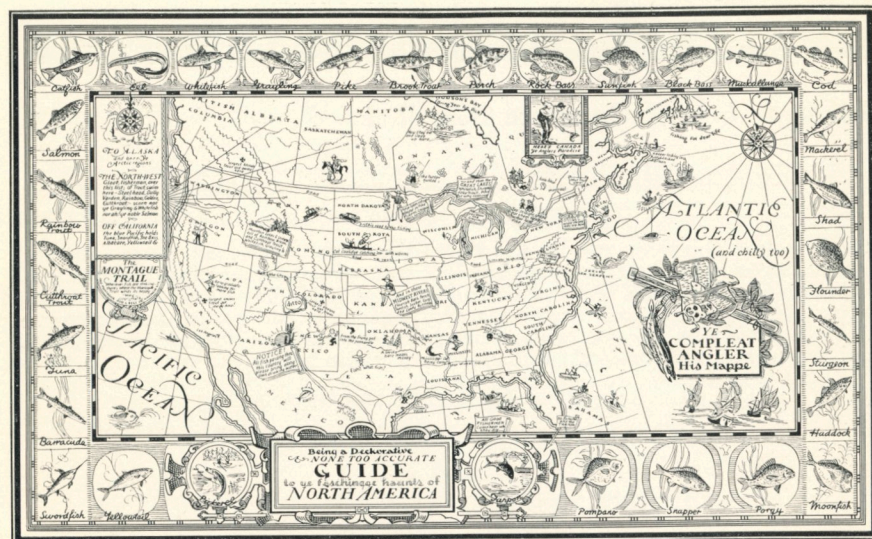


A good utility salt water rod. Two joints of even length as shown, made of six strip brown Tonkin cane. Turned double grips with zebra-finish. Strong nickel plated reel seat with locking band, nickel plated rolled welt ferrule, butt cap and winding check. Large one ring first guide, one pair of one ring guides, and large stirrup top, are all 18% nickel silver. Wound with silk and neatly varnished. Packed in a canvas bag.

Lengths: 5½ ft., 6 ft., 6½ ft.

Made in three weights:

Light (No. 5 ferrule). Medium (No. 6 ferrule). Heavy (No. 8 ferrule).



The fishing possibilities of North America, as mapped for Montague by Walter Behr.

Fishing Practice That Gets Fish

A fisherman's first duty to himself as such is to select and maintain efficient fishing equipment. To the inexperienced, the aid of experienced fishermen acquaintances and fishing tackle salesmen is invaluable. There are times, however, when this assistance can not be had. The bass fisherman in a small community who elects to go salmon fishing may find no one with whom he can discuss the subject of salmon tackle. Then is the time to call for assistance...from the fishing tackle manufacturer and the fishing editors of the best sportsmen's magazines. If going to a public sporting camp, the camp proprietor is even more logically prepared to give advice. He is on the ground and what he says will be specific.

This applies with the same force to any projected fishing trip anywhere.

The sportsmen's magazines are a constant source of valuable practical information on all kinds of fishing. Books by competent fishing writers elaborate this

information in great detail. If unfamiliar with the best writers and book titles, ask some fishing acquaintances, your tackle dealer or, if necessary, the fishing editor of your favorite sportsman's magazine.

In every fishing trip to new territory (that is, new to you...there are mighty few virgin fishing waters left in the world today), obtain all possible local information, in advance if possible, but by no means neglect the pursuit after getting on the ground. The most valuable information often is picked up from other fishermen, particularly local people. Guides naturally are a prolific source.

If on arriving at previously unvisited fishing waters it is found that local methods vary from yours, it generally pays to try both kinds. This applies particularly to where and when to fish and baits to use.

If finding one's self out of step with the regiment, so to speak, usually you can manage even tho having the wrong rod and reel. But it is imperative to get

in step on the subject of bait or other lures...and how, when and where to fish.

To the inlander who goes to the seacoast this is especially pertinent. Every season, a great deal of good fresh-water fishing tackle is carried to the coasts of this continent that is of no use there whatever. Then it frequently happens that suitable tackle is not to be had. In such emergency, where rods are rented they usually are heavy, inefficient, stiff affairs that give little sport.

