

to a considerable extent they go where drift bottles go. In Canadian Atlantic waters drift bottles mostly travel to the northeast in correspondence with the prevailing southwest winds of summer. From 1931 to 1934, 642 salmon kelts were tagged and liberated in the Nictaux River, a branch of the Annapolis River of western Nova Scotia. This river has a very weak influence where it empties through the Annapolis Basin and Digby Gut into the Bay of Fundy. Of the 24 salmon recaptured and reported,⁹ five were taken at various points on the east coast of Newfoundland, a minimum distance by sea of about 900 miles and one at Ramah in northern Labrador, more than 1,000 miles farther and northward along the coast. The remainder were all taken in the river, except one at Yarmouth, N. S., which is on the route to Newfoundland. The drift bottles that take this course northeastward from the mouth of the Gulf of Maine have been found only as far as Sable Island on this side of the Atlantic. Most of them enter the North Atlantic drift, which carries them to the Azores and the European coast. The salmon, on the other hand, seem to keep to the waters with river ingredients, which extend little beyond the banks, and thus they ultimately reach some point on the coast.

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A WHALE SHARK IMPALED ON THE BOW OF A STEAMER NEAR THE TUAMOTUS, SOUTH SEAS

THROUGH the courtesy of Rear Admiral W. R. Gherardi, head of the Hydrographie Office of the U. S. Navy, I have learned of the interesting happening indicated in the title of this note. Through his kindness there was published in *Hydrographic Bulletin* No. 2362 a short description and a good figure of the whale shark (*Rhineodon typus*). This was done in the hope that the interest and help of ships' officers might be enlisted for the sending in of observations of the occurrence of this greatest of sharks. This hope has been abundantly realized. Information concerning the particular specimen in question comes from Mr. S. H. Crawford, third officer of R. M. S. *Maunganui* of the Union Steam Ship Company of New Zealand, Ltd.

On September 7, 1934, in Lat. 13° 59' S. and Long. 147° 46' W. (about 60 mi. N. N. E. of Tikehau Atoll in the Tuamotus) the *Maunganui* struck a large animal at first thought to be a whale. The vessel was steaming at about 16 knots and the animal was struck so sharply just behind the head that it was impaled on the stem of the ship. Here it was held so securely by the pressure of the water that the engines had to be reversed and the ship backed before the bows could be cleared of the great carcass.

While on the bow of the steamer, the head-to-gills region was estimated at about 15 feet and the remainder of the body at about 40 feet, making the total length about 55 feet. This could well have been, for in the Indian Ocean the fish has been measured to 45 feet, and in the Gulf of Siam estimated by an ichthyological friend of mine at 60 feet.

Recalling the figure of *Rhineodon* seen in the *Hydrographic Bulletin*, when Mr. Crawford noted the square-cut head and the speckled markings plainly visible, he recorded the fish as a whale shark. A photograph was taken of the fish held against the vessel's stem, and a copy of this through the good help of the Hydrographic Office was obtained from Captain Toten. This settled the matter once and for all that a second whale shark must be recorded from the Tuamotu Archipelago, South Seas.

In May, 1928, divers at work in Takeroa lagoon were confronted by a spotted shark about 17 feet long. They killed and skinned it. M. F. Hervé, administrator of the Tuamotus, sent the skin to the little museum at Papeete, Tahiti. M. Rougier, curator of this museum, made record of it in *Bulletin Société Études Océanographique*, Papeete, 1929, Vol. 3, 318-319.

It will interest the reader to know that this is the sixth recorded case of the spearing of a whale shark by a steamer making her way over the ocean. One case has been recorded from the Indian Ocean, two from the Red Sea and two from the Atlantic. I plan later to bring these accounts into an article.

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JELLYFISH FROM GRAND CANYON ALGONKIAN

THE impression of a medusa, commonly known as a jellyfish, was found during the summer of 1934 in a fine-grained sandstone of the Nankowep group of the Grand Canyon series.¹ The Grand Canyon series lies upon the Archean complex and has been divided into the Unkar, Nankowep and Chuar groups. The medusa measures 18 cm across and is thought to be a marine type. A paper giving the details of this specimen is now in preparation.

The writer examined the lower portion of the Algonkian rocks during 1933 and 1934 under a program sponsored by the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and was accompanied by R. A. Bramkamp when the medusa was found.

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¹ C. E. Van Gundy, Abs. Program Cordilleran Section Geol. Soc. of America, April, 1936.