



TEXAS
Game AND Fish

NOVEMBER 1948

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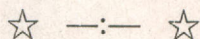
Here's the

INSIDE STORY

of the

Texas Game and Fish Market

Inside this great State, studded with streams, rivers, lakes, forests, and 1100 miles of Gulf of Mexico coastline . . . abounding in game and fish . . . is a dependable, responsive market. The far flung limits of this well-defined market and the vastness of its hunting and fishing wealth combine to provide a land of opportunity for advertisers. This market can be reached effectively and completely only from the inside—through TEXAS GAME and FISH, a monthly hunting and fishing magazine which already has a paid circulation of more than four times the combined circulation and newsstand sale of all the other hunting and fishing magazines in Texas, and which is adding new subscribers at the rate of better than 500 a month without the use of premiums . . . high pressure solicitors . . . or a club rate.



TEXAS GAME and FISH

WALTON BLDG.

AUSTIN, TEXAS

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.

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COVER—By Orville O. Rice

★ In This Issue ★

November 1948 · Vol. 6, No. 12

CONTENTS

Indianola Beach Ranks High as Fishing Resort	4
By J. G. BURR Coastal ghost town once was the leading port of the Gulf and salt water fishermen still find it packed with historic interest.	
How Gun Accidents Can Happen	5
By GEORGE A. MONTGOMERY One hunter discovered that he couldn't outrun a charge of bird-shot and disguising yourself to look like a bear or deer is a sure invitation to sudden death.	
Feathered Lures Pack Punch	6
By DONALD S. SHINER The smartest bass swimming around in Texas waters can be fooled by a properly tied and properly handled fly.	
Building Sportsmen	7
By CHARLIE H. GREEF Teen-agers are given a full and complete program on wildlife conservation by their elders in the Panhandle Sportsmen's Club.	
Greed Dooms Texas Oysters	8
By J. L. BAUGHMAN Practice of taking oysters from the waters of the Gulf without reseeding beds is one reason why production is almost nil.	
Breaking a World's Record	9
Photographs by LON FITZGERALD Three pages of action photos showing the experts competing for prizes in the National Fly and Bait Casting Tournament.	
American Deer Hunter's Choice	12
By ADAM WILSON III The Enfield, Model 1917, leads all other rifles as deer killing weapons in survey of 4,500 successful big game hunters.	
Hints for the Angler	13
The Snook is an energetic saltwater roughneck who goes about busting tackle on a large scale.	
Living Fence Gives Quail Safety	16
By DANIEL W. LAY A livestock-proof fence of multiflora rose promises to solve the problem of cover for wildlife in central and eastern Texas.	

ROGER M. BUSFIELD
Editor

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IF YOU have visited the ghost town of Indianola 15 miles south of Port Lavaca and rode along the miles of shell beach which was thrown up by storms you may have wondered if any oysters were left in the bay. Sand Point Reef is about three miles eastward, and indeed the entire bottom of Lavaca Bay must at one time have been covered with oysters. A survey was made in 1913 by Dr. H. F. Moore of the U. S. Government at the request of Commissioner W. G. Sterett. Dr. Moore recommended a thinning out of the oyster population so larger oysters would be grown. Dredging was recommended to cut down the reefs to one fifth or one tenth of their present density. That was the abundance, notwithstanding the beach had been paved with tons of oysters and oyster shells which had been heaved up by the tropical storms of centuries.

The fertility of the Lavaca and Matagorda Bay waters surpassed that of any other bay, and the favor of those oysters competed with the finest product of the

Indianola Beach Ranks High as Fishing Resort

By J. G. Burr

Atlantic seaboard. Therefore, boat loads, and later, car loads of these oysters were sent to the eastern markets.

With fish and oysters abundant; with deep water beckoning to navigation, it is easy to understand why hardy pioneers settled at Indianola.

The Morgan Steamship Lines built docks there and it became the center of distribution for South Texas and Mexico. Says Mrs. Lelia Seeligson in her history of Indianola, "Large wagons, called prairie schooners, drawn by ten or twelve

yoke of oxen, and two-wheel Mexican carts with rawhide beds, drawn by two yoke of oxen or by six mules, came and went in long trains. Wagons of Wells Fargo Express Company drawn by sixteen mules, four abreast, brought silver bullion from Chihuahua, Mexico. In fact, this was the concentration point of all the gold and silver bullion from the mines of Mexico, and shipped by sailing vessels to the U. S. Mint at New Orleans. These wagons came heavily guarded. A stage coach left twice a week for California, and a man with a Winchester always took his seat beside the driver."

This pre-eminence of water transportation came to an end in 1885 and steamship traffic was supplanted when Collis P.

**Once the Leading Port on the Coast of Texas
Indianola is Packed with Historic Interest**

● Continued on page 14

TEXAS GAME AND FISH

HOW Gun Accidents HAPPEN

By George A. Montgomery

Reprinted from Capper's Farmer

A WISCONSIN man sat on a stump waiting for a deer. Stung by a stray bullet, he jumped up. Another gunner saw the quick movement, fired blindly and killed him. A Michigan hunter carried his lunch wrapped in white paper. As he took it from his pocket to eat, he was shot by a fellow who said the flick of white looked like a deer's tail. Melvin Berkan, California youth, decked in red hat, crouched in a clump of bushes he was using for a duck blind. The hunter who poured a charge of birdshot into him said: "I thought he was a turkey."

These instances, picked from reports of state game commissions, illustrate one class of hunting accident. The offenders belonged to the irresponsible, trigger-happy type of hunter who fires before he looks.

These victims could not be accused of negligence that invited trouble. But consider this case: A Michigan man slung a coyote he had trapped over a shoulder, and headed for his car. A deer stalker saw the fur, fired and killed him. Another Michigan man who wore a coat that was too dark red lost his life when a hunter mistook him for a brown bear. A Wyoming man, who wore clothing that made him resemble a bear, was shot to death by a sheep herder.

Many accidents result from foolhardy chance-taking. A 17-year-old Oklahoman bet his companion he could outrun a charge of birdshot if the friend would count 5 before firing. The gunner should have counted to 10. A doctor spent hours digging out the pellets.

Another Oklahoma youth, also 17, sought to impress a girl friend with his courage. He put a single cartridge into a .44 pistol, spun the cylinder, and placed the muzzle to his temple. Gambling there was only 1 chance in 6 the firing pin would hit the shell, he pressed the trigger. He lost.

Hard liquor can make any hunt a foolhardy expedition. As evidence, consider the pair who decided to revive the old William Tell act. A tin can, substituted for the apple, should have been an easy

target. But the marksman's aim was unsteady and the episode resulted in a funeral.

Almost as foolhardy are the hunters who carry loaded guns in trucks or cars. A Kansan, hunting deer in Colorado, was shot thru the leg when he pulled his gun from a pickup truck. A man in Albany county, Wyoming, reached into an automobile for his jacket. A loaded gun fell, was discharged and killed him. First victim of last year's California deer season was a fellow who dragged his cocked rifle out of a car, muzzle first.

For E. B. Edwards and O. C. Jay, farmers in Comanche county, Oklahoma, a tractor proved a dangerous vehicle on which to carry a loaded gun. They were viewing a pasture when the tractor hit a bump and threw Edwards to the ground. The fall discharged the rifle he held. The bullet went thru his nose and Jay's arm. Crawling thru a fence, or climbing over, with a loaded gun is lethal business. It is uncertain whether the man who does it, or a companion, will be the victim. Exactly a third of the 21 Missouri hunters who were killed last year lost their lives when loaded guns, leaned against fences, or other insecure rests, fell and were discharged.

Most gun accidents could be avoided. Reducing their number, is wholly under control of gun handlers—and their victims. Makers of firearms put out weapons with the best safety devices. Ammunition is made under rigid control to be sure every charge is uniform, and that it can be used with a wide margin of safety in the gun for which it was intended. Legislatures even have tried to force safety by statute, but their efforts

are only partly effective. That is because the fellow who will hazard the penalty of death from his own gun, carelessly handled, pays little attention to a vastly lighter penalty imposed by law.

Two Missouri victims died while trying to subdue wounded game with butts of loaded guns. A hunter in Pueblo county, Colorado, was shot in the abdomen when he attempted to dislodge a rabbit from a cactus clump with the stock of his shotgun. A deer shot a hunter when Clarence Gerken, Weld county, Colorado, laid down his rifle and prepared to dress out a buck he had felled. A final, reflexive kick hit the rifle, and the ball went thru Gerken's shoulder.

There's no guessing what a ricocheting bullet may hit. Three Missouri boys were hunting when one fired at a target with a background of stone cliffs and large boulders. The bullet glanced off several hard surfaces, finally returned to kill a boy standing beside the one who fired the shot.

Three Californians armed with large caliber pistols stood blazing away at a bear that dogs had brought to bay at the base of a fir. A bullet fired by one glanced off the tree at 90-degree angle and lodged in the neck of another.

When Landine Ortega's rifle was discharged accidentally, the bullet shattered on a rock, and fragments wounded Don Zimmer and Travis Seyfied, both of Saguache county, Colorado. Zimmer was hit in both feet, Seyfied in the head.

Small children cannot be expected to know the danger in a loaded gun. Miss Juanita Mahaffey, Oklahoma Fish and Game Commission, reports this accident. A man in that state bowed to kiss his wife as he returned from a hunt. A 3-year-old son tugged at the gun, pulled the trigger and sent both parents to the hospital. The fellow had both hands over the muzzle of the weapon. That saved his wife from permanent disfigurement. She got only a few shots in the face. The gun's owner was less fortunate.

It is dangerous to leave any kind of ammunition where children can get their hands on it. "This is how daddy does it," said a 7-year-old lad to his sisters as he dropped a shell into a shotgun and killed one of them.

Some hunters forget their companions as they try to align sights with flying birds. A father and 2 sons were in the

● Continued on page 17

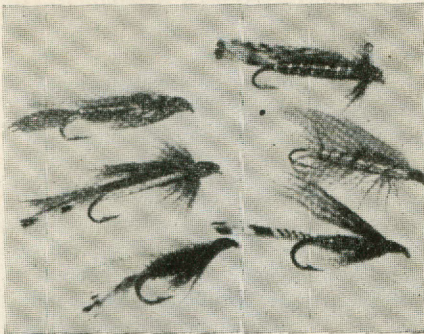
**You Can't Outrun a Charge of Birdshot Nor Can You
Disguise Yourself to Look Like a Bear or Deer
and Hope to Escape the Eagle Eye of
a Trigger Happy Gunner**

Feathered Lures Pack Punch

THE creative fly tier has at his command facilities and materials which he can use to create artificial and feathered lures. He can construct lures from bits of feathers, tinsel and fur to cover the need for most every conceivable condition that can be found in this game of angling.

Imitations of drowned insects, live insects, that float on the surface of the water, under water, imitations of living creatures and a host of others can be found in most any fly enthusiast's tackle assortment.

Sometimes I wonder whether the bass and other game fishes really can detect our presentations as frauds or accept them because they are attractive and strange creatures which appear to have life. Whether they are able to detect an imitation from a natural seems to make



Six top-rate streamer flies.

little difference since the facts are plain that they work, and work extremely well.

There has been much confusion between anglers as to when to use what lure and what each lure represents. To really derive the full benefit of any artificial, one must understand exactly what type lure they are using, what it supposedly imitates, and how to work or present the lure to the fish. If you are using an imitation frog lure constructed of hair or feathers, then it needs to be fished so that it acts like a frog and not a minnow. This means that the prospective angler requires a knowledge of the lure he is using.

Basically, all flies fall into two groups, those which float on the surface and those which sink or submerge under water. Both groups can be made into another distinction, "exact imitation" patterns and those of "fancy fly" patterns. The former is a rendition of the actual insect which the fish feed upon while the latter is merely a suggestive food morsel or curiosity lure.

As stated, the fly tier has used combinations of tinsel, fur and feathers to create both groups and it can be emphasized that his lures pack a punch.

Let us break down this surface grouping into the variety of flies available to the angler today.

Dry flies, wet flies and nymphs; streamers, bass bugs and spinner flies seem to be the most popular styled flies so a brief discussion is necessary to derive full benefits from each lure when used.

Dry Flies—Under this category falls the feathered lures which are used dry and floated on top of the water. They represent insects which have fallen from the air or a 'hatch' which has matured into winged insects from under water nymphs. It is estimated that one-third of a game fish's diet is secured from the surface of the water. From this estimate, one can readily see how effective surface lures really are.

Dry flies cover this type of food. Among this type many variations of flies can be found as well as a vast variety of patterns of both "exact imitation" and "fancy flies."

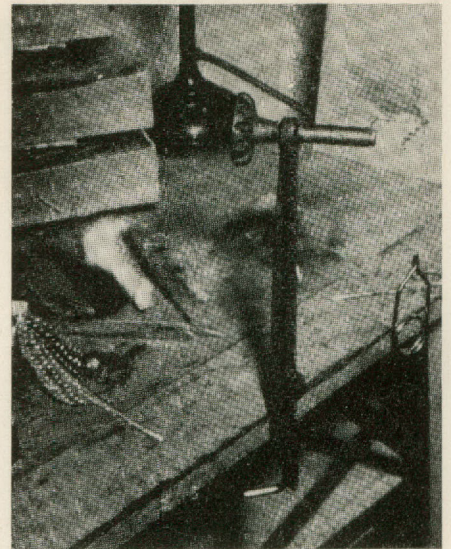
Spiders, bivisibles, divided upright and spent wing flies, and fan wing flies are the most popular and generally the most productive fish getters.

Spider flies are those which have hackles wound directly behind the eye of a short shank hook, (generally large or oversize hackles for the size hook used). They seldom have a body or



Wet Flies.

tail; some tiers use a gold plated hook and allow the hook itself to appear as the body. Spiders are closely related to



Feathered lures created on the fly tier's work bench, certainly pack the punch!

bivisible flies inasmuch as both are merely hackled hooks. Bivisibles have one or two hackle feathers wound the entire length of the hook. Generally a different color hackle feather is tied directly behind the eye of the hook, hence, the name, bivisible. This method of tying enables the angler to follow the fly more easily on the water. The brown and badger bivisibles are exceptionally good flies and are ideal flies for fast tumbling water. Their ability to float is unsurpassed by any other feather lure.

