

# Texas Game and Fish

FEBRUARY

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*Photo by Bob Brewer  
Red River Arsenal*

**WHAT A HUNT**—shines through the expression on seventy-six-year-old Jim Tiller's face as he walks from the Northeast Texas forest with his two favorite dogs and an arm full of fox squirrels. He was one of the most successful hunters taking part in the Red River Arsenal's Former Resi-

dent's Day held there recently. Squirrel hunting is a favorite sport all through the forest lands. There's a definite but unique challenge awaiting every squirrel hunter. He knows it's there and longs for a few hours on some morning when he can face this challenge and the thrills it affords.

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**MALLARD MODELS:** The official design for the 1961-62 Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Stamp is a mallard hen and eight ducklings, to illustrate the theme "Habitat Produces Ducks." This will be the 28th stamp of the Federal Duck Stamp series, which began in 1934, and will be the third stamp in the \$3 series. All revenue from the sale of the stamps, other than the actual cost of printing and distribution, is earmarked for the purchase of migratory bird areas.

**THE WISH TO FISH:** During 1959 a total of 19,914,021 fishermen in 50 states purchased one or more licenses to fish, the Department of the Interior reports. This is a slight decline of 1.3% from the number of fishermen reported for the states during 1958.

**HOW TO SHARE THE AIR:** The Federal Aviation Agency recently gave the Fish and Wildlife Service \$100,000 for research on the problem of birds versus aircraft. There have been many accidents involving birds crashing into planes, or being ingested into their engines during takeoff. The problem has been with man since he took to the air, but jet travel has aggravated the situation. Rabbits, too, have been ingested during takeoff, and a collision with a moose was recorded at an airfield in Alaska.

**READ ALL ABOUT IT:** Carl D. Shoemaker, honorary president of the National Wildlife Federation, has written a new book: "Stories Behind the Organization of the National Wildlife Federation and its Early Struggles for Survival." It outlines stories behind the passage of the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson federal aid acts as well as details on the formation of the Federation, how it is financed, and outstanding projects, including National Wildlife Week. Copies at \$1 each may be obtained by writing Shoemaker at 4920 Earlston Dr., N.W., Washington 16, D.C.

**THE CAUSE OF THE KILL:** For several months in 1960 the U.S. Public Health Service and state wildlife agencies conducted a nation-wide cooperative study on pollution-caused fish kills. First reports indicated that agricultural pesticides and industrial wastes caused 70 per cent of the 185 kills along more than 600 miles of streams and 5,000 acres of lakes.

**THE CALL OF THE WILD:** Some 11,000,000 acres of federal lands in Alaska have been withdrawn for wildlife purposes, including the Arctic Wildlife Range, the Kuskokwim, and the Izembeck waterfowl areas. The ranges are needed to protect dwindling herds of Arctic caribou, grizzly bears, Dall sheep, moose, marine animals and nesting grounds for migratory waterfowl, as well as to preserve a unique portion of the Arctic for scientific study.

**PRIORITY PROBLEMS:** Water pollution abatement, the acquisition of waterfowl wetlands and land retirement were defined as the nation's outstanding conservation issues at a conservation conference held at the new national headquarters of the National Wildlife Federation in Washington, D.C.

**NO DAMAGE DONE:** Don't be alarmed if, when cleaning ducks, you find just under the skin a small, white, larva-like object. The duck is in no way damaged, is just as edible as any other, and should not be thrown away. This is a common water parasite, which, as minute organisms, penetrates the breast portions of waterfowl. It is most common among mallard ducks, but never noticed unless the bird is skinned.

**WOOSH!:** The record speed for any animal is held by a bird—the frigate bird. It has a flying speed of over 100 miles an hour and has been credited with a hard-to-believe record of over twice this speed.

# Texas Game and Fish

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES; AND TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF HUNTING AND FISHING IN TEXAS.

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## The Cover



The bobcat, *Lynx rufus* (Schreber), occupies a variety of habitats but has a decided preference for rocky canyons and outcrops when such are available. Shy and retiring, they are active largely at night. They are well furred and spotted at birth. Their eyes open in about 9 days. The kittens remain with their mother until early fall at which time they begin to shift for themselves. Art by Nancy McGowan, staff artist.

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Price Daniel, Governor of Texas  
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**T**HE 1960-61 HUNTING SEASON NOW IS HISTORY, but what a history it has been!

For those who have been around during most or all of the first half of the 20th Century, it has been something we dreamed about. From the standpoint of big game it has been, without a doubt, the most successful season in the history of legal hunting.

Even as late as 1930, when Texas had only a little more than 5 million population, it seemed doubtful that the grandchildren of the hunters of that day would have much of a chance to kill a deer.

During the past season, with the population more than doubled since 1930, Texas hunters harvested the largest legal deer crop in the history of the state. There is still a surplus seed crop for next year in the best areas.

And the grandchildren of the oldtimers did get to kill their deer. More deer were taken by young people this year than perhaps for any dozen years in some of the history of the state.

Apparently, we went into the deer season last November with slightly in excess of 1½ million deer. Final count hasn't been made as yet, but it is a good estimate that we harvested at least 150,000 or more legal deer in the 1960 season.

While it is impossible to give accurate figures of the deer kill, in every county of the state, we do have the complete figures on Llano County. Hunters in that county during 1960 harvested 10,753 deer. During the same time in 1959 they harvested 9,220, which was somewhat of a record itself.

Thanks to the ceaseless efforts of the landowners, their guests, the hunters, and official conservation help, this extraordinary progress has been made possible.

It has been a slow job, but now the effort is paying off. It took biologists a long time to get the information they needed about our wildlife and what could be done about it. It took a long time to get landowners to realize that they hold the master key to the resident game, and to learn how that key may be used to unlock the door of wildlife benefits.

Down through the years our laws have been revised and strengthened, to meet the needs of the more enlightened game and fish management practices. Further improvements will be made in them as the need and understanding develops.

Other species of game animals and birds also are being managed within the ability of those who work with them. It is not quite so easy to give reasonable assurances of satisfactory harvest on such things as migratory birds and other small game. There are many variables over which man has little or no control at all. However, there are many things that can be done, such as providing suitable nesting areas and habitat for each species, according to its needs, when they are in our area.

Substantial progress is being made here in turkey and quail management. Again, the landowner is the key. Where landowners have cooperated with good management the crop has been more bountiful, with a resulting improved harvest.

Here, however, weather plays an important part. If we are successful in a good carryover of birds, and heavy summer rains or severe drouth do not destroy the nests, we have a good crop. Then all are happy.

Yes, there were some weak spots in our wildlife harvest during the last year (mourning doves the best example), but the over-all situation was so good we can't keep from being proud.

This pride is not alone for those who have dedicated their work to wildlife accomplishments. A great portion of it goes to the landowner, who now is recognizing wildlife as a crop. Then there are the law makers who provide us with the necessary legislation. And, too, there is the good sportsman who is more interested in the crop than the harvest.

To each of these is due a great deal of the credit for last year's hunting success.

## Conservation

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by HOWARD D. DODGEN

Executive Secretary

Game and Fish Commission

Official:

# Research and Planning

by L. A. WILKE

**A** BASIC plan for the complete reorganization of the Game and Fish Department has been adopted by the Commission effective with a new fiscal year beginning September 1. The plan is one recommended by the Texas Research League in its progress report to the Commission at its first meeting of the year, January 6, in Austin. The plan calls for:

**Decentralization of field operations, setting up five regions with a policy organization remaining in the State office;**

**A complete changeover in transportation facilities for the law enforcement agency, which calls for the purchase of approximately 200 automobiles for law enforcement use;**

**A new system of license sales, by which hunting and fishing licenses would be sold to license deputies with advance payments allowing 4% discount for handling the licenses;**

**A revision of the fish stocking program, which would reduce some of the present hatchery facilities.**

Adoption of the proposed reorganization plan will increase the cost of operation slightly more than \$400,000 for the biennium.

It was pointed out that the major portion of this first year's increase will be in the purchase of the new automobiles, and not a recurring cost. Part of this additional money would come from the savings already set up in the budget which previously had been approved by the commission. This would include dropping of the Tyler Fish Hatchery remodeling program, at a saving of \$125,000, the elimination of a new warehouse at the Medina Hatchery at a saving of \$125,000, and further cutbacks at

## LEGISLATURE MUST APPROVE

**Although the Game & Fish Commission has adopted the preliminary report of the Texas Research League for a general reorganization, final action must come from the Legislature.**

**The League proposal, including budget estimates and necessary revision of existing laws, will be presented to the 57th session of the Texas Legislature, now in session.**

**This report of the League's findings is made so the people will have full knowledge of the proposed changes.**

Medina and Tyler.

Another major cutback is the taking out of \$420,000 for the biennium which had been previously allotted to pier construction on the coast. Instead, the plan calls for the substitution of \$100,000 annually for multiple use facilities on State-owned land. This would include an inter-agency agreement with the State Parks Board for piers, ramps, restrooms and camping shelters on park islands adjacent to the coast or to inland water reservoirs, which could be used by fishermen and non-fishermen alike.

These changes were recommended by the Research League because of the population growth and the urbanization, together with "more disposable income, more leisure time and more mobility." The report was presented to the Commission by Glenn Ivy of the Research League staff. He said in part:

"In the past decade, Texas population as a whole grew 24 percent, but the major urban areas grew almost twice that fast. These new city-dwellers want—and need—a place to play and relax outdoors. Since 1950, the number of hunters has increased 40 percent. Picnickers and fishermen have both doubled, and overnight campers have multiplied fivefold.

"The Game and Fish Commission Budget in 1950 was less than \$2 million. The 1960 budget is more than \$6 million.

"The Game and Fish Department began as a fairly simple law enforcement agency, but from time to time new responsibilities have been added—such as management of sand, shell, and gravel resources; regulation of hunting and fishing in more than 100 counties; restoration of fish and wildlife to waters and lands where they have been depleted; control of water pollution affecting game and fish; and dissemination of information on all of these activities. As a rule, organizational units were set up to handle each new function, and these units were simply grafted onto the original structure.

"Let me say again that the Game and Fish Department is a good governmental agency, staffed with capable, dedicated people. Nevertheless, it has two major problems: 1) There is a lack of effective supervision and coordination, particularly in the field forces, and 2) Long-range program planning has not received adequate attention.

"Most of the criticism to which the department—and the Commission—have been subjected stems from these two basic problems, and it is our conclusion that the present organizational structure of the department contributes to supervision and planning weaknesses.

"Most of the administrative personnel is concentrated in Austin, and the tendency in recent years has been

to add more assistant directors at the headquarters level, rather than to provide more supervision in the field.

"There are only two men with authority to require operational cooperation among the personnel of the various divisions, or to mesh the separate programs into a departmental plan. For the most part, these two—the Executive Secretary and the Assistant Executive Secretary—have been forced to work like the Fire Department—where the fire is. They have had little time for over-all administration or long-range planning.

### The Proposed Organization

"To provide machinery for effective planning, supervision, and coordination, we are proposing an organization which decentralizes field administration and unifies program planning at State headquarters.

"We suggest that the state be divided into five regions, each under the supervision of a regional director responsible for administering all of the department's duties in his area. At the regional headquarters there would be supervisors of the various programs such as fisheries management, wildlife restoration and law enforcement. These supervisors would correspond to the present assistant divisional directors, except they would have more direct line responsibility and authority.

"Each region would also have a fiscal agent and an Information and Education Officer as staff assistants to the Regional Director.

"Each region would be further subdivided into a convenient number of districts (20 for the state as a whole) with a District Conservation Chief and approximately 10 Conservation Officers or Game Wardens in each district. (We recommend that the Game Wardens be encouraged to take on additional fish and wildlife management responsibilities, more conservation education work, and that those who are qualified be promoted to a new position of Conservation Officer.

"At the headquarters level a new division of Program Planning and Supervision would be created, headed by an Assistant Director for Programs, responsible for over-all departmental program planning and coordi-

nation. Under him would be Coordinators for the various separate programs—Inland Fisheries, Coastal Fisheries, Wildlife, Law Enforcement, and Information and Education. These Coordinators would correspond to the present divisional directors.

"The Fiscal Division would be expanded to a Division of Administrative Services, headed by an Assistant Director for Administration. A personnel section would be added to the present responsibilities, which already include a number of broad administrative functions.

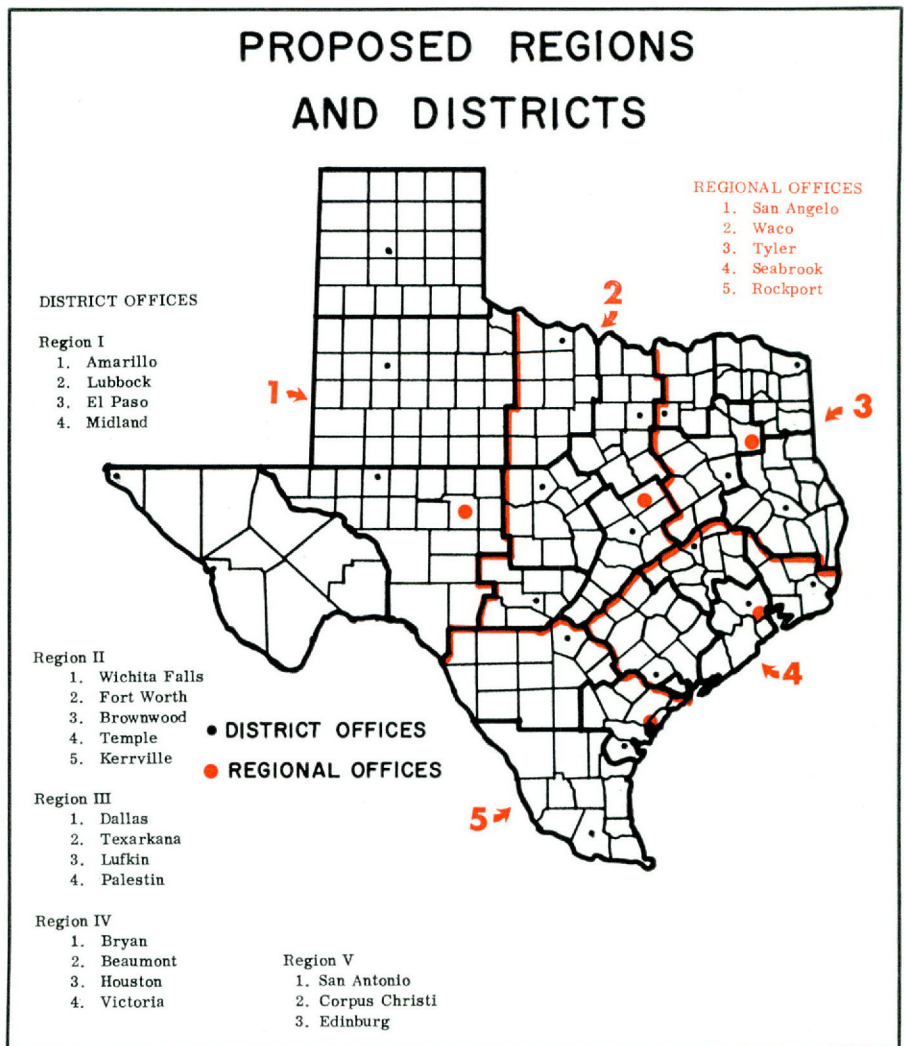
"These organizational proposals will entail some additional expenditures beyond those presently budgeted. Although the Commission and the department are now engaged in developing a long-range plan, we believe some program modifications can be made in the next biennium to improve service and reduce additional expenditure requirements.

