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## LOCH MONSTER SEEN AGAIN

### DISPORTING IN THE MOONLIGHT

#### NIGHT WATCH TO BE KEPT

From Our Special Investigator,  
F. W. MEMORY

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Monday.  
**B**AD 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 favoured local inhabitants. He has seen the monster on many occasions, and one wag suggests 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 spoor 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 Natural 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 zoology, 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 brown beautifully-made scale model of the contour of some barren island surrounded by a sea of white, frothy 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 had been made by Dr. Calman and other officials of the museum.

The considered verdict of Dr. Calman and his assistants in the zoological department and that of Dr. W. D. Lang, of the geological department, and his assistants are expected to be available Thursday.

#### No Known Reptile

For the moment they will say no more than that the cast "does not represent the track of any known fossil 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 Dr. Calman, Mr. M. A. C. Hinton, deputy 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.

**T**O-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 Marconiphone Company, and have been installed in our motor-cruiser.

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 sardine 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 trace its whereabouts.

It is of prime importance that as much knowledge as possible should be obtained of the habits of the mysterious beast which so many people have claimed 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.

He and a friend were shooting between Doros and Foyers when, near the waters of the loch, they came across a mutilated white roe deer. In the words of the man himself: "It looked as if it had been mauled by some huge animal."

He told one or two of his friends about it, but they laughed at him. He made no more reference to it, but the present circumstances have caused him to mention the matter now.

It is significant that the incident reported occurred at the spot not far distant from where Mr. George Spicer has declared that he saw a huge creature crossing the Foyers-Doros 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 he asserts to be the traces other than spoor of an amphibian.

The incident also points to the method of feeding which a monster might adopt. Deer regularly descend from the hills to drink at the lochside, and the depletion of their numbers by a monster would not be easily detected.

This, perhaps, is the best can only be regarded as circumstantial evidence, but steps will be taken to test it in every possible particular.

Some local experts are not altogether

inclined to agree with those zoologists who declare that the water of Loch Ness would necessarily be fatal to amphibians from warmer climates.

They declare that there are warm sulphur springs feeding the loch, with the result that even in the most severe weather they have never been 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 6deg. Fahrenheit. On the other occasion, when there was a quantity of pollen from flowers on the shore suspended in the loch it was observed from the motion of the particles that different layers of water were moving in different directions and the surface waters were evidently in a very agitated condition although the surface of the water was quite calm. These and other observations indicate that while the loch is gaining heat even in calm weather, the surface water to a depth of five to ten feet is constantly being mixed by convection."

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## 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 spray 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 Natural 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 take 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 fleshy 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 five Edinburgh art students who have given up their holiday to hunt the Loch Ness "monster."

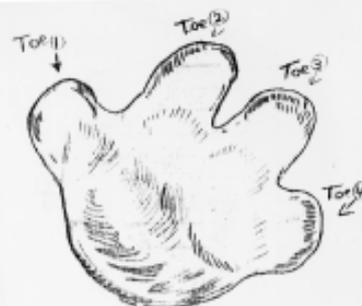
This was the second discovery of unusual footprints to-day. The exact location of the new discovery cannot yet be disclosed because the imprints, which are thought to be new snoor-

have 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 an 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 fall away to provide fairly easy access from the water, Mr. J. Erskine-Murray and Mr. A. F. Hay saw the indentation of a large foot.

This impression had a span of 9in. The marks of the "thumb," or first toe, and the heel were deeply imprinted, and marks of the three toes could be 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.



A sketch made yesterday by Mr. James Duff of what Mr. M. A. Wetherell claims to be the footprint of an amphibian on the shores of Loch Ness. It was reproduced in *The Daily Mail* on this morning.

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## "MONSTER'S" MOONLIGHT FROLIC ON ROAD

### "Large Mass Came Towards Me, Then Bounded Away"

From F. W. MEMORY, Our Special Investigator

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Friday.  
**W**HAT appears to be definite evidence of the existence of the Loch Ness monster has been provided me to-day by Mr. Arthur Grant, son of Mr. James Grant, a well-known landowner, of Polmailly, on the northern side of the loch.

