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A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DE-**VOTED TO THE PROTECTION** AND CONSERVATION OF OUR NATIVE GAME AND FISH: AND TO THE IM-PROVEMENT OF HUNTING AND FISHING IN TEXAS.

1

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COVER-By Orville O. Rice

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ROGER M. BUSFIELD Editor

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Fanged Fury

GID Graham of Collinsville, Oklahoma, has told in a former story of the superb courage and fighting qualities of the Lobo Wolf. Here is a further delineation of the character of these crue animals as they hamstring and pull down the largest of quadrupeds. Also there is a little story of two coyotes that treed a bobcat.

My small part in editing this story and passing it to the public is little more than that of the tugboat which drags the ocean liner through the ship channel and into the open sea. I am playing the tugboat; Mr Graham is the Liner.

Mr. Graham:

"There are a few instances recorded of

carnivorous animals, who yielding to the lust to kill, have slain without reason or mercy. Just as in the ranks of men we find the human gamehog, who will shoot ducks or deer just as long as he can get his gun to bear upon them, having no regard for posterity or ethical sportsmanship. Such men or animals are diabolical hellions—condemned and despised by all honest citizens. It therefore becomes my duty to record here the lives of three of the meanest creatures who ever lived upon and ravaged mountain and mesa of northeast New Mexico.

"Colfax County, New Mexico, possesses a most varied topography. The eastern half of this county borders very high

Even Ferocious Bobcats Are Easy Prey For Coyotes

country, rolls eastward, as far as vision extends, the eye beholds a grand panorama of mesas and shallow canyons. Cattle and sheep graze this region in thousands. But the western half of the county is rugged and wild, bordering the Sangre de Cristo range of mountains and embracing Black Mountain, Touch-Me-Not and Baldy Peaks. The country is very large and there are few settlements in the western part. This high country is splendid range for cattle during the summer and Herefords raised here are unexcelled.

"The Adams Cattle Company and Charles Springer operated extensively here and in common with other ranchmen having high ranges of mountains in their ranches, they were opposed by predators, wolf, lion, bear and coyote. They are compelled to employ men to destroy these marauders. One spring and summer three large wolves organized a pack and commenced their operations. Wise men have marveled at the cunning and strategy employed by wolves in effecting organizations to pull down and kill the largest animals-elk, moose, bull, steer and horse all fall before their methodical attacks. Where one wolf or a pair would avoid contact with a range bull or grown horse, and seek yearlings and small cattle, the pack fears naught.

"The depredations of these northern wolves became so destructive that Charles Springer finally employed H. C. Gimson, noted wolver to oppose them. Gimson acted quickly and moved his camp to Ceresoso Canyon and from this base, studied the region carefully. Early one morning after a rider from Charles Springer's ranch notified him that the wolves had hamstrung a fine Hereford bull and four horses—cut them down and eaten the hams of the unfortunate creatures while they were yet alive! Because of the large amount of meat consumed, Gimson believed that coyotes may have helped in

eating the fallen animals.

"The cruelty of these wolves in eating the live flesh of the fallen stock can scarcely be appraised by one who has not observed their action. The animals thus attacked have their ham sinews cut, which causes their hindquarters to sink and they are powerless to rise or defend themselves. Their suffering, as the wolves gnaw and tear their flesh is terrible. Cattle bawl and horses neigh incessantly as the wolves tear at their bodies. Such animals will live for several days after the wolves leave them, unless shot by riders who happen upon them.

"Consider the courage and strength of these three wolves in attacking a lithe, active range bull. Coming upon him in *Continued on page 18

By J. G. Burr



Sailfish are worthy battlers and can always be depended upon to fight to the very end but their usefulness is confined to decorating the wall of some trophy den.

Let 'Em Live

I'VE been reading a number of articles from other parts of the country that enjoy salt-water fishing similar to our own here in Texas, at such places as Galveston, Freeport, Port Aransas, Brownsville and points between.

These articles have been better written than this one and also by people who call themselves sportsmen and in the same breath speak of having brought to gaff and killed a high number of tarpon and sailfish in a single day.

It is only natural for a person to tell of his fishing or hunting prowess, but at the same time does this speak so highly of that person's sportsmanship? Wouldn't it speak as well of that angler's prowess and also for his sportsmanship if he had released those fish alive, in order that they might live to thrill another angler on some future day?

These "sportsmen" will undoubtedly come forth with the argument that if these fish are gaffed they won't live, even though they are released. Well, this isn't necessarily true if these fish are gaffed or held properly while the hook is being removed. A tarpon should be gaffed through

By Lewis E. Bracy, Jr.

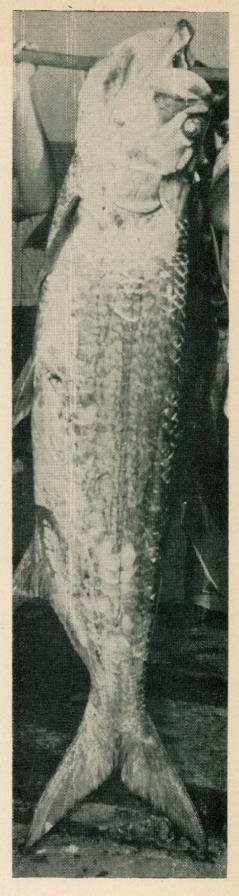
the mouth which is tough and bony and causes no permanent injury. A "sail" shouldn't be gaffed at all, but rather grabbed by the bill and held still while the hook is removed. If these fish are properly played down and not gaffed "green," they won't give a person a "bad time" while the hook is being removed.

I'm certainly glad that at the better tarpon and sailfish localities on our Texas Coast, the fishermen are not infected with a fear of these fish that pervades other localities where sailfish and tarpon are found.

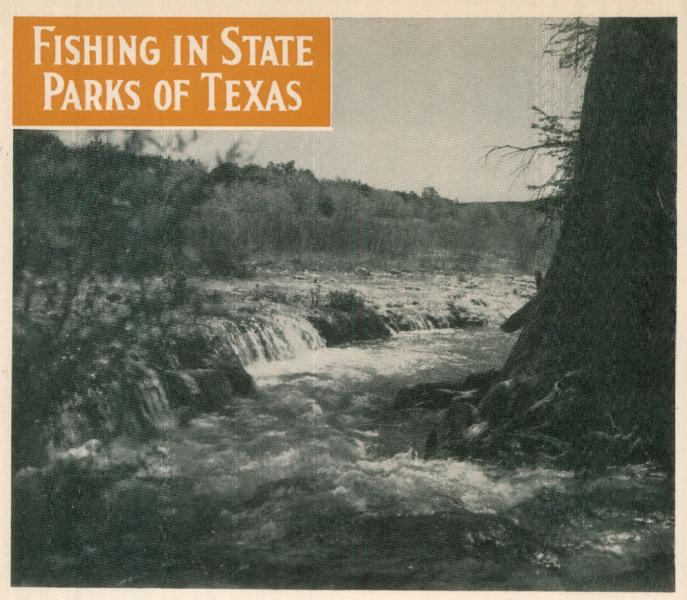
In one article, I had the misfortune of reading, the author states that they shot the seven tarpon he landed in one morning; because, so they claimed, they couldn't be gaffed! It was claimed these fish were killed to prove that tarpon were in the waters of this locality. Why wouldn't one tarpon and a scale from the other or even pictures have proven this just as well?

I very definitely think it is "playing the game" to keep your first big fish such as a tarpon or sail for a picture, or better still, for mounting. Of course, these big fish mounts come pretty high which excuses a lot of us. Then if it is an unusually large specimen, keep him for official measurements, 'cause you may have a record. The fish I'm arguing for are those small and average fish that aren't a person's first and they know aren't record fish.

Some people may think that they would *Continued on page 14



The tarper is much more beautiful crashing out of a swell near the surf or arcing out of "blue water" on the end of a line than it is aanging bloated at the dock.



The Frio River runs swift in spots. Here the water churns itself into a lather around one of the big trees in the Garner

State Park. Large fish can be seen plainly in the clear water below.

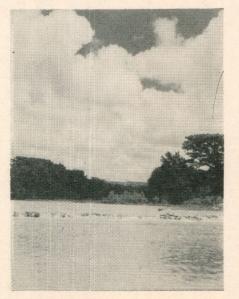
BLANCO STATE PARK: 110 Acres on each side of the Blanco River where it crosses U. S. 281. Fishing in the Blanco River. Perch, Bass, Catfish. Fees charged for fishing: 35e for artificial lure; 25c for natural bait. Camping and picnicking in

park.

