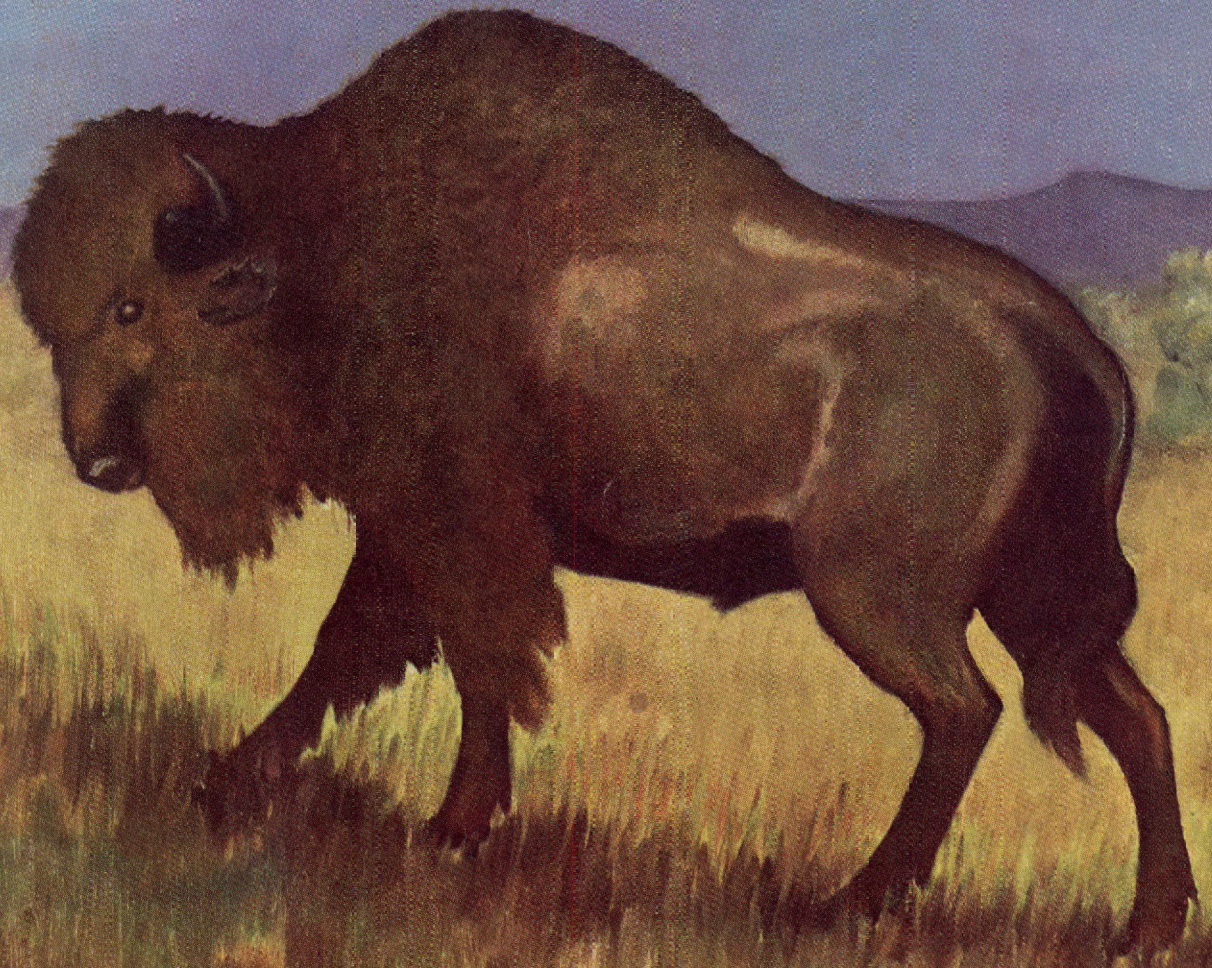


Texas Game and Fish

FEBRUARY

1956

20 CENTS



Whitcomb



Copyright 1956 by A. Menking

Meal for a predator . . .

. . . the never-ending wildlife drama of predator and prey is vividly caught in this remarkable photo of a South Texas rattlesnake swallowing a cottontail rabbit. The photo was taken by Alonzo Menking, Alice, while duck hunting west of Premont in December.

"The ducks began to come in just about the time we spotted the rattler," Menking relates. "I took the photo, went back to shoot the ducks, then returned to kill the snake. It was about four feet long and had ten rattles."

The camera was a 4x5 Speed Graphic.

Texas Game and Fish

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF OUR NATIVE GAME AND FISH; AND TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF HUNTING AND FISHING IN TEXAS.

February, 1956

Vol. XIV, No. 2

★ In This Issue ★

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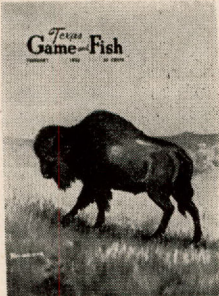
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The Cover

The almost legendary Bison or American Buffalo as painted by Sidney A. Wooldridge is an example of the large, brown animal with massive head that roamed the plains in huge herds. They provided most necessities of life for early inhabitants of this country but were hunted by the Indian and later the White Man to the point of extinction. See cover story, page 4.

Letters to . . .



Trophy Buck

Editor:

Attached is a photo of a big mule deer buck I killed in Colorado October 15, 1955. It has been entered in the Boone and Crockett Club competition for 1955, and I believe it has a good chance of placing high.

M. A. Story
638 Main Avenue
San Antonio 5, Texas

(The Boone and Crockett Club keeps official records for North American big game and also sponsors annual competitions for top trophies. Emphasis is placed on conformation as well as size. For further information, trophy owners may write The Boone and Crockett Club, 5 Tudor City Place, New York 17, New York.)

Prairie Chicken Range

Editor:

I read with great interest the article in the January issue by V. E. Lehmann about the prairie chicken. The shaded map accompanying the article shows the former range as coming no farther east than Jack County. I am sure this is an error.

Back in the 1890s I used to hunt them with a rifle in the high grama grass in the western part of this county—Collin—where they were so plentiful I could kill a dozen in an hour.

I'll explain about killing them with a rifle. The grass grew as high as a person's waist and looked like a wheat field in the wind. The prairie chickens, when flushed, would roar up to about as high as my head, then fly directly away, not making the slightest wobble. Anyone who could shoot a bottle off a post at forty feet could hit them

with a rifle.

I used a .32 Winchester, 1873 model, and once I killed nine straight and knocked the feathers out of the tenth. I recall this vividly, for my Uncle Tom had bet me a Barlow knife that he could kill more without a miss with his old muzzle-loading musket than I could with the rifle. He missed after hitting four straight.

They are long gone from this area. However, two years ago some boys killed a strange bird in that same locality and brought it to me for identification. It was a prairie chicken, perhaps the last one in the county and the first one I had seen in forty years.

Roy F. Hall
811 Barnes Street
McKinney, Texas

Editor:

I certainly appreciate the way you handled the prairie chicken article which I wrote for the January issue. However, I think the map showing prairie chicken distribution was a bit off.

Probably former ranges of both the lesser and the Attwater's prairie chickens were underestimated, and the presentation of present occupied territory was somewhat optimistic.

Val H. Lehmann
Wildlife Manager
King Ranch
Kingsville, Texas

(As noted from author Lehmann's letter, he did not submit the map used in conjunction with this article.)

(The map used was taken from the book "Principal Game Birds and Mammals of Texas" published by the Game and Fish Commission (\$2) and compiled by Commission personnel. The difficulty in establishing the exact former range of the prairie chicken is freely admitted in the book, and the map is offered only as approximate.)

(In discussing the difficulty of obtaining authentic records from many years past, the book says "Authentic records on the distribution of the . . . prairie chicken are scarce" and ". . . the margins of each range cannot now be accurately determined.")

(Reports such as that sent by Hall are invaluable in piecing together the past history of extinct or nearly-extinct species.)

Ambitious Rattler

Editor:

This is the photo of a big rattlesnake which attacked an automobile!

The snake struck the side of the car when J. L. Head, secretary-treasurer of the Valley Sportsmen's Club, and T. Henry Morrison were driving



through Cruz Verde Ranch five miles north of Raymondville.

When the two men stopped to kill the rattler, it led them on a chase of more than a hundred yards through the thick brush. They finally managed to pin it down with sticks long enough to kill it.

The rattler measured six feet, one inch and was seven inches in circumference. It wound up as steaks in the deep freezer.

Edwin W. Pryor
Valley Sportsmen's Club
P. O. Box 1882
Harlingen, Texas

Opinions Differ

Editor:

I am enclosing my subscription renewal at the increased rate—without a squawk.

Hal Ferrell
505 West Dabney St.
Cleburne, Texas

. . . don't renew my subscription. 100 per cent increase is too much at one time. You don't belong in the big league yet in my opinion.

C. C. Crawford
Buchanan Dam, Texas

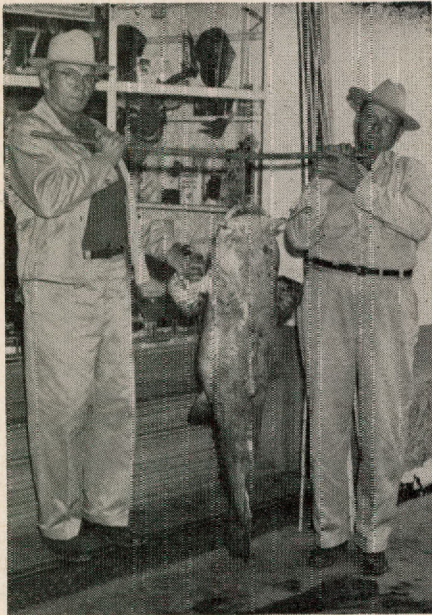
. . . at \$2 it's still worth more to WE TEXANS than any outdoors magazine on the market.

E. L. Farrow
P. O. Box 1471
Fort Worth, Texas

. . . you should have charged a lot more long ago!

Robert E. Wyche
225 North Avenue R
Lubbock, Texas

... the Editor



Record Breaker

Editor:

I am enclosing a photo of a 78-pound yellow catfish which I caught November 25, 1955. Needless to say, it was some job getting this big fellow into the boat, but I managed it successfully alone.

The fish was caught on a trotline in the Guadalupe River a couple of miles from Seguin near Lake Placid.

I am enclosing a clipping from Otto Peters' column in the Seguin ENTERPRISE which tells about this catch.

Charles O. Naumann
Route 3, Box 489
Seguin, Texas

(The clipping from the ENTERPRISE said:

"Charles Naumann has set a new catfishing record. Yes sir! Mr. Naumann brought in a 78-pound catfish the other day, and this beats old Otto Peters' record (which has stood since 1921) at 72 pounds. I have heard of bigger cats being caught in this county, but there is no official record to that effect, so Mr. Naumann is the new champ."

(That's a tremendous flathead (yellow) catfish from anyone's county! Note to Tennesseans: they grow big in Texas, too! [see article on page 16, keeping in mind that blue catfish normally grow much larger than flatheads].)

HOME TIES

Editor:

My wife and I are native Texans but have lived in South America for many years.

I had the pleasure of taking my three

Announcing

NEW RATES

for

TEXAS GAME & FISH MAGAZINE

\$2 per Year

Despite rapidly rising production costs during the past 10 years, *Texas Game and Fish* subscribers have continued to receive the magazine each month for only \$1 per year. That's less than 10 cents per copy and only about one-half the total production cost. To enable *Texas Game and Fish* to pay its own way WITHOUT lowering its present quality, it is necessary that rates be increased.

**We, therefore, announce with regrets
the following new rates:**

**All New Subscriptions
and All Renewals**

NOW \$2 per Year

Sorry, but state regulations REQUIRE that incorrect remittances be RETURNED to the sender. Therefore, readers may spare themselves time and inconvenience by remitting the correct amount.

children, all born in Peru, to the Texas State Capitol on a sight-seeing visit in the early part of this year. Among other literature we received in the ground floor rotunda of the Capitol building was a copy of TEXAS GAME AND FISH magazine. I found this magazine very interesting and it also should prove a medium to keep our children informed of the traditional outdoor life of Texas.

Enclosed is my check for a three-year subscription to your magazine. Thank you.

L. T. Hopson
Apartado 2783
Lima, Peru

Carp Canning Recipe

Editor:

In reply to the request by C. A. Wheeler of Austin, here is a recipe for canning carp used by Stanley Greenhill of Milford with much success.

Cut off heads and tails, to bleed.

Scale and wash. Cut in blocks that can be forced into jars. To each pint jar add 1 teaspoon salt, and 1 tablespoon of Wesson oil. Pack cold, seal and cook in pressure cooker at least 90 minutes for 10 pounds.

When used this will resemble pink salmon in taste and some like it even better.

D. B. Hull
Milford, Texas

Wrong Limb

Editor:

I feel that Mrs. Zinsmeyer ("Letters," May '55) and I have something in common.

Our dog "Skeeter" treed a ringtail cat, and in the fight Mr. Ringtail mistook my limb for a tree limb and came up almost to my face before realizing his mistake.

Mrs. Horace Greeley Wiley
2903 Del Curto Road
Austin, Texas



THE BISON

—vanquished monarch

The story of this month's cover subject

By **SHIRLEY RATISSEAU DIMMICK**
Staff Writer

I HAVE a daughter who thinks a buffalo nickel is the only kind worth five pennies. We can't figure it out, other than that she likes the animal whose picture is there. She has never seen a real, live buffalo, or bison, since few of the younger generation have. And those who have, saw them in the wire-fencing-cotton-candy-and-popcorn-like atmosphere of the zoo.

Buffalo are few here in the United States and Canada, compared to what they once were, and even buffalo nickels are becoming scarce. In addition to the Indians, early white settlers, and habitat changes, it would seem that the U. S. Mint is also opposed to the dwindling beasts.

Bison were the most gregarious of wild cattle and joined in huge herds that moved continually in search of forage. It has been estimated, by legend and scientifically, too, that there were between 75,000,000 and 125,000,000 bison in this country when the first white man followed the Indian on the "buffalo hunt." The words "buffalo hunt" have a distant, unfamiliar ring to them, but once such hunts were common. Indeed, the very first "world's championship" contest in America was a spectacular hunting stunt, staged

when Buffalo Bill Cody challenged Bill Comstock in competition for the title of the world's greatest buffalo hunter.

As late as 1729 buffaloes were still cropping the grass of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas. As time progressed, however, they became extinct east of the Mississippi River in the early 1800's.

The species reached its greatest number on the Central Great Plains, and at the end of the Civil War in 1865, they still covered that area. An often read quotation by Colonel Dodge, a famous Indian fighter, tells of a single herd that was "fifty miles wide and required five days to pass a given point."

It is sad to know that by 1889 there were only around 500 survivors in the entire United States, and even fewer in Canada. Governmental protection in both countries has built these herds back into the thousands, but they will never again reach their one-time peak in population.

The true bison has a large head, with a thick mane of hair on head, neck and shoulders. The hair on the rest of the body is thick and woolly in wintertime, and the horns are short and sharp. Both males and females are uniformly brown in color.

Most young are born in May and at birth have only a suggestion of humped shoulders. A cow, as a rule, has only one calf each year; twins are very rare. These calves are usually strong enough to follow the herd within two or three days, and they are much the same as domestic calves as they frisk playfully about their mothers.

Horns appear on the males in two months and on females slightly later. The shoulder hump becomes quite noticeable at this stage. Although not fully mature for about eight years, bison mate at three to four years, and cows may be productive for many years. In the summer during mating time, the bulls battle fiercely for favor among the cows, but they generally do not injure one another fatally.

For relief from flies and sun each year after shedding their heavy winter coat, they roll and kick and paw dust holes which fill with water, and make mud wallows.

