LOCH MONSTER
SEEN AGAIN
DISPORTING
IN THE MOONLIGHT
NIGHT WATCH TO BE
KEPT

From Our Special Investigator,
F. W. MEMORY

Foyers (Loch Ness), Monday.

BAD weather has to-day interrupted the work of The Daily Mail mission of investigation and inquiry appointed with the object of determining, if possible, the existence or otherwise of an unknown monster in Loch Ness.

Mr. M. A. Wetherell, the Central African big-game hunter who is acting as field leader of the mission, is more than ever confident that if a clue to the monster’s identity is to be found it will be discovered at the western end of the loch, at any rate between here and Fort Augustus.

That was the locality in which he found last week the very distinct markings which he holds are the footprint of an animal quite unknown in the British Isles.

Seen By Moonlight

For the first time the monster is reported to have been seen at night. Mr. Ross, of Temple Pier, on the north side of the loch, declares he saw it disporting itself in the moonlight last night.

Mr. Ross is one of the favored local inhabitants. He has seen the monster on many occasions, and now says that last night the creature was observing the old Scottish custom of celebrating the passing of the old year.

Whether the monster does disport itself on the water at night will, it is hoped, soon be solved. Mr. Wetherell is making arrangements to keep watch during the dark hours.

To-morrow he recommences his systematic search of the western end of the loch, and will, if possible, obtain detailed measurements of the space which, as I recorded yesterday, has been found on the northern shore by an independent person.

EXPERTS EXAMINE
SPOOR CAST
AT THE NATURAL
HISTORY
MUSEUM

The Daily Mail submitted to the National History Museum, South Kensington, London, S.W., yesterday, the plaster cast taken of the “spoor” found on the banks of Loch Ness by Mr. Wetherell on December 20.

The box containing the plaster cast, together with two excellent photographs of the “spoor” as it was found, arrived at the Daily Mail offices on Sunday.

Without being opened the box was taken to the Natural History Museum. There, in the private room of the keeper of the animal, Dr. W. T. Calman, and a representative of The Daily Mail, the lid of the box was unscrewed and raised and the cast exposed.

It looked like nothing so much as a beautifully made scale model of the creature of some barren island surrounded by a sea of white, frosty breakers.

Being a negative cast—that is, with indentations shown in relief and vice-versa—it will be necessary for a new and positive cast to be made from it, and this work was put in hand after a long and detailed examination and had been made by Dr. Calman and other officials of the museum.

The considered verdict of Dr. Calman and his assistants in the geological department is that the spoor is of some unknown animal.

No Known Reptile

For the moment they will say no more than that the cast “does not represent the track of any known fossil or reptile such as the dinosaur, neither is it the impression of any known aquatic mammal in the British Isles or the rest of the world.”

Great interest was shown in the cast by Mr. M. A. C. Hinton, assistant keeper and others who examined it. “If this can add to our store of knowledge, then the solving of the mystery of the Loch Ness monster will be only an incidental thing,” one of them stated.

HYDROPHONES’
SEARCH

From F. W. MEMORY,

Foyers (Loch Ness), Wednesday.

TO-NIGHT, if conditions are favourable, we are making an attempt to locate the Loch Ness monster by means of hydrophones. Instruments of the very latest type have been placed at our disposal by the Marconi Telephone Company, and have been installed in our motor-criuser.

It was instruments of this kind which played such an important part in the war against the German submarines. They are so sensitive that they can detect the slightest underwater sound, and in the words of an expert “can pick up the movements of anything from a sailfish to a submarine.”

Importance of Habits

If the monster is an amphibian, such as Mr. M. A. Wetherell, the big-game hunter, who is acting as field leader of The Daily Mail mission, declares it to be, any movement it makes should be detected, and it may then be possible to obtain the habits of the mysterious beast which attention to the following claim to have seen, and to-day I have been supplied with an authenticated account of an Inverness professional man’s experience almost exactly 12 months ago.

And a friend were shooting between Dorens and Foyers when, at night, in the words of the man himself: “It looked as if it had been mauling some huge animal observed from where Mr. George Spicer has declared that he saw a huge creature crossing the Foyers-Dorens road, with something in its mouth.

Other Traces

This has been established as being in proximity to the place where about a fortnight ago Mr. Wetherell found what appears to be the traces other than spoor of an amphibian.

The researches are directed to the method of feeding which a monster might adopt. Deep regular dimples were observed on the sides of the hills to drink at the lake’s edge, and the depression of their numbers by a monster would not be easily detected.

This, perhaps, at the best can only be regarded as circumstantial evidence, but steps will be taken to test it in some way.

Some local experts are not altogether inclined to agree with those zoologists who declare that the water of Loch Ness could not be inhabited by amphibians from warmer climates.

