

FISH SNARING

A method requiring some skill on the part of the Indian fisherman was that of snaring fish. The Indian fish snare was ingeniously made of 24 or 26 gauge copper wire. The Indian fisherman, seated where he could plainly see his prey in the water below, lowered his snare and slowly passed the well-nigh invisible copper loop of the snare over the head and gills of the fish. A quick upward motion caused the loop to fasten about the fish which was prevented from slipping off by the gills. Huron H. Smith, of the Milwaukee public museum staff, reported to the writer that he has seen this method in use even recently among the Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin.

Mr. Brown reports that the Potawatomi also occasionally followed this method especially at times when large fish like the pike refused to be attracted by a bait.

CRAW-FISHING

Indians were fond of crawfish as an article of food. Selecting a spot in a stream frequented by them, the Indians angled for crawfish in the following manner:—strips of half-roasted or barbecued venison were strung, several inches apart, upon reeds that had been sharpened at one end. Thus baited, many of these reeds were stuck into the riverbed. Remaining near, the Indian fisherman watched the baited reeds, pulling them up at intervals, shaking into paskets the crawfish adhering to the bits of meat, and then replacing the baited reeds in the water.

FISH LURES

Various methods were used by the Indian fishermen of Wisconsin to lure fish.

Corn. The use of corn by the Potawatomi Indians as a fish lure is described by Alanson Skinner as follows: "In summer the Indians sometimes repaired to the banks of slow moving streams where fires were lighted at short distances. Corn was pounded and the hulls thrown in the