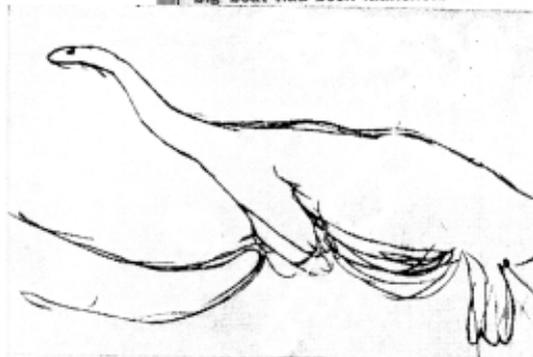
Not only does Mr. Grant state that he saw the monster, but he has taken me with other members of the "Daily Mail" mission to the spot at which he saw it, and there were definite footprints of an unusual nature. We found not one, but several. A plaster cast has been made and will be sent for expert examination.

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 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, gave 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 20 miles an hour, but when about 10 miles out of Inverness the moon came out and there was a splendid light all over the loch and the road. This would be about 1 a.m.

"When near Abrihan my headlights 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 went 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 only the great wash on the loch as if a big boat had been launched.



A pencil sketch of the mysterious creature as it appeared to Mr. Grant and as he drew it for his family when he reached home.

thought, may be those of a creature with a double row of teeth; but that is a matter for experts to decide.

Another discovery on which experts' advice will be sought is a twisted and compressed mass of hair substance, which it is suggested is all that remains of a hair-coated animal swallowed and then disgorged by the monster.

In the immediate vicinity of these finds were many other bones, which may be taken as an indication that this is the feeding place of some carnivorous animal and these are the remains of its repasts.

#### "Seen" There Before

It only remains for me to add that Abrihan is between Drumnadrochit and Dores Bays, a neighbourhood in which the monster is reported to have been seen on many occasions.

It is almost opposite the place on the southern shore where Mr. George Spicer declares that he saw across the road an animal which from his description is not dissimilar to that seen by Mr. Grant.

The news of Mr. Grant's experience has become known in Inverness to-night, and is regarded as the most convincing evidence yet advanced with regard to the existence of a monster—even the diehards among the disbelievers are now wavering.

#### "Like a Kangaroo"

"I marked the spot and went off to my home, where I recounted my experiences. I have always scoffed at the idea of there being a monster in the loch, but now I am convinced. I should say the creature is about 18ft. from its nose to the tip of its tail.

"It seemed to have a snake-like head, with long jaws which would easily hold a lamb or a goat, a long neck, and a body tremendously thick, like a kangaroo. I noticed that it had flipper-like arms, or forelegs, while its hind legs appeared to be thick. I thought its feet were webbed, but of this I am not sure.

"Its tail was of considerable length, thick and strong, and carried well off the ground. When the animal crossed the road it did not walk, but seemed to bound, springing from its hind feet in a horizontal position, its forefeet, what I described as flippers, being on the ground. I should imagine from its great bulk and its hind quarters the creature weighed at least a ton."

#### 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 that he fully realised 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 converted. Early this morning his brother Peter and I went to the spot he indicated, and we found two marks which he wants you to examine."

These places were pointed out to us and then on the mossy banks leading to the water we found sign after sign of the spoor of a three-toed creature, smaller but very much of the same form as that 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 in number, but not all of the same clearness, were in the vicinity of two distinct rides 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.

At the edge of the water a few yards away were the skull, hide, and various bones of a goat—an animal which runs wild in the hills at this point. These were examined, and Mr. Arthur Grant suggested that the animal had not been dead more than a fortnight, for several parts of the backbone were still joined together by fleshy 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 new spoor of the mysterious monster of Loch Ness, discovered by Mr. Arthur Grant last Friday.

The spoor, which was on the banks of the loch near Abrihan, was pointed out by Mr. Grant to Mr. F. W. Memory, 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. Memory. About ten marks, apparently footprints, were found.

The cast taken yesterday to the Natural History Museum is being examined by Dr. W. T. Calman, director of zoology, and his assistants, and they expect to be able to give a verdict upon it within two or three days.