These modifications will involve some statutory changes.

### Program Modifications

"TRANSPORTATION. At present, Game and Fish Wardens are required to furnish their own automobiles and they are allowed 8¢ a mile for operating costs while on duty. An effort is made to restrict their mileage allowances to approximately 2,000 miles a month, and this is the source of considerable friction. Because we believe that a peace officer's automobile should be, in effect, an extension of his uniform and should be properly identified as such, and because we believe that the present system is too expensive, we propose that Game Wardens, Conservation Officers, and District Conservation Chiefs be supplied state-owned automobiles. We anticipate that, after an original outlay of around \$400,000, an annual saving of more than \$100,000 will be realized, providing an

• Continued on Page 28



# Cross Country Stripers

**F**ISHING HISTORY WAS made in North Texas Dec. 7 when 791 striped bass averaging four inches in length were released into the clear, somewhat salty waters of Lake Diversion, 20 miles west of Wichita Falls.

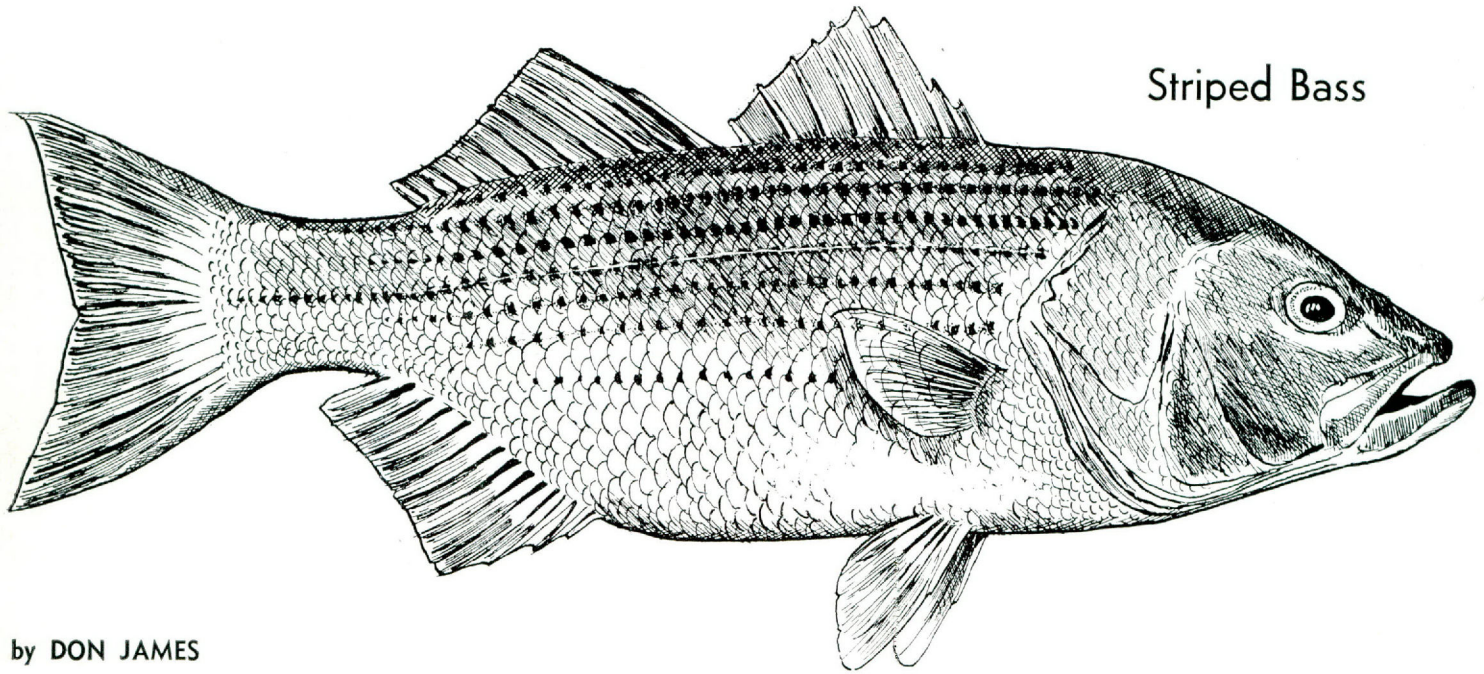
The fish were brought from the Sacramento, Calif., Delta area by air

in two 55-gallon vats. A total 1,728 stripers left California; only 791 survived the trip.

Leo D. Lewis, aquatic biologist from Wichita Falls, said the survival percentage was lower than had been hoped, but under the conditions as high as could be expected.

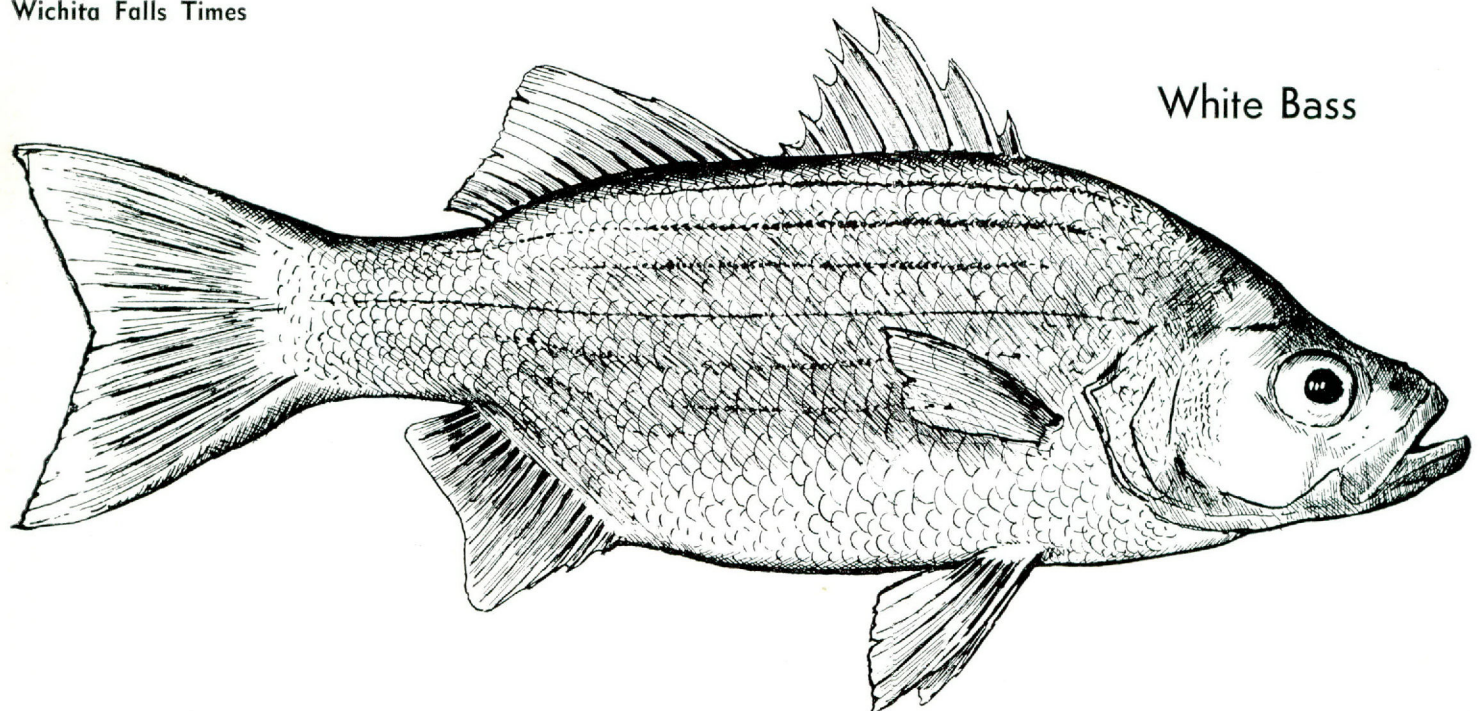
The apparent reason for the high

mortality rate was the presence of rotenone in one of the vats. The modified 55-gallon metal barrel had been used to store the alkaloid. Even though it had been carefully treated with a solution of potassium permanganate before the trip, to oxidize the rotenone residue, oxidation apparently was not complete. As the



Striped Bass

by DON JAMES  
Wichita Falls Times



White Bass



plane left the runway many of the fish in the polluted vat became moribund. Although they had been loaded some two hours before and hadn't exhibited any signs of unhappiness until takeoff, Lewis said inspection of the dead fish indicated rotenone was the cause.

Both the method of travel and the actual stocking were experiments, however, Lewis declared. Both experiments apparently are successful, although whether or not the stripers will spawn in Lake Diversion still is a question mark.

Regulation is almost certain to be required until the fish reach spawning age. And the restriction on striped bass will be complicated by the fact that stripers are dead ringers for white bass which are present in the lake in abundance. A 10-inch limit on white bass is being considered by Lewis, since at that size the two species can be differentiated.

The striper develops seven or eight well-defined lines along each side when about nine to ten inches in length. It also has a "sharper" head than the white bass. The two fish are close relatives, both belonging to the genus *Roccus*. Specific name for the striper is *saxatilis*.

Stripers are anadromous fish, occurring on the East Coast naturally and the West Coast as a result of experimental stockings in 1879 and 1882. The 1879 introduction included 132 fish brought from New Jersey by rail. The 1882 stocking included 300 more fingerlings.

The Lake Diversion fish, averaging about four inches in size, are the progeny of California parents that have been acclimated to fresh water. In fact they were seined from the California Delta by Gus Geible, fisheries manager at the Central Valleys Fish Hatchery near Sacramento.

Marion Toole arranged for the stripers, through Alex Calhoun, fisheries director for the California Division of Fish and Game. Two other striper experts, Alan McCready and Arnold Albrecht of the Division of Fish and Game, actually handled the transfer from the hatchery pond to the aircraft.

One of the most important by-products of the striper introduction—if successful—may be elimination of

the gizzard shad problem in Texas lakes supporting stripers. The shad are reputed to be a favorite item in the striper's diet. In fact, California recently introduced the threadfin shad to the Delta to provide forage for the millions of stripers found there.

Stripers spawn in a manner similar to that of the white bass. Males and females seek shallow, clear water with a moderate current. The female releases the eggs—upwards of six million per fish—directly into the water and the male releases the milt in the same way. By means of a thrashing frenzy, the eggs are haphazardly fertilized. They are slightly heavier than water, and will sink to the bottom and become covered with silt in the absence of current.

Although easily acclimated to fresh water wherever found, the fish apparently require near-perfect conditions for spawning, and California officials are constantly worried about water projects in the Delta that may reduce suitable spawning grounds. The East Coast striper fishery also has been adversely affected by pollution and elimination of upstream spawning grounds by shoreline changes and dam construction.

Females mature at four to six years of age, while males begin to mature at about two years. Males commonly are smaller than females. The "bull" stripers referred to by East Coast fishermen are incorrectly named, since they are females. The fish apparently reach a maximum size of 125 pounds on the East Coast and about 70 pounds in the West. A 125-pound fish was reported early in the century

in the San Francisco fish market, but the story is not substantiated. The fish no longer are sought commercially in California.

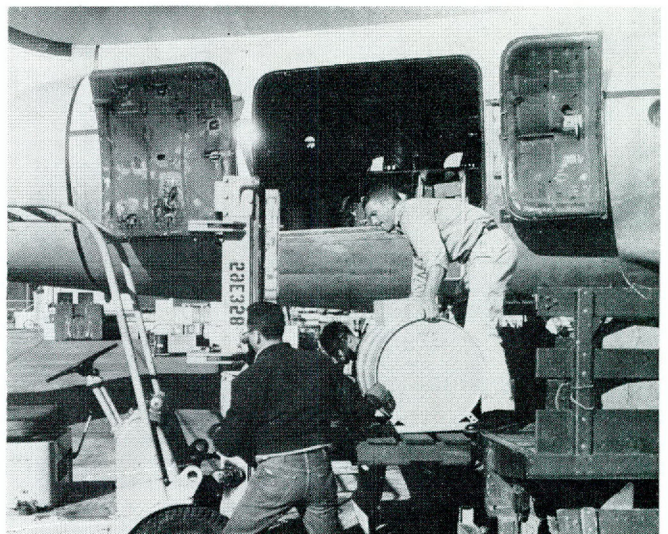
Rod and reel record on the East Coast is 73 pounds, set in 1913. The West Coast record is about 50 pounds, according to information available through the Division of Fish and Game.

Authorities are almost unanimous in rating the striper (sometimes called rockfish) a game fish of the first rank. The fish is said to be quite tasty and a good fighter, especially in the smaller size range.

Climatic conditions in North Texas closely approach that of the California Delta region, and an experimental stocking of the fish in an inland lake near Sacramento has proved successful beyond expectations. Growth rate of the introduction is "very fast," McCready and Albrecht said.

Lewis and Lonnie Peters of the Wichita Falls fisheries laboratory are planning to keep a close watch on the progress of the 791 released in Lake Diversion. A natural history study being made at the lake will make the job easier, since a crew from Wichita Falls "works" the lake on the average of twice each month.

If the plant is successful, Texas fishermen should be catching pan-size stripers within five years, depending on regulations applied to the species. And the population of at least one Texas rough fish, the shad, should begin to dwindle as soon as the stripers reach an appropriate size.