Insects alighting on the surface of the water normally have their wings cocked upright. The upright divided wing fly covers this type insect.

However, as in the case of May flies and insects which deposit eggs into the water and quickly die, the wings are then spread out flat upon the water. The spent wing dry fly imitates this condition quite well. Here we find a definite need for both upright and spent wing flies in the variety of patterns needed in your locality.

Still another type dry fly is the fan wing. These can easily be recognized by their large curved fan shaped wings. These are excellent floaters in fast water and are constant fish getters. Its good floating and visibility on fast water and constant fish getting outweighs its one bad fault, that of being wind and air resistant which results in a difficult lure to cast.

Most of the standard patterns of dry

● Continued on page 19

**By Donald S. Shiner
Pennsylvania Angler**

Building Sportsmen

The Panhandle Outdoor Sportsmen's Club has developed sure-fire recipe for getting boys conservation minded

By Charlie H. Greef

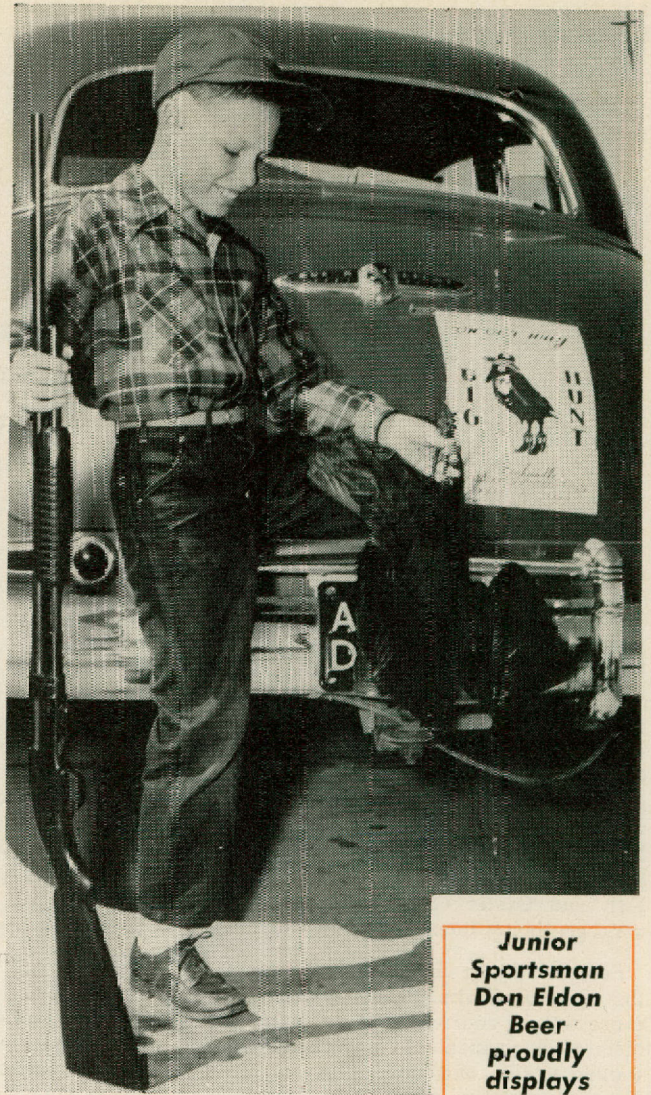
THERE'S one—there's one, Mr. Studer," cried the teen-age voice and the car which was loaded with Junior Sportsmen braked to a stop. Now boys, said Mr. Floyd Studer, that's a big rattler all right, and let me show you how to handle him. Carefully and slowly Mr. Studer explained to the boys the dangers of approaching the snake, something about his habits and what actions to take in case of an accidental bite. When he had killed the snake, he showed them the rattlers, the fangs and the poison sac.

Now we realize there is nothing very unusual about seeing and killing a rattler—especially in West Texas, nothing very unusual about teen-age boys ever present interest in the out of doors. But here in Amarillo, our sportsman's group is actually doing something concrete about this interest through our Junior Panhandle Outdoor Sportsmans Club.

For almost a year now the Juniors have functioned as an entirely separate organization with their own officers, their own meetings and their own program. Naturally they followed the lead of the Senior Club in adopting The Texas Game and Fish magazine as their official publication.

What's their program? Take a recent month's activities for an example. Their regular monthly meeting was devoted to an illustrated talk, "Wildlife in the Texas Panhandle—Past

● Continued on page 21



Junior Sportsman Don Eldon Beer proudly displays a banded crow he brought down during last spring's crow hunt. Each banded crow was worth \$25 reward so Don has plenty to 'crow' about.



Members of Junior Panhandle Outdoor Sportsman's club visit West Texas State College Museum at Canyon on one of their field trips.

Greed Dooms Texas Oysters

Policy of taking Bivalves from Waters of the Gulf Without Reseeding Beds and Creating New Beds is Main Reason why Texas Oyster Production has Dropped to a Mere Trickle

By J. L. Baughman

OYSTER farming in Texas is in the dark ages. So far as I know, only two men in the state have ever actually cultivated oysters and made a success of it. These are Dolf Rogers, who for years had a very successful oyster plant in Of-fats Bayou, Galveston, and Tony Chouke, who at one time had a claim in Sidnor's Bayou. Of the 500 acres of oyster claims shown in the last report of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, probably none are being intensively cultivated.

Several things have contributed to this state of affairs. Primarily the main cause was, of course, the fact that public reefs were available to everybody who wanted to fish, and have until compara-

tively recently provided enough oysters to keep most of the boats busy. Within recent years however, the steady fishing pressure from more boats and more dredges and the loss of a number of big reefs in the Colorado River area when the log jam was dynamited, have so curtailed the production that Texas' place in the oyster picture resembles a pin point on the map of the United States.

In all the years that there has been an oyster industry in Texas, it is doubtful whether one man has ever put anything back.

The thing that strikes me, in comparing Texas oystering with that in other places, is the fact that we expect to get some-

thing for nothing, and, in so doing, have so depleted our resources that we have cut our own throats. Soon we are going to get nothing at all unless we make up our minds that we must expect a continued crop only if we are willing to put something back into the waters, just as a farmer returns seed to the land.

Oyster farming started in China 2,000 years ago. The Romans cultivated oysters. Today France, England, parts of the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, Holland and Denmark cultivate oysters. In not one of these countries do they expect to get a crop without a great deal of hard work and more care than a farmer ordinarily expends on his fields. It may be of interest here to compare the methods utilized in some of these countries with the lack of method in our own.

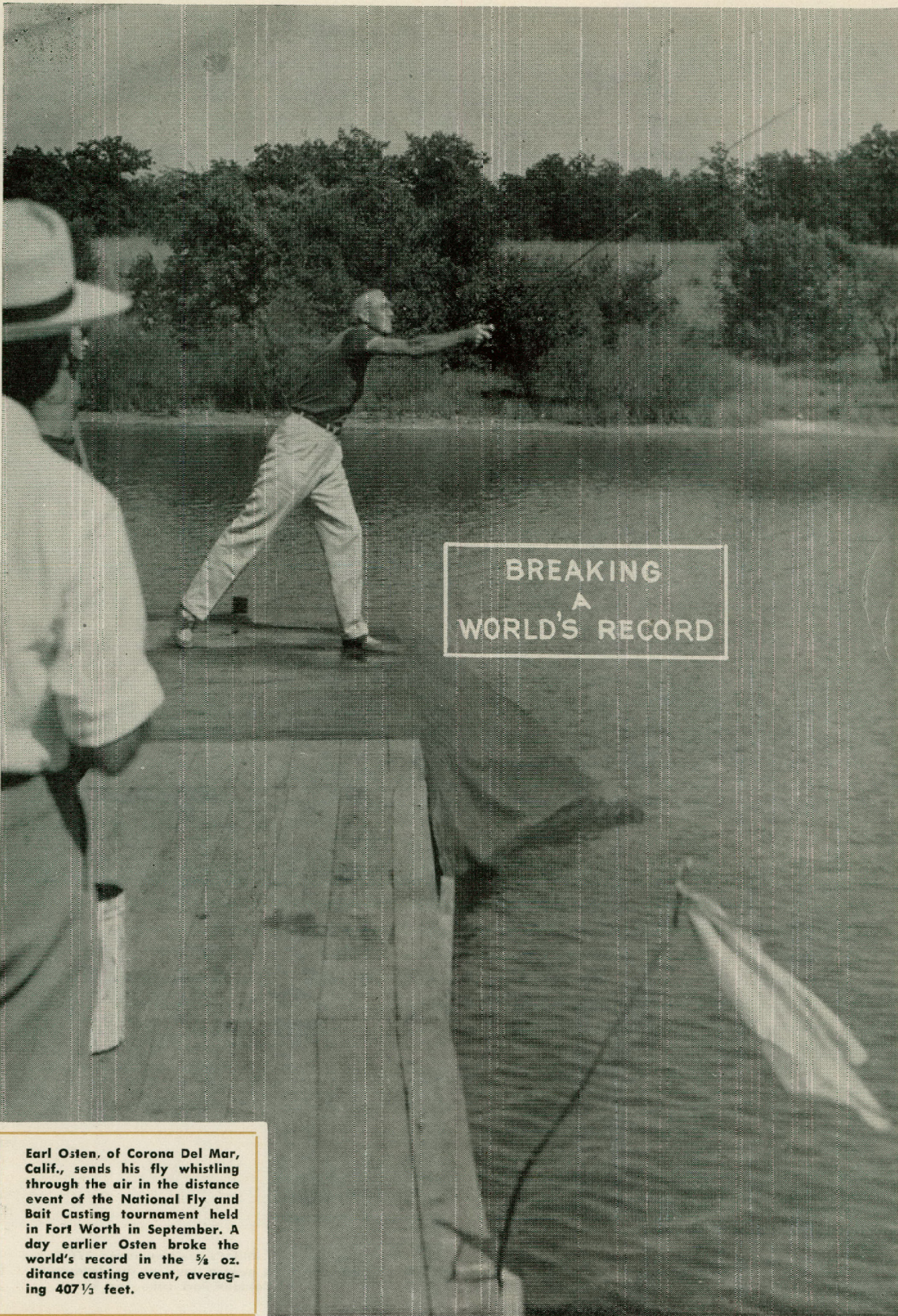
In France, Holland, Denmark and England, oyster cultivation has been reduced to rather exact science. Spat collectors are placed at the proper time in areas where the oysters spawn freely and allowed to remain until the tiny oysters have attached themselves. Then they are brought ashore, the spat carefully detached and placed in wooden trays in a storage tank. From here they are picked out, cleaned, separated into different sizes and then taken back to the grounds where they are placed in "ambulances." These are trays raised on legs some little distance above the bottom and protect the young oysters from all danger of suffocation by mud, which kills countless numbers of spat under normal circumstances. These trays are examined repeatedly and all enemies like oyster drills and other pests are removed. As the oysters grow and the trays become over crowded, they are transferred to new trays or to the open beds and are here allowed to mature.

The fattening of oysters forms a separate industry and in some parts of the French coast where the land is flat and

This fisherman is insuring his future oyster supply by returning shell to the waters from which oysters have been taken.

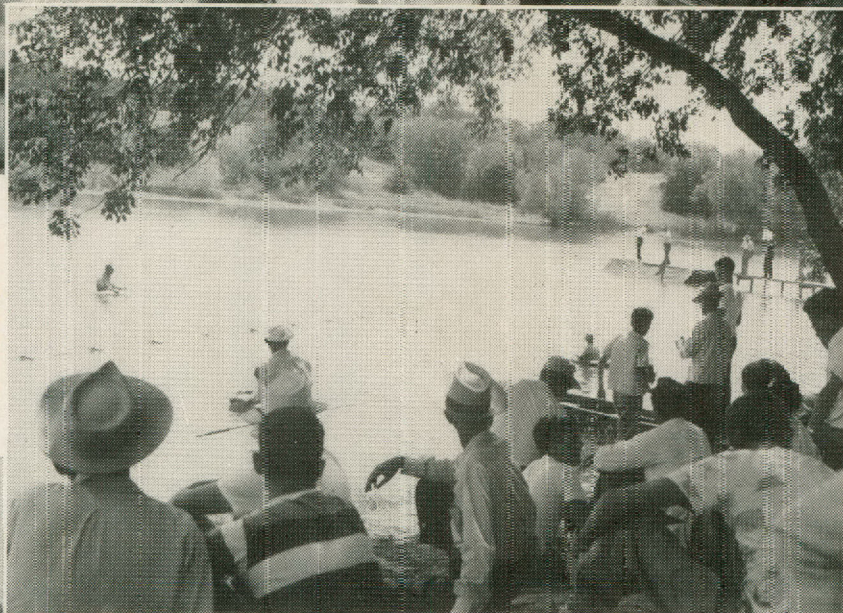
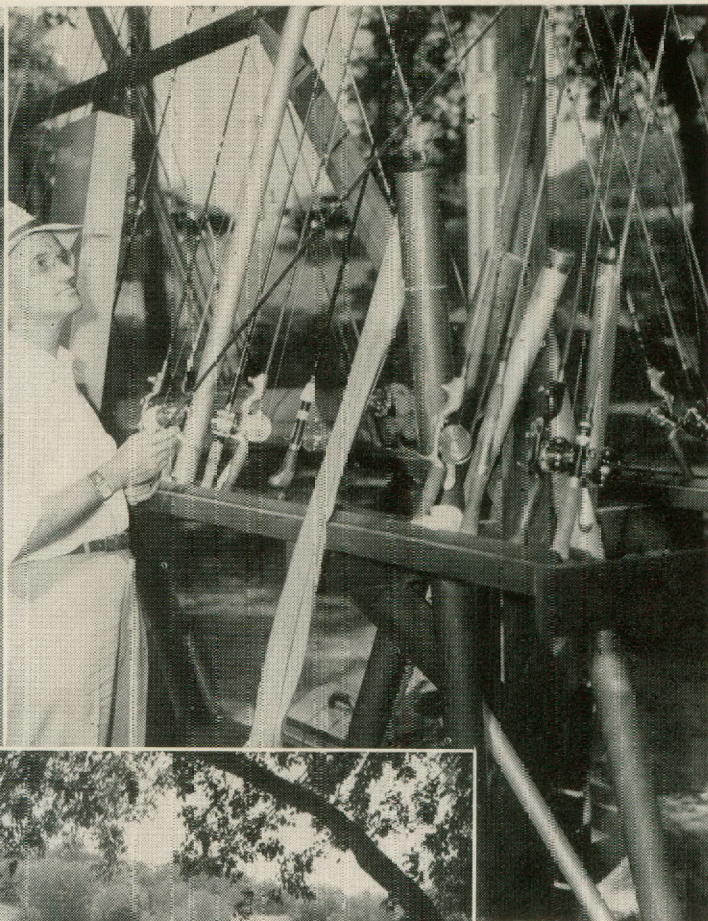


● Continued on page 24



BREAKING
A
WORLD'S RECORD

Earl Osten, of Corona Del Mar, Calif., sends his fly whistling through the air in the distance event of the National Fly and Bait Casting tournament held in Fort Worth in September. A day earlier Osten broke the world's record in the $\frac{3}{8}$ oz. distance casting event, averaging $407\frac{1}{2}$ feet.