BONHAM STATE PARK: 555 Acres, 31/2 miles southeast of Bonham on county road. Fishing in 65 acre Bonnam State Park lake. Channel catfish, black bass, crappie, bream Fees charged for fishing: 50c per person per day. No trot line fishing permitted. No frog gigging. Row-boats available for rent at \$1.00 per day. The bigmouth bass are numerous in the lake, and some are "whoppers" but "plenty smart" Other park facilities: swimming, dance terrace, picnicking, playground equipment. Confections avail-

BUESCHER STATE PARK: Acres. 1 mile northwest of Smithville on Texas 71. Fishing in Buescher Lake, 750 ft. wide, 1250 ft. long. Bass, white perch, catfish. No trot line fishing at night. Other park facilities dance terrace, camping, picnicking. Fark connected by 7

mile scenic drive with Bastrop State Park (2100 acres, 1 mile east of Bastrop on U. S. 290). Camping, golfing, cabin area, swimming pool, dance terrace, picnic area,



playground equipment. Cafe and confections available at Bastrop State Park.

CADDO LAKE STATE PARK: 485 Acres, 15 miles northeast of Marshall and 1 mile west of Karnack on Texas 43. Fishing in Caddo Bayou. White peren, catfish, bream. Rewboats available for rent at \$1.00 a day. Other park facilities: Cabin area, camping, dance terrace, picnicking. Groceries and confections avail-

CLEBURNE STATE PARK: 483 Acres. 12 miles southwest of Cleburne on Texas 174. Fishing in 116 acre Cleburne State Park lake. Black bass, bream, crappie, channel cat. Fees charged for fishing: Boat fishing, 50c; bank fishing, 25e. Bait available for sale: minnows, 25c and 35c per doz.; worms, 15c per doz. Motorboats available for rent 50c per hr, for fishing; \$1.50 per hour for pleasure riding. Rowboats available for rent. 75c for 3 hours; \$1.00 for 12 hours; \$1.50 for 24 hours. This lake is one of the best in the State for game fish. Flenty of bass were

Bass, catfish and perch lurk in the waters just below this ledge in the Frio River in Garner Stare Park.



Possum Kingdom Lake yields many fine catches and Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Amenderson, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Arey, and Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Amenderson are quite proud of the catch they made one weekend in the waters off the state park or Possum Kingdom Lake.

caught during the past year that weighed from 6 to 8 pounds. Other park facilities: picnicking, swimming, camping, dance terrace, overnight accommodations. Confections available.

DAINGERFIELD STATE PARK: 581
Acres, 2 miles southeast of Daingerfield on Texas 49. Fishing in 98 acre Daingerfield State Park Lake. Bass, crappie, bream, catfish, blue gill. Fees charged for fishing: 50c per person. Rowboats available for rent: \$1.00 per day. This lake is fed by springs; and it contains a few lilypads and a few fallen trees, which is an advantage for perfect crappie fishing. Other park facilities: swimming; overnight accomodations; dance terrace; eamping picnicking; playground equipment. Sandwiches and confections available.

FORT PARKER STATE PARK 1,496 Acres, on Navasota River, 7 miles south of Mexia on Texas 14. Fishing in 750 acre Fort Parker State Park Lake and Navasota

The lake in the Cleburne State Park is a small one put if you can handle your rod and lures you won't return home with an empty cree!

River. Crappie. channel cat; blue cat; yellow cat; drum; bass; carp. Fees charged

for fishing: Set line, 50c; pole and line, 25c. No netting. Rowboats available for rent: 75c per half-day; \$1.00 for 12 hours; \$1.50 for 24 hours. Jug line fishing for large yellow is exceptionally good during the spring rises, four being caught last May that weighed better than 40 pounds each. Crappie fishing is fine during February, March, April and May. Other park facilities: dance terrace; swimming; picnicking; camping; playground equipment. Confections available.

FRIO STATE PARK: 51 Acres on Frio River 10 miles south of Pearsall on U.S. 81. Fishing in Frio and Leon Rivers. Yellow and channel cat; trout; white and goggle-eye perch; carp; alligator gar. Other park facilities: picnicking; camping.

GARNER STATE PARK: 641 Acres on Frio River, 26 miles north of Uvalde on U.S. 83. Fishing in Frio River. Bream; bass; channel cat; perch. Other park facilities: Cabin area; dining room; dance terrace; camping; swimming; picnicking; playground equipment. Cafe and confections available.

GOOSE ISLAND STATE PARK: 157
Acres on Copano Bay, 12 miles northeast
of Rockport on Texas 35. Fishing in Aransas Bay. Trout; redfish; drum; flounder;
sheephead; tarpon; and many other species
of salt-water fish. Rowboats available for
rent: \$1.50 for a 12 hour period. Other
park facilities: Camping; picnicking. Cafe
and confections available. In the park is
the "Big Tree," a giant oak, largest of its
kind; its branches spread over 6,000 square
feet of ground.

INKS LAKE STATE PARK: 1,202 acres on east shore of Inks Lake below Lake Buchanan on Colorado River, 10 miles west of Burnet on Texas 29. Fishing in 900 acre Inks Lake. Yellow, blue and channel cat; black and white bass; bream; perch; carp. No fishing allowed from boat dock. Rowboats available for rent: 6 hrs. 75c; 12 hrs. \$1.00; 24 hrs. \$1.50. Other park facilities: Dance terrace; camping; picnicking. Confections available. Inks Lake State Park connected by scenic drive with Longhorn Cavern



Wildlife Conservation

(This article appeared in the March-April issue of THE CCNSERVATION VOLUNTEER, official publication, Minnesota Department of Conservation.)



James Ford Bell

It is safe to say that there are definite limitations to the application of business management principles to a problem as saturated with controversy and public interest as is game and fish conservation. On the other hand, the objectives are clearly identical. The natural resources of game and fish, like business, must

be managed in the interests of all the people.

Sportsmen tend to fcrget that hunting and fishing as we know them are not vested privileges, but rather an endowed heritage peculiar to America. In the Old World these pleasures originally were reserved for the nobility and landed gentry, and ownership of game centered in the crown or the individual estate. In general this policy continues there today. In America, thanks to the bounty of resources and guarantees written into our basic law, game and fish are controlled by the state in its sovereign capacity and managed for all its citizens.

The point to be emphasized is that this common ownership implies a special obligation as well as a privilege. Too often Americans shirk their individual responsibility for maintaining cur game and fish supply. This responsibility is best discharged by providing money adequate to support efficient management.

To operate a business efficiently, certain standard procedures must be followed, among them:

- 1. Accounting and inventory con-
- 2. Establishment of production (or sales) quotas
- 3. Capitalization, or procurement of finances.
- 4. Agreement on long-term operating policy.

Admittedly these are only a few of the many considerations that must enter into the management of a business. But they

are fundamental. Let us consider, briefly, their application to the management of a complex natural resource such as our game and fish supply.

Accounting and Inventory Control. Before game and fish can be managed, we must know what we have. Whatever the cost of obtaining this information, it must be secured accurately and at timely intervals. Upon it must be based such decisions as the dates and volume of harvest and the countless other regulations looking to wise usage. Our accounting must be standardized on a pattern that will win the ready acceptance and confidence of all citizens.

Establishment of Production Quotas. What do we lack, and how much of it? This can be determined from the inventory. Deficiencies must be underlined and widely publicized. Action must follow promptly to build up inventories. This production should be budgeted so that management will know what it will have to work with in the future.

Capitalization or Finances. Whatever it costs to maintain our resources on a level to meet all needs comes under this head-

JAMES F. BELL, the author, is an eminent American business leader, director of several corporations and chairman of the committee on finance and technological progress for General Mills, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota.

ing. First of all, we must see to it that hunting and fishing license revenues, upon which game and fish depend for support in this state, are not diverted to other uses. If the present fees are inadequate, we must dig down into our pockets and produce enough money to do the job. It may cost you \$25 for an auto license in a given year, yet two adult residents can fish twelve months on a fee of \$1.50. The expense of game and fish is the obligation we must assume for enjoying it. There is no alternative.

Long-term Operating Policy. This really combines the first three principles. It is to our advantage that our long-range policy of management be written for all to see, and that it be revised from time to time according to the dictates of necessity. In this way we can better "sell" the plan and the finances needed to carry it. If all

the goals are not attained immediately, they will be projected in orderly fashion.

There is no broad and smooth highway to a land teeming with game and fish. To manage a resource that is annually tapped by some one million Minnesotans and visitors is a gigantic task, particularly when, as is now true, we have less than one dollar to spend each year in management for each hunter and fisherman who stands to benefit!