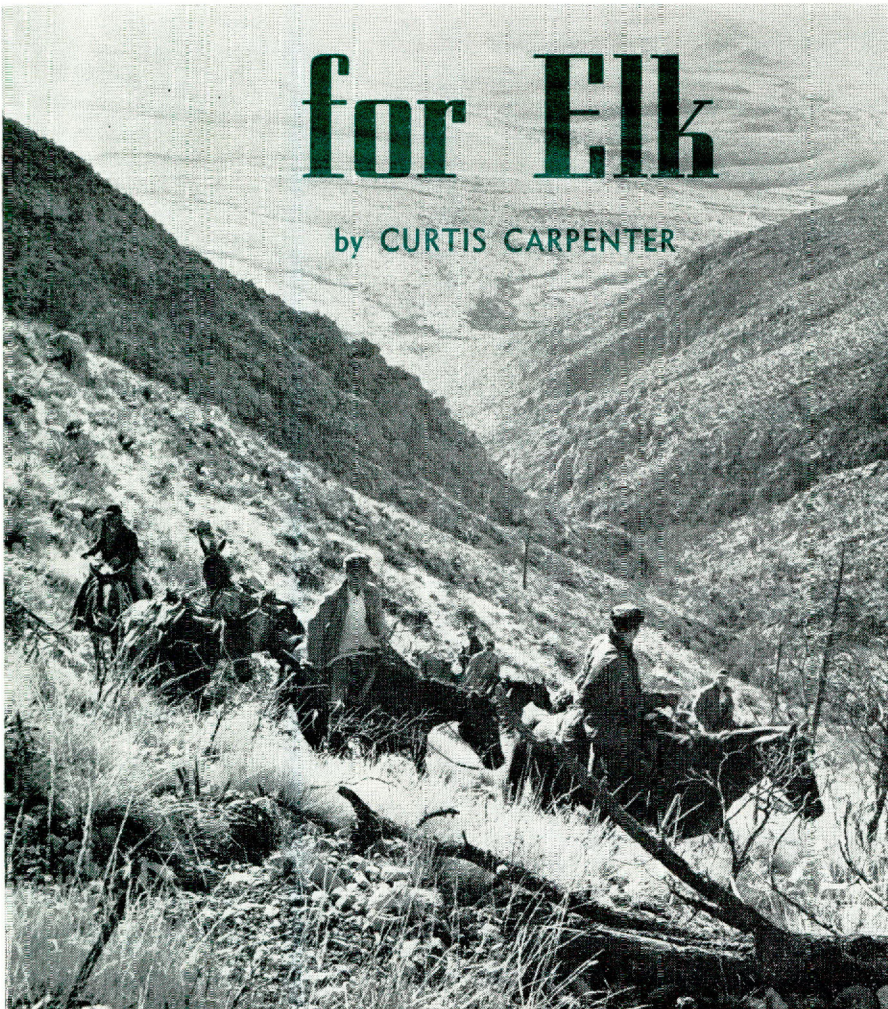


Vats filled with stripers are loaded on to a Shepard Air Force C-54 for the trip from Sacramento to Wichita Falls.

# Climb High

## for Elk

by CURTIS CARPENTER



The trip was long and steep up the canyon mule trail. Far below, U.S. Highway 62 resembles an ant trail as it cuts across the barren foot hills. Above awaits the thrills of an elk hunt.

SOMETIME IN 1927 the late Judge J. C. Hunter of Van Horn imported 44 head of Canadian elk, *Cervus canadensis* (Erxleben), from the Black Hills of North Dakota and released them in beautiful McKittrick Canyon deep in the heart of the Guadalupe Mountains. By 1939, it was estimated that some 400 head of elk called the mountains their home.

J. C. Hunter, Jr., Abilene, now owns the 110 section ranch on which the elk roam. Most of the mountains are included in the ranch area. The main headquarters is located about three miles north of Pine Springs in an old post office where the ancient town of Frijolle once stood.

Every year since the end of World War II Hunter has invited some of his friends out to hunt mule deer on the ranch. The same group returns annually to enjoy the hunt and the fellowship.

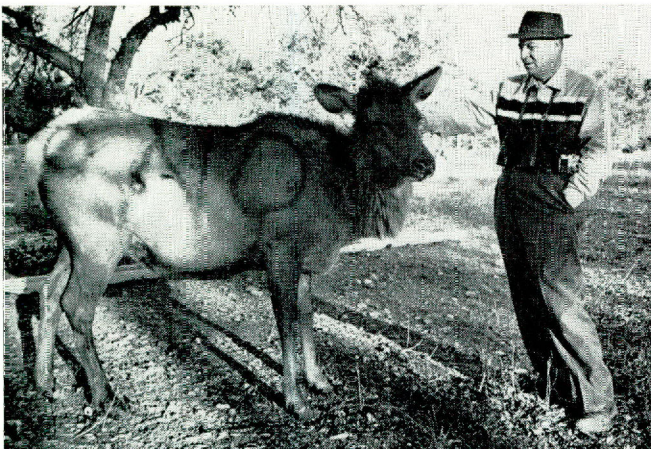
In 1959 elk were added to the list of game to be hunted. Two trophy bulls were taken.

In September, a group of biologists made a trend study of the elk. They estimated the population to be about 300. From this number they recommended that 12 bulls and 12 cows be taken. So, 24 any-sex permits were issued to Hunter.

When December 8, rolled around 5 bulls and 4 cows had been bagged.

Noel Kincaid, ranch manager, furnished the sure-footed mountain horses and pack mules for the hunt. They are a must when it comes to climbing

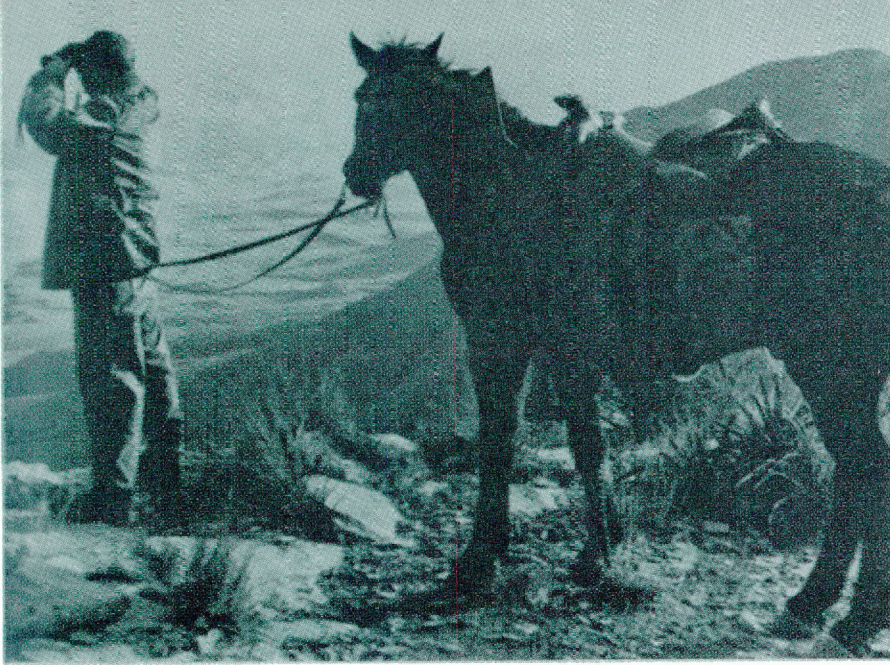
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John Womble of Abilene is trying to explain to Dulcinea, the pet elk cow on the Hunter Ranch, why she should stay out of the mountains during the hunt. NO was painted on both her sides to remind hunters not to shoot at her if she refused to listen to Womble.



Lunch time found the hunters lounging up against fallen pines. Left to right are Benito, who handled the mules; Marty Tidwell; Noel Kincaid; Theron Fergus, Abilene; J. C. Hunter, Jr., host for the hunt; W. J. (Bill) Murray, Jr., Austin; Morey Millerman, Abilene; and Laurie Kincaid.



J. C. Hunter, Jr., glasses the ridges for mule deer just after reaching the high end of Pine Canyon. Over a dozen bucks were taken by the hunters during their stay in the Guadalupe.



Hunter displays a big bull elk taken last year on his ranch. Several brothers to this one were spotted this year but none were bagged.



Noel Kincaid, left, and Bill Murray dropped their young bulls close enough for a nose to nose shot. On the hoof each of these would go well over 300 pounds.



When an elk was killed the entire party gathered around to get the job done. Note the pine forest just below the point.



Time kept hunters on the move. By joining forces an elk could be dressed, skinned and quartered in a few minutes.

All of Kincaid's horses were excellent climbers. One of his favorites was this white one. Noel, like many others who live in the mountains, could pick out a mule deer high on a ridge and tell how many points it had. Laurie and Benito had the same wonderful eye sight.

A full grown elk was too much for one mule. Noel's mules were full of energy at all times and had to be held securely for the loading job. Here, Murray, Noel, Fergus, Tidwell, Benito, and Laurie join in to handle the situation.





There were enough deer to go around twice, so most of the boys killed two apiece.

## *It was a big season for—*

**M**ASON COUNTY, like so many other counties, had too many doe deer in 1960. How to trim the number down to a healthy population posed quite a problem for the landowners in the area. The obvious thing to do was to call on some hunters who weren't particularly interested in getting something with antlers.

So, a choice was made. Game warden Gene Ashby wandered onto the idea of inviting boys in from orphanages and homes for boys to harvest some of the does. The ranchers and landowners liked the idea and agreed to open their ranches to the boys for a real doe hunt.

A typical hunt took place December 17 on several ranches including the Block House Ranch just outside of Mason owned by Kurt Martin. On that date at 6 a.m. over 100 boys gathered in front of the Chamber of Commerce office in downtown Mason. Ranchers near Mason had vehicles waiting to take the boys to the hunting areas.

They were divided into small groups with a guide for each group. Rifles presented a problem so in many instances there were as many

as three boys to a rifle.

The boys had to abide by some strict rules, one being that they could not load their rifles until deer were spotted. Only does were the targets for the day.

By sunup, the country side was dotted with youngsters. Many were hunting for the first time. And the sound of rifles soon rang through the hills and stub brush.

Meanwhile, the popular Chuck Wagon Gang from Odessa had moved their wagon up next to a windmill in a south pasture on the Block House and prepared a real feast for the hungry hunters. And, what a delicious plate full of food it turned out to be.

The Chuck Wagoners are famous for their treats. And traveling about the country catering for groups like this was right down their alley.

At noon sharp, the boys began to pour in with their deer. A half hour later the windmill was swaying under the weight of a load of does. A tree nearby strained from limb to limb with more deer. And the hill top was alive with boys. They marched in like pack ants with deer thrown across

their shoulders or dragging along behind.

Biologists and game wardens were on hand to assist any way they could. Every deer was weighed and measured. And no bee hive was ever more alive with activity.

The plates were cleaned in less than an hour and one by one and in groups the boys loaded their deer back on the vehicles and departed. Those who had killed out wore smiles. Those who didn't had a look of anxiety.

That morning alone some 56 does were taken. This number nearly tripped before the day was over with 148 deer in all killed.

Six hunts were held before the season ended. The first one took place on December 3 with 55 boys participating. They took 61 deer back with them. A week later on the 10th, only 12 boys hunted and killed 13 deer. On the 17th, 102 boys hunted and bagged the 148 does.

On the following weekend, 55 boys took 82 deer back to their home. On the 29th, 40 boys and 5 adults killed 85 deer. And on the final

• Continued on Page 31



The famous Chuck Wagon Gang from Odessa was on hand to serve a free meal to the boys. Many of them emptied several plates like this.

# The Teenage Hunters

by CURTIS CARPENTER



Game Warden Gene Ashby was on hand to help the boys any way he could. Other members of the Game and Fish Commission were there to check deer and offer suggestions.



A peppermint stick for the smallest deer and a box of apples for the largest. This presentation was made December 17 on the Block House Ranch for the deer killed that day. The boys killed 148 deer that day.

# A trip to bird land

by W. K. TILLER



A curious red-tailed hawk sailed overhead, exchanging glances with a group of TOS members below.



Rock Squirrels were numerous in the area.



This group paused to observe a swamp sparrow.



Binoculars were kept handy at all times.

**S**AGE SPARROWS, pinion jays, prairie falcons, Townsend's warblers, green kingfishers, ladder-backed woodpeckers, a Scott's oriole and an osprey were the more interesting of the 133 species of birds recorded by more than 100 members of the Texas Ornithological Society assembled in Del Rio over the Thanksgiving weekend.

During the three-day meeting, "binocularized" members walked and traveled by car many miles in every corner of the 3,242-square-mile Val Verde County. One walking excursion about nine miles long through picturesque Castle Canyon yielded 47 species of birds in a wilderness area soon to be inundated by a new dam on the Rio Grande River.

At the annual banquet and business meeting Saturday night in the Roswell Hotel, members learned that the Society will offer, in the near future, a collegiate scholarship for education in conservation. As defined by the Society, conservation is the proper utilization of a resource.

The program after the banquet included a presentation of slides and study skins of the raptors of Mexico by Dr. Travis C. Meitzen of Refugio, a charter member of the society. Delegates were also entertained during the Friday night program with color slides and motion pictures from

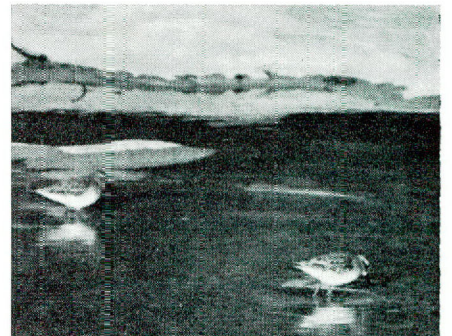
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Golden-fronted woodpeckers were common.



This group watched a soaring osprey.



A pair of sandpipers in Develil River country.

# To Bait or — Not to Bait ?

**E**VERY NOW AND THEN, fishermen ask "Is it against the law to bait a hole to fish in?"

Lots of folks, it seems, feel there is something dishonest about using bait to attract fish. Some, who are not sure, even slip out at night to bait a place, hoping they won't be seen. The truth of the matter is, baiting, or chumming as some call it, for fish not only is legal, it is good conservation in many places and should be encouraged.

Overabundant carp, buffalo, and crappie occur in many of our Texas lakes. And with fishing pressure on these species so light that they are not sufficiently harvested, it makes good sense to draw them in to places where they can more easily be caught. Therefore, if baiting aids in taking those fish that often go uncaught, go ahead and bait.