The work involves a good deal of time and trouble, but Dr. Calman is co-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.

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Lowering the hydrophone into the deep waters of Loch Ness at Drumnadrochit Bay.

## 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

Fovens (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 Abrischan, Balmora, and Baldragean.

It was in that area on Friday morning that Mr. Arthur Grant, of Polmailly, 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.

So much importance is attached to Mr. Grant's statement that by special orders of the Chief Constable of Inverness-shire a full account of his experience has been taken by the police. Heavy rain, which washed out what might have been valuable clues, has hampered investigations.

Never have there been so many people "monster-hunting." They have come in, cars and on foot, from all parts of the British Isles, and many have come from the Continent.

While we worked at Abrischan a message was brought to us that the creature had been seen by at least a score of people disporting itself on the water just below Drumnadrochit.

It was of the usual description, long, black body, snake-like head, and travelling at great speed, this time towards Fort Augustus.

Our search of the Abrischan district was not entirely unproductive of results. On a narrow gravelly beach, where Mr. Arthur Grant states the "beast" plunged into the loch, and where on Friday we found the remains of a goat and bones of other animals, we yesterday found the remains of a sheep which had apparently not been dead long.

There was also evidence of teeth marks on the hide and bones which I have sent to Mr. P. H. Grimsbaw, keeper of the Natural History Department of the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, for expert opinion.

#### "Monster's" Silence

Casts we have made of the unusual footprints found among moss and leaves at Abrischan have been submitted to the British Museum.

I have described the monster, in the existence of which everyone in this locality believes, as elusive; it is, perhaps, more than that. So far, no matter how quickly we have got to work with hydrophone in any locality in which it is alleged to have been seen we have been unable to pick up any sound of it.

To-night we are making another attempt. A party will be on board the motor-cruiser Penguin listening on the hydrophones from early evening until dawn. If the monster moves or comes to the surface anywhere within a wide radius it will be heard.

#### M.P.'s Belief

Lord Soane, M.P. for Perth, and Lady Soane and a party have to-day been touring the loch to inquire for themselves into the mystery.

I am, I think, correct in saying that Lord Soane is convinced that there is "something" in the water, and he went out of his way to congratulate The Daily Mail on its enterprise in trying to solve the mystery in the interests of science and wish it every success.

"It is," he said, "something which should be solved one way or the other, and I hope you will be successful."

The Daily Mail has the warm support and approval of all local land-owners and residents.

### SUNSET-TO-DAWN HUNT FAILS

#### DAY OF REST?

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

Fovens (Loch Ness), Monday.  
SOON after sunset last night and until long after dawn to-day the members of The Daily Mail mission of investigation and inquiry were out in the motor-cruiser Penguin, listening with hydrophones in an attempt to detect the presence of the mysterious monster of Loch Ness.

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While this party kept watch on the water Lord and Lady Soane, who are both keen to unravel the mystery, accompanied by Mr. J. Drummon, of Megginch Castle, and a Daily Mail photographer, patrolled the northern shore by motor-car.

**In a Snowstorm**

The party, which patrolled from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. and were caught in a sharp snowstorm, watched or a re-appearance of the "bouncing-kangaroo" like creature which Mr. Arthur Grant, of Polmally, claims to have seen on the roadside at Abriachan at 1 a.m. last Friday.

A thorough examination with the aid of electric torches of the road and loch foreshore between Fort Augustus and Abriachan failed to reveal any sign of the monster.

The theory that a large number of goat and sheep bones found, some bearing teeth marks, were the remains of the monsters repasts was definitely ruled out to-day.

**Wild Cat**

Mr. P. A. Grimshaw, of the Royal Scottish Museum at Edinburgh, to whom specimens were submitted, said that the sheep and goats had been eaten by wild cats or similar wild animals which abound here.



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

Foyrens (Loch Ness), Tuesday.

**M**EMBERS 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 Strone Point by Castle Urquhart and disappear into Drumnadrochit Bay.