They declare that there are warm sulphur springs among the loch which could result in even in the most severe weather they have never known to freeze, although neighbouring lochs and firths have been solid ice.

They call attention to the following statement in the “Bathymetrical Survey of the Freshwater Lochs of Scotland.”

“On one occasion in two minutes the surface temperature of Loch Ness was found to change as much as 10 degrees Fahrenheit. On the other occasion, when there was a quantity of pollen from flowers on the shore submerged in the loch it was one of the motion of the particles that different layers were going in different directions and the surface water was really evidently in a very agitated condition although the temperature of the water was quite calm. These are so high, indeed, that while the loch is gaining heat even in the coldest weather, the water being at a depth of five to ten feet is constantly being mixed by convection.”
MONSTER MYSTERY DEEPENS

"CAST OF SPOOR LIKE A HIPPOPOTAMUS'S"

The mystery of the Loch Ness "monster" deepened yesterday when zoology experts reported that the cast of the spoor found by Mr. M. A. Wetherell, the big-game hunter, resembled that of a hippopotamus.

Hydrophones so sensitive that they can detect the movements of anything from a sardine to a submarine are being used in an effort to trace the "monster.”

Our special investigator on the spot describes below the experiences of a shooting party which suggests that the "monster" may exist on a diet of deer.

The five students who are hunting the "monster" reported yesterday that they saw a tremendous splash which they attributed to the track of the "monster.”

ZOOLOGY EXPERTS' REPORT

We publish below the report of Dr. W. T. Calman and Mr. Martin A. C. Hinton, respectively Keeper and Deputy-Keeper of Zoology at the National History Museum, South Kensington, S.W., on the cast of the spoor found on the shore of Loch Ness, Inverness-shire, by Mr. M. A. Wetherell, the Central African big-game hunter, who is collaborating with The Daily Mail special investigator.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY, BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), CROMWELL ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 7.

In consultation with several members of the scientific and technical staffs of this department and of the geological department of this museum, we have made a careful study of the cast submitted to us on behalf of the Editor of The Daily Mail, and stated to be a cast of footprints found on the shore of Loch Ness.

The slab shows two impressions of a four-toed foot. It seems likely that both impressions were made by the same foot.

We are unable to find any significant difference between these impressions and those made by the foot of a hippopotamus. The closest agreement is with the right hind foot of a mounted specimen probably not quite full grown.

By the courtesy of the superintendent of the Zoological Gardens it has been possible to make a cast of the impression made by the same foot of a living female.

In general character this impression also agrees with the Loch Ness footprints, but the impressions left by the flabby portions of the sole are much fuller and more rounded than in the case either of the dried mounted specimen or of the Loch Ness footprints.

(Signed)

W. T. CALMAN,
Keeper of Zoology.

MARTIN A. C. HINTON,
Deputy Keeper of Zoology (in charge of mammals).

How Did It Get There?

This report deepens still further the mystery of the Loch Ness "monster" — a mystery which has so far defied all attempts at solution.

The cast is apparently that of a spoor, but how the spoor came to be on the shore of the loch no one knows. Its presence there constitutes a baffling problem.

MORE FOOTPRINTS

AMPHIBIAN WITH FOUR TOES AND CLAWS.

From Our Special Correspondent FORT AUGUSTUS, FRIDAY.

Evidence pointing to the existence of a strange four-toed amphibian in Loch Ness was found to-day by the Edinburgh art students who have given up their holiday to hunt the Loch Ness "monster.”

This was the second discovery of unusual footprints to-day. There was no indication of the new discovery, which is thought to be a new species of amphibian, which has been carefully marked and await the examination of experts. In all probability plaster casts will be taken, but it is not possible yet to ascertain the exact importance of the students’ find.

The Edinburgh men, cruising slowly in an open boat examining the edge of the shore, landed on marshy ground fringed with trees and undergrowth which they considered to be a suitable haunt for amphibian. Almost at the water's edge they saw marks in the soft earth suggesting that some heavy beast had endeavoured to land, but had slipped back into the water. A few yards inland, where the bushes fell away to provide fairly easy access from the water, Mr. J. Emskine-Murray and Mr. A. F. Hay saw the indention of a large foot.

This impression had a span of 8in.

The marks of the "thumb," or first toe, and the heel were deeply imprinted, and marks of the three toes made out distinctly, although they were faintly impressed on the ground.

Above the marks of the three toes there were tiny punctures in the earth, which suggests to the students that whatever made the spoor must possess claws. Other and similar imprints were found over an area of 20 yards.

In this spot the trees are only 4ft. apart.
“MONSTER’S” MOONLIGHT FROLIC ON ROAD

Large Mass Came Towards Me, Then Bounded Away

From F. W. MEMORY, Our Special Investigator

Foxes (Loch Ness), Friday.