Studies have shown that carp, buffalo and catfish can be drawn to an area with cotton seed cake, soured maize, corn, stale bread, meat scraps, chicken entrails and others. Most of these are inexpensive and produce good results. For consistently good catches, once a place is baited it must be kept baited. Sporadic chumming won't keep the fish there.

These materials can be broadcast over the area you want to fish, or for longer effectiveness, they can be put into some sort of a porous container. This would keep the fish from eating the bait too quickly.

Place cotton seed cake, corn and stale bread in a loose-meshed burlap sack and hang it beneath a dock or by a dead tree or in some other likely place where fish might come.

Fish will usually find the baited spot and the supply of bait faster if some of the material is scattered about the area.

Corn and soured maize do well just sprinkled over an area. Many's the catfish that's been caught on rod and reel in a place baited this way. Catfish also are attracted to meat

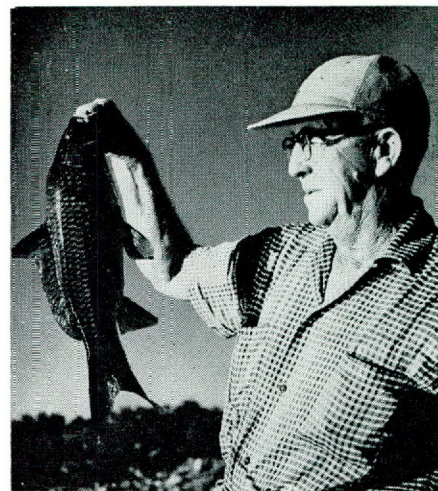
scraps and chicken entrails placed in a wire-meshed basket tied under a boat dock.

To bait an area for crappie, use alfalfa, hay, cotton seed meal, oat meal, bread and green banana stalks. Sink baled alfalfa or hay with a substantial anchor. Recently, a fisherman failed to realize that hay would float. After placing several bales under his dock the hay floated up and lifted the dock out of place. So, be sure to soak the hay for a couple of days before sinking. It'll stay down if this is done and less weight will be needed to anchor it in place.

Cotton seed meal, oat meal, and bread can be broadcast over an area for crappie and sunfish. This type of baiting, most effective for attracting sunfish, doesn't last long so the bait must be replaced often.

Generally, green banana stalks work best in fairly deep water suspended from about eight to ten feet below the surface. It is important, however, to place them in the water at a depth where they will be exposed to sunlight so they will sprout underwater. Apparently the banana oil and green growth produced attract small fish and these in turn attract crappie or white perch.

Another way to improve crappie fishing is by sinking baited brush piles. Normally these are freshly cut willow limbs baited with alfalfa or hay. Green limbs work best not only because they sink readily but because



A carp this size can give a fisherman lots of thrills. They are caught around baited piers.

the leaves rot and attract food organisms and small fish and crappie in turn. A brush pile should be marked with a float so it can be found easily.

Some fishermen set an anchor tied with a heavy line to a float made of an old inner tube over the brush pile. Then they can tie up to the float any time they wish and be directly over the hot spot. Fresh brush and bait need to be added every now and then.

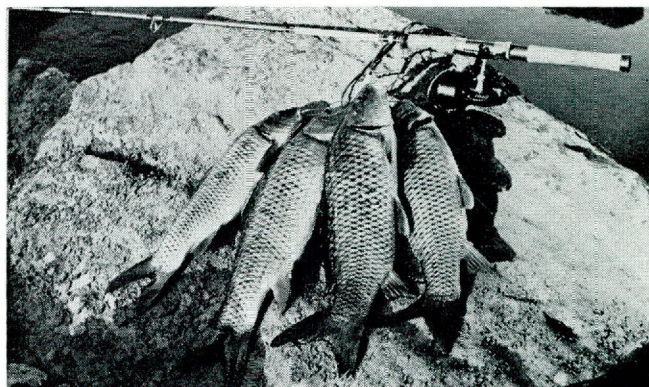
If you bait a hole, you'll need some good recipes for doughbait to fish for carp and buffalo. These can be obtained by writing the Texas Game and Fish Commission. Just ask for the leaflet entitled, "What the Experts Say About Carp Fishing." It's full of helpful hints about baits and how to fish for these species.

Bait up your favorite fishing spot. There is nothing illegal about it. It's a good way to improve your fishing luck, and you'll probably stand a better chance of catching that tackle buster. \*\*

by **KENNETH JURGENS**  
Assistant Director  
Inland Fisheries

Photos by Russ Tinsley

The lucky individual who landed these fine specimens will vouch for baited fishing holes.



# Gobbler Gamble

**“PERK, PERK,”** THE BIG gobbler said and looked us right in the eye at 30 feet. My host picked up his shotgun and killed him Black Flag dead.

It all started one cool, misty morning in December. The phone rang and a voice said, “Wanna kill a wild turkey?”

Would a monkey like to climb a grapevine?

Forty-five minutes later we were on our way and soon on his lease north of Raymondville. After driving inside the fence we started looking for game. He was carrying a beautiful double barreled 16, finely balanced with inlaid stock.

I had a copy of Mr. Winchester’s great bloodsearcher, model 97 with hammer exposed. The barrel was longer than I’ve been away from home—you had to mix salt with the shot to keep the victim from spoiling before you could get to it.

We came to a clearing covered with high weeds and out across the middle came a herd of the biggest turkeys I ever saw. Their beards were so long that when they flew over a barbed-wire fence they had to reach



**“What!”** I bellowed, “you’ll call them back?”

down and pick them up with their feet to keep from hanging up.

I opened the proceedings with a 12 gauge remark directed at a big tom. He and a load of No. 2 shot arrived at the same time and the poor folks were eating again. Before the sound of the shot was gone, the rest of the turkeys were too.

I stood and looked at the biggest and handsomest wild bird in the world. I was ready to go back to town. I wanted to go down to the postoffice, sit on the steps and tell the natives how I did it but this guy says, “let’s go over here in this thick brush and I’ll try to call them back.”

“Call them back? You don’t scare the daylights out of a jet-propelled ostrich and then call him back. Not down here . . . not us!

There might be an old man away back in the hills of Kentucky with tobacco juice running down both sides of his mouth, using the exact center of an albino turkey’s wingbone for a call, who lived like a turkey, looked like a turkey and acted like a turkey, who could get one that hadn’t been previously disturbed, up within rifle distance. But this insurance man with his well-manicured hands and his shiny white teeth—uh, uh, I was ready to go to the postoffice.

I had to be polite. I went along with him and sat down in the middle

He took out a little box and chalked the lid as carefully as Willie Hoppe would chalk a cue. I was ready to go to the postoffice.

by SMOKEY BOYLE



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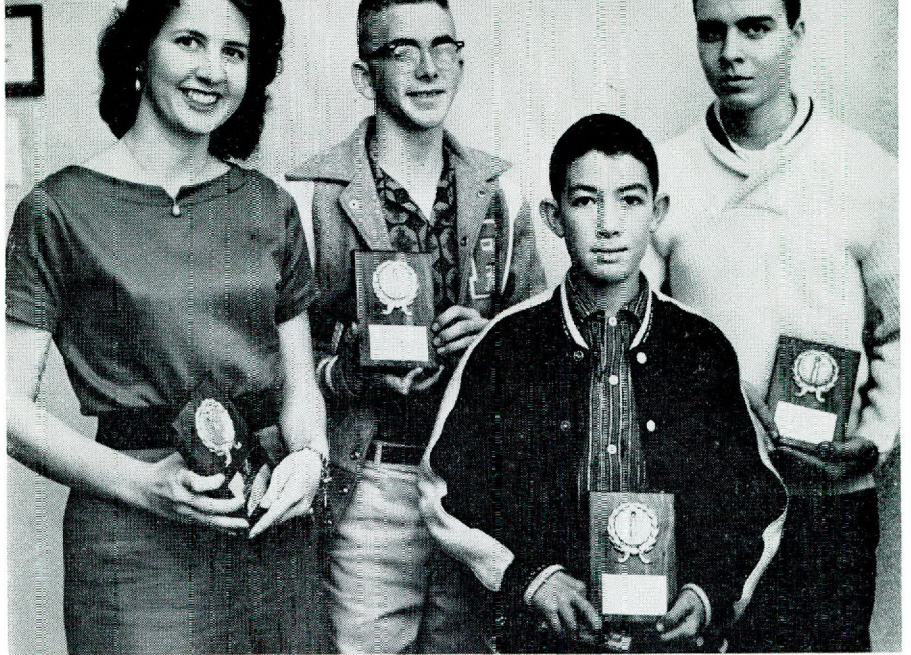
by HAL SWIGGETT  
San Antonio Express-News



Patty Burk's whitetail buck.



Vernon Swiggett's doe and fawn.



Patty Burk, Vernon Swiggett, Pedro Campos and Austin Spray display their First Place plaques awarded by Wildlife Unlimited of San Antonio.

**W**ILDLIFE UNLIMITED'S annual art and photography contest seems destined to remain on the scene. The San Antonio Outdoor Club started the venture in 1958. The contest is for paintings or photographs of any animal or bird that lived in or migrated through Texas and is open to Elementary, Junior High and High School students of Bexar County, with separate judging for each age group.

That first contest drew 83 entries. The 1959 competition drew 153 en-

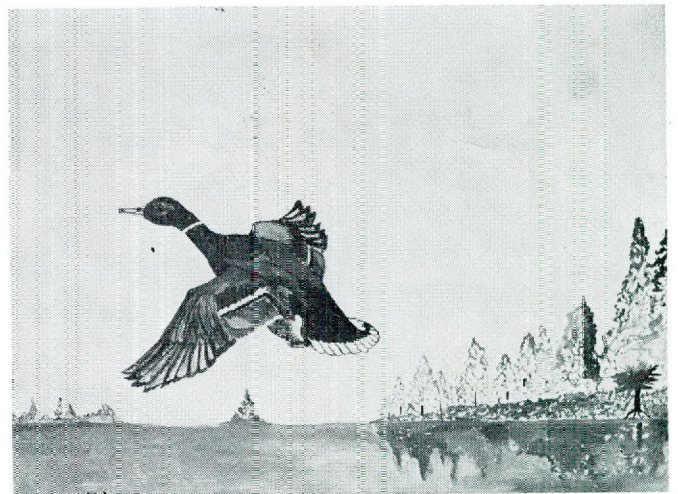
tries and convinced the club it should be continued for another year. In 1960 the Third Annual Art and Photography Contest closed out with 189 pieces of art. The judges were San Antonio Postmaster, Dan Quill; artist and instructor, Warren Hunter; and Game and Fish Commission Biologist, Bob Mauermann.

The contest has been so well received the club decided to make it a permanent venture.

There were a couple of minor

• Continued on Page 24

# TOPS IN ART



Austin Spray's 35mm camera shot, left, and Pedro Campos' mallard in flight, above.

*There's a real  
challenge  
in hunting*

## Muleys

**T**HE MOUNTAINOUS terrain of the Trans-Pecos provides a setting each year for some of the most rugged hunting to be found anywhere. High on rocky bluffs and along foothills in that area roam the state's biggest deer, the mule deer, *Odocoileus hemionus* (Rafinesque). Each year from December 1 to 8, this area is filled with the sounds and signs of the mule deer hunt.

Most of the hunting takes place on private ranches where hunters purchase their privileges to enter and take deer. However, the Game and Fish Commission has two areas, Black Gap and Sierra Diablo, where annual public hunts are held.

Biologists report that the harvest this year was a good one. Most deer

checked through the various official check stations in the Trans-Pecos Area were in excellent shape. Most of these were does. Nearly all deer observed at the camps and ranches also were very healthy animals.

If the hunting success for all the Trans-Pecos were to be based on the complete records kept on the two management areas it would have to be considered above average. For instance, on the Sierra Diablo Area 47 hunters took 31 deer for a 69.9 percent success. Of this number 13 were bucks, 16 were does, and 2 were fawns.

On the Black Gap Area, 334 hunters reported for the hunt and bagged 164 deer. Of these, 79 were bucks, 55 were does and 30 were

# West of the Pecos

by CURTIS CARPENTER



Few people ever get to see a herd of mule deer congregated in a small area like this. This shot was taken on the Reynold's Ranch before the hunting season opened.



The big buck at left, bagged by Bill Murray of Austin, and the nice one at right, dropped by J. C. Hunter Jr., of Abilene, are representative of the Guadalupe Mountain country.



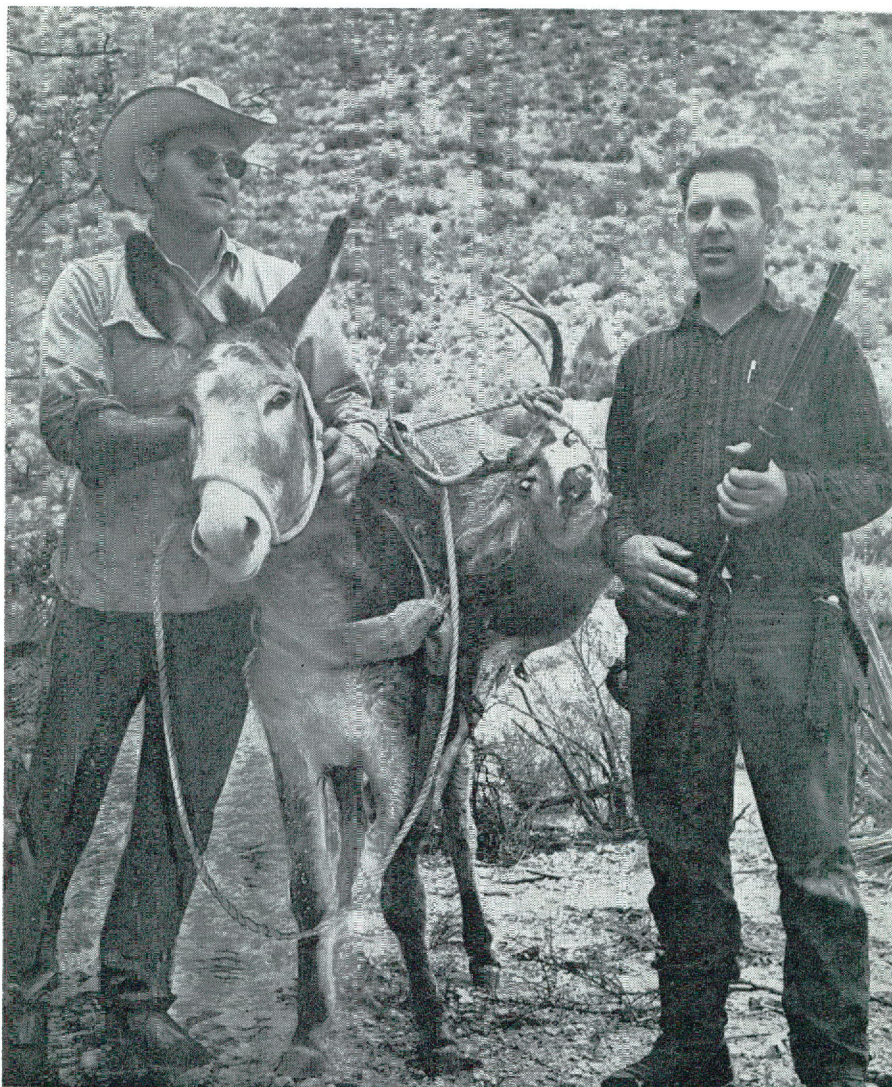
fawns. A new record in weight was set on the area with one field dressed buck tipping the scales at 190 pounds and another at 180 pounds.