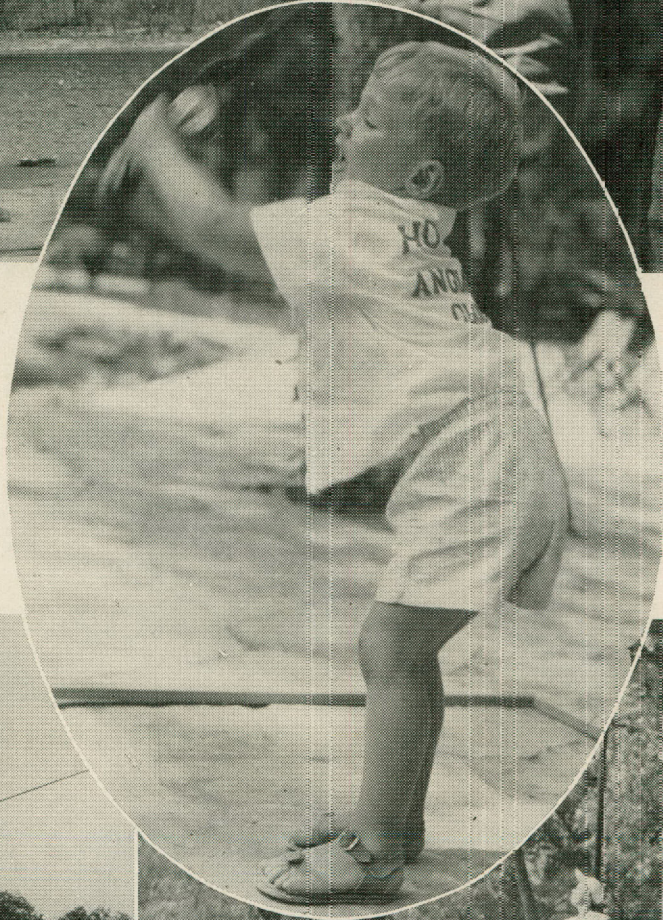
Lou Guerin, San Francisco, Calif., as he casts in the distance fly casting event.

P. L. Varney, of St. Louis, Mo., a member of the Flying Bait Casting Club, selects his rod.



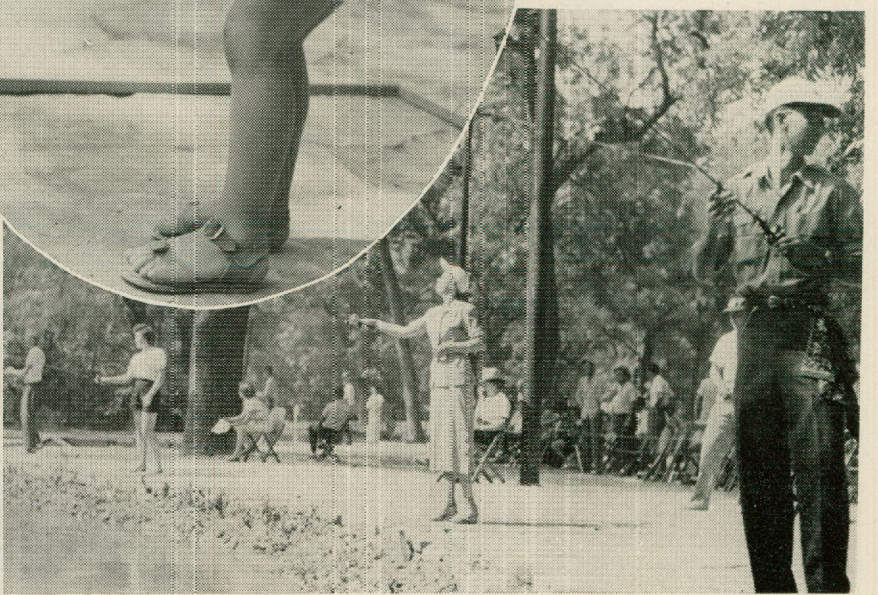
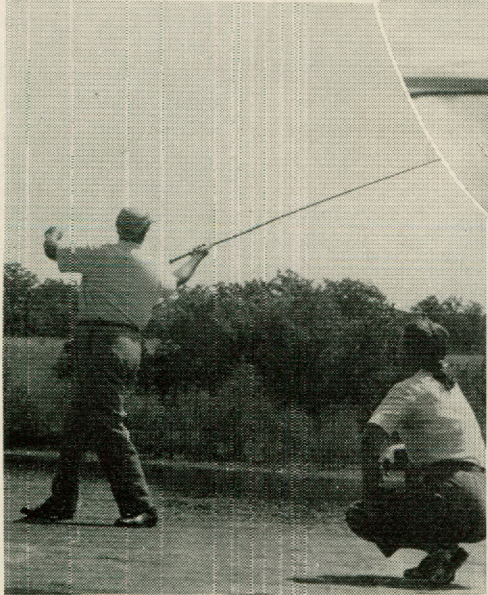
Lower Left. Jack Sparks, of Waco, shows perfect coordination as he prepares to cast in the distance fly casting event. Lower Right. R. G. (Dick) Miller, shows the form that won him the title of the world's

fly casting champion. Miller's casts averaged 176 $\frac{2}{3}$ feet. Upper Center. A general view of the distance fly casting arena at Oakland Park Lake, Fort Worth, Texas.



Joan Salvato, of Patterson, N. J., was the only woman contestant in the distance fly casting tournament. Miss Salvato is the international all around ladies champion bait and fly caster.

Joe Jefferson and Jimmy Lamb, of Fort Worth. Jimmy, 10 years old, took third place in Junior Skish event. Both youngsters are members of the Fort Worth Junior Angler's Club.



Lower left. Marvin Hedge and his pretty wife, of Portland, Oregon. Hedge was an outstanding contestant in the distance fly casting event. Lower right. General view of the skish tourna-

ment at the Fort Worth Angler's Club pool. Center. Rare form is displayed by 3-year-old Skipper Bonner, of Houston, Texas.



ARMS AND AMMUNITION

By Adam Wilson III
Gun Editor

American Deer Hunter's Choice

A DEER hunter's camp just would not have the right atmosphere, unless a few good natured arguments took place regarding the best rifle for bringing down the elusive whitetail and the bouncing mule deer. Of course, as a rule "my rifle is best," no matter if a majority votes for another rifle of different caliber.

For a number of years I have wondered why somebody, or organization, did not take it on themselves to find out definitely which is the most popular rifle in America. Now it finally has been done!

Last year the National Rifle Association not only conducted a deer-kill survey bringing to light the most popular rifle, but also the most popular cartridge, the most efficient cartridge, and the most efficient bullet. The

facts revealed as a result of the survey were not too surprising to the informed gunner, but since the data gathered is considered official dope, it can be used as a very strong point in settling arguments regarding the time-honored question "Which is the most popular?", as far as deer rifles, loads, and bullets are concerned. Also, and more important, other valuable information is revealed which can serve as a helpful guide, and provide useful hints to two types of hunters. Those who are not quite sure as to what they want in the way of deer killing equipment, and those who have been trying but have nothing to show for their efforts.

Findings by the survey were released after a thorough analysis of the reports received from 4,500 successful known and successful big game hunters. The hunters were asked on an official

form to give information as to the rifle and cartridge they used, and as to the effect the bullet had on the game when shot.

The ten most popular deer-killing RIFLES, in order named, were: Enfield Model 1917, Winchester Model 70, Springfield Model 1903, Winchester Model 94,

more refined Winchester Model 70, but this can be explained, because other than the fact that the Enfield is an excellent arm—of the availability of the Model '17's at a very reasonable cost through the National Rifle Association.

Surprised, will be a few folks to see their beloved Model 94 (popularly cham-

bered for the .30-30 cartridge) in fourth place, as will those who swear by the Model 99 Savage which occupies fifth place. Probably needless to mention, in some sections of the country where arms are carried regularly on horseback, and where short-range shots are the rule, the lever-action jobs led by a great majority. Remington's Model 41 pump-action and Model 81 (auto-loading) came into their own in territories

where speed of fire is needed and the targets seldom appeared farther away than 150 or 200 yards.

I was disappointed to see the Model 98 Mauser so far down the line, as lit-

● Continued on page 22



What a mess of 'em! And all fourteen of these fine bucks were brought down with one shot each. Rifles used: Five .30-06 Model 70 Winchester, one .300 Model 99 Savage, one .300 Model 81 Remington.

Savage Model 99, Krag Model 1898, Mauser Model 98, Remington Model 141, Remington Model 30, Remington Model 81.

One may be a bit surprised to see the old Enfield holding top place over the



The Sportsman whose judgment is as good as his aim has his trophies mounted at Nowotnys.

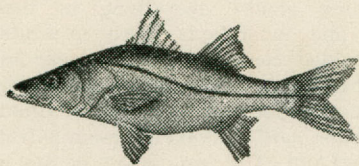


Nowotnys Taxidermy Studio

1331 BROADWAY, SAN ANTONIO 2, TEXAS



The SNOOK



SNOOK

Centropomus undecimalis (Bloch)

HERE is an energetic saltwater rough-neck who goes about busting tackle on a large scale. Its willingness to slam into artificial lures makes it a favorite of the bait caster and the force of its strike usually jolts the angler into the realization that he has a battle on his hands.

About the only thing predictable about the snook is its ability to increase the heart beat by remote control. From the moment it takes the bait, the action is fast, dogged and intense, with burned thumbs and bruised knuckles lurking in every maneuver.

For those who are fond of fishing the passes, here is a favored quarry and its particular penchant for chewing up artificial lures makes it a natural for casting enthusiasts. While it does not have teeth, care should be taken in landing one of these scrappers for each gill cover has a knifelike edge.

Ravallia, sergeant, sergeantfish, robalo, saltwater pike.

The always present black stripe extending from the gill cover to the fork in the tail is the most prominent marking of the snook. The color is olivaceous on the back, shading into greenish silver on sides above the lateral line, silvery below.

In the Atlantic, the snook ranges from Florida southward to the northern coast of South America and is plentiful in the Gulf of Mexico. In the Pacific, the snook and a closely related species is found from Panama northward to lower California.

It is most often found in saltwater inlets, cuts, tidal creeks, rivers and lagoons. Also around jetties, bridges and pilings and although the snook will ascend brackish rivers to fresh water, it will not remain there for long.

The world's largest snook was taken on rod and reel by Capt. John W. Anderson in Charges River, Canal Zone, Pan-

ama, January 2, 1944; its weight was 50½ pounds. The United States record snook weighed 49½ pounds and was caught on the West coast of Florida in 1921.

The snook when taken in clear water has no difficulty meriting the table rating of "very good."

A voracious eater, the snook is particularly fond of shrimp, crabs, mullet, shiners and other small fish.

Topwater plugs like the zaragossa, darting zara and lucky 13 are especially effective and consistently productive underwater lures are spoons, squids, feathered jigs, saltwater torpedoes and sea runts.

The greatest toll of snook is taken plug casting and a sizeable number are caught trolling or still-fishing. Fly fishermen find excellent sport catching these sturdy warriors and heavier tackle than usual is necessary to handle them.

Due to the strength of the snook, standard light-weight casting rods lack all the necessary qualities of a good snook rod; one especially designed for this job is recommended.

The most popular rod is known as "Riptide" and is made of split, tempered bamboo in lengths of 5 and 5½ feet, medium and heavy actions. The rear cork grip is 9 inches long instead of the usual 6 inches, greatly facilitating casting and playing of the fish.

With this should be used a level-winding casting reel of 100 or 150 yard capacity. With the 100-yard size reel, a 15 to 25-pound test silk or nylon line should be used and for the larger reel, a linen line of 9 or 12 thread is recommended.

Short wire leaders of 9 to 10 inches in length should always be used because of the aforementioned knife-like gill cover.

For fly casting, heavier rods are necessary not only because of the snook's robust tactics but also because small tarpon are likely to be encountered. The favorite is a split, tempered bamboo fly rod of "Power-Plus" action in the 9 foot length. This rod is built on a 2¾ ferrule and weighs slightly over 6 ounces.

The proper fly line for this rod is D level or an HCH taper; fine wire leaders are a necessity and while No. 2 or No. 3

is better, nothing heavier than No. 5 should be used.

Fly lures such as wilder-dilg spooks, bass-bug spooks, streamers and popper spooks are excellent; also good are any large winged patterns used for bass and pike.

Catching snook is no ordinary fishing experience and the proper tackle is just as necessary as a good guide on an angler's first fishing trip. Once an angler has done battle with this hard-charging line-man, the snook will take over a large part of his fishing affections.

Backwoods Patches

You can use the white of an egg to "glue" patches on a garment. Apply the egg-white to the patch and place it on the underside of the hole or tear while still wet, then press it with a hot iron or stone. The patch will stand washing and even boiling but not in water in which any of the chlorine bleaches has been used.

Never Shrink Woolens

Your winter woolen sports togs won't shrink if you follow the same method the old-time lumberjacks and northwoods trappers used. When washing all-wool or part-wool underwear, socks, shirts, sweaters or other garments hang them up to dry just as they come from the rinse water, without wringing. Let them drip dry and they will never shrink.