One important task of our publicity and information should be to point up the necessity for dedicating more money to the task before us. The needs of education, particularly in the adult field, should not be overlooked. The people must be kept informed through constant repetition of the program as it unfolds. But more important, we must meet the immediate needs of the problem, and in full. For years, it appears, we have been "winking" at several pressing conditions, such as the control of carp in our southern lakes, the compensation of farmers for damage by game or for hunting privileges, and the encouragement of good upland game management practices among land owners where birds can be raised most efficiently in the field. These are only a few. To solve any or all of them will cost money. We must be prepared to pay the price or stand the consequences of a game and fish supply facing slow exhaustion before ever-increasing hunting and fishing pres-

Our good friend Izaak Walton was endowed with unusual vision. Three hundred years ago he no doubt had in mind the thousands of self-appointed "experts" on all things game and fish when he wrote, "That which is everybody's business is nobody's business." Game and fish threatens to wither away to "nobody's business" or to no business at all if we fail to agree on a production program supported by a long-range plan with adequate finances. The sooner this basic thinking is accepted, the better.

Whether a sportsman is a conservationist depends on his state of mind. If he decides to be one—and it goes without saying that every sportsman should be—he can carry out his desire by obeying the laws, by encouraging compliance from others, and by cooperating with his conservation department at all times. These rules constitute a minimum personal conservation creed.

By James Ford Bell



Colorado River Lakes are a Fisherman's Paradise

cities in that area to commute back and forth, provided you don't get enough the first day.

While we are in this neck of the woods. it would hardly be fair to overlook a favorite fishing hole-although it isn't exactly a lake. That is the old damsite near Marble Falls. This hole is famous for producing the biggest and best catfish anywhere, and if they are biting, everybody catches one. The only disadvantage is trying to nudge someone over so you can have enough room to throw your measly line in. Fishing is best here after a good rain and the water is a little flushed. And, gentlemen, if you do get one of those big brothers on the end of your line, please give him a little slack and let him his own way" for awhile before you bring

Great Lakes of Texas

Livery state has its favorite fishing and hunting spots, some maybe a little better than others, but the "Great Lakes" of Texas are a fisherman's paradise. When we speak of "Great Lakes" in this State, we are speaking of those lakes up and down the Colorado River which have been newly made by man. Beside furnishing many hours of entertainment for the sportsmen, these lakes provide power for homes and industries in surrounding communities. There are, of course, other fishing paradises in this State which are not mentioned in this article, only because we want to confine this discussion to this particular area.

Of this group, Buchanan Lake is the largest, being thirty-two miles long and eight miles wide. Named for J. P. Buchanan, a statesman, this lake is situated about twelve miles from Burnet, Texas, on Eighway 29. Buchanan Dam is the largest multiple arch dam in the world, being 11,000 feet long and 150.5 feet high. Sportsmen find this lake better for arching bass, catfish and perch. There are boats, bait and cabins, which furnish most modern conveniences, available near the lake. If you prefer to rough it—there is plenty of "rough" around too.

On this lake is a spot known as Joeker's Cove and if you hit this spot in the late summer months you will have two hours of good entertainment between sundown and dark. No need to try before sundown or after dark because you won't get a nibble, but in between those times you can catch a boatload of 'em.

About two miles below this lake, you

might try your luck at Irks Lake. This lake is approximately 2.8 miles long and .57 miles wide and bank fishermen find this an ideal place for "trying their luck." Here too, cathish and bass are the favorite catches. As at Buchanan, you will find cabins, boats and bait available, and if you run out of food and drink, there are some stations close by where your stock may be replenished. In fact, most of these lakes are near enough to some of the

him in. Fish, like folks, are a little contrary sometimes, and when you wind and pull, it is a sure way to break your line or lose him. I saw one fellow lose four in just this same way in about an hour one afternoon. There are no cabins available in this immediate vicinity, so come prepared to camp on a rock or go home when you have gotten your share.

If you still haven't had enough—head in * Continued on page 16



Fishing from the banks of Inks Lake produces many fine catches.

MAY, 1948

16 Tails Test an Honest Man

By Ronald B. Miller

ALL sportsmen aren't killers and they can be honest. Sometimes it is difficult not to be, especially when that redsuited fellow with horns and tail puts temptation in the way four times within a few hours, but you can be, I've learned from the experience of a certain one. Besides, it is less expensive. However, that's getting ahead of this tale of sixteen tails, so if you're still reading, I'll go back to the beginning.

That Saturday, it was a nice day for hunting, and having a few hours of work he preferred not to do, he went that morn-

He had gotten permission from a friend a couple of evenings before to range over his farm, but nonetheless, he stopped at the farmhouse to pay his respects to his friend's charming lady and son and daughter, and to ask if he could "take the gun walking." That's not as cute as it sounds now, but that's just what he eventually

A word or two about this farm. Frank. the man of the place, is a conservationist who doesn't have to make a noise about it. In addition to farming, he also teaches school next door to where the man in this tale lives. He knows the value of leaving a few rows of corn for wildlife food and the worth of fencerows. He doesn't clean farm his place, in other words; and there are plenty of berry bushes, shrub tangles, slash, a woodlot and conifer stand. Cover is just about ideal and the terrain a hunter's delight with rolling fields, wooded slopes, swamps, creek, hollow trees, brush and stone walls.

Our nimrod's better half has had Frank's son in her kindergarten and now has his daughter to teach. Frank and Martha, his wife, and our hunter have been friends for a long time, but that gave the hunter no liberty to forget to ask permission to hunt the place. The fact Frank was taking additional study on Saturdays and was absent from home was no reason either for not stopping at the farmhouse and checking on permission from the other half of the partnership and say "hello" to the youngsters, even though Frank had said it was all right a couple of days before. Frank and Martha and son, Harry, and daughter, Kathie, just don't barge in on our hunter's wife and him without some prior notice. If you think that's polishing the old apple of farmer-sportsman relationship, make the most of it, my friend.

Now our little nimrod hunts the hard way, with no dog and carries a singlebarreled shotgun. In fact, most of the things he does, so it's told, he does the hard way, including being a good sport, as this tale ought to prove. He's not boasting and his family thinks he's a pretty good sort. So, it just happens to be that way.

On a side hill, he almost stepped on a bunny who flashed that powder puff on his hind end at him and disappeared down a hole not more than three feet away. Fortunes of nimrodding, and our friend moved on. Yes, he knows how to swear. Perhaps he did.

A few yards further on and a doe deer got up from her bedding down place and leaped a fence, her single stiffly arrogant in the breeze. It could have been blown off, so close was our little hunter at the time. But, ho hum. One is not supposed to shoot does in New York State unless there's a special open season on them. Probably she knew it and that was why she was so contemptuous of our man. But him? He felt an inner warmth of satisfaction that he hadn't pulled on her and deprived her of that beautiful append-

A few minutes later, he came out in a lot the other side of some evergreens and there stood the same lady in company of her boy friend. They looked at our hunter – that doe and buck – and our hunter looked at them - that buck and doe. Then, zingo, up went two singles and off they ran up into a patch of woods. Disgusting? Yes. If our man had along a deer rifle, or even deer slug shells, he could have probably gotten the buck, or the doe, or both. As it was, he had no deer license, nary a slug, no deer rifle. Only a single-barreled shotgun.

He thought of the price of meat and the impending scarcity the radio was warning about. If he had been equipped with a deer license and a rifle, or even a slug, would he have come across that buck? Most likely not. So he sauntered down along the creek, madder than ever, but willing to cool off; at least to change the scenery.

He was looking at some young trout in the shallows and pools when he noticed a flock of ducks. Now, up on a hill not so very far away, was a farmhouse and some outbuildings, so our hunter thought those ducks were domestics, and he didn't look too closely at first. However, as he got nearer them, those "domestics" took off as no domestics ever took off, and he had twelve more rear ends flaunted in his face. Beautiful sight, anyway, he mused, but not much chance even for a long shot. (Devil, stop shoving him!)

Further along the stream, he clambered up the bank and walked toward a few rows of corn left standing for winter feed, when the flock came back, passing right smack overhead. An opportunity for a wonderful shot. (He could feel Satan's breath right on his neck.) But, no duck stamp, and anyhow, it was that period between New York's split duck season. Twelve tails again. He watched them as calmly as he could pass out of sight, turned and-whirr!

Up out of that corn patch went the biggest woodcock this side of Paul Bunyan's aerie of dream birds. (Mephistopheles, get behind the guy!) This was south of the tracks (a dividing line on woodcock seasons) and the season on timberdoodles had closed ten days ago. That was the sixteenth tail however. It had stretched our little gunner's good nature to the breakage point. He went home. He was darned if he'd give a grey

★ Continued on page 11

Kwik Kinks

Strips of waterproof adhesive tape can be used to patch small holes and rips in tarps, tents and ground cloths.

Bacon, lard, butter and other perishable foods can be kept sweet in a tightly capped mason jar sunk in a spring or stream.