Reaching the mule deer hunting grounds demands of the hunter an abundance of endurance and determination. In most cases, and especially once the deer are spooked time and again by gun fire, the bigger trophies remain high along the upper ridges and bluffs. Novices reporting to the hunt scene seemed a bit surprised to find the going so rough.

Several parties arriving at the Black Gap Area stayed only long enough to get a good look at the range. Even before attempting to search out a deer they bounced back into their vehicles and departed. But, most of those who remained and challenged the high, rocky terrain went home with venison for the table and highly praised this type of hunting.

Many of the hunters killed does. They were after meat for the deep freeze. Realizing that generally, does provide the most tender and flavorful meat, these individuals had decided before breaking out the rifle that they would kill the first deer that crossed their path.

Now the hunt is over. And once more the muleys have the mountains all to themselves. It was a fruitful hunt. On the management areas, hunting is a tool of the biologists. It enables them to remove a desired number of deer without waste, an important factor in deer management. At the same time many persons hauled out hundreds of pounds of delicious venison for the ovens, deep fryers, and barbecue pits. \* \*



Howard Boyd had his burro on hand at the Black Gap to get the deer out of high places. Here, H. K. Lawson's 124-pound buck is almost a full load for the little pack animal.

Jerry Gullihur, field assistant on the Black Gap Area, checks one of the many does harvested there during the public hunt.



A. G. McKinnis of Brownsville killed this giant buck on the Black Gap. It weighed 180 pounds field drawn, had 10 points and a 20-inch spread. This was the second heaviest deer ever taken on the area.



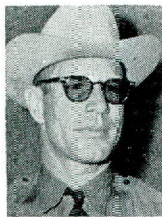


**Capt. E. M. Sprott**  
Director, Law Enforcement

# Meet Your Warden



**Capt. J. B. Phillips**  
Assistant Director



**Henry Burkett**  
Box 1626  
San Angelo

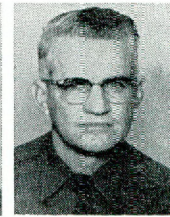


**Robert L. Cross**  
2370 Rice  
Houston

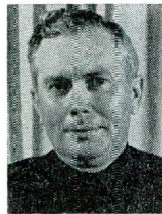
## Regional Warden Supervisors



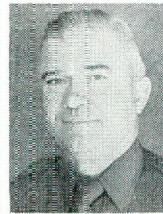
**Chas. Edmundson**  
Austin



**J. L. Hardie**  
516 S. Peach  
Tyler



**A. W. Lewis**  
Courthouse  
Dallas



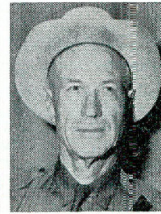
**M. B. Mullinax**  
Box 274  
Rockport



**Woody Pond**  
Amarillo



**G. M. Stricklin**  
Star Rt. 2  
Beeville

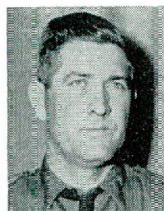


**Herbert C. Ward**  
Box 106  
Catarina



**John R. Wood**  
Box 223  
Brownwood

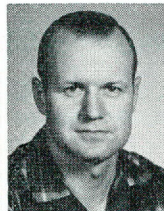
## District Game Wardens



**Harvey R. Adams**  
Ft. Davis



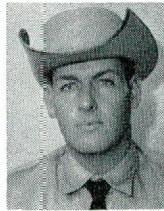
**Gene Ashby**  
Austin



**E. L. Baker**  
Menard



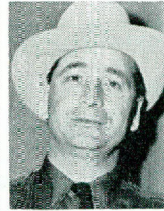
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Karnack



**Bob F. Barnes**  
Odessa



**C. C. Becker**  
Houston



**Bill Belote**  
Jefferson



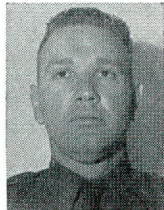
**W. F. Bennett, Jr.**  
Brady



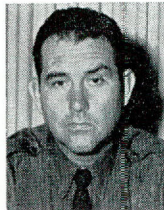
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Fairfield



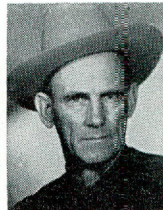
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San Augustine



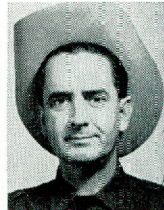
**Lake L. Black**  
Amarillo



**D. W. Bowers, Jr.**  
San Marcos



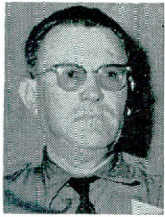
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Vernon



**Edward Bradley**  
Mason



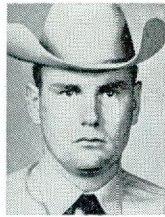
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Wake Village



H. L. Brooks  
Waco



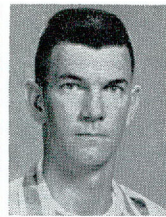
Joe B. Brower  
Houston



Sammy Brown  
Pottsboro



T. C. Browning,  
Jr.  
Athens



Wm. H. Burch  
Rockdale



Chester Burdett  
Pleasanton



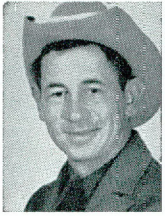
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Clarksville



Bert G. Cade  
Tyler



Walter Carpenter  
Ozona



Carl Carter  
Shamrock



Donald J. Caudle  
Ft. Worth



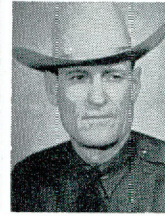
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Pearland



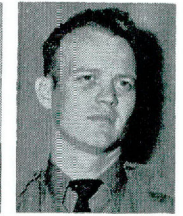
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Whitney



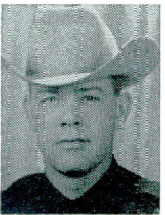
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Bay City



W. G. Craig  
Paint Rock



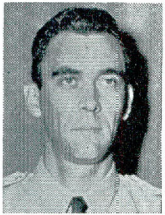
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Weatherford



Raymond Custer  
Uvalde



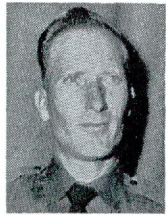
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Henderson



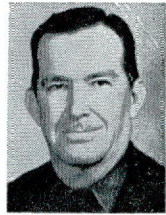
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Port Arthur



Olan H. Davis  
Silsbee



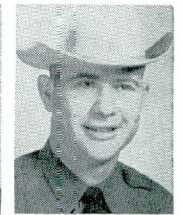
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Alpine



Pat. L. Donnelly  
Littlefield



James R. Dowell  
Henrietta



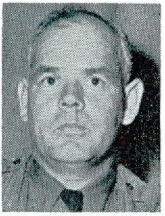
Billie J. Drehr  
Cuero



Maurice S. Dry  
Eastland



James Rix Duke  
Nacogdoches



Robert S. Evins  
San Antonio



Harold Farley  
Bastrop



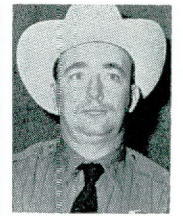
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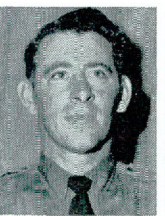
R. L. Flanagan  
Ballinger



Cecil Fox  
Spur



W. J. Frazier  
San Juan



Alfred W. Fromm  
Matador



Hugh Frost  
Linden



Floyd I. Gaby  
Temple



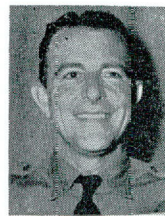
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Austin



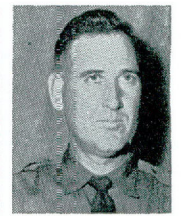
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Freeport



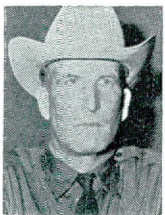
W. A. Gentry  
Beaumont



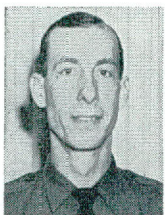
J. I. Gerganes  
Dallas



N. E. Glover  
Breckenridge



Wm. H. Gooch  
Raymondville



J. B. Goodwin  
Gonzales



Robert G. Goss  
Kilgore



J. W. Gregory  
Kerrville



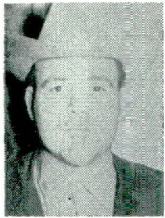
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Johnson City



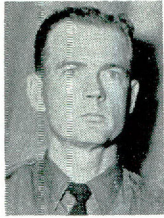
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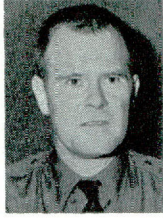
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Noel J. Head  
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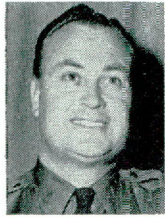
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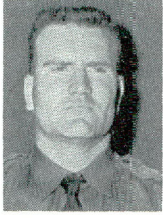
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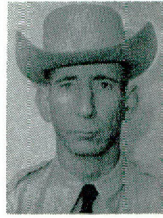
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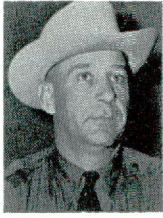
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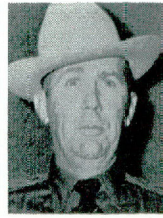
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R. B. Jessee  
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C. T. Jones  
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John D. Jones  
Abilene



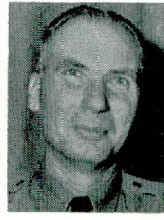
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Ed M. Lacy  
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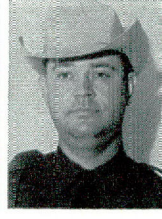
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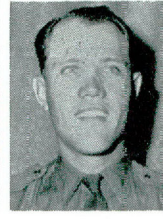
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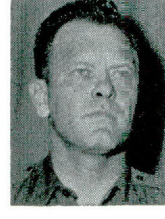
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Robert Lys  
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Ellis W. Martin  
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Raymond Martin  
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Chas. Maynard  
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J. K. Maynard  
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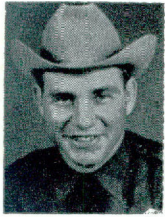
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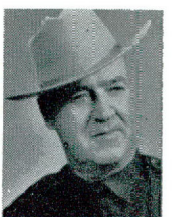
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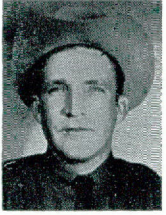
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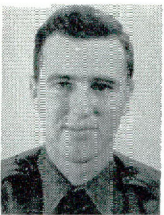
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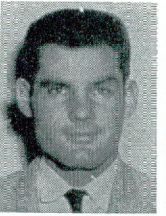
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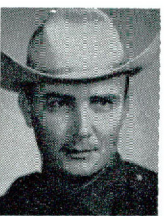
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Harol D. Penney  
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M. A. Peterson  
Humble



Joe Pigg  
Bowie



R. H. Pinckney  
Buchanan Dam



C. T. Pittman  
Seymour



James E. Pond  
Carrizo Springs



James H. Pratt  
Galveston



Wm. H. Pratt  
Lamesa



Bubba G. Reed  
San Diego



M. T. Reinhardt,  
Jr.  
Lubbock



Joe Riggs  
Wharton



W. T. Rinehart  
San Angelo



J. D. Robertson  
Bryan



Harold Robinson  
Groveton



Gene Samford  
Carthage



Harvey Schoen  
Falfurrias



Geo. E. Schuh  
Mexia



Carson L. Seago  
Quitman



Ross Seale  
Hearne



Dave Sellstrom  
Woodsboro



Donald Sewell  
Junction



John A. Shaddix  
New Boston



Clifton Shafer  
Kingsville



Aubrey J. Shaw  
Georgetown



Grover Simpson  
Austin



Earl Sloan  
Aransas Pass



Wilbur Smith  
Marble Falls



Billy M. Sprott  
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M. E. Stallcup  
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A. A. Stein  
Dallas



R. L. Stevens  
Bandera



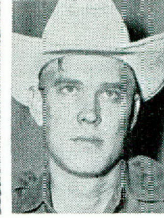
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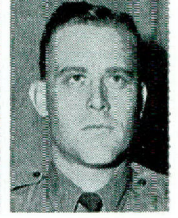
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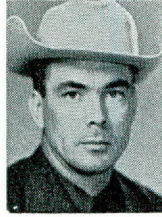
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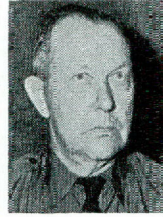
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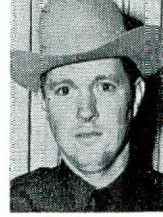
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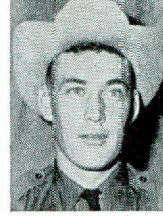
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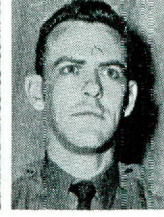
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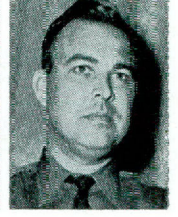
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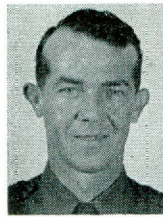
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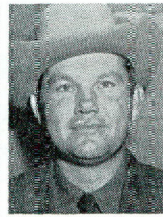
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Carl Webb  
Port Lavaca



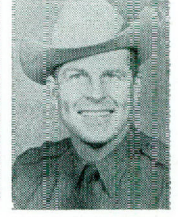
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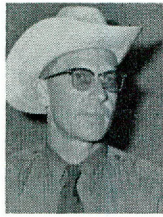
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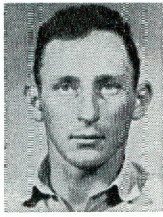
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Eugene Willmann  
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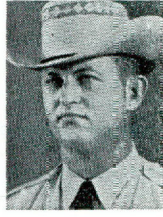
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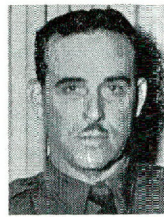
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Hallettsville



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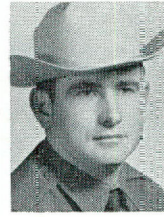
Jack Woodford  
Miami



Allen Woolley  
Crockett



Lonnie Wooten  
Jacksboro



Billy Jo Works  
Eldorado



J. W.  
Worthington  
Seabrook

Get to know your Warden—  
He represents more than just Law Enforcement







**T**HE SECOND SALT WATER fish harvest study has been made for the Game and Fish Commission by Belden Associates as a part of the program of the Commission to learn as much as possible about coastal fishing results. The first of these reports was made on the 1957-58 fishing season. The report just completed covers the 1959-60 fishing season. Since both surveys were made on the same subject material, the department is able to establish a trend in the coastal harvest.