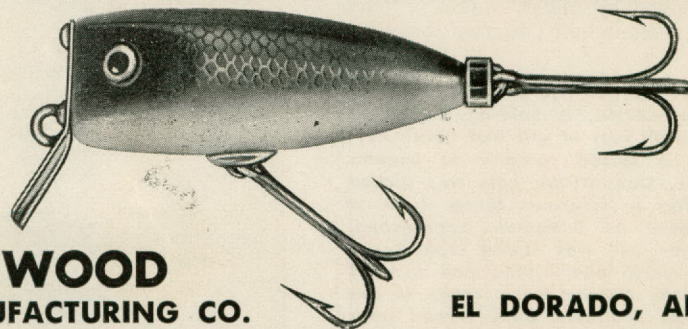
"DOC" JENKINS' AUTOMATIC FISH HOOKS NEVER MISSES—NEVER LETS GO

Can be set for casting, still fishing, trolling, trotlines, etc. Just bait hook and close. A gentle nibble or a bard strike sets hook off. Hooks fish automatically. The harder the fish pulls the tighter hook holds.

2 HOOKS, \$1.00 . . . NO LESS SOLD
1 Dozen HOOKS \$5.00

R. A. "Doc" Jenkins, Licensed Guide
P. O. Box 42 St. Louis 3, Mo.

DO YOU HAVE A DIPSY DOODLE?



WOOD
MANUFACTURING CO.

EL DORADO, ARK.

Ghost Town Fishing Resort

● Continued from page 4

Huntington, the great railroad magnate, extended a line from Rosenberg to Cuero and Victoria. Thus passed the glory of the "Queen of the West" that had ranked with Galveston as one of the two important sea ports of the coast of Texas. A year later, the second great tropical storm finished the career of a city which had reached a population of 7,000 and for nearly half a century had witnessed scenes of stirring interest far beyond the importance accredited by historians.

Here is where colonists from Germany landed in 1845 headed by Prince Solms Braunsfelt who had visited Texas as early as 1814 and described the country as a "land of milk and honey; of perennial flowers of crystal streams, rich and fruitful beyond measure, with roaming myriads of deer and buffalo, while the primeval forest abounded in wild fowls of every kind." (History of Indianola, by Mrs. Lelia Seeligson.)

The story of German settlements stemming from Indianola is too well known for elaboration. The westward drive everywhere to escape crowded conditions, and breathe the air of a greater freedom, was going on in Europe as well as in the United States. The newly found liberty of German immigrants, who had been taught to revere the nobility, found expression when some one in the Indianola colony rebuked a fat German smoking his pipe, who had failed to lift his hat or salute Prince Solms as he rode by.

The eccentric prince was fond of making a show and wore tall feathers in his head gear. To the rebuke, the fat German replied, "Damn the prince! This is a free country."

In historical sequence the oddest of all immigrants were the Arabian camels. The 1929 yearbook of the Department has an account of the planting of these camels in the west but a more complete report is to be found in the Scrap Book of George French of Victoria which is taken from "The Gringo Builders" by J. L. Allhands in 1931. The camel story has more significance because the beasts were landed at Indianola. The story tells why the desert animal was introduced:

"Some people had the idea that this vast Sahara (Western Texas) could not be traversed by mules, horses or oxen. It is significant that Congress seemed to

believe it a desert too, for in 1854 there was apportioned money for the importation of camels, and obediently the U. S War Department set about to supply those dwellers of the desert (Texas et al) who were able to endure burning heat and flying sands. A considerable herd was imported from Syria, Constantinople, and Alexandria to Indianola, Texas for the radical innovation of a camel train.

"Along with those camels came their Armenian drivers and their families, and the herd finally totaled 125. A caravanary patterned after those of Asia was established at the old historic post of Camp Verde, twelve miles south of what is now Kerrville. Long before 1860 rolled around the army had thoroughly established a spectacular caravan system of those stolid, but temperamental beasts, which was functioning comparably to the most efficient chain of communication in the Oriental deserts. They were not only used in dispatch bearing and in Indian warfare, but on some of them, cargoes of merchandise plodded across the country via the trail where in the late '50s the Western Stage Coach Company operated a four-horse stage between Indianola's Powder Horn Wharf and Victoria, San Antonio and Austin. The badly shaken passengers bound for far away San Antonio were delivered at their destination just forty-eight hours after their departure.

"For a long time the flickering necklace of oil lamps in Indianola's two main business streets blinked down on those parked ships of the desert, leisurely chewing their cud, and no one can say what would have happened if the Civil

war had not come, but when these evil days fell, this transportation system sustained its death blow, with many of the camels wandering off, while others were sold at auction. However, within a few years after the close of the war, Indianola began to come back and this county seat of Calhoun County in its heyday attained a population estimated as high as 7,000 and became the most prosperous seaport on the Texas coast."

Mrs. Seeligson, in her history, supplies this incident on the conduct of the camels while at Indianola: "A drove stampeded doing no end of damage, breaking down fences, trampling gardens and demolishing almost everything in their path. The inhabitants were infuriated and scalded them with boiling water and pelted them with sticks. The camels were finally corralled in a beer garden situated on the main land about one mile from Indian Point. The last record of any of these animals was in 1887 in Western Arizona."

Indianola had the distinction of being occupied during the Civil War by federal troops. No confederate troops were there and no resistance was made. The Yankees and the populace got along fairly well together and some real friendships were formed. Port Lavaca was bombarded and occupied.

The story of the French explorer, LaSalle who passed within sight of the Indianola that was to be, (passing between Sand Point and the mainland), is known to all who have studied Texas history, but to round out our story it may be briefly mentioned that LaSalle in 1685, in search of the mouth of the Mississippi entered Pass Cavallo by mistake and established a station near the head of La-

● Continued on page 24

Game Warden H. D. Campbell, of Corpus Christi, is holding a part of the 4,800 feet of gill and beach netting he seized recently in Laguna Madre. One of the nets was picked up after a fisherman threw it out of his boat as Campbell approached. Another net was found staked out near North Bird Island and a third near the Marine firing range in the Laguna. The nets were turned over to the county attorney at Kingsville.



BUFFLE-HEAD

The Buffle-head is a handsome, hardy and vivacious little bird and is a species found only in North America. It is a late migrant, moving to breeding grounds in northern Canada just ahead of the Blue-winged Teal. It remains in the North until severe cold drives it south late in October and November.

In flight the little male is easily distinguishable with its striking black and white markings, big head and short neck. The Buffle-heads usually fly in small flocks close to the water.

The Buffle-head is a diving duck but unlike most other diving ducks the hardy little Buffle-head can rise quickly and cleanly from the water and if the occasion demands, the Buffle-head can rise quickly from below the surface, bursting into the air at full speed. These colorful birds alight with a splash and then glide along the surface to a standstill. The Buffle-head decoys easily but it is a hard duck to shoot because it dives with the flash of a gun and is safely under the surface of the water by the time the shot is well underway. It is not much sought after as the flesh has a strong fishy taste.

AMERICAN GOLDENEYE

This duck gets its name from its bright golden yellow eye. In general size and markings, the American Goldeneye resembles the Buffle-head and is frequently mistaken for it. The Goldeneyes are very active birds in flights and on the water. The flight is exceedingly swift and is accompanied by an extraordinary vibrant whistling of the wings which can be heard at a great distance.

Like the Buffle-head, the Goldeneye flies in small flocks and when taking off from the water they circle many times to gain altitude. It is a good diver and dives with its wings held tightly to the sides.

When shot at in flight, the Goldeneye folds its wings and drops to the water like a stone, quickly disappearing beneath the surface.

Migration from the northern breeding grounds starts in October and ends late in November.

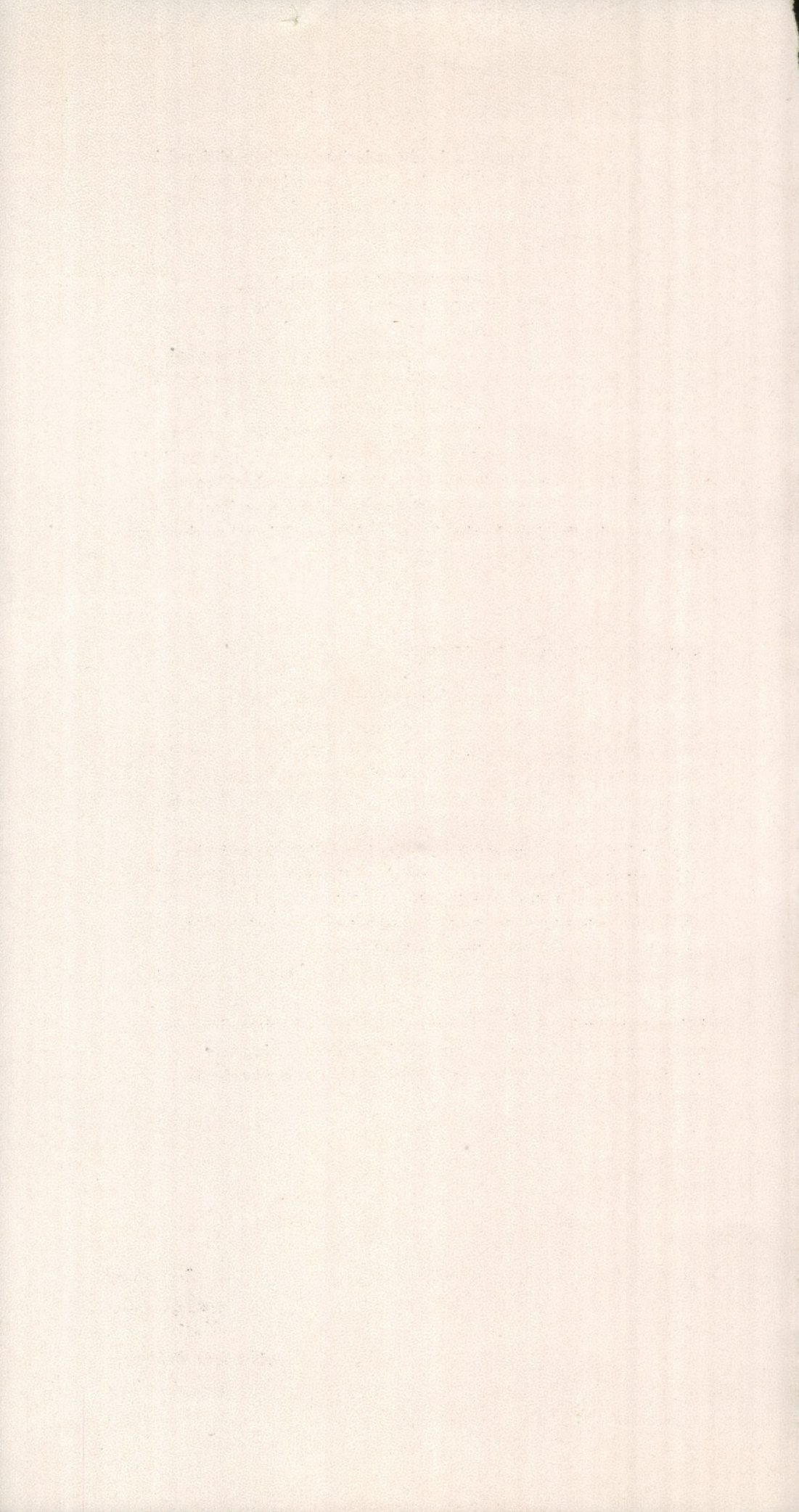
It is a wary bird and while they may be decoyed, the deception must be perfect or the Goldeneye will veer off just before coming into gunshot range. Most hunters rate the Goldeneye as a second-rate table bird.

Buffle-head

FEMALE AND MALE

American Goldeneye

MALE AND FEMALE





Youth Group Real Aid to Conservation

A private, non-profit youth group in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, is playing a large part in the conservation and restoration of wildlife, the Wildlife Management Institute reported today. Organized early in 1947 by Mr. and Mrs. John B. Wysock of Plymouth, the Wysock Junior Conservation Club, Incorporated, was formed to interest as many youngsters as possible in the outdoors and to lead them in the path toward good sportsmanship.

The membership numbers 109 at the present time, and officers and members are between 10 and 16 years of age. The boys finance their program by paying 10 cents in weekly dues, by collecting newspapers, magazines, and scrap, and by sponsoring fox hunts and shooting matches. They already own their own truck and two clay-pigeon traps, and purchase ammunition in bulk lots for the members.

Qualifications for membership are simple and to the point. Other than the age requirements, each new member must have the written consent of his parents and sign a pledge which commits him to be careful with fire in the woods and to the protection of wildlife and forests. The pledge states: "I believe that every citizen should endeavor to see that our forests, wildlife, soils, waters, and minerals are protected and conserved for our public good." Group activities and projects are diversified and give the boys close contact with conservation problems in the field. The members help state game protectors stock fish and game, they feed game birds in winter, plant food and cover patches and trees, erect nesting boxes, and live-trap rabbits from gardens for release in more suitable habitat. They distribute posters for the state game commission and sponsor swimming, fishing, and fox hunting parties. Future club plans call for a pheasant rearing project.

Officers of the organization, all of Plymouth, are: Ken Lamereaux, president; Joseph Rogers, vice-president; Raymond Lamereaux, financial secretary; and James Kelly, treasurer. Mr. Wysock serves as senior president and director. Such an organization as this in each town of comparable size across the nation would spell the end of juvenile delinquency and do much to mold our future population into good citizens with a close kinship with nature.



H. H. Plumeyer and N. Carves, of New Brauntfels, spent 30 minutes landing this 62½ pound catfish which they caught in Lake Dunlop, a few miles south of New Brauntfels. The trot line was baited with perch. The girl in the picture is Margaret Bernstein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Berstein, of New Brauntfels.

A quarter of a century ago there were 14,383 different kinds of shot shell loads. Today there are 137 still plenty for all kinds of shooting.

Fisherman Nabs Greedy Hoot Owl

Fishermen around Nacogdoches have been known to snag some mighty peculiar things with a rod and reel—lily pads, underwater stumps, leaves, turtles, snakes, eels, and, occasionally, a fish or two. Until recently, however, none of the outdoorsmen around Nacogdoches had reported catching an owl.