Bison carry their heads lowered and make up in weight what they lack in height. They do not exceed five and three quarter feet in height, but the weight may be well over 2000 pounds, with the bulls weighing 500 to 600 pounds more than the cows.

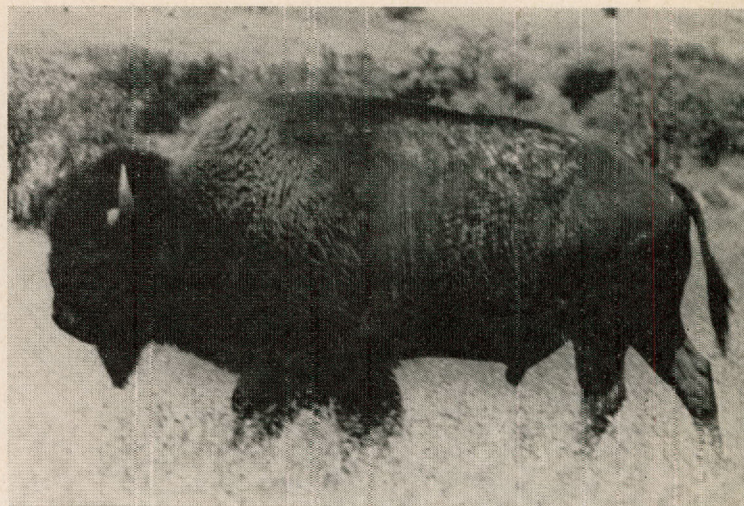
The sight of buffalo is not keen, so they rely upon hearing and sense of smell to warn them of danger. And when danger threatened in the old days on the prairie, many tales of the resulting stampedes were told and have been handed down in legends. It is said the earth seemed to rock and tremble, as bison by the tens of thousands stampeded, running shoulder to shoulder—one mass of shaggy animals, cows, calves, and bulls, both young and old. The young, full of strength and incredible stamina, wedged so tightly together in their wild run that horns struck horns in a loud, sharp clatter. The old with tangled manes yellowed with age and horns splintered at the points from some former combat.

Bison were known to run for miles and miles and, unlike cattle, never panic and trample each other to death. There seemed to be order and planned individual movement in spite of the dust, noise, headlong rush and the great number of buffaloes involved.

The leader most always was the finest cow of the herd. She would be in good condition and able to run long distances. The female leads the herd or flock in many species of animals, notably the elephant herds of Africa and our own domestic sheep and goats. Following her, the bison crossed streams, ravines, and mountains, and plunged with outstretched tails from the edge of an embankment to a slope below them without a single animal going down. Cattle bridge such gaps with the dead forms of their own numbers, but not bison.

The main factor causing these stampedes was the hunter of these animals. As soon as the Indians got horses from the European settlers, and began taming the wild horses of that time, the hunt and the beginning of their entertainment was on.

It took a sure-footed horse and a better rider to chase the herd and bring one down. A wounded buffalo was



AMERICAN
BISON

Above: Bull

Right: Cow
and calf.

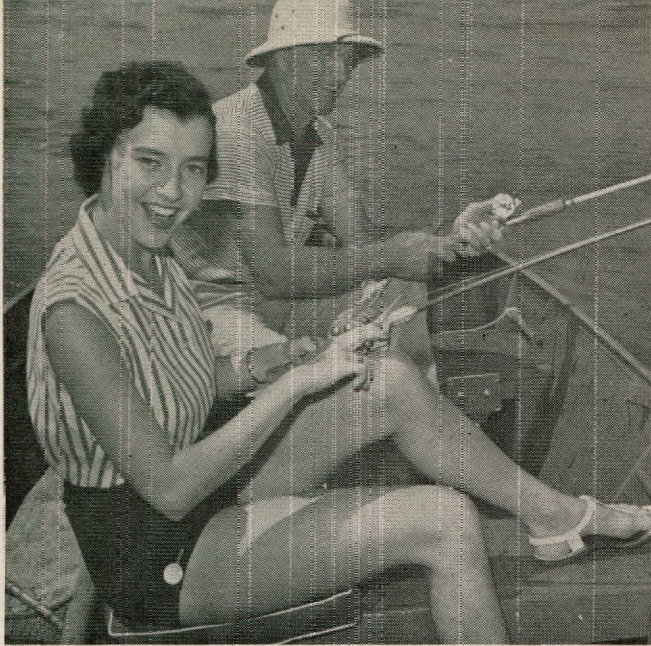


likely to pivot and charge both horse and rider, killing them both. If a rider was thrown, he was not likely to escape the pounding hoofs and sharp horns of the herd, or the similar fate of being crushed beneath thousands of pounds of wounded and angry buffalo.

Besides man, the bison had few predators. Wolves, bears, members of the cat family and coyotes preyed on the sick and weak and more often on the carcasses of the dead. It was common for wolf packs to hang about the flanks of a great herd, and it is possible that Indians located these herds at night by the howling of the wolves and began their hunts with dawn. The Indian utilized the buffalo for clothing, food, shelter, and implements. The successful hunt was also interwoven with their religion.

As the settlers entered the west, they, too, depended upon the species for food. A market developed in the eastern states for buffalo robes, smoked buffalo tongues, and bones. As the railroads pushed into the west, the utilization turned into slaughter. Railroads even ran excursions for shooting buffalo, which were then left to rot on the prairie. The regular passenger trains were often stopped by dense herds of buffalo, and many times the passengers on the trains shot the animals "just for fun."

• Continued on page 20



Where there's a king, there should be a queen. Rob Hughes, of Lufkin, Texas, winner of Savannah Tennessee's, famous Catfish Derby four consecutive years gives a fishing lesson to pretty Derby Queen Mary Nell Guinn.

and saw Hughes. "How many you going to get today, Rob?" he asked.

Hughes looked thoughtfully out over the river. "Oh, about 80, I guess."

The fisherman sat for a long minute looking silently up at Hughes. Then, without a word, he gathered up his equipment, got out of his boat, and walked back up the hill to his car. "If Rob says he's going to catch 80 fish," he told his friend, "there ain't no use of me even going out there. He'll come in with them 80 fish and I'd be doing good to get 60."

There's something besides just his title of "King of the Catfishermen" that makes Rob Hughes different from other fishermen. For one thing, the genial, good humored Texan is a real catfish fan. Where lots of other fishermen wouldn't even cross a creek to catch a catfish, Hughes travels a thousand miles a year for the chance. He has little use for any other kind of fish.

Then, too, there's no such thing to Hughes as a day when the catfish aren't biting, despite the worried predictions of other anglers and the gloomy forecasts of calendars and almanacs. Moreover, as most local fishermen know, he can predict his daily catches with

Even the Tennesseans had to admit
this Texan was

Catfishin'
of the

Toward the end of the 1955 Catfish Derby, a month-long fishing marathon held annually at Pickwick Dam near Savannah, Tenn., two fishermen sat talking at a table in Bill Bellis' Hotel.

"Tomorrow," one of them said, looking across the room at a lanky, cigar-smoking Texan, "I'm going to catch more fish than he does!" He was referring to Robert H. Hughes of Lufkin, a man who took his Texas fishing savvy to Tennessee and earned a reputation of being able to catch more catfish than anyone else and became the Derby's undisputed King of the Catfishermen.

The second man hardly lifted his eyes from his plate. "Any day you catch more fish than Rob Hughes," he said, "I'll buy you the best steak dinner in town."

Thus the stage was set for one of the shortest fishing contests on record. It was so short, in fact, that Hughes never even knew about it.

At six o'clock the next morning when Hughes ambled down to the boat dock to begin his morning's fishing, the fisherman was already there, loading his equipment in a boat. While Hughes pattered around with his boat, he hastily threw the rest of his tackle in the boat and climbed in, determined to get the first start.

Just then the dock operator came out of the walkway

Transplanted Texan Johnny Bellis sits astride a giant yellow catfish from Tennessee's Pickwick dam. Johnny's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bellis, formerly of Grand Prairie, operate an unusual resort called the Motel—a converted Tennessee River boat with hotel accommodations and dining room.



an accuracy that's so uncanny that it is almost unbelievable.

Hughes' claim to the title, "King of the Catfishermen," rests on the fact that he has caught more catfish during each annual Catfish Derby than any other fisherman. During the first Derby, held in July of 1952, he landed 1,306 blue cats, most of them ranging from 1 to 4 lbs. In 1953, he again caught 1,306. Then, in 1954, he fell off to 1,070.

Hughes entered the 1955 Derby, which began on July 1st and was to run until midnight, July 31st, determined to break his previous records. By the middle of the month, he was far ahead of his catches of 1952 and 1953.

In recognition of his four years' retention of the "Catfish King" title, the Hardin County Boosters' Club, sponsoring organization for the Derby, had decided to award Hughes a trophy at the end of the 1955 Derby. Jarvis Williams, president of the Boosters' Club, and Cecil Parris, originator of the Derby, totaled Hughes' catches for the first two weeks and estimated his catch for the entire month of July at 1,650 fish. They had this figure engraved on a handsome trophy.

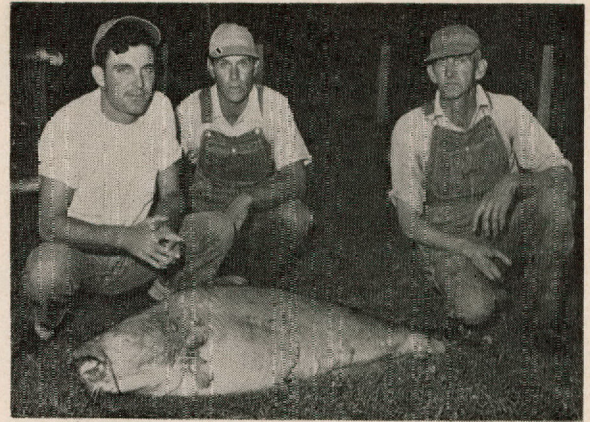
Champion World

On July 31st, when the trophy was presented, Hughes was well ahead of his catches for the three previous years, but he was a few fish short of the 1,650 on the trophy.

A lot of fishermen would have accepted the trophy and been content to change the subject if anyone ever asked whether or not they actually caught 1,650 fish. Not Hughes. He picked up his rod and reel and went back to fishing. When he was through, he had brought in 1,652 catfish.

Despite his phenomenal success at catfishing, Hughes has no secret bait, no special tackle, and no mysterious fishing hole. He uses a standard reel, a "muskie" rod—a rod slightly longer and stiffer than the ordinary casting rod—20-lb. test line, and a hook and sinker arrangement called a "triangle rig." He fishes directly below Pickwick Dam in the swift current caused by the water pouring through the turbines. It is the place where most of the other catfishermen around Pickwick fish.

For bait, he uses shad minnows, shad entrails, and



Pau Walker, Aton Cupp, and Kilborn Walker of Cifton, Tenn., and the 102-pound blue cat that was almost worth \$500.

Fort Worth Gets Into the Act, Too

The Fort Worth aquarium, hearing of the giant blue catfish frequenting Pickwick dam near Savannah, Tenn., sent word it would like to buy one weighing over 100 pounds.

That gave the Hardin County Boosters Club, sponsors of the annual Catfish Derby an idea. They offered a reward of \$500 to the first angler who brought in a blue cat of 100 pounds or over which remained alive long enough to reach Fort Worth. There was a catch to it, though. The Fort Worth aquarium had to agree to place a sign near the catfish exhibit proclaiming Savannah "The Catfish Capital of the World."

The Walkers, shown above, caught one weighing 102 pounds June 11, 1955, but it died before a truck from Fort Worth reached Savannah.

Several fishermen since have come up with ninety to ninety-five pounders. One enterprising fellow stuffed several pounds of shad down a fish that missed the 100-pound mark by only a few pounds. But his fish died, too—perhaps from overeating.

Derby officials, now familiar with all the weight-increasing tricks, ranging from over-feeding to stuffing a fish with lead shot, examine each fish carefully. They have assured the Fort Worth aquarium that when a big blue catfish is sent, the 100-pound-plus weight will be valid.

small pieces of cut shad. On occasion, he has used worms and night-crawlers successfully, but shad remains his favorite bait and he relies almost entirely on it.

One of his most successful baiting arrangements consists of a combination of shad entrails and shad minnows. Using three or four hooks on his line, he baits one or two with small pieces of entrail and the rest with minnows—the smaller the better. "When the catfish see those minnows fooling around the entrails," Hughes explains, "they figure it's a natural set-up and they can't keep from going after them."

In the four years that he has competed in the Catfish Derby, Hughes has caught 5,570 fish, an average of nearly 50 each for every day he fished. Although he holds close to this average even when other fishermen are accomplishing little more than wetting their lines,

● Continued on page 28

WANTED!

Increased Hunting Pressure

REWARD: Better Hunting

**The land can carry just so much game through wintertime.
If hunters don't take it, nature will!**

By W. S. JENNINGS, Asst. Director, Wildlife Restoration

Every year in Texas a crop of game grows to maturity and dies. This crop can either be harvested by hunters and used—or it can die from other causes and be wasted.

After any species of game has reached the carrying capacity of the land on which it lives, failure to hunt it does NOT mean that there will be a larger number of that species the next hunting season.

Recently developed game management techniques have aided our wildlife biologists in becoming more adept in determining the amount of game on an area. Studies, during the past year on our wildlife management areas, have shown that under normal hunting conditions and seasons the crop which SHOULD be harvested is NOT taken by the hunters.

Hunting regulations should provide for the harvesting of the largest possible crop which does not harm the breeding stock. The present hunting laws, for some species, in Texas do not provide sufficient time for the hunters to harvest the number of animals which should be taken. On other species the season may be too long. In Mason County, for instance, the past deer hunting season was shortened from 45 days to 15 days. In spite of the shorter season, more deer were harvested this year during the short season than were taken in 1954 during a 45-day season. This occurred even though census lines showed there were fewer deer in the county this year than last.

A possible explanation is that hunters make a concerted effort to get their deer when they know they have only a short time to hunt, but they may delay their planning and not pursue the hunt with as much enthusiasm when they know they have a longer period in which to hunt. Other states have found that lengthening the hunting season does not necessarily result in increased kills of game animals.

Experiments have shown that hunters lose interest as game becomes scarcer. In no experiment has it been possible to induce hunters to continue hunting on a study area until the game population had been re-

duced to a disastrously low point. Doubling the length of the season can be expected to increase the kill only about one-third or less.

In order to prevent damage to the range on which the game lives and to prevent waste of this crop of the land, the annual increase should be removed and used by man through hunting. Game populations are highest in the fall, following summer production of young. But game cannot be stock-piled. The number of animals surviving the next spring is limited by the carrying capacity of the land in mid-winter, when usually it is at the lowest point. Biologists have found that high populations which are not hunted in the fall are reduced by mid-winter food shortages to the same levels as populations on land which is hunted sensibly. Game actually prospers better on areas where the surplus is killed off each fall. Hunting merely removes some of the animals which otherwise would die of starvation, predation, or freezing.

It is very difficult to over-hunt a game range which has adequate food and cover, unless a concerted effort is made, on a year-round basis, to wipe out the population.

Another safety factor which protects game species from over-hunting is the fact that most species are very prolific. Where high kills are made during the fall, the surviving breeders have more success in rearing their young the following year, due to the habitat being less crowded and more food being available.

Thus we see that game populations tend to protect themselves from over-hunting by becoming increasingly difficult to locate as their numbers dwindle and by reproducing rapidly the next year after being heavily hunted.

Present game management research in Texas is designed to find methods whereby all game species can be utilized to the fullest extent by the hunting public and still retain a sufficient breeding population to insure a maximum production each year. Only through adequate research can we find these methods.



Townsend Miller

Part of some 150 delegates from 34 local outdoor clubs who met in San Antonio January 21.