The 1959-60 report shows a slight decrease in the total poundage and the total number of fishermen who visited the coast. At the same time, the survey indicated a slight increase in the unit of effort yield. In other words, fewer fishermen fishing fewer hours caught a slightly heavier catch than in the previous year. It has been generally agreed that the 1959 winter season for coastal fishing was severely hampered by unfavorable weather conditions.

According to the survey, the projected poundage of speckled trout, flounder, drum and shrimp, for the 1959-60 season, amounted to 26,322,000 against 39,586,000 for the previous two-year period. The number of fishermen was shown at 665,200 for the 1959-60 season as compared with 748,000 for the 1957-58 season. The average fisherman was out only 7.7 days in 1959-60 as compared with 9.4 days on the previous season.

They put in 4.7 hours per day last year as compared with 5.2 the previous year.

But for the unit of effort, they caught 1.09 pounds of fish per man hour of fishing, against 1.08 for the previous season.

The researchers found that approximately 7 percent of all Texans fished on the coast during the year.

In a breakdown of fishermen interviewed at random, professionals and executives headed the list, 19% in 1960 as against 18% in 1958. Farm owners and managers were a close second, amounting to 14% each year. There was a slight increase in the number of clerical and sales workers in 1960, jumping from 13% to 15%; technical and skilled workers jumped from 22% to 23%, and unskilled workers 11% to 12%.

# Saltwater Survey

In economic levels, 33% were in the middle and higher bracket for 1960, as opposed to 30% in 1958. In 1960, 67% represented the lower middle and low income brackets, as compared to 70% in the previous survey.

Racially, the survey covered 83% Anglos, 9% Latins and 8% Negroes. It was also shown that 73% of the persons interviewed owned their own homes.

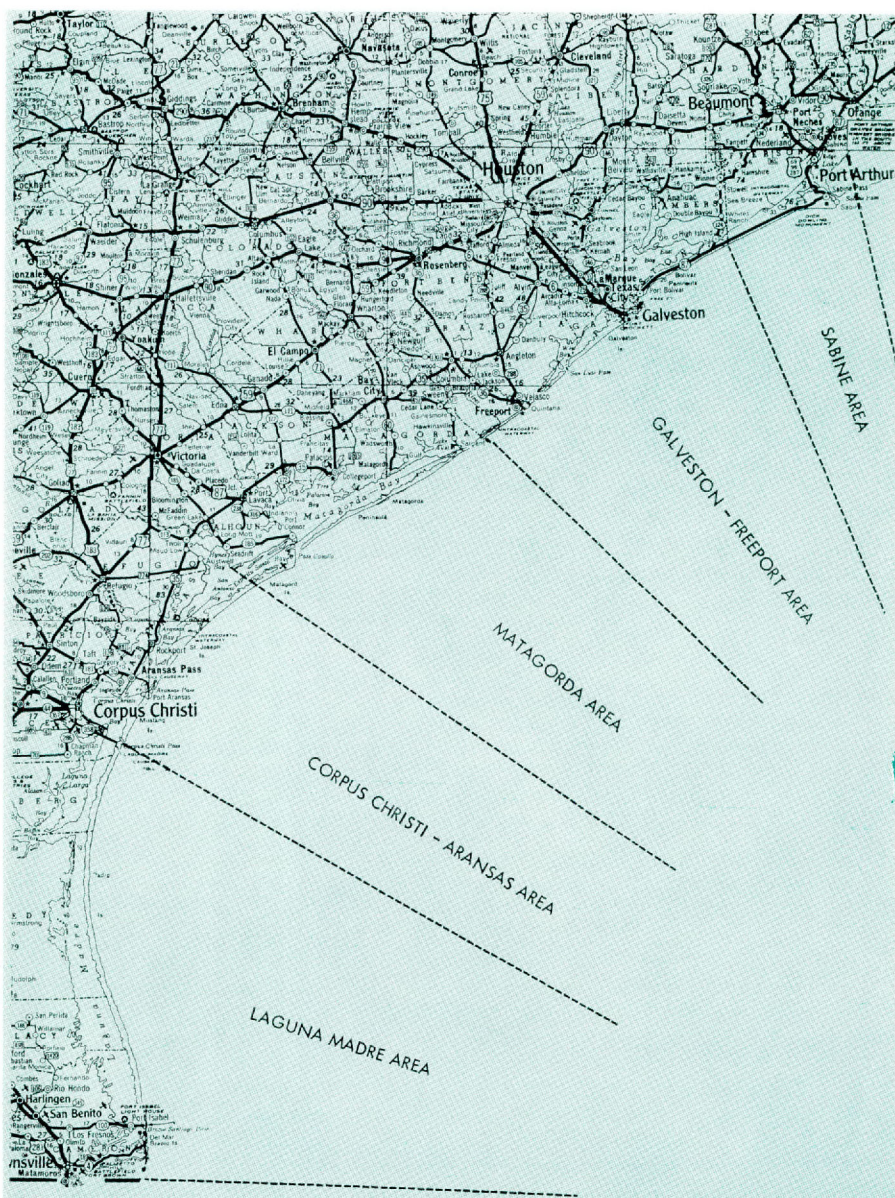
For the second time, the survey

showed that there were more women fishing than men, indicating that of the total number 49% of the fishermen were men and 51% women.

Fishing practices indicated that more than half of the fishermen used boats and practically everyone used rod and reel. There were almost as many wade and surf fishermen as persons who fished from piers or jetties.

According to the report, 7% of the

• Continued on Page 29



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# IKE MARINA

**A** NEW AND MODERN concept in marina construction can be seen right now on Lake Texoma. When all the sawdust and steel shavings settle, popular Eisenhower State Park will be the home of one of the most fantastic inland marinas in the nation.

There isn't any of the usual silver aluminum or steel sidings seen on most boat houses. And, it isn't anchored by deadmen from the shore. When it is finished, it will have 584 slips, more than any other inland marina in the Southwest.

Deckings are a bright marine white. Coral steel poles hold up steel superstructures of the same color. The roofs are a cool marine green-blue underneath and range in color from reds to blues to golds on top.

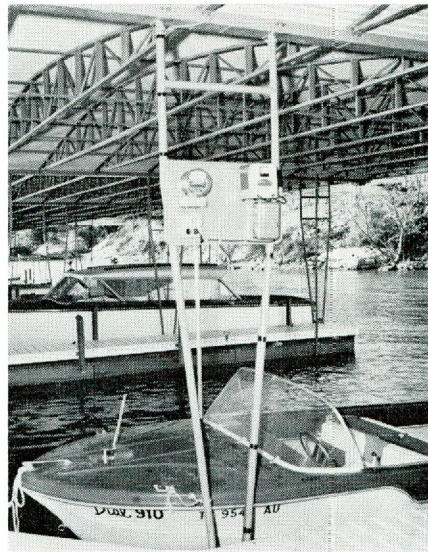
The sections of slips are anchored out from the shore. Boat stalls are on both sides of each section. When in the stalls, boats will be protected from the sun and other elements by sturdy canopy-type shelters. The marina itself has no walls or backs separating one stall from the other. In fact, it's completely open except for the top.

Reason for this type of structure, according to the marina manager, Kenneth Kramer, is that the slips are designed to withstand winds up

to 90 miles per hour. The wind simply whistles right through causing very little, if any, damage. Since the beginning of construction, the marina has undergone at least a half dozen good blows, including two Texas Blue Northerners.

The slips are anchored to telescoping mooring columns. Should the water rise or lower, the telescoping column will take care of the changes.

by JOHN CLIFT  
Denison Herald



Each boat stall at the marina will have separate light meters. Here, the owner has added a timer for charging batteries.

The entire structure is fronted by a floating breakwater that goes six-feet underwater. This keeps strong winds from disturbing the harbor. Even though the lake might be covered with 4-foot whitecaps, the harbor remains placid and glassy.

Boats coming in don't have to jockey for position along a one-sided dock with the 20 open slips for service ranging from gas to food.

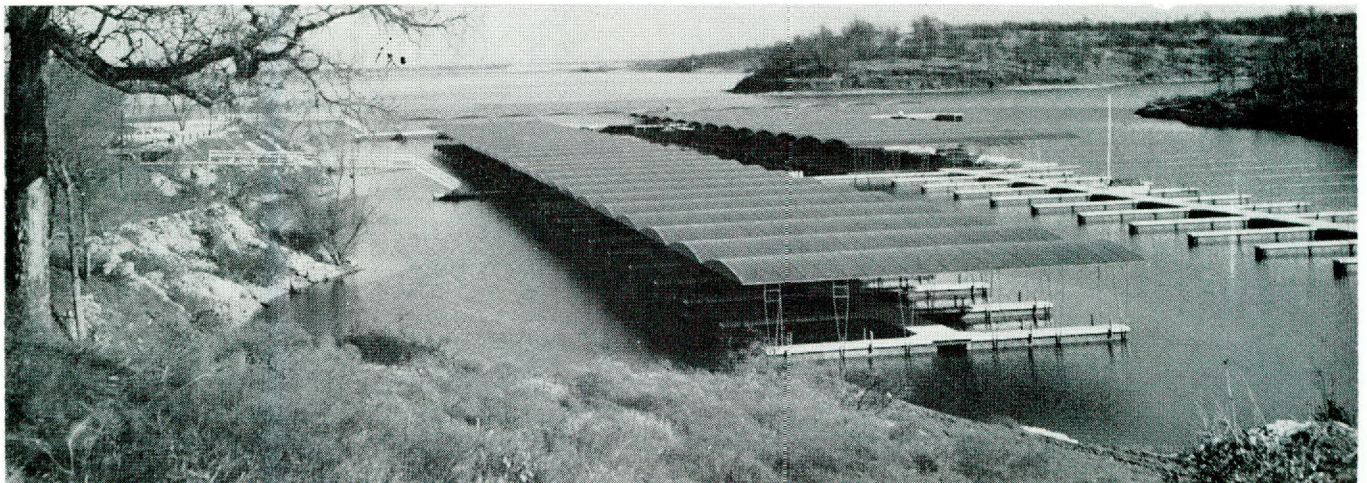
A snackbar located on the breakwater offers service to the regular or transient boater.

Other services offered to each boat owner include private water and electric taps. Some boaters have installed timers at their private electrical outlets. When a battery needs charging, the boatman sets the timer and the job is taken care of automatically.

Currently, the Parks Board is studying several bids for construction of a kingsize shore development. It will include everything from a lodge and cabins to a swimming pool and a convention-sized dining room.

The Eisenhower State Park is governed by the Texas State Parks Board. Its headquarters is in Austin and is headed by Bill Collins, executive director. J. Carter King, Albany, is Chairman of the Board. The contract for Eisenhower Marina was let to Leonard Lenz, President of Standard Steel, Inc., of Milwaukee, and two Dallasites, Promoter Tom Boulton and Lawrence Poole.

The trio formed the Eisenhower Marina, Inc., and started developing the unique facilities. \*\*



The Ike Marina is anchored away from the shore. It is open on all sides. High winds pass right through causing no destruction. A floating breakwater protects the basin from rough water. Stalls built on both sides of the sections provide more docking space.



Alan Finstad, Burselson, is happy over this 17-point, 176-pound white-tail he killed a few miles out of Clifton in Bosque County.

# Bosque County Deer

by EARL GOLDING  
Waco Tribune

**A** DOZEN YEARS AGO, Bosque County was so far removed from being a good deer range that only one landowner leased to hunters.

This winter, 115 landowners are leasing, and the beautiful rolling hills and valleys hold enough deer to attract hunters from all over. In just over a decade, an exciting new industry has developed. The deer have spread out, they're plentiful, and they're large. Being close to such populous centers as Dallas, Ft. Worth and Waco, the new whitetail range is a sure draw to sportsmen who readily plunk down cash for the opportunity of getting a big buck in their sights.

One thing is for certain: if a hunter does see a buck here, there's a good chance that he'll be a really big one!

These Bosque bucks are big. The largest this year, and one of the largest in Texas, stands at 176 pounds, field drawn. It was a great 17 pointer, killed just a few miles out

of Clifton by Burselson hunter, Alan Finstad. Finstad has hunted Bosque County five years. His first year, he downed one which went 130 pounds and he has another 110 pounder to his credit. The antlers on the one he stopped this year were things of beauty. So good, in fact, that when Alan drove up to biologist Joe Stevens' house at Morgan, several visitors there mistook the big buck for a Colorado mule deer.

"The average buck killed here this year," biologist Stevens says, "will go 100 pounds, or slightly better... field drawn weight."

At the rate the 1960 hunt went, both Stevens and Swede Johnson, Bosque County game warden, predict the buck harvest will be greater than a year ago, when 350 bucks were killed in this county.

Something over 800 antlerless deer permits were issued this season.

Stevens hoped, but doesn't believe, all of those were filled.