The unusual haul was made by Ben Talmadge, of Nacogdoches, near Big Eddy on the Angelina River, when he hooked an owl with a three-foot wing spread on a "cripple minnow" plug.

Clyde Whitton, Talmadge's fishing companion, vouches for the story which goes like this:

The two men were moving downstream, just about sundown, when they spied a likely looking brush pile near a snag. Talmadge took careful aim and dropped the plug near the snag.

Suddenly the owl, which was perched on the snag, swooped down on the bait, catching it in its claws. One of the hooks stuck in the owl's foot and Talmadge reeled it in. Whitton killed it with an oar.

That old fable about not talking or the fish will hear you has no basis in fact. Fish can't hear sounds through water, but they can feel vibration. Walk quietly along the stream and don't rattle around in the boat too much.

**He's scared...
of stray bullets**

Last year stray bullets put 2,500 telephone wires out of action.

This year we're asking all hunters not to shoot at birds on telephone wires or poles. One stray shot can do a lot of damage.

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO.

Texas Gets Half Million Federal Aid

The Interior Department has set aside \$10,780,620 for use as federal aid by the states in wildlife conservation before July, 1949.

This is the largest such sum, by \$2,500,000 ever appropriated for this purpose.

"It should provide the states with an opportunity to extend their development of wildlife resources beyond anything yet attempted," Robert M. Rutherford, chief of interior's division of federal aid in wildlife preservation, said.

The fund comes from the 11 per cent excise tax paid by the manufacturers of sporting arms and ammunition. The money is apportioned to the states under terms of the Pittman-Robertson Act.

The states, in order to claim their allotments for the fiscal year 1949 which began July 1, must sweeten the total with \$3,593,540, or 25 per cent of the entire cost.

The fund for the current year also provides \$25,000 for projects in Alaska, \$10,000 in Hawaii, and \$5,000 each in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The territories and island possessions are not required to contribute one fourth of the cost.

The amount allotted the states last year was \$8,263,772. Rutherford said increased sales account for the greater revenue this year.

Funds are apportioned to the states on the basis of land area and the number of paid hunting licenses. No state may receive more than five per cent nor less than one-half of one per cent of the total amount.

Under the maximum limitation, Michigan and Texas each receive \$539,031, an increase of \$125,842 each over last year.

Wool Undy Comfort

The chances are that your skin is unused to scratchy wool or part wool underwear such as is necessary for warmth and comfort in a duck blind or when hunting for upland birds or deer, and you will chafe making walking a misery and possibly spoiling your trip. One of the best and most easily obtained preventatives for the discomfort of chafing is common corn starch. Just rub it over the chafed places as you would talcum powder.

Living Fence Gives Quail Safety

By Daniel W. Lay
Wildlife Biologist

A LIVING livestock-proof fence of multiflora rose promises to solve the problem of cover for wildlife in the farming sections of central and eastern Texas, at the same time giving the farmers permanent fences at less cost.

For two seasons the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission has been studying a thorny strain of Rosa multiflora in its search for something to replace the clean fence rows of many Texas farms. Without woody cover on stream courses and field borders, there is little opportunity to have satisfactory populations of quail and many other forms of wildlife.

Multiflora is not to be confused with Cherokee or the other native, clump-type roses which spread and become pests. It is altogether different in that it does not propagate by sending out runners or form volunteer seedlings. A thornless strain of multiflora is used as rootstock for most of the domestic roses, and it is assumed the thorny strain will therefore grow wherever cultivated garden roses grow. This means it will be limited in Texas on the west by lack of rainfall but will not be limited in the northern part of the state by cold weather.

Missouri has been using multiflora rose hedges successfully for a number of years and all reports indicate land owners are enthusiastic about its value as a living fence. As a result, state nurseries are producing several million plants for distribution each year and still can not supply the demand.

This rose makes a hedge about six feet high and four to six feet wide. It has great numbers of small white flowers in summer which are followed by small red hips (fruits) in winter. These hips are eaten by many species of wildlife including quail; but the greatest benefit to wildlife is the dense thorny cover it provides.

It is said that a new rose fence will turn all kinds of livestock in four years and that many farmers find an additional advantage in the fact that dogs and hunters can not get through it any better than cows and hogs. This forces visitors to enter and leave by the gates.

In planting multiflora rose, it is recommended that a strip be plowed and

Oregon Hunters Must Carry Fire Tools

What may be a solution to the customary forest-fire ban on woods hunting and fishing is being tried by Oregon. Instead of closing the state's woodlands to hunters during the fall fire season, the state has passed a regulation requiring that all hunters participating in the Crooked Creek special deer season must carry tools for fire fighting in their automobiles. All cars must be equipped with a bucket, axe, and shovel. The question of whether hunters aggravate fire hazards by carelessness or whether their presence in the woods prevents the spread of fires started from other causes long has been debated. Oregon appears to be following the latter reasoning and is making every hunting party a potential forest-fire fighting crew.

All true sportsmen are careful with fire. The minority of hunters who are not are responsible for the usual ban on hunting that comes during dry seasons. If sportsmen are equipped to fight the fires they discover, whether set by accident or by deliberate incendiarism, they serve as roving fire patrolmen who are able to extinguish fires that would be out of control before they could be reached by regular, often understaffed fire-fighting crews.

Black Lizzard Grows Bright Blue Tail

Did you ever see a black lizzard with a bright blue tail, and with white spots on its head?

Henry Rhoades found one near his home just south of Dalhart. He wants to know what the critter is and he also wants to prove to himself that he wasn't dreaming when he saw it.

The slender little fellow is about three inches long. Its body is coal black, except for the white spots on the head, and about an inch of his tail, which is blue, and when in strong light fairly shines.

DEER HUNTING — KINNEY COUNTY
Large Flagtail Deer
Turkeys, Javelinas and Fishing
8400 Acres. Number of Hunters Limited
\$100.00 for Hunting Rights
Room and Board for Each Hunter
\$8.00 Per Day
RIO NUECES HUNTING LODGE
O. R. Davis, Owner Brackettville, Texas

● Continued on page 17

How Gun Accidents Happen

● Continued from page 5

field in northern Michigan. One son followed a ruffed grouse in its flight and shot his brother to death. A South Dakota pheasant circled to fly between a pair of Illinois hunters only 20 yards apart. One gunner followed the flight so far he killed a buddy.

Playing and tinkering with loaded guns runs a high score of deaths every year. One boy tosses a loaded pistol to another. It is anybody's guess which of them will be hit by the bullet. A young Delta county, Colorado, lad was shot when he handed an automatic pistol to a friend in camp.

The state game commission in 10 years recorded 350 Pennsylvania hunting deaths and more than 3,200 other gun accidents. Sixty per cent of the deaths were caused by others, 40 per cent by the victims. About 85 per cent of the injuries were by others.

When an area has been advertised for its abundance of game, opening day can be a bloody affair because of the congestion of hunters. First day of the pheasant season in Yolo county, California, found one hunter dead and six others maimed.

Two of Missouri's 21 hunting deaths last year came from using high-powered ammunition in old guns. A Texas serviceman carried home 30-06 ammunition made for the Army's old 1903 Springfield rifle. It was for his dad to use in a 30-30 deer gun. If the old Winchester would have taken it, he might have been minus a pappy. Military ammunition is too powerful for soft-metal guns. Unfortunately, some will use it.

Shotguns top the list for explosions. Every year, hunters try high-power shells in old-type guns. Results vary, but number of unhappy endings is high.

Some hunters believe light loads are safe in old-style shotguns. H. C. Russell, Federal Cartridge Corporation, says: "Breech pressure developed in the lightest 3-dram, 1-ounce 12-gauge load is exactly the same as that developed by the heavy maximum 3¾-dram, 1¼-ounce, 12-gauge load. Reason: Light loads use fast-burning powder and heavy loads slow burning. One is as dangerous as the other. No ammunition made today is suitable for use in Damascus, or twist-steel barrels because no company now loads with black powder, the type used for such a gun."

The best shotgun will explode if the barrel is plugged by an oily rag, a wasp's nest, slug of creek-bank mud, snow, or any other obstruction.

Every man who carries a gun into field, forest or marsh should have the privilege of one trip with a fellow like the wise old hunter who goes into Michigan's north-



Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ehrhardt, of 1922 Trunk Street, Dallas, returned home from a fishing expedition on Lake Buchanan with this 25 pound channel cat.

ern peninsula after deer each fall. "Gentlemen," he addresses his group as they assemble for the trip, "I should tell you before we start how I feel about handling a gun. I think any man who points one, loaded or unloaded, in the direction of any human being is a fool—a plain unvarnished damned fool—and if all of you don't believe likewise, and act accordingly, I don't belong in your party. I'd rather stay at home. And the fellow who shoots at a noise, or a sudden movement, and looks afterwards is still worse. He's both a fool and a potential murderer."

Living Fence Provides Safety

● Continued from page 16

fertilized, and the plants then set one foot apart in a single furrow, clipped short, and mulched heavily with straw, hay, pine needles, or other litter. No subsequent care is required.

In Newton County, where trial plantings have been made, it has been found that plants not mulched heavily suffered more loss from drought during their first summer; but drought in the second summer has not seriously affected the older plantings.

The Commission is trying various other species for cover planting, as well as experimenting with methods of propagating multiflora. Although plants will be scarce next winter, a few may be available for trial plantings. Those who wish to set out a few plants for observation should write the Austin Office of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. Those who wish to make larger plantings may be able to get plants from commercial sources in Missouri. It is hoped that farmers and sportsmen of Texas will be interested enough in this dual-pur-

pose plant to justify propagation of large numbers of plants for distribution in future years.

* Based on work conducted under Federal Aid Project 20-R.

Things You May Not Know

By pushing their trunks up above the surface of the water and breathing through them, elephants can walk on the bottom of a river.

Most of the early spring-song of birds is by way of announcing their claim on certain nesting areas.

Mother bats carry their newborn with them during the first days of life. The young bat clings to his mother's fur with claw and teeth as she flies about in search of food.

Only the male Katydid, crickets and cicadas sing. The females are silent.

The panda is one of the rarest of mammals, with the face of a raccoon, feet like a cat, and body similar to that of a bear.

The average serving of roe in restaurants is half of a large shad roe, or from 10,000 to 15,000 eggs. The total number of eggs in the roe taken from a single fish is from 23,000 to 32,000.

A professor who has trained fleas says that a healthy flea can jump what would to us be the equivalent of half a mile.

The pigeon is the only bird that drinks by suction. All other birds take the water into their mouths and throw their heads back in order to swallow.

SPORTSMEN

Have your game heads mounted
"Where the Wild Deer Roam."
Express Shipments get our Prompt Attention.
Write for Free Price List, Descriptive Folder
and Shipping Tags.
HUGO C. BAUMANN
Taxidermist
Fredericksburg, Texas

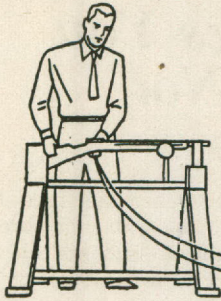
TRAPPERS HUNTERS and FUR BUYERS

We Pay Top Prices for Your Furs. Write us for Shipping Tags and Fur Information.

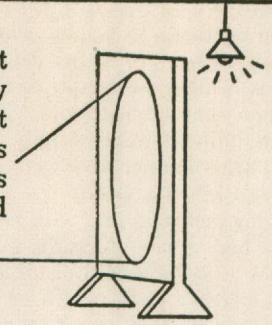
EAST TEXAS FUR CO.

517 Howard Ave. • Box 133
Palestine, Texas

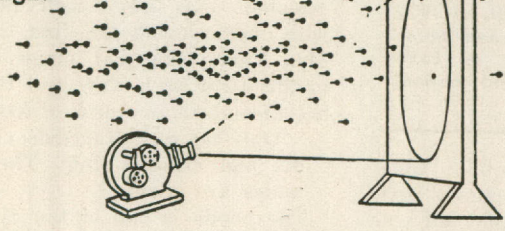
SCIENCE SHOWS SHOT STRING IN FLIGHT



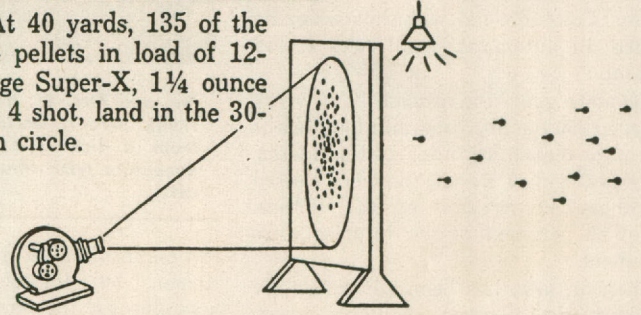
Hunters know that they release not just one projectile, but a three-dimensional column of many tiny shot pellets when they fire a shotgun. With the aid of science, they can now see what a shot column or what is commonly known as a shot string looks like in flight. A high speed movie camera, making 3,350 pictures a second, photographs the pellets as they strike a sheet of lead foil at 40 yards from the gun muzzle.