TEXAS OUTDOOR CLUBS UNITE

Representatives of 34 local outdoor clubs create a statewide federation—Sportsmen's Clubs of Texas, Inc.

By TOWNSEND MILLER, Editor

TEXAS outdoor sportsmen now have a statewide organization. Born in San Antonio January 21 at the second of a series of organizational meetings, it was christened Scoti (Sportsmen's Clubs of Texas, Inc.) by a vote of delegates present.

Some 150 enthusiastic delegates, representing 34 local clubs from throughout the state, were on hand for the big event. The new organization will function as a federation of independent local clubs, serving as a united front for sportsmen in outdoor matters on a state or national level. Plans call for SCOTI to accept an invitation to represent Texas sportsmen in the National Wildlife Federation, which embraces all 43 states except Georgia.

A third meeting has been scheduled at San Antonio March 24, at which time a formal constitution, now being prepared, will be adopted and permanent officers elected. Meanwhile, a Constitution and By-Laws Committee and a Nominating Committee appointed at the January meeting are putting the constitution in final form and scanning the state for officer material.

A proposed constitution drawn up by a committee appointed at an earlier meeting September 24 was read by Wilson Southwell, San Antonio, chairman. This constitution embraced methods of finance, membership requirements, purposes and goals of the organization, an outline of necessary officers and directors, and other pertinent factors. Delegates voted to

follow this proposed constitution closely, and a committee was appointed to work with legal assistance to prepare it in legal form for final adoption. Members of this committee also were authorized to apply for a state charter prior to the March 24 meeting.

Temporary officers elected at the first meeting in September were re-elected to serve until permanent officers are installed in March. They are Ed Harper, San Antonio, president; Baylor Bell, Corpus Christi, vice-president; and J. C. Gordon, San Antonio, treasurer.

In choosing the new organization's name, delegates at the January 21 meeting voted on five names submitted by a name committee. The name selected, Sportsmen's Clubs of Texas, Inc., was suggested by Roy Swann, Outdoors Editor of the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*.

Principal objectives of SCOTI as outlined in the proposed constitution read by Southwell included the promotion of proper scientific management of all Texas wildlife and fish, the passage of laws beneficial to game and fish and enforcement and observation of these laws, and the exertion of influence to promote public sentiment for proper scientific management.

The rebuilding and preservation of natural food and habitat was stressed, and delegates soundly approved Southwell's suggestion that the first goal of SCOTI would be to "transfer regulatory responsibility

• Continued on page 30

What Happens on the Land Effects What Happens in the Water

OVERGRAZING--

an enemy of

Good Fishing

Cows and sheep live on the land. Fish live in the water. Offhand, there doesn't seem to be much connection between the two. But, what the livestock do on the land can affect your fishing very decidedly. The cows and sheep, indirectly, can help to improve conditions for fish; they can destroy fish habitat, too.

We know of some rolling country where the farmers raised many acres of row crops—corn and tobacco. On the cultivated hillsides, mud washed down hill during heavy rains. The mud entered the streams. So, the rivers and lakes in this area were usually very muddy. The game fish, which feed by sight, couldn't find their food. The food was scarce, too, because it couldn't grow well in the dark, muddy water. There weren't many fish in this water. You couldn't catch many of them when you went fishing.

In this area, the farming has changed. The farmers began to raise more cattle, less row crops. Some of the land which had been cultivated was made into pasture-

land. Grass was grown in many of the fields which formerly supported corn and tobacco.

Then, during rains, most of the water soaked into the soil. The grass held the soil on the land. It no longer washed into the streams. The streams became clear again.

The game fish could see their food again. There was more food for these fish, too. Fishing has improved greatly in this area. Indirectly, putting more land into pasture, and less into row crops, meant improved fishing.

In this instance, grazing restored the fishing. In many places, though, overgrazing destroys the fishing. There is overgrazing on some of our federal land, and also on some private land.

When too many livestock are grazed on the pasture, the grasses are destroyed. The rain water no longer soaks into the ground. It rushes down the hillsides and into the streams, where it causes floods. When less soaks



Overgrazing . . .
. . . poor fishing



By DR. R. W. ESCHMEYER

Sport Fishing Institute

Weeds gradually replace the grasses. Too, the gulleys that form don't produce food for cattle and sheep. Where the land is grazed too heavily, it will support fewer livestock in the future.

Many farmers have learned that overgrazing harms the pasture. They have also learned how to improve their pastureland by fertilizing and planting suitable grasses and other food for the livestock. They now understand that the all-important topsoil must be kept on the land, and that much of the rain must soak into the soil. This improvement in the farm pasture will benefit our fishing.

The most serious overgrazing now tends to be on federal land, on the lands operated by the Bureau of Land Management of the U. S. Department of Interior and by the U. S. Forest Service. These public lands, especially those of the Forest Service, attract some millions of anglers each year. In the National Forests, alone, there are 81,000 miles of fishing streams and over 2¼ million acres of lakes. There are 35 million visits per year by persons seeking outdoor recreation.

We can't let overgrazing on our public lands destroy the fishing waters.

There happens to be a close connection between cattle and sheep—and fishing. Where the pastureland is properly grazed there can be good angling in the streams and lakes of the watershed. But, overgrazing destroys your fishing.

into the ground, the springs stop flowing during long dry spells. So, we have high water in the streams at times, and very low water or none at all at other times.

With highly uneven flow, the streams are poor habitats for fish.

Water rushing down the hillsides will cause gulleys on overgrazed land. The soil is bare in these gulleys. Each heavy rain deepens them by carrying away more of the soil. It washes into the streams, where it destroys fish food, and muddies the water.

Too much grazing harms the streams in other ways, too. The cows and sheep destroy the bushes which grow along the edges of streams. These bushes furnish shade, keeping the water cool. They also prevent erosion and collapse of overhanging stream banks. Too much grazing can destroy the hiding places of the fish. It can change a fine well-shaped stream into an open ditch which can support very few fish.

Overgrazing hurts the pastures as well as the streams.

Proper grazing . . .
. . . good fishing



Where to Find Your Local Game Warden

Clip and Save This Directory

Your game warden is more than an enforcement officer. He is your local representative of the Game and Fish Commission. He is at your service to issue a license, to explain the work and services offered by the Commission, to interpret the game laws for you, or to help you in any way he can. Get better acquainted with him—he is there to serve you.

Quail Restocking Program . . .

If you are interested in obtaining quail from the Commission's quail hatchery, your local warden is the first person to contact for information concerning the required habitat improvement measures and the procedure for filing applications.

Information about game laws . . .

A summary of game and fish laws is contained in a "Digest of Game and Fish Laws," published by the Commission and available without charge from wardens and most license agents and sporting goods stores or from the Game and Fish Commission, Austin 14, Texas. Since laws on some species vary in different counties, it is well to check laws in the county in which you plan to hunt or fish.

GAME WARDEN REGIONAL SUPERVISORS

F. M. Cowsert	1905 Stamford, Austin
H. A. Ellis	624 Troup Highway, Tyler
A. W. Lewis	First Floor, County Courthouse, Dallas
J. H. Maggard	2101 Teckla Blvd., Amarillo
Frank Mebane (Coastal)	Box 562, Alvin
Lewis Morris	County Courthouse, Beaumont
G. M. Stricklin	Box 1186, Beeville
Herbert Ward	Box 106, Catarina
E. F. Wehmeyer (Coastal)	Box 353, Palacios
A. R. Williams	Box 995, Alpine
John Wood	Box 223, Brownwood

LAKE WARDENS

B. Dam	J. B. Weaver	Woodville
Buchanan	R. L. Flanagan	Box 747, Burnet
Caddo	T. C. Browning, Jr.	Caddo Lake, Karnack
Corpus Christi	F. C. Henze	Box 675, Mathis
Falcon	Jack Armstrong	Box 72, Zapata
	Harvey Adams	Zapata
Texarkana	Phil Brooks	808 Hickman, Wake Village
Whitney	Louis Clymer	Box 456, Whitney

Wardens by Counties

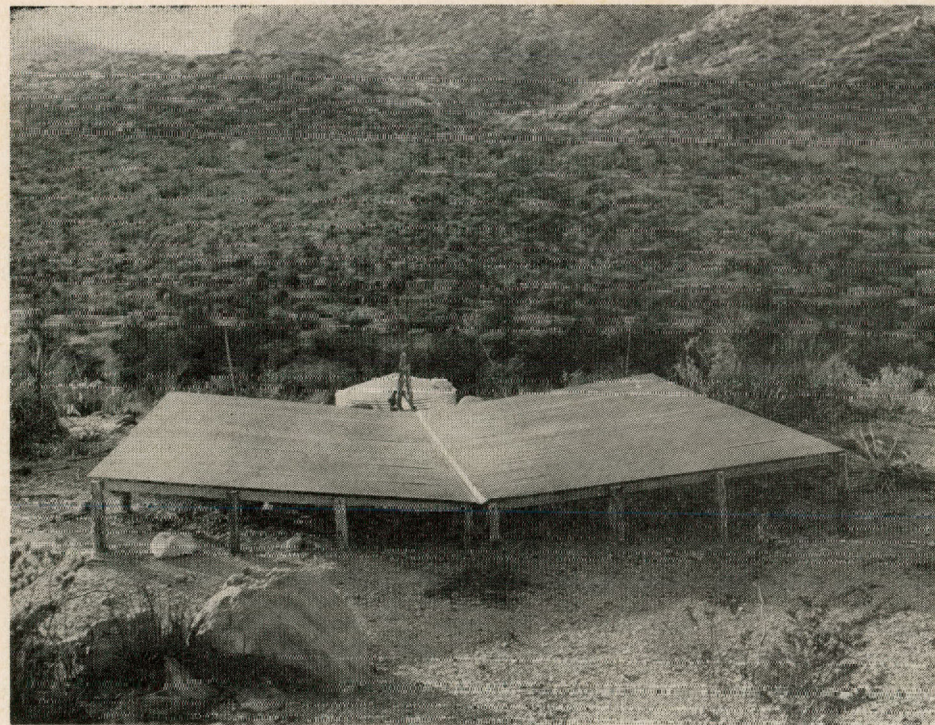
County	Warden	Address
Anderson	Clarence D. Kornegay	Box 101, Palestine
Andrews	Noel J. Head	Box 991, Seminole
Angelina	H. W. (Bill) Seago	Sheriff's Office, Lufkin
Aransas	M. B. Mullinax Earl Sloan	Box 274, Rockport Box 247, Aransas Pass
Archer	W. C. Cave Morris E. Stallcup	2012 Elizabeth, Wichita Falls 3114 Sherwood, Wichita Falls
Armstrong	Lake L. Black	829 Maryland St., Amarillo
Atascosa	Bubba Read Frank W. Smith	P. O. Box 605, Pleasanton Box 32, Pearsall
Austin	E. E. Hargett	Box 95, Bellville
Bailey	Patrick L. Donnelly	Box 149, Littlefield
Bandera	L. D. Nuckles R. L. Stevens	Mico Box 54-A, Bandera
Bastrop	Newton F. Pennington	1607 Wilson, Bastrop
Baylor	C. T. Pittman	Box 12, Seymour
Bee	Curtis L. Oswalt	Box 7, Beeville
Bell	Floyd I. Gaby	Box 3127, Temple
Bexar	A. E. Hitzfelder Alton Willman	County Courthouse, San Antonio 132 Honeysuckle Dr., San Antonio
Blanco	Travis M. Gilbreath John Taylor	Box 163, Johnson City Box 204, Marble Falls
Borden	William H. Pratt	Box 176, Lamesa
Bosque	Clifford H. Johnson	Box 237, Meridian
Bowie	John A. Shaddix	Box 783, New Boston
Brazoria	W. C. Childress H. T. Mayne	Box 181, Pearland Box 566, Angleton
Brazos	J. D. Robertson	Box 894, Bryan
Brewster	Sanford DeVoll	Box 698, Alpine
Briscoe	Woody Pond	Box 801, Canyon
Brooks	Harvey Schoen	Box 393, Falfurrias
Brown	Harol D. Penney	Box 473, Brownwood
Burleson	Paul Bogasch	Box 516, Brenham
Burnet	(E. of Hy. 83) J. T. Taylor	Box 204, Marble Falls

(Burnet County continued on next page)

County	Warden	Address	County	Warden	Address
<i>(Burnet County continued from preceding page)</i>					
	R. L. Flanagan	Box 747, Burnet	Dickens	Cecil Fox	424 W. Harris, Spur
	Billy Sprott	Box 703, Burnet	Dimmit	J. E. Pond	Box 401, Carrizo Springs
Caldwell	Del Bowers	Blanco Star Route, San Marcos	Donley	Walter Hicks	Box 43, Memphis
Calhoun	Herman Schliesing	Box 555, Port Lavaca	Duval	George H. Olbein	Box 222, Hebronville
Callahan	J. D. Jones	Box 401, Abilene	Eastland	Maurice S. Dry	207 W. Sadosa
Cameron	Robert Middleton	Box 1550, Brownsville	Ector	R. E. Miller	Pecos
	William Stewart	Box 1444, Harlingen	Edwards	Ellis V. Martin	Box 563, Rocksprings
Camp	Robert B. Jesse	Box 366, Gilmer	Ellis	A. A. Stein	1st Floor, County Courthouse, Dallas
Carson	Jack Woodford	Box 26, Miami	El Paso	N. L. Chamberlain	Box 1423, El Paso
Cass	Phil Brooks	808 Hickman, Wake Village	Erath	Edgar Sturdivant	Box 588, Stephenville
Castro	Patrick L. Donnelly	Box 149, Littlefield	Falls	Jack Schuh	308 S. Ross Ave., Mexia
Chambers	Olan Davis	County Courthouse, Beaumont	Fannin	Clarence Jones	Trenton
	Geo. B. Killebrew	Box 24, High Island	Fayette	Leo Kohleffel	Box 721, Columbus
	Geo. Miller	3126 6th Ave., Port Arthur		T. T. Waddell	Box 171, Eagle Lake
	Chas. Short	Anahuac	Fisher	M. T. Reinhardt	1302 Josephine, Sweetwater
Cherokee	Jack Tisdale	General Delivery, Rusk	Floyd	Weldon Fromm	Box 422, Matador
Childress	W. D. Hicks	Box 43, Memphis	Foard	C. L. Boynton	510 W. 10th, Quanah
Clay	W. C. Cave	2012 Elizabeth, Wichita Falls	Fort Bend	H. T. Mayne	Box 566, Angleton
	Morris E. Stallecup	3114 Sherwood, Wichita Falls	Franklin	John L. Jackson	Box 425, Sulphur Springs
Cochran	Patrick L. Donnelly	Box 149, Littlefield	Freestone	Brent E. Bergstrom	Box 324, Fairfield
Coke	Henry B. Burkett	1816 Freeland Ave., San Angelo	Frio	Frank Smith	Box 32, Pearsall
	James J. White	1415 S. Van Buren, San Angelo	Gaines	Noel J. Head	Box 991, Seminole
Coleman	Harol D. Penney	Box 473, Brownwood	Galveston	J. W. Worthington	Box 113, High Island
Collin	Charles R. McCallum	Wylie		R. Z. Finchum	2313 Ave. J, Galveston
Collingsworth	G. P. Davis	Box 326, Shamrock		(pollution only)	
Colorado	T. T. Waddell	Box 171, Eagle Lake	Garza	Wm. V. Lowry	Box 704, Jayton
	Leo Kohleffel	Box 721, Columbus	Gillespie	Adolph Heep	Box 66, Fredericksburg
Comal	W. F. Sumblin	Rt. 1, Box 120, New Braunfels	Glasscock	W. H. Pratt	Box 176, Lamesa
Comanche	Maurice S. Dry	207 W. Sadosa, Eastland	Goliad	W. D. Henry	Goliad
Concho	William F. Bennet, Jr.	Box 307, Brady	Gonzales	Emmett Wolfsdorff	Rt. 1, Hallettsville
Cooke	Lonnie R. Wooten	1812 Buck Street, Gainesville	Gray	Jack Woodford	Box 26, Miami
Coryell	Hubert Brooks	Box 1623, Waco	Grayson	Chas. H. Lawrence	Rt. 1, Pottsboro
Cottle	Weldon Fromm	Box 422, Matador	Gregg	Bert G. Cade	Box 85, Henderson
Crane	R. E. Miller	Pecos	Grimes	Robert Lys	Box 604, Navasota
Crockett	John A. Lockett	Box 735, Ozona	Guadalupe	E. E. Hollamon	Box 825, Seguin
Crosby	Cecil Fox	Box 295, Spur	Hale	Wm. V. Riddle	2608 37th St., Lubbock
Culberson	W. T. Rinehart	Box 716, Van Horn	Hall	W. D. Hicks	Box 43, Memphis
	Geo. Vickers	Dell City	Hamilton	Clifford H. Johnson	Box 237, Meridian
Dallam	Jess Felts	Box 727, Dalhart	Hansford	Starkey Whitehorn	Box 103, Borger
Dallas	A. A. Stein	1st Floor, County Courthouse, Dallas	Hardeman	Charles L. Boynton	510 W. 10th St., Quanah
Dawson	William H. Pratt	Box 176, Lamesa	Hardin	Olan Davis	County Courthouse, Beaumont
Deaf Smith	Calhoun Lovelace	Box 226, Vega	Harris	Robert L. Cross, Jr.	1104 Prudential Ins. Bldg., Houston
Delta	John L. Jackson	Box 425, Sulphur Springs		Martin A. Peterson	General Delivery, Humble
Denton	J. Thomas Daniel	Box 734, Denton		Joe Brower	1104 Prudential Ins. Bldg., Houston
DeWitt	C. D. Edmondson	509 4th St., Cuero		C. E. Beazley	Rt. 3, Box 563-A, Houston
					Sheldon Reservoir
				C. J. Hale	Box 307, LaPorte