Last year, 732 antlerless permits

were issued and 257 were filled... along with the 350 bucks.

Joe Stevens says the deer are scattering. "In good years, the deer scatter to new range land. They're moving out. We're getting adult, mature bucks now, bucks born after the drouth. That's why they are so large. It shows that weather conditions are one of the main factors... rather than hunting pressure."

The biologist views this as one of the best-suited areas for deer in Texas.

"It is ideal," he says, "in five years we could have them running out our ears."

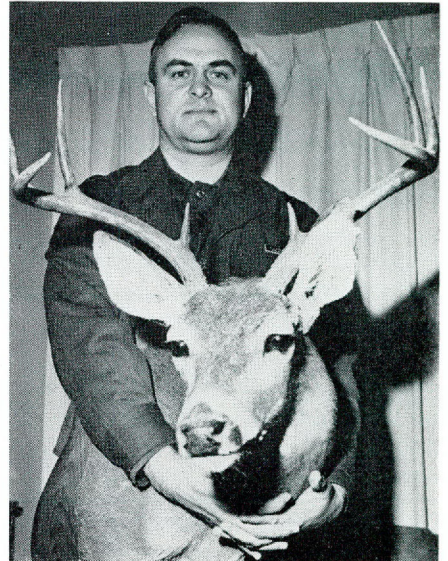
But the long-range outlook is still up for grabs.

There's an extensive land-clearing program underway here. One old-timer, who isn't happy about it, says "there isn't supposed to be a tree left up here by 1970." Anything nearly approaching this change, of course, would also rub out the deer from the Bosque County picture.

But another native, who is equally concerned over the clearing, sees hope.

"They've been at it quite awhile, already," he grins, "and you know what? I think it's growing back about as fast as they can knock it down."

If the trees remain, the Bosque bucks are due to become more important than ever in the Texas hunting picture. For the trophy hunter, they are already very much in evidence. \*\*



Joe Stevens, wildlife biologist, shows a big Bosque trophy. Last year 350 nice bucks were killed in the county.

inter-agency contract for parts and service can be made with the State Highway Department. We have been assured that such a contract is possible.

**"LICENSE ADMINISTRATION.** Various business establishments over the state, particularly sporting goods stores, perform a valuable service as agents for the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Of course, this is also a service to the sportsman and helps attract business. At present, licenses are distributed on a consignment basis and the individual stores must have a bonded deputy responsible for the consignments. Commissions of varying amounts are permitted, depending on the kind of license involved. These are deducted by the license dealers from gross receipts, and the balance is forwarded to the Game and Fish Commission. Extensive records of accounts receivable, bonded deputies, etc. must be maintained under the present arrangement, and considerable effort must also be expended by field personnel on collection of delinquent accounts.

"To implement a recommendation of the State Auditor, we suggest that license distribution be placed on a cash basis. A standard discount of 4 per cent should be allowed at the time of sale, and licenses on hand at the end of the season should be refundable. We estimate that implementation of this proposal will save approximately \$90,000 a year.

**"FISH STOCKING.** There is considerable evidence that indiscriminate fish stocking at best produces negligible results and may even be harmful. For example, of the 50,000 bass stocked in a West Texas Lake in 1959, only a handful showed up in the total fish kill in 1960. The rest were presumably swallowed up by rough fish as though they were minnows.

"The practice of free stocking of private ponds not open to public fishing has also been questioned by the State Auditor—and rightly so, we believe.

"We propose that a policy be adopted of stocking waters—both public and private—only upon recommendation of the fisheries biologists following an inspection by

Game and Fish Department personnel. In the case of private waters not open to public fishing, we suggest that a minimum charge of \$5.00 be made for the inspection, and that fingerling-size fish be sold to these owners of the private waters at the approximate cost of production—or about \$2.00 per 100.

"If these suggestions are adopted, the hatchery requirements will be severely reduced. At least two of the low-production, high-cost hatchery units could be closed, and a third converted to research purposes. An annual operating saving of around \$80,000 should be realized. In addition, planned capital improvements totaling \$150,000 for the next biennium could be postponed.

**"FISHING PIERS.** To provide fishing opportunities for sportsmen who do not have boats suitable for the Gulf of Mexico, the Game and Fish Commission budgeted \$420 thousand for the construction of coastal fishing piers during the next biennium. Such an expenditure has now been declared beyond the authority of the Commission in an opinion by the Attorney General. There was, in addition, a practical problem of supervising and maintaining the piers, once they were constructed.

"It is our recommendation that legislation be introduced permitting the Game and Fish Commission to enter into an interagency agreement with the State Parks Board permitting the investment of up to \$200,000 a year in multiple use facilities such as piers, ramps, restrooms, and camping shelters on park lands adjacent to the coast or to inland water reservoirs which could be used by fishermen and non-fishermen alike. The Park system desperately needs help, and it could provide appropriate maintenance, once the facilities were constructed. However, for the next biennium, we suggest that only \$200,000 be budgeted for construction of such multiple-use facilities, leaving \$220,000 of the amount now budgeted for fishing piers to be applied to the original cost of state automobiles.

#### **The Role of the Commission**

"Finally, a word about the role of the Game and Fish Commission. The

Commission is responsible to the Governor, the Legislature, the public in general, the Federal Government, and particularly to sportsmen who buy hunting and fishing licenses for the stewardship of Game and Fish revenues.

"To implement this stewardship, the Commission must have a professional staff, and one of the Commission's most important functions is to make sure it has a competent staff, organized in an efficient manner to do the best conservation job possible. Requesting this study was one way of carrying out that obligation. Ultimately, however, the Commission must hold the Executive Director responsible for both the staff and its performance.

"If the staff is to perform efficiently, the Commission must adopt broad programs, lay plans for implementing these programs, and prescribe general policies and standards to be followed. From time to time the Commission should require an accounting from its staff to make sure plans, programs and policies are being adhered to in a reasonable degree.

"The Commission must act as a quasi-legislative and judicial body with respect to areas in which they exercise regulatory authority. For example, the Commission must adopt seasons and limits for hunting and issue permits for commercial fishing and shell dredging. Where disagreements arise over the application of these regulations, the Commission must hear appeals by the people regulated.

"Finally, if the Commission is to have an effective professional staff, it must—at every opportunity—accept the burden of political pressure from individuals and interest groups.

"In all of these spheres of responsibility, the Commission must act as a body, never as individual commissioners. The Commissioners are not, and should not be, sectional or factional representatives.

#### **Proposed District and Regional Alignments**

"In designing an organizational structure for the Game and Fish department it was necessary to provide field supervision over both the law

• Continued on Page 29

Texas population fished in coastal waters during the 12-month period. In the previous survey it was indicated that slightly less than 8% of the population fished in coastal waters.

The survey says:

"We feel that the survey results, in terms of percentages, are better indicators of trends in participation in salt-water fishing off the coast of Texas than are projections of these percentages to the total population. The projections require an accurate estimate of the population, which was impossible at the time of the 1958 study. If, however, projections are made of the results from the two studies to the Texas population estimate for each year, there is an apparent substantial decrease in the number who fished. During the twelve-month period of September 1959 through

August 1960 there would be an estimate of approximately 665,000 men, women, and children living in Texas who fished in the coastal waters of the State, as compared with the 748,000 estimated for the corresponding months of 1957 and 1958.

"Both surveys produced the same percentage of these fishermen (72%) who caught one or more redfish, speckled trout, flounder, drum or shrimp in each year. However, the total catch for each of these species except flounder was considerably lower in the 1960 measurement. There was a slight increase in the number of flounder caught. The one-year harvest estimates from the two surveys are shown below. These represent catches by Texas sportsmen only; commercial and out-of-state fishermen are excluded from these studies. \*\*

#### Official

Continued from Page 28

enforcement branch with more than 200 employees, and the separate biological branches numbering 50 to 100 employees each. Therefore, we have suggested regional offices for administration of the separate programs under common supervision, and district offices for the law enforcement function.

"Because the functions of the regional offices are primarily administrative in nature and involve relatively few public contacts, their location is not a matter of great importance. We proposed that the regional headquarters be placed in existing Game and Fish installations wherever it is convenient. On the other hand, the district office responsibilities should involve considerable public contact, and we recommend that the district headquarters be located in the larger population centers.

"Regional divisions have been made with a view to following ecological areas of the state where possible. In addition, factors such as area, population, license sales, and fishing and hunting activities were taken into consideration. Districts have been designed to provide a balanced distribution of enforcement responsibilities and personnel. The map presented on page 5 details the recommendations.

"Throughout this study to date, the members and staff of the Game and Fish Commission have shown the research team every courtesy and have cooperated in every way possible. We have a good deal more work to do, but we are most encouraged over the progress made thus far. It is our firm belief that adoption of an organizational structure such as that which we have proposed, and preparation of a comprehensive long-range plan for fish and wildlife conservation, will provide lasting benefits of great importance for both the sportsmen of Texas and for the general public." \*\*

Elk Continued from Page 8

the zig-zag trails leading up Pine Spring Canyon.

On the way up and down the trail, hunters searched ridges and slopes for mule deer and had no time to watch the road ahead, only 18 inches wide in some places.

When an elk was killed, everyone joined together in an assembly line fashion to dress, skin and quarter out the animal on the spot. Then it was loaded onto the pack mules and carted off to the ranch some 3,000 feet below.

At the ranch, the quarters were strung up to chill. Once on the third day of the hunt, two young bulls were bagged. Only one mule had

been brought along so one of the bulls had to be tied in a tree and left for a later pickup.

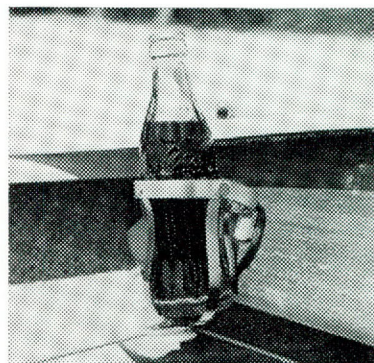
Unlike the country surrounding the mountains, elk land was a wonderland of tall pines and tall grass. So thick was the forest in places that many times all hunters were forced to dismount and lead their steeds. And McKittrick Canyon with its clear stream and rainbow trout, according to Hunter, held scenic beauty found only in some areas of Colorado.

To a "first timer," the unique glamour alone was well worth all the jogging and climbing. \*\*

## DRINK HOLDERS

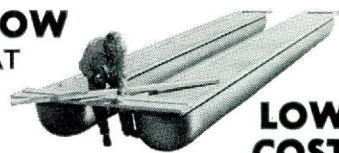
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the collection of Roy Fisk of El Paso and Roddy Rylander of San Antonio.

After the successful Del Rio meeting many members will have added a few birds to the list they have seen. Some will retain impressions of the scenic Val Verde country. All of them will be looking forward to the 1961 meeting scheduled for San Antonio.

\*\*

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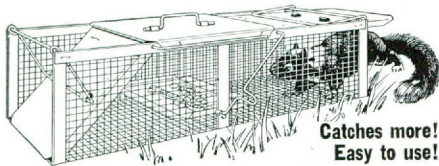
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# What Others Are Doing

by JOAN PEARSALL

**CUTTHROAT MURDER MYSTERY:** "Someone who knows his way around the hatchery" committed an act of sabotage, resulting in the loss of nearly 200,000 young cutthroat trout by the Nevada Fish and Game Commission. A wooden plug was pulled from a bypass to 17 ponds, depriving the fish of an adequate water supply. The weight of the lost fish approximated one ton, and the dollar value could not be determined immediately. Replacement of them will be almost impossible. Police launched an investigation but there were few clues as to who removed the wooden plug.

**GIFT WRAPPED GEESE:** Waterfowl hunters in East Tennessee must have wondered in the holiday season if their eyes were playing tricks. Geese were flying around looking like Christmas packages turned loose to deliver themselves. The "fancy colored ribbons" around their necks were colored plastic neck bands to allow observers to spot these particular geese easily, bright yellow being the band color authorized for one refuge, and light blue another. That way, biologists could tell where the birds came from at a glance.

**SAVE THE STREAMS:** The New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association, Inc. is protesting to the Federal Power Commission against proposed diversions which would dry up several miles of the Red River and Rio Grande, and lose important trout fishing resources for possible hydro-electric sites. They say alternate sites are available, but trout waters in the state are scarce. While this project is the only one recommended for immediate study, it may be the first of several to affect other recreational resources.

**CRACKDOWN ON TURKEY KILLERS:** The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has adopted a regulation which will make it tougher on persons killing wild turkeys out of season. In addition to the usual heavy fine, the violator

will now lose his hunting privileges for a year. Publicity will be given his name and address, making it more difficult for him to obtain and use a second license. Because the wild turkey is in the most precarious circumstances of all native wildlife in Arkansas, the Commission has in recent years placed special emphasis on a restoration program.

**WINDBREAKS GIVE HUNTERS A BREAK:** More than 157,200 acres of private lands in Idaho have been opened to hunting by permission since 1953, largely due to the program of the Idaho Game and Fish Dept. and cooperating Soil Conservation districts to provide farmers with windbreaking hedges. Prior to the planting, the landowners agreed to permit a reasonable amount of hunting by permission. The windbreaks not only provide food and shelter for the game birds, but also protect farmsteads and fields, and add to the beauty of the farm.

**PROGRESS IN GUAM:** The newly established Division of Fish and Wildlife in Guam is moving ahead with new projects and programs to improve conservation conditions on the island. On one project, to increase fishable inshore areas, the U.S. Air Force, Navy and the Government of Guam are cooperating to create artificial reefs, using old car bodies, refrigerators, washing machines, etc. at depths of 75 to 125 feet. Such reefs have been highly successful in improving fishing in Japan and the United States.

**HAWK HINTS:** Only three species of hawks found in Nebraska are not protected by state law, the Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, and the goshawk. Others cannot be taken by the gun. The three unprotected species have short rounded wings and long slim tails. The marsh hawk has longer wings, most other protected species have broad blunt tails.



day, 78 boys reported and killed 142 deer. In all, 342 boys hunted the area around Mason and bagged 531 deer.

A good example of the different homes from which these boys came can be shown by the representation on the final day. On that day the homes represented were: Mexican Baptist Children's Home, San Antonio; Texas Baptist Children's Home, Round Rock; Corsicana State Home, Corsicana; and Boy's Haven, Beaumont. Other homes represented were Buckner's at Burnet and Dallas,

Turkey ————— Continued from Page 14

of a heavy clump of brush. It was raining. He took out a little box and chalked the lid as carefully as Willie Hoppe would chalk a cue. Then he played on that thing like a cross-eyed Armenian on a flute.