1. Each pellet perforates the foil, is photographed as pin point of light.

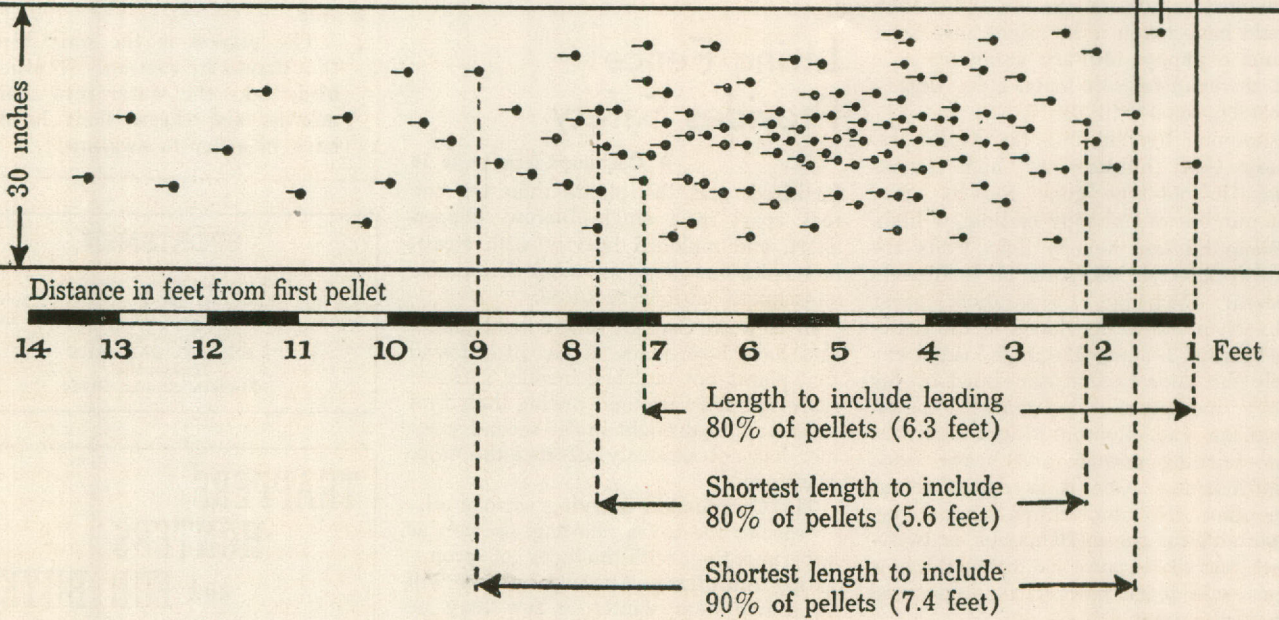
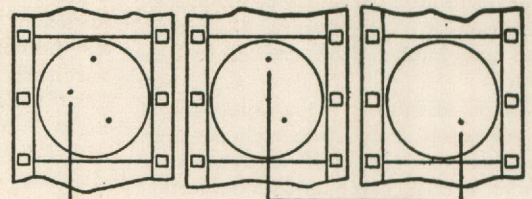


2. At 40 yards, 135 of the 174 pellets in load of 12-gauge Super-X, 1¼ ounce No. 4 shot, land in the 30-inch circle.



3. Ballisticians at Western-Winchester who developed the new method of reconstructing a shot string, next enlarge each of the individual frames from the motion picture (right) and project each pellet into its proper place.

The complete reconstruction (below) shows a concentration of shot pellets in an effective short shot string. Approximately 80 per cent of the pellets are included in the first 6 feet of the string.



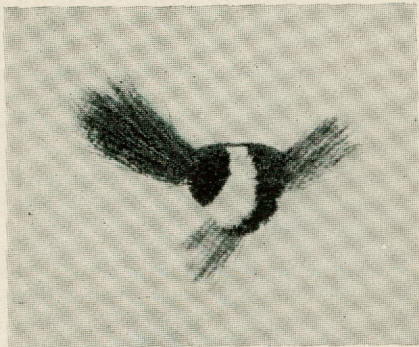
Feathered Lures Pack Punch

● Continued from page 6

flies can be found available in each style of dry fly. As an example, Royal Coachman, which seems to be one of the standbys for thousands of anglers, can be secured in an upright, spent, fan wing or bivisible type fly. The latter is not a true bivisible, but is similar inasmuch as two colored hackles are used at the eye of the hook and the wings eliminated.

Size of the dry fly is doubly important. Often times a trout will rise to a size 16 fly of a certain pattern yet refuse the same pattern except in a size larger.

The most popular sizes are those of 12's, 14's, 16's and in low clear water 18's and 20's. This will give a fair picture of



Bass Bug.

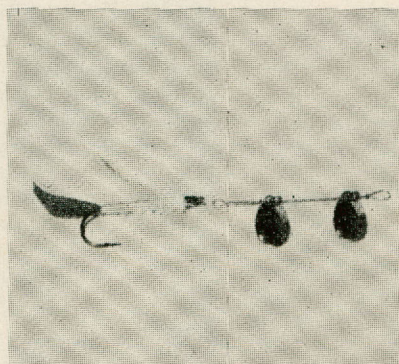
Insect imitating flies can be fished either up or down stream. In the up stream cast, the fly is allowed to float naturally with the current. At the end of the drift, the fly or flies are allowed to swing to the position of being straight down stream and then can be retrieved in short jerks.

The sizes most popular in wet flies are generally somewhat larger than those same patterns in dry flies. Sizes 14's, 12's, 10's and some patterns in 8's are extremely affective. Bass wet flies can be larger in size, those of 8's, 6's and 4's are about right.

Nymphs are in the category with wet flies since they are fished "wet" or "submerged." These tiny flies or lures are generally tied in exact imitation of the under water insects and larva and do not incorporate the gaudy colors, tinsel, feathers and fur as in the case of some patterns of wet flies. The nymphs are generally suggestive in their appearance, being imitations of 'bugs' which later hatch and emerge to the surface as flies.

In fishing this fly or lure, bear in mind, most of these insects are carried along by the current and have little movement under their own ability, hence, the artificials must be fished natural or it will arouse suspicion in the trout and a failure will result.

Nymphs are a very deadly lure when fished close to the bottom where the 'naturals' are found. They should be floated along with the current. It is quite hard to detect when a fish has struck or mouthed the nymph. Most anglers grease their line so that it floats as in dry fly angling.



Spinner and fly.

When there is an suspicious movement or twitching of the line, strike instantly as the chances are a fish has taken the lure.

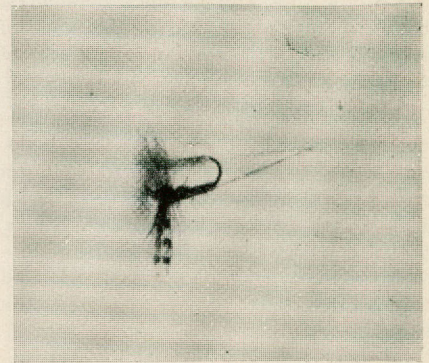
Some anglers use a porcupine quill as a float and claim it helpful in detecting the light touch of a fish.

Streamers—Bucktails and streamers are used "wet," they are tied on rather heavy hooks so that they sink readily. They are tied to represent small minnows and should be fished as such. Work-

ed with an erratic action to create the impression of a small minnow darting about, this type of fly has been very successful in teasing cannibalistic fish into striking. These flies are tied on long shank hooks, usually having a body and long wings made of hair or feathers that extend back past the point of the hook.

While there are many 'fancy' streamers as well as those which are of subdued colors, surprisingly, they all catch fish. I have a number of streamers lying on my desk at present, one in particular, a marabou streamer, looks like a maid's feather duster, but when in the water, it soon mats together and has been the cause of many a trout's downfall.

Streamers are successfully used on trout, bass and pickerel. The sizes best for trout are 8's and 10's, for bass: 6's,



The Dry Fly.

what sizes your fly box should contain.

In fishing dry flies, they should be cast up stream and allowed to float down without "drag". Drag is the most important factor in presenting the fly. They should float naturally with the current and if they begin to "drag" or "skim" across the surface immediately the fish realize it is a fraud since normally a floating insect is not capable of doing this stunt. Drag caused by the current tugging at the line and pulling it faster down stream than the fly is moving, hence, the fly is pulled across the surface unnaturally. At times this drag on the fly being pulled across the surface of the water does induce trout to strike, but this is an exception and cannot be said to be a good method of dry fly angling.

Wet Flies and Nymphs—Wet flies are somewhat different from dry flies inasmuch as they are tied on heavier hooks to cause them to sink readily in the water. Wings generally slope back towards the rear of the fly and the fly is very sparsely hackled. This, too, helps to quickly submerge the fly.

The average wet fly is used to imitate an under water insect at some stage of its development or a dead or drowned insects. Some patterns of wet flies are said to imitate tiny minnows, such is the "silver doctor," and of course when used the angler should bear this in mind and fish that particular fly accordingly.

4's and 2's; for pickerel: 4's, 2's, 1's and 1/0's.

Streamers used in angling for pickerel are slowly becoming more widely popular although numerous anglers have used streamer flies successfully for pickerel for years. The stripped streamers containing bunches of red, white or yellow bucktail, are good lures for this game fish.

Bass Bugs—I hesitated to include this lure as it needs separate consideration, nevertheless it is constructed of feathers or hair and deserves a few notations.

Originally it was designed and used only in bass angling, lately the "bug" has also been found effective on trout and blue-gills. These, of course, need to be of a smaller size. We find the "pop", "chugger" or "gargling" noise makers the crippled minnow type and the spent and folded wing bug. These latter have proved so popular that today anglers have given birth to a great variety of patterns.

While much material has been used for bodies, such as balsa wood, cork and plastic, the most popular is the deer hair body clipped to form or give the appearance of a thick bodied insect.

Bass bug fishing (commonly called bass bugging) is like dry fly work except that the angler needs a little heavier rod and line. These bugs are cast and are

● Continued on page 20

What is a Good All Around Shot?

WHAT constitutes a good all-around shot? This complimentary title has been bestowed on many sportsmen but too often the term has been carelessly or unthinkingly used.

"To qualify as a really GOOD all-round shot, the gunner must be quite versatile in more shooting 'departments' than the average person realizes," says Henry P. Davis, public relations division, Remington Arms Company. "To be worthy of the distinction which the term 'GOOD all-around shot' implies, the shooter must be proficient in the use of all types of sporting firearms and in all kinds of shooting.

"A man may be a top-flight clay-target shooter, both at the traps and skeet, but pretty much of a dud with a target rifle in his hands. He may be a crack shot in the field, but unable to master the clay-target sports. It is entirely possible, as experience has proved time and again, for him to be one of the leading shots in small bore rifle shooting competition and still lose his composure entirely at the flush of a covey of quail or the sight of a running deer. He can rank high with the shotgun and rifle and yet, figuratively speaking, be unable to 'hit a barn door' with a handgun. And so he could not qualify as a GOOD all-around shot.

"So the next time you refer to some friend as 'a GOOD all-around shot' it might be well to take another look-see or qualify your remarks by adding 'with a shotgun and or rifle, etc.' if you want to be absolutely correct.

"Recently I interviewed a number of sportsmen on 'What constitutes a really GOOD all-around shot?'" continues Davis. "Knowing all of these men had wide experience in every phase of the shooting sports, I was somewhat surprised to find that several did not consider themselves capable of meeting the requirements they themselves suggested as qualifications for the term. Known deficiency in at least one phase of shooting caused them to eliminate themselves from consideration, yet all were pretty well in accord when it came to outlining 'What constitutes a GOOD all-around shot.'

"The concensus of opinion of this group was that if a man can consistently make the following scores, he is well-qualified to be called a GOOD all-around shot at targets:

Traps (16 yards)	46x50
Skeet (all bore, 12. 16 and 20)	46x50
Skeet (28 or 410 gauge)	42x50

Rifle:

Small bore (Dewar course prone, 20 shots at 50 yards, 20 shots at 100 yards) 390x400

30 Caliber:

Off hand at 200 yards 44x50
Rapid fire at 200 yards (standing to sitting) 46x50

Pistol:

Slow fire at 50 yards 81x100
Time fire at 25 yards 92x100
Rapid at 25 yards 88x100

"This is a pretty good-sized order, but then we are talking about a GOOD all-around shot, at targets.

"When it comes to upland game and waterfowl shooting, there is no definite yardstick for scoring. With the exception of duck and goose shooting, the gunner is seldom 'set' and every shot is different. However, this group of experienced field shooters were in general agreement on the following percentages for the GOOD all-around field shot:

At quail	50%
At pheasants	70%
At grouse	35%
At woodcock	50%
At ducks	
(on pass or over tall timber)	50%
(over decoys or jump shooting)	75%

"No effort was made to arrive at percentages in woodchuck, other varmint or deer shooting. It was believed that the rifle shooter who could qualify as outlined above could get his share of both small and large four-footed game. If the gunner could qualify with the above scores and percentages, this group expressed itself as willing to doff their hats and call him a GOOD all-around shot.

"The fellow who rates this classification is a really versatile gunner," concludes Davis. "He is not likely to win many target shooting championships, except perhaps in the Class title events, and when the 'hot shots' fall down. But he will have no need to be ashamed of his shooting in any company, will be able to make it interesting for the best of them, and it's a safe bet that he'll get his fair share of game in the field. Rate yourself and see if you stack up as a GOOD all-around shot."

One Minute Sealing

A bucket of boiling water will help you do a quicker, more thorough and less messy job of scaling fish. Simply grasp the fish by putting your thumb and forefinger in its eye sockets, dip it into the boiling water, and hold it there until the scales turn gray.

When you remove the fish you'll find that you can scale it by simply rubbing it with your fingers or wiping it with a piece of burlap or coarse cloth. And if you do the scaling in a bucket of cold water, you'll have less mess to clean up.

Feathered Lures Pack Punch

● Continued from page 19

allowed to remain motionless for seconds or minutes. A short retrieve is then used and if this proves fruitless, allow a moment of rest before the bug is given life by means of a few twitches of the rod tip. It can not be over stressed that bass bugs should be fished slow.

The sudden surface explosion of a rising bass is indeed a joy to see—and feel.

Hook sizes vary to the extent that most all sizes, from 2/0 to 12, are very effective. Use the smaller sizes for trout and blue-gills, and the large for bass.

Spinners and Flies—Using a spinner and fly is not really any of the true forms of fly fishing. However, it deserves a few words in passing since it incorporates a feathered lure. Spinners were primarily designed to imitate a dashing minnow, since then a fly has been used in conjunction as a possible added attractor, or in the case of certain types of flies, helps to make this "rigging" a weedless lure.

Only a ring-eyed fly should be used with a spinner. Those flies with a turned-down or turned-up eye ride behind the spinner at a cock angle and they do not have the smooth waving action which the straight ring-eyed fly has.

Many patterns and styles of spinner flies are available. Streamers, large winged flies and feathered treble hooks are used. Along with the many other varieties of flies, this spinner and fly combination definitely has a place in the angler's tackle assortment.

Only a short summary has been given concerning each type of feathered lure. The subject is so broad that each should be considered separately and described in detail giving the many variations of each type as well as presentation of each.

However, it can be readily seen that there are artificial lures constructed of feathers, made to meet the most diversified conditions. Whether the angler finds the prospective fish feeding on minnows, nymphs, surface bugs or insects, his tackle or fly box contains a lure to imitate each, and the artificial lures are generally as affective as the real live food itself. It can be emphatically repeated—feathered lures certainly pack the punch!