County	Warden	Address	County	Warden	Address
Harrison	T. C. Browning	Caddo Lake, Karnack	Lavaca	Emmett Wolfsdorff	Rt. 1, Hallettsville
Hartley	Jess Felts	Box 727, Dalhart	Lee	Newton F. Pennington	1607 Wilson, Bastrop
Haskell	Harry B. Iverson	Box 176, Throckmorton	Leon	Seth Taylor	Box 95, Normangee
Hays	Del Bowers	Blanco Star Route, San Marcos	Liberty	J. D. Clay	General Delivery, Liberty
Hemphill	P. D. Moseley	Box 337, Canadian	Limestone	Jack Schuh	308 S. Ross, Mexia
Henderson	Fred Gilliam	Box 746, Athens	Lipscomb	P. D. Moseley	Box 337, Canadian
Hidalgo	Eugene O. Willmann	Box 87, Edinburg	Live Oak	B. C. Peebles	Box 24, George West
	W. J. Frazier			F. C. Henze	Box 675, Mathis
Hill	Louis Clymer	Box 456, Whitney	Llano	J. C. Moore	Box 283, Llano
Hockley	Patrick L. Donnelly	Box 149, Littlefield	Loving	Robert E. Miller	Box 343, Pecos
Hood	Edgar Sturdivant	Box 588, Stephenville	Lubbock	William V. Riddle	2608 37th St., Lubbock
Hopkins	John L. Jackson	Box 425, Sulphur Springs	Lynn	William V. Riddle	2608 37th St., Lubbock
Houston	Thomas A. Hughes	Box 511, Groveton	Madison	Seth Taylor	Box 95, Normangee
Howard	William H. Pratt	Box 176, Lamesa	Marion	Bill Belote	Box 209, Jefferson
Hudspeth	Geo. Vickers	Dell City		T. C. Browning	Caddo Lake, Karnack
Hunt	Charles R. McCallum	Wylie		(Caddo Lake only)	
Hutchinson	Starkey V. Whitehorn	Box 103, Borger	Martin	Wm. H. Pratt	Box 176, Lamesa
Irion	James J. White	1415 S. Van Buren, San Angelo	Mason	D. V. Williams	Box 576, Mason
	Henry B. Burkett	1816 Freeland Ave., San Angelo	Matagorda	Harold W. Martin	Box 1426, Bay City
Jack	J. T. Hooten	Box 261, Jacksboro		C. F. Ray	Box 1346, Bay City
Jackson	Travis L. Hobbs	Edna	Maverick	C. M. McBee	Box 213, Brackettville
Jasper	J. W. Kincannon	Box 313, Jasper	Medina	August Timmerman	Box 373, Hondo
Jeff Davis	Clarence Vann	Box 1101, Marfa		L. D. Nuckles	Mico
Jefferson	R. E. Martin	Port Acres	Menard	W. G. Craig	Box 776, Menard
Jim Hogg	George Holbein	Box 222, Hebbronville	Midland	W. H. Pratt	Box 176, Lamesa
Jim Wells	Harvey H. Schoen	Box 393, Falfurrias	Milam	Ross Seale	202 Norwood Lane, Hearne
Johnson	John R. Hill	Box 124, Cleburne	Mills	Junior L. Briggs	Box 275, San Saba
Jones	J. D. Jones	Box 401, Abilene	Mitchell	Malcolm T. Reinhardt	Box 859, Sweetwater
Karnes	Curtis L. Oswalt	Box 7, Beeville	Montague	Lonnie Wooten	1812 Buck St., Gainesville
Kaufman	Murrell B. Hopkins	Box 407, Kaufman	Montgomery	Chas. V. Kincannon	Box 188, Conroe
Kendall	Bill Garrett	Comfort	Moore	Starkey V. Whitehorn	Box 103, Borger
Kenedy	William H. Gooch	Box 653, Raymondville	Morris	Wardlow Northam	Box 431, Mt. Pleasant
Kent	Wm. V. Lowry	Box 704, Jayton	Motley	Weldon Fromm	Box 422, Matador
Kerr	Jack Gregory	511 Josephine, Kerrville	McCulloch	Wm. F. Bennett, Jr.	Box 307, Brady
Kimble	Robert S. Evins	420 S. 16th St., Junction	McLennan	Hubert Brooks	Box 1623, Waco
King	Cecil Fox	424 W. Harris, Spur	McMullen	Bill Ray Hoyle	Box 23, Tilden
Kinney	C. M. McBee	Box 213, Brackettville	Nacogdoches	Rix Duke	213 Muller, Nacogdoches
Kleberg	J. L. McDougald	Box 282, Kingsville	Navarro	Fred Gilliam	Box 746, Athens
	Max C. Kluge	2927 Lawnview, Corpus Christi	Newton	J. W. Kincannon	Box 313, Jasper
Knox	C. T. Pittman	Box 12, Seymour		Joe Murphy	Buna
Lamar	R. H. Burks	Box 521, Paris	Nolan	Malcolm T. Reinhardt	1302 Josephine, Sweetwater
Lamb	Patrick L. Donnelly	Box 149, Littlefield	Nueces	Max C. Kluge	2927 Lawnview, Corpus Christi
Lampasas	Billy M. Sprott	Box 703, Burnet		J. L. McDougald	Box 282, Kingsville
La Salle	Warren Guthrie	Box 31, Encinal		Dave Sellstrom	Room 222, 1220 S. Staples, Corpus Christi
	Russell N. Lancaster	Box 652, Cotulla			

County	Warden	Address	County	Warden	Address
Ochiltree	P. D. Moseley	Box 26, Miami	Sutton	Nolan W. Johnson	Box 5481, Sonora
Oldham	Calhoun Lovelace	Box 226, Vega	Swisher	Woody Pond	Box 801, Canyon
Orange	Olan Davis	County Courthouse, Beaumont	Tarrant	Harold A. Bierman	County Courthouse, Fort Worth
	George Miller	3126 6th Ave., Port Arthur	Taylor	John D. Jones	Box 401, Abilene
Palo Pinto	Leon Stowe	Box 265, Graford	Terrell	T. F. Wheelis	Box 783, Fort Stockton
	W. T. Harris	Box 284, Mineral Wells	Terry	Noel J. Head	Box 991, Seminole
Panola	Joe Riggs	Carthage	Throckmorton	Harry B. Iverson	Box 176, Throckmorton
Parker	J. R. Hill	Box 124, Cleburne	Titus	Wardlow Northam	Box 431, Mt. Pleasant
Parmer	Patrick L. Donnelly	Box 149, Littlefield	Tom Green	James J. White	1415 S. Van Buren, San Angelo
Pecos	T. F. Wheelis	Box 783, Fort Stockton		Henry B. Burkett	1816 Freeland, San Angelo
Polk	J. C. Manning	Box 214, Livingston	Travis	Gene Ashby	Star Route 7, Box 213, Austin
Potter	Lake L. Black	829 Maryland St., Amarillo		Ben Gaddy	604 Josephine, Austin
Presidio	Clarence D. Vann	Box 1101, Marfa		Grover Simpson	6207 Shoalwood, Austin
Rains	Carson Seago	Box 687, Quitman	Trinity	Thomas A. Hughes	Box 511, Groveton
Randall	Woody Pond	Box 801, Canyon	Tyler	J. B. Weaver	Box 434, Woodville
Reagan	Olin G. Thompson	Box 141, Midland	Upshur	Robert B. Jesse	Gilmer
Real	Chas. Keller	Box 212, Leakey	Upton	R. E. Miller	Pecos
Red River	Oma Puckett	Box 132, Annona	Uvalde	W. A. Gentry	Box 462, Uvalde
Reeves	Robert E. Miller	Box 343, Pecos	Val Verde	J. B. Phillips	Box 255, Del Rio
Refugio	Curtis L. Oswald	Box 7, Beeville		John A. Lockett	Box 735, Ozona
	M. B. Mullinax	Box 274, Rockport	Van Zandt	Murrell B. Hopkins	Box 407, Kaufman
Roberts	Jack Woodford	Box 26, Miami	Victoria	C. D. Edmondson	509 4th St., Cuero
Robertson	Ross Seale	202 Norwood Lane, Hearne		Claude Keller (Pilot)	Box 7, Victoria
Rockwall	A. A. Stein	1st Floor, County Courthouse, Dallas		W. D. Henry	Goliad
Runnels	J. J. White	1415 S. Van Buren, San Angelo	Walker	Lewis C. Hallum	Box 973, Huntsville
	Henry B. Burkett	1816 Freeland Ave., San Angelo	Waller	E. E. Hargett	Box 95, Bellville
Rusk	Bert Cade	Box 85, Henderson	Ward	Robert E. Miller	Box 343, Pecos
Sabine	Charles W. Burnette	Hemphill	Washington	Paul Bogusch	Box 516, Brenham
San Augustine	George Berry	Rt. 2, San Augustine	Webb	C. E. Whitenton	417 Matamoros, Laredo
San Jacinto	Lewis C. Hallum	Box 973, Huntsville	Wharton	Harold W. Martin	Box 1426, Bay City
San Patricio	Franklin C. Henze	Box 675, Mathis		C. F. Ray	Box 1346, Bay City
	Curtis L. Oswald	Box 7, Beeville	Wheeler	G. D. Davis	Box 326, Shamrock
	Earl Sloan	Box 247, Aransas Pass	Wichita	W. C. Cave	2012 Elizabeth, Wichita Falls
San Saba	Junior L. Briggs	Box 275, San Saba		Morris E. Stallcup	3114 Sherwood, Wichita Falls
Schleicher	Nolan Johnson	Box 5841, Sonora	Wilbarger	C. L. Boynton	510 W. 10th, Quanah
Scurry	M. T. Reinhardt	1302 Josephine, Sweetwater	Willacy	Wm. H. Gooch	Box 653, Raymondville
Shackelford	John D. Jones	Box 401, Abilene	Williamson	Aubrey J. Shaw	Box 12, Georgetown
Shelby	Sherman Bales	General Delivery, Center	Wilson	F. E. Hollamon	Box 825, Seguin
Sherman	Starkey V. Whitehorn	Box 103, Borger	Winkler	Robert E. Miller	Box 343, Pecos
Smith	Jack L. Hardie	516 S. Peach, Tyler	Wise	J. T. Hooten	Box 261, Jacksboro
Somervell	Edgar Sturdivant	Box 588, Stephenville	Wood	Carson Seago	Box 687, Quitman
Starr	Harvey Adams	Zapata	Yoakum	Noel J. Head	Box 991, Seminole
Stephens	N. L. Glover	1107 E. William St., Breckenridge	Young	N. E. Glover	1107 E. William St., Breckenridge
Sterling	James J. White	1415 S. Van Buren, San Angelo	Zapata	Jack Armstrong	Zapata
	Henry B. Burkett	1816 Freeland, San Angelo		Harvey Adams	Zapata
Stonewall	Victor Lowry	Box 704, Jayton	Zavala	J. E. Pond	Box 401, Carrizo Springs



"Gallinaceous Guzzler" constructed of corrugated sheet iron. Rain falling on the sloping sides runs to the middle and down a pipe to a 2,600-gallon storage tank, shown above. An access tank below the storage tank provides an opening for game. Water level in it is regulated by a float device, shown below. Rocks placed at one end and inside the tank enable quail and small game to use the water.



WATER for WILDLIFE

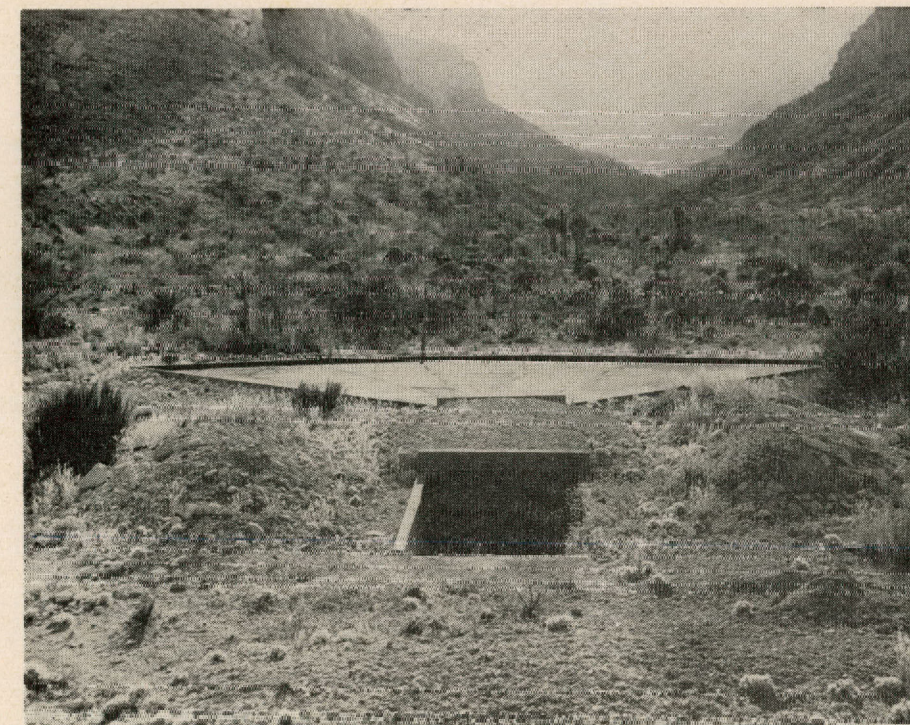
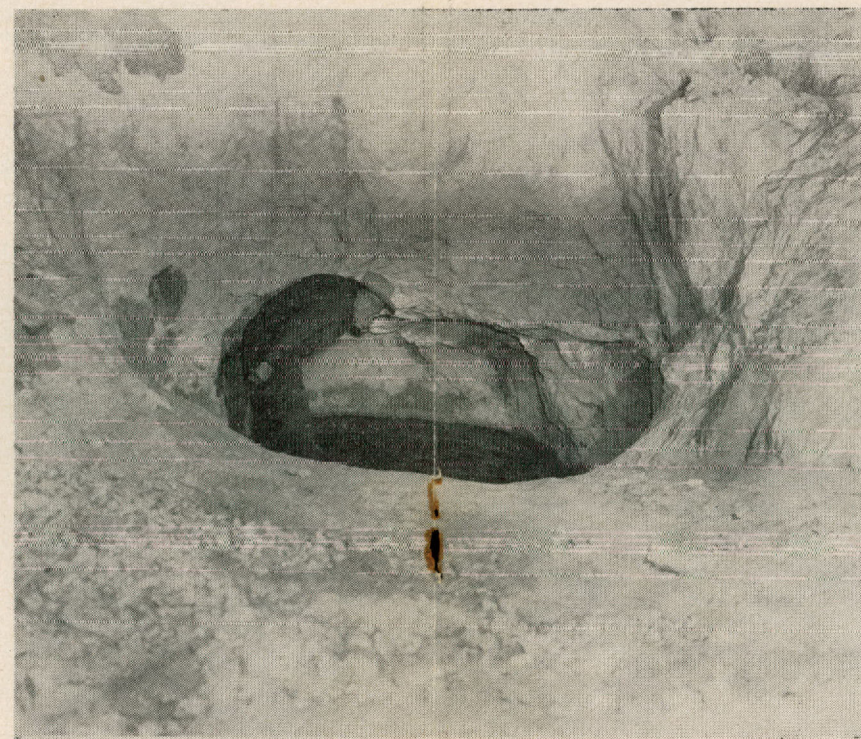
Staff photos by CLYDE GRAHAM

In the arid Trans-Pecos region of Texas water is essential to hold wildlife on an area. If it is present but dries up as a result of a long period of drouth, the wildlife depending on it must either move to find new sources of water or must die.