What appears to be definite evidence of the existence of the Loch Ness monster has been provided to-day by Mr. Arthur Grant, son of Mr. James Grant, a well-known landowner, of Pilmally, on the northern side of the loch.

Not only does Mr. Grant state that he saw the monster, but he has taken with him other members of the “Daily Mail” mission to the spot where he saw it, and there were definite footprints of an unusual nature. We found not one, but several. A plaster cast has been made and will be sent for expert examination.

In addition, what is alleged to be evidence of the monster’s carnivorous habits has been discovered in the form of the remains of a carcass of a goat at the water’s edge together with quite a number of bones of small birds near by.

We learned that Mr. James Grant and his son Arthur had important news for us. With them were Mr. H. Chinn and Peter Grant, a younger brother of Arthur. In the presence of his father, Mr. Arthur Grant, who is a student at the Royal Veterinary College, Edinburgh, give me this graphic story of his encounter with the monster—

“I was returning from Inverness on my motor-cycle. At first, because there was not a great deal of light, I was travelling at about 26 miles an hour, but when about 10 miles of Inverness the moon came out and there was a splendid road ahead, I drove up to 40 miles an hour and the road. This would be about 1 a.m.

“When near Abhainn my headlamps picked out a huge mass on the side of the road. To my astonishment it moved, and then rose up and came a little towards me. It suddenly swerved round and was diagonally across the road towards the loch, plunged down the bank, and entered the water. I heard great splashing and, jumping off my machine, I went down the bank, but could see nothing on the loch as it had been launched.”

Three-Toed Creature

Mr. Arthur Grant, his brother Peter, and Mr. A. Chinn accompanied myself and the other members of the “Daily Mail” mission to the scene of the encounter. Mr. James Grant drove us there in his car.

Mr. Chinn, who is a friend of the Grant family, remarked on the extraordinary nature of Mr. Arthur Grant’s experience and added: “I do beg of you to believe it. Arthur has always been most sceptical in regard to the monster and would not consider its existence for a moment, but now since his experience last night he is quite convinced. Early this morning his brother Peter and I went there, he was not unduly excited, and we found two marks, which left no doubt as to its passage.

These points were pointed out to us by Mr. Grant. They were in the bank leading to the water and we found a hollow and a footprint of a three-toed creature, which was made of the same substance that was found a fortnight ago on the southern side of the loch. Searching over a wide area we found still more of these marks.

These marks, some ten inches in number, not all of the same clearance, were in the vicinity of two distinct roads or passage ways made by the passing of a large body through the undergrowth.

What they are and how they were made is a matter for expert determination.

And while the passage of the water a few yards away were the skull, hide, and various bones of a goat—a animal which has held the spotlight at this point. There were examined, and Mr. Arthur Grant suggested that the animal that he saw was more than a goat, for several parts of the backbones of the animal still joined together by a shiny substance.

CASTS OF NEW SPOOR

HANDED OVER TO EXPERTS AT MUSEUM

The Daily Mail yesterday delivered to the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, a cast taken of what is believed to be the remarkable monster of Loch Ness, discovered by Mr. Arthur Grant last night.

The spoor, which was on the banks of the loch near Abhainn, was pointed out by Mr. Grant to Mr. F. W. Mennens, the Daily Mail investigator at Loch Ness. Mr. Grant stated that he actually saw the monster in the light of his motor-cycle headlamp. He marked the spot and returned there later with Mr. Mennens. About ten marks, apparently footprints, were found.

This cast taken yesterday to the Natural History Museum, being examined, by the late Dr. W. E. Calman, director of Zoology, and his assistants, and they expect to be able to draw a verdict upon it within two or three days.

The work involves a good deal of time and trouble, but Dr. Calman is operating wholeheartedly in the matter with the Daily Mail because he believes that if absolutely conclusive proof of the existence of some strange creature in the loch is secured it will be of the highest importance to zoologists and others.

Loch Ness Project Archive
POLICE "SHADOW" THE MONSTER

CHIEF CONSTABLE ASKS FOR REPORT ON "BOUNCING KANGAROO"

The Monster Day by Day

The elusive Loch Ness "monster" (or "monsters"), which the police have already been instructed to see comes to no harm, is receiving their closer attention.

Our special investigator reports below that the Chief Constable of Inverness-shire has specially ordered to be taken a full account of the experience of the man who claims to have seen the "kangaroo" version bouncing about the road in the moonlight.

Meanwhile, a score of people are stated to have seen a long black thing with a snake-like head (the "monster's" week-end suit?) travelling at high speed in the water.

FINE TURN OF SPEED

From F. W. MEMORY,
The "Daily Mail" Investigator

Forans (Loch Ness), Sunday.

The Daily Mail mission of inquiry, assisted by a party of Edinburgh art students, concentrated during the week-end on a search for clues to the loch "monster" in the neighbourhood of Abriachan, Balmore, and Ballachroan.