The whitetail is the American deer of the past, and the American deer of the future. I have no doubt that, whatever other species drop out of the hard fight, the whitetail will flourish in all the region of the plough, as long as there are sentiments and laws to give it a time of respite each year during its breeding season.—Earnest Thompson Seton.

Field Etiquette Important

THE PROBLEM of securing a good place to hunt is one which confronts many novitiate hunters such as the season. Experienced hunters, too, have difficulty in this respect when they move into unfamiliar territories.

For the individual who practices all the simple, yet important, rules of sportsmanship, these problems become almost self-effacing when the word gets around that he is the 'right sort of guy.'

Very few gunners like to hunt alone, and most of them welcome congenial shooting partners who speak the same language. They are, however, somewhat reluctant to run the risk of getting stuck for a day afield with some thoughtless or careless chap who ignores the niceties of field etiquette or violates the unwritten laws of sportsmanship. They make that mistake with the same individual only once.

"If you are fortunate enough this season to be invited to go hunting with an experienced gunner who knows how and where to take game, watch your step carefully," advises Evans. "You can rest assured that your every action is being observed and while your friend will probably make every effort to give you the best of everything, you can just bet your bottom dollar that you're on probation with him just the same."

There are a few little courtesies which make up proper hunting demeanor and which, if observed, will put you in solid with your hunting companion. They'll come natural after a while, even if the importance of them is not immediately obvious. And your observance of them will make the day far more pleasant, not only for your host, but for you, too.

Above all things, never take a chance. Observe all the rules of safety, even

Game Should Be Dressed Quickly

All big game should be dressed quickly. Immediately place the animal so that the head is lower than the body. Using a heavy knife, sever the veins and arteries where the throat and breastbone meet so that the blood in the body will drain rapidly. Split the body cavity from throat to tail by making the first incision just below the first ribs, large enough so that a hand can be inserted to press the stomach and entrails away as the skin and thin flesh are cut with the tip of the knife. Then insert at the point of the first inci-

tion and cut from the first ribs to the throat, taking care not to cut the esophagus (food pipe), stomach or intestines. Spread the hind quarters so that the entrails can be removed intact, but allow for sex identification as required by law. The vent should be cut loose without severing and tied with a piece of string for removal with the viscera. Likewise, the food pipe leading into the stomach should be tied before severing. This can be done in the chest cavity or just before it reaches the stomach. The remainder of the food pipe can then be carefully removed.

Careful skinning of the animal will provide better flavored meat.

Game should not be dragged. The simplest manner of getting big game out of the woods in good condition is probably to skin and quarter it, especially if the hunter is alone. Care should be taken not to disguise the sex of the animal. If big game is brought down in the heat of the day, it should be allowed to cool and if possible left in the shade until sundown.

If game meat is to be transported by automobile, be careful not to expose it to the heat of the motor or exhaust gases, but wrap loosely and pack in a cool place.

Give your companion all the breaks. The accepted practice is to alternate on single shots. The easiest way to make your host mad is to try to 'wipe his eye.'

Find out which side your companion shoots from . . . and then take the other side. Never shoot at birds flying your companion's way. It is an act of discourtesy to shoot across a gunner's front unless you know his gun is empty. Then explain your action to him.

Don't claim birds you are not absolutely sure you killed. If there's the slightest doubt, don't run the risk of being branded a 'claimer.' If your companion is 'built that way,' you'll soon find it out.

Don't try to handle your companion's dogs. And never criticize the dog's faults. Praise his good work and ignore the bad. Give the dog a chance to retrieve your bird. Look for it yourself only if absolutely necessary.

And never hunt in your friend's favorite spot which he has shown you, unless he is along or you have his consent. Violation of this courtesy has led to the ending of many fine friendships.

There is an old saying to the effect that 'if you want to find out about a man, get him in a poker game or take him hunting.' Remember it when you accept that invitation and see that you so conduct yourself as to warrant a repeat engagement. It's a safe bet that the word will get around and you won't be long lacking for gunning partners.

though your companion doesn't. You'll impress him with your caution.

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Building Sportsmen

● Continued from page 7

and Present," by Mr. Floyd Studer, who is a recognized authority on zoology and paleontology. Palo Duro Canyon, some 20 miles southeast of Amarillo has been a literal goldmine of materials and findings on the remains of elephants, rhinoceros, sabre tooth tigers and dinosaurs. Floyd has done a great deal of work on this and could bring the Juniors a thrilling and interesting account. His colored slides brought out various points which he wished to emphasize. After this 'classroom work,' it was natural to take the group into the field. Accordingly the following week a whole afternoon was spent in the West Texas State College Museum. Escorted by President Cornette of the college and again led by Mr. Studer the group was further informed on wildlife of the early days in the Panhandle. But there was a closing trip to make this program complete; the following Saturday the Juniors went to the actual fossil bearing exposures of the Palo Duro Canyon. Studer promised that everyone could find a fossil and when he led the group to the 'diggings' where his field expositions had previously worked, he made good his promise. Everyone found parts of elephant tusks as well as other fossils. un, excitement and yet a general and definite course of instruction ran through this program. Topped off with a big wiener roast the

● Continued on page 23



O. Puckett, Mr. Lee and F. Setzer with the 15th wolf killed in Red River since January 1 with coyote guns furnished by county

Deer Hunter's Choice

● Continued from page 12

erally thousands of these rifles, brought back to this country by returning servicemen, have been restocked, and re-chambered in almost every known caliber—varying from the hot .22's to everything short of the big Magnums.

The Model 1898 Krag (chambered in .30-40 caliber only), whose reputation as a killer needs no elaboration, was out-ranked by other arms, because, for one reason, during a period of fifty years most any shootin' iron's popularity will fall as newer and improved models appear on the market. My Krags—both M-98's and M-95 Winchesters—were replaced only by Winchester bolt-actions and Mausers chambered for the .30-06 cartridge.

It is interesting to note that all government rifles may be disregarded, and rifles chambered for the .30-06 load still holds a wide margin over other rifles.

The Remington Model 30—Remington's former ".30-06 Model" (replaced by their Model 721)—is now an obsolete number, but the survey showed that quite a large number of these rifles are still circulating around over the United States. I see a few every year being used on game from moose to jack rabbits.

After observing the "most popular rifle" list, one can know pretty well what to expect in the way of the most popular CARTRIDGE:

.30-06, 180-gr.; 30-30, 170-gr.; .30-40, 180-gr.; .300 Sav., 180-gr.; .270, 130-gr.; .30-06, 150-gr.; .35 Rem., 200-gr.; .32 Spec., 170-gr.; .250-3000, 100-gr.

The predominating 180-grain bullet for .30 caliber rifles (excepting the .30-30 caliber) has been my favorite for all round uses ever since I started slinging lead in the direction of deer. It is not a special purpose slug, but for the hunter who finds that buck in thick timber one time, and across a wide canyon the next time, I think the 180-grain missile can not be surpassed. While the heavier bullet may not kill as quickly, it can chew through the shrubbery and still bring down fresh meat.

The most efficient CARTRIDGE was selected by taking a percentage of the number of deer which fell in their tracks after being shot through the heart with the various popular cartridges.

.30-06, 150-gr., 60.5 per cent; .35 Rem., 200-gr., 58.3 per cent; .300 Sav., 180-gr., 56.9 per cent; .30-06, 180-gr., 56.2 per cent; .270, 130-gr., 53.5 per cent; .30-40, 180-gr., 51.7 per cent; .32 Spec., 170-gr., 48.7 per cent; .30-06, 220-gr., 48.3 per cent; .250-3000, 100-gr., 17.2 per cent.

The absence (or at least they were very low on the list) of the heaviest bullet available in the particular calibers show the light bullets to be more deadly on deer. I have found this to be true—especially with 150-grain .30 calibers and 130-grain .270 calibers—if the bullet has a clear path to the target, free from



Lorain Meredith, John Williams, Joe Rickert and Paul Allen, of Mercedes, have every right to be proud of the catch they recently made in the Mercedes reservoir. The yellow catfish weighed 66 pounds. Shad and Muller were used as bait. A No. 6 hook did the catching.

intervening twigs and limbs. If all my shooting was done across the plains, or from mountain to mountain, and my game never exceeded the size of animals in the deer class, the 150-grain .06 missile would be as good as I would want. The magazine of my brush rifle is always filled with the 180-grain or heavier, numbers, however. Had the 150-grain bullet been more readily available to more hunters at the time of the survey, I am sure it would have polled higher, as it is a very popular deer load in all sections of the country. Texans generally stick to heavier slugs because of the fact that much venison in this state is taken in the brush land.

Here are the percentages of deer which dropped in their tracks from a single heart shot with each of the most popular commercial bullets. The information gives us the most efficient BULLET.

Western Oper-Point Expending—60 per cent; Western Soft-Point—57.7 per cent; Western-Winchester Silvertip—57.3 per cent; Service (full jacket)—55 per cent; Remington Soft-Point—54.8 per

cent; Remington-Peters (Inner-Belted S. P. and Core-Lokt S. P.)—53.1 per cent; Remington Bronze-Point—51.5 per cent.

My old stand-bys for Texas white-tails, the Silvertip and Core-Lokt, did not take top billing on this list, but one will notice that this race is indeed close. The highest performing number dropped only 8.49 per cent more deer in their tracks than the one showing the worst performance. Therefore, the Nimrod who is not real sure as to which type and brand (disregarding weight, as this is a very important item to consider) of bullet to use may choose any one of those above, and not go far wrong. As far as the average hunter is concerned, there is no observable difference in killing power. The full jacket service bullet ranked high solely because of the ammunition shortage which prevails yet in some parts of the country. G. I. ammunition is always available for .30-06 owners, and for that reason it is used by quite a few gunners, but not through preference. I think all sportsmen will agree with me that the G. I. bullet is "low man on the totem pole" for bagging any kind of American game with the exception of turkey. The hard points remain to be my favorite for a long range gobbler load.

By being the user of any one of the top ranking items shown on these lists, a hunter has two great advantages. He will be considered as one of the boys who "knows his onions" when it comes to deer-slaying equipment, and he can not be accused of totin' an inadequate rifle and load into the woods where he is sure to leave behind a generous amount of wounded game.

The counter chronograph—an amazing electronic instrument which can grab a second, slice it into 100,000 pieces and then count these fragments—is now working for American hunters and shooters.

A direct descendant of the Geiger counter which helped give America the atom bomb, the counter chronograph in appearance resembles a complicated table model radio. Used in conjunction with high-speed photographic equipment

● Continued on page 23

The Ten Commandments of Safety

1. Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun. This is the cardinal rule of gun safety.
2. Carry only empty guns, taken down or with the action open, into your automobile, camp, and home.
3. Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.
4. Always carry your gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle, even if you stumble.
5. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
7. Never leave your gun unattended unless you unload it first.
8. Never climb a tree or a fence with a loaded gun.
9. Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
10. Do not mix gunpowder and alcohol.

King of the Woods Battles to End

Wild Charge Ends Reign

T. S. MARTIN of Beeville, who works on a ranch in McMullen county, recently won a battle with a wild boar "that could not be captured," in the Loma Alto mountains in Southwest Texas. Three shots were necessary to bring the monster to the ground.

"I had heard that this hog would tackle anything that came in contact with him, and this made me anxious to get on his trail," Mr. Martin said. "The animal had been known to cover a large territory, and I knew I was in for a long jaunt when I first discovered the big tracks that were almost as large as those of a two-year-old cow."

One rainy day, Martin told a boy on the ranch that they could not work, and suggested they start in quest of the boar that had eluded many hunters, dogs, and wild animals that sought to end the reign of this king of the woods.

Martin and his helper camped on a little stream which ran into a lake. They went up the ravine about 00

yards, and found the biggest hog tracks they had ever seen. They studied the tracks several minutes, then returned to camp to get their guns. Back on the trail, they followed it into a ravine, and later into a heavy thicket.

"I became a little shaky upon entering this brush, Martin said. "I knew there were panthers, wild hogs, javelinas, and other dangerous beasts in that thicket. I took a few steps and then heard a noise that sounded as if something was scraping its body against the bushes. I was scared, but realized that I could not afford to get excited, and braced myself for the conflict was near."

"I did not go far until I saw where the boar had dug up the earth under some tree roots," the hunter continued. "I reasoned that the animal was preparing to bed down for the day. Again I picked up the trail, which carried me from one thicket to another, down deep ravines, then back into low, heavy brush. Several times I saw rattlesnakes and heard javelinas snap their teeth. I saw

that the nimal I was hunting had crossed a lake of water. I walked around the lake and picked up the trail again.

"I was about four miles from camp, yet had never had a glimpse of the boar. About 75 yards from the lake the tracks carried me into heavy brush again, and I had to get down on my hands and knees to penetrate it. I did not go far before I spied the animal. He was out of the brush in a little opening. I raised my gun and fired.

"The animal must have jumped 0 feet. His side was turned toward me and I fired again. All I could see was his hips. He saw me and acted as if he were going to tackle me. I shot at the hog's head and brought an end to his reign."

Killing the animal was not the end of Martin's work. It was necessary to cut out some kind of road from the spot where the hog was killed to the camp. Five men were required to place the carcas on a truck. The hog dressed 6 pounds, and Bartin said the meat was excellent.

"That was the largest animal I have ever seen in the woods," the hunter said. "I am still having dreams bouat him!"

Deer Hunter's Choice

● Continued from page 22

and standard ballistic test equipment, it is possible for a bullet to register its own velocity and accuracy, check the pres-definitely which is the the most popular sure of the cartridge from which it was fired, and then take its own picture at any point in its flight from muzzle to target—the first time such a variety of tests could be made on a single projectile. The split second magic is performed in the ballistics laboratory of Western Cartridge Company.

This revolutionary "time machine" is the last word in scientific study of ammunition performance, yet it operates on an amazingly simple principle. A bullet fired from a rifle in a mechanical rest passes over two photo-electric cells so sensitive that outdoors a passing cloud may cause them to trip. Passing over the first cell starts the counter chronograph to counting in 1/100,000th of a second intervals; passing over the second shuts it off. The instrument records instantly the time it took the bullet to travel the measured distance between the cell boxes and thus establishes the velocity. At the same time, the bullet interrupts an electrical impulse, causing its picture to be made in mid-flight, while the punctured target at the end of the range offers testimony to its accuracy. By making it pos-

sible to measure velocity over only a few feet of bullet travel, new and more precise ballistic tables may be established.