Thoroughly suitable tackle, the use of which can be fully enjoyed, may be purchased for any kind of fishing before starting from home. It is only necessary to learn what is wanted and take sufficient time to obtain it. The reward in satisfaction, convenience and sport is well worth any special effort necessary.

To depart from generalities—and still

you will get fish, and good ones, with minnows, but if you don't use them you will catch little or nothing.

There is an endless array of artificial fishing lures to choose among...some 2,500 different artificial flies alone! As a rule, all trout (and Eastern salmon) take flies, the black basses and the pike family take trolling or casting baits.

Fishing with minnows entails the use of a suitable minnow bucket, to keep the little fish alive in. Good ones are to be obtained through any tackle dealer, if not carried in stock. The time was when there were bad ones—but the market for them long since went bump.

Getting minnows consists in (1) buying them from some local minnow merchant (country boys must earn pocket-money somehow!), (2) catching them with a seine, (3) catching them with a



Left, a prize-winning Long Island weakfish. Center, some Klamath River district steelhead trout. Right, a made-in-Michigan string of small mouth black bass. Courtesy Messrs. Cavanaro, Corville and Hunter, showing work of Montague Rods.

to generalize very broadly!—if you have never used minnows for bait, as for fresh-water black bass, pickerel or pike, or even for trout, you may find on experiment that you are a minnow fisherman at heart. There are times and waters—and plenty of them—where

bent-pin hook. The latter method is recommended for getting good fresh minnows and enjoying the getting.

It isn't everybody that can catch minnows with a bent-pin hook. Use a gad for a rod (a rod tip will do), a short piece of line and a bent pin. Bait with a piece

of angle worm. Keep feeling for your minnow, and instantly you have him, bring him right out. He will come a wiggling! Sometimes he gets off the hook. But the advantage in using the bent pin instead of a barbed minnow hook is worth the loss. You work faster, the little fellows are not injured, and they last longer.

For fishing with angle worms, if possible obtain the large species, known as nightwalkers. These frequently can be obtained by hunting after dark with a flashlight, especially on turf which has been recently sprinkled with water.

Angle worms are best kept in an earthenware crock, with a good supply of thick, tough ground moss from which most of the soil has been shaken off. The moss should be kept moist.

In baiting a hook with a worm, "loop" it on, so that it is free to wiggle, being impaled at two or three points. Do not bury the entire hook in the worm.

In fishing with minnows, the bait lives longer and maintains activity if hooked lightly through both jaws. However, this also results in fish taking the bait but not the hook. The more effective way is to hook the minnow lightly through the back just in front of the dorsal fin, at the point of balance. Hooks of 2/0 size are popular for bass, pickerel and pike. The double snelled kind are satisfactory; except for pike, especially where they are large, it is better to use a ringed hook, swivel and short wire leader.

In worm fishing for trout, hooks a size or two larger than the popular size in flies may be used. No. 8 is popular, though some fishermen prefer No. 10.



A Florida sailfish that took the count from a Montague 3-6 rod. Copyright J. E. Stanley.

For general bait fishing No. 6 gives general satisfaction. Use single-snell hooks, or ringed hook and tied snell, as preferred. A 3-foot leader should be used. If the water is swift, a split-shot sinker is also desirable.

Other effective natural baits for black bass, pickerel, wall-eyed pike and pike, are frogs, helgramites and crawfish. The latter two are especially good for small-mouthed black bass. Helgramites are found under stones in river shallows. Crawfish may be captured in

shallow shore water—night work with a flashlight is effective. The meadow frog is the best kind...get them not too big. For trout and small fresh-water pan fish generally, and in some places for small-mouthed black bass, grass-hoppers and crickets are used with success.

Put the little ones back, of course, wetting the hand before touching them to reduce injury. Another worthy way of "putting them back" is to support all deserving conservation and restoration work, both official and unofficial. Every experienced fisherman fully realizes this.

Before selecting artificial flies, especially for trout, try to learn what patterns are successful on the waters to be fished. There is a considerable variation in what is acceptable. For wilderness fishing, so called, the brighter colored patterns are effective, whereas in fishing trout streams in settled country the subdued patterns are best. If inexperienced, accept the suggestion of your tackle man—but before doing so, if possible find out if he really knows what you want. A pearl button off a fisherman's shirt has caught fish before now!