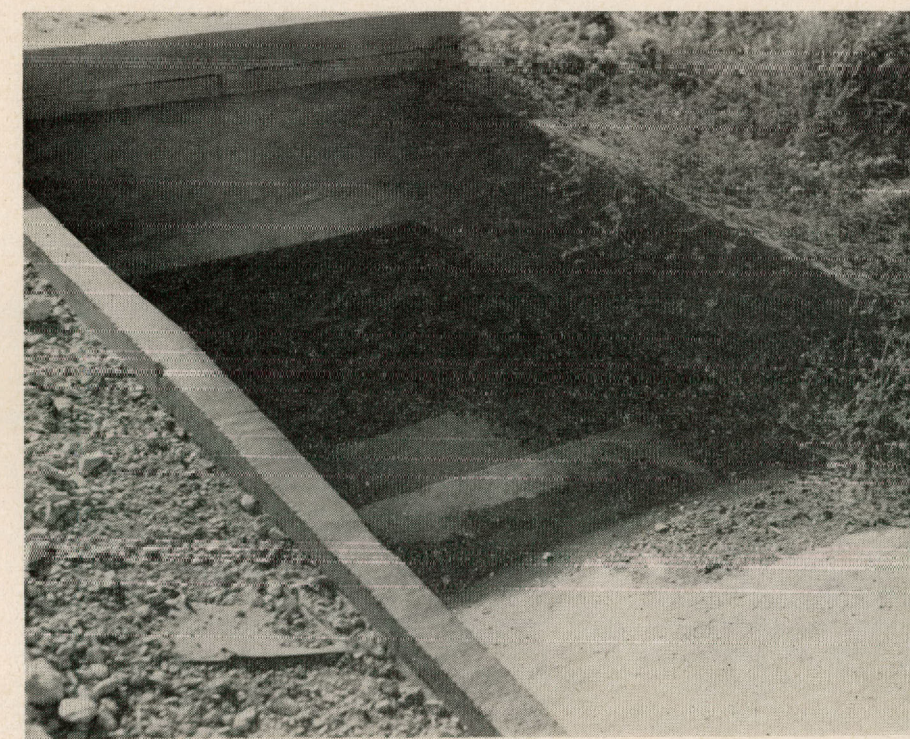
The photographs on these pages show methods of providing water for wildlife which are being used experimentally on the Game and Fish Commission's Black Gap Wildlife Management Area in Texas' "Big Bend" in Brewster County. These water catchments, termed "gallinaceous guzzlers" by biologists, have proved themselves in holding game where no other water is available.

During periods of low rainfall they are supplied by a small tank truck, thus assuring game of a constant source of water.—Bill Jennings.

A shallow cave, blasted in the side of a mountain, catches run-off water from a natural watershed above. A sloping entrance enables wildlife to use the water. Cracks in the walls where water might seep out are plastered with cement. The shaded entrance prevents excessive evaporation.



Another type of "guzzler" is designed with a catchment apron of two-inch thick concrete covered with emulsified asphalt which opens to an underground storage tank. The 2,500-gallon storage tank is underground to prevent excessive evaporation. A drinking ramp at the other end of the storage tank, close-up shown below, extends downward to a 20° angle. Ramp contains steps for larger species with a flat area on each side to make water available to quail, below. A wall at the bottom of the steps extends to within two inches of the bottom of the tank to prevent animals from accidentally entering the main storage compartment during periods when water is low.



By JAY VESSELS

DUCK DATA

The Herman Hale Ranch in Fort Bend County, near the Upper Gulf Coast, has the statistics to prove that ducks simply were not as plentiful in that particular area last year as compared with the year before. Shooting on a natural lake comprising about five hundred acres, 337 hunters got 1339 ducks for an average take-home kill per hunter of 3.97 in 1954-55. Last fall, 344 hunters got 831 ducks for an average of 2.41 ducks. Ranch observers estimated that for every four ducks killed and recovered, one duck is killed or wounded and not recovered.

TETRAS! SHARP FISH!

Aquatic biologists at Game and Fish Commission headquarters are convinced the tetras, a South Texas minnow, cannot live up to the fiendish habits pictured by some North Texas folks. Having teeth, the tetras have been bracketed with predatory Amazonian minnows. But Texas technicians contend they have seen these "monsters" associating with other fish species without any violent manifestations.

Besides, the biologists believe that the habitat of tetras, which have been widely used in recent years to supply the statewide minnow trade, will be restricted by the climate. Technicians have observed that tetras, now concentrated in Falcon Lake on the Rio Grande and in the tributary Devil's River, survive the cold weather by moving to the large Devil's River springs which have an annual mean temperature of about 72 degrees Fahrenheit. Thus, the tetras, when conveyed into more northern waters cannot survive in any quantity because of the low winter water temperatures.

DOING THE JOB

Game Warden Ed Henry of Goliad said the quail habitat program is well underway in his area—in fact has been underway for some years—partly because of the leadership of one man, Bill Rogers. As "bait" for the movement, Rogers has his own miniature quail hatchery and distributes young quail through the Bill Rogers Quail Club. But nobody gets quail until they have passed the habitat test—that is, they must have cover, water and food available. Warden Henry says that everybody knows lack of habitat, plus drought, caused the quail population slump and that native stock will come back on their own and in a hurry, when they have a place to stay and to reproduce.

PEG-LEGGED DOE

Game Warden Supervisor Mike Stricklin of Beeville reports the hub-bub at the Ramsey Prison Farm has quieted down now that a Houston firm is trying to fit the inmates' pet doe deer with an artificial limb. The doe lost a leg in a fence crash. The prisoners couldn't stand seeing the poor deer destroyed for lack of mobility, so they went through channels to get the Alvin Muilenburg Co., to try to fit the doe with a store-bought leg.

ASKING FOR TROUBLE

Two typical cases were cited by Game and Fish Commission wardens reporting the gory seasonal hunting fatality rate which again highlighted kid casualties. One shotgun connected with a teen-age death was found to have a stock so loose that it had to be wired on to the barrel. A .22 rifle, which was accidentally discharged and killed a

youngster, had no trigger guard. Gus T. McMammal, the layman wildlife observer, suggested that the hunting death rate was high enough among persons using adequate equipment, without further hazards being contributed by weapons obviously faulty.

BEAVER BUSINESS

Itinerant beaver which are not supposed to be so far away in East Texas are causing commotion around Pine Creek near Paris, according to Bill Thompson, Outdoor Editor of the *Paris News*. One beaver ripped a commercial fisherman's net to pieces and others are reported thriving along Sanders Creek and Bois d'Arc creek. Thompson said Game Warden Reb Burks theorized the beaver cover-wagoned up Red River and into the creeks.

GOOSE TONNAGE

Hart Stilwell, author, sportsman and widely accepted layman authority on wildlife affairs, has his own personal reasons for reducing the limit on wild geese. Writing his syndicated column after returning from getting the goose limit at Anahuac, he recommended reducing the daily bag limit to two because "five are too heavy to carry!"

CURB GAFF HOOK SERVICE

Ike Fowler is practically running a curb service on gaff hooks out at his Lake Austin home. The other night Ray Johnson and Leo Corbett hollered for Ike's gaff after snagging a 35-pound yellow cat. They caught the monster in the identical spot Ike a few years back used the hook to help another hurting fisherman land a cat of the same dimensions.

Press Views

Game Notes

JEEVES! WHERE'S MY POLE?

A Kilgore sportsman inquiring about efforts to survey fishing potentialities in the Sabine River got this written assurance from Marion Toole, Chief Aquatic Biologist for the Game and Fish Commission: "Our biologists report that they have found areas in the Sabine River that afford the best bass fishing they have ever witnessed. These areas are in isolated spots and can be reached only by making float trips down the river."

LANDLUBBERS NOTE!

Game Warden Henry Mayne of Angleton has some awfully good counsel for inland folks wheeling their own boats and outboards to the coastal fishing grounds. Mayne says lots of people come down there, launch their own craft, take off when the water is flat and quiet and then find themselves in a squall, "probably overloaded, oftentimes without power and too often without life preservers." When this happens, according to Mayne, luck oftentimes is the determining factor between life and death.

BONUS FOR HUNTERS

Wildlife restoration specialists of the Game and Fish Commission are happy over increasing cooperation of hunters. Quail hunters sent in a record collection of quail wings which are needed to determine bobwhite trends. There has been a steady flow of reports on banded game, principally mourning doves and waterfowl. Now the latest waterfowl survey questionnaire has been distributed with the assurance to participants that their composite personal observations of the 1954 season contributed mightily toward relaxing waterfowl regulations for 1955.

A PLUG FOR YOUTH

Up at Wichita Falls, Midwestern University has made its wildlife laboratory available for regular meetings of local youngsters interested in conservation of natural resources. Dr. Walter Dalquest, aquatic biologist for the Commission, is a key man, as is also Game Warden Bill Cave. Dalquest boosted interest by bagging a greater scaup drake duck, rarely encountered in that part of the world. The drake has a shiny green head much like the mallard drake.

WILDLIFE WISDOM

Career wildlife biologists have fun noting laymen errors. One week at Texas Game and Fish Commission headquarters, Biologist Bill Jennings caught a top flight national sports magazine pawning off a white-tailed deer for a mule deer. Next week, another popular weekly carried a full-page shot of waterfowl, tabbing them ducks. "Could be," observed Jennings, scanning the photo carefully. "I count four ducks. The other two hundred are coots."

MONUMENT TO ANDY

The late Andy Anderson, outdoor editor of the *Houston Press*, devoted a good part of one of the last columns he wrote to a plea to "uninvited" hunters to reduce the farm livestock carnage, and above all not to misunderstand farmers. He said that, while one "eastern" survey showed that only six per cent of the farmers welcomed hunters, seventy-six per cent said they accommodate hunters if permission was asked.

Here's the way Andy said he would proceed: "First I would go to the farmhouse and ask to see the tenant. Then I would be polite and respectful and not smart aleck like. I would not have any liquor with me or on my breath. I would ask this man to allow me to hunt. I would offer him a fee to prove my good faith. Then if he said I could hunt I would ask him to show me exactly where I could hunt and tell me what I could kill. I would also promise to close all gates, not to cut fences, not to shoot near his house and be careful of his cattle and other stock."

ONE-WAY TICKET

Game Warden Tom Waddell of Eagle Lake gives the wild goose credit for being just as smart as everybody thinks. Waddell, a veteran wildlife observer who charts the comings and goings of the birds and beasts, said the goose isn't even fooled by the weather.

"When it comes migration time in the spring," he said, "the ducks get fluttery and eager. Premature spring frequently tricks ducks into taking off northward and then having to return after banging into a snowstorm. But the goose takes a one-way ticket. He waits until he's sure. Then, comes a fine morning when all's clear up the line and the old gander takes off. He begins circling until he gets a quorum, then heads for the happy nesting grounds. And he never comes back until fall."

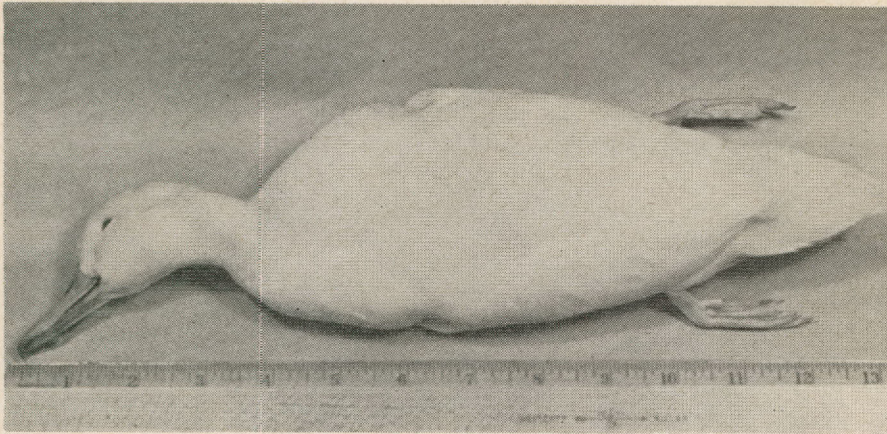
Waddell has proved his knowledge of the honker brigade, because landowner and hunter cooperation under his guidance has increased the famed Colorado county goose population to 100,000 as of last fall.

SAFETY AT SEA

Houston boating enthusiasts have rallied to a course on small craft handling and water safety. It is conducted by the Coast Guard.

DOGS FOR BAIT

W. S. Jennings, Assistant Director of Wildlife Restoration for the Texas Game and Fish Commission, has been getting some "interesting" mail after publication of his recent article debunking the wild javelina as an attacker of humans. Right after the piece came out in *Game and Fish Magazine*, a West Texas newspaper carried a yarn about some kid lion hunters being treed by wild hogs. The boys' dogs had tangled with some javelinas and one of the canines had been ripped to pieces by the animal herd which then savagely routed the other dogs, as well as the tree-climbing hunters. Jennings pointed out again that the javelinas were after the dogs instead of the hunters. In other words, it is the pooches that antagonize the javelinas.



White Teal Rouses Interest

By LUTHER C. GOLDMAN, Refuge Manager
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

A flight of teal circled out of the sun and Tom Marchbanks dropped one with a quick shot while hunting in east Cameron County in the vicinity of the "Old Shrimp Hole." When retrieving the dead bird, Tom was startled to find what he thought at first glance was a seagull. Then he noticed all the characteristics of a teal duck with the exception of the fact that the bird was completely white. Only its brown eyes, yellow bill and yellow feet were in contrast to its white feathers.

Tom was at a loss to know just which of the three teal he had bagged. In the field, without the green wings of the green-winged teal, the blue wings of the blue-winged teal, or the cinnamon plumage of the male cinnamon teal, it was anybody's guess just which duck he had.

Tom took the bird in to the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge office in San Benito, where it was necessary to take careful

measurements, and check characteristics of the bill, measure the bird's length from bill tip to tail tip, measure its feet, and count the number of tail feathers.