Because the counter chronograph at long last makes possible combined tests on the same bullet, instead of "average" tests made on several successive bullets as in the past, ballisticians say it has greatly simplified their work in continuing to develop new and better ammunition for America's riflemen.

—A. W. III.

What is Research?

"Research" is a high-hat word that scares a lot of people. It need not. It is rather simple. Essentially, it is nothing but a state of mind — a friendly, welcoming attitude toward change. Going out to look for a change instead of waiting for it to come. Research, for practical men, is an effort to do things better and not be caught asleep at the switch. A research state of mind can apply to anything: Personal affairs or any kind of business, big or little. It is the problem-solving mind as contrasted with the let-well-enough-alone mind. It is the composer mind instead of the fiddler mind. It is the "tomorrow" mind instead of the "yes-terday" mind.

Building Sportsmen

● Continued from page 21

entire Junior Club voted this month's activities a great success.

Our club has other goals to reach also. For example, the club has arranged for all libraries of the Amarillo Public Schools to receive the monthly copy of the Texas Game and Fish magazine; and is sponsoring a Kiddies Fishing Hole, the first of its kind in Texas, at the Potter farm. A small creek has been damned, fish brought in from local lakes and a restricted fishing area for kiddies has been established. Together with the picnic grounds this makes a delightful recreation area. It is our Junior Club's answer to this talk about juveniles.

Can't your sportsman's club have something like this? We have found it is a lot of fun. Sure, it's work but anytime the Juniors want something or someone to help, the Seniors' Club stands ready and willing. It takes manpower—it takes planning and thinking, but it brings the supreme pleasure of rendering service.

Here's an easy formula for this worthwhile program though, just take one fellow like our Prexy, Dave Britain, add powerful ingredients like Floyd Studer, Jinks Mode, Paul Fuqua and season with Junior Club Sponsor Dub Hypo and you have a successful mixture. It will work!

The hard packed shell beach at Indianola is an open invitation to the surf caster.

overflowed by tidal waves in times of storm. This might make investments in buildings quite hazardous. However, many state parks remain with but little development and in this case the beach is already paved with shell and ready for the throngs of fishermen. The Coast Guard has its quarters a little further down and its buildings is put there to stay regardless of storms. Similar storm-proof quarters could be erected at Indianola.

The importance of such a park, besides memorializing the historic spot, is the advantage of a solid fishing beach which perhaps has no equal anywhere on the Texas coast. The shell beach is about four miles long with an average width of about 300 feet.

Along Padre Island there are longer stretches of shell beach, the big and little shell as they are called, but there is no solid bottom to support vehicles. Padre



Ghost Town Fishing Resort

● Continued from page 14

vaca Bay. The exact whereabouts was not known until recent studies located the settlement on the Garcitas River or creek, about five miles up from the bay. That was about as far up as navigation was possible and was probably beyond the reach of the tides where portable water was to be had. The stream at Inez, crossed up highway 59, is clear and beautiful, though small, and more inviting than the Lavaca and Navidad Rivers judged by appearances at this time. The selection of the site was hardly an accident.

Later, LaSalle was murdered as he and his party went in search of the

Mississippi River. This was 200 years before the destruction of Indianola. In that ghost city now stands on the shell



Fishermen dot the shell beach at Indianola and good catches are more the rule than the exception. At left is a statue of LaSalle which stands as a silent sentinel over the shell beach.

beach a large statue, honoring the great French explorer. It suggests a state park.

About the only objection to making a state park there is the low terrain, some four feet above sea level, and easily

Island is one big sand bar, while the soil at Indianola is firm. Citizens in the Port Lavaca area are awakening to the importance of a state park located at and

● Continued on page 26



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Greed Dooms Texas Oysters

● Continued from page 8

clayey, a series of shallow basins or "claires" are dug. Into these open canals, sea water enters during spring tides. During the intervening periods the water remains stagnant and in summer becomes very hot and, by evaporation, very salty. These conditions result in a tremendous increase in the microscopic plants which form the chief food for the oysters, which are laid on the bottom of these basins. These grow and fatten at an exceptional speed and soon reach a marketable size. They are then taken out of the basins and placed in stone tanks containing fresh, clean sea water. Here they remain for several days in order that they may become thoroughly cleansed internally. The water is then run off, the outside of the shells brushed clean and the oyster packed ready for transport.

In Australia where there is little bottom suitable for the growing of oysters, an enormous amount of time, trouble and money is expended to prepare the bottoms for cultivation. Stones are quarried and laid out where the bottom is too soft to support oysters and on these the oysters strike and grow. In other places stakes are thrust deeply into the bottom to form a support for the growth of oysters. Again the grower may drive forked tree branches into the bottom large enough to hold poles six to eight inches in diameter which, in turn, form a platform upon which the stones are laid. This is necessary because in Australian waters if the oysters rest directly upon a mud bottom they are destroyed in tremendous numbers by a mud worm. Tile, slate and asbestos roofing slabs are also utilized. On one lease where stone was employed, the cost of preparation of the bottom, before any oysters were even planted, amounted to over \$780.00 per acre. Nevertheless, the men who did this went to this time and trouble and spent this money because they intended to get into the oyster business and stay in it and they knew that, over a period of years, they could expect a much higher return from their bottoms than they could from a similar acreage of land on which they raised agricultural products.

In Japan where again they have comparatively little good bottom, they have managed to utilize almost any type by the variation in their methods of handling.

The point I am trying to make here is that if you expect to have anything in the way of oysters you are going to have to work for it. And if you expect to keep it once you have attained it, you are going to have to take care of it.



A heavily laden oyster boat moving into a packing house pier on the Texas coast.

Fortunately in America it has been possible to cultivate oysters on natural bottoms without going to the expense of preparing artificial beds. Nevertheless, even here it is necessary to do some work.

Although millions of people have eaten oysters, very few know anything about them except that they are good to eat.

Yet the story of the growth from the tiny egg, too small to be seen with the naked eye, into the mature animal which graces our dinner table, is an interesting story of nature's wonderful handiwork.

Let us first examine the shell, this is composed of two parts or valves, the upper valve being flat and the lower one more or less deeply concave, forming a cup shaped bed in which the oyster lies. These valves are joined together at the end with an elastic ligament which has the tendency to loosen them and which does so unless they are kept closed by the big mussel which most of us call the eye. Each valve or shell is composed of three layers, an outer one almost like horn, or at least resembling it; a middle one which is made up of carbonated lime; and an inner layer of mother-of-pearl which is smooth, hard and very often, iridescent. Although the outside of the shell is rough, mis-shapen and ugly, if we examine it closely we will find that the shells fit together so closely and so accurately that when they are closed not a drop of water will leak through. When we consider that man would have to use a rubber gasket or something of the same kind to do the same work, it becomes even more wonderful.

The portion of the oyster that protrudes between the shells at times, is known as the mantle and its principal duty is to secrete or build a shell. The edge of this mantle builds the outer and middle layer of the shell and the mother-of-pearl is built by the entire organ. Underneath the mantle between it and the shell, lies the lips and the gills. These last serve a double purpose. They act in the same manner as the fish's gills so that the oyster can breathe and more than that, they help to procure its food. Each gill leaf is covered by myriads of microscopic hairs which vibrate vigorously in such a way that a continuous stream of water is drawn to them when the valves are open. This water passes through tubes in the body of the oyster and is expelled again as the water passes through the gill. However, these hairs separate from it all the tiny microscopic plants and animals that it may contain, passing it forward towards the mouth. All the way a very wonderful mechanism sorts out the food from waste material like sand grains. The food is then passed into the mouth while this waste, after a suitable amount of it is collected is forced out of the shell by a rapid closure which causes a current of water to eject it.

All these actions contribute to one thing, the survival and growth of the oyster so that it may live and reproduce its species. In some species of oysters each oyster is either a male or female and remains so throughout life while others are hermaphroditic, functioning either as male or female during the same season although both never at once.

● Continued on page 26

Greed Dooms Texas Oyster

● Continued from page 25

When we say that oysters are milky this is merely another way of saying they are ready to spawn and this spawn are cast forth into the sea in such a tremendous number that it has been estimated that if all the eggs were to live and grow that the fifth of descendants from a single female would make more than eight worlds as large as our own, even if each female spawned only once. When its spawn is cast forth into the water and fertilized it very quickly begins to change and divide into two unequal parts, the smaller half again dividing into two and so on, until the single original egg has changed into a globular mass of much smaller cells. After a few hours, tiny hairs develop at one end of this mass and by means of their vibration the embryo, as it is now called, begins to swim feebly about. Although, so poor are its powers that it is carried hither and thither by any wandering current or wave. After a day or two in this condition shells begin to form on each side and grow rapidly until they cover the body. However, the larvae as it is now known is still able to swim and continues to do so until it develops a heavier shell and a foot, by which the larvae can crawl about. This foot can be extended for a distance approximately equal to the width of the shell (which is still microscopic in size) and it is covered with tiny hairs, strongest at the tip. By attaching the tip of the foot to some object and then suddenly contracting the larvae can crawl considerable distance and extracts itself from other dabre which might for the time being imperil its existence. At this time the oyster is about 1-90th of an inch wide and has reached that stage in its existence where it must find some place to make its permanent home. Consequently, it begins to search about for a clean surface where it may attach its shell and take up its life as an adult. Should no such surface present itself in two or three days of this time the larvae must perish.

However, if it is fortunate enough to encounter a stone, shell, or stick, it immediately cements its deeper left shell to this object and there it remains for the rest of its life. The swimming organ and foot, for which it now has no further use, quickly degenerates and are absorbed into the body for food.

The size of this newly attached oyster, which is known as a spat, is about 1-75th of an inch in length and the left shell is larger than the right. Immediately after the attachment of the spat, the shell grows rapidly and is in close contact with the object to which it is cemented but after about twelve months the edge of the shell the farthest away from the end begins to grow upward and away

from the surface and now the depth of the oyster increases rapidly.

The length of the time that elapses during the fertilization of the egg and the attachment of the spat is from 10 days to two weeks. After the spat has become attached, if it has no hard luck, it takes some three to five years for oysters on the Atlantic coast to reach a good marketable size. However, under the most favorable conditions found at Louisiana and Texas oysters will obtain marketable maturity in as little as two years and I have seen a spat of the year that had grown almost three inches in eight months.

The life history of the species given above is that of our American oyster and differs materially from that of the English oyster which is hermaphroditic and which retains its spawn within its shell where they pass about half of their larval life. During this time the developed shells in the mass appear to resemble extremely minute grains of sand at first a little in color but later on changing to a dark gray.

From this habit of the English oyster comes the old saying that the oyster should not be eaten during the months of May, June, July and August, those months in other words, which do not contain the letter "R". The English oysters spawn during these months and the larger percentage of them during this time will be found to contain these partially developed young.

These being enclosed in shells, would feel like fine grit in the mouth and therefore, would not be especially good eating. On the contrary, our American oyster may be eaten during any time of the year, although, while in the milk or just afterwards, it is not especially good.

Ghost Town Fishing Resort

● Continued from page 24

along the Indianola beach. The State Park Board has been informed of the interest that is growing, but no concerted action has yet been taken.

No doubt the titles to many of the lots, since the town was abandoned, are obscure or lost without payment of taxes, and those who still keep up their taxes would do well to donate the lots to the Park Board. A nucleus started in that way could grow into a small park and become a memorial as well as an asset to the recreational program of the future. It is only 165 miles from Austin and is the nearest point on the coast for fishermen of Central Texas. Other Gulf ports, of course, have their points of excellence.

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commission is equally interested in all the fishing ports. Indeed, the Legislature of 1895 gave exclusive attention to the fishing and oyster interests by creating the Fish

and Oyster Commission with headquarters at Galveston. There it remained until 1913 when the office was moved to Austin. The name had already been changed in 1907 to Game, Fish and Oyster Commission.

One of the old timers, Captain Frank Bauer, born in Indianola, was full of reminiscences but his chief interest was with fish and oysters, and the conservation laws. He held various jobs with the conservation department and when Colonel W. G. Sterett took over at Galveston he hired Captain Bauer and put him in charge of coastal operations in general. Bauer was and still is a stubborn fellow, and so was Colonel Sterett, so they were not adapted to working together in peace. On one occasion the Captain was to board a vessel and carry the Colonel to Matagorda. The Colonel was a great tobacco chewer and a bit careless as to where he squirted the juice. Naturally there were no knot holes to aim at and probably no cuspidor, and when the boat floor began to puddle up, Bauer blew up. "I've got to live on this boat and you must spit overboard or I'll throw you overboard." Spitting against a wind is not so easy, if it blows back in your face, and maybe the Colonel felt that his rights were being abridged, so he blew up, too. "You're fired," yelled the Colonel above the roar of the motor. "Turn around and go back right now."

The stubborn Bauer defied the order and proceeded to the agreed destination and then he was out of a job.

Not so long after, the Colonel had a mean job for some one who was tough enough to handle law violators. He called Bauer in and asked him to go to work. He wanted him to go to Caddo Lake and get the unlawful nets out. He was to travel horseback and all expenses would be paid. On arrival at Caddo Lake the Captain met some dangerous characters. One of them boasted that he was so tough that no one dared to arrest him. That was in 1914 and the same conditions prevailed when the writer was there in 1922. It was customary for the Department to swoop down on the offenders once in a while and clean up, and that was what Bauer did, taking up some 200 illegal nets. The tough men, after a show of strength, calmed down because they had met a man a little tougher.

Game wardens are not always lucky. Sometimes they get beat up and shot at. If that ever happened to Captain Bauer he failed to mention it to me. But I personally know that he tangled with one aggressor who got the upperhand, pounded him and jumped up and down on him. That was his cute little grandson who was working him over as we sat and chatted in the lobby of the Lavaca Hotel.

The first regular game wardens in America were the deer wardens of Massachusetts in 1739. New Hampshire had deer wardens two years later.

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