Fresh-water Fishing Lines

Fishing lines for fresh water are roughly of two kinds. For fly fishing and for worm fishing for trout, also for strip casting (casting a minnow, a small frog or a spinner), use a fly rod, an enameled line or an oil-finished line. The best enameled lines are now really not enameled but known as "soft finished," having an improved substitute for the old-style enameled waterproofing. Such lines have the silk entirely covered with a thick, heavy rubber-like but smooth elastic finish, which makes them comparatively stiff. This additional weight is necessary for fly casting. The finest quality fly lines are used for fly casting for salmon and for steelhead trout fishing. Expert anglers prefer double-tapered soft-finished fly lines. These lines, made thick in the middle or belly, and thin at the ends, provide desirable weight to work the rod satisfactorily and to combat the wind if any.

Bait casting lines are of two kinds—unfinished and waterproofed. Many fishermen prefer the latter, because they absorb less water, and especially because they resist mildew and rot. For the finest casting, the experts use the unfinished lines, and prefer the smaller size, which cast easiest. All bait casting lines are braided; a twisted line of the small size suitable

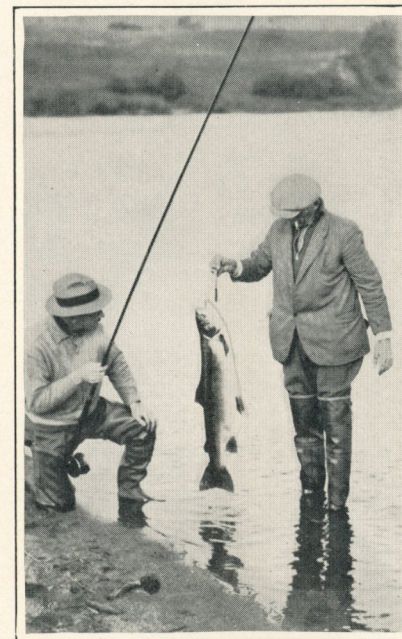
for bait casting kinks eternally and is an endless nuisance—as it is also a nuisance to attempt bait casting with a fly casting line.

Fresh-water Reels

For fly fishing, the reel should be either a simple click reel commonly called a fly reel, or else one of the automatic reels made for use on fly rods. These are single-action reels...which means they are not geared. The spool of the ordinary fly reel makes one turn to each turn of the handle, which is directly attached to it. The automatic winds by means of a spring instead of a handle. The spring is *not* used for winding in a fish—only for taking up slack line. In

using either of these reels, the approved method is to gain line by hand, using the reel only to take up the slack. These reels go on the rod below the handle or grasp, not above it.

Bait casting reels are quadruple multipliers, the spool making four turns to every single turn of the handle. Most of them as used today are level winders. While retarding casting, the level-winding device compensates in the smooth spooling of line and in preventing somewhat the tendency of the spool to over-run in



On the Maragee, famous Cape Breton salmon River. Courtesy Canadian National Railways.

casting. Experts use the unadorned multiplier, to obtain the reel's highest casting efficiency.

Casting

Contrary to popular belief among folks who have never seen a fly fisherman in action, fly casting is very easily learned. The rudiments may be picked up in five minutes, by anyone. However, it takes a great deal of fly casting to become an expert. The best way to learn is to watch and imitate an experienced caster. The abler he is the better for you. If he is an expert, his criticisms of your efforts will be valuable.

Fly casting consists in using a comparatively long and limber rod with which to cast an average distance of 30 to 50 feet, the line being constantly extended and being waved back and forth in the air like the long lash of a whip. The expert handles his rod entirely with the hand, wrist and forearm, keeping his elbow closely at his side. The casting of the line is done very largely by the spring of the rod, and the latter is controlled very largely by wrist action. There are two casts: one the back cast, to lift the extended line from the water and swing it high over the caster's head and to the rear preparatory to the forward cast. The latter starts when the line is nearly straightened out behind the caster. Its purpose is to lay the line out straight and horizontally in front of the caster and to have it fall lightly to the water. On the end of the line a leader of silkworm gut, 6 feet, 7½ feet or longer, is used, and at the extremity the fly. Where two or more flies are used the second and third are attached to loops on the leader. For the beginner it is better to use one fly and a 6-foot leader.