The next time you fry fish try rolling them in corn flakes instead of the usual meal or flour.

To keep catfish or carp baits on the hook twist some fine wire around the shank of either a treble or single hook, then press the bait into the wire.

As a complete moth preventive for trout and bass flies dip them in kerosene (coal oil) then dry them thoroughly before putting them away.

Powdered or crushed cloves will keep ants out of the camp food box.

When the joints of your rod stick heat the outer ferrule with a lighted match. This expands the metal so the rod may be taken apart easily.

If you use nightcrawlers for bass or other game fish use only bright, lively worms. Fish seldom bite pale, washedout worms.

Ours To Enjoy, Not Destroy

By P. L. Ricker

President, Wild Flower Preservation Society

WILD flowers, as well as all of our other natural resources, should be used wisely. In our more populous areas they are disappearing more rapidly than any other comparable resource. Even in many of the "wild areas" some of the most valuable and delicate forms face a grim struggle for survival.

Much of our wild flower destruction is due to advancing civilization, such as clearing for farm land, increased grazing, commercial developments, and to fires. Except to prevent unnecessary burning, there is little we can do to stop this loss.

There is one source of tremendous loss, however, that each and every one of us can help to minimize and that is the toll taken by our "nature lovers."

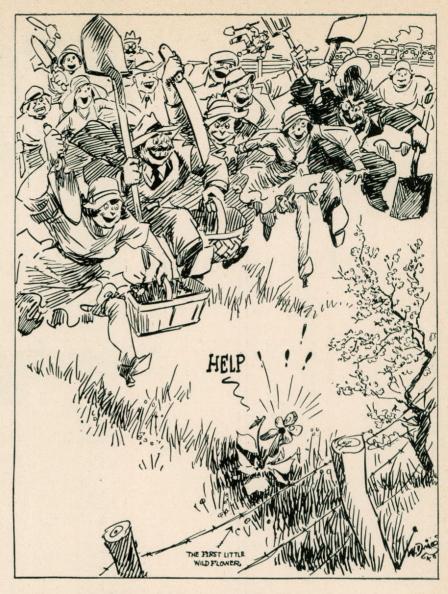
Raids as depicted by Mr. Darling are much more common than are generally believed. Anyone who has enjoyed, studied, and photographed wild flowers in wilderness areas has witnessed some destruction, and near large cities "wild flower raiders" are very common.

In the early days of road construction for the Shenandoah National Park many people were able to secure permits to preview this wonderful area. Doubtless, few abused the confidence, but on one occasion two carloads of adults were actually found on the Crescent Rock area with spades, trowels, and forks and were making it a shambles for the benefit of their personal wild flower gardens; and in the fall another large party was found stripping the mountain ash trees of their large clusters of beautiful bright-red fruits.

Because of so many other raids the Crescent Rock area was largely denuded of its former extensive rock garden flora and has shown little recovery over a tenyear period. Doubtless other national and state park areas throughout the country were similarly treated before a more strict supervision was provided.

It does not take much imagination to see what happens in wild areas less closely supervised.

Education and public sentiment are the



Look Out, Here Come The Nature Lovers

sure-fire way to prevent this needless destruction. Public sentiment is particularly effective.

One example stands out in my mind. During World War I in the District of Columbia and vicinity, people were stripping the blossom-covered branches from the flowering dogwood trees in great quantities. They were urged through a threeweek newspaper campaign to observe the results of their vandalism. The result was public sentiment brought to such a peak that audible criticism of anyone seen with dogwood branches put a stop to the

raids, and the effects of the campaign lasted for many years.

Most of our native plants were doubtless placed on this earth for us to enjoy in moderation. Collecting of the flowers of a few species does little more harm than cutting roses from a bush. Unfortunately, many are injured by extensive picking.

Your part in the conservation of our wild flower resources is twofold. Think carefully before you pick, cut or dig; and, add your voice to the growing multitude who condemn the "wild flower raiders."

16 Tails Test an Honest Man

★ Continued from page 10

squirrel a chance to flit his brush in his face or take a chance of running across a grouse fan. He had to kid himself that he was grateful it wasn't bear terrain, knowing he had had enough. The way he felt right then, he would have fired in the

air over a red or grey fox, if he had chanced on one—just to make it a complete flop of a morning. This being a good sport the hard way! He had reason to turn killer for killing's sake.

Old Man of the Lower Regions had certainly put temptation in his way. He had irked our little boy into risking just about \$1,000, providing our gun toter had succumbed and taken all he had seen (as many would have).

You couldn't count the bunny; the rabbit would have been legitimate game. But supposing he had yielded and shot both of those deer—that is, of course, if he had had the right gun and ammunition along; he should have been able to have bagged at least half of that flock of twelve ducks, the fowl were flying so closely together and so low it would have been almost a slaughter; and the wood-



ARMS AND AMMUNITION

By Adam Wilson III

The Mysterious .70-150 Winchester

A gun editor is supposed to write on the arms and ammunition which he has had experience with and knows something about. At least, he is expected to elaborate on a firearm topic with a lot more authority than the subject I am concerned with in this month of May. It is seldom that a single individual knows everything that can be learned about a particular subject, and I am no exception when it comes to my more-than-a-hobby—arms and their ammunition.

Not only does the big .70-150 Winchester rifle and load have yours truly baffled, but also the nation's foremost experts in the field on cartridge and firearm identification—including the Winchester people. I am appealing to the readers of Texas Game and Fish with hopes that maybe one of them can by chance provide information regarding this rifle and its fodder. Very frequently rare articles are in the possession of a person who does not suspect their value until someone reminds them of the articles' significance.

As an example, several years ago before I began expressing my gun ideas and experiences in literary form, I read an article by a well-known firearms writer who related the fact that he doubted the existence of a .22 caliber Model 1873 Winchester rifle. I passed over his statement with the thought in mind that there

The size of the big .70-150 Winchester cartridge can be conceived when compared with a common .30-30 W. C. F. on the right.







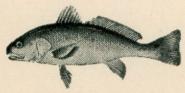
Colt's two latest additions to the famous Woodsman family — the 4½-inch barrel Sport Model, and the 6-inch barrel Target Model.

was no such "animal." However, only a short time afterward I stumbled on to one of those very rifles leaning in a corner of a dwelling of one of our old-timers—the rare piece meaning nothing at all to him except, "The thing's too bloomin' much gun for a .22 caliber." A similar occurrence could take place with the .70-150, even

though I do know that this number does

The manufacturers of the .70-150 have no records which can supply positive information as to its whys and wherefores. A letter from Merton A. Robinson, Ballistic Engineer at Winchester Repeating Arms





CHANNEL BASS
Sciaenops ocellatus (Linnaeus)

PROBABLY no fish typifies the expression "power and durability" more than the channel bass. It seizes a bait with deliberation, but the minute the hook is set you will find yourself tied to a raging bulldog.

The largemouth bass is to the freshwater angler, what the channel bass is to the salt-water fishermen, a popular all-round fish. Although not a spectacular fish, the channel bass is a solid citizen built along lines that will delight any angler whose thrill appetite has become a bit iaded.

When the channel bass are schooling just in or beyond the breakers, surf fishermen who know the score will drop everything to get in on the sport. It is here that the "tackle busters" are usually found and when one of the big ones climbs on—it's sporting fun on the strenuous side.

Although this fish is given a bevy of descriptive titles, the most common will be found as follows: bar bass, bull redfish, drum, poisson rouge, ratine, red bass, red drum, redfish, reef bass, salt-water bass, sea bass.

The channel bass always has a distinctive black spot, about as large as its eye, at the base of the tail. The color of this fish will vary with different water conditions but ordinarily it has grayish iridescent silver sides, shading to a copper-red toward the back. Larger fish assume an overall reddish hue.

One unusual aspect of the channel bass is that maturity and reproductive ability are not achieved until the fourth or fifth year. At this time the fish usually weighs from 15 to 20 pounds and, as a result, in some sections of the country it is unlawful to keep channel bass over this mature weight in order to preserve the propagating stock.

Quite a stretch of territory attracts this popular species which ranges from New York to Florida along the Atlantic Coast, and around to the western Gulf of Mexico. At the northern end, they usually are

plentiful from June to October; the southern and Gulf fishermen achieve their best results in late fall, but take channel bass at intervals throughout the entire year.

Although channel bass are found principally in sloughs near the shore along the ocean and gulf, they also frequent the shallow protected waters of tidal rivers, bays, lagoons and inlets. At times, while searching for crustaceans washed up by the waves, they will provide excellent sport right in the breakers close to shore.

To Capt B. R. Ballance goes the honor of taking the world's record channel bass. His prize weighed 75½ pounds and was caught with rod and reel at Cape Hatteras, N. C., Nov. 29, 1941.