It was in that area on Friday morning that Mr. Arthur Grant, of Pondnally, claims to have seen what he described as an 18 feet kangaroo-shaped animal weighing about a ton bound across the road and plunge into the loch.

SUNSET - TO - DAWN
HUNT FAILS

DAY OF REST?

From F. W. MEMORY,
The "Daily Mail" Investigator

Forans (Loch Ness), Monday.

Soon after sunset last night and until long after dawn the members of The Daily Mail mission of investigation and inquiry were out in the motor-criuser Penguin, listening with hydrophones in an attempt to detect the presence of the mysterious "monster."
While this party kept watch on the water Lord and Lady Scoe, who are both keen to unravel the mystery, accompanied by Mr. J. Drummond, of Meggittoch Castle, and a Daily Mail photographer, patrolled the northern shore by motor-car.

In a Snowstorm
The party, which paraded from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. and were caught in a sharp snowstorm, watched for a reappearance of the “bouncing-kangaroo” like creature which Mr. Arthur Grant, of Polmarty, claims to have seen on the roadside at Arbrichan at 1 a.m. last Friday.

A thorough examination with the aid of electric torches of the road and both shores between Port Augustin and Arbrichan failed to reveal any sign of the monster.

The theory that a large number of goat and sheep bones found, some bear’s teeth marks, were the remains of the monster’s repast was definitely ruled out today.

Wild Cat
Mr. P. A. Grimsbaw, of the Royal Scottish Museum at Edinburgh, to whom specimens were submitted, said that the lion and goat had been eaten by wild cats or similar wild animals which abounded there.

Mr. Grant examining the twisted mass of hair found on the shore of Loch Ness.

BIG BLACK OBJECT EVADES CHASE

SUBMERGED LIKE SUBMARINE AND MADE BOAT ROCK

From F. W. MEMORY, The “Daily Mail” Investigator

Prorans (Loch Ness), Tuesday.

MEMBERS of the “Daily Mail” mission of investigation to-day saw what they believe to be the Loch Ness monster.

We were working in two parties—one on the loch and the other ashore. It was the former which made the discovery. About 15 minutes before noon they saw it round Strome Point by Castle Urquhart and disappear into Drummandoch Bay.

Pursuing it at a good speed they were in time to see a black hump travelling fast in the middle of a tremendous wash. Suddenly it disappeared, throwing up a huge quantity of water and making a disturbance like a submarine submerging.

The boat party consisted of Messrs. M. A. Wetherell, G. O. Paul, W. B. Turner (Daily Mail staff photographer), and W. Ronwick (the hydrophone expert attached to the mission).

There was also on board, in charge of the engine, Mr. Thomas Graham Smith, of Inverness.

Again I accelerated and tried to draw near to the wash, which rocked the boat badly. As we approached the black object suddenly disappeared. We dropped the hydrometers as quickly as we could, and although we heard strange noises there was nothing we could possibly identify as being caused by the monster.

“Near my part I am satisfied that what we saw is what is described as the monster, but what it is is impossible to say, except it is a very large and powerful creature.”

Fast-moving Lumps
Mr. Ronwick: “I saw the back of it, which I took to be a boat, sounding Castle Urquhart, some time before the others. When the others noticed it, it became interested. When we entered the bay I saw a wash at least 50 yards long. Lumps seemed to be standing out in this wash, and I saw them moving at a fast rate across the bay in the direction of the open loch. It was something big for when, after a few seconds, the wash disappeared it was like a submarine submerging.

Mr. Turner: “I thought it was a boat moving very quickly, but before I could make up my mind it disappeared round the corner into the bay. As the launch had turned I saw a great wash break out from near the shore and cut right across our bows. It moved at a terrific rate for a few seconds, and then a black object, which may have been a fin or a hump, which I saw sticking out of the middle, disappeared in a terrific foaming of water, which filled all the round everything was calm as a mill pond.”

Mr. Smith: “I was in the cockpit, behind the engine, and it was impossible to see the first black object, but I did see the wash in Drummandoch Bay. It was so bad that it made our boat roll and pitch, although it was perfectly calm.”

These statements will at least appear to indicate that there is something of a very unusual nature which lives and moves in Loch Ness. The statements made by the members of the Daily Mail mission are moderate and do not put forward claims to be absolute evidence of the existence of a particular kind of monster.

Additional evidence that something unusual is happening in the Foyers-Druimadoch-Dores area was given to-night, when it was reported to me that early this afternoon two policemen on their rounds near Arbrichan saw a black object which they thought all round everything was calm as a mill pond.”

Loch Ness Project Archive
AMATEUR HUNTERS DRAW A BLANK
BELIEF GROWING IN BIG SEAL THEORY

BUT WHY DOESN'T IT BARK?