"Perk, perk, perk," it cooed. "Plete, plete," it pleaded.

I sat and dreamed of everybody in the Valley heading for the postoffice.

"Shh," I heard my host say. "Listen."

All I could hear was the cars going down the highway half a mile away.

My host touched my sleeve. "Eeeky, eeeky" went the call softly, and then he quit. That's when a bigger, heavier, taller gobbler than mine stuck his head up out of the weeds and said, "Hello, honey."

When it was over I sat in the wet grass and laughed. He wanted to

San Antonio's Boysville, San Angelo's Boys Ranch and Otto's Boys Home in Odessa.

The boys had to arrange for transportation to and from Mason and for the shipment of their deer. In many instances donations paid the bills. Everything else was furnished by the ranchers. The Mason Chamber of Commerce was behind the event all the way.

What was accomplished by the hunt? Over 300 boys got to hunt. They might not have had the chance otherwise. A monetary value couldn't

know if I had blown my top and I told him the truth, that I didn't anymore believe a real, live turkey would come up there than a red ant could eat a bale of hay.

A redfish striking a shining spoon in the flat, a buck deer with all his hair standing up, coming to the rattle of horns, a flock of wild geese wheeling into the wind and talking to a set of decoys. These things are wonderful and I had J. L. to thank for showing me another thing that was marvelous to behold.

I didn't believe in his ability that day but if he and I were in the middle of the Sahara desert and he pulled out a whistle and said, "I'm going to call up the Queen Mary, I'd fold my parasol, dump the sand out of my pants cuffs and get ready to holler, "Good morning, captain."

be placed on the fun they had nor this rewarding opportunity to get better acquainted with this important phase of management. The 531 does harvested probably wouldn't have been taken otherwise. And what more worthy cause can there be? Can't you see the feasts now, and the proud expressions of those who brought home the bacon. \*\*

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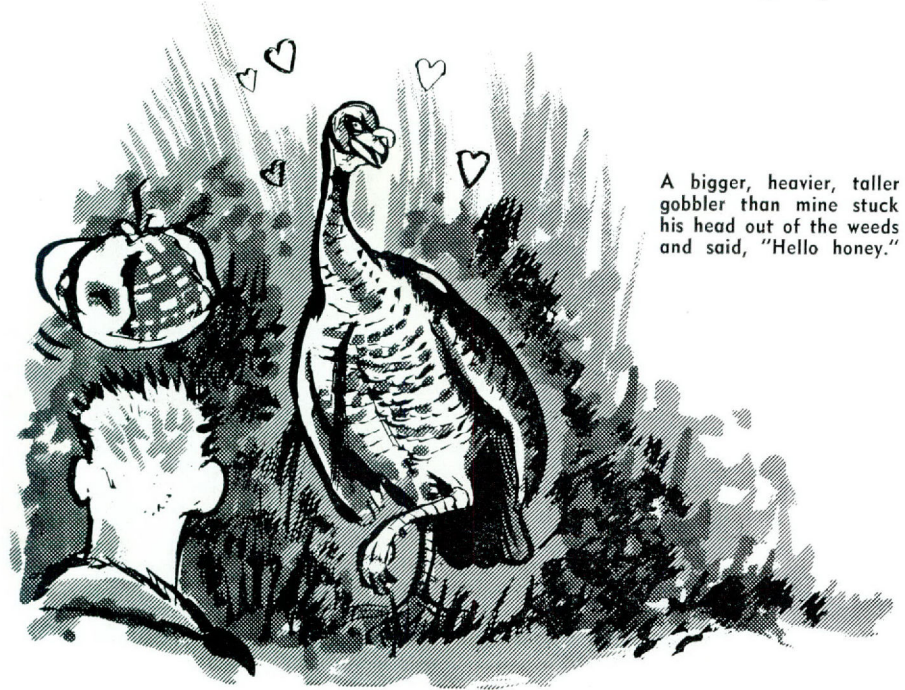
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A bigger, heavier, taller gobbler than mine stuck his head out of the weeds and said, "Hello honey."



**OUTDOORS**, by H. Nat Johnson and Alice Hermina Poatgieter, with black and white and color illustrations by Oz Black. 192 pages including 30 pages of excellent black and white photographs. Published by the Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston 7, Mass.

Perhaps, one of the most exciting experiences in a child's life is learning about the living things around him. The inquiring mind of a youngster lets him live in a different world at times. However, as he grows older, he discovers that there is adventure in learning to conserve these living things, as well as in seeing and exploring them.

**OUTDOORS** has been written in a language 5th and 6th graders can readily understand and keyed to the interests and experiences of youngsters in this age level.

Those who read this adventure packed book see nature through the eyes of Jim and Martha, two typical inquisitive, American youngsters, as they learn about conservation.

Youngsters who read this book will learn the value of our material resources—good soil, pure water, clean streams, forest, and wildlife. They may also learn how these resources are often misused and how they should be protected. Jim and Martha participate in fighting forest fires, canoeing up the river of a wilderness reserve, following animal tracks in the snow, spying on wild birds in a marshland, saving deer from drowning in an icy river, and many other thrilling experiences.

These experiences with Jim and Martha may explain to those who read the book why it's not wise to take for granted the vast natural wealth and beauty of his country. It may also, and more important, teach them the part they can play in preserving these riches.

Even the adults could learn much from this value packed conservation book for children.

—Curtis Carpenter

**BASS FISHERMEN'S BIBLE**, by Erwin A Bauer. 190 pages, fully illustrated. Published by Doubleday & Co., Garden City, N. Y. Price \$1.95.

Here is a book that should be read by every person who has ever fished for bass, or who might ever hope to fish for bass. The chances are information in it can improve your technique. But whether you catch any more fish or not, you'll still find it contains a great deal of information that will just make you glad you are a fisherman.

Then there is the possibility it may make you want to go fishing more often and stay longer.

For Texans it has some assurance that bass fishing within this state is among the best. Bauer deals with large mouth, small mouth and spotted bass. Texas has no real small mouth bass, but it does have a bountiful supply of both large mouth and spotted bass.

—L. A. Wilke

**BLIZZARD RESCUE**, by Ferris Weddle. 117 pages. Franklin Watts, Inc., 575 Lexington Ave., New York 22, N. Y. \$2.95.

Any 12-year-old boy will appreciate Clint Wade's adventure with his game department biologist father in the mountains. Clint went along to help his father make a mid-winter game census, but they ran into more excitement than they had expected—poachers, Mr. Wade's accident, and a blizzard.

When his father was injured during the blizzard, Clint was left to face the poachers alone. His skill at photography helped him prove a successful sleuth, but not before he had several narrow escapes.

Clint went to the mountain as a boy, full of indecision, but came away with the self-assurance of a young man capable of standing alone. How this transition was accomplished makes exciting reading for the youngster.

The author, Ferris Weddle, is a graduate of the University of Washington. His stories have appeared in *Boys' Life*, *Audubon Magazine*, *Nature*, *Hunting and Fishing*, *Western Sportsman* and *Outdoor*

*West*. **BLIZZARD RESCUE** is his first published book.

—Carolyn McWilliams

**GUN DIGEST**, John T. Amber, editor. 352 pages, fully illustrated encyclopedia for shooters. Gun Digest Co., Chicago 24, Ill. \$2.95.

The 15th anniversary of Gun Digest for 1961 is so new its cover page carries the picture of a gun that isn't even on the market yet. Inside there are such interesting subjects as teaching the young how to shoot; new guns for 1961; and a great deal of technical information for shooters, including plenty about hand-loading.

Pictured in the Gun Digest are all the current models of firearms of all the manufacturers, including many foreign imports. The issue again carries an up-to-date ballistic table, with pictures of all types of ammunition.

The 1961 Gun Digest is perhaps the most complete and modern gun reference book on the shelves today. Every gun lover should have one.

—L. A. Wilke

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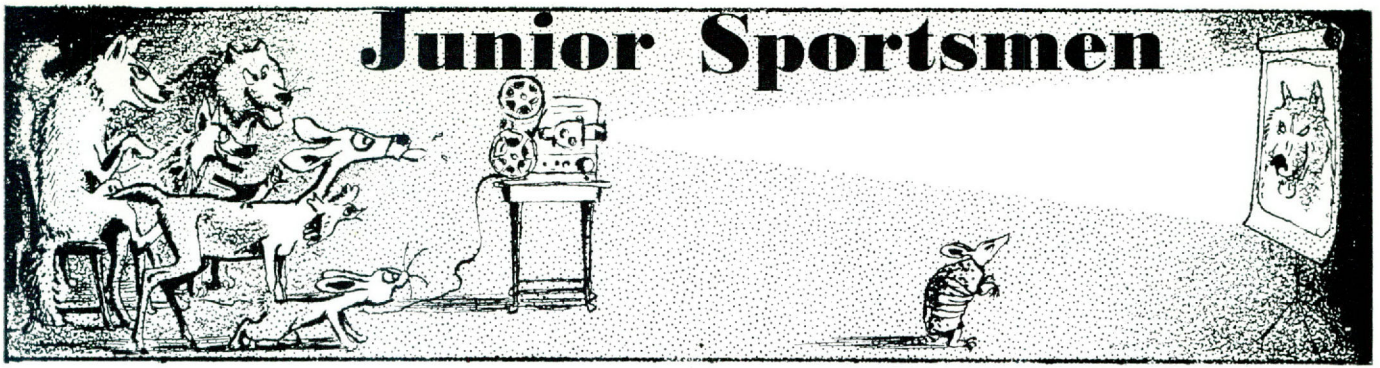
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# Junior Sportsmen



## Big Fishermen



Editor:

I am sending a picture of a string of perch that my father, my brother, and I caught on the San Jacinto River near Huntsville. They are sun perch and bream. We also caught a channel catfish on a set hook.

We used small crayfish and earthworms. We seined the crayfish and dug the worms from the bank of the river.

There were not many dull moments because our lines were not in the water very long before we would get a bite. Pretty soon we would pull out a perch.

The sun perch are very pretty when you pull them out of the water because their pretty colors shine in the sun.

The persons in the picture from left to right are my sister Peggy, my brother Jerry and me. My father took the picture.

Bobby Johnson  
Pasadena

## Did You Know?

It is safe to hold a queen bee in your hand as the queen bees use their stings only on other queen bees. The drone has no stinger at all.

\* \* \*

The fact that the blood in their gills flows in one direction and the water in another enables fish to utilize the oxygen in water most efficiently.

\* \* \*

Fishes do not see very well, partly because of their eye structure and partly because, as one goes deeper in water, the light grows dimmer.

## Wildlife Movies

Would your school class or club like to see a wildlife movie? Any hunting and fishing club, school, or other organization interested in wildlife conservation may borrow 16-mm films without cost. All that is necessary is for your teacher or sponsor to write, wire, or telephone the Texas Game and Fish Commission, Walton Building, Austin, Texas.

Be sure to tell your leader that he must make his request at least four weeks before the desired date of showing. A film may not be held over for an extra day unless permission has been given by the Commission. These films are available only for showings in Texas.

Some of the excellent films available include:

**Deer Live in Danger**—11 min., sound, color. Depicts the struggle for survival among many of the deer herds in the North Country. Picture should be shown with the idea in mind that the deer population in Texas does not face many of the survival problems shown. The Texas deer are faced with the problem of lack of food, due to drought conditions if the population becomes too heavy. For use by the intermediate grades in language arts, conservation, reading.

**Camouflage**—10 min., sound, black and white. Points out some of the ways in which nature camouflages animals in their natural habitat—and how their coats change from one season to another. Elementary and junior high. General science and biology.

**How Nature Protects Animals**—11 min., sound, black and white. Points out the adaptations of animals that help protect them from their enemies. Shows animals in their natural habitat. Elementary, junior high, general science and biology.

**Roadrunner Battles a Rattlesnake**—10 min., sound, black and white. Good entertainment. An exciting story of a fight between a rattlesnake and a roadrunner. The snake fights for survival—the roadrunner to protect his master.

**The Beaver**—11 min., sound, color. Excellent close-up photography of the beaver in his natural habitat. Authentic scenes of this seldom observed animal as he fells trees for a dam, builds his home and stores his food for winter.

**Animals in Summer**—11 min., sound, color. Excellent films for middle grade classes in science. Animals—how they seek food, and shield their young from enemies. Good, also, for intermediate grades in language arts, conservation, and reading.

**Reptiles**—14 min., sound, color. Includes living sequences of lizards, turtles, tautaras, crocodilians, and serpents, the five orders of reptiles in their habitat over the entire United States. Excellent for general science and junior high and high school biology classes. Good for general information use.

## ... ATTENTION ...

Would you like to be Junior Sportsman of the month? Send your accounts of personal experiences, along with pictures to verify them, to us and you may be chosen. Any boy or girl under 16 years of age is eligible. We enjoy reading your letters, so send them in.

**Junior Sportsman  
of the month  
FRED HADAWAY**

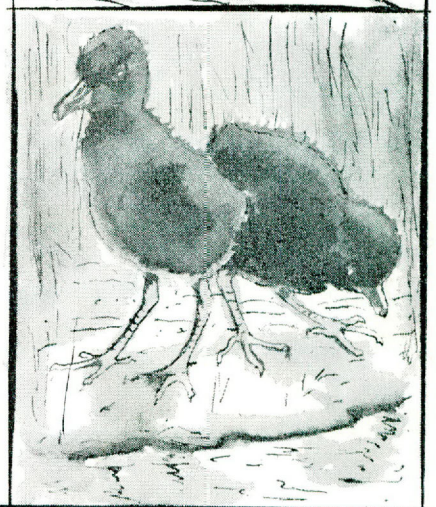


Proud grandparents told us of this month's Junior Sportsman. Meet Fred E. Hadaway of San Antonio who killed his first buck and first turkey last year in Medina County. It was his first year to hunt and from the looks of this picture, his beginner's luck was good. The buck had five points and the turkey weighed about 16 pounds.



## CLAPPER RAIL

This secretive bird, *Rallus longirostris*, lives only in salt marshes. More often heard than seen, its overall color blends well into the marsh grasses. Bill to tail length is 14 to 16 inches. They are able to fly and swim but do so only when necessary. In the spring, nests are carefully hollowed out, with grasses pulled over and entwined, to make an arched roof. A hen will lay up to 13 buff-colored spotted eggs. Chicks are black.



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