There is a varying opinion concerning the average size of the channel bass for it varies widely according to location. Those taken on the Atlantic coast run heavier than those in the Gulf of Mexico; and those taken in the surf will average heavier than those taken in inland waters.

A very general average would be from 8 to 15 pounds but fish of 25 to 40 pounds are not considered rare.

This will vary from excellent to fair, depending upon its environment. The food value of the smaller 5 to 10 pound channel bass is usually excellent while the flesh of the larger ones is inclined to be coarse and unpalatable.

Topping the list of known victims to a channel bass on the feed are: menhaden, mullet, crabs, sand fleas, shrimp, clams, squids and other small fishes.

Those anglers who troll show a decided preference for spoons, feathered jigs and large sinking plugs. Surf casters get best results with large plugs, both surface and sinking, and metal squids. Bait casters prefer standard size bass plugs in floating-diving, sinking and surface types. Feathered jigs also produce.

Surf casters, bait casters and trollers take the greatest toll of channel bass. Surf casting is by far the most popular form and much care is exercised by these anglers in picking the proper spots. Sloughs formed by wave action, making considerable depth, and breaks in underwater sand bars, forming channels, are extra choice spots.

The standard surf casting rod has a split bamboo tip at least 6 feet in length, equipped with a hickory spring butt some 30 inches long. The proper reel is the free spool type with drag handle, holding

from 200 to 300 yards of 9 to 15 thread linen line.

Wire leaders are used not because of channel bass, which do not have teeth, but just in case bluefish should be running, and the proper size is 18 to 24 inches of No. 8 or No. 9 wire. Pyramid sinkers weighing 4 to 6 ounces and 7/0 to 9/0 O'Shaughnessy tinned hooks complete the outfit. Cut mullet, menhaden, crabs and most small fish are good bait.

Bait casters prefer the regular 5 to 5½ foot split tempered bamboo or tapered, tubular steel rods like the "Pal," built along stiff or musky actions. Although the standard size bait casting reel will serve in most cases, an all-round favorite is the oversize model which holds 150 yards of 9-thread linen or 20 pound nylon line. Favored lures are salt-water torpedo, zaragossa and sea runt.

Trolling in protected waters is a popular method of taking many channel bass because they ascend certain southern rivers in great numbers to escape the colder waters of the ocean or gulf. The same baits used for bait casting and surf casting are suitable but the rod should be some 6½ feet in length with a 4 or 6 ounce tip. The reel should be capable of holding 200 to 250 yards of 9 to 15 thread linen line.

Although the channel bass is called redfish on the Gulf and red drum on the east coast of Florida, the latter name definitely a misnomer, plus some two dozen other appellations in different sections, anglers who dissent over the name are agreed on this point—the fish by any name is worth the taking and will test your taking ability when a big one climbs on.

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CAPITAL SALES

Capital Bank Bldg. AUSTIN, TEXAS



Fishing in State Parks of Texas

★ Continued from page 7

State Park (708 acres, 11 miles southwest of Burnet on U.S. 281) Texas' largest underground cavern. Indirect lighting. Picnicking facilities on the surface. A charge of \$1.00 per adult and 50c per child, plus Federal Tax, is made for guide service through the underground cavern. (Special rates for school classes, groups, clubs, etc. Children under 13 years of age free.)

KERRVILLE STATE PARK: 500 Acres on Guadalupe River, 3 miles southeast of

Lake Kemp Plans Rodeo

The Lake Kemp Anglers Club was recently formed for the purpose of promoting fishing in this lake. A membership fee of \$1 is charged, which includes a whole family, and any member of the family is entitled to compete for the rodeo prizes that are offered. It is expected that 4,000 or 5,000 members will be enrolled for the season.

The Lake Kemp Fishing Rodeo is being sponsored by the towns of Seymour, Wichita Falls, Iowa Park, Electra and Vernon. In all of these towns substantial prizes are being offered, and the prize list is finally expected to run as high as \$30,000. Each of the tagged and numbered fish will carry several prizes.

There will be 300 of the tagged fish turned loose in Lake Kemp and 100 in Diversion Lake. This will be done shortly before May 1st, when the contest starts, and it will continue until Dec. 31st.

This fishing derby was put on last year by Seymour alone, with only 100 fish, as the time was too short to enlist the other towns. Meetings have been held in Wichita Falls and Vernon, and the final meeting will be in Seymour April 5th, to assign prizes to the different fish. J. L. Meads and O. McDaniel of Seymour have been elected president and secretary-treasurer of the Anglers Club for the ensuing year.

After paying a modes: amount of necessary expenses, all receipts from membership fees will go toward restocking the lakes and making them better fishing places.

Bees have only single barrel stingers and can pop you only once but wasps and hornets are both repeaters with no plug in the magazine either.

Although an old male kangaroo sometimes reaches a height of 6 feet, a baby kangaroo is only an inch long when born. Kerrville on Texas 16. Fishing in Guadalupe River. Black Bass; Perch; Catfish. Other park facilities: picnicking; camping.

LAKE CORPUS CHRISTI STATE PARK: 14,111 acres on Nueces River, 4 miles southwest of Mathis on U.S. 59. Fishing in 11,676 acre Lake Corpus Christi. Blue, yellow and channel catfish; perch; bass; crappie. Rowboats available for rent: 50c per hour; \$1.50 per day. This lake is one of the best in Texas for catfishing. Other park facilities: Camping, swimming, picnicking, dance terrace. Confections available.

MERIDIAN STATE PARK: 469 acres in the Bosque Valley, 3 miles southwest of Meridian on Texas 22. Fishing in 73 acre Meridian State Park Lake. Bream, crappie, bass, and catfish. Fees charged for fishing: 50c per person per day. Bait available: minnows, 2c each; worms, 1c each. Poles and lines available for rent at 25c per day. Rowboats available for rent at \$1.00 per day. Bream fishing is excellent and crappie and catfish are good. Other park facilities: Camping; overnight accommodations; picnicking; swimming; dance terrace. Confections available.

MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK: 253 acres on Leon River, 8 miles southwest of McGregor on County Road. Fishing in Leon River. Channel catfish and yellow catfish. Other park facilities: stone pavilion or auditorium; picnicking, camping. This is the oldest of Texas State Parks.

PALMETTO STATE PARK: 198 acres on San Marcos River, 7 miles southeast of Luling and 12 miles northwest of Gonzales on Texas 29. Fishing in San Marcos River. Catfish, perch, bass. Other park facilities: Dance terrace, picnicking. Sulphur wells. Unusual tropical plants in Palmetto swamps.

POSSUM KINGDOM STATE PARK: 6970 acres on Possum Kingdom Lake, on Brazos River. One of the finest fishing and boating lakes in Texas.

East Side: 25 miles from Graham and Mineral Wells, off Texas 16 and 254. Fishing in Possum Kingdom Lake. Bass, crappie, catfish, perch. Bait available. Small perch or carp, 5c each; minnows, 3c each; worms, 1c each. Poles are issued free of charge. Various articles of fishing tackle for sale at regular retail prices. Motorboats available for rent: \$7.00 per day; \$3.50 per half-day. Rowboats available for rent: \$2.00 per day; \$1.00 per half-day. Other park facilities: Cabins, camping. Groceries and confections available.

West Side: 25 miles from Breckenridge, off U.S. 180. Fishing in Possum Kingdom Lake (350 mile shore line; 710,000 acre feet of water). Largemouth black bass; crappie or white perch; channel catfish. Fees charged for fishing: \$1.10 lake license. Bait available: minnows, 40c & 50c per doz.; crawfish, 30c per doz.; worms, 15c per doz. Available for rent: minnow buckets, 25c per day; poles and lines, 25c per day. General fishing supplies available for sale. Boat motors available for rent: 50c and \$1.00 per hour. Rowboats available for rent: \$1.50 per

day; \$1.00 per half day. Other park facilities: Cabins; Barracks rooms; tents; camping; picnicking. Groceries and confections available.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE PARK: 664 acres on Brazos River, 3 miles east of Sealy, off U.S. 90. Fishing in Brazos River, catfish; buffalo; gaspergoo. Other park facilities: camping and picnicking. This park is the original location of Stephen F. Austin's colony.

36TH DIVISION STATE PARK AT LAKE BROWNWOOD: 538 acres, 25 miles northwest of Brownwood on Texas 279. Fish in Lake Brownwood (100 mile shore line). Crappie; bass, catfish; drum. Bait available; minnows, 35c doz; perch, 50c doz. Fishing equipment for rent: poles, 15c; trot lines, 50c; rods and reels, \$3.00. All kinds of fishing equipment for sale. Fishing licenses available. Motorboats for rent: \$5.00 per day. Rowboats for rent: \$1.50 for 24 hours. The best fishing time is from the latter part of February through May. There are no restrictions on trot-lines in Lake Brownwood. Other park facilities: Cabin area. Fisherman's lodge; swimming; picnicking; dance terrace; playground equipment. Cafe and confections.