From F. W. MEMORY, The “Daily Mail” Investigator
FOYERS (Loch Ness), Sunday.

SCORES of amateur hunters have to-day failed to get a “rise” out of the Loch Ness monster. The creature has kept itself well secluded and all that the watchers saw for their pains were innumerable dark patches and lumps of white-crested water moving across the face of the loch at many points.

These pseudo-monsters will doubtless have deceived some, just as yesterday a log of wood caught twisting and diving in a little whirlpool, where the River Ness joins the loch, was taken by many for the monster making its way to the sea.

It was a story which brought Inverness people hurrying to the spot, and there were hot arguments as to what it really was. Some said this, some said that, and not a few were convinced that it was a giant seal which at last tiring of the loch, was returning to the sea while the Ness was in dispute.

The theory that the monster which has caused all this bother during recent months is, in fact, a seal is steadily gaining ground, but there are still those who believe in another explanation.

A Giant Salamander?

Colonel Lam, of Invermoriston, himself a big-game hunter, is one of them. He holds the view that it is well within the bounds of possibility that this monster is a creature of the giant salamander type which lives on fresh water fish and looks a little bit of a creature.

The weight of circumstantial evidence is, however, rather against him, and what Mr. Richard Emhirst, superintendent of the Marine Biological Station at Millpool, on the Clyde, calls “evidence that is evidence” is in favour of the seal.

I have been discussing the mystery with Mr. Emhirst, and he points out that from the first he has been of opinion that the monster is nothing more than a large grey seal.

“Then I’ll he said, “no reason why such a creature should not be in the loch. They are to be found in numbers off the Western Isles, and they grow to anything from 8ft. to 14ft.

“All the evidence which is evidence a scientist has to be careful what he accepts as evidence—of people who claim to have seen it suggests that it is a grey seal.

PHOTOGRAPHERS’ PLAN

The one thing which will settle the whole matter is a photograph of the creature showing its head, so that experts can definitely classify it. So far this has been impossible, and of all the witnesses so far the same description of this important feature.

The photographers attached to the “Daily Mail” mission of investigation have made arrangements which, it is hoped, will enable them to provide this concrete evidence.

In the meantime full use is being made of special scientific means for discovering the whereabouts of the elusive monster. The Marconi Telephone Company, has just supplied us with a new type of microphone apparatus which is for use on the surface of the water.

Tried out last night, it gave most surprising results.

Human speech on shore at least two miles away could be identified. Dogs barking in the crofts upon the hills far away from the loch, and even a croc crowing at dawn, could be distinctly heard. But of the movements of the monster—nothing.

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Loch Ness Project Archive
THE “MONSTER” AGAIN

NEW SUPPORT FOR SEAL THEORY

FOLLOWING THE SALMON?

From F. W. MEMORY

The “Daily Mail” Investigator

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Thursday.

THE “monster,” or rather what
the observer is confident was
a big seal, has been seen again
today.

Mrs. Cranston, of Foyers, tells
me that just after noon she
was watching the loch when about
200 yards away she saw a large salmon
springing out of the water.

“Immediately,” she said, “a large
round black head came out of the
water at its tail, sank down, and
came up again. There was no great
wash such as that of which everyone
has spoken, nor was the head at all
strange.”

It seemed to me to be almost
round, and came out of the water quite
smoothly and then dropped back again,
only to reappear at almost the same
place. I am convinced that it was
a large seal chasing salmon in the loch.

Good Hunting!

This fits in with the theory advanced
yesterday, which has the support of
such as eminent zoologist as Mr. T. H.
Gilgibns, secretary-director of the
Scottish Zoological Society, that the
Loch Ness monster is, indeed, nothing
more than a seal of unusual size which
may have entered the loch a year or so
gone and is now injured and fed upon
with which the monster is now credited
as a result of the excellent and,
what I may call, the exclusive hunting it has
had.

In recent years, the most recent appearances have been between Foyers and Doroch, just below the spot where the River Ness enters the loch.

The salmon now running to the
loch in large numbers—the fishing
season opens on Monday—and are
taking their hard course towards Fort
Augustus for the Garry River. It is on
this route that the monster has
recently been seen.

The seal theory is also in keeping with the older stories of the mysterious creature in Loch Ness, for if it is possible for a seal to be in Loch Ness now there is no reason why one, or even
more, should not have come up from
the sea in previous years. The only
difference is that if they did come up
they stayed for a short while and
returned to the ocean by way of their
approach. I say this because stories of
a monster being in the loch have been
bubbling up through the years, but
intermittently.

Of course, until definite proof is
obtained this cannot be more than a
hypothesis.