Pursuing it at full 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. Pauli, W. R. Turner (Daily Mail staff photographer), and W. Renwick (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 hydrophone as quickly as we could, and although we heard strange noises there was nothing we could possibly identify as being caused by the monster.

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

**Fast-moving Lumps**

Mr. Renwick: I saw the back of it, which I took to be a boat rounding Castle Urquhart, some time before the others. When the others noticed it I became interested. When we entered the bay I saw a wash at least 20 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 been 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 boiling of water, although all round everything was as calm as a mill pond.

**Tried to Overtake It**

Here are their stories:—

Mr. Wetherell: We were in the Penguin when about a mile ahead I noticed a dark object on the water going at a fast rate towards Drumnadrochit Bay. We all of us observed the object carefully and agreed it might be a boat. The object, which seemed about 12ft. to 15ft. long, turned into Drumnadrochit Bay, and I at once accelerated to overtake it.

Getting abreast of the bay, which was as calm as a mill pond, in about seven or 10 minutes, we were astonished to find it without any sign of a boat. While we were searching round to run close in shore Mr. Turner called out "There it is," and pointed to a great wash which started somewhere near the shore and cut across our bows about 150 yards ahead. The water was greatly disturbed, and a black object appeared to be moving at a terrific rate.

"It all happened so quickly that although I had four cameras standing ready I only had time to get one to my eye before it was all over. The wash when I first saw it was anything up to 30ft. long and 150 yards from us."

Mr. Pauli: "I only saw the black object disappear round the Castle Point, but I did see the wash in the bay. It was a very big wash, indeed. While I watched it the black object I saw in it disappeared and reappeared again. Eventually it disappeared altogether. I do not know what it was, but it appeared to be a big creature

of some kind, and when we saw it it was travelling at high speed."

Mr. Smith: "I was in the cockpit, busy with the engine, and did not see the first black object, but I did see the wash in Drumnadrochit Bay. It was so bad that it made our boat roll and toss, 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 Foyrens-Drumnadrochit-Dores area was provided to-night, when it was reported to me that early this afternoon two policemen and a woman on the northern side of the loch saw a black object, which they believe to be the monster, travelling on the surface towards Dores.

It is also significant that these incidents occurred near Abriachan, where on Friday Mr. Arthur Grant declares he saw the monster ashore.

A section of our party will be out all to-night with hydrophones, while another party will tour the loch side in a motor-car equipped with powerful photographic lights and fast cameras.

# 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.

**S**CORES 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 long ripples 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 spate.

The theory that the monster which has caused all this pother 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 Lane, 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 the monster is a creature of the giant salamander type which lives on fresh water fish and is an amphibian.

The weight of circumstantial evidence is, however, rather against him, and what Mr. Richard Elmhirst, 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. Elmhirst, and he points out that from the first he has been of opinion that the monster is nothing more than a large grey seal.

"There is," 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 10ft. 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 no two give 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 Marconiphone 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 cock crowing at dawn, could be distinctly heard. But of the movements of the monster—nothing.

"The only point that puzzles me is that no one has reported having heard its bark.

#### Inquisitive Seals

Although it may be alone I think it would bark. A large seal would certainly make the wash attributed to the alleged monster, and could swim as fast as this creature is reported to have done, although as a rule seals are not very timid, being very inquisitive.

If one was alarmed it would try to get away as quickly as possible. I certainly do not think on the evidence I have seen so far that the monster is a prehistoric animal, and I believe a seal will be found to be the true explanation."

There are many facts in the statements of those who during recent months claim to have seen the monster which give support to the seal theory.

For instance: where would a seal, which lives on fish, be most frequently seen? Surely the answer must be where the fish are in the habit of congregating—at the mouths and inlets of rivers.

If the statements I have mentioned are examined it will be found that the monster has been seen most frequently near Cherry Island or Fort Augustus; at or near Invermoriston; in Foyers Bay; off Inverfarigay; in Drumna-drochit Bay, and, more recently towards the eastern end of the loch.

At all these places rivers run into the loch, and at all periods of the year salmon and trout are to be found there.

Of course, just now there are many salmon fresh in from the sea at the eastern end of the loch ready to make their way first to the Garry and then to the Moriston.