TYLER STATE PARK: 992 acres, 10 miles north of Tyler on Texas 14. Fishing in 65 acre Tyler State Park Lake. Bass; crappie; white perch; bream; small pike. Fees charged for fishing: 50c per person. Poles available for use at no charge. Rowboats for rent: \$1.00 for a full day; 50c for part of a day. Other park facilities: Swimming; dance terrace; picnicking; camping; playground equipment. Sandwiches and confections.

All rates set out hereinabove are subject to change without notice.

Let 'Em Live

★ Continued from page 5

be letting an awful lot of good eating loose, but don't be worried, because the "sail" and tarpon aren't edible. They are sport fish "par excellence" first, last, and always.

The fishing guides will think more of you for releasing a fish and so will the real sportsmen. Above all, those that will think more of you and thank you, although they will never see you, are the future generations of sportsmen. They will be able to catch these wonderful sport fish because of the sportsmanship displayed and practiced by men, women, and even children that fished the same waters many, many years before.

There is a mistaken conception that persists even today that gulfs and oceans can't be fished out. I won't say they can, but those fish may become so depleted in certain places that the catching of them will become a rarity, rather than the accepted thing. This can be proven by existing conditions in certain areas on the Texas Coast. Of course, these conditions have been caused in the main by pollution and unwise land usage hundreds of miles

Wood Heads New Club

THREE thousand members in the new Valley Sportsmen's Club is the goal set by the officers and directors of the organization, which was formed when Lloyd M. Bentsen, Sr. of Mission and C. H. Britton of McAllen, both prominent civic and sports leaders, gave a dinner at the McAllen Country Club.

The new organization set minimum dues at \$1.50 per year, having added 50c to the original plan to set the dues at \$1.00 so each member would have an annual subscription to the Texas Fish and Game. However, according to Britton and Bentsen, the club expects to get many memberships of \$25 or more.

Cedric Wood, widely known Valley sportsman and Alaskan big game hunter, was elected president. Other officers are: R. J. Montgomery, Rio Hondo, first vice president; Cleo L. Gilliand, Raymondville, second vice president; Dr. J. A. Hockaday, Port Isabel, third vice president; Oliver C. Aldrich, Edinburg, fourth vice president; Marvin Downs, Pharr, corresponding secretary; and Evan Hurst, Harlingen, finance secretary.

Other directors are Hurt Batsell, Brownsville; Clyde Hollon, Mercedes; S. N. Mc-Whorter, Weslaco; Leonard Johnson, Alamo; J. F. Palmer, McAllen; R. C. Hausinger, Mission; and Dick Richards, San Benito.

Other sportsmen who were guests of Bentsen and Britton were: W. W. Housewright, Bob Monlux, Luther Goldman, San Benito; Charles A. Washman, George Gray, L. C. Lemen, Harlingen; L. C. Skaggs, W. R. Briscoe, Bill Harwell, Weslaco; Harold Vertrees, Floyd Park, Donna; Paul Freeman, Pharr; Ed Sullivan, Ewing Clarke, Port Isabel; A. G. Agnew, Elsa. W. L. Rockey, Cleo D. Gilliand, J. A. Fambrough, Raymondville; Dales Knapp, Paul C. Netz, James King, Alamo; Gilles-



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VALLEY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB CFFICERS. Standing 1sft to right: Cadric Wood, Donna, President; R. J. Montgomery, Rio Hando, first vice president; Dr. J. A. Hockaday, Port Isabel, third vice president; Seated: Oliver C. Aldrich, Edinburg, fourth vice president; Marvin Downs, corresponding secretary; Evan Hurst, Harringer, finance secretary.—Photo by Bob Struby.

pie Baker, Edinburg; Gordon Ketaley, Elmer C. Bentsen, Calvin Bentsen, Horace Etchison, Bob Struby, Paul T. Vickers,

Newspaper and radio publicity is being used to recruit new members. The avowed

purpose of the new club is conservation and propagation of game.

Before the club was organized, many sportsmer charged that fishing and hunting flagrantly violated in the Valley, espe-

★ Cortinued on page 18

Fishing By the Moon and Barometer

I F the fish are not biting don't be too ready to blame it on that new plug or your luck. It may be due to atmospheric or other conditions that have nothing to do with tack or whether you walked under a ladder. I have fished and experimented with my "Lunar Fishcaster" and a barometer for many years. With the Lunar Fishcaster it is possible to forecast the exact hours of any day in the year when fish will be the most active and the best fishing periods will occur. I have a few of these Lunar Fishcasters on hand and if you would like a copy they are free. Just send a stamped and self-addressed envelope. There is no charge. For my address see my ad on this page.

Make no mistake about it, both the moon and barometric pressure affect your fishing. Why not obtain a small, dependable barometer and do some experimenting yourself? Here are some of the things I have found

1. The average barometer reading is 29.90. (Equivalent to sea level pressure). Fishing will be poor when the reading is below that average and will improve when the reading is above.

2. Fishing will be test on a high or rising parorneter and your "bad fishing luck" will start when it is fall-

3. When the reading is steady you will find better fishing but an unsettled period with sudden changes will bring poor fishing. Game fish will seek deep water and show little activity when the barometer reading is low. Unsertled periods with fluctuating readings mean little unless the trend continues downward or up-

Why does parometric pressure affeet fishing? The air you breathe contains 21 per cent oxygen. Water contains 88 per cent oxygen by weight. Under increasing atmospheric pressure the oxygen is forced into the water and fish will be active and on the feed. When the pressure is low the upper water loses its oxygen content and the fish move into lower depths. So the reason either a rising or falling barometer affects your fishing is because of the oxygen change and oxygen is necessary for the fish to live.

By R. A. "DOC" JENKINS

LETTERS

Foxes Kill Rabbits

The article about cottontail rabbits in the January issue of Texas Game and Fish interested me for several reasons in some of which I think you will also find a little interest

Away back yonder in World War I a Dr. Wilhite was getting the Texas Pasteur Institute under way in Austin. He had no help and no conveniences. The Insane Asylum let him have a little building with two rooms and he was saving Texas lives at a cost of about two dollars each. I became interested and wrote several stories which resulted in the Legislature giving him an assistant and more money. During my talks with him he said that he had examined 600 heads of foxes and that without exception each had rabies. He expressed the belief that foxes were natural carriers of the disease and that it did not kill them.

Now bear these facts in mind: By 1937 we had practically eradicated foxes in Texas; so much so that that year the East Texas Fox Hunters Assn. purchased 500 pairs of the animals and turned them loose not far from Mexia. Then the World War II came on, the boys entered the service, and there was nobody to chase foxes. By 1946 they increased to such an extent that they could be seen all over Texas. One was run over in the streets of Cleburne; one was killed on the highway at Arlington; and a vixen raised two families of 7 and 9 each right here in the game sanctuary at our Lake Worth.

Here's the connection with the rabbit story: We used to have plenty of rabbits in Tarrant and adjoining counties. Now there is scarcely a rabbit—either jack or cottontail—in this or any adjoining county. The foxes have killed them out.

But there are still plenty of foxes; and wolves and coyotes are increasing rapidly. I live at Arlington and you can find fox and wolf tracks all around us any morning after a rain.

Incidentally: Rabies has increased in the same ratio as the foxes in recent years and there are indications there will be more of the disease this summer than ever before. Last year there were so many cases here no effort was made to keep tally of them.—Upshur Vincent, Star Telegram, Fort Worth, Texas.

Hawk vs. Snake

I, too, had the pleasure of watching a rattlesnake about 40 inches long and a large hawk have it out. I was about 100 yards away when I noticed the hawk in a power dive. Then he darted up about 200 feet. I was just about in the act of shooting at him with my .22 Hornet when he made another dive. There was quite a little scuffle when he got to the ground so instead of shooting I levelled my 6-30 binoculars on him and much to my surprise I saw the rattlesnake on the ground. The hawk went aloft again and made two

or three more dives. Finally he caught the snake in his talons and carried the rattler up into the air about 200 feet. I could see the snake trying to escape. Then the hawk dropped the snake and as soon as the snake hit the ground the hawk was on him. Three times the hawk carried the snake into the air and three times he dropped the snake. Then the hawk got the snake by the neck and tore the reptile's head about half off. The hawk then flew away. The hawk did not return. I am sure the hawk didn't even notice me. That was my first time to see a hawk kill a snake and until I read Mr. Theo R. Wilkin's letter in Texas Game and Fish I thought no one else had ever seen a hawk kill a snake.-C. E. Farnsworth, Perryton, Texas.