It was easy to eliminate the green-winged teal right away as a possibility, for it has a straight bill; *i.e.*, sides of the bill are parallel and this, smallest of the teal, has 16 tail feathers. The teal we were checking had a bill with upper and lower outlines swollen toward the end and had but 14 tail feathers.

Now we knew we had a cinnamon teal or a blue-winged teal, for both of these have 14 tail feathers and both have bills with definitely swollen outlines toward their ends. The last step, then, was to check the bill length, wing length, and total length to compare with known measurements of the two remaining species. In the final analysis, our bird fit the measurements of a mature blue-winged teal. But what a color—or better lack of color—for a blue-winged teal!

Frank M. Chapman, Curator of Ornithology in the Museum of Natural History in 1912, wrote that "albinism is not infrequent among birds and may occur in any species. It is, however, rarely complete but more frequently affects a part of the plumage, when it is usually symmetrical; that is, if a feather in one wing be white, the corresponding feather in the other wing will also be white. The presence of an albino bird always excites interest."

Valley Sportsmen Discuss License

A committee to study the proposed salt water fishing license fee and report back to the board of directors of the Valley Sportsmen club was named by President Ed Cooper at the January meeting of the board.

Chairman is C. B. Allphin of Donna, with Cliff Morris and Fred Erickson of Raymondville and Charlie Berry of Port Isabel as members.

Several directors reported club members and others they had talked to approved the proposed salt water license as a means of "paying our share" of the costs of the state game and fish department regulation of fishing and conservation measures.

Morris, however, reported the "Lyford area almost solidly against" on the grounds such a license might deter tourists, that many persons went fishing only once or twice a year and such a fee would be "unfair," and "they're just plain tired of taxes, old and new."

Irvin Base of Edinburg asserted tourists and visitors paid such license fees in their home states and should be willing to do the same down here.

Cooper asked the committee to investigate such salt water licenses in other states, the amount charged, possible reciprocity, and other details, and to report back with recommendations.

Plans were completed for the Landowners barbecue to be given Sunday, January 29, on Sunrise Hill north of Mercedes. Some 150 to 200 are expected to attend the invitational barbecue to consider ways and means of increasing wildlife habitat in the Valley.

At the request of Charlie Johnson of the Willacy County Navigation commission, the board approved the proposed channel across Padre Island.

The board voted to recommend Evan Hurst of Harlingen, club president for five years and now honorary lifetime vice president, for appointment to the next vacancy on the state Game and Fish Commission.

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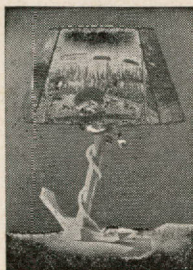


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HANDLOADING COMPONENTS

Beginning handloaders must feel that there is a bewildering array of bullets, primers and powders available the first time they examine a handloading handbook such as the Lyman Ideal, or Vernon Speer's new handbook. To some extent this is certainly correct, but a little experience will serve to clarify the seeming confusion. In the following discussion, I hope to help with the selection of components by showing that one has only to decide what purpose his homebrew loads is to serve. Once this is clear, components fall into fairly regular arrangements.

Easiest of all components to select is primers. About all that is necessary is to know what case is to be reloaded. A case of the 30-06 type takes what is known as a large rifle primer. One of the 218 Bee or 222 Remington type takes what is known as a small rifle primer. Pis-

tol cases require a primer that is not suitable for rifle cases, since it is made softer due to the lighter blow of a pistol firing pin. While some pistol primers will fit the primer pocket of a 30-06 type case, such primers are definitely unsuitable, due to their softness, and the nature of the ignition flame they create. Rifle primers must stand a great deal more pressure than pistol primers are designed to tolerate. Hence, size alone will not determine the proper primer.

I keep my primers in little glass jars that are fitted with a dustproof screw-on lid. I also keep these little jars plainly labeled. I have found this desirable because one almost invariably destroys the label on a box of primers in opening them. I also do not like to leave primers in the little pasteboard boxes they come in after the seal is broken.

By JOHN A. MASTERS

As pointed out earlier, I believe any primer commercially manufactured today is good. All are very uniform and dependable. In several years of handloading, I have not once had a misfire.

One important thing about primers: Be sure to keep oil away from them. If you lubricate cases in resizing, etc., be sure to wipe the excess oil off before priming the cases. When lubricating the loading press, take care to keep the oil away from the primer punch. A primer that has gotten oily is likely not to fire at all, and will certainly not perform uniformly. Quite obviously, primers should be kept dry also.

While all primers made in this country are excellent, it is true that a given brand of primer in a given rifle will sometimes work better. The only way to determine what primer your rifle likes is to experiment. Unless you are seeking tack-hole accuracy, it is doubtful that the difference a primer makes is noticeable. I use all kinds, and only standardize to the extent of making sure that all of a given batch of ammunition is loaded with the same make of primer.

Manufacturers assign a number to each type of primer so that they are readily identified. These numbers are not uniform among manufacturers, so when changing brands, be sure that you are getting the exact same type you want.

Powder used in handloading is a more complex problem. One can look at a handbook and see numerous different loads for the same bullet weight. Nevertheless, it is not a

Shootin' Shorts

A new addition to the fine bullet field are the bullets being made and marketed under the trade name of "Comet."

My sample 25 caliber bullets miked and weighed very uniform. They also delivered very acceptable accuracy, and good performance on the one buck I whacked with them.

They are manufactured by Comet Bullets, Box 1403, Alice, Texas. Right now, they are available in 22, 25, 270 and 30 calibers. Write for further particulars to the address above.

My sample .244 Remington has delivered some excellent groups so

far. Looks like the answer to the varmint-deer rifle combination. I'm going to devote a column to the 6MM when all the facts are in.

I'm just plain amazed at the new Kollmorgen Bear Cub 6x scope I have been playing with. It's uncanny how that doggone reticle stays in the center all the time. The Tufcoat finish seems virtually indestructible. Look for some new developments from Kollmorgen in the near future.

Just got one of the new 740 Remington semi-autos fitted with one of Bill Weaver's new K60 scopes. Looks like a mighty fine hunting rifle rig. I'll have more of it later.—John Masters.

problem so difficult as to defy solution.

Generally speaking, small capacity cases such as the 218 Bee, Hornet and 222 Remington require a fast-burning powder. Typical powder suitable for such small capacity cases would include 4227, 2400, and 4198. Loads with these powders require care, since a grain or two too much can make a great deal of difference. I like 2400 for the Hornet, 4227 for the 218 Bee, and 4198 for the 222 Remington.

Medium capacity cases such as the 250 Savage, 22-250 Varminter, 220 Swift and 219 Zipper work better with slower burning powders such as 4320, 3031, and 4064. For the 250 Savage and the Varminter, I like 4320, with 4064 running a close second. The Swift has given me good results with both 4320 and 3031. 4320 measures accurately due to its smaller grain size.

Large capacity cases such as the 30-06, 270 and 257 Roberts work better with a slow-burning powder. I like 4350 for these cases. 4831, or "4350 Data," is a bit milder than canister 4350, and has been one of my favorite powders.

The really large cases such as the

300 H & H, and the various wildcat Magnums, virtually dictate the use of 4350 or 4831. The 250 Curry magnum, my all-time favorite case, works splendidly with 4831. I seldom use anything else.

Generally speaking, it seems desirable to select a powder that when used in the proper amount, very nearly fills the case. *Note that I did not say to use a caseful of powder.* What I mean is this: A good load for the Varminter is 36 grains of 4320 behind a 55 grain bullet. Using the same case and bullet, 32 grains of 3031 gives about the same velocity and pressure, yet the case is fuller with the 4320 load. I have found the 4320 load more accurate, all things being equal.

Almost any rifle will handle a particular combination of primer, powder and bullet better than any other. The only way to find out is to experiment.

Never mix powders, except when loading a duplex load as shown in the handbooks. Keep powder dry, and stored in a place where temperatures do not reach extremes. Above all, *keep powder containers plainly labeled.* Do not depend on the appearance of powder to tell you what

it is. 3031 and 4198 look somewhat alike, but certainly are not interchangeable. If in doubt what a powder is, don't use it.

One final word: Powders *do not explode*, they burn. While burning, they release tremendous volumes of hot gas. Burning powders are primarily dangerous when confined such that these gases can build up pressure. There is, therefore, little danger of an explosion when handloading. Sensibly handled, there is practically no danger of powder doing damage.

Probably the most controversial component used in handloading is the bullet. Again, this is not so difficult as one might imagine. As before, you must decide what you are going to use the load for. The task then becomes fairly simple.

Generally, the sharper point a bullet has, the better it will retain its velocity. Velocity is, however, only one of the desirable properties. A blunt round-nosed bullet will resist tipping better, and is better for brush shooting. It becomes apparent, therefore, that bullet selection is somewhat of a compromise, since it is usually impossible to predict what conditions one will encounter when hunting.

For target shooting, the sharp-pointed spitzer bullet is almost always chosen. Here conditions are uniform and no obstruction will appear. One can also use full metal cased bullets, or "full patch," as they are commonly called.

For varmint shooting, choose the spitzer, semi-point, or the spire point. Choose also a thin jacketed bullet, since you want the bullet to expand with relatively little resistance.

For small game shooting with a high velocity rifle, the full patch bullet will give better results and spoil less meat. Remember that a full patch does not break up easily, and may ricochet. Use them carefully.

For big game, choose a bullet shape to suit your expected conditions. If you are going to hunt in brushy country, a heavier round-nose bullet will give best results.

If you are going to encounter some long shots in fairly open country, then choose the spitzer or spire

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point. Don't be misled by the high muzzle velocity of the lighter bullets. Heavier bullets retain their velocity better, and will arrive with more power at longer ranges. Study the ballistics tables. It is quickly seen that the heavier bullets pay off at the really long ranges in many cases.

Never load full patch bullets for shooting anything but the smallest game. They will not expand, and usually result in lost game.

There are many good bullets available to the handloader. Any of the better known commercially made bullets are good. When loading from a new batch of unknown make, always measure a few with a micrometer caliper to make sure they are not otherwise. Weigh a few to check the uniformity. Find a bullet that performs well for you, and stick to it.

Cases are generally good regardless of manufacturer. It is well, however, to standardize since case thickness will vary with different manufacturers. I have my pet brand, and as you progress, you will undoubtedly have yours. Pay no attention to the warning on commercial ammunition that the cases are not recommended for reloading. This is done to protect the manufacturer. I know of no manufacturer of center fire rifle ammunition that makes cases that are unsafe to reload.

Don't full length resize your cases every time unless it is necessary to make them chamber in your rifle. Neck sizing is all that is required. Full length resizing works the brass unnecessarily, and destroys part of the advantage of handloading, since a case fired in a given chamber is "custom fit" to that chamber. Full length resizing destroys this feature.

Choose your components with care, load carefully and consistently, look for accuracy rather than ultimate velocity, and you will produce ammunition that is superior in every way to mass produced ammunition. You will also learn a great deal about your rifle and firearms in general.

Next month, to conclude the hand-loading series, I will discuss loading tools and other reloading accessories.

National Wildlife Week Scheduled March 18-24

"Save Endangered Wildlife"
is chosen as theme for 1956

National Wildlife Week for 1956, slated for March 18-24, will feature a theme of "Save Endangered Wildlife." A nationwide educational campaign will point up the plight of those animals that face extinction over vast portions of their natural range. Among these are the rare whooping crane, a species down to its last 28 individuals now wintering on the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas, and the ivory-billed woodpecker which some experts believe may already be extinct.

Other species to receive attention will include the grizzly bear, Everglade kite, Eskimo curlew, Attwater's prairie chicken, lake sturgeon, bighorn sheep, sea otter, Key deer, California condor, Montana grayling, trumpeter swan, and the lake trout of the Great Lakes.

Walt Disney, creator of the popular "true life adventure" movies and many other famous films and television productions, will head up this year's Wildlife Week. The National Wildlife Federation, together with its state affiliates and with the cooperation of other conservation organizations and agencies, has sponsored National Wildlife Week since 1938 when the first such observance was proclaimed by President Roosevelt.

"Many kinds of wildlife have disappeared from some states but are still holding on in others," Ernest Swift, executive director of the Federation, said. "The wild turkey and greater prairie chicken, for example, have been eliminated from vast areas of their original range although they still exist in reassuring numbers in some states.

"The 1956 campaign will be designed to make the general public aware of some of our past mistakes in managing natural resources. It will publicize the steps that can still be taken to preserve those animals that are on the verge of oblivion."

As in past years, State and local chairmen and committees will be named to coordinate the observance at local levels. Background information and special materials for radio, television and the press are being prepared and will be distributed through the state chairmen.

The 1955 Wildlife Week theme was "Save America's Wetlands," stressing the wildlife and other natural values of this country's dwindling marshes and swamps. In 1954 the theme was water pollution control.



Just back from a successful trip in this home on wheels are Mr. and Mrs. Chief Elam, Wildorado, left, and the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Finley, Amarillo.—Dallas News Staff Photo.

Goin' Huntin'? - Take A Bus

Outdoor Editor Paul Timmons of the Amarillo *Globe-News* relays the details on the portable camp of Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Finley of Amarillo.

Finley's Blunderbus started life as a passenger carrier for a bus company, and led a long, hard life before being converted to a hunting and fishing bus.

When the Finleys bought the bus,

they removed seats and windows and remodeled it into a modern lodge on wheels. The vehicle sleeps four, has refrigeration, four burner stove, lights and heater, built-in sink and running water from an overhead 52-gallon tank.

They use the old street route signs to designate either "Going Hunting, Been Hunting, Going Fishing, or Been Fishing."

Committees To Study Commission Finances, Aid for Outdoor Clubs

Four members of the Game and Fish Commission have been appointed to a special committee to study the Commission's budget crisis and to map a priority program of projects which can be carried out with the limited finances available.

The committee was appointed by Commission Chairman Herbert J. Frensley, Houston, after the nine members approved such a move at their quarterly meeting held in San Antonio January 20. Due to a limited budget, the Commission has been hard-pressed in recent months, and it was deemed advisable to study carefully current and future projects in order that the money to become available could be applied to those most critically needed.

Selected for the budget committee were Herman Heep, Buda, chairman; W. T. Scarborough, Kenedy; J. W. Elliott, Mexia; and Henry A. Coffield, Marfa.

Frensley also named another committee to work more closely with outdoor sportsmen's organizations. Its services will be offered particularly to the new alliance of the state's local clubs, Sportsmen's Clubs of Texas, Inc., formed recently.

Named to this sportsmen's cooperative committee were Howard Carney, Atlanta, chairman; Hal Peterson, Kerrville; Frank M. Wood, Wichita Falls; and Henry LeBlanc, Sr., Port Arthur.



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1956 Issue of National Wildlife Stamps Available

The National Wildlife Federation this week began distribution of its 19th annual Wildlife Conservation Stamps. These colorful stamps continue a series that has financed scores of research and education projects and provided the nation's only legislative reporting service devoted solely to the actions of Congress affecting natural resources.

The series was started in 1938 when Ding Darling, famous newspaper cartoonist and first president of the Federation, painted a set of poster stamps to raise money for the struggling, young organization.

Antelope Moved To New Sites

Approximately 600 head of excess far west Texas antelope which were not harvested during the recent open season are being trapped for restocking purposes. Less than one thousand permits for antelope hunting were taken up, and overpopulation has become so acute in some restricted areas that herd reduction had to be placed on an emergency basis.

The surplus antelope, comprising both bucks and does, are being released on ranches whose owners made formal application for the fleet game animals and whose lands fulfilled the habitat requirements governing such releases. Antelope require vast areas of habitat in which to roam and a minimum of ten thousand acres of open country is a basic requirement to receive the two-toned colored game for restocking. Such tracts are available generally in the western portions of the state beyond Fort Worth and the Hill Country.