The principle of bait casting is easiest learned by taking a short gad and throwing small missiles with it. Almost every man has had the experience as a boy. A ball of mud is a proper missile. Small green apples are better. In casting a bait with a rod, the bait-casting reel and the line are of course connected with

the missile, which is the bait. When the cast has been made, you reel your bait in for another cast. That is all there is to it—except a lot of practice to attain proficiency.

Magazine articles and book chapters giving instructions on casting are valuable helps.



B. F. Yeager and a prize-winning 25-lb. Pennsylvania striped bass.

In fly casting with a salmon rod, the most common practice is to use both hands, the larger rods having two hand grasps. The short route to proficiency lies through learning to use the lower hand as a fulcrum, holding it still and moving the upper hand with the rod. Aside from this, the principle is precisely the same as in fly casting. In both, the back cast should be stopped hard and fast a very few degrees back of verticle—for reasons at once understood when you are casting. In the forward cast the rod should stop sufficiently above the water to prevent slapping the line down and scaring fish.

Salt-water fishing naturally is far more varied than inland fishing. The catch ranges all the way from a 2-ounce bait-nibbler to a half-ton shark. Hooks used average larger, likewise baits. Lines are longer and best if linen, which salt water does not injure as it does silk. Reels also are larger, and of course so too are rods. Most salt-water fishing is done with natural bait. There is endless variety of this and its use, which sometimes is nearly an art. If inexperienced, learn about it from other fishermen, and especially from boatmen and baymen. The latter, professionals as they are, can unbosom a lot of helpful information when they will. Artificial lures (mostly squids) are used extensively, but by no means entirely, in surf casting; also in trolling. Natural baits are worms, shrimps, crabs, clams, cut fish (very extensively used—and what a whale of a difference it makes when it is “cut to order!”) whole minnows and small fish. Here too, as in inland fishing, your tackle and bait or lures must be chosen for the fish you are after.

Care of Your Fishing Rods

ORDINARILY, Montague Split-bamboo Fishing Rods require only the usual care which good equipment is entitled to. Like a watch, such a sensitive implement is not to be slammed around like a base-ball club or a hockey stick . . . nor left where it may be stepped on by heavy hob-nailed fishing brogues, or run over by the automobile.

Montague Split-bamboo Rods leave the factory in perfect condition and are guaranteed against defects in workmanship and materials. After hard service and exposure, it is only natural that the rod's varnish should be renewed. This seldom is necessary inside of two or three years. It is best not to let it go too long. A good tough coat of varnish protects the silk windings and the cane from weather and ordinary wear and tear.

After a fishing season, put your rod away in a cabinet or closet where it will not be exposed to too much heat. If this is neglected, a rod kept in a warm room through the winter may be damaged by drying out . . . especially if near a radiator.

In the spring, when getting ready for fishing, test all ferrules, and the reel seat if of metal, to make sure they are tight. A loosened ferrule generally can be tightened by heating it by holding over a burning match, there generally being sufficient cement in the ferrule.

Some fishermen become very proficient at reconditioning their rods and making repairs. A good deal of pleasure is to be derived from this labor of love. If however you mistrust your abilities, take your rod to your tackle dealer to be fixed up.

Before turning a rod in for over-hauling, examine it critically. Note if any silk windings are frayed or broken, any guides bent or loose, any ferrules loose or bent. Pay particular attention to guides to see if worn. Worn steel or agate guides, that are developing sharp edges, are expensive for the lines that wear out and should be replaced. A broken or fractured joint generally requires expert attention. Such repairs usually are best made at the factory.

Never put your Montague Split-bamboo Rod away in a damp or wet cloth case, even if you know you will use it next day. Especially never put a wet rod away in an aluminum case. Dampness breeds mildew, and if in an air-tight container as suggested mildew may ruin a good rod by attacking the glue.

If carried in a soft cloth cover, do not tie joints of the rod together too snugly, as this may bend them out of shape and cause a warp.

Always keep the centers of ferrules smooth, so they will function properly. Rubbing in one's hair usually supplies sufficient oil. Should a ferrule center become corroded during the winter, from some neglect, be very careful in removing the corrosion, so that you do not reduce the size of the center so as to make it loose when the rod is set up.

Montague Rod & Reel Company

Montague City, Mass.