Nature Camp at Kerrville

The Audubon Nature Camp of Texas will hold five 2-week summer sessions during 1948 at Kerrville. The camp is being sponsored by Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

The purpose of the camp is to better equip teachers and other youth leaders to arouse public understanding of the value, and need of conservation, of soil, water, plants and wildlife, their interdependence and the relation of their intelligent treatment and wise use to human welfare.

Camp instruction will be under the direction of Dr. William B. Davis, head of the Department of Wildlife Management at Texas A & M College. Subjects will include nature activities, birds, insects and other invertebrates, vertebrates other than birds, and plants.

The camp will be at Schreiner Institute where those attending the summer sessions will be housed.

The five 2-week sessions will be June 19th to July 2nd; July 3rd to July 16th; July 17th to July 30th; July 31st to August 13th; August 14th to August 27th. The cost of each 2-week session is \$75 and it covers tuition, board, lodging and transportation on regularly scheduled field trips.

Mrs. Alfred A. Krueger, 5122 Tremont Street, Dallas, Texas, is accepting applications for the camps.

Great Lakes of Texas

★ Continued from page 9

the direction of Austin and try your luck at Lake Travis or Lake Austin. Both of these lakes are beautiful spots. are favorite boating, as well as fishing, spots and about the time you get your line where you want it, some speed demon in one of those speed boats or yachts will make a jet-like swish by you and slap all of the water in the lake in your face-but that is just something you must tolerate. It won't be long now until the black and white bass will be crying to be caught here, and I understand they have already started in spots. These lakes are easily accessible, and boating and camping sites may be found at both places and in between the two. I think you can always get a catfish on a trout line. At least you could try!

I'm not trying to tell you that fishing here is always good—sometimes it's good and sometimes it's bad. The weather conditions here, as elsewhere, have a lot to do with how the fish bite. Then too, as elsewhere, your fish will cost you on an average of about \$5.00 per pound as they always do any place except when bought at the market.

One of those Yankee foreigners once told me about his fishing episodes in this country and he said, "I don't know about Texas being the biggest state, having the bragginest men or the most beautiful women, but they have the out bitinist fish I ever saw."

It gets hot as Hades in the summer and cold as all outdoors in the winter at these spots, but there are some nice fishing days in between, so choose your weather and come on! If you are only kidding, bring the family, but if you really mean it, come by yourself or with the "boys."

I know one fishing spot better than all of these, but you will not find it out. Maybe I'm just a good fisherwoman—I want to get all of you headed one way, then I'll take off in another direction. So long, I'm headed there now!—Ole Canepole's Gal.

Young possums are born after only a 12 to 15 day gestation period. Two, and often three, litters are born each year with as many as 15 to a litter. An average litter of eight baby possums can be placed in a teaspoon.

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Arms & Ammunition

★ Continued from page 12

Company, states that the identity of the .70 caliber cartridge has been a subject for discussion at New Haven for some time. Creators of the cartridge advance the theory that it was simply a display item for some of the expositions held during the latter part of the 19th century.

Mr. B. D. Munhall of the H. P. White Company, Ohio, who has the reputation of being capable of giving the most authoritative answers to questions regarding cartridge history, says that the .70-150 Winchester touches on a dispute of long standing among cartridge collectors. He, too, is inclined to believed that the cartridge, and rifle which fired it—an oversized Winchester Model 1876—was made for display purposes only.

A well-known Texas cartridge and arms collector, and authority on these items, Carl Metzger of Dallas, told me one afternoon when we were burning a little power in a twenty-pound single-shot .32-40 Stevens target rifle, that he had reason to believe that the Winchester '76 chambered for the .70-150 was made for exportation to England where the British were to try it on African big game.

Be it far from me to oppose the opinions of those who have had the opportunity to be more familiar with some phases of arms and ammunition than I, but all the display cartridges I have seen WERE NOT LOADED. The .70-150 cartridge in my collection is fully loaded and primed. This fact causes me to think that this specimen was turned out shootin' purposes. The huge lead bullet has a copper shell inserted in its nose-a common feature in bullets of other calibers in the 70's. In some bullets I have examined, the copper shell was merely seated in a cylindrical cavity drilled in the point of the missile, which of course, upon impact with a solid object, caused the bullet to open up with an explosive effect; while in other bullets the little shell-resembling a .22 Short cartridge without a bullet-was loaded with fulminate. The wound caused by the latter number can be better imagined than described-"nasty" is putting it mildly! Whether my specimen has a hollow or loaded nose, I cannot say.

The big, bottle-necked brass case has a very thin rim, shot-gun type, around its base, and the primer is relatively small.

I do not doubt that it was the Centennial, or 1876, Model Winchester rifle which was manufactured to take the .70 caliber cartridge, as the '76 was popularly chambered for large caliber loads such as the .45-75 and .50-95. Being made oversized, as stated by Munhall, it should have been able to handle the .70-150 without difficulty. A repeating rifle bored to 70/100's of an inch certainly would have given a hunter plenty of fire power for Africa's roughest and toughest game—especially when the bullet weighs between 700 and 900 grains backed by 150 grains of black powder.

There is a chance in a million, or more,

that some reader of this department may possibly have, or know of someone who has a Model 1876 Winchester with a barrel reminding one of the proverbial sewer pipe—the bore measuring only .029 of an inch smaller than that of a 12-gauge shot gun. It could be a .70-150 Winchester!

OLT AGAIN! Last year the Colt Manufacturing Company brought out their new Match Target Woodsman (Featured in this department July '47). The Match Woodsman is now joined by two other improved members of this famous family of sporting pistols—the Sport Model with a 4½ inch barrel, and the Target Model with a 6-inch rifled tube.

With the exception of barrel lengths the latest editions are essentially alike, and at first glance bear a great resemblance to the former Woodsmans of their type. Both employ the conventional round barrel as compared to the heavy target barrel of the Match Target.

Two important safety features, common to all Woodsman pistols, is the automatic slide stop, and the magazine disconnector. Of course the slide stop eliminates the uncertainty about the firing chamber being empty, as the device holds the action open after the last shot has been fired. magazine disconnector prevents the pistol from being fired after the magazine has been removed, or is not fully inserted. I think this disconnector is one of the greatest safety features that can be built into a semi-automatic pistol, for I know of too many cases when accidents have occurred to those who thought the arms were unloaded merely after withdrawal of the magazine-not thinking of the load in the chamber.

The Coltwood plastic stocks of the Sport and Target Woodsmans are formed to fit snugly in the shooter's hand, and are heavily checkered to prevent slipping. Target Model stocks have been provided with a thumb rest like the Match Target Woodsman, and left-handed stocks identical to those of the Sport Model are available. Also, deeply grooved adapters can be had in two sizes to give additional shooting comfort.

The Colt master rear sight has a positive micrometer click adjustment for both windage and elevation. Both front and rear sights are glare-proof to kill all reflecting light. Sights are designed with .100 and .125 sighting notches, with front sight blade conforming in thickness. The front sight of the Sport Model is ramped and serrated.

Another feature, now common to all Woodsmans, is the concealed lanyard loop in the heel of the pistol butt, which can provide added insurance against loss in stream or woods.

The Colt Sport and Target Model Woodsman pistols should occupy a very prominent place on the target range and in the field.

ANOTHER "NEW" IS REMING-TON'S NEWEST OFFSPRING—the Model 721 Sporter, chambered for the ever popular .30-06 cartridge. I knew for several months it was coming, and when it actually came, but not until last March did I have the opportunity to get my mitts on the Model 721.

Lifting the piece out of its shipping box, my first impression was that it looked much like any other bolt-action sporter, but was quite a bit lighter than the average rifle chambered for the .30-06 load. Rolling the rifle over in my hands, my eyes jumped to the bolt as that part of the arm came into view. There was no visible extractor, as on the Winchester Model 70 and other Mauser types bolts. Closer observance, after opening the action, revealed that the extractor was located inside the deeply recessed bolt face—one of the most unique features of the rifle.

I especially like the thumb safety just back of the bolt handle where it is handy for both right and left handed shooters. The bolt release, for removing the bolt from the piece, is located inside the trigger guard forward of the trigger.

The Model 721 took all the *souped-up* proof tests and came through with flying colors; fact is, it was still in shooting condition when some of the other rifles (including Springfields and Mausers) that were tested with it were not.

Last hunting season Al Barr, firearms and ammunition authority associated with the National Rifle Association, brought the new Remington down to our fair state where he bagged a fine eleven-point whitetail buck with it. Commented Barr in The American Rifleman after his Texas hunt, "Having had considerable experience with at least one Model 721, I personally feel that for average hunting purposes there is a bright future for this rifle. It is about the handiest bolt-action rifle I have had an opportunity to carry in the woods, after adding sling and swivels, of course. My own impressions are that for general hunting the Model 721 is going to become quite popular.