I hear this evening that a grey seal was captured at Avoch a few days ago.

This is only six miles from the mouth of the Ness and is clear proof that these creatures do frequent these parts and might easily pass up the river into the loch.

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## THE "MONSTER" AGAIN

### NEW SUPPORT FOR SEAL THEORY

#### FOLLOWING THE SALMON?

From F. W. MEMORY

The "Daily Mail" Investigator

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Thursday.  
**T**HE "monster," or rather what the observer is confident was a big seal, has been seen again to-day.

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 spring 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 snaky.

"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 an eminent zoologist as Mr. T. H. Gillespie, 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 ago and attained the tremendous girth with which the monster is now credited as a result of the excellent and, what I may call, the exclusive hunting it has had.

The creature's most recent appearances have been between Foyers and Dores, just below the spot where the River Ness enters the loch.

The salmon are now running to the loch in large numbers—the fishing season opens on Monday—and are taking their fixed 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 continuous through the years, but intermittent.

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

#### 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 all day on and about the loch, satisfying ourselves that the mysterious creature is lurking somewhere between Foyers and Dores, and have made plans for producing proof that will be irrefutable.

On such a vast stretch of water on which it has to operate it will be possible that these plans will miscarry, but it is encouraging to record that our endeavours to solve a mystery which is intriguing everybody is receiving the warm approval of the local landowners and the encouragement 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 Ochrid, 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.

"There would be nothing remarkable 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 no 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, all along the coast down to the Wash, in the Scilly Isles, and on the North Welsh coast.

Its average length is from 8ft. 6in. to 9ft. 6in., though it is probable that some big fellows are 10ft. or 11ft. long. The grey seal has a large head with protruding eyes and a long neck, which it is in the habit of putting right out of the water, treading water with its hind feet.

"When it floats there are four small humps, which might just be visible above the surface. It has a drooping moustache of stout bristles. It uses its hind feet in screw-propeller fashion when swimming, so that it might cause some disturbance of the water, and it often turns over on the surface like a porpoise, showing the whole of its back as it goes over.

"If it dived suddenly it would be likely to cause some commotion on the surface water. It is an air breather and lives more above the surface than under water.

"A grey seal once did a journey 30 miles over land in Norway—so they are quite at home on the shore and can move very quickly.

"If there were two or three seals in the loch in a herd they would account for the stories of the monster's humps

#### 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, rifles, as well as rods and gaffs, are likely to be included in the equipment of fishermen 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 to-day:—

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.

But I do 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, for the evidence which has been brought to my personal knowledge during the last few days leaves no room for question. I consider that as a member of the Loch Ness Anglers' 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 other conversations I have had here and elsewhere on the lochside there now seems to be a growing acceptance of the fact that a seal is the most probable explanation of the mystery which has now persisted for several months.

#### From Monte Carlo

The prehistoric monster theory, however, dies hard. There are still those who persist in believing in it; but, as I have already pointed out, the real reason efforts are being made to keep it alive is that it is a profit-making theory for the district.

On Saturday eight people arrived in Drumnadrochit from Monte Carlo specially to see the monster, and even placarded their car "Loch Ness Monster Expedition from Monte Carlo."

But, like thousands of others, they had to leave disappointed. The monster did not put in an appearance during the week-end. Indeed, he has not been seen for nearly a fortnight.

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# THERE IS A SEAL IN LOCH NESS

## HEAD 4½ft. ABOVE THE WATER

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

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Monday.  
**T**HERE 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—of enormous size.

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

This is Mr. Wetherell's story:—

"We were proceeding at half-speed and keeping close to the southern shore of the loch. I was at the wheel, and Smith had just offered me a cup of tea from the galley.

"As I turned to take it from him a black object rose from the water about 150 yards away on our starboard side. I dropped the cup and called for a camera, and as I did so the creature's head and neck rose at least 4ft. 6in. out of the water without causing a wash or commotion of any kind.