Keen Interest

The efforts of myself and my
colleagues of The Daily Mail mission
of investigation are being directed to
obtaining that proof. We have spent
day and night about the loch, satis-
ifying ourselves that the mysterious
creature is lurking somewhere between
Foyers and Doroch, and have made plans
for producing proof that will be
inexplicable.

On such a vast stretch of water as
which it has to operate it will be
difficult to keep up to date, but it is
encouraging to record that our
endeavour to solve a mystery
which is intriguing everybody is
receiving the warm approval of the local
landowners and the environment
and support of the Inverness-shire Press.

The survival of living freshwater
animals and fish from the prehistoric
era in Europe in the lonely lake of
Ostrib, in one of the wildest parts of
the Balkans, is described in Page 17.

MIGHT BE A SEAL

THEY HAVE BEEN FOUND

IN LOCH NESS

Mr. M. A. C. Hinton, Assistant
Keeper of the Zoology section of the
Natural History Museum, South
Kensington, London, discussing with a
Daily Mail reporter the possibilities of
the monster being a large grey seal,
declared that so great was the interest in
the beast that Dr. Colman, the
keeper, had himself had daily received
over a dozen letters of inquiry from
people all over the country.

On such would be nothing remark-
able in the monster proving to be a
grey seal,” he said. “In fact we have
thought that to be the probable
explanation from the beginning. Grey
seals have been known in the past in
Loch Ness.

What It Is Like

“They follow the salmon up the
river. However, if some new beast
had been found one would have
been better pleased than we here, and
we have all along been anxious not to
miss anything. The grey seal is
fairly common in the North Sea, and
along the coast of Norway and
in the Scilly Isles and on the North
Welsh coast.

Its average length is from
7 ft. 6 in. to 8 ft. 4 in., though it
is probable that some big fellows are
10 ft., or 11 ft. long. The grey seal has
a large head with protruding eyes
and a long neck, which is in the habit
of putting right out of the water
breeding water with its hind feet.

“When it floats there are four
smallumps, which might just be visible
above the surface. It has a drooping
mustache of stout bristles. It uses
its
baleen
in
propeller
manner
when
swimming, in order that it might cause
disturbance of the water, and it
often turns over on the surface like a
seal, using the whole of its back
as it goes over.

“It is the old story. Suddenly it
would be likely to cause a commotion on
the surface water. It is an air breeder
and lives more above the surface
under water.

A grey seal once did a journey
of 10 miles over land in Norway—but
they are quite at home on the shore and
can move very quickly.

“If there were only one or two
seals in the loch it would make a
story for the stories of the monster’s jumps

MONSTER’S PERIL

ANGLERS’ THREAT TO
TAKE RIFLES WITH THEM

From F. W. MEMORY,

“The Daily Mail” Investigator

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Sunday.

Unless the authorities take steps to
decide beyond all question the identity of the Loch Ness
monster, ridies, as well as
tose and gaffes, are likely to be
included in the equipment of the
anglers venturing in the loch in quest of
salmon.

One well-known man, Mr. W.
Cranston, of Foyers, has expressed his
intention of taking a rifle with him next
time he goes on the loch. He points
out that he feels that, as a fisherman
who pays a heavy licence and fee for
the privilege of killing salmon, he has
a right to protect his rights from the
inroads a seal is likely to make upon
them. He told me today:

“I have known the loch for 13 years and
have fished every inch of it. I have
never believed one single story with
regard to the presence of an unknown
monster. If I think the Daily Mail
investigation has established the fact that there
is a seal in the loch, and I am quite
prepared to believe that. Indeed, I think
there can be no doubt about it, from the
evidence which has been brought to
my notice.

“I have no room for question. I
consider that as a member of the Loch
Ness Angling Association it is my duty
to do what I can to protect the fishing
as the Fishery Board does not appear
anxious to move.

“From the conversations I have had
here and elsewhere on the lochside
there seems to be no acceptance of the
fact that a seal is the most probable
explanation of the mysterious
mysteries which has now persisted for
several months.

From Monte Carlo

The prehistoric monster theory, how-
ever, dies hard. There are still those
who persist in believing in it, but as
I have already pointed out, real
reason tells me that it is a pre-faith
theory for the district.

On Thursday eight people arrived
to Drummedochet from Monte Carlo
special to look for the seal and
then paddled their car “Loch Ness Monster
Expedition.” But, like thousands of others, they
had to leave disappointed. The monster
does not seem in an appearance during the
week-end. Indeed, it has not been
seen for nearly a fortnight.

Loch Ness Project Archive
THERE IS A SEAL IN LOCH NESS

HEAD 4½ ft. ABOVE THE WATER

From F. W. MEMORY, The “Daily Mail” Investigator

THERE is a seal in Loch Ness.

Late this afternoon members of the ‘Daily Mail’ mission of investigation, when proceeding towards Fort Augustus in our launch “Penguin” to take up an all-night position for hydrophone work, saw what is definitely believed to be a seal’s head.