A .270 and .300 Magnum caliber Model 721 will be out this year, as will a shorter action job—called the Model 722—in calibers .257 Roberts and .300 Savage. I predict that the .300 Savage will be the least popular of the different calibers offered—not that the Savage number is not a very efficient one, but it really belongs to the lever-action rifle class, and he who buys a bolt-action arm will usually choose a hotter cartridge.

The Model 721 is not at all fancy, but is very trim, clean-cut, well balanced, plenty accurate for game shooting, and a strong sporting rifle. For totin' in the mountains and over rough terrain, it should be ideally suited—especially for the man, or woman, who likes to carry less than seven and one half pounds of shootin' iron, yet, who wants the killing power and advantages offered by a .300 Magnum, .30-06, or .270. Being priced under \$80.00, we will probably see quite a few of Remington's Model 721's next fall when the buck and bull seasons open.—A. W.,

16 Tails Test

★ Centinued from page 11

cock would have been an easy shot even with the single.

He most certainly would not have gotten away with it. He never could have brought out both deer all by himself. That meant endangering another person in compounding the crime. How could he have concealed the doe? Purchased a freezer for about \$400 or \$500 to hide her in? He couldn't have stored both at the local locker plant. That amount of meat obviously couldn't have come from one deer. Hang the doe in the garage to spoil? Or both? He couldn't have possibly used up both carcasses fast enough to prevent spoilage.

Couldn't you just hear a magistrate itemizing the situation? The law book would have come sailing at our character full steam something like this: \$100 to \$200 apiece for the deer, plus costs; at least \$12.50 apiece for the six ducks and at least \$12.50 for the woodcock. No deer permit—\$\$; no duck stamp—\$\$; taking ducks and woodcock out of season and exceeding the bag limit on ducks—\$\$\$. A "grand" would have been most conservative to have settled all accounts.

He couldn't have raised that much money in a hurry. Jail doors would have yawned wide—and he suffers so from claustrophobia. No thanks!

His reputation as a law abiding citizen is worth more to him, and still is, and will be. The fact that he belongs to one gun club, has honorary membership in another, is secretary of his federation of clubs and works for a state department whose title is conservation, had nothing to do with the quick decisions. He just doesn't play that way.

He'd rather go for the walk—any day. In fact, so would I, because I'm the guy it happened to.

Let 'Em Live

★ Continued from page 14

inland. Still the indisputable fact remains that if people will be sportsmen as well as fishermen in all types of fishing and strive for better conditions, the results will provide good and abundant sport for generations to come. If people will only pause for a few moments they will see the results of that greedy attitude—you can't fish it out or you can't shoot all the game.

I have made my plea for tarpon and sailfish, but understand it is for all game fish and all game animals regardless of where they are found. Remember that they are expendable but we don't want to help prove it!

I hope you will excuse my straying from the original topic, because that wandering was done in all sincerity and honesty.

Remember the next time you are lucky and bring one of those grand gamesters to the boat that they are much more beautiful crashing out of a swell near the surf or arcing out of "blue water" on the end of a line than they are hanging bloated at the dock.

Be a sport, play the game, and enjoy good fishing.

Fanged Fury

★ Continued from page 4

mass attack, he starts to run, but the wolves, far more fleet than he, attack his flanks and ham sinews. He finally stops to face his enemies, hoping to impale them on his sharp horns. But the wolves are too active and avoid his thrusts. During this time, one wolf will attack his head, engaging his attention while the others grip sinews and flanks. In two or three minutes he is cut down—becomes utterly defenseless and the killers now commence to eat his hams.

"Gimson looked over the bloody scene and perfected his plans. He trailed the wolves and set many traps on the line. The second morning all three of the hellions were caught fast in his traps when Gimson rode the line. He looked upon the merciless killers and marveled at the mysterious ways of the Great Spirit, who created the wolf; provided him with a large mouth, jaws set with long, keen fangs, endowed him with great speed and endurance, and gave him power over the defenseless deer and antelope, horses and cattle, to tear and rend them. The laws of nature are grim and no mercy is shown the vanquished.

The trapper promptly shot the wolves and thus saved the lives of many deer, cattle, horses, and sheep. The number of livestock and game that these three organized wolves would kill in a year is past appraisal. They ranged over a wide area and many of their kills were never seen by the riders who traveled hogbacks and lines offering least resistance to their mounts. In one single night they had pulled down a bull and four horses, inflicting a loss of not less than \$200.00! It is safe to estimate that these three wolves killed at least one cow, steer, or horse every night and that they were worth \$20 each at a low estimate. This would amount to \$7,300 annually, besides the deer they killed.

"The gray wolf, because of his strategy in organizing the pack for killing game and livestock is the most destructive predatory animal in North America.

Covotes and Bobcats

"Gimson, on this range had a very unusual and interesting experience with two coyotes and a bobcat. The feet of all animals carry their scent, and enable their friends or foes to follow or identify them. Thus the wolf crossing the trail of a deer or steer is enabled to follow the line with marked speed, if the trail is fresh. He can follow another wolf and have a meeting. The power of scent is of vast importance to all animals, enabling them to keep track of their fellows, or overtake their Whether or not starving coyotes will kill and eat a bobcat I do not knowhave not any proof. But certain it is that one morning while riding his trap line, Gimson heard two coyotes barking vigorously in a canyon. The occurrence was so unusual in daytime that he dismounted and carefully stalked the hunters. He beheld an animated scene, around a low Piñon tree standing in a canyon bed with wild rye grass growing around it about two feet high. The coyotes had treed a bobcat, who was just out of their reach on a slender limb. They were barking just like dogs and leaping high, trying to reach the cat and pull him out. The coyotes were so engrossed in the attack that they lost their usual caution and Mr. Gimson observed them for several minutes before finally shooting them and the cat.

"Here was presented a rare lesson in natural history. What was the intention of the two coyotes? Did they want this cat for food? One thing was sure—they were doing their best to pull him out of the tree and the two would have been more than a match for the cat.

"The mouths of wolves and coyotes are much larger in proportion to their size than those of dogs and their curved fangs are longer and keener. The mouth of the cat is not one-half as large as that of the covote and one grip of the powerful jaws on his loin or hind legs would have put him down. Further-while a bobcat is very active and swift for a short distance, coyotes are far more so and it is safe to assume that the two would have employed their old methods of attack, by one of them engaging him in front while the other struck his loin or hind legs. If he ran, his loin and hindquarters were exposed to the swift attack of the coytes, who would cut him down quickly.

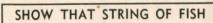
"Countless forest tragedies of tremendous interest have occurred at night and only the torn ground or bloody snow gave mute evidence of the sanguinary struggle for life that occurred.

The last of the Graham stories from Animal Outlaws will appear in the next issue, telling how a young coyote became a pet.

Wood Heads New Club

★ Continued from page 15

cially in the slaughter of whitewings and illegal seining in the Port Isabel area. Sportsmen charged that though the efficient State Fish, Game, & Oyster officers made repeated arrests, it was practically impossible to get convictions. One sportsman charged that he had seen thousands of gutted illegal-sized fish apparently dumped in the water by law violators fearing arrest. Another sportsman charged that he had seen so many small fish piled on the shores by illegal seiners that rising tides washing the decaying fish back into the water had created stench that could be smelled for long distances.





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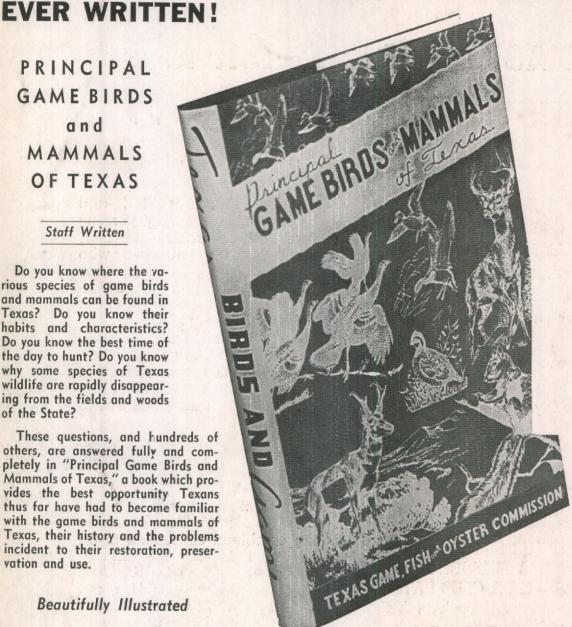
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