### THICK NECK

"Smith handed me the camera and Renwick came hurrying 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 during that time its head came out of the water and, as I have said, rose to a height of about 4ft. 6in., being poised on what appeared to be a very thick neck, which seemed to broaden out to about 2ft. at the 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 2ft. above the loch level, appeared for a second or so and then passed 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 else 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 actually the creature's back as it lunged forward to dive.

"I am now quite satisfied that there is not a prehistoric animal in Loch Ness, but a very big seal. I am convinced that this seal could not possibly make those spoor I found, and for them I cannot account."

Mr. Wetherell went on to say: "I have not been convinced of the theory until to-day, but I have to admit that you are right, and that the arguments advanced in favour of the monster

being a great seal are apparently correct, for there is no question what I saw was a very big creature of that description."

There still 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 the 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 deposed to seeing this afternoon conforms exactly with a statement made by Mrs. Cranston, of Foyers, on Thursday when she saw a seal under almost identical conditions.

What, perhaps, 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 meets 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

LEWISTON (Loch Ness), Monday.

The Loch Ness monster to-day had a genial rival at Loch Tay.

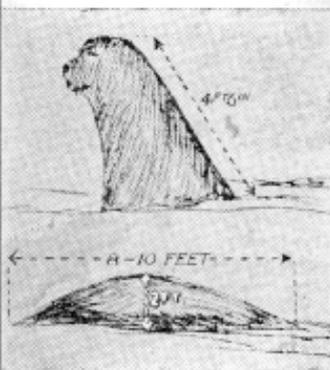
The Loch Tay apparition had a horse-like head, one huge hump, and many other humps. It swam the breadth of the loch towards the landing stage where the tourist steamer, the *Lady of the Lake*, now lies for the winter months, and was eventually captured.

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

It was 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 26 and 27lb. At Loch Ness no fish were landed.

## A LOCH NESS CLUE



Sketches by Mr. M. A. Wetherell, a member of the *Daily Mail* mission of investigation, of what he and others saw from the launch Penguin on Monday afternoon. "I have not the slightest doubt," he says, "that it was a very big seal." Top: The head as it rose from the water 150 yards away. Below: The "hump" for back of the seal which emerged for a second or two after the head had disappeared.

# NEW MYSTERY OF LOCH NESS

## VANISHED SALMON

### CHASED AWAY BY SEAL?

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

FOYERS (Loch Ness), Friday.

**T**HE 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 identically 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?

#### STRONG SUPPORT

In support of such a theory I might mention that during the last 10 days something that has been identified as a seal has been seen on the run salmon take on their way from the sea to the River Garry.

The first time was by Messrs. Fell and Allfrey between Dore and Inverfarigaig, the second by Mrs. Cranston in Foyers Bay, and the third on the very day fishing opened by Mr. M. A. Wetherell off Invermoriston.

A glance at the map will show the significance of these positions, when it is remembered that the salmon now coming up from the sea are those which make for the Garry river off Loch Oich at the western end of Loch Ness.

Exactly why the monster is not generally admitted to be a seal was explained by a canny remark made today by an Inverness man.

**"If our monster is a seal, what visitors will come to Inverness to see it this summer?"**

That is a question which answers itself.

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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 found itself compelled 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 Drumnadrochit, 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 standardise 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 both curious 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; eyes 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—it

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 Marecathophone 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 Drumnadrochit 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 Elmhirst, 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 loafing on the water. Mr. Allfrey was able to draw a very credible picture of a seal.

#### All Agreed

A day or so later Mrs. Cranston, of Foyers, saw what she positively identified as a large seal rise twice in Foyers Bay in pursuit of salmon. A week ago Mr. M. A. Wetherell, the Central African big-game hunter, saw within 150 yards of him near Invermoriston what he has no hesitation in describing as a seal of unusual size.

**Of all the people who claim to have seen something unusual in the loch these are the only four who are able to give a name to what they have seen, and unlike the others they are all agreed on the nature of what they have seen at different times and in different places.**

While I have to repeat this evidence does not definitely establish the identity of the monster as that of a large seal, it certainly makes it much more probable than anything else, particularly when it is remembered that as recently as last year a large creature of this species was shot in the Ness at Inverness while making its way towards the loch.

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