Crews catch the antelope by driving the herds into large net traps by use of an airplane. They are loaded on trucks and taken to the release areas. Unlike deer that are trapped, antelope are not dehorned for transport.

The bulk of the animals for restocking are coming from West of the Pecos but a few head are being trapped in the Panhandle where the herds have increased rapidly in recent years.

The 1956 issue contains two new features, according to Ernest Swift, Federation executive director. One group of six stamps shows kinds of wildlife that are threatened by extinction. These include the embattled grizzly bear of the Rocky Mountains; the Everglade kite, a bird dependent on a specialized diet of snails; the depleted sturgeon of the Great Lakes; the rare and beautiful whooping crane; the Montana grayling, a trout-like sport fish now limited to wilderness streams of the Northwest; and the Key deer, a diminutive race of whitetails found only in the coral islands off Florida.

"Save Endangered Wildlife" will be the theme of 1956 National Wildlife Week, to be observed March 18-24 under the sponsorship of the Federation and affiliated groups.

The other new feature is a series of stamps depicting nature's camouflage. The American bittern, small-

mouth bass, green snake, snowshoe hare, woodcock, and luna moth are painted in scenes showing how natural coloration helps protect the animals from their enemies.

Other stamps in the 1956 series show twenty-four kinds of mammals, birds, fishes and wild flowers, painted as usual by America's leading nature artists.

The stamps are reproduced in six-color lithography. They are distributed by mail to individuals throughout the country and are available from the National Wildlife Federation, 232 Carroll Street, N. W., Washington 12, D. C.

Editor's Note—No set price is placed on the stamps. They are sent to persons who request them when contributing to the worthwhile work of the Federation. For further information about these stamps and other items published by the Federation, write to the above address.

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Puzzling Movement Mars Coast Duck Hunting

Hordes of early-season ducks which migrated to the Texas coast then disappeared during the hunting season pose a mystery which still remains largely unsolved.

Census counts in October revealed an unusually heavy concentration of ducks along the Gulf Coast, but many of these could not be located during November, December, and January counts. In addition, waterfowl which should have arrived from the north in November and December failed to appear in concentrations along the Coast, a favorite rendezvous for Central Flyway birds.

The puzzling situation was revealed during the standard counts made by airplane each year as a cooperative project by the Game and Fish Commission and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Some waterfowl authorities have speculated that some new flight patterns which have not been charted may have been created during the later stages of last fall's migration. One theory is that the main flight pattern may have changed to route many ducks east of Texas through Louisiana.

Reports indicate also that many ducks and geese were detained in states north of Texas due to expanded refuge and feeding programs in those areas.

An increasing number of inland water impoundments also held a larger number of waterfowl than usual in North Texas.

A January aerial census of Mexico and Central America failed to reveal more than a fraction of the ducks which some believed might have by-passed Texas for areas farther south.

A shift of waterfowl populations from the upper half of the Texas coast to the lower half, which has been notable in recent years, continued to be apparent throughout the season. Heavier concentrations than usual were reported by hunters just south of Corpus Christi in

addition to the usual large numbers found in the Laguna Madre bay areas.

In Webb County, bordering the lower Rio Grande roughly a hundred miles inland, Warden C. E. Whitenton estimated upwards of 150,000 ducks on countless stock tanks filled by autumn rains.

The puzzle of the missing waterfowl pointed up the inconsistency of migrating wildlife as to movement and habitat. The disappearance of ducks and geese during the season nullified possibilities of an exceptionally good season along the coast based on a superb hatching season and above-normal concentrations revealed on the coast during October counts.

A waterfowl survey taken in late October showed a sizable increase of waterfowl numbers on the Texas Coast compared with recent years.

Total of all species was 1,663,500 birds compared to 402,500 for two years ago and 284,475 for four years ago. But some of the difference, according to Wildlife Biologist J. R. Singleton, was compensated for by the fact that the census this fall was made ten days to two weeks later.

Redheads comprised almost 700,000 of the waterfowl counted in October this year. Pintails were next with roughly 400,000. There were 243,700 geese present when the fall's first feathered head count was made, including 190,000 snows.

The dry condition of the upper coastal marshes was reflected in the fact that the bulk of the ducks were seen south of the coastal dividing line at Lavaca Bay. Only 96,000 of the total pintail population, or just under 400,000, were counted along the upper coast. Redheads, which always seem to prefer the lower coast, did not even show on the October census chart of the area above Lavaca Bay.

The comparative food resources for the rice-eating geese in the upper areas was mirrored in statistics showing that all except roughly 50,000 of the 243,700 geese seen in October were in the upper coastal area.

Things You May Not Know

Perhaps our rarest mammal is the black-footed ferret. It has become almost extinct because of ranchers poisoning the prairie dogs on which it preyed.

* * *

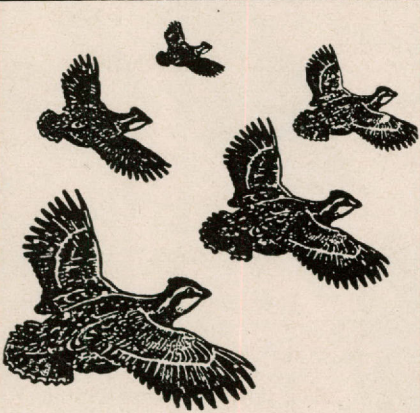
The pronghorn, usually referred to as an antelope, is so different from any other species that scientists have allotted the animal a family all to itself, the Antilocapridae.

* * *

Bats are the only mammals that have real wings.

* * *

A bee can sting only once because it loses its stinger. However, you may get a repeat performance from wasps, hornets, and yellowjackets.



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Disney Receives Audubon Award

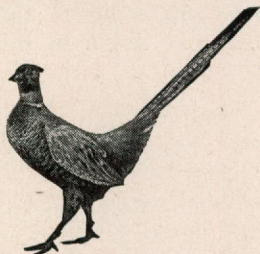
Walt Disney was awarded the Audubon Medal for distinguished service to conservation in a ceremony at the annual dinner of the National Audubon Society on November 15. It was the final event of the society's fifty-first annual convention.

Mr. Disney was nominated for the honor by a special committee of the Society. The committee had not selected a recipient of the bronze medal since 1952.

Presentation of the Audubon Medal to Mr. Disney was made by Ludlow Griscom, chairman of the board of the National Audubon Society. Mr. Griscom cited Mr. Disney as having played "a major part in the world-wide increase in appreciation and understanding of nature as a consequence of his production and distribution of the True-Life Adventure nature films."

Only four persons other than Mr. Disney have received the Audubon Medal. They are Hugh H. Bennett, former chief of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service; Ira N. Gabrielson, president of the Wildlife Management Institute; John D. Rockefeller Jr., whose part in developing the national park system was cited; and Louis Bromfield, author and conservationist.

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EAST TEXAS RATTLERS

Three at a time is the way Nick W. Mitchell got these huge timber rattlesnakes near Ten Acre Lake, north of Buna. Mr. Lane, his companion, spotted the two largest rattlers with their bodies entwined. They killed the two with clubs and dragged them away. About five minutes later, deciding to have a second look, they found the third snake about 18 inches from the first spot. All three snakes were measured and found to be 65 inches, 64 inches and 53 inches in length. The largest measured 9½ inches in circumference, and that's a whole lot of rattlesnake! (Photo courtesy the Silsbee Bee)



Lakes Cleared of Choking Hyacinths

Thousands of acres of water hyacinths have been destroyed in Texas' fresh water lakes but the job has scarcely begun, according to Marion Toole, Chief Aquatic Biologist of the Game and Fish Commission.

The work has been underway about one year. The principal areas of destruction so far have been in Caddo Lake in northeast Texas and in Lake Corpus Christi in South Texas.

Hyacinths were so thick in Caddo that angling had been greatly curtailed, if not altogether prevented in some areas. But great stretches of waters have been reopened to fishermen.

Large quantities of liquids are required to kill the hyacinths. The preparation comprises a form of 2, 4-D plus the addition of water soluble oil.

"We are doing what we can to improve fishing conditions in the localities where the hyacinths have been particularly heavy," Toole states. "We have many other requests for assistance in this control work but we necessarily are limited by funds and manpower."

He explained that the Dingell-

Johnson funds from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service used to finance the work are supported by a special 11 per cent tax on sports fishing tackle.

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Scout Conservation Program Extended

The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America has received a grant of \$50,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation toward support of a five-year program in conservation education, according to a recent announcement by Dr. Arthur A. Schuck, Chief Scout Executive.

The funds are to be used to provide for the full-time services of a conservation expert who will give leadership to a newly-expanded program. Ted S. Pettit, who headed the 1954 National Conservation Good Turn, has been named to direct the new program.

The 1954 National Conservation Good Turn of the Boy Scouts of America, carried out at the request of President Eisenhower, resulted in widespread interest and activity by hundreds of thousands of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Explorers, and their adult leaders. The Boy Scouts of America plans to expand further its national conservation education emphasis in an effort to build on

this interest created by the National Conservation Good Turn.

Mr. Pettit said that the emphasis of the new program will be placed on boy projects at the local level through which Scouts will learn the desired conservation attitudes while they practice good conservation methods. To help make this possible, specially produced pamphlets, leaflets, and filmstrips will be distributed, aimed at boy level and setting forth the reason why and the methods of forest, soil, water, fish, and wildlife management.

The program will also cover training of adult Scout leaders and older boy leaders in conservation so that they may work more effectively with the nearly three million members of the organization.

It was also announced that selected Explorers with outstanding records in conservation will make a Conservation caravan through the Pacific Northwest next June and July.

catfish. By mid-morning, she was a qualified angler, with a growing string of catfish to her credit. During the 1955 Derby, nearly 200 fish were taken from Hughes' boat by anglers who were observing, and imitating, his techniques.

But the catfish, despite his gullibility for Hughes' bait, is no piker. One of the least appreciated of fresh water fish, he has a flavor and taste that ranks with that of any fish.

The catfish doesn't strike with the spectacular lunge of some other fish. He bites rather warily, something like a kid nibbling at a cookie. But once he's on the hook, he's full of fight—enough to satisfy anyone. Some of the big ones have pulled boats for a mile and more before they could be landed, or before they tore up the tackle.

The Savannah-Pickwick area, rapidly becoming known as the Catfish Capital of the World, is a catfisherman's paradise. The waters just below Pickwick Dam abound in fantastic numbers of huge blue cats. Blues weighing up to 100 pounds and more are taken regularly—most of them on heavy deep-sea tackle. Anglers visiting Pickwick for the first time are amazed at the sight of scores of fishermen armed with salt-water rods and star-drag ocean reels spooled with 100-pound test line.

Local fishermen persist in rumors that there are huge 200-pound blues swimming around in the water below Pickwick just waiting for the right angler to come along with the right tackle. They can cite numerous cases where heavy tackle has been ripped to shreds by these monsters.

But Hughes views the big ones without too much enthusiasm. "What good are they?" he asks. "They're too big to eat. They don't have the flavor the smaller ones do."

Hughes gives the impression, with-

Catfish Champion

• Continued from page 7

he has never hesitated to demonstrate his fishing technique to any angler who wanted to see how he does it.

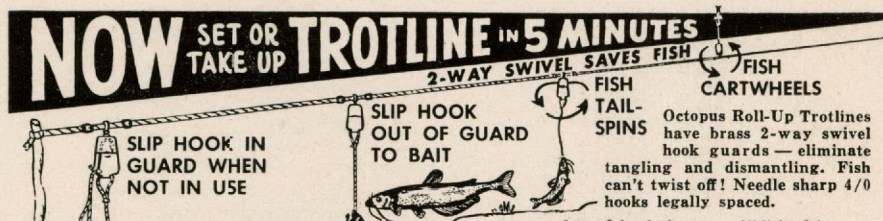
Each year, as part of the promotion for the Derby, scores of pretty girls from across the South gather in Savannah to vie in a beauty revue

for the honor of becoming the Derby's Catfish Queen. The 1955 Queen, Mary Nell Guinn of Henderson, Tenn., made no secret that whatever her other qualifications for the royal title might be, she was totally inexperienced at catfishing. Derby officials, however, had prepared for just such a possibility by including a complete fishing lesson from Hughes among the many awards and prizes given her.

Hughes took Miss Guinn in tow early one morning and in a matter of minutes, she had landed her first

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out actually saying so, that he'd rather have a dozen of the small blues in his freezer than a trophy on his wall. Besides the big ones have displayed a marked tendency to wreck the light tackle he uses.

Each day he cleans and freezes his catch. At the end of the Derby, he takes them back to Texas where he delights in serving catfish dinners to his friends and neighbors.

Back home in Lufkin, Texas, Hughes is a salesman for the International Shoe Co. of St. Louis. Consistently one of the company's top salesmen, he won their top award from a standpoint of sales in 1954.

Hughes is an ardent sportsman. Early fall mornings will find him in the marshes around Beaumont and Port Arthur waiting for ducks. He likes skeet and trap shooting, too, and is proficient at it. But his first love is fishing. Every summer, during the month of July when his annual vacation rolls around, he drops everything else and heads for the Catfish Derby.

There, practically any morning

Wichita Wildlife Refuge Still Menaced

The National Wildlife Federation today cheered Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay for standing firm against military encroachment on the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma but warned the nation's conservationists that military interests are "planning a new campaign in Congress to force surrender of the disputed area."

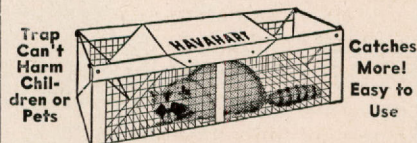
The Army wants 10,700 acres of the 59,000-acre refuge as an addition to Fort Sill's artillery ranges. Secretary McKay has refused to transfer the land and only last week reaffirmed his stand and quoted a report by Harry J. Donohue, a special assistant sent last month to inspect the area. Donohue summed up his conclusions in these words:

"I was impressed by the Wichita Refuge as being a unique national asset, teeming with wildlife in a rugged natural setting. I think it is a matter of vital importance to preserve the refuge from further encroachment. While the Wichita Refuge is now the most heavily visited of our wildlife refuges, I believe it will become in the future a ver-

itable mecca for the touring public.

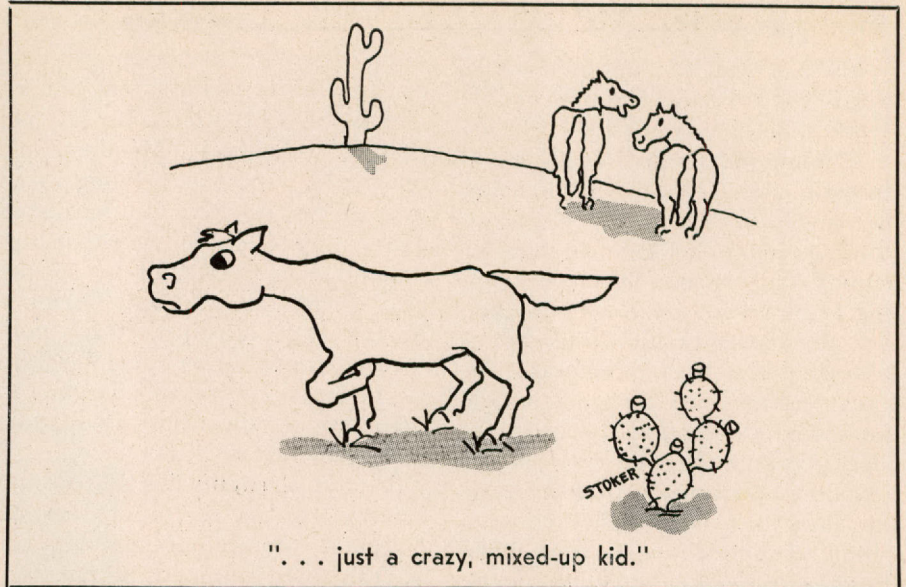
"I saw buffalo, longhorn cattle, deer and wild turkeys in considerable number," Donohue told Secretary McKay. "The wildlife was ranging throughout the flatland which makes up well over 30 per cent of the area (wanted by the Army). In addition, there are countless draws reaching into the high rocky ground which tracks proved were being heavily used by wildlife. I was led to conclude that there is very little of the 10,700 acres which is not useful and, in fact, important for wildlife management."

