



E. H. Peckinpaugh Company Owner - Tying a Bait-Casting Lure (Fly)



Stream Blazer Ernest Peckinpaugh 1885-1947

Hamilton County, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Peck's Poppers

Founded in 1920 to manufacture the first commercially tied fishing lures, by 1940 the E.H. Peckinpaugh catalog listed sixty different bugs and flies with hundreds of color combinations.

Peckinpaugh did not confine all his correspondence to a plain and simple unillustrated Peckinpaugh letterhead. Aside from his standard letterhead, Peck also used what he referred to as a folder where the cover doubled as a letterhead. These folders were illustrated catalogs made up of several pages of Pecks baits, along with some hints for anglers. The folder covers were bordered along the left side with illustrations of some Peck's baits, and a boy float fishing from a dock with his dog as a companion. The vast majority of the cover was left blank in order for the company to use for correspondence. Printed at the bottom is an all-time favorite slogan from his tackle company "Peck's Insurance Against Fishless Days."

A response to a letter from Mr. L.G. Hayes tells Peck of his recent success with Pecks Tandem Fly on the Meramec River. Peck informed L.G. that the flies he had requested would be shipped under a separate cover. Peckinpaugh requested when Hayes made future orders of weighted casting flies that he specify the colors he desired. Peckinpaugh concludes by telling Hayes that nearby streams have been very low and fishing was hardly worthwhile. Peck incorporated both catalog and letterhead. This style catalog/folder where the cover doubles as a letterhead has only been seen for the years 1929 and 1930.



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Ernest H. Peckinpaugh assisting one of his fly-tying employees - 1950.



Ernest H. Peckinpaugh supervising workers at rear of fly-tying room in his Chattanooga manufacturing company.



John E. Peckinpaugh and Ernest H. Peckinpaugh of Chattanooga, and some of the flies they manufactured.



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