Mr. W. A. Wetherell and Mr. W. Redwick, the hydrophone expert, were on board with Thomas G. Smith, the engineer of the launch.

“Smith tells me of your story—”

“We were proceeding at half-speed and kept a close watch on the surface, and called for a camera, and as I did so the creature’s neck rose at least 4½ ft. 6 in. out of the water without causing a wash or commotion of any kind.

THICK NECK

“Smith handed me the camera and Redwick came bustling from the cabin, but they were too late to see anything except the wash created by the creature as it turned over and went beneath the water. I kept my eyes on it the whole time. It was not visible for more than a few seconds, and at that time its head came out of the water and, as I have said, rose to a height of about 4½ ft. 6 in., being poised on what appeared to be a very thick neck, which seemed to broaden out to about 2½ ft. at water level.

“I did not see any flippers or fins, and as I watched the head sank back into the water and then appeared to shoot forward under the water. Then what seemed to be a hump rose 18 inches or 2 ft. above the level, appeared for a second or so and then subsided from sight, creating a slight wash.

“It was at this moment that Smith came to my side and saw the disturbed water. I asked him if he could see anything, and he replied, ‘No, I have not the slightest doubt that what I saw was a very big seal.’ The head leaves no room for doubt on that point. What appeared to be a hump was the creature’s back as it lurched forward to dive.

“I am now quite satisfied that there is not a phantastic animal in Loch Ness, but a very big seal. I am convinced the seal could not possibly make those spoor I found, and for that reason it is not a seal.”

Mr. Wetherell went on to say: “I have seen no sign of the creature since, but the arguments advanced in favour of the monster being a great seal are apparently correct. There is no question what I saw was a very big creature of that description.

“Here remains conclusive evidence of a seal’s existence in the loch to be secured in the form of a photograph.

“The Daily Mail’ mission photographers are making every effort to that end, but with an area of water 22 miles long and two miles broad it is impossible to say where such a creature will make its next appearance, several plans, however, have been made, and we believe it is but a question of patience before the photograph is secured. I would like to point out it is significant that what Mr. Wetherell has described as seeing his stram was only an apparent stram.

What remains is of even more significance is the fact that the creature this afternoon was seen, as I ventured to predict it would be, on the course of the salmon now running in from the sea and making their way down the loch towards the River Oich for the Garry.

I have this evening been in communication with Mr. Robert Gilbert, secretary of the Loch Ness Fishery Board. He tells me that the board met to-morrow, and he will report on the matter with a view to appropriate action being taken.

“I understand that the Loch Ness Angling Association, which protects the interests of the fishermen, is also to take the matter up. One of the members told me to-night that the presence of the seal in the loch would account for the scarcity of salmon, which was experienced last year.

LOCH TAY “MONSTER”

HERALDS THE SALMON-FISHING SEASON

From Our Own Correspondent

Lawrence (Loch Ness), Monday.

The Loch Ness monster to-day had a premial visit at Loch Tay.

The Tay Tay apparition had a horse-like head, two huge humps, and many other humps. It swam the breadth of the loch towards the landing stage where the tourist steamer, the Lady of the Lake, now lies for the winter months, and was eventually captured.

The body was a huge rubber horse, attached to which were rows of buoys. The buoys supported a wall, which, in turn, bore a case of Highland whisky, and for a tell the Loch Tay monster had a dozen empty bottles strung together.

It pays part of the ceremonial for the opening day of the fishing season.

The first salmon of the season, a 24-pounder, was landed by Colonel A. C. Graham, of Glasgow. Other early catches made by parties on the River Tay included salmon of 30 and 40 lb. At Loch Ness no fish were landed.

Loch Ness Project Archive
NEW MYSTERY OF LOCH NESS

VANISHED SALMON

CHASED AWAY BY SEAL?

From F. W. MEMORY,
The "Daily Mail" Investigator

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Friday.

The mystery of Loch Ness is fast becoming like a presentation of "Hamlet" without the Prince of Denmark.

It is now more than a week since anyone reported viewing the mysterious creature in any of its strange forms. But, as I have already recorded, a very large seal has been observed in the loch.

It is round this fact that the discussion is now revolving.

Circumstances are a little too strong for anyone to deny absolutely that there is a seal in Loch Ness, and they content themselves with saying "Ah, but that is not our monster."

While it has always been extremely improbable, they may be right. They have at the moment no better evidence to support their assumption than the fact that quite a large number of people have deposed to seeing a creature of extraordinary shape.

Unfortunately for them, no two persons viewing the beastie on different occasions have ever given identical the same description, and sometimes even when a number of people have seen it altogether they have not been able to agree on its appearance.

SEAL THEORY

Everyone, however, is agreed that whatever it is it travels at a tremendous speed and creates a big wash when it submerges.