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during the month, he can be found taking his boat to a point just below the "boils"—the place where the water comes to the surface, after passing through the turbines, in a great swirl of white water and conflicting currents.

While his boat drifts downstream in the swift current, he drops his line

over the side. Most runs downstream net him two or three fish, although four are not uncommon and he has landed as many as five. It depends on how fast he can cast, retrieve, remove the fish, and rebait.

The Catfish Derby is attracting fishermen from all corners of the nation in ever-increasing numbers each July. Many of them have never fished for the catfish before and they bring techniques that are as strange as the wary cat himself. But, gradually, through the help and advice of men like Hughes, they are becoming more and more enthused with catfishing. In the words of Hughes himself, "One day at Pickwick is all it will take to make a fisherman a catfish fan."

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for fish and game management to the professional technicians of the Game and Fish Commission."

The proposed constitution would provide active voting membership to any clubs with similar objectives to those of SCOTI. Each member club would be entitled to active voting participation based on the number of members in the local club as follows: one voting delegate for clubs having not more than 100 members; two voting delegates for clubs with membership between 101 and 300; and three voting delegates for clubs with membership between 301 and 500. Clubs having membership in excess of 500 would be limited to five votes.

Annual dues for active member clubs also would be based on the size of the club: \$25 for clubs with less than 100 members; \$50 for clubs with 101 to 300 members; \$75 for clubs with 301 to 500 members, and \$125 for clubs with memberships in excess of 500.

Only clubs would be eligible for voting memberships. However, provisions will be made for individuals to join on a non-voting basis. Minimum dues for "Associate Mem-

bers," described as persons interested in wildlife welfare but not active in SCOTI, would be \$10 per year. "Individual Memberships" for outdoor sportsmen living in an area where no local outdoor club exists might obtain memberships without vote in SCOTI for \$5 per year. Provisions also will be made in the final constitution for non-voting contributing memberships for business and industry wishing to help provide the necessary support and financing to SCOTI.

A total of twenty-five officers and directors to be elected by voting delegates at annual meetings of SCOTI were outlined in the proposed constitution.

The five elected officers would be a president, two vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer. The board of directors would consist of ten directors-at-large elected by all voting delegates and ten district directors, each elected by voting dele-

gates from his particular district in the state.

Provisions also were made in the proposed constitution for an "Executive Committee" of nine members. The five elected officers would fill five places, and the other four would be elected by the Board of Directors.

Primary duty of the Executive Committee would be to select and employ a full-time, paid executive officer whose duties would be to promote the objectives of SCOTI and to provide assistance and information to member clubs.

Among those introduced to delegates during the meeting were Henry LeBlanc, Sr., Ernest Swift, Bud Jackson, and Howard D. Dodgen.

LeBlanc, chairman of the Game and Fish Commission, sounded a keynote to the thinking of those present regarding proper management of game and fish when he said "Members and personnel of the

The Bison

• Continued from page 5

The American bison represented one of the greatest single aggregations of any large species in historical times. Great herds were found from northern Florida and western New Mexico north to Great Slave Lake in Canada. They dotted the prairie and mountainous expanse of Texas. Their slaughter, for sport and hides, bones, horns, and food was tremendous. In the tragic history of Wildlife exploitation, it has hardly been equaled.

It's a fifty-fifty draw as to who lost the most when the buffalo dwindled into near extinction—the buffalo or the people who settled the country. The buffalo, of course, lost his very life, and what few remained lost their habitat range. The plow was a large single factor in the beast's decline, for when farming spread over the land, habitat was destroyed, and the only evidence left behind of the once vast herds was bleached bones in remote and unsettled areas.

While the slaughter was regrettable, and completely unmanaged, it did hasten the subduing of the hostile Indians. The Indians, losing their source of food and necessities of life, were left with two alternatives—fight or join in peaceful settlements. The decline of the buffalo also opened the ranges for cattle ranching, along with farming.

If the killing had been governed with any foresight at all, the species could have been properly controlled as to numbers, and still flourish as wild game, to be used for its meat and hide value. As it is, the only herds left were preserved by forevisioned men who kept them in private ranges. Today in Texas, as well as other states, these private herds still survive and are kept within controlled bounds as to herd number.

The buffalo has never been domesticated, but when crossed with imported cattle, it produces a fertile hybrid, called the cattalo.

While the great dark shadow of vast herds reaching far against the horizon is gone even from the memory of most, the bison remains an integral part of our heritage, history, and present time.

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Game and Fish Commission have no business meddling in politics—but, by the same token, the politicians have no business meddling with the scientific management of game and fish.”

Swift, executive director of the National Wildlife Federation, and Jackson, field director of the N. W. F., complimented the motives and enthusiasm of the new Texas sportsmen’s organization and re-issued an invitation to affiliate with the national group, explaining that no dues were required. Dodgen, executive secretary of the Game and Fish Commission, offered SCOTI the backing and help of the Commission.

Further information about SCOTI may be obtained by writing J. C. Gordon, Box 2060, San Antonio 6, or Ed Harper, 509 South Alamo, San Antonio.

Members of two committees appointed at the January meeting are:

Constitution and By-Laws: Baylor Bell, Corpus Christi, chairman; Herbert Cole, Beaumont; Ed Cooper, Harlingen; Grady Hill, San Angelo, and Wilson Southwell, San Antonio.

Nominations: Fred Maly, San Antonio, chairman; C. E. Tabor, Hillsboro; Bill LeBlanc, Port Arthur; Jack Little, Corpus Christi, and J. D. Griggs, Rockport.

Predators on Increase Despite Bounties

Despite the payment of bounties on red foxes in Wisconsin during the past 20 years, the animals have increased by more than 15,000, according to the Wildlife Management Institute. The number of gray foxes presented for bounty claims during this period has remained about the same, while payment claims for coyotes, wolves, bobcats, and lynxes have decreased.

The Wildlife Management Institute points out that only in special instances do informed biologists condone the payment of bounties for the taking of troublesome animals. Work in the various states has shown that the general bounty system is a waste of public funds, the Institute says. General predator control work brings little recognizable benefit to

Panhandle Lake Gets Spring Cleaning

Renovation of Buffalo Lake, a popular Panhandle fishing spot, will be undertaken this spring. The announcement was made following a conference with four officials of the Federal government which created the Randall county lake fifteen years ago by damming Tierra Blanca Creek. It has twenty-five miles of shoreline; covers about one thousand acres and is twenty-five feet deep at the deepest part.

The lake will be treated with rotenone in an effort to remove rough fish so that game fish species may be restored in sufficient numbers for the heavy angling traffic. More than seventy-five thousand persons fished at Buffalo last year and thousands more enjoyed boating and water sports.

The lake has been described as ideal for bass, bream and channel catfish. But that carp, buffalo and other undesirable species have overrun the area.

Buffalo Lake is surrounded by public land, is served by three roads, and is easily accessible.

The lake was created originally by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service and later was taken over by the U. S. Forest Service. Under the joint renovation program, the Federal government will furnish the rotenone

and the Game and Fish Commission will assign the manpower.

Rotenone is a chemical which, when mixed with water of a lake or stream, temporarily immobilizes fish by paralyzing their breathing apparatus. If returned to fresh water, they survive. Thus game fish usually are retrieved from the treated zone and released in fresh water while the rough fish either are salvaged for edible fish or permitted to perish and their carcasses used for fertilizer.

During the fall, Buffalo Lake also has served as a key waterfowl refuge in the Panhandle. Migrating ducks and geese are attracted to that area and provide substantial sport for hunters over a wide area. The gunners get shots at the game birds as they move to and from feeding grounds. At one time last fall, it was estimated Buffalo housed 750,000 ducks and 50,000 geese.

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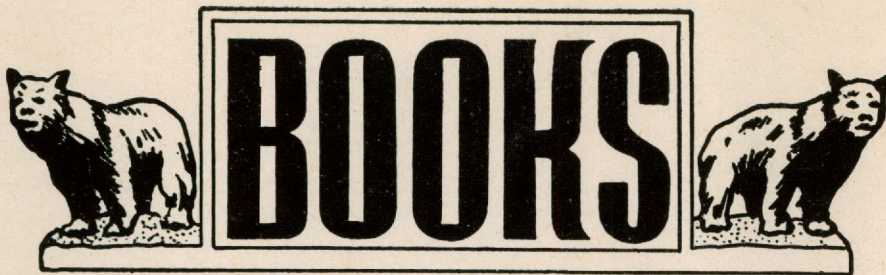
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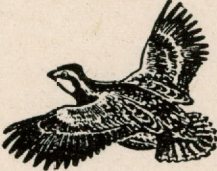
WILD AMERICA by Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher. 434 plus xii pages, generously illustrated with black and white drawings by Peterson. Published 1955 by Houghton Mifflin Co., 2 Park St., Boston. \$5.

This big, handsome book is the detailed account of one of our nation's great naturalists, Peterson, and his English counterpart, Fisher, of a na-

ture tour they took from Newfoundland south to the Florida keys, west to Mexico, Texas' Big Bend, and California, then north to Alaska's seal islands.

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BASS IN AMERICA by Erwin A. Bauer. 137 pages illustrated with three color and thirteen black and white plates of photos and several drawings. Published 1955 by Simon and Schuster, Inc., Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. \$4.95.

This handsome book is not a large one. But it packs exciting dynamite for the devoted bass fisherman.

Basically, it's a book of bass fishing adventures, and the exciting, colorful

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narrative by this skilled writer may so overcome the reader that he is apt to overlook the valuable tips and know-how interwoven through the stories. Nevertheless a sugar-coated education in bass fishing is very much present.

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NORTH AMERICAN AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES, The Natural History of, by James A. Oliver. 359 plus ix pages well illustrated with drawings and photos. Published 1955 by D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., 120 Alexander St., Princeton, New Jersey. \$6.95.

This book, written for the beginning student or the layman interested in the subject, is a general account of the amphibians and reptiles of the United States, Canada, and Alaska. It often sacrifices scientific documentation and thoroughness, but never scientific accuracy, for simplification and enjoyment.

Its accomplished purpose is to present a general survey of the folklore, habits, and life histories of the reptiles and amphibians as a whole rather than individual species. If this detracts from its value as a guide to species, it gains by bringing all species into much closer, more understandable relationships with each other and serves to call attention to the most interesting and most commonly contacted species.

Oliver is a well-known writer and author of other books and is Curator of Reptiles of the New York Zoological Society.—T.M.

AN INTRODUCTION TO NATURE by John Kieran. 223 pages generously illustrated with 300 full-color paintings by Don Eckelberry, Tabea Hofmann, and Michael H. Bevans. Published 1955 by Hanover House, 575 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y. \$6.

Combined in one volume are Kieran's three recent books "An Introduction to Birds," "An Introduction to Wild Flowers," and "An Introduction to Trees." It is, as the title implies, an introduction to these three nature subjects, written simply, entertainingly, and informatively for the layman and beginning nature student.

The species are not classified as a scientist might but in the relationship a layman might see them and group them for his own better understanding. The emphasis, too, is on characteristics of interest to the nature student rather than of importance to the scientist.

The book is beautifully illustrated and written with Kieran's well-known authoritative charm.—T.M.

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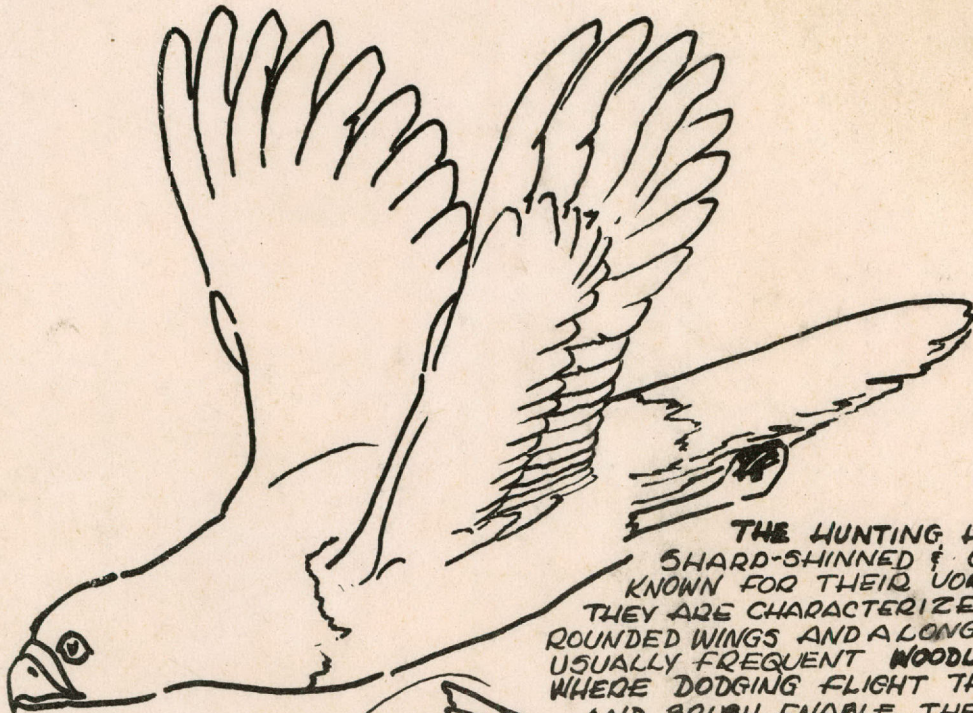
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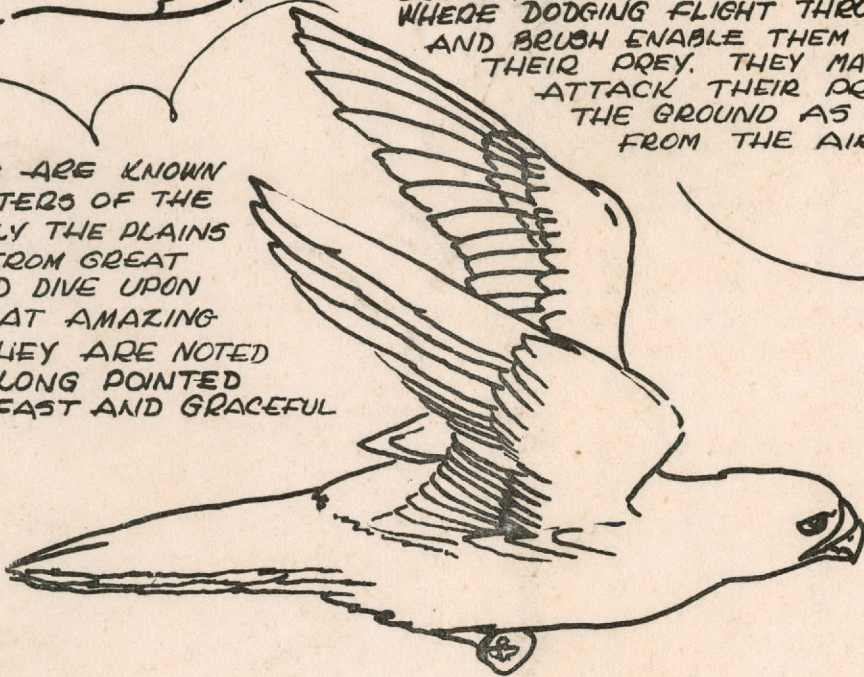
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