That, curiously enough, is exactly what seals are capable of doing. I have mentioned, on the authority of some of the greatest experts on marine life in Scotland, that a seal can travel through the water at a speed approaching 40 miles an hour, and that a particularly large one diving would undoubtedly set up a big wash.

So we have the attributes which it is conceded are possessed by the beastie common to the only creature which is definitely identified as being in the loch.

There is another point not without its significance. Salmon fishing has now been in full swing at Loch Ness for five days, on each of which keen anglers have plied their rods from early morning until late afternoon, yet in the whole 22-miles length of the loch only two fish have been killed.

That salmon do come up from the sea there can be no doubt, for many people report seeing them come over the weir into the loch in large numbers.

Where have they gone? Is it too much to suggest that they have been chased right through the loch by their arch enemy, a seal, and found their way to immediate shelter in the Garry, where fishing has not yet opened.

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THE MONSTER IS A SEAL

Conclusions of the "Daily Mail" Mission

SIFTING THE EVIDENCE

From F. W. MEMORY, The "Daily Mail" Investigator

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Monday.

The mission appointed by the Editor of The Daily Mail to inquire, in the interests of science and the public in general, into the mystery of the so-called Loch Ness monster has completed its investigations.

Every fact, and every credible circumstance, which has come under review points to the monster being nothing more than a seal of unusual size.

It is to be admitted that this conclusion cannot be regarded as absolutely definite. That is due to the attitude which the Ness District Fishery Board itself compelled it to adopt. While taking no action itself, it vetoed the only procedure which could have placed the identity of the mysterious creature beyond dispute. That being so, until such time as irrefutable evidence is obtained there will probably be a lingering doubt in many minds as to the correctness of the probable solution put forward by the Daily Mail mission.

The Legends

For years there have been stories—or rather legends—of a mysterious creature making periodical appearances in Loch Ness, and in May last the present monster was first reported. It was seen from Drumadrockit, but beyond being a big creature which moved through the water at a tremendous rate, creating a great wash, no adequate description was forthcoming. In other words there was nothing to standarise it, and as a consequence the other people who very soon claimed to have seen it were able to allow their impressions—or even, perhaps, their imaginations—full play when essaying to describe what they thought they had seen.

The result was what might have been anticipated. Hardly two descriptions tallied, and the monster took on beautiful and fantastic shapes—long neck, short neck; head like a sheep; skin like an elephant; long hair like a shaggy pony; small, pig-like wicked eyes; even like motor-car lamps; one hump, two humps, even eight humps, and no humps at all! In fact, it rivals the most versatile quick-change artist of the vaudeville stage.

In the appearances it was able to assume between one reviewing and another. Always, however, there were two particulars which never varied, no matter how fantastic the descriptions of the creature might be:

moved at great speed and created a big wash.

The fame of this strange beast spread far and wide. Some people came to the conclusion that it was a prehistoric creature fortuitously released from the cavern in which it had for ages been imprisoned below the waters of the loch by the heavy blasting which had taken place along the northern shore in connection with the new Inverness to Glasgow road.

Everyone resident on the loch side, and even in Inverness, too, got what might be described as the monster complex.

The desire of a sight of it brought not tens, but hundreds of visitors to the locality of Loch Ness, and they, naturally, spent money.

A careful examination of the shores of the loch failed to disclose anything which could be definitely identified as a positive indication of the existence of an unknown creature—there were neither footprints nor anything else coming under this category, although there were footprints which were identified for what they were, and that was nothing which could possibly be regarded as an unknown monster.

No Hydrophone Clues

The water itself was searched. The Marconi Telephone Company placed at the disposal of the mission the latest hydrophones in charge of an expert engineer. If a creature of a prehistoric type moved about and had its being in the loch these marvellous gadgets of science would have unerringly detected it. They gave no sign of such a creature’s existence.

But reports are still being received of the movements of a creature which travelled at a great speed and created a great wash. It was actually the good fortune of certain members of the mission to witness the movements for themselves. It occurred in Drumadrochit Bay and left no doubt that it was caused by a creature which could move extremely rapidly and when diving create a big wash sufficient to rock a large motor-boat.

Experts such as Mr. T. H. Gillespie, secretary-director of the Scottish Zoological Society, and Mr. Richard Emhirst, superintendent of the Marine Biological station on the Clyde, agreed that these were the marked characteristics of a seal, it being pointed out that these creatures could travel at a speed of nearly 40 miles an hour.

Here was the first definite clue towards the probable identity of the monster. Others followed quickly. Two young men, Messrs. Fell and Allfrey, of Knutsford, motoring along the southern shore of the loch, observed between Inverfarigaig and Dores a big creature leaping on the water. Mr. Allfrey was able to draw a very credible picture of a seal.

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